

CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS



Hands-Only CPR Class

Thursday, Feb. 23: 5 p.m.
Health Center at Mountain Top
Learn lifesaving skills without
mouth-to-mouth breaths,
for ages 13 and up.
Call **570-501-6600** to register or
for more information.

American Cancer Society Telethon

Saturday, Feb. 25:
11 a.m.-11 p.m. at Health &
Wellness Center at Hazleton
This year's theme is
"Rainbow of Hope."

YOUR PRIDE IS SHOWING

A patient comment from Press
Ganey...

"My visit to the MRI at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton was exceptional, from the greeting and being registered by friendly, caring ladies, to my test. Jessica, who performed my test, was very knowledgeable and most of all shows compassion and that she cares for her patients. Hazleton is very lucky to have her and all of the staff, from registration to the technicians."



Jim Geiger Calls on Military Experience to Stay Mission Ready

Jim Geiger was an Air Force officer in the medical service corps in Germany when two embassies were bombed in Kenya and Tanzania. With his boss away in Washington, D.C., it was Geiger who read the chaotic first reports of 5,000 dead or injured. His mission: Assemble a ground team in Kenya to set up the military's medical response. "We didn't have a script to handle that scenario," Geiger says. "We just jumped into action and created a plan."



Geiger spent 26 years in health care operations assigned to Air Force bases and military medical centers from California to New York. He also did stints in Turkey and Germany. "The military taught me teamwork, professionalism and execution," says Geiger, President of LVH-Muhlenberg. "That's where I grew an appreciation for the synergy and camaraderie that comes from facing a challenging task."

Like his time in the military, Geiger relies on situational awareness to sharpen his focus for the day. That awareness often comes during the morning's daily leadership huddle where LVH-Muhlenberg directors report on open issues from the night before and new ones brewing that morning. Weekly rounding throughout the hospital also provides insight into what's working and what needs attention, while giving him the face-to-face time with colleagues and patients he loves so much. "Visibility is so important," Geiger says. "I'd rather be walking the hallway than behind my desk. Sometimes a brief interaction with a colleague or patient can change the care experience."

Whether he's popping into patient rooms to say hello, addressing issues or hearing praise about the staff, rounding is the most rewarding time of the day. Several times a year, he rounds on the night shift to let colleagues know their hard work is appreciated. After 14 years with the health network, Geiger was named LVH-Muhlenberg President. He equates his role to a "complex Rubik's Cube of issues" that's in constant motion. His job is to stay abreast of all the moving parts without losing focus – it's a mission he accepts gladly. He manages operations, finances, patient satisfaction and employee engagement for the entire campus. That's in addition to network-wide operations and staying abreast of the changing health care environment. "We're living in a very uncertain time in health care," says Geiger. "More than ever, we need to be flexible and nimble so we can make the best decisions with the information available."

Geiger believes LVHN is extraordinarily strong and well positioned for the future. The key performance indicators he tracks on patient volume, discharges, ER admissions and other items point to a "strong year and a staff that is doing a magnificent job serving the community."

Following a nomadic military career, Geiger and his wife, Debra, were happy to put down roots in the Lehigh Valley. They enjoy boating, hiking and skiing. His daughter Kristen Negvesky is a doctor of veterinary medicine who lives in southern California with her husband Alex. *(continued)*

COLLEAGUE RECOGNITION

Please congratulate **Clarissa Stauffer**, LVH–Hazleton ultrasound technologist, for successfully passing her vascular boards. She is now a registered vascular technician in addition to a registered diagnostic medical sonographer.



Geiger also makes sure to eat right and squeeze in the occasional workout at LVHN Fitness to maintain stamina for a demanding job. Yet it's colleagues he credits with energizing him most of all.

"LVH–Muhlenberg is like a large family that looks out for patients and each other," says Geiger. "I see pride, passion and professionalism from all our departments. That energizes me."



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- Enter promo code: BACONUSA

THANK YOU FROM IMAGING SERVICES

A message from Radiology Supervisor Robert Zoshak

"When the CT Scan is down, it can be a difficult time for patients and staff. Being able to work together makes these situations much easier to handle.

A special thank you to Gary Bonfante, DO, Kim Colvell and the emergency department providers and nursing staff, Michele Konitzer, nursing floor managers and staff, Steve Palmieri and the security team, imaging colleagues from LVH–Hazleton and Health & Wellness Center, Michael Golden, APTS, and everyone who made every effort to make the day run so smoothly. Lacy Gashi and I want to personally thank you and let you know it is greatly appreciated. It is nice to know there are such kind and caring colleagues at LVH–Hazleton. It's a pleasure to work with all of you."

BUS TRIP UPDATE

The April 22 bus trip to Washington D.C. has been filled.

There are a few seats available for the April 29 bus trip to Washington D.C.

LVHN Shares the Love by Giving Valentine's Day Cards to Patients

Valentine's Day is a day to share your love. This year, we asked colleagues and community members to help us shower our patients with love.

Working with Christmas City Printing and Alcom Printing, we created a website that people visited to create a personalized Valentine's Day card for a random patient hospitalized at LVHN. People were able to choose from among eight different card designs (including one in Spanish), and write a personalized message on it. We told people about it in LVHN Weekly and on LVHN's Facebook page, and encouraged people to participate. We received about 1,300 entries. The website was visited by people from 10 different states and nine different countries, including Japan, Germany, Ireland and Australia. The messages on the cards truly came from the heart. Here are examples:

- Know there are more people out there than you could imagine who are wishing good things for you. – A medical student from Maine
- We'll never meet, but I'm thinking about you today and wishing you as much love and happiness as you can have on your Valentine's Day. – From a friend in California
- I am 17 years old and a senior in high school in Allentown, Pa. You may not know me, and I may not know you, but I would like you to know that you are loved today and every day! Please know that your present does not determine your future. Know that you are stronger. You are more than a conqueror. You are a tough enough cookie to climb every mountain that seems impossible to climb. You can and will get through the "impossible!" I will be praying for you always and I will be hoping for good news soon. Know that you are cared for and loved every day! HAPPY VALENTINES DAY! Love, Elizabeth.

After the cards were printed, LVHN volunteers distributed cards randomly to patients hospitalized in seven of our hospital campuses on Valentine's Day. The cards certainly put smiles on our patients' faces.

