

FYI

Gaylord Cup Awarded to Lighting Hope Team



At the January 22nd Management meeting, the Gaylord Cup was awarded to the team who coordinated the Lighting Hope Event on Monday, November 25th – the week of Thanksgiving.

They say it takes a village, and this project is proof of that adage. A brainchild of Joy Savulak in the PR Department, the lighting of the inner courtyards for the enjoyment and benefit of Gaylord patients, their families, and our staff during the holiday season became a reality with the generous donation of lights and winter décor from Amazon. It came together because of the hard work and dedication of an interdisciplinary team that shared this vision and committed countless hours to stringing lights and installing decorations in both the Japanese and Rutledge Family Gardens, coordinating a reception, and gathering patients and their families to witness this magical moment.

Special thanks go to the staff of Public Relations, Development, Facilities, Human Resources, Volunteer Services, Therapeutic Recreation, and our Employee of the Year, Sue Goldstein. Together, they created a winter wonderland and the start of a new holiday tradition at Gaylord: The Lighting of Hope event.

.....

You Voted, Wolfpack Won!

We're excited to announce that, thanks to the support and votes of our dedicated employees, Gaylord Sports Association has won a **\$10,000 advertising grant** through Hearst CT Media Group's Big \$100,000 Giveaway!

A special thank you goes to our valued community partner, Choate Rosemary Hall, for nominating the Wolfpack and helping make this opportunity possible.

This grant will help us continue to empower adaptive athletes and expand accessibility in our community. Thank you to all who voted!



New Year New Values!

- I nnovation
- T eamwork
- I nclusion
- S afety
- I ntegrity
- C ompassion
- A ccountability
- R espect
- E xcellence

FYI DEADLINE

The deadline for the next FYI is **Friday, January 31.**

Email: publicrelations@gaylord.org

Staff Spotlight: Peggy Meronek 45 years at Gaylord

Since 1979, Peggy Meronek has been a cornerstone of our team at Gaylord, embodying dedication, expertise, and kindness in every role that she's taken on, which has been many over her impressive 45-year career here. To highlight, starting as a Nursing Assistant and then LPN on Lyman2, she later transitioned back to her roots as a CMT, and she currently shines on the night shift in telemetry.

Her wealth of experience has made her a go-to resource and mentor. Her supervisor notes: *"We are incredibly fortunate to have her on our team. With her nursing background, she not only masterfully trains all of our new night staff, but she also brings a fresh perspective and unique approach to interpreting data."* Recognized for her attention to detail, dependability, and vast knowledge, Peggy is a true star of our team. Patients and colleagues alike value her unwavering dedication and commitment to providing the highest standard of care.

Outside of work, Peggy is deeply connected to her family, especially her grandchildren. She makes the most of her time off, not by traveling or relaxing, but by creating lasting memories with them every chance she gets. She also loves to bake and is fueled by her passion for coffee—her energy source for those long shifts!

We are so grateful for Peggy's incredible contributions over the years. Thank you for everything you do!



HUMAN RESOURCES UPDATES

Medical and Health Savings Accounts

HSA Accelerations – Did you know you can apply for a Health Savings Account Employer acceleration when you have outstanding medical/dental/vision bills that exceed your Health Savings Account balance?

[Click here](#) for more information about the process and application form.

Attention FYI Readers

If you would like to submit an article, promote an event, etc. in FYI, please email publicrelations@gaylord.org with your details.

**Starting this year,
all requests and contributions
must be submitted
by the Friday before
publication.**

All submissions received after the deadline will be included in the following edition and/or shared via Snapcomm and email.

We appreciate your cooperation.



American Red Cross

BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored



WEDNESDAY
JAN 29, 11 AM - 4 PM
BROOKER LECTURE HALL



IN MEMORY OF
TANGHEY PORTEE, PCT H1

To schedule an appointment call: (1-800-733-2767)
or visit: redcrossblood.org-enter Gaylord

\$15 e-gift card for all presenting donors

Thursday
JANUARY 30
12:10 PM
Brooker Lecture Hall
and Zoom

Employee Meeting Reminder!

Check your email for zoom link information

January 2025	February	March	April	May
Happy New Year	American Heart Month	National Nutrition Month	Occupational Therapy Month	National Nurses' Week
National Blood Donor Month	National Therapeutic Rec Month	Brain Injury Awareness Month		National Hospital Week
Gaylord Gauntlet 5k Registration Opens	Patient Recognition Week	Social Work Month		
Blood Drive January 29, 11am-4pm In memory of Tangey Portee	Cardiac Rehab Week	Music Therapy Month		
Employee Quarterly Meeting January 30, 12:10pm				

Gaylord's GOT-Cog[®] Gets It: New Study Published Nationally

A study from the Milne Institute for Healthcare Innovation, co-authored by Emily Meise and Hank Hrdlicka (pictured below), was recently published in the American Journal of Occupational Therapy. The study focuses on the Gaylord Occupational Therapy Cognitive screen (GOT-Cog[®]), an innovative cognitive screening tool aimed at improving inpatient occupational therapy treatments. The study examines the construct validity of GOT-Cog[®], which assesses how effectively the tool measures its intended outcomes.

GOT-Cog[®] adopts a holistic approach to assess key areas of functional cognition, allowing clinicians to develop more personalized and effective treatment plans. By identifying cognitive challenges, therapists can better assist patients in regaining their independence with everyday tasks.

[Read more here](#)



Near Misses:

Heroic Efforts From Our Safety-Minded Staff

A near miss is an event that might have resulted in harm, but the problem did not reach the patient because of the timely intervention of our amazing staff.

The Safety Coaches have chosen to recognize the Near Miss submitted in November by Paula Coppola, Speech Language Pathologist.

Paula used her **CHAMP Tool: Practice a Question Attitude** when she noted a patient on high-flow oxygen waiting in the hallway for transport back to their room. Paula stopped the line, brought the patient to the nursing unit, identified the patient's nurse, and identified the need for the patient to be returned to wall oxygen. These actions prevented potential harm to the patient and a possible reportable event from occurring.

Thank you, Paula, for protecting our patients!



The Quality and Safety Department would like to thank the following staff for submitting Near Misses in November:

- Brittany Martino
- Donna Piercey
- James Nassar
- Jill Hellstrand
- Katie Joly
- Keri Saxton
- Paula Coppola
- Stephanie Belanger
- Todd Belcourt

Thank you for Speaking up for Safety!

June	July	August	September	October
Gaylord Gauntlet 5k June 14	Disability Pride Month Legacy Week July 7-11 Blood Drive July 29, 11am-4pm		Employee Appreciation Day September 13 Corks and Forks September 18	



DAFFODILS

- \$15 bunch of daffodils
- \$20 bunch of daffodils with vase
- \$20 mini potted daffodils



TULIPS

- \$15 bunch of tulips
- \$25 bunch of tulips in vase



GIFT OF HOPE

- \$25 Support our Gift of Hope program where volunteers deliver flowers to local hospitals/cancer centers or nursing home.

To order or if you have any questions, please contact Cammy Nigro at cnigro@gaylord.org

Orders are due by February 14, 2025

Jeans for Charity: Friday, January 31

The featured organization is:



Go Red For Women (American Heart Association)

encourages awareness of heart disease in women and challenges women to know and take action to reduce their risks, providing them with the tools they need to lead a heart-healthy life.

[Click here to learn more](#)

Employees need a Jeans for Charity sticker or button to indicate their participation.

Stickers can be purchased for \$2 in the cafeteria, Jackson Java, Human Resources, Jackson 2 outpatient, North Haven, Cheshire, Cromwell and Madison.

Yearly schedule and button form on pages 8 and 9

New Mileage Rate for 2025

The IRS has issued its annual update of mileage rates for business travel in 2025. As of January 1, the new rate will be **\$0.70 per mile**. As in the past, Gaylord will adjust its mileage reimbursement rate to reflect the latest IRS rate.

Effective January 1, 2025, all miles traveled for business purposes will be reimbursed at \$0.70 per mile.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Scott Jungeblut at extension 2753.



Academic Scholarships Available

Apply today!

Visit the intranet/Nomination Forms for the application.



**Did your co-worker
go above and
beyond?**

Scan the QR code and fill out the form
to recognize them.



It's Getting Colder Out There...

Order your Gaylord Gear Today!

[Click Here](#)



Need to access Gaylord's
Employee Assistance Program?
Call (860) 233-6228.

Did you know Gaylord holds a weekly 'Photo of the Week' Contest on the intranet homepage?

Share your amazing photos with us and your photo may be chosen for display on the intranet homepage for one week for all to see. Please email photo entries to publicrelations@gaylord.org with your name, department, title and brief description of the photo.



**Be Innovative.
Think Possible.**



Share your innovative ideas with us.

Scan the QR code or email innovation@gaylord.org



If you are not already registered to receive emergency alerts, text **Gaylord** to **67283** from your smartphone.



Don't Delay - Sign Up Today!

Prices increase February 1!



SAVINGS CODE
staff25
\$10 off

**SATURDAY
JUNE 14, 2025
5K RUN
OBSTACLE COURSE**

GAYLORD HOSPITAL, WALLINGFORD, CT

To Benefit:



Register today at www.gaylordgauntlet.org



2025 SCHEDULE

DATE	CHARITY	COST
January 3, 2025	Master's Manna	\$2
January 17, 2025	CT Brain Tumor Alliance	\$2
January 31, 2025	Go Red For Women-American Heart Assoc.	\$2
February 7, 2025	The Jack Mattsson Foundation	\$2
February 21, 2025	Special Olympics - Team West Haven	\$2
March 7, 2025	Love Your Brain	\$2
March 21, 2025	The Joseph and Anthony Manzi Foundation	\$2
April 4, 2025	The Stroke Association	\$2
April 18, 2025	The Spanish Community of Wallingford	\$2
May 2, 2025	Spinal Cord Association	\$2
May 16, 2025	Hospital Week	FREE
May 30, 2025	Donate Life CT	\$2
June 6, 2025	The Sisters' Project	\$2
June 20, 2025	ALS - Local Chapter	\$2
July 11, 2025	Penny Dunker Scholarship	\$2
July 25, 2025	Columbus House - Homeless Veterans	\$2
August 1, 2025	Cystic Fibrosis - Local Chapter	\$2
August 15, 2025	Chase Michael Anthony Foundation-Sandy Hook Memorial	\$2
August 29, 2025	In a Heart Beat	\$2
September 5, 2025	Crohn's & Colitis Foundation	\$2
September 19, 2025	Michael J. Fox Foundation	\$2
October 3, 2025	Alzheimer's Association-Local Chapter	\$2
October 17, 2025	CT Breast Health Initiative	\$2
November 7, 2025	First Tee	\$2
November 21, 2025	Healing Meals	\$2
December 5, 2025	MS-Local Chapter	\$2
December 19, 2025	Girls Inc, Meriden	\$2

Jeans for Charity (JFC) is Gaylord's "Jean Day" for charity. With either a \$2 donation, an employee can purchase a sticker that entitles him or her to wear jeans for the day. Buttons purchased for \$50 at the start of JFC year save the employee money over the course of the year and entitle the employee to a year's worth of designated jean days.

The Community Relations Committee approved the above charitable organizations as recipients of funds raised by the Jeans for Charity program. Employees are encouraged to nominate charitable organizations that serve our community. All nominations are reviewed by the committee.

ANNUAL



\$50
Entitles you to **ALL**
Jeans for Charity Days!
February 2025 - January 2026



DONOR FORM
2025

Information

Name: _____
Department: _____
Street Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 New Button New Insert Only



Payment

Please check one:

- Cash**
- Check** - Please make checks payable to Gaylord Hospital
- Credit Card** - Credit cards are accepted in Brooker 316 or you can call Georgette MacQuarrie at extension 2881 with your credit card number.
- Venmo @ gaylord-hospital** - Username: _____

Recycle Your 2024 Donor Button



Return this form and money to Liz Marquis, Care Management, Jackson 1. Make checks payable to Gaylord Hospital. Donation is tax deductible. **If you were a 2024 Casual for Causes Donor and would like to participate in the 2025 Jeans for Charity Program a new insert will be sent to you through interoffice mail.** If you are new to the donor button program, your customized button will be mailed through interoffice mail.

Please Note: It's \$50 for the button in February. Buttons can be purchased throughout the year at a prorated cost. There will be a \$5 replacement fee if lost at any time.

Check
it out!

IN THE COMMUNITY...

The Friends of The Meriden Public Library Presents

LITERARY LIBATIONS

Sipping for a Cause

Friday, February 28, 2025

6pm to 9pm

at the Meriden Public Library

Wine, craft beer, & spirits tasting

Refreshments

Live Music by The Sky Dog Band

Raffles

Tickets on Sale at the

Friends Bookstore on

December 2, 2024

105 Miller Street

Meriden, CT 06450

\$25 per person

Tickets will not be sold at the door

Must be 21 or older to attend

Snow date: March 7, 2025

Scan here to buy
tickets online



Sponsored by:





Refer A Friend
Employee Referral Bonus Program



Helping fill jobs is **ALL** our job.
Get paid to help.

***REFERRAL BONUS**

POSITION

- ★ **\$3,000** Night Nursing Supervisor
- ★ **\$3,000** RN-Evenings & Nights
- ★ **\$2,500** LPN-Evenings & Nights
- \$2,000** Respiratory Therapist- Nights
- \$2,000** PT
- \$1,000** OT

★ For the month of January ONLY ★

*For program details and payout schedules, contact HR.



Fiducius
A Better Kind of Benefit



Gaylord
Specialty Healthcare

Fiducius Student Loan Financial Planning Benefit

Gaylord Specialty Healthcare has covered the administrative cost of the Fiducius platform to encourage employees to start taking control of their student loans with the guidance and assistance offered by Fiducius.



Begin today by completing the short online assessment.



<https://gaylord.myfiducius.com/login>