

Nearly 12,000 People Receive Flu Shots

More than 15,000 pounds of food was collected too.

Veterans Day Celebration—Photos and Video

Celebrate those who protect our freedom.

Michael Minear Named CIO

His experience includes a successful Epic launch.

Get Ready for the Magnet Site Visit

You'll need to have evidence at your fingertips.

Don't Lose Your FSA Dollars

You must incur qualified expenses by Dec. 31, 2015.

Get Your Flu Shot by Nov. 23

Learn how to get vaccinated.

Clinicians Help Epic Come to Life

Nurses inside LVPG practices share their experiences.

Gift Shop Volunteers Needed

Positions are available at all locations on all shifts.

Complete the Second Core Bundle

The mandatory training must be completed by Dec.



Read Lehigh Valley Health News

a blog on LVHN.org containing timely health information and health network news.



Nearly 12,000 People Receive Free Flu Shots at Drive-Through Clinic; 7.5 Tons of Food Collected

BY [KYLE HARDNER](#) · NOVEMBER 10, 2015

Nearly 12,000 people throughout the Lehigh Valley took a giant step to protect their health this weekend. And they didn't even have to leave their car.

The annual Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) [drive-through flu campaign](#) at Allentown's Dorney and Coca-Cola Parks saw 11,558 adults and children (6 months and older) get vaccinated to protect themselves from [influenza](#). With the help from 735 volunteers, 5,879 flu vaccines were distributed at Dorney Park on Saturday, with another 5,679 distributed at Coca-Cola Park on Sunday. Wait times were well under 30 minutes.



As our volunteers protected our community, local residents rallied to help people in need. They collected 7.5 tons (15,040 pounds) of food, which will be distributed to local food banks this holiday season, including the Allentown Area Ecumenical Food Bank, Second Harvest Food Bank, Allentown Rescue Mission, Transitional Living Center Program and the AIDS Activities Office.

The 2015 campaign marked LVHN's 18th consecutive year of distributing free flu shots to community members.

See local media coverage:

- [This Flu Shot Could Save You From Pain](#) (mcall.com)
- [Pictures: Free flu shots at Dorney Park from LVHN on Saturday](#) (mcall.com)

Tags: [flu clinic](#)

Celebrating Those Who Protect Our Freedom—PHOTOS and VIDEO

BY GERARD MIGLIORE · NOVEMBER 12, 2015

Six colleagues had six very personal stories to tell. Their poignant answers to the question “Why are you proud to be an American?” added a special touch to our fourth annual Veterans Day celebration, held Wednesday in the LVH–Cedar Crest auditorium.

- Guest Services operations coordinator **Katie Blum** described not fully realizing her father’s pride in her service as a Marine until after he died.
- LVPG nurse midwife **Christina Felten, RN**, learned the price of freedom as a Navy nurse caring for wounded service personnel who had returned home from combat.
- Diagnostic neuroradiologist **Nathan Himes, MD**, was proud to command a Coast Guard cutter crew that rescued a family stranded at sea during a violent tropical storm.
- Military health care specialist **Alexander Alex**, who served in the Air Force for 28 years, said his service honored a special request from his Greek immigrant father.
- I/S project manager **Jim Shull** said he struggled to find direction as a teenager until the Army gave him an opportunity to learn, work hard and discover what he was made of.



- Center for Pain Management nurse **Tracy Erie, RN**, told the touching story of her son, Benjamin Zeigler, an Army specialist who served in Iraq before receiving a medical discharge due to ALS in 2014.

The live ceremony was simulcast to LVH–Muhlenberg, LVH–17th Street, LVH–Hazleton, LVHN–Mack Boulevard, LVHN–One City Center and LVHN–Tilghman. More than 600 colleagues – the most ever at the event – gathered at these six sites to thank those who served or are still serving in our armed forces. In addition, veteran champions at each site collected clothing, toiletries and canned goods for homeless veterans in our area. An entire truckload of items was donated by generous colleagues and will be distributed later this month by [Hope for Veterans](#), an Allentown-based veterans support organization.



Children from the pre-kindergarten class at LVHN's Children's Early Care and Education Center opened the ceremony with a charming rendition of "You're a Grand Old Flag." After Michael Gee of courier services raised the American flag in honor of all veterans, the five veteran colleagues listed above received a rousing reception from the standing-room-only crowd as they posted the flags of their respective service branches. The audience then heard the colleagues tell their personal stories as related photos flashed on the auditorium screen.

Watch the video (top, right) to hear those stories and view the images.

Tracy Erie's story was the final presentation. LVHN president and chief executive officer Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, who was a captain in the Pennsylvania Army National Guard, then surprised the audience by introducing Erie's son, Benjamin, and thanking him for his service. The young man was moved to tears as the audience gave him a standing ovation.



While Benjamin can no longer speak due to ALS, his appreciation as a veteran was best expressed by one of our patients, who attended the ceremony with his wife. After acknowledging the difficulty of his four years' service in Vietnam, the man said, simply, "It's nice to be remembered." And that is why LVHN, and all Americans, will never forget.

View additional photographs from the event in the gallery below. You can view a recording of the entire ceremony [here](#).



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Picture 1 of 11

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Nov. 11

Join Our Veterans Day Celebration on Wednesday,
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6 NOV, 2015

28 OCT, 2015

Michael Minear to Join LVHN as New Chief Information Officer

BY ADMIN · NOVEMBER 11, 2015

Special Announcement



**This message is from Brian A. Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP,
president and chief executive officer**

I am pleased to announce that Michael Minear has accepted the position of Lehigh Valley Health Network's (LVHN) chief information officer (CIO). Mike will be joining us before the end of the year as Harry Lukens, our senior vice president and CIO for the last 21 years, will be retiring in December.

Mike will be coming to us from the University of California, Davis Health System (UCDHS), where he has been CIO since 2007, managing more than 430 employees. He has extensive experience working with the continuous optimization of the Epic electronic medical record system, leading the effort to fully deploy the system as part of the modernization of the entire UCDHS clinical technology infrastructure. Mike's leadership contributed to UCDHS's recent "Most Connected Hospitals" award from U.S. News & World Report.



UCDHS was one of only 159 hospitals nationally to receive the honor for excellence in patient safety, patient engagement and clinical connectedness in terms of improving patient care.

After earning a bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Iowa, Mike completed his master's degree in medical informatics at Northwestern University. He also holds a certificate in biomedical informatics from Oregon Health and Science University/School of Medicine. Mike brings a total of 37 years of experience in health care information technology to LVHN.

Mike and his wife, Mary, have a daughter who works at the National Institutes of Health in Washington, D.C., and part of his motivation for coming east is to be closer to her. We're very fortunate to have someone with Mike's expertise on our team. Please join me in welcoming him to LVHN.

Tags: [chief information officer](#) [CIO](#) [Harry Lukens](#) [Micheal Minear](#)

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Harry Lukens to Retire as Senior Vice President and CIO

6 NOV, 2015

Get Ready For Our “Mission 4 Magnet” Site Visit

BY [JENN FISHER](#) · NOVEMBER 9, 2015

Our “Mission 4 Magnet” – the quest for our fourth Magnet® designation – is coming soon. Now is the time to get ready.

Last month American Nurses Credentialing Center (ANCC) notified LVHN's [Center for Professional Excellence](#) that Magnet Recognition Program® appraisers will visit LVHN from January 4-7, 2016. This visit will provide the Magnet appraisers extensive access to our hospitals. That access will help them determine whether our organization “lives” the Magnet tenets of transformational leadership; structural empowerment; exemplary professional practice; and new knowledge, innovations and improvements.

Accessing and navigating Magnet evidence

During the site visits, Magnet program appraisers will assess all areas of LVHN and may ask to see your unit's or department's Magnet evidence. Now is the time to prepare for this visit so you are comfortable accessing and navigating the Magnet evidence.

[Here are two ways to access the evidence:](#)

Click this link: [LVHN Magnet Redesignation 2015](#).

From your internet browser (Chrome, Internet Explorer, etc.,) type in this address: LVHN.org/MagnetVisit

Take time to click through the 100-page presentation to understand how it works. **NOTE:** Within the document are even more pages of evidence. Read below to understand features you will use in order to navigate the evidence.

Magnet evidence navigation guide



M4M links – M4M is an active link (excluding the first and last times it appears on pages 2 and 100.) All other times, click on M4M to access additional evidence and information. Be sure to use arrows at the bottom of M4M pages to access and navigate all information in an M4M link.

Arrows at bottom of page – Hover the mouse pointer over the bottom of the evidence document to reveal the navigation bar. Use the “up” and “down” arrows in that bar to click through pages of evidence. You also should look for the arrows – and use them – when you click on M4M links, because additional pages of information reside on M4M pages.

Returning to previous page – Use the “back” arrow at the top left of your screen to return to a previous page. Do not “X” out. Using “X” will close out the entire evidence, and you will need to use the hyperlink to return to the main redesignation evidence page.

Information by Magnet category – To go to a particular section of Magnet evidence, type the page number into the box at the bottom of the page (beside “/100”). After typing in the page number, press the “Enter” on your keyboard.

Sources of evidence – The Center for Professional Excellence has distributed a grid that lists all sources of evidence, the associated unit/department, and page number within the evidence. If you do not have this information, email Diane Beauchner at the Center for Professional Excellence (Diane_T.Beauchner@lvhn.org) or call her at 610-402-1704.

Tags: [American Nurses Credentialing Center](#) [ANCC](#) [Magnet](#) [Magnet Visit](#) [Mission 4 Magnet](#)

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Mission 4 Magnet: Site Visit Announcement

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1 SEP, 2015



A Day in the Life of a Pediatric Nurse: Liz McDonald, BSN, RN

25 AUG, 2015

Don't Lose Your 2015 FSA Dollars

BY [ADMIN](#) · NOVEMBER 12, 2015

Remember that contributions to your Flexible Spending Account (FSA) must be used for services received within the calendar year.

To use your remaining 2015 FSA dollars, you must incur qualified expenses by Dec. 31, 2015. While you have until March 31, 2016 to claim reimbursement for those expenses, any funds unused by Dec. 31 will be forfeited. Also, 2016 funds cannot be used for 2015 expenses.

Keep in mind that incurring expenses is not the same as submitting a claim. In order to be reimbursed with 2015 funds, claims must be submitted to Populytics by **March 31, 2016**.

To view your available FSA balance, please visit MyPopulytics.com and log in. Click on WealthCare under the “Quick Links” menu, then “My Accounts,” and then “Benefit Account Summary.” If you have questions about your 2015 funds or any FSA issue, please call Populytics at 484-862-3505 or email at Service@Populytics.com.



Tags: [Flexible Spending Account](#) [FSA](#) [Populytics](#)

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Open Enrollment Deadline Extended to Friday, November 6

30 OCT, 2015



This Week is Your Last Chance to Enroll in Benefits

26 OCT, 2015



Choose Your 2016 Benefits Now; Open Enrollment Continues Through Oct. 30

19 OCT, 2015

Last Chance to Get Your Flu Shot is Nov. 23

BY [SHEILA CABALLERO](#) · NOVEMBER 10, 2015

Time's running out. Our annual flu shot clinic ends Nov. 23. If you haven't been vaccinated, you only have a few more chances to visit one of our [scheduled clinic dates](#) or go to employee health during [walk-in hours](#) (non-clinic days only). Colleagues who work in a patient care area can get the shot through a peer vaccinator if the department is participating.

Getting protected against the influenza virus is so important we've made it a requirement of employment for all colleagues who have any patient contact. And we strongly encourage it for everyone else.

You don't need to bring a hard copy of your consent to get your flu shot. Instead, colleagues should complete the electronic consent form on the [intranet](#) (unless you already completed the consent form included in the TLC mandatory influenza education). Non-patient care colleagues who wish to decline the vaccination must do so no later than Nov. 23 by filling out a declination form available through employee health.

For more information, including types of vaccinations available, the [electronic consent form](#) and FAQs, visit the [Influenza Information](#) page found on the intranet home page under Colleague Resources.



Tags: [Employee Health](#) [Flu](#) [Flu Shot Clinic](#) [Influenza](#) [Vaccination](#)

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Saturday Flu Shot Schedule

23 OCT, 2015



Help Kick Influenza; Make Sure You Get Vaccinated
During our Fall Flu Shot Clinic

22 SEP, 2015



It's Infectious: Flash Mob at Flu Shot Clinic Gives
Hospital Employees Shot at Love – VIDEO

21 NOV, 2014

An Epic Launch: Clinicians help our new EMR come to life

BY [JENN FISHER](#) · NOVEMBER 10, 2015

As record-setting cold descended on the Northeast in February, LVHN launched its Epic electronic medical record (EMR) system – an event accompanied by a few shivers of its own, says Sarah Cruz, BSN, RN, practice director for LVPG Neurology. “We felt anxiety along with fear about something new and unknown.”

Now more than eight months after Wave 1 Go-Live, clinicians at LVPG Neurology, LVPG Internal Medicine–3080 Hamilton Blvd. and the LVPG Children’s Clinic have cleared their initial hurdles and are optimizing Epic. “My staff is no longer asking how to do things, but asking ‘Can?’ or ‘Why?,’” says Pamela Youse, BSN, RN, CPN, clinical coordinator at the LVPG Children’s Clinic. “They are motivated to use this system to its capacity.”

One patient – one record

The Epic transformation is focused on providing the best patient care. The keystone: one medical record for each person. Previously, sifting through multiple EMRs or paper charts to find patient information was common – and frustrating. “It was a constant challenge to use as many as five different systems to find information,” says internist



Sarah Cruz, BSN, RN

Jennifer Stephens, DO, with LVPG Internal Medicine. “But since inpatient (Wave 2) went live in August, the single record has shown its worth. Now I can see the progress notes and follow along a patient’s admission.”

At LVPG Neurology, “one patient – one record” means a patient’s medications are no longer a mystery. “We used to call pharmacies to double-check what a person was prescribed, because not all patients are certain of what they are taking,” Cruz says. “Now the list is in their chart, complete with dosage and prescribing provider information, ensuring safe care for patients.”

Three Epic improvements

Clinicians are shaping patient care with these three Epic innovations:

1. **MyLVHN:** It offers patients access to their personal medical information, including test results and after-visit summaries, and offers a secure way to contact the provider and care team. “We require our staff to tell people about it,” Cruz says. “Once people started to sign up, calls decreased because patients could ask questions and request medication refills and appointments electronically.”
2. **Care Everywhere:** Epic users can share and receive pertinent patient information with other organizations as needed. Since Wave 2 Go-Live, more than 90,000 documents have been shared with over 90 Epic-connected organizations. “Care Everywhere is important for care coordination since we work closely with other regional children’s hospitals and providers.” Youse says.
3. **Personalization:** Epic offers opportunities to customize the user experience. “For example, for our multiple sclerosis patients, an Epic template pulls the test results and patient information we need into one form,” Cruz says.



Pamela Youse, BSN, RN, CPN

Epic Optimization: Electronic Patient Forms

Three practices – LVPG Neurology, LVPG Endocrinology and LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg – are working with members of the LVHN Epic team to develop and test electronic patient forms that will let patients fill in their information at home on their personal electronic device or on a tablet handed to them in the practice. The information will then populate into the patient’s chart.

Forms will cover commonly required types of information like:

- Review of systems (ROS)
- Patient history
- Screening questionnaires
- Disease-specific questionnaires

Benefit: More patient–provider quality time instead of time spent entering information from forms into the chart

Time frame: Pilot sites will begin using the electronic forms starting in December 2015.

Tags: [Epic](#) [Magnet Attractions](#) [Pamela Youse](#) [Sarah Cruz](#)

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Learn How Your Patient Care Colleagues Embrace Innovation; Read the New Magnet Attractions

4 NOV, 2015

27 OCT, 2015



Epic Downtime this Weekend: You've Got

Questions/We've Got Answers

15 OCT, 2015

Volunteers Needed for Hospital Gift Shops

BY [ASHLEY MILLER](#) · NOVEMBER 13, 2015

The [gift shops](#) at our Lehigh Valley Hospital locations have more than gifts, snacks, newspapers and flowers – they have friendly faces. The smiling workers who greet you are volunteers.

If you would like to join the team that greets our patients and families in the gift shops, we have opportunities at [Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest](#) and [Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg](#). It's a rewarding experience when you can make our visitors' stay more comfortable and pleasant.

We are in need of volunteers during the evening shift, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the [Tree Top Gift Shop](#) in the Pool Pavilion, and also daytime shifts, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 1 p.m. to 5 p.m., at all gift shop locations.

For more information about becoming a volunteer, please call 610-969-2850. [You can apply online.](#)



Tags: [Gift Shop](#) [Volunteer](#)

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[New LVH-17th Street Gift Shop Now Open](#)

8 JUN, 2015



[Volunteers Needed at Pocono Raceway](#)

22 MAY, 2015

Complete the Second Core Bundle of FY16 on The Learning Curve

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · NOVEMBER 9, 2015

The second core bundle of fiscal year 2016 (FY16) will be released on The Learning Curve (TLC) in November. The mandatory training must be completed by Dec. 31. The bundle includes courses that focus on protecting the environment, as well as protecting the health and safety of our patients and colleagues.

To access the bundle, click the TLC icon on your SSO toolbar. Your assignment will be listed on the “To Do” list on your learner home page. This is the second of four bundles that will be available in FY16.

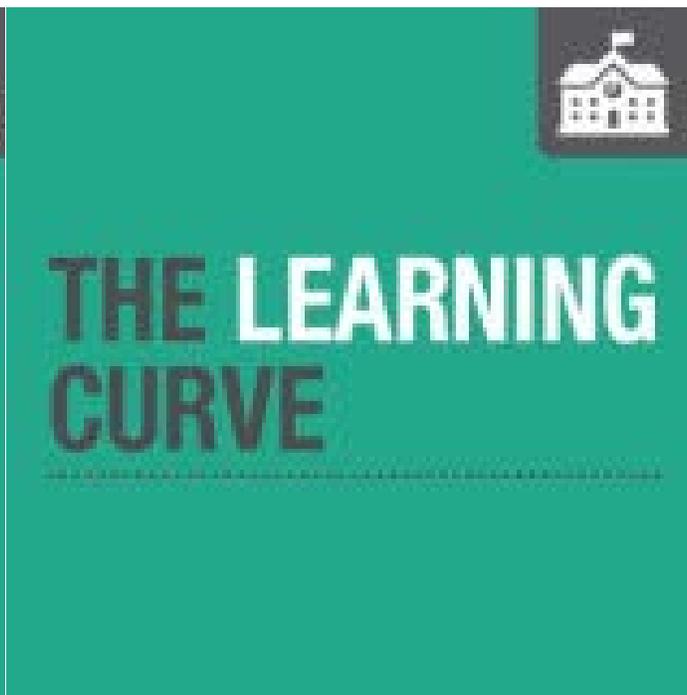
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6 AUG, 2015



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Third Core Bundle on The Learning Curve