

Ground Broken for Health Center at Easton

The site is the former Schiabe's/Bimbo Bakeries.

LVHN Contributes \$4.1 Billion to Pennsylvania's Economy

Learn how LVHN supports the local economy.

A Tribute to Anne Panik—VIDEO

Colleagues wish her a happy retirement.

Friends of Nursing Award Recipients

Meet more colleagues who accomplish the exceptional.

The Switch to Calendula

Radiation oncology nurses implement a practice change.

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LVHN Breaks Ground for Health Center at Easton

by [Kyle Hardner](#) · June 8, 2016

An Easton-area site that once housed a well-known bakery is

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being transformed into a health center that will bring care already provided by Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) closer to residents of Easton and surrounding communities.



Construction crews have broken ground at the site of the former Schaible's/Bimbo Bakeries (2401 Northampton Street, Easton) for the

new [Health Center at Easton](#). When complete in summer 2017, the two-story, 40,000-square-foot health center will offer community members multiple health care services.

“Our hope is that – at this former bakery site that nourished this community for decades – we will create a resource that will support local residents and families in nourishing their health each and every day,” said Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, LVHN’s president and chief executive officer. “We expect the health center to accommodate 15,000 patient visits in its first year.” Nester said he also expects it to create about 30 health care jobs.

The construction project will be developed and owned by J.G. Petrucci Company, Inc., which also is serving as design/builder. The project team also includes Iron Hill Construction Management Company (construction manager), Cerminara Architects, and Pany & Lentz Engineering Company.

Services at the Health Center at Easton will include:

- Primary care for the whole family
- Testing and treatment services
- ExpressCARE (walk-in care for minor injuries and common illnesses)
- Access to Health Network Laboratories

The health center’s opening will coincide with the planned opening of the four-story

[Specialty Care Pavilion at Lehigh Valley Hospital \(LVH\)–Muhlenberg](#), which will bring inpatient rehabilitation, obstetrics and newborn services to the Bethlehem hospital for the first time in its 54-year history. “By providing ob/gyn care here in Easton and birthing services at LVH–Muhlenberg, we’ll be creating convenience for women who formerly traveled from the Easton area to LVH–Cedar Crest for ob/gyn care,” said Jim Geiger, LVH–Muhlenberg’s president.

Local people are encouraged to sign up for updates on the new health center by visiting [LVHN.org/Easton](https://www.lvhn.org/Easton).

Once operational, the Health Center at Easton will be LVHN’s fourth health center in Northampton County, joining the Health Centers at [Bangor](#), [Bath](#) and [Bethlehem Township](#). LVHN also has health centers in Lehigh County ([Emmaus](#), [Fogelsville](#), [Macungie](#), [Trexlerstown](#) and the [Health & Wellness Center at Muhlenberg](#)), Berks County ([Hamburg](#), [Kutztown](#) and [Moselem Springs](#)), Bucks County ([Quakertown](#)) and Luzerne County ([Hazleton](#) and [Mountain Top](#)).

LVHN Contributes \$4.1 Billion to Pennsylvania's Economy

by [Rick Martuscelli](#) · June 10, 2016

As an LVHN colleague, you understand the impact our health network has on the health of our community. But did you ever think about the impact our health network

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has on the local, state and national economies?

According to information provided by The Hospital & Healthsystem Association of Pennsylvania (HAP), LVHN contributes more than \$4.1 billion to the state's economy annually. LVHN also supports nearly 27,000 jobs – directly and indirectly – in the Lehigh Valley and Northeast Pennsylvania.

“LVHN plays a major role in the economic and social well-being of our community,” says LVHN president and chief executive officer (CEO) Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP. “Not only do we provide care for our most vulnerable citizens, but we are changing the way care is delivered through a greater emphasis on outpatient care, population health and the use of technology. As LVHN grows and expands into new areas to provide its services to communities, the benefit to those communities is clear and significant.”

Dr. Nester talked about the HAP report during May's Leader to Leader meeting. Watch the video.



HAP reports that, in total, Pennsylvania hospitals contribute nearly \$115 billion in statewide economic impact. This includes the direct and indirect support of 625,000 jobs. The report also shows that health care spending stays in the local economy. Every dollar spent by hospitals results in an additional \$1.23 spent in other parts of

the economy through spinoff investments, resource utilization and purchasing.

“Hospitals and health systems continue to play a critical role as top employers and economic engines at a time when the state and nation face great fiscal pressures,” says HAP president and CEO Andy Carter. “They are dramatically changing the way they meet patient needs, and in doing so, new economic opportunities are being created.”

Anne Panik, RN, Honored at Colleague Receptions-VIDEO

by [Jenn Fisher](#) · June 10, 2016



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Late Thursday afternoon (June 9), the Kasych Family Pavillion was abuzz with colleagues who wanted to express their well-wishes to Anne Panik, RN, senior vice president and chief nursing officer (CNO), who will retire next week.

Colleagues from nursing and other professions lined the Kasych hallway to have an opportunity to greet and hug Panik at a reception held in her honor. In the background of Medical Imaging of Lehigh Valley Educational Conference Center Rooms 7 and 8, a slideshow played showing photos of Panik throughout her career and with her family. Heartfelt written comments from LVHN friends and colleagues were interspersed with the photos.

At the second of two receptions, Terry Capuano, RN, executive vice president and chief operating officer (COO), spoke about her favorite memories of Panik, including when she offered her the CNO position in 2010. Capuano praised Panik for her ability to get people to work on priorities that benefitted patients, nurses and the network. "Whatever it was, from evidence-based practice to supporting the Nurse Residency Program, Anne had the energy and vision to make it happen," Capuano says.

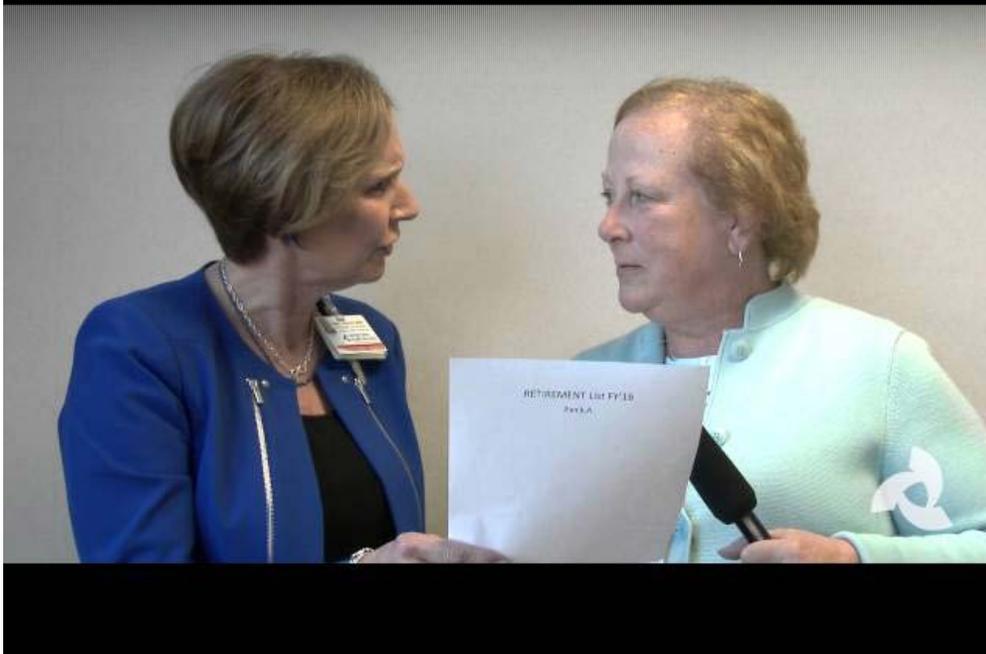
Incoming CNO Kim Jordan, RN, thanked Panik for hiring her 14 years ago.

“Everything that is wonderful in my life since coming here, Anne has had a hand in,” Jordan says.

A video with greetings and fond memories was shared at the second reception.

Watch the video here:

Anne Panik Retirement Tribute



2016 Friends of Nursing Recap No. 5: More Award Recipients

Accomplish the Exceptional

by [Jenn Fisher](#) · June 10, 2016

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In early May, we held our annual Friends of Nursing celebration to honor



exceptional colleagues who deliver patient care and exhibit a high level of nurse leadership. Since then, we have featured dozens of stories about our Friends of Nursing award recipients. This week, read about the last group of Friends of Nursing honorees from several nursing specialties, as well as our final unit and department award recipients. Meet this week's Friends of Nursing award recipients:

Nurse Preceptor Creates Positive Learning Environment

Magnet® designation recognizes the need for a formal preceptor program to facilitate the effective transition of nurses into the work environment. **Judith Baker**, recipient of the **Award for Excellence as a Nurse Preceptor**, contributed to our recent designation through her precepting activities, such as developing a comprehensive checklist inclusive of all emergency department (ED) nurse core competencies and a stated weekly goal.



Recently, Baker temporarily took on the role of clinical resource nurse to support the influx of new ED nurses on night shift. She introduced the "Question of the Week," for which she rewards staff who answer the question correctly with a treat. According to her peers, this makes learning fun and provides a great review for more senior staff members.

Attaining and Exceeding Magnet Standards

Janet Haines, recipient of the **Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Ambulatory Care** is most certainly leaving a legacy. She has worked at LVHN for 32 years, the last 20 in the field of endoscopy. Her legacy is



associated with many of the

Magnet standards:

- **Certification** as a gastrointestinal registered nurse
- **Professional membership** in the Society of Gastrointestinal Nurse Association
- **Decisional involvement** at the health network level, as a member of the Nurse Practice Council, and department level, overseeing staffing and scheduling processes and the quality metric of “time first case starts”
- **Innovations** by developing a tool to capture patient information and develop individualized plans of care

Trauma Nursing Happens in TTU too

Do not assume that emergencies associated with trauma only happen in our emergency department and trauma ICU. They also happen on our transitional trauma unit. Just ask **Carolyn Reinhart**, recipient of the **Trauma Nursing Award**.



One instance when Reinhart’s stellar knowledge and actions made a difference happened as she was performing routine tracheostomy care on a stable, young male gunshot victim. Suddenly, he coughed and copious amounts of blood began pouring from his tracheostomy site. Reinhart cut his wired jaw as the trauma team worked together to keep the patient alive.

Hearing a trauma physician assistant say, “You saved that kid’s life,” is something she will never forget. Hearing the patient say this was his wake-up call to turn his life around made this by far the most memorable experience she ever had.

Dedicated to Excellence in Pediatric Nursing

On the day **Jessica Eberly**, recipient of the **M.G. Asnani, MD, Award for Excellence in Pediatric**

Nursing, had the experience required to sit for pediatric board certification, she took the certification exam and passed. She is that committed to professional excellence.



During her two-plus years as a pediatric nurse, Eberly has become a charge nurse and completed a course certifying her to administer chemotherapy to pediatric patients. She also chairs the core charge committee, and is a member of the unit scheduling committee and the Pediatric Practice Council. While all these things make for a great résumé, according to Eberly, they don't compare to the personal growth and life changing experiences she encounters every day working with children.

The Gift of Time

The **Excellence in Cancer Care Award** recipient, **Colleen**

Skochko, often reflects back on her father's end-of-life experience, particularly recalling a first-year female medical student who sat and talked with her father every morning. Prior to his discharge, her dad gave the student a clock so she would remember how much he valued the time she spent with him.



Skochko has reflected on this event many times over her 30-year nursing career, most recently in the Infusion Center. She believes oncology nursing is all about the time. In her case, time:

- She gives to her patients
- Spent with colleagues

- Precepting new staff members
- Spent to become certified
- Participating on unit councils
- Volunteering to support cancer causes

Time is a precious commodity and Skochko is leaving a timeless legacy.

Press Ganey Achievement – Ambulatory

The Lehigh Valley Health

Network Board of Trustees

Patient Satisfaction Award for

Ambulatory Services recognizes colleagues from an ambulatory care area who achieved the highest Press Ganey nursing score for calendar year 2015.



This year's recipient, the **LVH–Cedar Crest invasive cardiology laboratories**, had an impressive score of 96.4, peer percentile 94, and Magnet hospitals percentile of 96.

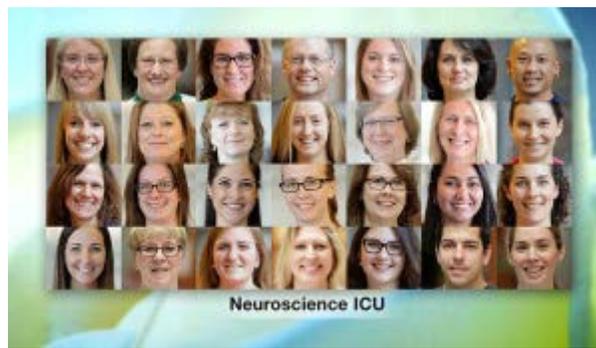
Press Ganey Achievement – Inpatient Care

The Senior Management Council Patient Satisfaction Award for Inpatient Care

recognizes staff from an inpatient care unit who achieved the highest Press Ganey weighted score considering the overall nursing rating score and response time for calendar year 2015. Congratulations to our **Neuroscience ICU** colleagues for their impressive achievement.

Profoundly Kind, Compassionate and Professional: Neuroscience ICU

Before the scores for the Patient Satisfaction Award for Inpatient Care Award were calculated, the **Neuroscience ICU** staff was also proposed and selected for a new award this year.



The Legal Services/Risk

Management Award for Exemplary Care and Professionalism in a Critical and Challenging Situation recognizes superior clinical care and professionalism in the face of a challenge to that care. That defined case involved a 21-year-old woman who was hospitalized in the neuroscience ICU after sustaining an anoxic injury approximately 20 weeks into her pregnancy.

Despite her persistent vegetative state and the appropriateness of moving to comfort care, state law required that the patient continue to receive life sustaining treatment to increase the likelihood of a viable pregnancy. The young woman required mechanical ventilation, a feeding tube and innumerable IV medications to control her ongoing anoxic encephalopathy with continuous seizures.

This staff coordinated a truly multi-disciplinary approach – including neurology, infectious diseases, obstetrics, neonatology and case management in addition to support from colleagues from the ethics committee, legal services and risk management.

Obstetrics performed daily assessments and a delivery plan was developed to include both an urgent and a planned delivery – something that is normally not contemplated for a patient on this unit. The patient remained on the neuroscience ICU for five-and-a-half months. Each day the nurses cared for this patient to help maintain the viability of the pregnancy, as well as supporting her mother throughout this challenging time.

Ultimately, at the gestational age of 39 weeks, a Caesarean section was performed and a female baby was born. The mother was then transitioned to comfort care and transferred to our hospice, where she died. The infant was discharged to the care of her grandmother, who is also caring for this infant's older siblings. This entire family was then "adopted" by these remarkable colleagues for Christmas.

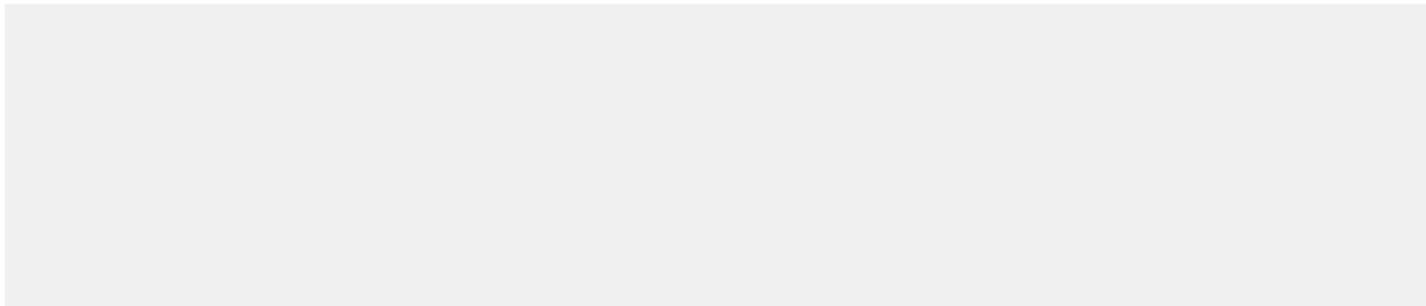
More Stories from Friends of Nursing 2016:

- [Friends of Nursing Awards Kick-off National Nurses Week at LVHN](#)
- [Professional Legacies: 2016 Friends of Nursing Award Recipients Accomplish the Exceptional](#)
- [More Professional Legacies: 2016 Friends of Nursing Award Recipients Accomplish the Exceptional](#)
- [2016 Friends of Nursing Recap No. 3: More Award Recipients Accomplish the Exceptional](#)
- [2016 Friends of Nursing Recap No. 4: More Award Recipients Accomplish the Exceptional](#)

The Switch to Calendula

by [Rick Martuscelli](#) · June 7, 2016

*The radiation oncology
nursing team gathers*



evidence to implement a practice change. From the [spring 2016 issue of Magnet® Attractions](#).

Ninety-five percent of patients receiving radiation therapy experience some degree of radiodermatitis, skin inflammation caused by radiation.

Radiodermatitis can be very painful, impacting quality of life. When pain becomes severe, radiation therapy is sometimes halted, a significant setback in a patient's treatment plan.

The initial treatment for radiodermatitis at LVHN was Beta-Val®, a topical steroid available only by prescription that can cause minor side effects. That was the case until radiation oncology nurses attended the Oncology Nursing Society (ONS) Congress and learned about a new treatment, calendula lotion. Derived from marigolds, it's an over-the-counter product containing antioxidants that protect the body against cell-damaging free radicals.

“Within an ONS ‘Putting Evidence into Practice’ resource for radiodermatitis, calendula lotion was listed as, ‘likely to be an effective intervention’” says oncology nursing program quality specialist Mandy Hendricks, MSN, RN, AOCNS. “Beta-Val was listed in the ‘effectiveness not established’ category, which is why the radiation oncology nursing team set out to further investigate a practice change.

Pilot shows promise

The team developed a pilot project to evaluate the effectiveness of calendula lotion for radiodermatitis in patients with breast cancer. Patients were given a document containing information about radiodermatitis and proper application of calendula



Mandy Hendricks, MSN, RN, AOCNS, Jennifer Bergenstock, BSN, RN, OCN, Mary Konek, RN, OCN, and Jeanette Blauth, MD, were among the radiation oncology team members who gathered evidence to implement a practice change for patients with radiodermatitis.

lotion. The team also ensured Health Spectrum Pharmacy had enough lotion in stock.

With everything in place, radiation oncology staff nurse Jennifer Bergenstock, BSN, RN, OCN, began collecting data. “We conducted weekly skin toxicity assessments on 63 patients for seven weeks,” she says. “If calendula lotion was not effective, Beta-Val was prescribed.” The results: Beta-Val was avoided in 18 of 63 patients.

Implementing a practice change

Based on their investigation, the team worked to make this practice available to more patients. They updated nursing processes, patient education materials and coordination of care with radiation oncologists for patients with lung, head and neck, brain and breast malignancies. These graphs show how patient care was impacted when their new process launched in November 2012.

Sharing evidence

The team concluded the use of calendula lotion:

- Reduces Beta-Val prescriptions
- May delay the use of Beta-Val

These findings were part of the evidence LVHN submitted to be redesignated a Magnet® hospital. Radiation oncology nurses also delivered a poster presentation about their project at the Best of ONS Congress in Philadelphia and LVHN Research Day.

Give Blood on June 21

by [Nicholas Fritz](#) · June 9, 2016

Approximately three gallons of blood supports the entire nation's blood needs for just one

minute. LVHN and Miller-Keystone Blood Center make it easy for you to give the gift of life this month. Visit giveapint.org/LVHN to sign up online for an upcoming blood drive at LVHN. Simply choose the date and time you wish to schedule, print your ticket and bring it to the drive.



By signing up online, you save time and are rewarded by earning points for each donation you make through the LifeSaver Rewards Program. These points can be redeemed for a variety of gifts at the online shop. You also can attend any blood drive without signing up online. Here is an upcoming opportunity for you to save a life this month.

June 21: LVHN–Mack Boulevard auditorium, 7:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

To reserve an appointment, visit giveapint.org/LVHN. Walk-ins also are welcome at this blood drive. Each donor will receive cafeteria vouchers for a meal (\$4 value) and small beverage.