

**City of Scranton
Department of Parks and Recreation**

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SCRANTON

GEISINGER
HEALTH SYSTEM

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For Immediate Release

**The City of Scranton and Geisinger-Community Medical Center
present: “Run Around Scranton”**



SCRANTON, PA. – Mayor Christopher Doherty and Geisinger-Community Medical Center announce “Run Around Scranton,” a community wellness initiative designed to engage the public in adopting and maintaining an active, healthy lifestyle while highlighting Scranton’s distinct neighborhoods.

Beginning in January, the runs/walks will be held at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of every month at a different location in order to highlight local businesses and to bring awareness to the various sections of town.

The Jan. 17 kick-off will be held at the newly-opened Bar Hill Restaurant at the corner of Prescott and Ash streets in Scranton’s historical Hill Section. Registration will begin at 5 p.m. with the run/walk set to begin at 6. The free event is open to all regardless of level of fitness.

Geisinger, which has been lauded nationally for its commitment and dedication to promoting and supporting healthy lifestyles, is participating as part of its one-year anniversary of merging with Community Medical Center on Feb. 1, 2012.

Dr. Leslie Lyness, a newly-hired neurosurgeon at G-CMC and a former member of the U.S. women's Olympic field hockey team during the Atlanta summer games, will serve as G-CMC's race ambassador.

Dr. Lyness is encouraging all G-CMC employees to participate in the event, especially those who are new to the hospital and new to Scranton.

“This is the perfect opportunity for us to discover all that the city has to offer while committing to a healthy lifestyle,” said Dr. Lyness.

Mayor Chris Doherty agrees.

“Geisinger is nationally known for setting the standard for excellence in healthcare and reaching out into the community to encourage healthy lifestyles and exercise practices,” said Mayor Doherty. “Everyone is welcome to participate in what we anticipate to be a really worthwhile endeavor aimed at elevating the health of our city, both literally and figuratively.”

The locations will change each month and will highlight local businesses and neighborhoods throughout the City of Scranton. Sponsors also include Scranton Running Company, Dan Simrell Advertising, Inc., Lackawanna College and Penn Foster.

For more information on upcoming locations, call 570-348-4186 email sopshinsky@scrantonpa.gov .