

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Bariatric/Weight Loss Management Info Session**

Monday, March 27  
6-8 p.m.  
LVH-Schuylkill S. Jackson St.  
420 S. Jackson St., Pottsville  
Call 570-501-4LVH to register  
or for more information.

**Stroke Support Group**

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



Purchase tickets online at  
LVHN.org/blackout. For more  
information, call 610-969-  
4999.

**Congratulations to the  
LVH-Hazleton radiology  
department for passing the  
Department of Environmental  
Protection inspection  
with zero deficiencies.**



This message is from  
**John Fletcher,**  
LVH-Hazleton President

**Winter Storm Stella certainly gave our area the one-two punch.** While the storm was predicted and we took measures at work and at home to prepare, its intensity and the amount of snow we got still was mind-boggling.

Hearing your stories and observing you at work the last few days and nights, I was filled with such admiration. Our nurses, therapists, security guards, maintenance and food service colleagues and countless others made a commitment to be at the hospital during the storm to ensure our patients received the quality care they expect and deserve.

I/S Manager Al Edel, for instance, walked a mile to and from work. and colleague Brandon Gibbon spent the night at the hospital to make sure I/S systems were functioning and customer support was available. Jenny Martinez, food service, walked from West Hazleton to make sure our patients and colleagues were fed. Many nurses spent the night, and some, like the team in the Gunderson Unit, switched shifts with other colleagues who they knew would not make

it in to work. Laboratory colleagues Margaret Fritz and Michael Kolesar worked double shifts, and Susan Amundsen worked overtime then stayed at a local hotel just so she could make it in to work the next day. Plant operations and maintenance colleagues not only worked around the clock plowing and shoveling to keep the hospital campus open, they also helped shovel out colleagues' vehicles when it was time for them to go home. Zoey Bandy, transport services, played a vital role in coordinating colleagues' needs, working from 4:30 a.m. Tuesday until the end of her normal shift Wednesday afternoon.

There are so many other great stories just like these that are a testament to your dedication and commitment to our patients and our community. I also want to thank the vice presidents, directors, managers and supervisors who were here during the storm to offer colleagues support and assistance. You are leaders by example.

Please accept my heartfelt thanks, appreciation and respect for all that you do. Your teamwork and dedication were outstanding.

**Town Hall Meetings Rescheduled**

Town Hall Meetings are scheduled at the LVH-Hazleton campus and Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton on the following dates and times.

- March 27 at 11 a.m., LVH-Hazleton first floor conference room
- March 28 at 10 a.m., Health & Wellness Center imaging conference room
- March 28 at 3 p.m., LVH-Hazleton BEC first floor conference room
- March 31 at 2 p.m., LVH-Hazleton first floor conference room

## SELECT Medical Students Learn Match Day Results



**There are lots of firsts in a medical student's career: first cadaver lab, first white coat and first patient encounter.** For the 2017 graduating class of SELECT medical school, a partnership between University of South Florida (USF) Health Morsani College of Medicine and LVHN, there were even more firsts – 27 to be exact. That's how many students are first in their family to go to medical school.

On March 17, those students and their families gathered in a ballroom at the Renaissance Hotel in downtown Allentown to experience yet another milestone – their first Match Day.

Match Day is an annual rite of passage for fourth-year students at medical schools across the country. It's the day when all their hard work, studying and exams pay

off culminating in one last test – a test of nerves. It's the day they open sealed envelopes that reveal their “match” to a medical residency program.

“Match Day is one of the most significant events in a medical student's life,” says SELECT Assistant Dean of Student Affairs Michael La Rock, MD. “It's the culmination of many years of hard work and has an impact on a doctor's future career. Students who have family members in medicine have heard the folklore around it, but for first timers it's even more nerve-wracking.”

The 2017 graduating class of SELECT includes 50 students. More than three dozen attended Match Day festivities in Allentown, and 11 of their classmates learned match results in Tampa, Fla. where SELECT students complete the first two years of classroom training before coming to LVHN for two years of clinical experiences.

## Speak to a Dietitian

### How can I eat healthier? What's the best way to begin?

Have your questions answered by a dietitian on Wednesday, March 22 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of the Hilltop Café.

LVH–Hazleton nutrition services will be offering nutritional information and healthy eating tips for all colleagues who are interested in lifestyle modifications.

*“A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.” Lao Tzu*



## Leadership Rounds Continue

The Leadership Rounding pilot program began this week with LVH–Hazleton senior leaders rounding on the nursing units during various shifts. Colleagues took advantage of this opportunity to speak with senior leaders asking them questions, offering suggestions or identifying ways to improve their jobs. Positive comments about the rounding process were received from both leaders and colleagues. Here is next week's rounding schedule.

<u>Location</u>	<u>Date and Time</u>	<u>Leader</u>
7th floor	March 21 at 4 p.m.	John Fletcher
5th floor	March 21 at 6 a.m.	Michael Golden
4th floor	March 21 at 4 p.m.	Michele Konitzer
3rd floor	March 24 at 6 a.m.	Murray Swim
2nd floor	March 24 at 7:15 a.m.	Melissa Curto

## Grandmother With 140-pound Tumor is Half Her Size After Life-Saving Surgery



**When Mary Clancey first noticed she was “getting a little plump,” as she calls it, she thought it was perhaps from her time working the fudge counter at her local Boscov’s Department Store in Pottsville.** She would soon realize the situation was far more serious, resulting in a miraculous five-hour operation to remove a 140-pound cancerous tumor from her abdomen.

Today, thanks to the quick actions and innovative thinking of Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) doctors, Clancey is able to share her incredible story.

“Things started getting harder to do – harder to walk, harder to stand – and then one day I couldn’t get out of bed,” the 71-year-old grandmother says. “My son said, ‘Let’s call an ambulance and take you out of here.’”

A computed tomography (CT) scan revealed the astonishing diagnosis – a cyst in one of her ovaries had grown into a 140-pound, stage-one-cancer tumor, equal to almost half her weight. Clancey was 365 pounds in total at the time. She jokes that she felt that she was just becoming “one of those little, ‘roly poly’ ladies.” But she was in for a huge surprise.

“The results of Mary’s CT scan are permanently engrained in my mind,” says surgeon Richard Boulay, MD (right in photo), Chief of Gynecologic Oncology at LVHN, who performed Clancey’s operation. “The

mass was so big it didn’t even fit in the picture of the scanner – I had never seen anything like it.”

The surgery had to be carefully orchestrated by Boulay and his team to account for the sheer logistics of removing a mass that large from Clancey’s body. He was assisted by Randolph Wojcik Jr., MD (left in photo), Chief of Plastic Surgery, and plastic surgeon with LVPG Plastic Surgery. In five hours, Mary lost 180 pounds of tumor and tissue – literally half of her body weight.

After recovering under the close watch of LVHN’s care team for 26 days following the procedure, Clancey is a more petite 147 pounds today. But her personality is still larger than life. “I was going to be a short, fat, round little old lady before, so you never know, I might just turn into a voluptuous babe now,” she says.

For Boulay and the team at LVHN who witnessed Clancey’s incredible story firsthand, the real reward is seeing her happy, healthy and on the road to a fulfilling retirement. “When someone like Mary grabs your hands a couple of days later and says, ‘Thank you for giving me my life back,’ it doesn’t get any better than that,” Boulay says.