During November, a time to give thanks and honor Veteran's Day, the American Red Cross invites eligible blood donors to give blood and honor those who have served the country in the Armed Forces.

Two communities in this area are hosting blood drives in the coming weeks:

• Palisade on Nov. 7 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. MT/noon to 6 p.m. CT at the Legion Auxiliary Building on Main Street.

• Imperial on Nov. 10 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Chase County School located at 520 East 9th Street.

The American Red Cross serves more than 3,000 hospitals nationwide, including many Veterans Affairs Medical Centers.

Currently all blood types are needed, especially O negative, B negative, and A negative. Type O negative, the universal blood type, can potentially be transfused to patients with any blood type, especially in emergency situations.

Another way to honor military personnel is by making a contribution to support American Red Cross Service to the Armed Forces (SAF), which offers resources for deployed service members and their families, provides emergency communications and supports hospital outreach and veterans programs.

How to Donate Blood

Simply call 1-800-RED CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or visit redcrossblood.org to make an appointment or for more information.

A blood donor card or driver's license, or two other forms of identification are required at check-in.

Individuals who are 17 years of age (16 with parental permission in some states), weigh at least 110 pounds and are generally in good health may be eligible to donate blood. High school students and other donors 18 years of age and younger also have to meet certain height and weight requirements.

About the Red Cross

Governed by volunteers and supported by giving individuals and communities, the American Red Cross is the single largest supplier of blood products to hospitals throughout the United States.

While local hospital needs are always met first, the Red Cross also helps ensure no patient goes without blood no matter where or when they need it.

In addition to providing nearly half of the nation's blood supply, the Red Cross provides relief to victims of disaster, trains millions in lifesaving skills, serves as a communication link between U.S. military members and their families, and assists victims of international disasters or conflicts.