

Health Center at Easton Ribbon Cutting

It's the first of two health centers opening this month.

Elizabeth Wise Named President of LVH–Pocono

Her leadership led to progress at our newest hospital.

Nurses: Listen, Learn, Make Your Voices Heard

Kim Jordan invites RNs to Town Hall meetings.

Tour the Family Health Pavilion June 19

All colleagues are invited from 2:30-4 p.m.

June Service Anniversary List

These colleagues are celebrating a career milestone.

Visit the Bronx Zoo on Aug. 5

Our Recreation Committee is sponsoring a bus trip.

Attend the Auxiliary Books Sales

See dates for Mack Boulevard and LVH–Cedar Crest.

See dates for LVH-Muhlenberg.

Meet Friends of Nursing Award Recipients

Read inspiring stories of how colleagues touched lives.

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LVHN Opens Health Center at Easton

BY [TED WILLIAMS](#) · JUNE 9, 2017

LVHN took the first step in enhancing its commitment to the people of Northampton County on June 9 with grand opening ceremonies of the Health Center at Easton at the site of the former Bimbo Bakeries on 2401 Northampton St. in Easton.

“We’re bringing important health care services closer to you because you asked for better access to them in this part of eastern Northampton County,” says Terry Capuano, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer. “And next week (June 14), we’ll be offering even more access and convenience when we open the Health Center at Palmer Township just three miles down the



road.”

LVHN also will have grand opening ceremonies for the new Family Health Pavilion, which will feature the Family Birth and Newborn Center, at LVH–Muhlenberg on June 19.

“LVHN is planning to create some smiles here at the Health Center at Easton,” says Brian Nester, DO, MBA, FACOEP, President and Chief Executive Officer. “The purpose of our health centers goes beyond our mission to heal, comfort and care for all of our communities. We’re also here to become part of the fabric of this neighborhood. When the people here need care, it’s our job to have them know instinctively that we are right around the corner to help.”

The Health Center at Easton opens on Monday, June 12. Services available at the two-story, 40,000-square-foot center will include:

- **ExpressCARE:** Walk-in care without appointment for minor illnesses and injuries available 365 days a year. If needed, we’re able to connect with LVH–Cedar Crest via telemedicine to assess a patient’s situation and determine an appropriate treatment plan.
- **LVPG Family Medicine–Easton:** Primary care for the entire family birth through adulthood
- **LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology–Easton:** A complete array of women’s services adolescent through adulthood
- **LVPG Pediatrics–Easton:** General pediatric care for children through age 21

Other services at the health center include:

- **Adult rehabilitation services:** Physical therapy offered on-site
- **Imaging services:** X-ray and ultrasound testing at a patient’s convenience
- **Laboratory testing** from Health Network Laboratories

LVHN also is honoring the long, storied bakery history at the site with a Heritage Wall, which is located across from the registration desks in the health center lobby. The wall will feature historical photos of the bakery through the years.

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Grand Opening Ceremonies, Open House
Events Scheduled at Two New Health Centers

Elizabeth Wise Named President of LVH–Pocono

BY [ADMIN](#) · JUNE 8, 2017

This message is from Terry Capuano, LVHN Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer.

During her time as Acting President of Lehigh Valley Hospital (LVH)–Pocono, Elizabeth Wise, MSN, MBA, FACHE, has proven to be a focused and forward-thinking leader. She consistently demonstrates her commitment to always putting patients and their families first, a testament to her nursing background. Elizabeth is just as passionate about supporting colleagues, ensuring she is always available for and open with them. She is a valuable member of the LVHN team. That is why I am



pleased to announce that Elizabeth has been named President of LVH–Pocono effective immediately.

During the last 20 years of her career, Elizabeth has sharpened her leadership skills, recently as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Nursing Officer at Pocono Health System. Since the merger on Jan. 1, 2017, Elizabeth navigated LVH–Pocono through challenges, transition and integration with our health network. She and the LVH–Pocono team have accomplished a great deal. Here are examples:

- **Communication and leadership visibility** – Elizabeth understands the importance of keeping colleagues informed through open and honest communication, and she is fulfilling her promise to do so. Town Hall meetings, leadership rounding, the LVHN Weekly–Pocono newsletter and Elizabeth’s blog “Wise Eyes” are among the communication resources introduced to give colleagues the information they need to be at their best and enhance the high quality care we already provide at LVH–Pocono.
- **Growth and enhanced access to care** – At LVHN, it’s our obligation to give people access to the services they need. That is why new staffing models were introduced to increase patient access for outpatient heart care, physical therapy, home care and hospice services. Edge radiosurgery was introduced to give people access to minimally invasive surgery to treat a variety of cancers with great precision. A team of colleagues worked to enhance the patient experience in the ER. Monroe County’s first ExpressCARE opened at the Health Center at Blakeslee. The Health Center at East Stroudsburg will open this summer, and LVH–Pocono’s first inpatient rehabilitation facility will open in June.
- **New providers** – New physicians are being added to meet the community’s needs for specialized care. A neurosurgeon, cardiac surgeon and ENT specialist will join the medical staff in the months ahead, and work continues to bring new specialists to the area.
- **Enhanced quality** – Continuous improvement is a hallmark of LVHN’s culture. LVH–Pocono is advancing trauma care by taking steps to move from a Level 3 to a Level 2 Trauma Center. The hospital was re-accredited as a Primary Stroke Center and received the Stroke Gold Level Quality Achievement Award from the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association. The

Leapfrog Group awarded LVH–Pocono with an “A” grade in hospital safety for the third consecutive year.

These impressive achievements clearly show why Elizabeth is the right person to move health care forward in the Poconos. In the months ahead, she will continue to provide the leadership needed to further the financial progress already being made at LVHN’s newest hospital. She’ll also oversee the launch of Epic – LVHN’s electronic medical record system – in our ambulatory and physician practices in the Poconos.

Elizabeth earned a bachelor’s degree in nursing from Seton Hall University and a master’s degree in nursing and business from Rutgers University.

We are fortunate to have Elizabeth leading as President of LVH–Pocono. Please join me in congratulating her on being named to a position she truly deserves.

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We're Working to Include LVH–Schuylkill and LVH–Pocono Providers in the LVHN Health Plan

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Nurses: Listen, Learn, Make Your Voices Heard

BY [JENN FISHER](#) · JUNE 9, 2017

A few weeks ago when I launched this weekly blog, I felt a deep concern that nurses – my closest colleagues – were feeling unheard and under-supported. While I do not have all the answers, I want you to know we're doing our best to correct patient care staffing issues here at LVHN. I'd like you and your colleagues to join me next week at a Town Hall meeting where we can discuss how we are making improvements and where we still need to improve.

Pick a day and time

I am hosting three LVHN Town Hall meetings at LVH– Cedar Crest on Monday and Wednesday. Not only



should I see patient care services leaders there, I absolutely need to see staff nurses there. Your insights about day-to-day (or night-to-night) work will help us understand issues from your point of view.

Here are the upcoming dates at LVH–Cedar Crest:

- 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

Please join me for one of these sessions. Your voice makes a difference.

Personal invitation: Join the staff nurse retention committee

As a Magnet® organization, it is imperative that nurses have a voice in issues that affect their work environment. Among concerns right now is staff nurse retention. To address this important issue, a volunteer group will begin meeting in July on a bi-weekly basis.

- **Who should join?** Staff RNs who want to make a difference in staff retention.
- **What are the goals?** Brainstorm ideas, discuss concerns and help make positive changes to improve staff retention.
- **How do I apply?** Either send a note of interest to Laurie Moshier at Moshier@lvhn.org or speak with your director about your interest, and she or he will let me know.

I look forward to working with this group and hope you will consider joining us.

Quicker application process

One issue that nurses brought to my attention was that our external job application process for RNs is daunting and deters qualified nurses from even applying. (Reality check: Who has 45 minutes to fill out an application?)

Thanks to this input, we are working with our colleagues in HR to streamline the initial application, and instead of taking nearly an hour to fill-out a form, the initial application will take just a few minutes. We'll capture what we need, like name, contact information, and area or areas of interest and then LVHN nurse recruiters will take it from there.

This new "quick apply" form will be live in the next few weeks.

Orientation is finishing...support is on the way

In case you missed it, we have had an infusion of new professional student nurse assistants (37) and professional student nurse patient observation assistants (15). Many have completed orientation, while others are just finishing up. Please welcome these new colleagues to your teams and help them get to know LVHN and our culture of caring.

Thank you

Making sure you know you are appreciated is one of my daily goals. Thank you for all the big and little things you do to help a patient feel that he or she received the best care, bar none. Charts and graphs don't make that happen – you make it a personal mission.

Thank you to the over 100 RNs who have signed sensation incentive contracts! Your willingness to work extra hours allows us to provide improved staffing and patient care across Cedar Crest and Muhlenberg.

And if you haven't thanked someone on your team yet today, take a moment and do so. Feeling appreciated helps each of us do our jobs better.

Kim



Kim Jordan

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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2017 Medallion Lecture: Use Mentoring to
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Tour the Family Health Pavilion on June 19

BY [ROBERT STEVENS](#) · JUNE 8, 2017

Want a sneak peek inside the new Family Health Pavilion at LVH-Muhlenberg? You're in luck. All colleagues are invited to attend our Colleague Open House event on June 19 from 2:30-4 p.m. You'll get to tour the new Inpatient Rehabilitation Center on the first floor, and the Family Birth and Newborn Center on the second and third floors.

If you cannot attend the Colleague Open House in the afternoon, you're welcome

to attend the Community Open House later that same day. Stop by from 5-8 p.m.

Please enter the new pavilion from Westgate Drive on the south side of the hospital campus. Parking is available adjacent to the building. Light refreshments will be served.



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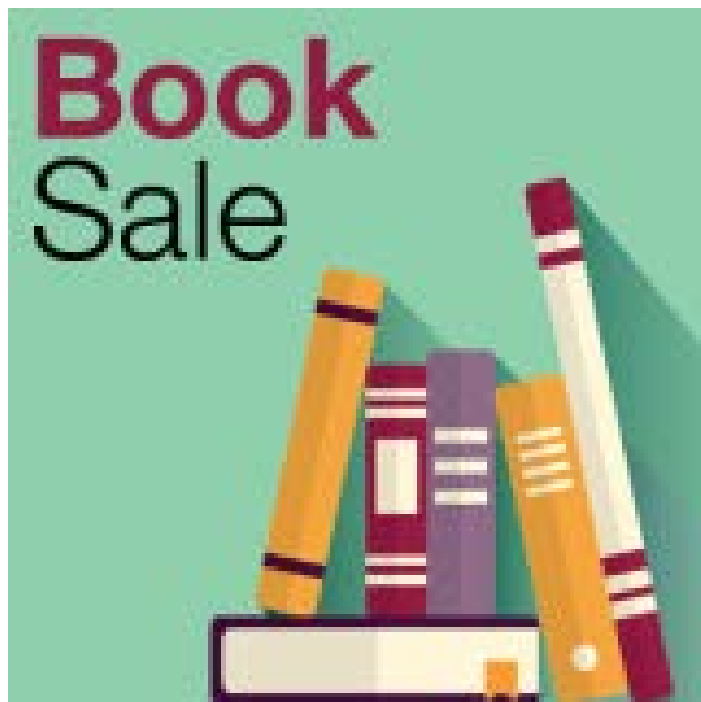
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Grace Ritter Receives Volunteer of the Year Award from Lehigh Valley Business

9 JUN, 2017

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'In The Bag' Sale Set for May at LVH–Muhlenberg

Service Anniversary List – June 2017

BY [EMILY MITCHELL](#) · JUNE 5, 2017

Happy anniversary to these colleagues celebrating a career milestone at LVHN in June.

45 years

Joy Stahl, Diagnostic Care Center

40 years

Emily Brown, bed management

Charlotte Buckenmyer, pre-admission testing

Cindy Buhn, Regional Burn Center

Donna Jenny, neuroscience

Mary Lenahan-Durnin, radiation oncology

Deborah Mankos, NORI

Susan Noll, cancer services



SERVICE ANNIVERSARY

Judith Olenwine, PGME-surgery

35 years

Ina Ashford, information services

Joanne Bodder, 6T

Kelli Brown, perioperative services

Lisa Durishin, ASU-OR

Ervina Gordon, clinical services observation

Edith Gray, education services

Catherine Hoffman, ICO staging and recovery

Denise Keeler, NICU

Andrea Keener, pain management

John Klitsch, PACU

Dorothy Klotz, ASU-OR

Beth Krick, pre-op staging

Nancy Long, cardiac ICU

Carol Mayberry, emergency department

Mary Potylycki, health care research

Pamela Prisaznik, LVPG Pediatric Pulmonology-1210 Cedar Crest

Maryann Rosenthal, 6K

Cynthia Rosko, ICO staging and recovery

Kimberly Roth, respiratory care services

Donna Sowden, LVHN Surgery Center-Tilghman

Cheryl Strohl, cardiac ICU

Samuel Varney, ambulatory surgical unit

Dawn Wainwright, pre-admission testing

Robin Weiss, perinatal unit

Vicki Werst, CVM

30 years

Laura Beaupre, cancer support services
Sandra Blackledge, inpatient diabetes education
Susan Buchman, endoscopy-G.I. Lab
Brenda Burkhardt, physical-occupational therapy
Sandra Carwell, LVPG Bariatric Medicine-1243 Cedar Crest
Sharnee Cederberg, inpatient diabetes education
Jeanine Correll, obstetrics
Catherine Defranco, LVPG Cardiology-Muhlenberg
CathyFuhrman, trauma neuro burn float pool
Natalie Gross, 6B renal
Cynthia Hallman, nurse staffing office
D. Hartman, cardiac ICU
Karen Hartman, obstetrics
Wendy Heil, operating room
Maria Kammetler, marketing and public affairs
Lois Kleppinger, operating room
Rose Lesniak, PACU
Sharon Lo, 5CP
Karen Moffat, operating room
Lori Papciak, mammography
Kelly Peterson, PACU
Carol Reenock, operating room
Perla Reese, operating room
Karen Saab, hospice unit
Maureen Sabol, ICO staging and recovery
Rosemary Scheirer, bed management
Angela Sinkler, open-heart unit
Jennifer Strouse, neuroscience ICU
Michelle Stuart, population health
Eileen Wasson, TNICU

25 years

Angela Barrell, open-heart unit
Amy Bless, LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology-1245 Cedar Crest
Michele Lawall, pre-admission testing
Christine Lehman, obstetrics
Daniel Leshko, MedEvac
Mary Kristian Muretta, hospice
Kathy Nickerson, home care, information services and medical records
Joseph Ossiander, Lehigh Valley Anesthesia Services

Anne Sanders, emergency services

Donna Strunk, guest services

Carol Teets, 5CP

Vincent Van Lieu, sterile processing

20 years

Linda Altemose, LVPG Internal Medicine-Muhlenberg

Janice Becker, Heart Station

Scott Fillman, emergency department

Michael Fleming, rehabilitation

Kristina Holleran, 6K

Michelle Kardohely, cardiac catheterization lab

Sharon Krywosa, obstetrics

Brigitte Naratil, hospice unit

Melissa Orlando, TNICU

Paula Priestas, Regional Heart Center-Medical

Pamela Riddell, marketing and public affairs

Cheryl Schaedler, LVPG orthopedics specialty

Mary Trycinski, administration

Beth Werley, children's specialty float pool

Karen Williams, nurse staffing office

Randolph Wojcik, LVPG Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery-1243 Cedar Crest

15 years

Carol Byrd, Wound Healing Center

Lisa Durkin, pharmacy

Melissa Egbert, remote patient monitoring

Tiffany Epting, education services

Kimberly Fassman, nursing float pool

Matthew Feller, MedEvac

Lisa Fonseca, LVPG Family Medicine-Blandon

Stephanie Forst, nurse staffing office

Thomas Fox, Healthworks

Daryl Grant, supply distribution services

Rita Grillo, HC clinical education and marketing

Melissa Hetrick, pharmacy

Leah Holschwander, LVPG Family Medicine-Emmaus

Jeffrey Kuklinski, emergency department

Denise Lawyer, operating room

Brian Mendez, hospice

Marshall Miles, LVPG Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery-1243 Cedar Crest

Amy Miller, LVPG Family Medicine-Emmaus
Andrew Miller, emergency department
Jennifer Miller, LVH-17th Street operations
Mishelle Miller, pharmacy
Patrick Miller, operating room
Alexandria Negoescu George, LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology-Lehighton
Kimberly O'Sullivan Smith, inpatient psychiatry
Jennifer Pareja, health care navigation
Elizabeth Pico, pediatric unit
Luanne Procyk, neuroscience
Valerie Spaeth, case management
Jeffrey Sternlieb, family medicine education
Brenda Walter, cardiac ICU
Pamela Youse, Children's Clinic

10 years

Reza Armaghan, emergency department
Laura Bailey, LVPG Geriatric Medicine-17th Street
Colleen Bauer, speech and hearing
Erin Beers, medical oncology
Amanda Biehl, home care
Krista Bilger, specialty float pool
Bethany Bondura, physician-occupational-speech therapy
Nicole Burd, Children's Surgery Center
James Burke, LVPG Cardiology-1250 Cedar Crest
Richard Burton, information services
Virginia Butler, Sleep Disorders Center
Amanda Campbell, 7K orthopedics
Megan Carnes, NICU
Lauren Colatosti, ICU
Christine Deaner, rehabilitation services
Erica Detweiler, 7K Orthopedics
Theresa Duda, LVPG Neuropsychiatry-1250 Cedar Crest
Traci Eichelberger, NORI
Elizabeth Fairbanks, nursing float pool
Kevin Fenton, case management
Andrea Foucek, psychiatry
Orquidea Garcia, 6C
Veronica Giel-Scocca, 5K
Kristin Gilbert, lab
Jennifer Gossler, community health

Stephanie Grazel, operating room
Ashley Gruver, NICU
Kirsten Gustafson, adult psychiatry unit
Laura Haas, labor and delivery
Tabatha Hackman, LVPG Pediatrics-Pond Road
Karin Haney, home care
Laura Honey, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine-Bethlehem Township
Deepak Jayant, emergency department
Marisa Kauker, radiation oncology
Andrea Klotz, 5K
Debra Lamontagne, medical education
Christopher Lenner, 7K orthopedics
Hope McAdam, home care
Lisa McDonnell, pediatric ICU
Corrally Memmelaar, open-heart unit
Jennifer Mulligan, ICU
Lindsay Neville, LVPG Internal Medicine-Muhlenberg
Kimberly Nicholls, MICU/SICU
Cheryl Potocki, 2K south
Jacqueline Rakowski, compliance
Brandy Rex, trauma
Kim Rex, LVPG Hematology Oncology-Muhlenberg
Stacy Riffert, ICU
Kathy Ryan, case management
Tara Scharadin, LVPG Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine-1250 Cedar Crest
Christine Schirer, transitional trauma unit
Jessica Smith, express admissions unit
Kathryn Sumner, neuro critical care
Emily Tatum, emergency department
Ann Marie Thompson, revenue cycle
Debra Trexler, department of surgery
Tina Vieweg, 7B
Bruce Weber, home care
Kimberly Wyckoff, LVPG Family Medicine-Kutztown
Erika Yench, pediatrics-neonatology
Brittany Zebro, PACU

5 years

Samuel Adediran, hematology oncology fellowship
Joice Aquino, LVPG Ophthalmology-17th Street
Christine Batchelor, MICU/SICU

Caitlin Baunach, MICU/SICU
Israel Beauchamps, information services
Margaret Bronowicki, coding integrity
Katelyn Brown, Children's Clinic
Alan Cherney, emergency department
Amy Costa, home care
Jennifer Daly, Lehigh Valley Family Health Center
Scott Drobnis, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine-3080 Hamilton Blvd.
Lauren Dudas, PGME surgery
Jaime Dutton, PGME Surgery
Ashley Dymond, emergency department
Nicole Elliott, emergency department
Christian Eusebio, PGME surgery
Daniel Fasanella, information services
Meggy Fernandez, emergency department
Mara Franko, LVPG Neurology-1250 Cedar Crest
Kelly Hallowell, LVPG Surgical Oncology-1240 Cedar CRest
Patrick Hickey, GI fellowship
Jennifer Hill, LVPG orthopedics specialty
Devyn Hoffert, staging/PACU
Jennifer Hoffman, LVPG Pediatrics-Pond Road
Christopher Keating, CT scanning
Jocelyn Keck, TNICU
Krishna Komanduri, nephrology fellowship
Eunice Lee, LVPG Obstetrics and Gynecology-1245 Cedar Crest
Adam Leonetti, emergency department
Claire Lollis, pediatric unit
Amber Lynch TNICU
Jenelle Maehrer, emergency department
Ashley Marinock, labor and delivery
Heidi Martucci, emergency department
Bernadette Massie, women's specialty float pool
Rhonda McMahon, bereavement services
Stephen Miller, security
Beth Morgan, respiratory care services
Denise Moser, LVPG Family and Internal Medicine-3080 Hamilton Blvd.
Sarah Moses, Emergency department
Vicki Naugler, home care
Susan Nicholas, express admissions
Ann Ottinger, emergency department

Priyal Patel, PGME surgery
Lindsay Pereira Guthier, LVPG Family Medicine-Macungie
Mark Perry, PGME surgery
Stacy Pimentel, clinical social work
Bharat Ranganath, PGME surgery
Angeline Regis, Stroke Center
Melissa Romero LVPG Pediatrics-Laurys Station
Rebecca Royce-Hickey, LVPG Family Medicine-Hellertown
Robin Schroeder, LVPG Bariatric Medicine-1243 Cedar Crest
Bienvenida Schwalm, cardiac catheterization lab
Mercedes Scott, Regional Heart Center
Lani Senffleben, LVPG Cardiac and Thoracic Surgery
Derek Short, information services
Deborah Steckel, emergency department
Ashley Strauss, transitional trauma unit
Ryan Surmaitis, emergency department
Matthew Teller, information services
Gisela Vargas, LVPG Internal Medicine-3080 Hamilton Blvd.
Gretchen Weaknecht, LVPG Ophthalmology-17th Street
Tanya Weber, case management
Barbara Yanus, clinical services observation

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Service Anniversary List – March 2017

Visit the Bronx Zoo on Aug. 5

BY [TED WILLIAMS](#) · JUNE 5, 2017

When its doors first opened to the public in 1895, the Bronx Zoo offered 843 animals and 22 exhibits. Today it is the largest metropolitan zoo in the U.S., home to more than 4,000 animals of 650 species, as well as a wide variety of changing exhibits and attractions across 265 acres. More than 2 million people visit the zoo every year. Spend a day with LVHN colleagues at a truly amazing place.

Aug. 5, 2017

7 a.m.: Bus leaves from LVHN–Mack Boulevard

9:30 a.m.: Arrive at the Bronx Zoo



6 p.m.: Bus leaves the Bronx Zoo

Price: \$28-53 per person, depending on age

Cost includes admission and unlimited access to special rides and attractions available during your date of visit. These may include the 4D Theater, Jungle World, Shuttle Rides, Wild Asia Monorail, Children's Zoo, Congo Gorilla Forest, Butterfly Garden and the Bug Carousel. Some rides and attractions are open seasonally.

[Complete a registration form](#) or contact [Latoya Mitchell](#) for more details.

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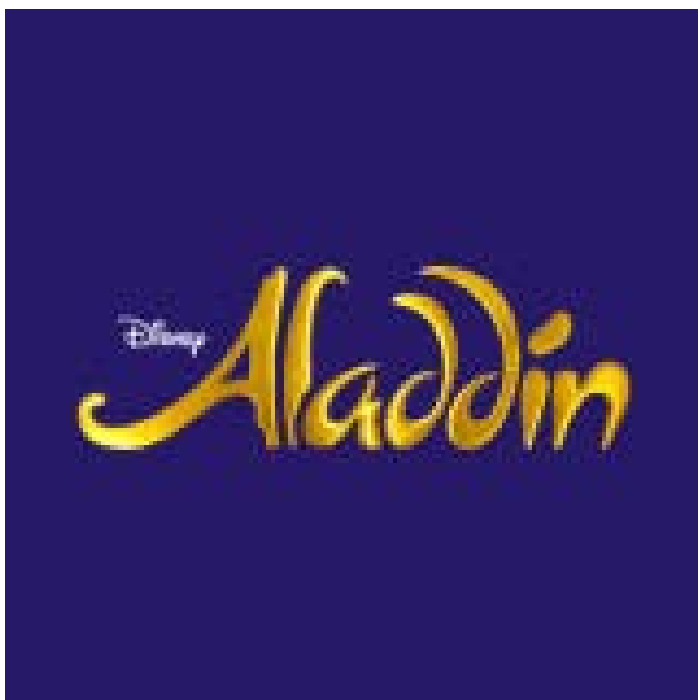
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Enjoy Springtime in New York City; Free Crayola Experience Admission for Nurses; Join the LVHN Golf League

29 MAR, 2017



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June Auxiliary Book Sale Dates

BY [SHEILA CABALLERO](#) · JUNE 5, 2017

The Auxiliary at Lehigh Valley Hospital is holding a spring book sale and they're stocked with all sorts of great summer reads for the long lazy days of summer. All proceeds benefit the mission of Lehigh Valley Health Network.

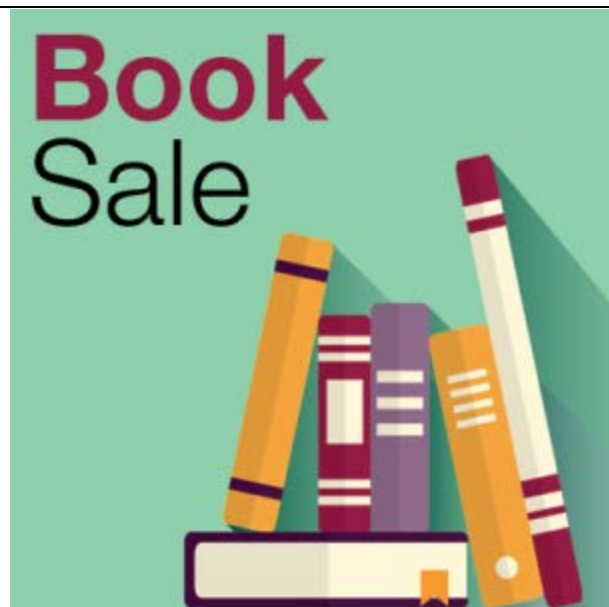
June 6

One City Center

June 12

Mack Boulevard

June 13 & 14



LVH-Cedar Crest

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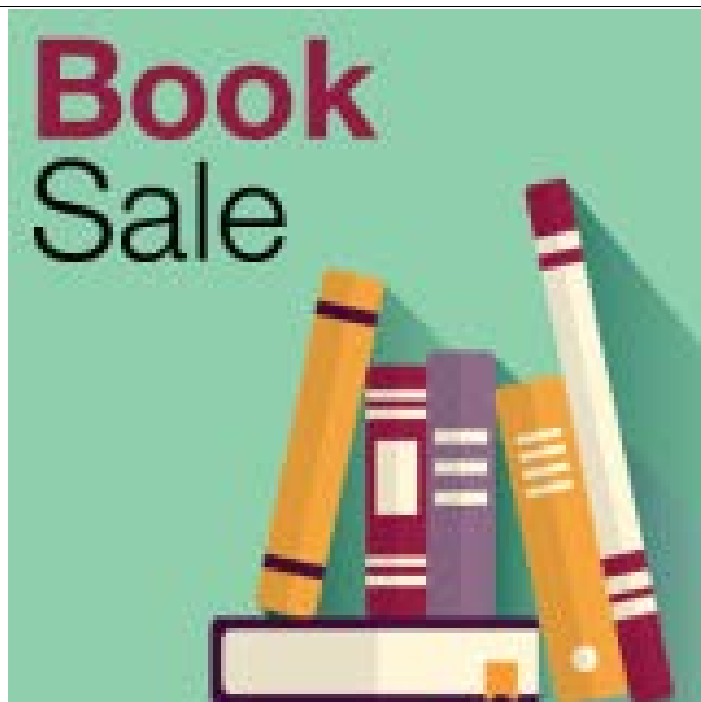
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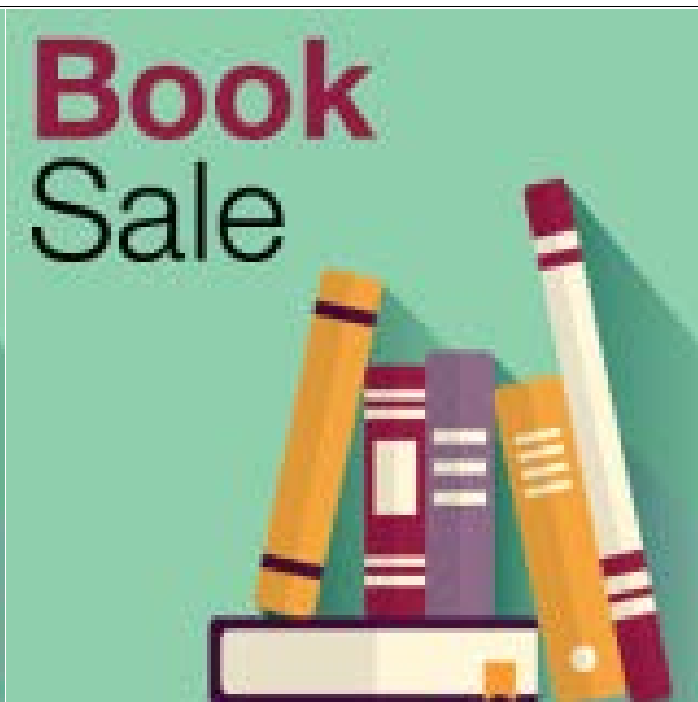
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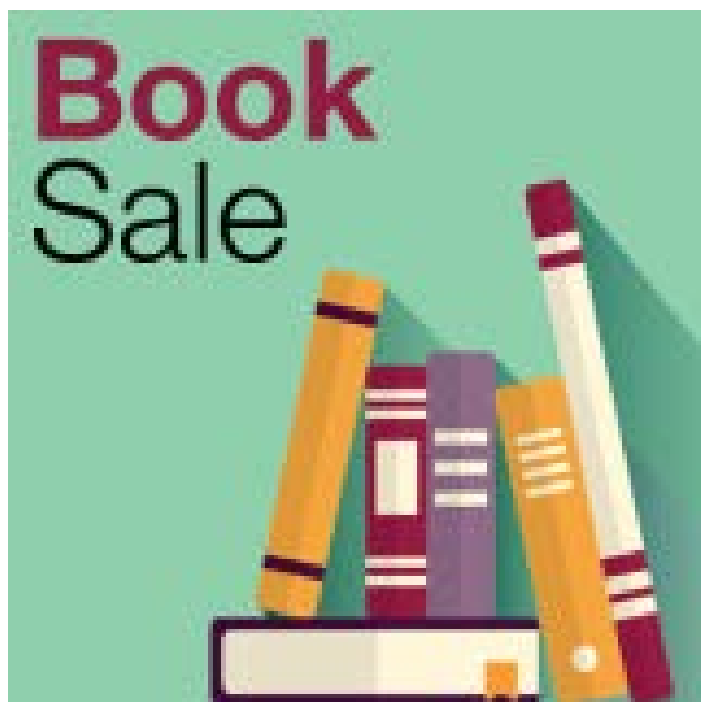
Atrium Books Sale at LVH–Muhlenberg: June 15 and 16

9 JUN, 2017



'Books Are Fun' Sales Slated at LVH–Muhlenberg

5 OCT, 2016



Books Are Fun Sales at LVHN-Mack Boulevard and LVH-Cedar Crest

22 FEB, 2016

Atrium Books Sale at LVH–Muhlenberg: June 15 and 16

BY [TED WILLIAMS](#) · JUNE 9, 2017

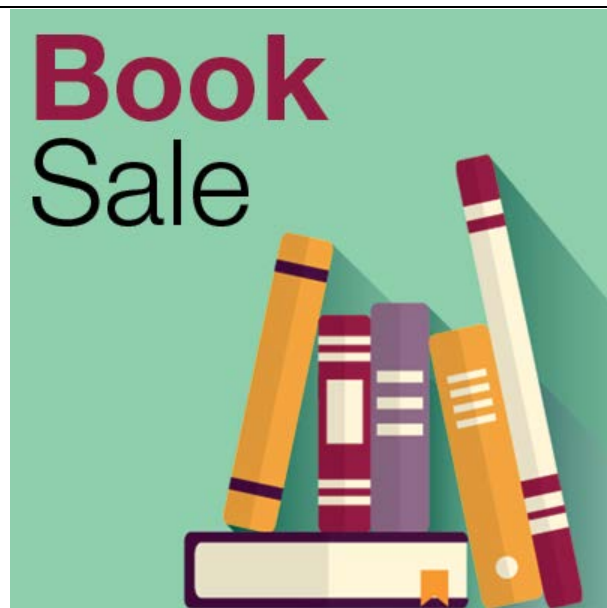
Over the years, the Lehigh Valley Hospital–Muhlenberg Auxiliary has supported the hospital by operating the Camille gift shop and conducting a variety of fund-raising events and activities. Here is what the auxiliary has scheduled in June:

Atrium Books Sale

LVH–Muhlenberg, in front of cafeteria

June 15-16, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.

***The history of The Lehigh Valley Hospital–
Muhlenberg Auxiliary***



When a group of Lutheran clergy purchased a 102-acre alfalfa field and set out to build a new hospital for Bethlehem in the late 1950s, a group of women who became The Auxiliary of the Muhlenberg Hospital Center went to churches all over the Lehigh Valley to gather members and funds in support of the project. By the time the hospital was dedicated in 1961, it was one of the largest auxiliaries in the country.

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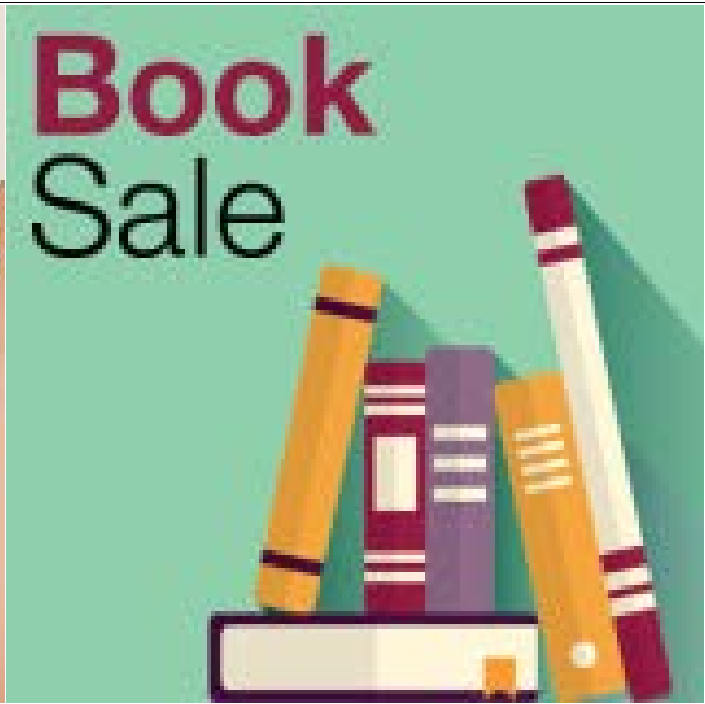
[Elizabeth Wise Named President of LVH–Pocono](#)





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8 JUN, 2017



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Grace Ritter Receives Volunteer of the Year Award from Lehigh Valley Business

1 JUN, 2017

2017 Friends of Nursing Award Recipients: Week 5

BY [JENN FISHER](#) · JUNE 9, 2017

This is our next-to-last week for the 2017 Friends of Nursing Awards stories. This group encompasses many facets of specialty care, and includes the Florence Nightingale award recipient's story.

Behind-the-Scenes Caregiver



MISTY DAVIS

Clinical Pharmacist,
Outpatient Infusion,
Health Center at Bangor

April King was blindsided by a breast cancer diagnosis last year. She received oncology care from a team at the Health Center at Bangor, not far from her Bangor-area home. When King experienced a reaction to one of her chemotherapy treatments, a behind-the-scenes caregiver, clinical pharmacist **Misty Davis**, PharmD, personally checked on her. King was so grateful for the personal attention, she is returning the favor this year when she joins Davis and others to plant and tend to a Healing Garden just outside the windows of the infusion center at the Health Center at Bangor. Davis received the **Award for Excellence as a Pharmacist**, donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hammel.

Promoting Patient Care



Great things are happening at the Health Center at Bangor, because that is where our next recipient also works – **Jennifer McDonald**, recipient of the award for **Excellence in the Promotion of Patient Care**. As a financial coordinator, she assists oncology patients with navigating the complexities of their disease processes. McDonald was paramount in establishing a transportation service between two counties so patients do not miss a visit, helping to plant the Healing Garden, and sending letters to reassure and welcome new patients. In the words of a recent patient, “Jennifer was the sunshine on my cloudiest day.” This is the third award donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hammel.

Small Acts Equals Big Effects



Medical-Surgical Nursing Award recipient **Sharon Benko, RN**, demonstrates her specialty's excellence through board certification in medical-surgical nursing and certification as a geriatric resource nurse, unit involvement as skin champion, a member of the Performance Improvement and Chair of the Scheduling Committees, and Dean of Wellness. All very important and necessary, yes, but as we work hard to improve our HCAPHS scores, Benko imparts these words of wisdom, "It is the smallest of acts we do in caring for our patients that have the biggest effects on their experience. Like recently when I walked by a room and heard a patient sobbing. I went into the room, sat down, held her hand and listened to her express how she could not afford the cost of transportation to rehab the next day. She was anxious and her blood pressure was raised. After she finished expressing her concerns, I asked her if there was anything I could do to help her feel better until we could discuss her concerns with case management the next morning. She told me she really wanted a cup of hot cocoa, so I got her one in the cafeteria and sat with her while she drank it. As I left the hospital that night, I felt so inspired that I can make a difference to our patients." This award was donated by Frances R. Worman, RN.

An Engaged Float Nurse



CAROL STANEK

Float Pool

Carol Stanek, RN, recipient of **The Award for Excellence as a Float Nurse**, has been a float nurse for 12 years, going to medical-surgical, progressive, ambulatory surgery and behavioral health units at LVH–Cedar Crest and LVH–Muhlenberg. Lest you think all this floating does not allow for workplace engagement, think again. Over the past two years alone, Stanek was an Epic Super User, the Healing Garden, and sending letters to reassure and welcome new patients. In the words of a recent patient, “Jennifer was the sunshine on my cloudiest day.” This is the third award donated by Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hammel.

In the Footsteps of Florence Nightingale



The sculpted bust of Florence Nightingale is displayed on the first floor of the Kasych Family Pavilion at LVH–Cedar Crest, and this year’s recipient of **The Florence Nightingale Exemplary Professional Practice Award, Denise Bodish, RN**, will have her name engraved on it. Miss Nightingale began formal initial – and advocated lifelong education – for nurses, and Bodish indeed illustrates this. She started in our health network 39 years ago as an LPN, and then successively attained her associate, baccalaureate and master’s degrees in nursing, as well as board-certification in psychiatric nursing. Miss Nightingale was passionate about patient safety, and Bodish recently presented two posters on that subject at the national American Psychiatric Association Meeting in San Francisco. And in association with the Friends of Nursing theme, Miss Nightingale was the first health care professional to formally write about keeping the patient as the center of everything we do. Bodish most assuredly does this in her role as patient care coordinator on adolescent psychiatry because for many years, as is the case this year, her unit achieves the health network’s highest scores for patient satisfaction. This award was donated by Jackie Fenicle, RN and Scott Croonquist, RN.

Orthopedic Nurse Champion



All of us health care personnel know who we want to take care of us or a loved one for a particular health care service. And if we are on 7K post-joint replacement, **Donna Czonstka, RN**, recipient of the **Dr. Peter Keblish Award for Excellence in Orthopaedic Nursing**, is the nurse we ask for. Czonstka began her career as an RN in 1985 on the orthopedic unit working night shift, and although the unit has moved multiple times, she has not. Committed to orthopedic nursing, Czonstka is a long-standing member of the National Association of Orthopaedic Nursing and has been instrumental and the champion to get our surgical patients out of bed on the night shift, drastically impacting a decreased length of stay. This award was donated by Mrs. Ruth Keblish in memory of her husband, Peter, a renowned LVHN orthopaedic surgeon.

Born to Care for the Aging



Susan King, RN, recipient of the **Ardis Gaumer Award for Excellence in the Care of Geriatric Patients**, says geriatrics are among her favorite populations because they have so much to offer and are such a blessing. Her director, Megan Snyder, says, “Sue was born to care for this population. Her heart and love for the elderly and for nursing is great.” As chair of 6T’s Reward and Recognition Council – and because the unit has such a high percentage of geriatric patients – King has organized many fundraisers to support the Bethlehem YWCA’s Adult Day Care as 6T’s community outreach charity, and spearheaded unit involvement in the annual Center for Healthy Aging’s Christmas Tree decorating contest, which supplies Christmas trees to elderly patients who would not otherwise have one. This award was donated through The Ardis Gaumer Endowment Fund.

Achieving Excellence in Education and in Profession



Tanya Wagner, RN, most assuredly embodies the criteria for the **Award for Excellence in Critical Care...**

- Recently graduating with her BSN
- Member of the American Association of Critical Care Nurses and offering an oral presentation on Organ Donor Management Protocol at its annual National Teaching Institute
- Member of the unit Performance Improvement Council
- Speaking at the national Magnet Conference on the new Nursing Code of Ethics
- A keen sense of observation, refusing to ignore a potential problem and acting on her instincts. When caring for a medical professional whose pain she could not control, Wagner had a gut feeling that something was not quite right and made numerous requests to more diligently address root causes from multiple interprofessional colleagues, to no avail. Suspecting the patient might be self-medicating, Wagner withheld ordered medications fearing drug interactions and, despite being abused by the patient and spouse, contacted security and requested a room search, which yielded illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia. This award was donated by LVPG Pulmonary and Critical Care Medicine—1250 Cedar Crest.

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