



# NEWS

ANTELOPE VALLEY'S  
HEALTHCARE  
NEWS RESOURCE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Eight to Receive Diamond Donor Awards for Donating More Than Ten Gallons of Blood**

(LANCASTER, Calif. – July 8, 2015) — Superheroes have nothing on eight local residents who have collectively donated nearly 700 pints – or about 87 gallons – of blood to the Antelope Valley Hospital (AVH) Blood Donor Center. The hospital will recognize the newest members of its Diamond Donor Club this Saturday, July 11, at the JetHawks game. This brings the number of Diamond Donor Club members to 49.

“Blood donations are priceless pints,” said AVH Blood Donor Center Coordinator Ellen Gaines. “Together the selfless gifts from these eight individuals have impacted – and maybe even saved – the lives of 1,400 patients over the years.”

All donations through the AVH Blood Donor Center stay within the hospital. Last year more than 2,200 patients received lifesaving blood transfusions. “As a Level II trauma center it is especially important that we have an adequate blood supply on hand at all times,” noted Gaines. “Donors like these ensure that AVH is prepared to meet patients’ most critical needs at any moment.”

Among the eight Diamond Donor Award winners are three retirees and one current AVH employee. The manager of AVH’s biomedical department, Charles “Dave” White has donated 84 pints. Retirees include Jon Bell (82 pints), Gene Borelli (91 pints) and Jane Gordon (88 pints). Other recipients include Paul S. Hirose with the greatest number of units at 94 pints, Joan M. Paolo (93 pints), Byron W. Glennan (84 pints) and Barry J. Levine (81 pints).

**(More)**

## **Antelope Valley Hospital/Diamond Donors**

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The Diamond Donor award ceremony is taking place on “AVH Night at JetHawks stadium,” during which every attendee will receive a free wiffle ball and bat imprinted with the AVH logo.

### **About Becoming a Blood Donor**

The AVH Blood Donor Center is located on the hospital’s campus in the Antelope Valley Outpatient Imaging Center, 44105 15th Street West, Suite 305, at the intersection of 15<sup>th</sup> Street West and Avenue J-5. The center is open Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Wednesdays from 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., and the first and third Saturdays of each month from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Walk-ins are welcome, or donors can make an appointment by calling 661-949-5622.

All donors receive a free cholesterol test. It only takes about 5-10 minutes to give a pint of blood, but the entire process takes about an hour to complete.

Find us on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/avhbdc>.

### **About Antelope Valley Hospital**

Celebrating 60 years of caring for the community, Antelope Valley Hospital is located in the city of Lancaster in northern Los Angeles County. The 420-bed district hospital is a Level II trauma center and provides a full array of medical/surgical services, pediatric treatment, NICU, mental health, cancer care and more. More information is available at [www.avhospital.org](http://www.avhospital.org) or by calling 661-949-5000.

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