

#### **Memorial Day Observance-Photos**

LVHN honors those who gave their lives for freedom.

#### **Memorial Bench Honors Bruce Bobo**

The U.S. Army veteran was an LVHN innovator.

#### One of Our Busiest Weeks

Kim Jordan thanks nurses; invites you to a Town Hall.

#### **Children's Hospital Birthday Celebration**

Read the stories of children for whom we cared.

#### Volunteer at Musikfest

Staff our health tents from Aug. 4-13.

#### **Honored for Epic EMR Adoption**

We achieved the top level of EMR adoption.

## **Blessing of Hands Uplifts Caregivers**

It acknowledges the sacred nature of nurses' hands.

# **Food Drive Feeds Hungry Children**

Colleagues donate food to Backpack Buddies.

## **Meet Friends of Nursing Award Recipients**

Read inspiring stories of how colleagues touch lives.

## **Community Canvas Grand Finale**

Third-grader tops 11 other artists in the competition.

#### Give Blood June 1 and 26

Sign up online to give the gift of life.

#### **Museum of Natural History Trip**

Visit NYC with our Recreation Committee.

#### **Culture of Wellness Opportunities**

Get the support you need to raise a family.









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# Memorial Day Observance Makes LVH–Schuylkill Medical Director and Air Force Veteran Proud – PHOTOS

BY TED WILLIAMS - MAY 25, 2017

Long before Lawrence Riddles, MD, became Senior Medical Director at LVH–Schuylkill, he was supervising care in the midst of natural disasters and combat zones for the Department of Defense.



Riddles, who spent a month short of 35 years in the U.S. Air Force, served as bearer of the American flag at our fifth annual Memorial Day Observance. The ceremony was held live at LVH–Cedar Crest and simulcast to locations throughout the health network. Riddles joined colleagues who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard in the flag-bearing ceremony during a rendition of The Star-Spangled Banner by the U.S. Air Force Brass in Blue. Five other veterans took part in the Laying of the Wreaths on the Memorial Table to honor the fallen.

"Memorial Day is unlike other days where we honor those who served our country, in that we're paying tribute specifically to those who paid the ultimate price in defense of our country," Riddles says. "It really gives one pause to stop and think about their sacrifice. That deep commitment of those who gave their lives is the reason for many of the blessings we're able to enjoy today."

Riddles' own military commitment was rather amazing. In September 2005, he coordinated emergency care and evacuation plans during Hurricane Katrina as commander of the 375<sup>th</sup> Medical Group at Scott Air Force Base. He spent more than two weeks sleeping on granite floors at New Orleans International Airport while helping to create a makeshift hospital there in preparation for the evacuation of thousands of people displaced by the storm.

He became Command Surgeon for the United States Transportation Command in 2007 and used his expertise to direct similar patient movement efforts amid widespread rubble and chaos following earthquakes in Turkey (1999), Haiti (2010) and the Japan earthquake and tsunami (2011).

Riddles' combat experience includes him being the youngest air transport hospital commander in an active combat zone during the Gulf War. In the latter stages of his military career, he coordinated the

safe transport of injured soldiers, sailors, airmen Marines and Coastguardsmen out of Iraq and Afghanistan to hospitals in Germany and the U.S.



Riddles looks back on all of it with deep humility. "It's been an honor and a pleasure to have served under the U.S. flag in different parts of the world," he says.

Here are the other colleagues who participated in LVHN's Memorial Day Observance alongside Riddles.

# Flag Bearers



American flag - Lawrence Riddles, MD, Air Force, Senior Medical Director, LVH-Schuylkill

Army - Kevin Kriesel, MD, LVPG Ear, Nose and Throat-17th Street

Marine Corps – Samuel Platia, Administrator, LVPG Pediatrics

Navy – Charles Worrilow, MD, LVPG Emergency Medicine

Air Force - Madalyn Schaefgen, MD, LVPG Family Medicine-Cetronia Road

Coast Guard - Michael LaPearl, Operations Supervisor, Cetronia Emergency Management

Laying of the Wreaths on the Memorial Table



Army - William Thornton, LVH-Pocono Security

Marine Corps - Katie Blum, Collaborative Coordinator, AllSpire

Navy – Douglas McPeek, Senior Network and Communications Analyst

Air Force - Madhavi Capoccia, DO, LVPG Family Medicine-Cetronia Road

Coast Guard - Michael LaPearl, Operations Supervisor, Cetronia Emergency Management

Benediction - Enrique Amponsah, Battalion Chaplain, U.S. Army Reserves.

A very special guest at the event was Dan Deysher, a 95-year-old U.S. Navy World War II veteran who sounded "Taps" during the observance. Deysher was a Musician First Class assigned to the battleship USS Pennsylvania out of Pearl Harbor. He served three of his six years in Navy in the Pacific Theatre on gun watch and as a stretcher bearer.



A resident of Hellertown, Deysher has sounded Taps at more than 3,700 military funerals over the last 33 years. He also sounded Taps at Pearl Harbor last Dec. 7 at the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the infamous attack. On Memorial Day, he will be among 51 buglers sounding Taps between Nisky Hill Cemetery and Memorial Cemetery in Bethlehem in honor of veterans laid to rest without a final tribute. Joining him in the bugling tribute will be his son, his granddaughter and his great granddaughter.



Special guests at the observance also included U.S. Air Force Major Timothy Page and Junior ROTC Cadets from Dieruff High School, who performed a ceremonial flag folding, handing off the flag to Chaplain Amponsah.

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# Memorial Bench Honors Bruce Bobo's Service and Innovations

BY TED WILLIAMS - MAY 25, 2017



Bruce Bobo Jr. was one of those people who may not be the easiest to get to know at first. Then once he warmed up to you, you were golden.

"There were many sides to Bruce depending on the situation," says Audio/Visual (AV) Media Services Expert Michael Cirocco, who worked with Bobo for most of the 14 years he spent at LVHN as a Subject Matter Expert. "Once you were included in his circle of friends, he became a very fun-loving, caring person. He went out of his way for people, and often helped people who didn't even know he was helping them."

Bobo, a U.S. Army veteran, passed away in October at age 53 after a battle with cancer. He left a wife, Donna, son, Gregory, daughter, Emily, and many friends who remember him warmly.

#### Forever remembered

On May 24, Bobo was honored with a memorial bench at the Veterans Healing Garden in the LVH–17<sup>th</sup> Street campus courtyard. He was recommended for the bench by LVHN President and Chief Executive Officer Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, in recognition of his service to our country and contributions to our health network.

"I will always remember Bruce the hugger," Cirocco says. "He'd come up to people, say 'How are you' and proceed to give them a hug. I think it was part of his southern upbringing, part of being a member of a very religious family."

#### Lifelong innovator

Bobo was born in Tennessee and spent his formative years in Florida. He ran his own computer business before taking a job at LVHN in 2002. Four years later, his name became familiar to colleagues when he designed and built the health network's original telehealth videoconferencing mobile cart, dubbing it the "George cart." Why that name?

"It's because George Washington was the first president and this was the first telehealth videoconferencing mobile cart," Cirocco says. "You had to know Bruce."

Bobo's creation remains invaluable to clinicians and patients alike. "It's amazing how much the cart impacts patient care," Cirocco says. Using the cart, for example, our maternal fetal medicine specialists can communicate with a special needs mother immediately at a remote outpatient site. Plus, the cart also links non-English speaking patients with an interpreter so they can communicate with their caregiver quickly and effectively.

There are more than 50 carts throughout the health network. Since Bobo's passing, they've been renamed "Bruce carts" in his memory.

"Bruce was such a visionary," Cirocco says. "We joked that he had more gadgets than Inspector Gadget. He was always finding things and tinkering with them to see if there was a way it could improve patient care. He was such an asset to our health network."

#### In service of others

Bobo was very community oriented. He was deeply involved with emergency services and amateur radio clubs around the Lehigh Valley. He helped with emergency communications during Hurricane Andrew in 1992, 9/11 in 2001 and Hurricane Sandy in 2012.

"That's who he was – very conscious of people who needed help," Cirocco says. "Many people here didn't know Bruce would go above and beyond by buying DVDs and toys for kids in the hospital during Christmas, for example. That's because he kept quiet and didn't want everyone to know it was him doing it."

Cirocco's best memories of Bobo are of holiday gatherings at his home. "On summer holidays, boatloads of people would show up at noon. Bruce kept the hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken and all kinds of food going well into the evening," he says. "We had so much fun. From time to time, something happens at work, and we remember Bruce and smile. He was just a great guy."

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Proud - PHOTOS

# One of Our Busiest Weeks

BY JENN FISHER · MAY 26, 2017

In my years here at LVHN, this week has been one of the busiest that I can recall. The emergency department (ED) at LVH–Cedar Crest had inpatient holds all weekend. Many med-surg units were pushed to 1:8 ratios on nights. Even still, you and your patient care services colleagues were there for our patients.

# Special thanks to...

- The critical care units floating to med-surg and progressive units
- The ED for keeping our doors open



to the community while managing all the inpatient holds

- Med-surg for positively managing the high ratios and providing quality care
- The express admissions unit (EAU)
   staff for opening early at 6 a.m. to offload the ED a bit sooner
- Directors who came in to support their staff at night
- Supervisors who picked up extra shifts

It wasn't a perfect week, but your teamwork and attitude demonstrate it all: We can survive this.

#### New hires for summer

We are still in active recruitment and hiring mode. Here is where we are right now:

- Professional student nurse assistants (PSNAs): 37 (reported incorrectly as 3 last week); and 15 professional student nurse patient observation assistants (PSPOAs) started on Monday, May 22
- Summer Sensations incentive program has yielded dozens of signed contracts with:
  - 23 day shift RNs, which equals approximately 46 additional day shifts covered
  - 48 night shift RNs, which equals approximately 96 night shifts covered

## RN internship hires coming in the next few months:

- July 17: 55 (critical care, emergency department and progressive)
- July 31: 64 (medical-surgical, behavioral health, women's and children's)

#### HR is making a difference too

This week, HR hosted a recruitment booth at the National Teaching Institute conference for experienced critical care nurses (May 22-25).

In addition, we are doing the following to help recruit:

- 25-percent weekend incentive expanded to Monday-Thursday, 7 p.m.-7 a.m., for all skills
- Eliminated technical partner trainee (TPT) rate and changed to TP rate
- Changed administrative partner (AP) job description to change medical terminology knowledge from "required" to "preferred"

## Bring your questions and suggestions

Town Hall meetings and rounds are among the ways you can get a status report about our patient care services recruiting efforts. You also can offer your ideas or tactics at these gatherings to help us attract the best colleagues to LVHN.

I will have Town Halls at LVH–Cedar Crest on the following dates and places:

- Friday, June 2, 7:30 a.m., ECC room 10
- Monday, June 12, 7:30 a.m., ECC room 1
- Monday, June 12, 6 p.m., ECC room 6
- Wednesday, June 14, 6 p.m., auditorium

As a reminder, I am forming a committee of staff RNs to gather ideas for nurse retention. Should you wish to volunteer for this committee, email Laurie\_P.Moshier@Ivhn.org.

Thank you all for your help and perseverance. We are making progress and will achieve great patient care together.



Lini Sordan

About me: My name is Kim Jordan, DNP, RN, and I am Senior Vice President and Chief Nursing Officer at LVHN. I came to LVHN 15 years ago as director of the open-heart and transitional open-heart units. I consider it an honor and a privilege to lead our outstanding nursing colleagues.

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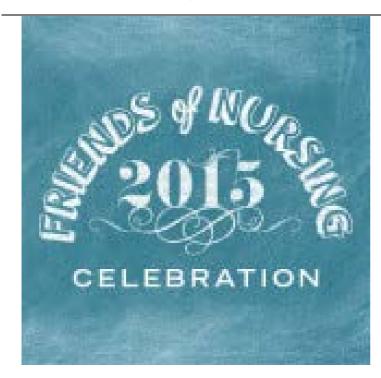


Nurse Staffing Efforts

Celebrating Our Nurses

19 MAY, 2017

5 MAY, 2017



Final Salute to Our 2015 Friends of Nursing Award Recipients

19 JUN, 2015

# Children's Hospital Celebrates the Gift of Health During Birthday Celebration—PHOTOS

BY SHEILA CABALLERO · MAY 22, 2017

Five years ago this week, Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital opened its doors for the first time. Since then, thousands of families have come through our doors seeking top-quality specialty care for their growing children.

To mark the occasion, Children's Hospital had a 5<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration in the lobby of LVH–Cedar Crest's Jaindl Pavilion. Colleagues and community members stopped by to color our birthday mural, read about some of the children we've helped over the years and enjoy birthday cake.

# N02605 Childrens Hospital Party 7687





Picture 1 of 4



Everyone got in on the celebration. Nurses and physicians were spotted coloring our birthday mural. Students from St. Thomas More enjoyed cake pops and party favors that included a Children's Hospital coloring book and journal. And everyone got a lesson on the gift of good health by reading the personal stories of our youngest patients. Here is a recap of some of the stories featured in our celebration.

## **Avery, age 3-1/2**



Avery was flown to Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital after suffering a skull fracture while her family was on vacation in New Jersey. An LVHN–MedEvac flight team transported her to the Children's ER, and she was admitted to the PICU for observation overnight. "I cannot begin to explain how grateful I am for the care she received," says mom Denise Wehr, Surgery Scheduling Coordinator at LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Pond Road. "The nurses and physicians we encountered over the next 24 hours were

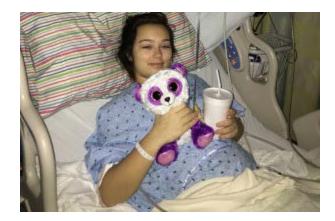
amazing." Today, Avery is a very active preschooler who loves to swim, cheer and do gymnastics.

#### Sophia Grace, age 2



Sophia is the child of colleague Gloria Farng, Director of HIM Operations. Sophia received treatment for respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) for four days at Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital. She was back again this past New Year's Eve for dehydration. "Having a child in the hospital is nerve wracking," says Farng. "The team at Children's Hospital took care of all of her needs, alleviated our fears and addressed our concerns. They also took very good care of us as parents and caregivers, so we could focus our energy on getting Sophia better." Today, Sophia loves storybooks, the outdoors and trying different foods. Her best friend is her cat, Bianca.

#### Makenzie, age 14



Makenzie was diagnosed with esophagitis and Crohn's disease. Two months later she started having severe stomach pains, fever and vomiting. Her mother Elissa Pape, a provider service representative for LVHN, rushed her to the Children's ER. She was admitted and found to have a severe infection due to a kidney stone – most likely the result of Crohn's disease. Makenzie stayed in the hospital for a week. During that time she participated in arts and crafts and had a visit from a therapy dog. "When we started this journey, I was filled with fear for Makenzie," says Pape. "Yet the colleagues my family encountered – doctors, nurses, technical partners, general services, patient transporters and others – made us so comfortable, our fears diminished." Today, Makenzie is an amazing artist, softball player and a member of her school's National Junior Honors Society. She gets most of her nutrition through an NG tube due to

Crohn's disease. Her digestive system is still healing.

#### Vivi, age 6



When Vivi was 3 years old, she was diagnosed with Niemann-Pick disease type C (NPC), a rare genetic condition that disrupts the movement of cholesterol between brain cells. Every other week, she receives an experimental treatment that includes lumbar punctures along with drug therapy. Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital is one of only a few medical centers in the country that participates in the clinical trial for NPC, and the treatment is helping her to feel well. Child-life specialists help make the hospital experience less scary by giving her an opportunity to be playful during procedures. To distract her, her health care team and mother all join in to sing along to Taylor Swift's "Shake it Off." When Vivi isn't receiving treatment, she loves reading, coloring, going out to eat and parties. She also loves going to school, playing with her friends and having her nails done.

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Children's Hospital Announcement

**NEWS** 

# Volunteer at Musikfest

BY SHEILA CABALLERO · MAY 23, 2017



Do you have a passion for music, food and volunteering? Then downtown Bethlehem is the place for you from Aug. 4-13. LVHN is once again the official health care provider for Bethlehem's popular Musikfest. That means volunteers are needed to staff the four LVHN health tents. It's a chance to support LVHN's mission, hear some great music and have fun interacting with members of our community.

Both clinical and nonclinical colleagues are needed for shifts ranging from 2 ½ to 4 hours. Licensed colleagues (such as registered nurses, physicians and physician assistants) will be appropriately compensated. Everyone will receive a moisture-wicking LVHN T-shirt.

Signing up is easy. Simply <u>review the letter and schedule</u> to select your times, including your second and third choices, and then call 888-402-LVHN. For more information, read the 2017 <u>Musikfest Information guide</u>.

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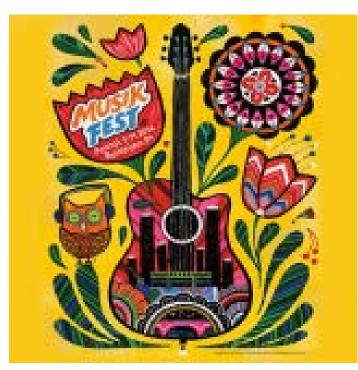
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Join us at Musikfest; August 7-16 in Bethlehem

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# LVHN Honored for Epic EMR Adoption

BY BRIAN DOWNS · MAY 25, 2017

A few weeks ago, representatives from HIMSS Analytics, an independent health care industry advisor, visited several LVHN inpatient and ambulatory locations in the Lehigh Valley. The HIMSS team assessed how well our providers and staff utilize the EMR and if we meet the standards their group outlines in the EMR Adoption Model (EMRAM), an 8-stage model – stages zero to 7.

Following their assessment, HIMSS announced that LVHN's inpatient



locations and LVPG locations in the Lehigh Valley achieved HIMSS Stage 7, the top level of EMR adoption.

The following news release has been provided to local and industry media.

Thanks to all who helped us earn this achievement.

#### News release:

HIMSS Analytics Honors Lehigh Valley Health Network and Lehigh Valley Physician Group with EMRAM<sup>SM</sup> and Ambulatory− O-EMRAM<sup>SM</sup> Stage 7 Achievement

This award honors facilities operating in a paperless environment and represents best practices in implementing the electronic medical record

Allentown, Pa. (May 16, 2017) – HIMSS Analytics recently announced that Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) achieved EMRAM<sup>SM</sup> Stage 7 for Lehigh Valley-based inpatient and ambulatory areas. The award represents LVHN's attainment of the highest level on the Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model (EMRAM)<sup>SM</sup>, which is used to track the progress in deploying electronic health records (EHR) in hospitals and health systems.

Lehigh Valley Health Network began its transition to an integrated EHR) system in 2013 to improve patient care across the network. In 2015, Lehigh Valley-area ambulatory and inpatient locations fully transitioned to the Epic EHR system. With the use of a fully-integrated EHR system, patients need just one chart which is accessible from a primary care provider's office to a specialist's office, and if needed, to the hospital. As part of the EHR system, LVHN also launched a new patient portal, MyLVHN, one of the fastest growing patient portals in Epic's experience. The portal has more than 160,000 registered who use MyLVHN to review medication lists, schedule appointments and request video visits.

LVHN's hospitals – Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Cedar Crest, LVH–17<sup>th</sup> Street, LVH–Muhlenberg and LVHN–Tilghman – were assessed using the EMRAM model, and Lehigh Valley Physician Group (LVPG) ambulatory sites in Lehigh, Northampton and Berks counties were assessed using the HIMSS Analytics' Outpatient Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model (O-EMRAM), a methodology for evaluating the progress and impact of electronic medical record systems for hospitals in the HIMSS Analytics® Logic™ database. There are eight stages (0-7) that measure a hospital's implementation and utilization of information technology applications.

The highest level, Stage 7, represents an advanced digital patient record environment. The validation process to confirm a hospital has reached Stage 7 includes a site visit by an executive from HIMSS Analytics and former or current chief information officers to ensure an unbiased evaluation of the Stage 7 environments.

According to data from HIMSS Analytics LOGIC, as of the first quarter of 2017, only 5 percent of the more than 5,400 U.S. hospitals in the United States achieved EMRAM Stage 7. For the Outpatient Electronic Medical Record Adoption Model (O-EMRAM), only 9.7 percent of the over 41,000 ambulatory clinics in the United States has achieved Stage 7 in the O-EMRAM.

"The transition to an integrated EHR and achieving EMRAM Stage 7 was not just an information technology task. The Stage 7 designation was achieved by thousands of LVHN colleagues across two LVHN hospital campuses and 150 LVPG ambulatory practices," says Mike Minear, Senior Vice President and Chief Information Officer at LVHN. "Their adoption of the best practices needed to manage patient care in a modern digital record is the key. Today our patients experience more coordinated care across all of Lehigh Valley Health Network, and now – whether home or away – every LVHN patient can easily connect with their health information and providers using the MyLVHN patient portal."

Lehigh Valley Health Network will be recognized at the 2018 HIMSS Conference & Exhibition on March 5-9, 2018, at the Venetian – Palazzo – Sands Expo Center in Las Vegas, Nev. Visit the HIMSS Analytics website for more information on the healthcare provider maturity models and Stage 7 award.

#### **About Lehigh Valley Health Network**

Lehigh Valley Health Network includes eight hospital campuses in eastern Pennsylvania; 18 health centers caring for communities in seven counties; numerous primary and specialty care physician practices and 12 ExpressCARE locations. Lehigh Valley Hospital—Cedar Crest has been recognized by *U.S. News & World Report* for 21 consecutive years as one of America's Best Hospitals. Lehigh Valley Hospital—Cedar Crest, Lehigh Valley Hospital—17<sup>th</sup> Street and Lehigh Valley Hospital—Muhlenberg are national Magnet hospitals for excellence in nursing. Additional information is available at LVHN.org.

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**NURSING** 

# Blessing of Hands Uplifts Nurses and Caregivers

BY SHEILA CABALLERO · MAY 22, 2017



The chaplain gently reached for the nurse's hand. A swirl of movement occurred just beyond as patients and colleagues passed behind going about their daily routine. The two stood still just outside the auditorium doors – eyes locked, voices hushed – then a vial of oil emerged from the chaplain's hand as he gently anointed the outstretched palm.

The Blessing of the Hands is an ancient ritual that dates back to pre-biblical times. Pastoral care adopted the practice sometime in the mid-2000s after some nurses mentioned the blessing was done in their faith communities. Since then, pastoral care has used Nurses Week as a time to share the blessing with nurses and other caregivers.

While the blessing is short, its meaning is dear to those who receive it. Some blessings end with an embrace, others with a quick swipe of moist eyes. All end with a knowing smile.

"In the beginning we offered the blessing during chapel services, but nurses couldn't always find time to attend the services," says board-certified chaplain Barbara Rutt, RN, M.Div., Manager of Pastoral Care. "Now we offer the blessing during Nurses Week by bringing it directly to nursing units on each shift and before the annual Medallion Lecture."

"The blessing acknowledges the sacred nature of nurses' hands because they touch so many lives," Rutt says. "It's also a way to affirm their commitment and offer healing for the heart.

"As a former nurse, I had many moments where I gave everything possible, but it wasn't enough. The blessing is a way to uplift nurses and give them the encouragement and strength to go on."

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# Medallion Lecture Encourages Nurses to Mentor Each Other

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Louise D. Jakubik, PhD, RN-BC, CSP President and Chief Mentoring Officer, Nurse Mentoring Institute

2017 Medallion Lecture: Use Mentoring to Transform Yourself and Your Workplace



Celebrating Nurses Who Earn Specialty Certifications

30 MAR, 2017

3 MAY, 2017



Spotlight on Evidence: Predicting Violent
Outbursts in the Emergency Department Using
the Bröset Violence Checklist (BVC)

27 MAR, 2017



# Food Drive Helps Feed Hungry Children

BY SHEILA CABALLERO · MAY 23, 2017



Every day, nurses heal, comfort and care for our patients. On Friday, May 19, nurses and other colleagues took compassionate care one step further by donating food to the Backpack Buddies Spring Food Drive on the last day of Nurses Week.

Backpack Buddies is a program of the Second Harvest Food Bank, which provides food assistance to more than 300 children in the Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton school districts in need of supplemental nutrition when government subsidized breakfast and lunch programs are closed for the weekend. The program is designed to reduce the risk for hunger by giving low-income children a weekly backpack filled with healthy snacks and meals.

Drop boxes were available at LVH–Cedar Crest, LVH–Muhlenberg, LVH–17<sup>th</sup> Street and LVHN–Mack Boulevard where colleagues could leave non-perishable food items such as canned goods, cereal, granola bars, juice, peanut butter and other child-friendly items.

At the end of the day, donations were loaded onto a truck and delivered to the Second Harvest Food Bank. This was the first year LVHN participated in the community outreach program, which was organized by the Professional Excellence Council.

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food drive

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# More About the 2017 Friends of Nursing Award Recipients

BY JENN FISHER · MAY 26, 2017

We're sharing more stories from the 2017 Friends of Nursing Awards program held earlier this month. In this group, nurses make an impact on patients starting at birth through hospice care. Meet this week's featured Friends of Nursing award recipients.

## **Helping Families Cope with Child Loss**

Natasha Fredericks of Blakeslee recounted the tragedy of her son's preterm birth and death, and the nurse – **Meghan Hoffman**, **RN** – who remained a constant in her life. Over the course of a few years, Hoffman encouraged Frederick and her family to attend – and for Natasha to eventually speak at – an LVHN candlelight vigil for families who lost a child. Hoffman received the **Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Obstetrical/Gynecologic Nursing Care** which was donated by the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology.

## **Trailblazer in Digestive Sciences**



Colleagues in endoscopy services say Maureen Shaughnessy-Toy, recipient of the William F. Ihrie Jr. & Elizabeth A. Ihrie Digestive Sciences Award, has pursued digestive health nursing as a passion for the past 16 years. Her expertise is demonstrated as a member and presenter at local, regional and state conferences of the Society of Gastrointestinal Nurses. She is one of a few nurses who traveled to Denver for a four-day course on manometry and pH monitoring procedures. Plus, she is one of two "point people" for a new procedure which transplants a type of microbiotia into the colon. Shaughnessy-Toy also co-wrote the LVHN policy and procedure for this transplant. The award was donated by The Ihrie Family Endowment.

Team Player: We, You, Our, Us



In both his nomination exemplar and interview for the **Award for Excellence in Case Management**, **Felix Figeoroa** rarely used the word "I." Instead, he used the words "we" and "our team." This cooperation and respect for colleagues is evidenced in Figueroa being a key player in developing 5K's daily collaborative morning and afternoon tuck-in rounds, even making adjustments in his personal life to accommodate the schedule. An RN who nominated him wrote that Figueroa smiles more than anyone else she knows. She told the story of discharging a patient prior to receiving his home infusion antibiotics, even though he had reminded her they would be delivered not once, but twice. When this nurse called to tell Figueroa, though he could have expressed frustration, he laughed and quickly did his job to solve the problem. This award was donated by Mr. Michael J. Schiffer and family in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Calvin Schiffer.

#### **Dedicated to Neuroscience**

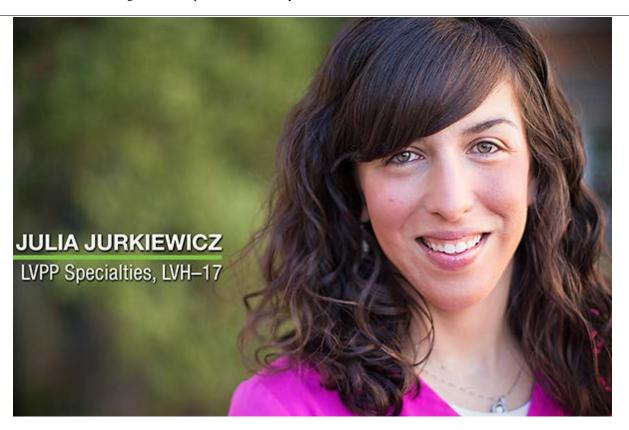


Patient Care Manager in the OR for neurosurgery and spinal surgery for more than 30 years. Board-certified, a member of the local and national Neuroscience Nursing organization, a planning committee member for the annual regional Neuroscience Symposium, an author of white papers and journal texts, and multi-time presenter at national conferences, what else could she do to heighten her professional career? She played a key role in developing LVHN's Deep Brain Stimulation Program, a surgical treatment for movement disorders. Cressman worked tirelessly over many months, gathering the equipment, budgeting, coordinating multiple service line staff and different units to perform the complicated procedure of passing electrodes into the deep recesses of the brain. For our first case, Cressman was there for the patient and family from start to finish. Even though the case went without a hitch, she debriefed with each department involved. This award was donated by Dr. Mark Li and Ms. Elizabeth Patrick.

#### **Perceptive Mentoring**

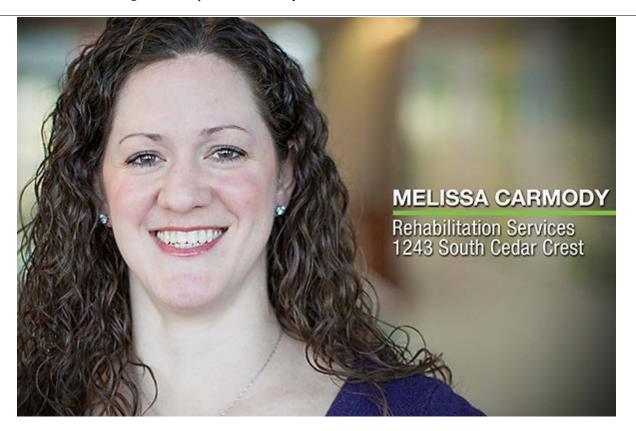


According to her peer nominators, **Connie Simpson**, **RN**, recipient of the **Award for Excellence as a Nurse Preceptor**, is never without a preceptee – be it a nurse new to the emergency department, student nurse, high school student and medical students in their "Spend a Day With a Nurse" experience. Recently a new nurse was struggling in orientation due to a learning disability and confided to no one except her mentor, Connie Simpson. She took it upon herself to research the disability and find ways to adapt orientation to best suit the nurse's learning needs and provide the most optimal learning experience. That nurse is now flourishing, thanks to Simpson's efforts and care. Edward and Anne Davis, RN, donated this award.



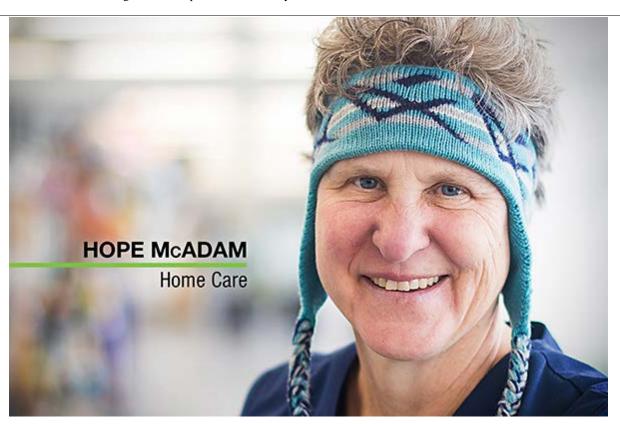
Recipient of the **Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Ambulatory Care, Julia Jurkiewicz** is the only one of triplets to become a nurse. Jurkiewicz says her nursing career has been shaped by her mother, Mercedes, a former colleagues at our health network. As clinical coordinator for a 15 specialty physician practice, she artfully combines her leadership and patient advocacy skills to promote best practices for improving population health. This award was donated in memory of Kerri Fegley, RN, by her LVHN colleagues and parents, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Fegley Sr.

**Wheelchair Fitting Expert** 



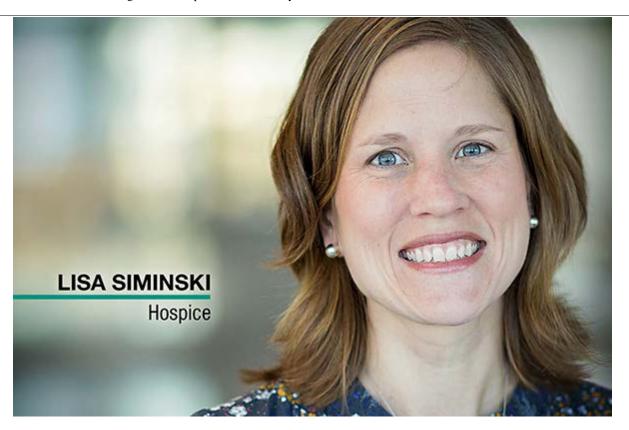
Melissa Carmody, recipient of The Bill and Nancy Mason Award for Excellence in the Delivery of Rehabilitation Services, spent the first 10 years with us as an inpatient occupational therapist specializing in the neurological population. Her past two years have been spent caring for neurological patients in the outpatient setting and running our new wheelchair clinic – one of the few of its kind in the country. Carmody is one of the few who are proficient in custom wheelchair fitting. Imagine through a patient's eyes not being mobile or independent, but after coming to our clinic, your nurse – Melissa Carmody – has recommended the most appropriate equipment to maximize your independence, safety and participation in activities of daily living. Since Day 1, she has been completely accountable for the success of this service and often needs to be assertive and relentless in obtaining payment from third-party payers, a daunting and labor intensive task.

**Building Home Care Relationships** 



Hope McAdam, RN, recipient of the Alma W. Holland Award for Excellence in Home Care Nursing, beautifully relates in her exemplar what patient- and family-centered care can be in the home setting. "A patient's home is a treasure trove of information revealing insight into their lives. I get to walk through the door, listen, pay attention, find common threads and establish a relationship. Do they have children? Have they traveled? Are they artists, or outdoorsmen or -women? Discovering common ground is the first step in establishing trust and rapport. When we communicate on this new level, we are given a gift of mutual respect and dignity. Developing this relationship is the very art of nursing." This award was donated by Dr. Charles Peters and Barbara Peters, RN, in memory of Barbara's mother, Alma Holland, one of the first home care nurses in Allentown.

Hospice Champion, Here and Abroad



Recipient of the **Advanced Practice Clinician Award, Lisa Siminski, CRNP,** is a provider for hospice patients in our inpatient unit, assisted and skilled nursing facilitates, and the home. Siminski also participated in mission trips throughout the world, the most recent being a hospice in Kenya. She shared that not only did she and her team share United States hospice care techniques, they returned with new insights on the importance of human communication without electronics, the importance of community and the importance of the use of non-pharmacological modalities to provide comfort – insights which then facilitated changes within our own hospice program. This award was donated by Dr. John Gray and his wife, nurse practitioner Dr. Kathy Gray.

### **Transformative Career Growth**



"Those who have spent their entire career at LVHN do not realize the gifts they have been given," says Sandra Sabbatini, RN, recipient of the Jeffrey J. Hitchings Award for Excellence in Education.

Sabbatini calls coming to LVHN nine years ago "her transformation." During that time, Sabbatini moved from ED clinical nurse to ED patient care specialist; achieved certification as an emergency nurse and in professional development; joined the American Nurses Association and the Emergency Nurses Association; joined the Association for Nursing Professional Development, which awarded her its national award for Consultation in Research and for which she served as the local chapter President; completed her own evidence-based practice project which was presented at a national conference; and became certified as a sexual nurse examiner and pioneered the use of a "standard patient" to validate others in this specialized skill. She is not done yet. Sabbatini is Co-chair of our Mentoring Vision statement work group and is Chair-elect of our Patient Care Specialist group. This award was donated by Kim Hitchings, RN, in memory of her husband.

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# Trent Ader Wins 4th Community Canvas Grand Finale

BY **ADMIN** - MAY 24, 2017



Trent Ader, a third-grader from Tracy Elementary School in Easton, was crowned the overall champion Saturday in the fourth annual Community Canvas Grand Finale at Lehigh Valley Mall.

The 9-year-old Ader bested 11 other third-, fourth- and fifth-grade artists to take home the top prize in the competition which gave youngsters from six area elementary schools the chance to display their passion for healthy living and their talent for art.

Madeline lannelli, 10, a fourth-grader from Tracy Elementary, was the runner up. Felicity Coulthard, 8, a third-grader from Steckel Elementary School, placed third. Other participants in the grand finale included: Lukas Biddle, 8, a third-grader, and Lillian McFarlon, 9, a fourth-grader from Forks Township Elementary School; Trinidey Schmoyer, 9, and Julian Maldonado, 9, fourth-graders from Zephyr Elementary School; Jazlyn Hall, 9, a fourth-grader, Madeleine Erdie, 9, a fourth-grader, and Sarah McIntyre, 8, a third-grader, from Cheston Elementary School; Brooklyn Barrow, 10, a fifth-grader from Shawnee Elementary School; and Christian Matlock, 8, a third-grader from Steckel Elementary School. Schools from the Whitehall-Coplay and Easton Area school districts participated in the competition.

While the artists were hard at work creating their masterpieces in the 45 minutes allotted for the competition, chefs from local restaurants competed in a "cook-off" creating healthy, tasty snacks. Michelle Reber from Healthy You Café at The Promenade Shops at Saucon Valley prevailed in the cooking competition. Shawn Doyle of Savory Grille in Macungie and Sarah Chinsch of Greenmouth Juice Bar & Café in Allentown and Easton also participated. Each chef was tasked with incorporating broccoli, quinoa and honey into their snacks.

Through a partnership between Lehigh Valley Children's Hospital and Lehigh Valley Art Spark – and in

conjunction with the Kellyn Foundation – Community Canvas gives students the opportunity to create artwork based on healthy eating habits and all-around wellness. There were six preliminary rounds featuring each school to determine the competitors for the grand finale.

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Special Trip to the American Museum of Natural History

# Give Blood June 1 and 26

BY TED WILLIAMS · MAY 26, 2017

### Give Blood June 1 and 26

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. Here is an upcoming opportunity for you to save a life in June.

June 1: LVH-Cedar Crest ECC rooms 9 and 10, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.

June 26: LVHN-Mack Boulevard auditorium, 7:30 a.m.-1:30 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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LVHN Honored for Epic EMR Adoption

# Special Trip to the American Museum of Natural History

BY TED WILLIAMS - MAY 23, 2017

LVHN's Recreation Committee is sponsoring a bus trip to one of the finest scientific and cultural institutions in the world, the American Museum of Natural History in New York City, on Tuesday, July 11.

The world famous museum, which was founded in 1869, is currently featuring exhibits on the unique and diverse culture of Cuba, rarely seen mummies of ancient Egypt, and the Titanosaur, a 122-foot long member of the last surviving group



of long-necked dinosaurs. The price of the trip includes access to all of these exhibits as well as an amazing IMAX presentation on the Humpback Whale, and a space show entitled "Dark Universe" at one of the nation's foremost planetariums.

The bus leaves the rear parking lot at LVHN–Mack Boulevard at 8 a.m. and arrives at the museum at 10 a.m. You'll have free time to wander the museum and grab lunch before the group tour begins. The bus leaves New York at 5 p.m. and arrives back at LVHN–Mack Boulevard at 7 p.m.

Tickets are \$80 for adults, \$70 for students and seniors age 65 and older, and \$55 for children ages 2-12. Contact Denise Hill at 484-862-3410 or denise.hill@lvh.com for more information and registration forms. Payment and reservations must be received no later than June 15.

For more details about the American Museum of Natural History and dining menus for its food court, visit amnh.org.

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# June Culture of Wellness Opportunities for Raising a Family

BY TED WILLIAMS · MAY 25, 2017

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

**June 1** – Preparing for Labor & Childbirth (two-week series)

June 1, 5 and 21 – Breastfeeding Baby

June 1, 20 and 21 - Car Seat Checks

June 5, 11, 19, 25 and 29 - Maternity Tours

June 11, 25 – Sibling Tours

June 12 - CPR for Family and Friends



June 12 - Preparing for Labor and Childbirth (twoday class at LVH-17<sup>th</sup> Street)

June 14 and 24 - Baby Care

June 17 and 25 – Prepared Childbirth (one-day class)

**June 19** – Preparing for Baby (six-week series)

June 21 – Baby Care (Spanish)

June 22 – Breastfeeding Baby (Spanish)

June 22 - Safe Sitter Class

For more information or to register, call 888-402-LVHN.

Learn about all of our Culture of Wellness programs.

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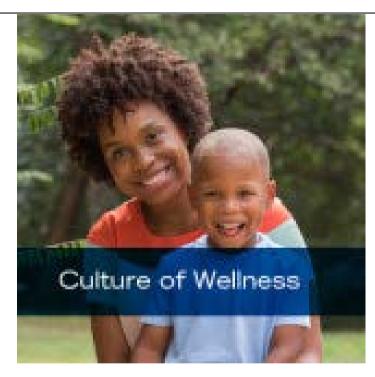


May Culture of Wellness Opportunities for Raising a Family

April Culture of Wellness Opportunities for Raising a Family

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March Culture of Wellness Opportunities for Raising a Family

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