

PHS to Become Part of LVHN Jan. 1

Learn the name of the hospital and its acting president.

United Way Goal Exceeded

Your generosity will help thousands of people.

Top Baby Names in the Lehigh Valley

Local names reflect national trends.

Service Anniversary List

Who's celebrating a career milestone in January?

Need a Research Scholar?

Learn how these bright students can help you.

Give Blood in January

Donate at LVH–Muhlenberg and LVH–17th Street.

Culture of Wellness Opportunities

Classes will help you raise a family.



Pocono Health System Will Become Part of LVHN on Jan. 1

BY [ADMIN](#) · DECEMBER 28, 2016

Special Announcement



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

Much has transpired during the last month regarding the merger of Pocono Health System (PHS) and Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN), and I would like to share the latest developments.

We have met the regulatory requirements to merge. Effective Jan. 1, 2017 PHS becomes part of Lehigh Valley Health Network and Pocono Medical Center will become Lehigh Valley Hospital–Pocono.

As PHS transitions into LVHN, leadership changes will also take

place. PHS's President and Chief Executive Officer Jeff Snyder has informed the PHS Board of Directors of his plan to resign from his role effective Dec. 31. Elizabeth Wise, PHS's Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Officer, will assume the role of Acting President of Lehigh Valley Hospital–Pocono on Jan. 1. Jeff will continue to provide consultation during a 30-day merger transition period.

Jeff's decision is based on a desire to lead in a new capacity. We have valued Jeff's leadership, including his role in facilitating our merger and elevating the overall quality at PHS. Under Jeff's leadership, the system has earned "A" grades for patient safety from Leapfrog, a 4-star rating from Medicare and recognition from Healthgrades for Patient Safety Excellence and U.S. News & World Report for Best Regional Hospital.

During his three years as CEO, Jeff brought to Monroe County much-needed specialty services such as neurology, endocrinology, rheumatology and pain management. He enhanced the health system's cardiac surgery program and expanded access to care by growing the physician network and ambulatory care services. Our merger will continue on the path of growth with a strong commitment to community support.

When Elizabeth assumes the role of Acting President of Lehigh Valley Hospital–Pocono, she will report to LVHN's Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer Terry Capuano, RN, MSN, MBA, FACHE, NE-C.

Elizabeth, COO and CNO at PHS for the last two years, brings rich experience in hospital operations, service line development and nursing management. Elizabeth is known for advocating to put patients first, and that aligns with LVHN's values. She understands operations, physicians and clinicians must collaborate to create ideal experiences for patients.

During the last 20 years, Elizabeth has held leadership positions at health care systems throughout the country. Previously, Elizabeth served as Chief Nursing Officer and Vice President of Patient Care Services at St. Peter's University Hospital, New Brunswick, N.J. and Chief Nurse Officer and Senior Vice President at Washington Hospital Center in DC. Additionally, she has served in leadership roles at the Christiana Care Health System in Newark, Delaware and at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital in New Jersey.

Elizabeth earned her bachelor's degree in nursing from Seton Hall University in South Orange, N.J., and also received her master's degree in nursing and master's in business administration from Rutgers University in Newark, N.J. She is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the American Association of Critical Care Nurses, American Nurses Association, American Organization of Nurse Executives and the American College of Healthcare Executives.



*Elizabeth Wise, Acting President of
LVH–Pocono effective Jan. 1.*

We welcome Elizabeth to her new role and look forward to a successful merger. We will have a colleague and media event in Pocono on Jan. 3 to introduce LVHN and Elizabeth to the Pocono community.

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We Exceeded Our United Way Goal

BY [SHEILA CABALLERO](#) · DECEMBER 22, 2016

We did it. Colleagues across the health network helped us exceed our fundraising goal for the 2016 United Way campaign. Your commitment will help thousands of individuals at risk.

Here's a look at how we did compared to our goals:

Goal	Actual
\$250,000	\$259,917
1,500 colleagues	1,387 colleagues

Thank you to everyone who participated. Your gift helps

fund programs that build a better future for children, seniors and those facing homelessness, abuse and neglect.

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2016 Top Baby Names in the Lehigh Valley

BY [ASHLEY MILLER](#) · DECEMBER 29, 2016



Some are trendy. Some are traditional. Yet they're all reflective of the times we live in and the values we keep. In 2016, baby names in the Lehigh Valley reflected national trends and some interesting local differences.

According to pregnancy website Baby Center, the 2016 national list of top girls' names in order of popularity were Sophia, Emma and Olivia. The top list for boys included Jackson, Aidan and Lucas.

In 2016, more than 4,100 babies were born at [Lehigh Valley Hospital-Cedar Crest](#). The top 10 baby names in the Lehigh Valley were:

Boys	Girls
1. Mason	1. Emma
2. Liam	2. Isabella
3. Alexander	3. Ella
4. Jacob	4. Ava
5. Noah, Owen (Tied)	5. Sophia
6. Benjamin	6. Charlotte
7. Logan	7. Olivia
8. Oliver	8. Abigail
9. Ryan	9. Madison

Both locally and nationally, the most popular names have clear ties to pop culture. Reality star Kourtney Kardashian named her son Mason, which earned the top spot for boys' names a year later.

Emma, which ranks #1 in the region and #2 nationally, first appeared on popularity lists in 2002, the same year Jennifer Aniston's character on "Friends" gave birth to a baby girl she named Emma. The name has remained popular since then, with some linking its continued popularity to Emma Watson of Harry Potter fame. For the past three years, the name Liam has appeared at the top of the charts for popular boy names, which also coincides with the pop music reign of boy band One Direction and their bandmate turned solo artist, Liam Payne.

A recent newcomer to the list, Alexander, may have been influenced by the wildly popular Broadway musical "Hamilton", about our nation's founding father, Alexander Hamilton. Isabella and Ella round out the remaining top three female names in the area. While Isabella has been popular nationally for the past decade, the Lehigh Valley may be leading a trend with the shortened variation, Ella, which has not yet appeared in the top five nationally.

The popular names of 2016 bear close resemblance to classic names of the past. Erin Parrish, mom of sixteen-month-old, Ella Louise, and four-year-old Nora, named both of her daughters after their great-grandmothers in a nod to family legacy and tradition.

Next summer, as the new [Family Birth and Newborn Center](#) opens at [Lehigh Valley Hospital–Muhlenberg](#), expect our newest community members to choose baby names derived both from generations past and celebrities *au courant*.

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Service Anniversary List – January 2017

BY [RICK MARTUSCELLI](#) · DECEMBER 30, 2016

40 years

Cynthia Beitler, NORI

Joann Gosztonyi, operating room

Arnette Hams, Hemophillia Center

Constance Molchany, LVPG Endocrinology–1243

Cedar Crest

35 years



SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

Donna Christman, emergency department

Robert Heimbach, Children's Surgery Center

Kelliann Herman, medical education

30 years

Connie Bittner, MICU/SICU

Deborah Brown, PACU

Kenton Clay, respiratory care services

Krista D'Annibale, radiation oncology

Patricia Horvath, MICU/SICU

Diane Kocsis, clinical informatics

25 years

Kelly Altemose, bed management

Kimberly Badillo, patient representative

Linda Cornman, respiratory care services

Lori Karol, transitional trauma unit

Michael Kaufmann, psychiatry

Janice Santee, psychiatry

20 years

Ernest Bencak, G&A

Noel Brouse, LVPG Family Medicine–Catasauqua

Wanda Caraballo, tech aide float

Patricia Fuisz, psychiatry

Douglas Hamlin, pharmacy

Margaret Hoffman-Terry, AIDS Activities Office

Carthelia Irvin, express admissions

Carolyn Lenik, physician documentation

Beronica Phillips, sterile processing

Kenneth Reichenbach, LVPG Neurology–1250 Cedar Crest

Julielynn Shattah, 5CP

Suzanne Sofish, LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Valley Center Parkway

Luz Vazquez, Children's Clinic

Emily Zayas, LVPG billing service

15 years

Carmel Castagna, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Associates

Joan Cernobyl, staging/PACU

John Egan, engineering

James Fertich, specialty float pool ER

Kerri-Ann Foley, ultrasound

Deborah Hager, Pediatric ICU

Joanne Jones, adult psychiatry unit

Richard Karluk, information services

Heather Koch, ICU

Valerie Kocher, nurse staffing office

Jean Livengood, LVPG Family Medicine–Lehighton

Crystal Lorrach, TNICU

Donna Lynn, supply management

Wanda Maldonado, pre-op staging

Kelly Metzgar, HC central intake

Robert Misevicius, mail processing services

Kathleen Robinson, LVPG Geriatric Medicine–17th Street

Joseph Schell, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services

Cynthia Spence, LVPG Neurosurgery–Muhlenberg

Chad Traub, respiratory care services

10 years

Linda Augelli Hodor, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Lydia Brown, float pool

Amanda Clark, radiation oncology

Donna Clark, physical therapy

Cathy Coyne, community health

Jennifer Deutsch, speech therapy

Michele Dzomic, child life department

Michael Ehrig, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Karen Erdman, patient receivables office

Lourdes Fernandez, education services

Zoila Ferreira, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–3900 Hamilton Blvd.

Stephen Finlay, 7K

Sarah Frailey, ICU

Amber Fritzingler, LVPG Cardiology–1250 Cedar Crest

Tammy Gallagher, pre-admission testing

Alba Garcia, LVPG reimbursement

Robert Gehman, information services

Jyoti Gopal, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Gnanaprakash Gopal, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Kathy Grayek, home care

Dana Hacker, credentialing services

Clinton Holumzer, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Amy Keeler, hospitalist srogram

Theodore Kowalyshyn, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Nancy Krupp, vascular lab

Larry Levin, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Jessica Long, managed care

Laura Long, hospice skilled nursing

Annette Mann, emergency department

Scott Mayes, information services

Marcia McLaughlin, float pool

Wayne McWilliams, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Carol Michaels, care management

Barbara Morici, hospitalist program

James Mullan, float pool

Nainesh Patel, LVPG Cardiology–1250 Cedar Crest

Cynthia Payonk, LVPG Endocrinology–1243 Cedra Crest

Amy Pena, hospitalist program

Sandra Pereira, labor and delivery

Lourdes Petko, coding integrity

Lois Reidenbach, NORI

Tiayra Reidnauer, operating room

Dave Romancheck, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services

Jill Rothermel, pre-op staging

Melissa Schaefer, pediatric neonatology

Helen Schmell, OACIS

Christine Sheckler, 6T

Brian Silfies, Epic

Sarah Smith, pediatric rehabilitation

Susan Sokalsky, rehabilitation services

Kimberly Soleymani, hospitalist program

Greta Strauss, Breast Health Services

Ryan Sutliff, Health Spectrum Pharmacy

Arlene Symons, transitional skilled unit

Travis Thrower, ambulatory surgery unit–staging

Hugo Twaddle, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

Robert VanIngen, emergency department

Cammi Weeber, operating room diagnostic radiology

James Wertz, LVPG Internal Medicine–Muhlenberg

5 years

Holly Achey, neonatal ICU

Nadeem Ahmad, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Jennifer Allen, palliative medicine

Coleen Alvarez, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services

Tara Anderson, HO clinical services

Florence Angelbeck, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Maria Babula, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Morgan Barker, 4T

Jillian Bartholomew, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Kerry Bean, Inpatient Rehabilitation Center

Audrey Bear, LVPG Cardiology

Scott Beman, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Robert Biggs, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Kristina Boccuti, operating room

Debra Bonar, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Richard Boorse, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Jill Bortz, LVPG Internal Medicine–1230 Cedar Crest

Jon Brndjar, LVPG Internal Medicine–1230 Cedar Crest

Kay Brotzman, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Laura Brzozowski, LVPG billing service

Gregory Buchman, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Wendy Burnish, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Mary Cameron, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Jane Cappiello-Culp, medical oncology

Genesis Carchi, 4KS

Joseph Cardarelli, information services

John Cerimele, operating room

Paul Cesanek, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Jill Crenko, patient receivables office

Kelly Cummings, revenue cycle ED process improvement

Jana Dieterich, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Elizabeth Duh, 5CP

Patti Ebert, precertification

Dana Elder, trauma-neuro burn float pool

Michael Fadale, MedEvac

Pamela Foltz, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Ann Fritz, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Stephanie Gallagher, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Tamicka Grooms, adult psychiatry unit

Angela Gruber, LVPG Neurosurgery– 1250 Cedar Crest

Thomas Harrison, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Elizabeth Heerey, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Tara Heimer, outpatient registration

Barbara Heine, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Lillian Hendry, emergency department

Amanda Hengstenberger, adult psychiatry unit

Kristina Houck, neuroscience ICU

Edward Howey, supply management

Barbara Hummel, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Debra Hunkele, precertification

Paul Jani, AV and media services

Phyllis Johnson, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Denise Jones, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Hari Joshi, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Mary Karounos, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Cathleen Keegan-Pursell, emergency Department

Kelly Knoble, Regional Health Center–Medical

Elizabeth Kochenash, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Christine Kooker, Patient Access Center

Linda Kropf, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Mary Lattig, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Maria Leindecker, LVPG billing service

Angelene Liggitt, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Lisa Litwiller, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Stacy Lopez, Inpatient Rehabilitation Center

John Mannisi, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Valerie McCarthy, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Debra McGlade, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Cheryl Miga, LVPG General and Trauma Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Patricia Mika, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Katherine Miller, population health

Trudy Molinari, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Cynthia Montafia, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Valerie Moore, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Michelle Moyer, 6T

Crissey Nun, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Carrie Olson, LVPG Neurosurgery–1250 Cedar Crest

Shelly Oplinger, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Eric Pecuch, 4T

Joan Pennucci, mammography

Katherine Perkins, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

George Persin, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Samuel Platia, primary care operations

Sarah Possimato, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Jacqueline Priest, interventional radiology

Daniel Ray, palliative medicine

Tanya Remaly, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Alina Reynolds, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services

Genieva Rodriguez, pediatric unit

Teresa Romano, Children's ER

Elizabeth Rosario, patient receivables office

Albert Sarno, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Kelly Schadler, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Sarah Schippang, LVPG Urogynecology

Jenna Schnovel, obstetrics

Catherine Serena, palliative medicine fellowship

Lisa Singer, LVPG Pediatrics–Fogelsville

Liane Sinkovits, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Kenneth Skorinko, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Cynthia Slater, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Jessica Smith, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Susan Snyder, LVPG Cardiology–1250 Cedar Crest

John Solomon, information services

Kimberly Spering, OACIS

Karen Stump, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Deborah Sundlof, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Kaitlyn Sutliff, Health Spectrum Pharmacy

Barbara Sweitzer, LVPG Maternal Fetal Medicine–Bethlehem Township

Whitney Thomas, LVPG reimbursement

Chelsea Toth, LVPG Pediatric Pulmonology–1210 Cedar Crest

Michele Turcotte, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Beth Turoscy, 2K south

Anthony Urbano, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Marsha Venanzi, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Novi Vinod, Epic

Elizabeth Walker, Cardiac Diagnostic Center

Margaret Weaver, medical records

Betty Weber, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Christie Weiss, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services

Maria Whitfield, PACU

Cynthia Whitford, LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Pond Road

Susan Yarko, LVPG Cardiology–Muhlenberg

Patricia Zubey, LVPG General and Bariatric Surgery–1240 Cedar Crest

Do You Have a Need for a Research Scholar?

BY [TED WILLIAMS](#) · DECEMBER 29, 2016

The 2017 Research Scholar Program runs from June 5 through July 31. The program will:

- Provide research opportunities for undergraduate students
- Offer valuable assistance to LVHN departments and practices on any number of research and quality improvement projects
- Develop and strengthen the pipeline of future health care workers
- Orient future health care workers to LVHN's mission, goals and leadership

The deadline for project applications is Jan. 10. [Visit this](#)



[website to submit your project application today.](#)

Student applications open in January. The scholars would be available to all departments and practices, regardless of whether the project focuses on medical research or some other project relevant to LVHN. Student work schedules would be flexible depending on needs and scheduling.

Each year we have significantly more student applicants than projects for these bright, motivated students. Please consider utilizing one of these fine students for an upcoming project. For more information and to see last summer's Research Scholar Program projects, visit LVHN.org/researchscholar. Email [Diane Leuthardt](mailto:Diane.Leuthardt@lvhn.org) or call 610-402-2566 for project application information.

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Give Blood in January

BY [TED WILLIAMS](#) · DECEMBER 29, 2016

LVHN and Miller-Keystone Blood Center make it easy for you to give the gift of life. Visit giveapint.org/LVHN to sign up online for an upcoming blood drive at the various LVHN locations. 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. The following is the upcoming opportunity for you



to save a life in January.

Jan. 5: LVH–Muhlenberg ECC rooms B, C and D, 8 a.m.-3 p.m.

Jan. 17: LVH–17th Street auditorium, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

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

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January Culture of Wellness Opportunities for Raising a Family

BY [TED WILLIAMS](#) · DECEMBER 26, 2016

Here are this month's Culture of Wellness events for raising a family.

Jan. 2 – Preparing for Baby (six-week series)

Jan 5 and 18 – Car Seat Checks

Jan. 5 and 25 – Breast-feeding Baby

Jan. 8, 11, 16, 23 and 29 – Maternity Tours

Jan. 8 and 28 – Prepared Childbirth (one-day class)

Jan. 8 and 29 – Sibling Tours



Jan. 14 – Baby Care

Jan. 23 – CPR Family and Friends

Jan. 24 – Grandparenting Workshop

For more information or to register, call 610-402-CARE.

[Learn about all of our Culture of Wellness programs.](#)

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