

# Gaylord Cup Awarded to Care Management Team

The Care Management team has been named the March recipient of the Gaylord Cup, recognizing their exceptional contributions to patient care during an increasingly complex healthcare environment.

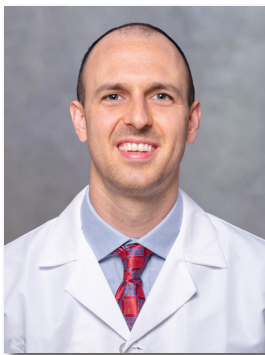


*Pictured from left to right: Dr. Mike Ivy, Kate Barron, Catherine Cervero, Jennifer Kleinschmidt, Sasha Brown, Alicia Scillia, Jaime Kaska, Chris Babina, Ann Dwyer, Karen Moore, Gina Smith, Jeanette Bernardo, Heather Hull. Not pictured: Nivia Rodriguez.*

While presenting the award, Chief Medical Officer Mike Ivy praised the team's critical behind-the-scenes work, noting their integral role in ensuring patients receive the highest level of care. He highlighted the mounting challenges they navigate each day, including a 20% increase in patient volume, with patients presenting as older and more medically complex.

*continued on page 3...*

## New Role, Same Great Doc



We are excited to share that Dr. Patrick Siegele has been promoted to Medical Director of the Psychiatry Consult Service, stepping into a role where he'll help lead consultative care and partner closely with physician leadership across Gaylord.

He'll be working across teams to support program quality, strengthen coordination, and keep things moving smoothly for both patients and staff.

If you've worked with Dr. Siegele, you know his thoughtful, team-first approach and his expertise in musculoskeletal care. He's been a steady presence in Wallingford and someone colleagues and patients alike trust.

Well deserved. Congratulations, Dr. Siegele!

*Psst..*

Did you know that we now have two newly awarded Nightingale Nurses on our team?

Flip the page to find out who!

FYI

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

### FYI DEADLINE

Submissions for the next issue due:

**Fri, Apr 10, 2026**

Submit requests in JIRA



# Defining Nursing Excellence

## Congratulations to Gaylord's Nightingale Honorees

### Alicia Hagan, LPN Milne 2



Alicia is a valued member of the Milne 2 team and truly embodies the spirit of a Nightingale nurse. She does not just show up for her shifts; she shows up for her patients and coworkers with her whole heart. Since the day she joined, she has brought a bright, positive attitude to every shift, always smiling and saying, "Okay, let's do this!" No matter what the day brings, Alicia jumps in and helps wherever she is needed, setting the tone for teamwork and compassion.

Alicia is the kind of nurse everyone hopes to work with. Whether she is taking on extra patients when other nurses are busy with new admissions, helping with med passes, or grabbing a battery for someone's telemetry box, she does it all with a smile and zero complaints. She is reliable, flexible, and always willing to lend a hand, often stepping in before anyone even has to ask. Her steady presence and willingness to do the small things make a big difference on even the hardest days.

Patients and their families often share how much Alicia's kindness has meant to them. She goes above and beyond to provide emotional support when her patients need it most, showing genuine care and compassion during some of their most vulnerable moments. She is also a passionate advocate for patient safety and quality care, never hesitating to advocate for her patients and peers. Her courage and empathy help create a safer, stronger, and more caring environment for all.

### Brittany Martino, RN, ADN Milne 1 Unit Nurse Leader



Brittany is an exceptional Unit Nurse Leader on Milne 1. Although relatively new in her role as Charge Nurse, she has already made a remarkable impact through her leadership, compassion, and unwavering commitment to both patients and colleagues.

She brings a calm, positive presence to every shift, creating an environment where staff feel supported and patients feel genuinely cared for. She is a strong advocate for her patients and thoughtfully supports her team by balancing patient needs with staff strengths, frequently checking in and mentoring newer nurses to help them grow in confidence and skill.

Her dedication is especially evident during high-acuity shifts, when she seamlessly manages charge responsibilities while stepping in to assist bedside nurses and ensure no one feels overwhelmed. Her calm leadership keeps the unit running smoothly even in the most demanding moments.

Her impact on patients is equally meaningful. A recent patient and his wife called the unit after discharge to express their gratitude, describing her as attentive, personable, and always approachable with a "sunny" personality. They shared that she made sure they understood everything before going home and jokingly said, "You should clone her." Their words reflect the lasting impression she leaves on those she cares for.

*continued on page 3...*

## Check out Gaylord's New Outpatient Commercial



Scan to watch

Experience the Will  
of Gaylord:  
Outpatient Rehabilitation

DIRECTOR :  Gaylord  
CAMERA : Specialty Healthcare

DATE : Day Nite Int Ext Mos  
Filter Sync

Special thanks to all of the staff who participated in the filming.

### Continued from previous page... Nightingale Honorees

#### Alicia

Alicia has been an LPN since 2019 and joined Gaylord in 2022. She is currently pursuing her RN at Albertus Magnus, reflecting her deep commitment to growing as a nurse and expanding her ability to care for others. Along with her clinical excellence, she brings a wonderful sense of fun and positivity to the hospital. She builds kindness, camaraderie, and team spirit with her "positivity turtles," badge buddy ducks, and contagious sense of humor. She is always cheering on her teammates and recognizing others for their hard work, and she makes every shift brighter for those around her.

Simply put, Alicia makes Gaylord a better place. Her energy, kindness, and dedication inspire everyone around her, and she consistently goes above and beyond what is expected of her role. She lives out the values of Florence Nightingale through her compassion, advocacy, excellence in practice, and commitment to the well-being of both patients and colleagues. Alicia is not only a wonderful nurse, she is genuinely deserving of the Nightingale Award.

#### Brittany

She leads with humility, kindness, and integrity, consistently modeling the values of compassion, teamwork, and excellence in nursing. Even early in her leadership journey, she is already shaping a culture of support, professionalism, and exceptional patient care.

*The Nightingale Award Gala will be held on May 5 at the Connecticut Convention Center. This award is among the highest honors in nursing - and this year's honorees represent exactly why.*

**Thank you, Alicia and Brittany,** for the compassion, leadership, and impact you bring to our patients and teams every day.

**In case you missed it!**  
 To wrap up Nutrition Month, last week our dietitians took over the kitchen, crafting a delicious lunch menu - and bonus smoothie bar!



## Continued from page 1... Gaylord Cup

Dr. Ivy also pointed to ongoing system pressures, including a shortage of skilled nursing facility beds for discharge and an average of 20 insurance denials per week—factors that require persistence, expertise, and strong advocacy on behalf of patients.

Despite these challenges, the team's impact is clear. Gaylord maintains one of the lowest 30-day re-admission rates among Long-Term Acute Care Hospitals (LTACHs) nationwide, a testament to the Care Management team's diligence, coordination, and commitment to patient success.

Congratulations to the entire team on this well-deserved recognition.



## Coffee to the Rescue

To celebrate Medical Staff Appreciation Day on Monday, Rogue Coffee Co. rolled in with an essential tool for staff: Coffee! And although caffeine might keep things running, our medical staff are the true heartbeat of this place. A small thank you—and a well-earned cup.



## Medical Staff Photo Contest Winner

Tracy Houle, APRN



*Happy Social Work Month*

**CELEBRATING  
SOCIAL WORKERS**

**UPLIFT. DEFEND.  
TRANSFORM.**

Every day, social workers stand in spaces where compassion meets courage - advocating for dignity, healing trauma, strengthening communities, and helping people rediscover hope. Social workers are well-educated, train for years and develop expertise not just to change people, but to reshape systems that can help people live far richer and improved lives.

Our society over the course of the last year has seen incredible upheavals that have changed our economy, the way we access and pay for care, and interact with one another. That is why this year's theme is Social Workers: Uplift. Defend. Transform.

Social workers are foundational to patient stability, community health, and sustainable healthcare systems, and the work they do every day shapes outcomes in ways that matter deeply.

Thank you to our staff below for championing a profession that strengthens both humanity and performance in our system.

- Kristin Baker
- Blake Gagliardi
- Irene Scanlon
- Dorene Scolnic
- Su Stanton
- Rose Vazquez-Santiago

# Spiritual Center

## Upcoming Events and Services

All are welcome and encouraged to attend, regardless of faith or belief.

### Good Friday Services

April 3, 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel

### Easter Service

April 4, 4:00 p.m. in the Chapel

### Gospel Music Friday

May 9, 4:00 p.m. in the Luscomb Gym



Chaplain  
Vince Gierer

For details or questions, please contact Chaplain Vince Gierer at (203) 741-3345 or email [vgierer@gaylord.org](mailto:vgierer@gaylord.org)



**Your participation is the KEY TO OUR SUCCESS!**

Get your free Gaylord Key Chain

**Take the Great Place To Work Survey**  
Launches May 26, 2026

# Volunteer Opportunity

## Eucharistic Minister



Sometimes it's the quiet moments that matter most.

We're looking for a volunteer Eucharistic Minister to connect with patients at Gaylord offering prayer, presence, and a sense of comfort during their stay.

What it looks like:

- ~3 hours, once per week
- On-site in Wallingford
- Patient visits, prayer, and Holy Communion

Ideal for a commissioned Eucharistic Minister who is kind, steady, and comfortable connecting with patients and staff.

Know someone who might be interested? Help us spread the word or reach out to get started.

For more information

[Click Here](#)





**Updated Pool Hours:**

The Jackson Ground Pool is open and **FREE** to employees:

Monday - Thursday  
4pm - 7pm

Saturday  
9am - 1pm



**I WANT YOU**

On the Parade Float Committee



# Join The Fun!

## WALK, RUN, BIKE CLUB!

**Starts Today!**

Time: 4:30pm

Where: Lock 12 Parking Lot  
Farmington Canal Trail  
487 N Brooksvale Road, Cheshire

Join us every Thursday for a "20-minute out/ 20-minute back" walk, run, or bike. Bring a friend, your kids or pets and enjoy some fresh air and togetherness!

Email Sarah Carpenter with Questions  
[scarpenter@gaylord.org](mailto:scarpenter@gaylord.org)

Gaylord is joining the **Wallingford 250 Parade** in June as part of America's 250th celebration—and we're dreaming up a float that reflects where we started and how far we've come.

Now we need the people who can actually make it happen.

If you're handy, creative, or have access to tools, materials, or a truck, come be part of it.

Parade Float  
Planning Meeting  
Tuesday, April 7

12:00 PM  
Brooker Lecture Hall



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



## Stay connected, your way.

Whether you're into sports medicine, brain injury updates, healthcare trends, or wellness tips — we've got a newsletter for that.

Together, we make this a great place to work. Let's keep each other informed.

[Click here](#) to check out our newsletter offerings and sign up today.

### Be part of the conversation

See something you like? Don't keep it to yourself!



Facebook  
Join the conversation



Instagram  
Like, comment & follow along



LinkedIn  
Weigh in & connect



YouTube  
Watch, learn & subscribe

## WTNH News 8: Hamden mother heading to adaptive skiing national competition link



**NEWS8**  
wtnh.com

WTNH spotlights *Jessica Youngblood*, a former inpatient and current outpatient, who, after learning to ski a mere two months ago, headed to an international championship last week. Big shoutout to *Kris Provost*, *Sue Goldstein*, and *Katie Joly*.

[Check out her story here](#)

## GAYLORD IN THE



## WTNH: Music therapy program makes man's treatment "special, meaningful" in final days



**NEWS8**  
wtnh.com

*George Davis*, who came to Gaylord after a stroke, was a musician and famous gospel singer who replaced Sam Cooke in the Soul Stirrers.

Through music therapy led by *Leah Muller* and speech therapy with *Stefanie Gaidos*, George regained elements of his voice, improved his communication, and found a way to express both joy and frustration—using music, long central to his life, to rebuild confidence and reconnect with his family. He passed away shortly before the segment aired, and his family expressed deep gratitude to the care team for making his final days special and meaningful.

[Watch the full story here](#)

## WFSB: From paralyzed to walking: Milford mom's fight against Guillain-Barré Syndrome



**EYEWITNESS NEWS8**  
wfsb.com

WFSB ran a story on GBS patient, *Mariah Ferriolo*. Mariah is a young mom and lifelong dancer who took lessons just the day before her rapid onset of symptoms. She has come so far with Gaylord care and has since been discharged.

Thank you, *Dr. Rosenblum*, *Kacey Gifford* and *Dhimitri Stojko*, for your participation in this feature.

[Watch the story here](#)

## WTNH: Connecticut's only wheelchair rugby team heads to National Championship



**NEWS8**  
wtnh.com

The spotlight is on the Gaylord Warriors wheelchair rugby team as they head to the national championship this April. Athlete *Joe Stone* shared what the milestone means after years of working toward the goal, while Program Coordinator *Tyler Rogers* emphasized the team's dedication following a dominant semifinal performance in Milwaukee—marking a major moment for both the athletes and Gaylord's adaptive sports program.

[Check out the story here](#)

# Spoiler Alert... Jessica Youngblood WON!

Some people ease into new hobbies.

Jessica Youngblood wins international championships. She took first place at the TetraSki International Championship in Utah—because apparently two months of skiing experience is plenty.

She says it best: "It's truly incredible to realize the things you once saw as limitations aren't holding you back at all."



Congratulations to the following staff who were recognized by their peers in the month of March. 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.



- Janelle Roman Nursing Services H2
- Grace Gilbert Nursing Services M2
- Janice Flynn Nursing Admin
- Vincent Papotto Inpatient Therapy
- Victoria De La Rosa Inpatient Therapy
- Chris Mallinson Therapeutic Rec
- Tyler Rogers Therapeutic Rec
- Katelyn Donohue PT Neuro Outpatient
- Robert Hall Facilities Management
- Chris Travali Facilities Management
- Timothy Polaske Facilities Management
- Jamie & Crew Environmental Services
- Alicia Scillia Care Management
- Douglas Owens Materials Management
- Linda Krampitz Materials Management
- Stephen Tortora Admissions
- Noel Robinson Admissions
- Michele Connolly Admissions
- Cheryl Joyner Patient Access
- Patrick Kenton Information Technology**
- Marc Garcia Information Technology (x2)
- Patrick Kenton Information Technology
- Brian Reilly Information Technology
- Derek Davison Information Technology
- Patrick Kenton Information Technology
- Natasha Dempsey Information Technology
- Tara Knapp Administration
- Kevin Johnson Public Relations
- Kathryn Brophy Public Relations
- Doreen Stevenson Business Dev
- Leigh Golembiewski Business Dev
- Ashley Cellano Environmental Services
- Susan Goldstein PT Neuro Outpatient

**RAFFLE WINNER**

## Updates to Scholar Spotlight

Please note: Scholar Spotlight will be shifting from a monthly to a **two month cycle**. Featured courses in Gaylord University may still change within each two month term, but the raffle pool will continue to build, from which one winner will still be pulled. The more courses you take, the better chance you have to win!



## March Featured Courses Extended Through April:

- [Building Up Your Emotional Intelligence](#) (0.5 credit hrs.)
- [Enhancing Communication Through Listening](#) (0.5 credit hrs.)
- [Preventing And De-Escalating Crisis Situations](#) (1.25 credit hrs.)
- [Daily Time Management Skills for Success](#) (0.5 credit hrs.)

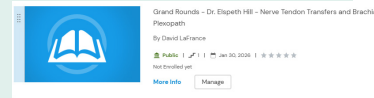
*The next winner will be announced in May.*

## Next Grand Rounds:

- » **April 13 • 12-1p: Advancing Spine Surgery and Patient Outcomes: Augmented Reality and Precision Surgical Planning** with speaker, Dr. Ian McNeill, UCONN  
(Brooker Lecture Hall)

## Missed a Grand Rounds? Watch Online!

Recordings available on Gaylord University.



Click "training" > "courses" > then search "grand rounds."

Is someone you know interested in starting a career in healthcare?

**Our CNA Academy is Now Accepting Applications!**

# Academic Scholarships Available

Apply today!

Visit the intranet/Nomination Forms for the application.

**DEADLINE**  
**April 15**

**Apply Here**

Several academic scholarships are available for employees and their children—including the new Martha Mencseli Scholarship for those pursuing registered dietitian or culinary careers.

Awards range from \$1,000–\$2,000—don't miss the chance to put it toward your (or your child's) future.



*happy*  
**EARTH DAY**

**GO green**

**Celebrate with Us**

**Wednesday, April 22**  
11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Cafeteria

*Stop by to:*  
Take a quick Earth Day quiz  
Enter a raffle to win an Earth Day themed basket  
Learn more about the Go Green Committee



 **Gaylord** | Human Resources  
Specialty Healthcare

*happy*  
**EARTH DAY**

**Dirt Cake On Us**  
Cafeteria

**Wednesday, April 22**  
11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Night shift and Off-site locations:  
*Will be delivered to your areas*

*Brought to you by: Human Resources Department*



# From Runway to Landfill:

## Environmental Impacts of Fast Fashion

Many clothing producers have design-to-customer pipelines that churn out cheaply produced garments priced to capitalize quickly on current fashion trends. The problem? Styles are changing faster than ever, putting greater pressure on supply and demand. Worldwide, people consume 80 billion new pieces of clothing every year — a 400 percent increase from 20 years ago! Though the clothing costs less, the environment ultimately pays the price.

### Water use and chemical run-off

According to the UN Environment Programme, the fashion industry is Earth's second-largest water consumer (after agriculture). It uses 93 billion cubic meters of water, enough to meet the consumption needs of five million people. Wastewater and chemical run-off from textile factories pollute water sources and the soil surrounding factories. About 20 percent of wastewater worldwide comes from textile dyeing. It's extremely toxic. Often, no treatment can make it safe again.

The world witnessed the scale of this water crisis in Dhaka, the capital of Bangladesh. Flooding created fast-moving rivers and canals that turned black from wastewater full of toxic chemical dyes. Dhaka is the world's second biggest garment manufacturing hub. It's one of the most climate-vulnerable cities on Earth.

### How to tell if a brand is fast fashion

Get to know the characteristics and practices commonly associated with the fast fashion business model:

- **Pricing:** Does the brand offer clothing and accessories at exceptionally low prices, often with frequent sales and discounts?
- **Rapid inventory turnover:** Does the brand frequently release new collections of styles, often on a weekly or even daily basis, to keep up with the latest trends?
- **Imitation of trends:** Does the brand replicate popular runway, designer or social media trends quickly and offer them at a fraction of the price?
- **Low-quality materials:** Are the materials used of lower quality or synthetic fibers?
- **Labor practices:** Is there evidence or reports of poor labor practices in the brand's supply chain? These may include low wages, unsafe working conditions and exploitation of workers.
- **Environmental impact or sustainability efforts:** Is the brand transparent about its environmental practices? Does it market itself as "green" or "eco-friendly" without concrete evidence?
- **Outsourced manufacturing:** Is the brand mostly produced in countries known for loose labour and environmental regulations?
- **Lack of transparency:** Does the brand hide details about its supply chain, sourcing and labor practices? Does it make it difficult for you to assess its ethical and environmental commitments?

Source & More Information: <https://davidsuzuki.org/living-green/the-environmental-cost-of-fast-fashion/>





**Calendar of Engagement Events APRIL**



**TUE 7 APR**  
**World Health Day**  
Mental Health Podcast



**THURS 23 APR**  
**Cooking Demo:**  
Lunch & Learn  
12:10pm  
Brooker Lecture Hall



**FRI 10 APR**  
**Onsite Massages**  
9am-1pm  
Library



**EVERY MON APR**  
**Onsite Zumba**  
4:10pm  
Inpatient Gym



**WED 15 APR**  
**Onsite Massages**  
12pm-4pm  
Library



**EVERY WED APR**  
**Onsite Yoga**  
4:10pm  
Brooker Lecture Hall



**WED 22 APR**  
**Earth Day: Free Dirt Cake**  
11:30am-1:30pm  
Cafeteria

**Questions? RSVP for Cooking Demo Lunch & Learn?**  
Contact Jessica DiMichele x2848  
or email [jdimichele@gaylord.org](mailto:jdimichele@gaylord.org)

**JOIN THE Gaylord Team!**

**Walk MS**  
**Sunday, May 3**  
Cheshire High School



- **Apr 12** - Ion Bank Cheshire Road Race
- **May 3** - MS Walk, Cheshire
- **May 9** - Path of Hope 5k (CT Brain Tumor Alliance)
- **May 21** - Middlesex Chamber Golf Tourn. Tee Sponsor
- **Aug 2** - Southington-Cheshire YMCA Charity Golf Tournament

● Community Events    ■ Sponsorships

*Sign Up Now!*

**13TH ANNUAL PATH OF HOPE 5K**  
*Presented by Hartford HealthCare Cancer Institute*

**MAY 9, 2026**  
Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT

**VISIT OUR SITE TO REGISTER**  
[CTBTA.RALLYBOUND.ORG/2026-PATH-OF-HOPE](http://CTBTA.RALLYBOUND.ORG/2026-PATH-OF-HOPE)





## REMINDER

The Loft on Lyman 2 is for patients and family ONLY.



*Put it on the Calendar!*

|             |  |
|-------------|--|
| Mondays:    | Weekly Zumba Series, 4:10pm, Inpatient Gym   |
| Tuesdays:   | "Take a Breath Tuesdays" - Ten Minute Meditative Moment, 12:10pm, Chapel on Jackson Ground |
| Wednesdays: | Weekly Yoga, 4:10pm, Brooker Lecture Hall  |
| F 4/3:      | Jeans for Charity/ Fun Scrubs for Charity Good Friday Service, 4pm                         |
| S 4/4:      | Easter Service   |
| F 4/10:     | Onsite Massages, 9am-1pm   |
| M 4/13:     | Grand Rounds: Spinal Cord Injuries   |
| W 4/15:     | Onsite Massages, 12-4pm<br>Scholarship Application Deadline                                |
| M 4/17:     | Jeans for Charity/ Fun Scrubs for Charity  |
| W 4/22:     | Earth Day Events in the Cafeteria  |
| Th 4/23:    | Lunch & Learn Cooking Demo   |
| Th 4/30:    | Blood Drive  |
| 5/4-5/8:    | Nurses' Week   |
| M 5/11:     | Committee Fair   |
| 5/11-5/15:  | Hospital Week  |
| Th 5/21:    | Q3 Employee Meeting  |

**Friday, April 3**  
**Friday, March 20**  
**Sticker: \$2**

Fun Scrub Fridays will support with the same charities featured for each Jeans for Charity event going forward, and therefore will use the same stickers and buttons for participation.



**Friday, April 3**

*The featured organization is:*

### The Stroke Association

The American Stroke Association works to prevent stroke, improve care and outcomes, and support survivors and caregivers through research, education, and advocacy.

[Click here to learn more](#)



**Friday, April 17**

*The featured organization is:*

### The Spanish Community of Wallingford

The Spanish Community of Wallingford empowers individuals and families through education, social services, workforce development, and community advocacy.

[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, Jackson 2 outpatient, Human Resources, and all outpatient clinics.