Congratulations to the following colleagues who are celebrating service milestone anniversaries:

5 Years
Jennifer Hoats, speech therapist, Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton

10 Years
Christopher Moran, inventory coordinator

15 Years
Sylvia Nodes, appointment scheduler, Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton

25 Years
Stephen Kichka, RN, emergency department; Joseph McAloose, maintenance, plant operations

30 Years
Janet Zwalkuski, clerk typist, medical-surgical, fifth floor

COLLEAGUE RECOGNITIONS
Please extend congratulations to the following colleagues who achieved professional milestones:

Christopher Morro, RN, has received his certification in critical care from the American Association of Critical-Care Nurses.

Alyssa Rodzewich, physical therapist, passed her state boards and has accepted a full-time position at Gunderson Inpatient Center for Rehabilitation.

TERRY’S TAKE: HOSPITAL LEADERSHIP
By Terry Capuano, LVHN Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer

You’ve probably heard the saying, “Keep your eye on the ball.” It’s all about paying attention to what’s important and being present in the moment. Colleagues throughout the health network do this when they pay attention to the challenges and opportunities around them that impact great health care delivery.

To help us keep our eye on the ball at our hospital campuses, we made a change to our leadership structure in October of 2015. That’s when Jim Geiger was named to the newly created role of LVH–Muhlenberg President. Soon after, we named presidents for each of our other hospital campuses.

Presidents come to work every day with a singular focus to manage their campus. They’re responsible for quality, colleague and patient satisfaction, regulatory items, growth and other issues. I meet with them regularly to discuss key performance indicators (KPIs) that impact the success of each of our campuses.

Our leadership structure takes a team approach that relies on shared accountability for success. Instead of pitchers, catchers and outfielders, our hospital leadership teams include a President, Senior Medical Director, Vice President of Patient Care Services and Vice President of Operations. Together, they watch the ball and adjust the game plan when necessary.

Chances are if you work on one of our campuses you already know your president. Visibility is an important part of the job. All our hospital presidents have an open-door policy and welcome the input of colleagues. After all, colleagues on the front lines often see opportunities and challenges first.

In the future, all our hospital presidents will hold Town Hall meetings twice a year to keep you informed about issues impacting your campus, and those affecting the health network. That’s in addition to the rounding, gemba walks and conversations they have with colleagues on a regular basis.

Over the next several weeks, you’ll have an opportunity to learn more about many of our presidents in a series of LVHN Weekly stories featuring Lehigh Valley Hospital President Bill Kent, LVH–Muhlenberg President Jim Geiger, LVH–Hazleton President John Fletcher, LVH–Schuylkill President Bill Reppy and LVH–Pocono Acting President Elizabeth Wise. You’ll also have an opportunity to learn about LVPG leadership and the role President Mike Rossi, MD, plays in keeping quality and efficiency in our physician practices. And in the future, I’ll share information about the role presidents play at Populytics and Health Network Laboratories.

As you and your team hit milestones and mark achievements, we’d love to tell your stories too. Getting to know one another as we collaborate on our challenges and share our successes is what makes us colleagues. Together, we all need to work as a team to keep our eye on what’s truly important: The patient. When we do that, we’re guaranteed to knock it out of the park.
Please welcome the following colleagues to the Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) family:

**LVH–Hazleton:** Brianna Boyle, radiology technician, radiology services; Joel Espinal, transporter, central transport; Dominique Lorady, radiology technician, radiology services; Katie Petritsch, radiology technician, radiology services; Lauren Saullo, clerk typist, seventh floor/pediatrics; Glaudy Villa, dietary aide, food and nutrition services

**Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton:** Paula Gutsie, registrar, occupational health services

**LVPG–Hazleton:** Shirllie Rosario, registered medical assistant, LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology; Dawna Suchoski, LPN, LVPG Surgery

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**Tele-microscopy Instrument Installed at LVH–Hazleton**

Recently a Mikroscan SL5 tele-microscopy instrument was installed at LVH–Hazleton. This implementation was a combined effort of information services teams at LVHN and Health Network Laboratories (HNL).

The Mikroscan SL5 is a dual-mode technology offering two completely separate capabilities. The first mode is a live robotic microscope for the examination of specimens on glass slides, or a static digital pathology scanning mode for the creation of digitized tissue samples.

This instrument allows a pathologist located at one location to perform live microscopic review of tissue collected during a surgery at another hospital location – all while the patient is still in the operating room. The tissue is prepared and placed on a glass slide. The slide is inserted into the Mikroscan instrument and a pathologist is called to access the live image.

The pathologist is able to remotely view the slide by utilizing the video streaming software (Splashtop), as well as control what is seen on the slide utilizing the live robotic microscope housed in the Mikroscan SL5 instrument. Once the specimen has been analyzed, the pathologist can provide real-time consultation to the operating room.

The presence of this instrument allows coverage of intraoperative consultation when a pathologist is not available at a hospital. In addition, this provides the opportunity for a consultation with a specialized pathologist (neuropathology, dermatopathology, hematopathology, etc.) during surgery when one is not available at a hospital site.

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**Send a Personalized Valentine’s Day Card to a Patient**

Love is a powerful emotion, and this Valentine’s Day you can share your love with people in need of a little tender loving care: Our patients.

Beginning Feb. 13, we’ll be giving a Valentine’s Day card to our hospitalized patients. We want the messages to come from the heart. That’s why we’re asking you and all the people of our community to send a personalized message to a patient. Cards will be distributed randomly, so you won’t know who receives your card. But you’ll feel good knowing you made someone’s day better because you shared the love. Creating a card is easy and free. Here’s how to do it.

1. Visit LVHN.org/valentine.
2. Choose a card.
3. Personalize your message.

Your card will be hand delivered to a random patient by one of our volunteers.

If you have questions, contact lvhn@lvhn.org. The last day to submit your card is Feb. 9, so create your card today and help shower our patients with love.

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**EDUCATION NEWS**

All colleagues must complete the Standard Blood Borne Pathogen module before Feb. 28 as part of their mandatory education. Mandatory education training can be found on LVH–Hazleton’s intranet.

**SOCIAL NEWS**

Two bus trips to Washington D.C., April 22 and 29, are being sponsored by the HEART committee.

For more information, go to the Recreational Activities page on LVH–Hazleton’s intranet.

Don’t hesitate. Tickets go quickly.
**WEIGHT-LOSS COMPETITION KICKOFF**

The Wellness Committee’s sixth annual Weight-Loss Competition kicked off last week. The next weigh-in takes place Feb. 20-24. The teams are:

- Blair Weight Project
- Team Miralax
- The Flab 4
- Mission Slim Impossible
- Pound Crushers
- The Phat Kids
- Death Before Cardio
- Light, Flight, Airy and Sherri
- Thin It To Win It
- Scrub Rippers
- Lovable Losers
- Drop It Like It’s Hot
- No Excess Baggage Allowed
- Operation Weigh Less
- Pair-A-Thighs Lost
- Dwindling Divas
- Let’s Try This Again

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**Winter Bliss a Success**

Special thanks to the HEART committee for making this year’s Winter Bliss a wonderful experience for everyone who attended. Thank you to everyone who purchased 50/50 tickets for the event. This year’s lucky winner is medical secretary/receptionist Joann Thomas, LVPG Family Medicine–Hometown.

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**Learn Tactics to Deal With Violent Situations**

Though potentially violent situations are isolated, they do exist. Women in particular can feel vulnerable walking to their vehicle, leaving work late or entering a dark home. There are steps you can take to reduce the risk of becoming the victim of violence, and female colleagues now have the opportunity to learn these steps free of charge.

The Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) System is the largest, most comprehensive women’s self-defense course in the world. The system empowers women to make their own decisions regarding self-preservation and self-defense. Women learn defensive concepts and techniques against various types of assaults by utilizing proven, effective self-defense tactics.

The RAD course is taught by certified instructors over four classes. The course focuses on awareness, prevention, risk reduction, avoidance and basic hands-on defense.

Class 1 – Strategies to reduce risk and prevent violent encounters

Class 2 and 3 – Learning physical defense tactics

Class 4 – Attack simulation drills

Colleagues who complete the course have lifetime free access to any RAD classes taught in the U.S. or Canada at any time if they’d like to brush up on self-defense techniques.

The classes will be taught at the Public Safety Office, 2024 Lehigh Street, Allentown, in different timing formats to make them accessible to different shifts. The schedule will be as follows:

- March 7, 9, 14 and 16, 6-9 p.m. each class
- June 10, 8 a.m.-4 p.m. and June 17, 8 a.m.-noon
- Sept. 12, 13 and 14, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.
- Nov. 5 and 12, noon-6 p.m.

For more information and course registration, contact Kim Diehl of public safety at 610-402-2333. Again, the RAD course is available to women colleagues only.

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**VETERANS HEALTH INITIATIVE COMMITTEE**

Would you like to be part of a committee dedicated to veterans in our community?

Volunteer one to two hours of your time monthly. You do not need to be a veteran.

For more information, call Jon Morell at ext. 4008.