

CALENDAR OF COMMUNITY EVENTS



American Cancer Society Telethon

Saturday, Feb. 25:
11 a.m.-11 p.m.
Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton

Stroke Support Group

Monday, Feb. 27: 2 p.m.
Gunderson Center for Inpatient Rehabilitation
Call 570-501-4632 for more information.

Parkinson's Support Group

Wednesday, March 1: 1-2 p.m.
Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton, fitness center aerobic room
Call 570-501-6717 for more information.

What Every Person Should Know About Stroke

Wednesday, March 1: 2-3 p.m.
Gunderson Center for Inpatient Rehabilitation
Call 570-501-4600 to register or for more information.

Labor and Delivery Class Series

\$40 per couple delivering at LVH-Hazleton
\$50 for non-LVH-Hazleton deliveries
Wednesdays, March 1, 8, 15 and 22: 7 p.m.
LVH-Hazleton Family Birthing Center
Call 570-501-4200 to register.

Car Seat Check

Schedule your personal car seat check with our certified technician. Remember to bring your car seat. Appointments required.
Call 570-501-1521.

How One Stormy Night Influences LVH-Schuylkill

President Bill Reppy Every Day

Bill Reppy credits his past with helping to define who he is personally and professionally. The LVH-Schuylkill President recalls an incident many years ago when, while working as an emergency medical technician, he and his colleagues responded to an accident on a stormy night.



Reppy and the rescue team extricated the victim from his vehicle and provided stabilizing care. As the patient was being readied for helicopter transport, Reppy discussed the challenging weather conditions with the pilot. A short time later, the patient was loaded into the helicopter, and it lifted off. Within minutes the chopper was down in a nearby field. "We immediately responded to the new accident scene," Reppy says. "In minutes, we went from a sense of optimism to being in complete shock."

The event impacted Reppy. "It influenced my daily approach to family, leadership, colleagues and facing challenges," he says. "While there are never guarantees to the outcome of a situation, I've learned how important it is to adapt to your environment, persevere and move on." That valuable lesson provided guidance throughout Reppy's career. The event also influences how he views situations as a leader. "I always look for the positive and believe that is key when one assumes a leadership role," he says. "As LVH-Schuylkill President, it is incumbent on me to set the tone for this organization. Positivity drives change and allows colleagues to overcome hurdles."

Professionally, Reppy has come full circle. Early in his career, he served as Director of Radiology and Medical Diagnostics at what is now LVH-Schuylkill. Later, he served as the Chief Administrative Officer and County Administrator for Schuylkill County government. Reppy returned to health care at what is now LVH-Hazleton, first as Director of Diagnostic Imaging and most recently as Vice President of Operations and Corporate Safety Officer. He actively participated in LVHN's merger and integration with LVH-Hazleton and now leads the LVH-Schuylkill integration. A veteran, Reppy served six years in the U.S. Navy before being honorably discharged. "I was fortunate to have had strong mentors who gave me the opportunity to improve my skills beyond a job description or organizational chart," he says. "I try to do the same with our team."

Reppy is leading the integration of the two LVH-Schuylkill hospitals. LVH-Schuylkill also includes a Rehabilitation Center, School of Nursing, Imaging Center and home care. Growth of LVPG practices and service lines also is on the horizon. Visiting with patients and colleagues is part of his daily routine. Reppy is readily visible throughout both Pottsville hospitals and other facilities as he introduces the LVHN culture and practices to colleagues.

Reppy says finding the proper work-life balance is key. In addition to an active LVHN life, he has a very active family, church and community life. On any given day, you can find Reppy and his wife, Nancy (a registered nurse), in the stands of the local high school athletic fields watching their son, Kyle, play soccer or in the high school band,

YOUR PRIDE IS SHOWING

A patient writes...

"You (everyone on the seventh floor) were so wonderful with our mom, dad's true love, we wanted to thank you all so much for everything you did for her and us. From sitting on her bed with her, to a caring friendly voice. We could not have asked for anything more during this difficult time. You are all wonderful at your jobs. The care, thoughts and prayers are all appreciated."



SOCIAL NEWS

Due to an overwhelming response, an additional bus has been added to the April 22 and April 29 Washington D.C. trips. For more information, go to the Recreational Activities page on LVH-Hazleton's intranet.

Ashes will be given on Ash Wednesday, March 1, to colleagues who wish to receive them. Visit the Health & Wellness Center's large conference room from 10-11 a.m., and the chapel at LVH-Hazleton from 3-3:30 p.m.

Weight-Loss Competition

Weigh-ins will be held March 2: 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m. at LVH-Hazleton, seventh floor.



or at a local chorus, church or civic event. "I have a strong sense of family and believe in serving my community," Reppy says. "We enjoy family dinners. We worship together. We are active in each other's lives. The values my parents instilled in me have remained." Reppy is actively involved with the Lions Club, EMS Council, Penn State Schuylkill Advisory Board, Schuylkill County Vision and Schuylkill County Economic Development Corporation, and has served with the American Cancer Society and Make-A-Wish Foundation.

As for LVH-Schuylkill, Reppy is energized about opportunities that lie ahead and what the results will mean for the community. "In just a few months, we have celebrated successes both big and small," he says. Colleagues are embracing the "LVHN Way" with the introduction of daily huddles, visibility walls, Gemba walks, PRIDE behaviors and more. "From a new emergency department and plans for other physical and program improvements, to changing our culture," Reppy says, "I'm very encouraged with how colleagues are adapting."

Janet Witkowski Retires After 37 Years

Congratulations to Janet Witkowski who will retire on March 3 after a 37-year career in administration. Witkowski, whose lovely voice is heard when someone calls administration, began her administrative assistant career at St. Joseph's Hospital when Sister M. Edwinalda was president. During her career, she worked at St. Joseph's Medical Center, Greater Hazleton Health Alliance, Hazleton General Hospital, and currently LVH-Hazleton.



"I have worked alongside some excellent people and have so many wonderful memories to hold dear to my heart," Witkowski says. Her plans for retirement include visiting her grandchildren in Florida more often, preparing for a new grandchild in August and traveling to places she hasn't had the opportunity to visit.

Please join in wishing her well in retirement at a make-your-own sundae reception in her honor on Friday, March 3 from 1:30-2:30 p.m. in the hospital's Hilltop Café.

Interventional Cardiology Consults Available in Hazleton

Patients in the greater Hazleton area who require interventional cardiology have the opportunity to have a consultation with Interventional Cardiologist Bryan Kluck, DO, at the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton. Kluck will see patients locally on the first Monday of each month. Surgeries will be performed at an LVHN facility in the Lehigh Valley.



"Peripheral arterial disease (PAD) is very common and debilitating problem in our community as well as the nation," Kluck says. "Over the years, technological advances in catheter-based therapy have allowed endovascular specialists to treat carotid artery and peripheral artery disease with better and more durable results. While classic vascular surgery continues to have a place in treating both PAD and carotid artery disease, the role of endovascular therapy, including balloons and stents, is expanding. I have dedicated the better part of the last two decades treating patients with PAD and carotid artery disease. With the association of LVHN and its Hazleton campus, I am hopeful there will be an expansion of these endovascular options for resident of the Hazleton area."