

FYI



Lisa Avellino, MSOL
Vice President,
Chief Information Officer

A New Leader for Our Digital Future: Meet Lisa Avellino

Please join us in welcoming Gaylord's new Vice President and Chief Information Officer, Lisa Avellino, MSOL.

Lisa brings more than two decades of leadership experience in information technology, with a distinguished record of driving digital innovation and fostering cross-disciplinary collaboration in healthcare, education, and research institutions including Moses Weitzman Health Center and Yale New Haven Health System.

Her early career began on the frontlines of healthcare as an EMT and surgical technologist, experiences that deeply shaped her perspective on the vital connection between technology, patients, and clinicians.

“ Gaylord has an outstanding reputation in the healthcare community,” she said. “I’m genuinely thrilled to join the Gaylord family and am very excited about its mission and the opportunity to contribute to such a well-respected organization. I’m truly grateful to be part of this exceptional team.”

She holds a Master’s degree in Organizational Leadership with a specialization in Healthcare Informatics from Quinnipiac University and served as an adjunct professor of healthcare informatics at Sacred Heart University.

More info on page 2



What’s a hobby or talent you have that might surprise people?

I enjoy fishing, particularly large fish ... catch-and-release. I recently went shark fishing in the Keys on my honeymoon!

Coffee, tea, or other favorite drink?

Coffee, preferably espresso.

What’s one thing you do to unwind after a busy day?

In nice weather, I love gardening or yoga.

Any kids or pets?

Two stepdaughters and two Siamese cats!

**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 17.

Email:
publicrelations@gaylord.org

Our mission is to enhance health, maximize function and transform lives.

Meet Lisa Avelino *(continued)*

She was also named to the Becker's Hospital Review "Women in Health IT to Know 2024" and "CIOs to Know 2024" lists.

"Lisa brings exceptional expertise and a patient-first mindset to Gaylord at a pivotal moment in our digital evolution," says Sonja LaBarbera. "Her leadership will play a key role in advancing our mission to redefine rehabilitation care and outcomes."

Welcome to the Gaylord family, Lisa!

IT Systems Outage

Thank you for everyone's patience, creativity, and determination during the recent IT systems outage. The vast majority of systems are back online, with improvements being made every day.

A more detailed recap will be given at the employee meeting on Thursday, 1/30.

If you have IT issues, please contact the [Help Desk](#).

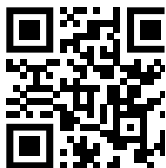
Thank you!



Congratulations to the following staff who were recognized by their peers in the month of December. Each month a name is pulled to win a prize.

Did your co-worker go above and beyond?

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



Michele Connolly	Admissions	
Madison Cubberly	Nurse Services-Lyman 1	
Jill Venetianer	Occupational Therapy	
Elle Maron	Volunteer Offices	
Dorothy Orlowski	Volunteer Offices	
Jon Mace	Finance	
Susan Lawler	Respiratory Therapy	
Jackie Lavigne	Occupational Therapy	
Sonya James	Patient Access	
Steve Benson	Contractor Facilities	
Sandy Dube	Nurse Services-Lyman 1	
Tim Polaske	Facilities	
Georgette MacQuarrie	Development/PR	
Bob Hall	Facilities	
Priti Kapoor	Development	
Bogdan Stepien	Facilities	
Katelyn Muolo	Development	
Kaitlyn Koch	Development	
Mike Denette	Facilities	
Mark Baxter	Facilities	RAFFLE WINNER
Chris Travali	Facilities	
Scotty Sieputowski	Facilities	
Joe McAndrew	Development	
Stefanie Gaidos	Speech	
Monica Porth	Public Relations	
Kate Brophy	Public Relations	
Todd Belcourt	Pharmacy	
Daisy Cedeno	Nurse Serv Lyman I	

Welcome to the Gaylord Team!

- Olivia Clapp** SNT-Float Pool
- Caida Marie Diaz Rivera** RCP
- Vanessa Stevens** SNT-Float Pool
- Rosi Suazo** SNT-Float Pool
- Arjanne Josef** SNT-Float Pool
- Osman Cayan** RTA-Wlfd
- Eric Stanulis** RCP
- Michael Habib** Pharmacist
- Lisa Avellino** VP and CIO
- Christopher Holmes** PCT-Lyman 1
- Madison Rogers** MT-Lyman 1
- Geraldine Mota** LPN-Hooker 2
- Daneisha Williams** PCT-Milne 2



In Memory of John Heck

We are deeply saddened to share the passing of our long-time colleague and friend, John Heck, who left us on January 4, 2025, after a brief illness.

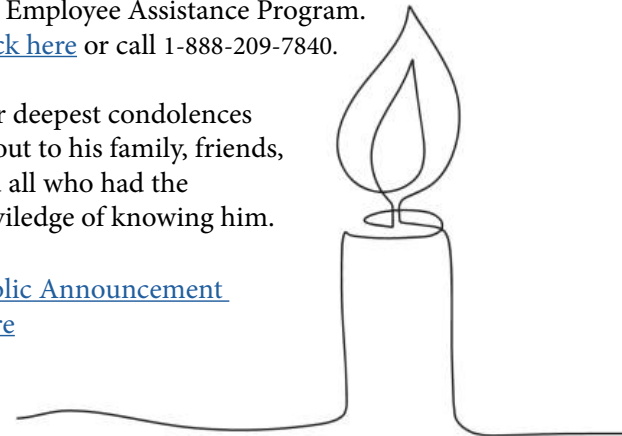
A proud former police officer, John's second career as a security officer at Gaylord Hospital was a role he loved. A dedicated member of our team, he was known for his kind spirit, steadfast support, and deep knowledge. Though new to some of us, John was always there with a smile and a helping hand, checking in on colleagues and offering advice with a warmth that will be greatly missed. His legacy will live on in the stories we share, reflecting the joy and passion he brought to our workplace.

Please feel free to reach out to your manager or HR team if you need someone to talk; grief counseling and support are also offered through our Employee Assistance Program.

[Click here](#) or call 1-888-209-7840.

Our deepest condolences go out to his family, friends, and all who had the privilege of knowing him.

[Public Announcement Here](#)



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	Blood Drive March 13, 12-5pm		
Blood Drive January 29, 11am-4pm <i>In memory of Tangey Portee</i>	Cardiac Rehab Week			
Employee Quarterly Meeting January 30, 12:10pm				

IF YOU CAN'T FLY
THEN RUN,
IF YOU CAN'T RUN
THEN WALK,
IF YOU CAN'T WALK
THEN CRAWL,
BUT WHATEVER
YOU DO
YOU HAVE TO KEEP
MOVING FORWARD. -MLK

*Celebrating the life and legacy of Dr.
Martin Luther King, Jr.*



Documentation
DECEMBER

RAFFLE WINNER!

Congratulations

Andrea Fairchild, RN on L1

Employee
Meeting
Reminder!

Tuesday
JANUARY 30
12:10 PM

Brooker Lecture Hall
and
Zoom

Check your email for
zoom link information



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REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

www.gaylordgauntlet.org

June

Gaylord Gauntlet 5k
June 14

July

Disability Pride Month
Legacy Week
July 7-11
Blood Drive
July 29, 11am-4pm

August

September

Employee Appreciation Day
September 13

Corks and Forks
September 18

October

JANUARY

Service Awards

Congratulations to the following employees for their years of service to Gaylord:

35 YEARS

Lisa L. Florio
Nurse Manager

20 YEARS

Janice Shaw-Page
Medical Services Coordinator

15 YEARS

Jeanette Bernardo
Care Manager

10 YEARS

Mary E. Santucci
Occupational Therapy

Brittany Brown
Respiratory Care Practitioner

Brooke McConnell
Registered Nurse

Stephanie Sheades
Food and Nutrition Secretary

5 YEARS

Medina Duracak
Monitoring Technician

Shari Mayerson
Speech Pathologist



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 timely intervention by our amazing staff.

The Safety Coaches have selected the Near Miss submitted in October by Ryann Collette, Gaylord Pharmacist, to highlight.

Non-formulary medications require patient-provided medication, and identification of these meds during pre-admission is important. Ryann noticed that the discharge documentation from acute care listed Levetiracetam, but the physician used the discharge summary, which listed Briviact. Medication reconciliation can be confusing and time-consuming across multiple disciplines.

By using the **CHAMP Hand-off Effectively** tool, **SBAR (Situation, Background, Assessment, and Recommendation)**, Ryann clarified the situation with the LP and prevented a delay in the patient's anticonvulsant medication.

The Admissions and Pharmacy departments are working to improve the Non-Formulary medication process to avoid similar incidents.

Thank you Ryann for preventing potential harm to a patient!



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

- **Brittany Matrino**
- **Heidi Fagan (2)**
- **Jaime Cassidy**
- **Jill Ray**
- **Ryann Collette**

Thank you for Speaking up for Safety!



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.



**American
Red Cross**

BLOOD DRIVE

Sponsored by:

 Gaylord Specialty Healthcare

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



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

★ For the month of January ONLY ★

*For program details and payout schedules, contact HR.



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.

**Going forward,
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.

Thank you for your cooperation.

GAYLORD IN THE



Facility Dog, Mandy, helps a patient go home for the holidays

WFSB ran a story on our facility dog, Mandy, also featuring former patient Skylar and therapist, Sarah Carpenter.

[Watch the story here.](#)

Wolfpack Sled Hockey Tournament

WTNH came to Sunday morning's Wolfpack game and interviewed co-coach Corey Podbielski and two Wolfpack players.

WTNH / WFSB / and NBC 30 all teased this past weekend's Wolfpack home games on newscasts.

[Watch the story here.](#)



CAP CLINICAL ADVANCEMENT PROGRAM

2025 Application Deadlines

January 15, April 15, July 15 and October 15

Nurses and PCTs are encouraged to apply to the CAP. **Questions?** Contact the Nursing Professional Development Team at x2135



**GROW, DEVELOP AND ADVANCE
YOUR PRACTICE.**



Think Possible T-Shirt Sale



To purchase a short-sleeve t-shirt contact Georgette MacQuarrie at x2881 or email gmacquarrie@gaylord.org

\$10

CASH or
VENMO only

Fiducius
A Better Kind of Benefit

 **Gaylord**
Specialty Healthcare

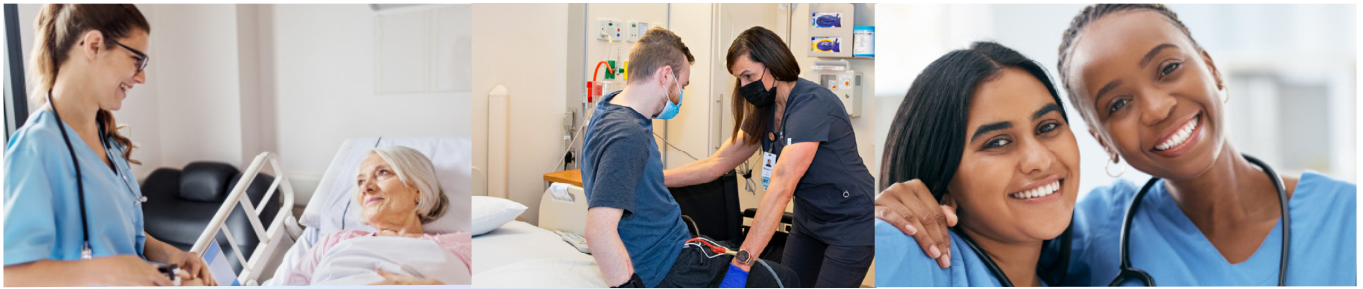
Fiducius Student Loan Financial Planning Benefit

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>



JUMP START YOUR CAREER IN HEALTHCARE TODAY!

Become a Certified Nursing Assistant and begin a rewarding career in healthcare. We understand the importance of hands-on educational training. With our dedicated simulation lab and clinical learning on Gaylord's state-of-the-art rehabilitation units, you can complete all of your training under one roof. Let Gaylord be the catalyst for your healthcare career by becoming a CNA!

Student Benefits:

- Immediate employment after course completion for eligible candidates
- Potential reimbursement of program fees with employment commitment
- Shadowing and mentoring opportunities with RN, LPN, PT, OT, and RT staff

Student Requirements:

- 18 years or older
- Fluent in English
- High school diploma or GED
- Resume
- Annual flu shot
- Must pass a criminal background check, physical and drug screening

Program instruction is provided at **no cost**. Students are required to purchase books, scrubs, and pay for required medical clearance/background checks, and CT CNA Exam fees.

Then Join Our Team & Enjoy Our Employee Benefits!

- Tuition reimbursement for college courses
- Dedicated to work-life balance with robust programs promoting health and wellness
- Opportunities to work on various clinical units: Progressive care, stroke, traumatic brain injury, telemetry, medical pulmonary and more

Apply for an upcoming session TODAY!



Scan our QR Code to apply online or email CNAacademy@gaylord.org.

Call (203) 284-2784 for questions.

Visit gaylord.org/center-for-education/cna-academy

JANUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
WEEK 1		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	
26	27	28	29	30	31	
WEEK 2	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	

FEBRUARY 2025

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
WEEK 3	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CPR COURSE 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
WEEK 4	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
WEEK 5	CLINICAL 7:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.	MAKE UP DAY CLINICAL/SKILLS 8:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.	CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.		CLASS/LAB 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.	
23	24	25	26	27	28	
	*ONBOARDING WORKSHOP 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 a.m. *Eligible Hires Only					

Students who are eligible for hire will be required to attend New Employee Orientation Mar. 3-7, 2025