



Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital Play Area Takes Flight

Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital has partnered with Lehigh Valley International Airport (LVIA) to create a special place for young children and their families to pass the time while waiting for their planes to depart – the Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital Play Area at LVIA.

"There's a lot of fun here, and that's exactly why LVHN is proud to be part of this great play area," says LVHN Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Terry Capuano. "It really fits right in with our

mission to heal, comfort and care for our community."

The play area replicates in miniature a lot of the features found at LVH-Cedar Crest's campus, as well as other area landmarks, all arranged so children can enjoy playing with them. In the play area, children can:

- Crawl under a small Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital
- Climb aboard an LVHN-MedEvac helicopter
- Jump on the back of an ambulance

For young children and their mothers, a Mamava lactation pod provides a comfortable, private breast- and bottle-feeding option. Older children will enjoy the tech bar, where they can charge their mobile devices before they get on the plane.

Capuano said the "play date before the gate" should be a welcome site for children, as well as their parents and guardians. It's been designed to help children enjoy their experience at the airport more in a safe environment.

Leadership Rounds Continue

LOCATION	DATE AND TIME	LEADER
7th floor	May 24 at 4:30 p.m.	Michele Konitzer, RN
6th floor	May 25 at 4 p.m.	Murray Swim
5th floor	May 24 at 4 p.m.	Melissa Curto
4th floor	May 24 at 6:30 p.m.	John Fletcher
3rd floor	May 25 at 6 a.m.	Anthony Valente, MD
ED	May 24 at 7 p.m.	Michael Golden, RN

Service Star of the Month – May 2017

KIM BRUNS, LVPG ADULT PEDIATRIC PSYCHIATRY-1259 CEDAR CREST

Kim Bruns is a licensed clinical social worker (LCSW) who works closely with patients who have cancer and their families. Her passion for social work means she focuses on the whole person – physical, emotional and spiritual – walking alongside patients and their families throughout the cancer journey.

Bruns strives to bring balance, wellness and a sense of peace to families so they can focus on what matters most – their loved one's well-being. She also strives to bring a sense of normalcy to their days despite the whirlwind of doctor appointments, chemotherapy and radiation treatments.

Bruns' vocation gives her a window into a world that most people hope never to enter. She sees patients when they are feeling hopeful and when they are

struggling. Her love and compassion seem to know no bounds. Patients trust her, often confiding their final wish for this world before cancer takes them from it. Some wish to meet a famous person, some want a last adventure and others simply long for time with their family.

Bruns always puts patients first. She has a reputation for bringing work home, using her personal time to research ways to grant a final wish. Over the years, she's turned to For Pete's Sake – a cancer foundation focused on individual and family respite – to send nine families to Disney World. Recently, another patient shared his desire to go to a Philadelphia Flyers game. When the patient became too ill to attend a game, she reached out to see if the Flyers would come to him. They did,



and the man received a visit from retired Philadelphia Flyers player Brad Marsh.

Bruns is a powerful and positive role model for all who know her, including the five colleagues who nominated her for a Service Star. She often says how she "wishes she could do more for patients." Yet her colleagues know the compassion she shows patients and families and the remarkable work she does to grant dying wishes are already so much.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bariatric/Weight-Loss Management Information Session

Monday, May 22 • 6-8 p.m.

Health Center at Mountain Top

Learn about surgical and non-surgical weight-loss options.

To register or for more information, call **570-501-4LVH**.

Stroke Support Group Session

Monday, May 22 • 2-3 p.m.

Gunderson Center for Inpatient Rehabilitation

Call **570-501-4632** for more information.

LVH-Hazleton Launches Automated Reminder Service

Information services along with LVH-Hazleton outpatient testing and LVPG-Hazleton physician scheduling departments recently launched the Televox patient reminder system.

Two days prior to the appointment, patients who opt in to the reminder service receive either an automated voice call or text, and are able to confirm or cancel the appointments at that time. Patients who must cancel – and do so during normal appointment hours – are automatically connected to the physician scheduling call center to reschedule. If the patient cancels after hours, the physician scheduling department contacts the customer the next working day to reschedule.

We anticipate the reminder service will enhance patient access while lowering appointment no-show rates. If a patient has multiple appointments that are related on one day, a reminder is sent for the first appointment of the day. If the patient has a test and an LVPG appointment on the same day, however, a reminder is sent for both to avoid confusion.



It's Picnic Time

Join your colleagues, friends and family for a fun-filled day at LVH-Hazleton's annual colleague picnic at Knoebels Amusement Park, Elysburg. The picnic will be held Saturday, July 22, and is open to all Hazleton colleagues, board members, medical staff and adult volunteers. A colleague and one guest can attend for free. The cost for each additional guest is \$9. Please check your email for more information and a registration form. A registration form is also available on the Recreations Activities page on the LVH-Hazleton intranet page. The registration deadline is Friday, July 3.

CELEBRATING SUMMER

Take a break this Thursday, May 25, and celebrate the return of summer with the food services department's first Grill on the Patio. Enjoy your choice of a homemade hamburger, cheeseburger, black bean burger or BBQ chicken, along with corn on the cob, redskin potato salad and a bottle of water or can of soda for \$5 plus tax. An ice cream sundae bar will be available to purchase by weight.

LVHN Celebrates 10,000th Robotic Surgical Procedure

In some ways, it feels like only yesterday when Martin Martino, MD, thinks about the first days of LVHN's minimally invasive robotic surgery program with just one robot and a handful of clinicians at LVH-17th Street.

Nine years later, the program has expanded to the point where it includes five robots and more than 40 surgeons across 10 service lines working in four hospitals: LVH-Cedar Crest, LVH-Muhlenberg, LVH-Pocono and LVH-Schuylkill. As of Thursday, May 11, the program had served a total of 10,000 patients.

When LVHN's robotic program was launched in 2008, critics were unsure if robotic surgery would be safe and effective enough to be a useful surgical option. However, the outcomes from the team at LVHN have validated the robotic surgery is here to stay. A five-year validation trial published in 2014 demonstrated how a robotic approach offered improved quality outcomes when compared to non-robotic approaches. Some medical experts are predicting that with the influx of competition expected over the next five years, about one-third of all surgeries will be performed robotically.

"Future surgical care will continue to evolve, and LVHN will be at the forefront of new approaches," Martino says. "We've expanded our program dramatically and we look forward to continue offering our patients the most innovative surgical techniques to address many health conditions in the years to come. The potential of robotic procedures is continuing to change the ways physicians operate."



Colleague and Community Engagement



LVH-Hazleton President John Fletcher presented the "Designing Health Care for the Future" presentation to the Hazleton Rotary Club on May 17.



Colleagues from the Health & Wellness Center at Hazleton presented information on LVHN's Populytics at the Greater Hazleton Chamber of Commerce's 125th Anniversary celebration, while the hospital's booth depicted health care through the years.



Phillip Benyo, MD, LVPG-Hazleton Geriatric and Internal Medicine, provided information for WYLN-35's Community and You program on ticks and allergies.

How to save lives is what Occupational Health Services Manager Laura Jones, RN, was teaching at a recent hands-only CPR class as part of our community outreach program. The photo was mistakenly identified in last week's LVHN Weekly-Hazleton.