

**Calendar of Events**

**FREE Community Lecture**

Tuesday, March 7  
 LVHN Rehabilitation  
 Center-Schuylkill  
 300 Schuylkill Medical Plaza  
 Topic: Total Knee Replacement

**Presenters:**

Calvin Stoudt, DO  
 Orthopedic Surgeon

Mike Smith  
 Physical Therapist

**FREE Weight-Loss Info Event**

Monday, March 27 • 6-8 p.m.  
 LVH-Schuylkill S. Jackson St.  
 Conference rooms A and B  
 Register: 570-501-4LVH (4584)  
 or visit LVHN.org/weightFIE

**LVHN 5K Run/Walk**

Health & Wellness Center at  
 Hazleton  
 Saturday, April 29  
 Details: 570-501-6953

**LVH-Schuylkill Spring Gala**

Saturday, April 29 • 6 p.m.  
 Season's Restaurant  
 Mt. Valley Golf Course  
 For more information:  
 570-621-4242 or  
 mary.bardell@lvhn.org

**Senior  
 Management,  
 Leadership  
 Restructured at the  
 Network Level**

LVHN management committees and leadership responsibilities are being altered so LVHN can focus on its key priorities amid the changing face of health care. For details, read the special announcement email sent to all colleagues on Monday, Feb. 27.



**You work hard all year long to keep the people in our communities healthy.**

Lately, you've been working harder than ever due to increased patient volumes across all our campuses, at our health centers, ExpressCAREs and LVPG practices.

Your passion and dedication are truly remarkable. Patients and family members have noticed and told us how grateful they are for your commitment and caregiving. Leaders across the health network have noticed too. They've called your collaboration and teamwork "heroic" and "magnificent." And I couldn't agree more.

In the Lehigh Valley, we've seen record-breaking volumes in January and February due to seasonal illnesses like the flu, respiratory and gastrointestinal illnesses. Our surgical volumes are way up too. In fact, we exceeded 125 percent of volume on several occasions, yet still achieved our goal of zero diversions.

At LVH-Hazleton, seasonal volumes were up in January and ED visits were up 10 percent. At LVH-Schuylkill, January volumes on our clinical units were all higher than budget. At LVH-Pocono, patient volumes were slightly higher in January than previous months, though still lower than before we experienced changes in the competitive landscape. On all our campuses and in our practices, we're caring for our most vulnerable populations – young children and the elderly.



Whether you're on the frontline at one of our hospital campuses, work at an LVPG practice, in an ambulatory setting or play a vital support role, chances are you're feeling the effects of the cold and flu season. Now more than ever, we need to take time to encourage one another and cheer each other on. We also need to practice self-care and keep each other healthy so we can continue to do an extraordinary job for our communities.

I wish I could send each of you a personal note for going the extra mile these past two months. As one of our more than 17,000 colleagues, you can be proud of the work you do and the compassion you show our community. Thank you for working for LVHN and for giving it your all throughout this busy season.



*Terry Ann Capuano*

**ABOUT ME:** My name is Terry Capuano, RN and I am the executive vice president and chief operating officer at Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN). I have worked at LVHN for 30 years, serving as COO for the last five years. I greatly enjoy meeting colleagues, sharing stories and enhancing relationships throughout the network.

## Visit the Intranet

- LVH–Schuylkill news
- Health network news
- Merger resources
- Events
- Other information

LVHN Weekly–Schuylkill and other timely information for colleagues is accessible from our intranet site. Visit often.



## Earn \$1,000 in Physician Referral Program

All LVHN colleagues are eligible to earn \$1,000 for referring a physician who gets hired by the health network under a recently enacted program.

The process for the referral program is as follows:

- Refer a physician to Lea Carpenter, Administrator, Physician and Executive Recruitment.
- Lea.Carpenter@LVHN.org.
- Receive \$1,000 referral “finder’s fee” notification.
- Fee is payable to the colleague through the payroll process once the referred physician starts employment.

## The Three Passions of LVPG President Michael Rossi, MD



*This is fourth in a series of stories about LVHN presidents. As these leaders begin to play a greater role in keeping you informed through our Communication Cascade, their stories will give you a better understanding of their roles and responsibilities, and help you get to know them better.*

There are three primary passions in the life of Michael Rossi, MD. One is his family, a passion best manifested by the delicious Italian dinners served just about every Sunday and holiday in the Rossi household. Another is the New York Mets, his favorite baseball team since the days Casey Stengel was their manager in the early 1960s. The third is medicine, which like his other passions has been part of him as long as he can remember.

“I’ve always wanted to be a doctor since I was a little kid growing up in Brooklyn,” says Rossi, LVHN Chief Physician Executive and President of Lehigh Valley Physician Group (LVPG), our health network’s medical group. In fact, he started volunteering at his local hospital in New York City when he was 13. His father worked for a taxi company as an auto mechanic and his mother was a seamstress. “They worked hard to get by,” Rossi says. “My dad always encouraged me to aim high and work hard. He taught me that respect is something you earn.”

The son of Italian immigrants, Rossi didn’t learn to speak English until he got to kindergarten. He was the first in his family to attend college and the first to become a doctor, earning both his bachelor’s and medical degrees at Brown University. Rossi was in private practice in Allentown before he joined LVHN full time in 2003. He was Chief of Cardiology and Medical Director of the Regional Heart Center before he was asked to lead LVPG in 2008. “It’s been nothing short of amazing to see how LVPG has grown during my time as president and long before that,” he says.

LVPG began in 1993 with 24 physicians. Today it includes more than 1,200 providers

and 3,000 colleagues including expanding to Schuylkill County. Rossi regularly meets with LVPG’s clinical and business leaders, having oversight for what is now the fifth largest employer in the Lehigh Valley.

LVHN providers care for more than 400,000 unique patients, which means we serve about half of the population of the entire Lehigh Valley area. “Think about that for a moment,” Rossi says. “That says a lot about the entire team of colleagues we have in place across LVPG and our network.”

Rossi looks forward to talking with members of that team during “Open Mike Forums.” As we introduce the Communication Cascade – which elevates the role of leaders in keeping colleagues informed – these forums will give Rossi a venue to share health network and LVPG news with colleagues, as well as learn about their successes, challenges and questions.

Despite all his responsibilities, Rossi had managed to continue treating patients as a cardiologist until only recently. “It was difficult to step away,” Rossi says. “I’d been caring for some of them for nearly 25 years, but it became impossible to continue as my administrative role evolved. It’s still hard because caring for patients will always be part of who I am. So now it’s about how do we optimize caring for the entire community instead of one patient at a time.”

Thirty years ago, Rossi met his wife, Barbara, while doing his residency at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital. Today they have four children and enjoy tennis, the Mets and New York Giants, and those amazing Italian family dinners. That word “family” means a lot to Rossi, whether it’s at home or work. “At LVPG, we’re like family – a 3,000-member family,” he says. “Family is my everything. It’s my joy - always has been and always will be.”