

Friday FACTS

DEC. 25, 2015

THIS IS A LEHIGH VALLEY HEALTH NETWORK INTERNAL PUBLICATION ABOUT HAZLETON

Pocono Health System and Lehigh Valley Health Network Sign Agreement to Merge

Pocono Health System (PHS) and Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) announced they have signed an agreement for a full-asset merger, pending regulatory approvals.

In May, the two organizations announced they had signed a letter of intent to merge subject to due diligence, the negotiation of definitive transaction documents and approval from regulators. Pending completion of regulatory approvals, the proposed merger is expected to take effect in the first half of 2016.

According to the terms in the agreement, LVHN anticipates developing with PHS a hospital of the future that incorporates the highest level of clinical competence to provide the highest quality care close to home. The merged entity will also create ambulatory health centers, develop and grow essential clinical services, recruit primary care physicians and increase access to specialists. In addition, LVHN is committed to providing more integrated care to the Pocono region through population health management, which includes sharing a common electronic medical records system.

The decision to merge builds upon a historical affiliation between the two organizations. They created partnerships that enabled the creation of a Trauma Center, provision of professional services in Radiation Oncology and Interventional Radiology and collaboration to provide services for the Monroe County Community Safety Program.

Pocono Medical Center is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year in East Stroudsburg. With more than 230 physicians and 2,000 employees, it is one of Monroe County's largest employers, offering a full complement of clinical and acute care services for Monroe and surrounding communities.

Find Evidence-Based Information With Dynamed

Dynamed is a clinical reference tool for health care professionals containing clinical summaries for nearly 3,200 topics.

Systematic literature surveillance is conducted on more than 500 journals with each article assessed for clinical relevance and validity. Rating of evidence is done using a system based on the Strength of Recommendation Taxonomy (SORT) to integrate new evidence-based content daily. Drug information is from American Hospital Formulary Service, The Prescriber's Letter, and the Food and Drug Administration. Patient information is available on the site.

Dynamed is located on the intranet on the library site. Go to the main menu of the Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Hazleton intranet and find library services in the second column. If you have any questions, please call the library at 501-4800.

Stitches of Love Deliver Homemade Gifts

"Stitches of Love" continues to serve pregnant women through LVH–Hazleton's Family Birthing Center. Volunteers meet weekly at Catholic Social Services and other locations to make afghans, baby blankets, hats and layettes. They recently donated items for babies born during the holidays.

Catholic Social Services pregnancy and maternal health supervisor **Linda Drusda** (fourth from right) with LVH–Hazleton Family Birthing Center colleagues (l-r) **Jane Harding, RN, Laurie Fewins, RN, nurse manager Marfy Yanac, RN, Denise Ward, RN, Nicole Federici, LSW, Adrienne McLaughlin, RN, and Taylor Titus, RN**



Congratulations on Achievements

Congratulations to the following colleagues on their recent professional achievements:

Jennifer Ciupinski, sonographer, Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton, recently passed The American Registry for Diagnostic Medical Sonography (ARDMS) vascular ultrasound board exam.

Krystal Finneran, radiology technician, LVH–Hazleton, recently completed the Harold P. Freeman Patient Navigation certification.

Winter Bliss

Mark your calendar and get your dancing shoes ready. Winter Bliss, LVH–H's annual dinner/dance will take place on Friday, Feb 5. Details to follow.

Patients Receive More Than Treatments

When patients go to the LVHN Cancer Center–Hazleton they receive more than just treatment. The scheduling department at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton collected money to donate a basket of items with the hope of making the patients happy and comfortable while they receive treatment.



Scheduling Department colleagues (l-r): **Sylvia Nodes, Jean Marinock, Joanne Faust and Leann Brennan**

CONTACT US

Call **Jane Danish** (x6205 or email jane.danish@lvhn.org) to contribute information.

A PASSION FOR BETTER MEDICINE

Lehigh Valley Health Network