

Has it Been a Year?

One year ago today, we were getting ready to merge. We gathered to sign the "Commitment Walls." We met leaders from throughout the health network. We shook hands and exchanged pleasantries. We received new identification badges and a little pin with a new logo. We began a journey to transform health care in Schuylkill County.

One year ago today, we changed terminology too: from employees to colleagues. We introduced visibility walls, gemba walks and huddles. Sept. 15, 2016, was our "Celebration Day," and our official merger with LVHN occurred one day later.

To recognize our first anniversary as part of LVHN, all colleagues are invited to attend a celebration on Monday, Sept. 18, in both hospital cafeterias. Here are details.

- ▶ 6:30–8:30 a.m., donuts and coffee for overnight colleagues
- ▶ 11 a.m.–1:30 p.m., cake and coffee
- ▶ 4:30–6 p.m., cake and coffee
- ▶ Cupcakes will be delivered to our other LVH–Schuylkill facilities on Monday.

This past year at LVH–Schuylkill, we have seen many changes tied to our mission to heal, comfort and care for the people of our community.

Here's just some of what we accomplished together:

- ▶ Completed phase one of campus integration
- ▶ Constructed a new ER
- ▶ Opened a new interventional radiology suite and radiology reception area
- ▶ Replaced OR lights
- ▶ Introduced a 24/7 hospital medicine program (hospitalists)
- ▶ Made renovations at both campuses
- ▶ Created Lehigh Valley Physician Group (LVPG)–Schuylkill
- ▶ Added practices in family medicine, internal medicine and cardiology
- ▶ Welcomed physicians who specialize in rehabilitation medicine and a pediatric hospitalist

Our story is ongoing, and in year two we will continue our journey to deliver the highest quality care to the residents of our community.



WELCOME NEW COLLEAGUES

Angie Matz	Patricia Sborz	Gladys Viera	Shannon Goodman	Krystal Londono	Angela Bzura
Kendalle DiFilippo	Victoria Polosky	Mikalya Davidson	Laurie Ruch	Eugene Yourey	Cherie Petzold
Diane Cunningham	Lynn Moyer	Christina Herndon	Tiffany Zeigler	Kelly Mitchell	Sara McDonald
Michelle Roberts		Michelle Boniscavage		Kayla Mitman	

Environmental Services Colleagues Recognized

LVH-Schuylkill paused to recognize team members during National Environmental Services (EVS) and Housekeeping Week with events at both hospitals. “We want our EVS colleagues to know they are a very important part of the team,” says John Tejada, EVS Operations Manager. “We tried to do something each day during meal periods – food and refreshments seemed like something colleagues would enjoy – and welcomed their input on things we could do.”

From a cake in the break rooms one day, to tacos on Tuesday, and even wings on Thursday, colleagues at both campuses were recognized and thanked for the many contributions they make each day. “It’s nice to see they’re going out of their way to show appreciation for everything we do,” says Housekeeper Barbara Heffner. “They took care of us, and it’s nice to be recognized,” adds Housekeeper Larry Stefficek.

For many years, the EVS department used the week to recognize colleagues for their efforts. This year, the week provided an informal opportunity to share information as part of our Communication Cascade.

“We are really proud of our colleagues who work to prevent infection, maintain our buildings and put our best face forward to our patients and visitors,” says Lee Tracey, General Manager of Food, Nutrition and Environmental Services.



Engaged With our Community

LVH-Schuylkill representatives participated in two local health events this week to share information about programs and services offered in our community. Nearly 300 people attended the fourth annual Senior Expo fair sponsored by State Representative Michael Tobash. The event was held at the Pine Grove Hook and Ladder Hose Company.

LVH-Schuylkill representatives from rehabilitation services and nutritional wellness joined more than 50 other vendors also in attendance. “We handed out a lot of information about LVH-Schuylkill,” says Kim Reed, Administrative Coordinator for LVHN Rehabilitation-Schuylkill. “People seemed very excited that LVHN is here in Schuylkill County.”

Also this week, colleagues from our Counseling Center were at Northeast Pre-Stress Product’s annual employee health fair. About 200 employees attended. Colleagues shared information about our “Time to Quit” nicotine cessation program.





Our Commitment to Carbon County Remains

In the changing world of health care, it's my goal to keep you up to date on the industry and how LVHN is navigating the current environment.

As you may know, St. Luke's University Health Network and Blue Mountain Health System announced their intent to merge.

LVHN has provided nationally recognized health care services to the residents of Carbon County for decades. We remain steadfast in our commitment to this region. Residents of these communities can continue to choose LVHN for primary care and specialty services – including burn, trauma, emergency, neuro, heart, cancer and telehealth services. Also, residents now have access to more advanced patient care, research and education through our new

LVHN Heart Institute, LVHN Cancer Institute and LVHN Institute for Special Surgery.

LVHN will continue to focus on the health care needs of the residents of Carbon County who have trusted us to provide their care for many years. We appreciate their trust and look forward to continuing to serve their needs.

I will continue to keep you up to date on our strategy. You can take steps to stay informed by reviewing my monthly CEO Update, attending Town Hall meetings and talking with your manager about the latest LVHN news via the Communication Cascade.

Thank you for all you do to heal, comfort and care in all the communities we serve.



ABOUT ME: My name is Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, and I am the President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN). I came to LVHN in 1998 as the Director of LVH-Muhlenberg's Emergency Department. Prior to becoming President and CEO in 2014, I served as the health network's Chief Strategy Officer. I am originally from Reading, and I'm proud to lead an organization that continually strives to provide better health and better care at a better cost for the great people of our community.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Hip Replacement Surgery – Anterior Hip

Free Community Lecture

Tuesday, Sept. 26, 6 p.m.

LVHN Rehab Center-Schuylkill

300 Schuylkill Medical Plaza, Pottsville

I Pink I Can Event

Cardiac, breast and gynecologic health

Monday, Oct. 2, 5 p.m.

LVH-Schuylkill E. Norwegian St.

Wall Auditorium

LVH-Schuylkill Auxiliary Art for a Cause

Featuring the artwork of Abdul Wahhab, MD

Benefits breast cancer awareness

and support

Wednesday, Oct. 18

The Lodge at Sharp Mountain

Car Seat Safety Check

Medical Office Building

Schuylkill Medical Plaza

Saturday, Oct. 21, 9 a.m.-noon

AYCE Spaghetti Dinner

Benefits gentle yoga for cancer patients

Saturday, Oct. 21, noon-6 p.m.

Schaeffer Harley-Davidson, Orwigsburg

Look for flyers with details.

I Pink I Can, Live and Simulcast This Year



Each year, colleagues from cancer services and related service lines present an evening of talks for I Pink I Can, a program that focuses on women and cancer. I Pink I Can has always been a Lehigh Valley-only event – until this year.

On Oct. 2, I Pink I Can will be held “live” at LVH–Cedar Crest as usual (in Medical Imaging of Lehigh Valley ECC rooms 6, 7 and 8). This year, however, the program will be shared at three additional LVHN locations via simulcast:

- ▶ LVH–Hazleton, third floor ETC
- ▶ LVH–Muhlenberg ECC room D
- ▶ LVH–Schuylkill Wall Auditorium

Mark your calendars and reserve your spot. I Pink I Can is a great social and learning event. [Register online](#), and remember to select the location where you would like to attend. Everyone attending I Pink I Can, including those at a simulcast location, must register to ensure a seat is reserved.

In addition to our distinguished panel of speakers, an interactive resource fair will be held before and after the program at all locations featuring experts and information that will enrich the entire program.

Encourage your friends and patients to attend I Pink I Can. If you have questions, please call **888-402-LVHN** or go to LVHN.org/IPinkICan.

FEATURED SPEAKERS

This year's I Pink I Can speakers cover a range of topics, including osteoporosis, genetic testing and more.

Deborah Sundlof, DO, cardiologist, LVPG Cardiology

Topic: Shared risk factors between oncology and cardiology

Erin Levine, clinical dietitian, Sodexo

Topic: The importance of good nutrition during and after cancer treatment

Samantha Fulton, genetic counselor, LVHN Gregory and Lorraine

Harper Cancer Risk and Genetic Assessment Program

Topic: The importance of genetic testing and the implications for the patient and family members

Sandra Kowalski, CRNP, LVPG Rheumatology

Topic: Treatment and diagnosis of osteoporosis and tips for keeping bones healthy

Back in the Spotlight

LVH–Schuylkill has brought back an old communication with a new look. Safety Spotlight is a quarterly communication from the department of public safety designed to provide useful information for both the work and home environment.

“This is a good way to share relevant information with colleagues,” says John “Jack” Brobst, Director of Public Safety and Security. “Historically, feedback has been very positive, so we decided to reintroduce this publication to our staff.”

Already, LVH–Schuylkill colleagues receive online education as well as weekly safety rounds throughout our facilities where general safety knowledge is tested. We also recently had Safety Fairs at both hospitals.

“Safety is important and something we are mindful of every day,” Brobst says. Brobst also serves as Employee Safety Officer while Gary Major, Security Supervisor, serves as LVH–Schuylkill Safety Officer.

Contributing to Safety Spotlight are the emergency management committee, environment of care committee, employee safety committee and the departments of infection prevention and public safety and security.

The debut issue includes information on emergency preparedness, as September is Emergency Preparedness Month.

