

Lehigh Valley Health Network
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LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Newsletters

3-6-2020

LVHN Weekly-Pocono

Lehigh Valley Health Network

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LVHN WEEKLY | POCONO

Your wrap-up of the week's news from LVHN.

[LVHN Makes the Top Workplaces List Again](#)

We rank No. 3 and are the top workplace for "Meaningfulness."

Know our Messages, Enjoy our Stories - Video

See our new marketing campaigns for:

- [Lehigh Valley Heart Institute](#)
- [Lehigh Valley Cancer Institute](#)
- [Lehigh Valley Institute for Surgical Excellence](#)
- [Lehigh Valley Reilly Children's Hospital](#)

[LVH-Pocono Celebrates Heart Month](#)

Laszlo Fuzesi, MD, educates community at a lunch and learn.

[March Service Anniversary List](#)

See who is celebrating a career milestone.

[Finances and Wellness Go Hand-in-Hand](#)

Register for a VALIC financial seminar in March.

[Sign Up for WW, Get a Free Starter Kit](#)

Sign up for your customized weight-loss program today.

['Essential Partners' Guest: Michael Pasquale, MD](#)

Learn what's happening at our Institute for Surgical Excellence.

[Rachel's Roundtable: Give Kids a Smile](#)

Dental clinic colleagues impact children's health and well-being.

[Mini Medical School Registration](#)

Annual educational series scheduled for Tuesdays in April.

[LVPG Sharps Injury Report](#)

Colleagues achieve a significant decrease in needlestick injuries.

Voluntary
Benefits Open
Enrollment

[Learn More](#)



Safety is a
Top Priority

[Learn More](#)



Coronavirus
FAQ

[Learn More](#)



LVHN news

Does Daylight Saving Time
Affect Your Health?

Time to See a Knee Pain
Specialist?

Dodgeball Fundraiser for
Burn Survivors

Information on LVHN Weekly is for LVHN colleagues only and cannot be accessed on smartphones or computers outside of LVHN's network.

LVHN Makes the Top Workplaces List Again! – PHOTOS

by [Rick Martuscelli](#) · March 6, 2020

This message is from Lynn Turner, Senior Vice President and Chief Human Resources Officer.

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Thanks to you, we did it again! For the second consecutive year, LVHN has been named a Top Workplace! We rank No. 3 among “large employers” on the 2020 list. LVHN was also named the Lehigh Valley’s Top Workplace for Meaningfulness, which means colleagues say they feel their work truly makes a difference.

This recognition is based solely on colleague feedback gathered through the 2020 Top Workplaces Survey. The survey is conducted by Energage, an independent third-party company that analyzes the survey data to identify top places to work.



Any company can say what they want about themselves, but colleagues’ voices speak volumes about our health network. The results of the survey revealed the outstanding qualities that our colleagues feel make LVHN exceptional, earning the organization Culture Badges. These badges identify our most powerful cultural strengths. Here are the Culture Badges LVHN earned in 2019 and 2020. Look at all the qualities that you say make LVHN shine. It’s a reason for all of us to be #LVHNProud.

TOP WORKPLACES SURVEY RESULTS



#LVHNProud

(Click to view enlarged photo)

Let's celebrate and spread the word

Visit the locations below on **March 19 from 10 a.m. to noon**, following Dr. Nester's State of the Health Network address, to get a Top Workplaces pin. Then, wear it "LVHN Proudly" so colleagues, patients and community members know Lehigh Valley Health Network is a Top Workplace in the region.

- LVH–Cedar Crest, auditorium
- LVH–Muhlenberg, ECC rooms C and D
- LVH–17th Street, auditorium
- LVHN–Mack Boulevard, auditorium
- LVHN–One City Center, board room
- LVH–Hazleton, Employment and Technology Center, third floor education room
- LVH–Schuylkill E. Norwegian Street, Wall Auditorium
- LVH–Pocono, Serenity and Tranquility Room

Here are photos of colleagues at the Top Workplaces celebration.



LVH-Pocono Celebrates American Heart Month

by [Barry Knoblach](#) · March 2, 2020

On Feb. 24, cardiothoracic surgeon Laszlo Fuzesi, MD, spoke at a lunch and learn at the Pocono Family YMCA. The program, which was attended by dozens of people and marked American Heart Month, targeted the SilverSneakers 65+ health and fitness group.

Heart disease is the leading cause of death for men and women in the United States. Every year, one in four deaths are caused by heart disease. Yet, heart disease can often be prevented when people make healthy choices and manage their health conditions.

“Through this lunch and learn, we are serving as a valuable community partner, connecting with our fellow Pocono community members and a strategic local health and wellness partner,” Fuzesi says. “It’s a win-win in health education and prevention for LVH–Pocono, the YMCA, and local seniors.”

Topics covered during the presentation included:

- Risk factors such as weight, tobacco, diet, diabetes and high blood pressure
- Making healthy choices
- Stopping disease before it starts or progresses
- Health care access, including doctors, hospitals and technologies
- Signs of a heart attack



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LVH–Pocono is the first hospital in Pennsylvania and one of just four in the U.S. to earn The Joint Commission’s Gold Seal of Approval® and the American Heart Association’s Heart-Check mark for Primary Heart Attack Center Certification.

The ESSA Heart and Vascular Center at LVH–Pocono underwent a rigorous, onsite review in November. During the visit, a team of Joint Commission reviewers evaluated compliance with related certification standards developed in consultation with health care experts and providers, measurement experts and patients. The reviewers also conducted onsite observations and interviews.

Service Anniversary List – March 2020

by [Rick Martuscelli](#) · March 1, 2020

Happy anniversary to these colleagues celebrating a career milestone at LVHN in March 2020. Congratulate them on their years of service.

40 years

Patricia Cressman, Operating Room

Roxann Frey, Progressive Coronary Care Unit

Susan Hartmann, Op Intake Dept

Suzanne Holveck, Pharmacy

William Jones, Mental Health Nursing

Michael Kemmerer, Plant Engineering

Patricia Portner, 7A – Neuroscience Unit

Mary Rajkowski, 5 North

Curt Saeger, Plant Engineering

Sandra Schmiedel, PACU – 17

35 years



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Lisa Coleman, EPIC Conversion

Karen Mays, Credentialing Services

Lynette Yoder, TNICU

30 years

Melissa Barna, Ambulatory Surgical Unit

Ann Conroy, Pool Nurses – Norwegian

Annette Devers, Radiology – Norwegian

Codie Gold, Emergency Dept Registration

Jose Gonzalez, Supply Distribution Services

Michelle Miller, Pharmacy

Paulette Thomas, BH 2

25 years

Janet Fiki, Pediatrics Unit

Monica Link, Nursing Admin

Jody Mitch, Coding Integrity

Kim Warner, Same Day Surgery

Karen Youse, Info Svcs Clinical Service

20 years

Robert Allman, Respiratory Care Services

Demitria Cachia, Nuclear Medicine

Mayra Elias, Burn Out Patient Program

Barbara Fetzer, Pediatrics Neonatology

Jamie Fink, Pharmacy MPA

Shirley Gonzales, Pre-Srvcs/Financial Clearance

Pamela Gronskey, Icu

Kelly Klinger, Home Health

Kathleen Metzler, LVPG Ear Nose and Throat

Anthony Monopoli, Housekeeping

Bonnie Poehler, 5T Med/Surg

Lucille Smale, Grounds / Housekeeping

Pusilyn Wilson, 3B (3N)

15 years

Patricia Anderson, HIM Facility Based Coding

Rachel Andes, Burn Out Patient Program

Anthony Buchman, Crisis Intervention

Jennifer Core, Credentialing Services

Debra Doddy, LVPG Bariatric Med 1243CC

Cheryl Fliszar, LVPG Maternal Fetal Med 3900HA

Angela Halford, Home Health Care

Gerard Judge, Info Services Administration

Kelly Kisenwether, LVPG OB/GYN Laury's Station

Jill Kostenbader, LVPG Hematology Oncology CC

David Lorchak, Pharmacy

Kathy McCusker, Breast Health Svcs Cedar Crest

Tami Meltsch, 7T Med/Surg

Darlene Noel, Radiology

Daisy Ortiz, Rehab at Health Cntr Easton

Darlene Peterson, Employee Health Service

Jacqueline Snyder, BH 1

Deborah Swoyer, Info Svcs Physician Support

Joel Vargas, Pharmacy

Niels Veenendaal, 2B (PCU)

Ruth Wingert, Cardiovascular/Telemetry Unit

10 years

Danielle Beahm, LVPG IM MUH Express Care

Richard Becker JR, MEDEVAC

Carolyn Damiano, Rehab SVCS at T-Town

Delma De la cruz, Emergency Service – CC

Teresa Green, MICU/SICU

Michele Holland, Provider and Payer Enrollment

Lauren Kover, BH 2

Mary Ann La Rock, Compliance

Carla Leslie, Helwig Diabetes Ctr Outpatient

Jenna McNicholas, Home Care – Skilled Nursing

Ruth Morales, Radiation Oncology

Christian Rea, Rehab Services-Brodheadsville

Nilsa Snyder, Float Pool

Warren Stevens, HIM Business Systems Develop

Bernice Vitug, Payor Based Care Cordination

Shawnee Wilson, Emergency Dept Registration

5 years

Laura Adams, G & A

Nicole Allen, LVPG Operations

Anthony Amoroso, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Vivian Annan, LVPG-P Expresscare-Bartonsvle

Isabelita Annulyse, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Mark Auerbach, Medical Efficiency

Donna Bachman, LVPG Cardiology 1250CC

Nicole Bailey, PT/OT

Paul Baldino, Respiratory Care Services

Gail Bechtold, LVPG Neurosurgery 1250SCC

Penny Beitel, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Carmen Beltrami, Central Transport

Mary Berntsen, HIM Business Systems Develop

Jennifer Bevins, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Kathryn Black, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Elyse Blythe, LVPG Cardiology 1250CC

Bonny Brownstein, Pharmacy

Angela Campos, LVPG Surg Oncology 1240CC

Jacquelyn Caraballo, 5CP Medical Surgical Unit

Anika Carnish, LVH Rehab Lehighton

Kayla Castro, LVPG Orthopedics Specialty

Tylynn Cofer, Child Advocacy Center

Sheila Colihan, Nursing Administration

Edwin Colon, Respiratory Care Services

Lorilei Cotton, LVPG FM West End

Kandy Counterman, Cancer Center Infusion

Iris Cruz, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Elizabeth Day, LVPG-P Oncology-Pocono

Elena Denger, HSP CC & I78 RX

Kelly Dewein, LVPG OB/GYN Trexlertown

Liselly Diaz, Population Health

Christine Dietrich, LVPG Cardiology 1250CC

John Dinh, Pharmacy

Jenna Dissinger, Operating Room

Leigh Ehrlich, Office of the CFO

Amy Farmer, Emergency Room

Tiffany Fenstermaker, Linen Services

Jennifer Fisher, Healthworks Bethlehem

Whitney Fox, LVPG UroGyn Pond Rd

Morgan Fulmer, Neonatal ICU

Judy George-Palmer, Cancer Data Management

Charles Gill, LVHN Fitness Massage

Kimberly Gregory, LVPG-L Ortho Hausman Rd

Pramila Gupta, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Harvey Hakim, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Timothy Haring, IRF CC Therapy

Linda Hartley, 4T Med/Surg

Joyce Hartz, Rehab at Hamburg

Tammy Heskeyahu, LVPG-P Internal Med-Bartonsvle

Keledy Hidalgo, Admin

Crystal Howton, Human Resources

Helen Julia, Dept. Of Pediatrics

Mark Koshar, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Jackie Kowalski, LVPG Rheumatology 3080Hamilton

Nicholas Kroboth, Info Svcs Customer Service

Daniel Krynock, Human Resources Administration

Melissa Lahr, LVPG Family Med Laurys Station

Wendy Mantell, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Keri Markley, Radiation Oncology

Rachael Mazzante, 7C Medical/Surgical Unit

Jennifer McGarry, Wound Care Bartonsville

Jane McGorry, Benefits Verification

Stephanie Melcher, Fairgrounds Surgical Center

Susan Miller, 6K Medical/Surgical Unit

Reena Mishory, Burn Center

Monica Mulligan, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Kimberly O'donnell, Patient Transport Services

Uchechukwu Onuoha, LVPG Healthworks-Allentown

Scott Parry, Security

Payal Patel, Pharmacy

Marjorie Polis, G & A

Donald Porter, Revenue Cycle Systems

Samnang Proum, 5CP Medical Surgical Unit

Bridgette Ramos, HC Central Business Office

Natasha Reeves, Housekeeping

Lorraine Reinhart, Staging/PACU Tilghman

Viviana Rivera Aguila, LVPG-P Internal Med-Bartonsvle

Nicole Ruggiero, Cancer Center Infusion

Amy Seaburn, Neonatal ICU

Courtney Sebring, Respiratory Care Services

Donald Shinton, Fitness at Arena

Caroline Spalding, Neuroscience Intensive Care

Jamison Spencer, Sterile Processing

Carol Stocker, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Andrea Tarselli, Housekeeping

Katherine Thompson, LVPG Family Med Quakertown

Barbara Triebel, LVPG Ob/Gyn

Michelle Trilli, 4T Med/Surg

Michele Volkert, LVPG FM West End

Michael Wiesel, Operating Room

James Yost, CT Scan

Barbara Young, LVPG IM Nazareth Rd

Finances and Wellness Go Hand-in-Hand

by [Rick Martuscelli](#) · March 3, 2020

If you have ever lost a night's sleep worrying about your financial situation, you are not alone. In fact, more than six in 10 people say financial stress is their most common cause of stress. We want that to change and help you improve your financial wellness.



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Feel confident

Feeling confident about your finances begins with education.

Be sure to check out the tools and resources below.

- FutureFIT® University
- Retirement Planner Calculator
- Education Center
- On-site financial advisors – call **610-402-8801**

Let's build a better future, together. Visit us online at lvhn.VALIC.com.

Attend our Monthly Educational Workshop: Financial Wellness

If you would like to participate, register today at my.valic.com/seminars and use the following code for your preferred time and location.

March 5, 12-1 p.m.

LVH-17th Street auditorium

Code: LVHALL11EG

March 10, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

LVH-Schuylkill E. Norwegian Street, Wall Auditorium

Code: LVHPOT11AA

March 10, 12-1 p.m.

LVH-Muhlenberg ECC room D

Code: LVHBET11AR

March 11, 12-1 p.m.

LVH-Hazleton, annex second floor conference room

Code: LVHHAZ11AA

March 12, 12-1 p.m.

LVHN-One City Center, 8 east 2

Code: LVHALL11DU

March 17, 7:30 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

LVH-Pocono Stroud Room

Code: PMCEAS11AA

March 18, 12-1 p.m.

LVH-Cedar Crest ECC room 9

Code: LVHALL11DM

March 25, 12-1 p.m.

LVHN-Mack Boulevard room 6B

Code: LVHALL11EH

Sign Up For WW and Get a Free Starter Kit

by [Kirstin Reed](#) · March 1, 2020

To celebrate heart month, show your heart some love with a customized weight-loss program made for you. Purchase a WW membership plan before March 6 and get a [free starter kit worth more than \\$100](#).

Sign up at wellness.weightwatchers.com, enter the Lehigh Valley Health Network Employer ID: 14858746 and follow the instructions. After you sign up, redeem your starter kit at WW.com/atworkgift.

Be sure to claim your starter kit by March 20.



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PODCAST

by [Hannah Ropp](#) · March 6, 2020

When Michael Pasquale, MD, began as a trauma surgeon at LVHN, he only expected to stay for three to five years. That was in 1993. Today, he's the Chairman of the Department of Surgery as well as the Physician-in-Chief for Lehigh Valley Institute for Surgical Excellence.



Michael Pasquale, MD, Physician-in-Chief, Lehigh Valley Institute for Surgical Excellence



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In this edition of Essential Partners, a podcast hosted by Chief Medical Officer Tom Whalen, MD, Pasquale discusses the impact of robotic surgery, the new app that's changing communication to families during surgery and the future of surgery at LVHN.

You can listen to Essential Partners on LVHN Daily [here](#).

Your browser does not support the audio element.

You also can listen on the go on your smart device. Simply search "Essential

Partners” or “LVHN” on the following podcast platforms:

- iTunes
- Apple Podcast
- Overcast
- Stitcher
- Castbox
- Spotify
- TuneIn

Rachel's Roundtable: Volunteer Clinicians Help 'Give Kids a Smile' During Children's Dental Health Month

by [Rachel Lefebvre](#) · March 3, 2020



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When we think of reasons why kids miss school, dental pain may not be top of mind. However, kids with oral health problems are three times more likely to miss school than their peers. Studies show that untreated dental issues contribute to chronic absenteeism for millions of kids each year, which negatively impacts academic achievement and children's long-term health and well-being.

Miles of Smiles

For more than a decade, Miles of Smiles, a mobile dental clinic operated by the dental clinic at LVH-17th Street, has provided free dental care for children in Allentown who can't afford a trip to the dentist. During the summer, Miles of Smiles services are available to children from all school districts. Since its launch in 2009, Miles of Smiles has treated more than 11,000 children, eliminating painful dental conditions so they miss fewer days of school, improving their chances for academic success.



Give Kids a Smile Day

Each February in honor of Children's Dental Health Month, the dental clinic at LVH–17th Street also participates in national Give Kids a Smile Day, opening its doors to Allentown school children, often for more complicated evaluation and treatment. The American Dental Association launched Give Kids a Smile Day in 2003 to provide free dental care for underserved children. LVHN has been participating since 2008 and has provided more than \$120,000 worth of care for 300 patients at no cost to them.

LVH–17th Street hosted Give Kids a Smile Day on Feb. 7, and nearly 20 new patients were referred through the Allentown School District and received multiple procedures. Dental residents and hygienists from the department of dental medicine at LVH–17th Street provided general teeth cleaning and check-ups. A pediatric dentist and an oral surgeon from Lehigh Oral and Maxillofacial Surgery volunteered their time and expertise to treat kids whose teeth were decayed beyond repair.

The majority of children will continue as patients through Miles of Smiles or the dental clinics. For children without insurance, staff made referrals to financial counselors at LVH–17th Street for enrollment in Medical Assistance or LVHN's Financial Assistance program.

The dental clinic at LVH–Muhlenberg hosted Give Kids a Smile Day on Feb. 27.

For children in need of dental care

If you know of children in Bethlehem who need dental care, you can refer them directly to the dental clinic at LVH–Muhlenberg at 484-884-2315.

For children in Allentown in need of dental care, you can refer them directly to the dental clinic at LVH–17th Street at 610-969-3955.



A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rachel M. Lefebvre". The signature is fluid and cursive.

About me: My name is Rachel Lefebvre, MBA, MSHA, FACHE, and I'm honored to be the Vice President of Operations at LVH-17th Street. I joined LVHN in 2017 after serving our country for nearly 26 years in the United States Air Force. Now, it is a true privilege to work closely with such dedicated and passionate colleagues at LVH-17th Street. This blog highlights the stories of LVH-17th Street and celebrates the partnerships that support our mission to heal, comfort and care for our community.

Annual Mini Medical School Open for Registration

by [Jenn Fisher](#) · March 4, 2020

Mini Medical School is LVHN's annual month-long, interactive educational series presented by experts from LVHN on four consecutive Tuesdays in April. The Mini Medical School team covers a variety of health topics, including preventive care and advances in diagnostic and

therapeutic medicine. This year's theme is Innovative Health Partners: Going Above and Beyond.



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Who should attend Mini Medical School?

Mini Medical School is intended for high school students (age 13 and older) as well as lifelong learners with an inquiring mind. Encourage family and friends to sign up. Because this program is so popular, we ask that those who register for this free event attend all four sessions.

Dates: April 7, 14, 21, 28

Time: 6:30-8 p.m.

Place: LVH–Cedar Crest auditorium

Registration: LVHN.org/minimedschool or 888-402-LVHN (5846)

Each night, experts will share their experiences, technology and ideas on how to help people live their healthiest life. A medical or scientific background is not needed, and there's no paper or final exam. At the end of the fourth completed session, participants will earn a certificate of achievement.

This is not an accredited course nor associated with University of South Florida.

2019 Year-End LVPG Sharps Injury Report Card

by [Laura Walker](#) · March 3, 2020

Safety is something worth celebrating. In 2019, there was a 30 percent decrease in needlestick injuries across LVPG in 2019. From the operating room to office setting, LVPG colleagues worked to improve clinical, occupational and workplace safety.



[1](#)

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Metrics include:

- 30 percent decrease in medical assistant needlestick injuries
- 34 percent decrease in LVPG physician needlestick injuries
- 39 percent decrease in advance practice clinician (APC) needlestick injuries when compared to 2018

[Read the 2019 Year-End LVPG Sharps Injury Report Card.](#)

So, what does this all mean? A significant reduction of needlestick injuries is quite impressive when you consider the ongoing growth and expansion of LVPG services across multiple regions in 2019.

How can we keep this going?

First, it's important to know where and how the needlestick injuries continue to happen.

- In 2019, the majority of LVPG needlestick exposures occurred in the hospital setting, specifically in the operating room, when colleagues handled sutures.
- Injuries that occurred in the health center and office setting primarily occurred during vaccine administration.

Knowing where and how injuries occur help facilitate/reinforce best sharps safety practices.

- In the operating room, best sharps safety practices promote the incorporation of "no pass zones" and using instruments, not fingers to handle sutures.

When it comes to vaccine administration, "best sharps safety practices" include:

- Enlisting help when your patient cannot help promote a safe environment during administration
- Never delaying the activation of the safety mechanism on the sharp device

The purpose of a sharps device that has a safety-engineered mechanism is to reduce your exposure to injury by shielding the contaminated needle.

A valuable sharps safety tip is to activate the safety mechanism as soon as possible because every moment that you delay activating the safety mechanism increases your risk of an exposure to the contaminated needle.

For additional information or questions regarding clinical safety and occupational safety management, contact Laura Walker, MSN, RN, Clinical Safety Programs Manager at Laura_J.Walker@lvhn.org.