

OCTOBER 2025

Garnet Health. Gems

Exceptional
Lives Here.



Making Strides Against Breast Cancer

Five Garnet Health Doctors Named 2025 Top Docs!

Each year, Hudson Valley magazine publishes Castle Connolly's Top Doctors in the Hudson Valley. Castle Connolly Top Doctors are peer-nominated and thoroughly vetted by their physician-led research team. These doctors are best-in-class healthcare providers, embodying excellence in clinical care as well as interpersonal skills.

Garnet Health Doctors is proud to announce that the following physicians made the 2025 list of Top Doctors in the Hudson Valley!

Congratulations to:



Joseph Chavez Carey, MD
Family Medicine



Raghuram Gorti, MD
Vascular Surgery



Shantie D. Harkisoon, MD
Family Medicine



Emmanuel Nketiah, MD
Cardiovascular Disease



Samer El Zarif, MD
Pulmonary Disease

Protect Patient Privacy with Break-the-Glass

Break-the-Glass (BTG) is a feature in Epic that allows an added layer of privacy and security to be placed on certain patient charts. Below are some reminders regarding BTG:



- Staff entering a patient chart with BTG enabled must provide a reason for accessing the medical record. These actions are audited and must accurately reflect why entry into the chart is necessary.
- Staff are not permitted to ask a patient why they have BTG enabled. This could be considered a violation of their privacy. This includes asking the patient if they are an employee or if they know someone who works at Garnet Health.

As always, thank you for keeping the security and privacy of patient information while they visit our facilities.

Did You Know?

Beginning Nov. 14, 2025, Garnet Health will host a new Aphasia Communication Group in its Outpatient Rehabilitation Center at 75 Crystal Run Road, Suite 110, Middletown, NY, on the second Friday of each month.

This program is not covered by insurance and requires a \$15 out-of-pocket fee. Payment can be made by cash or credit at the time of the session.

For more information on this group visit garnethealth.org/event/aphasia-group-0.



Garnet Health

Beyond Our Walls Presents

Thanksgiving Food Drive

During the season of gratitude, join Beyond Our Walls in its initiative of providing care outside of our hospitals.

This November, please consider helping families in need by donating Thanksgiving dinner baskets or ShopRite gift cards.

For a list of required basket items and ShopRite gift card balance(s), please contact your campus representative.

DUE BY:

**November 18, 2025
10:00 am**

Please email your campus representative for drop-off locations.

If you or your department are interested in participating,
or someone you know is in need, please contact:

Callicoon Campus

Eva Edwards
845-333-6807
eedwards1@garnethealth.org

Harris Campus

Jodi Goodman
845-333-8785
jgoodman@garnethealth.org

Middletown Campus

Catia Pereira-Gentile
845-333-1214
cgentile@garnethealth.org

Thank you for your generosity!



Exciting News About Garnet Health's Future

We are pleased to share some exciting news about the future of Garnet Health. As you know, the healthcare landscape continues to evolve at a rapid pace, bringing both challenges and opportunities. To remain strong and continue delivering the exceptional, compassionate care our community deserves, we must evolve too. That's why Garnet Health has taken a proactive step forward and officially signed a Letter of Intent to pursue an affiliation with Montefiore Health System.

Montefiore shares our mission, vision and values, along with a deep commitment to providing high-quality, patient-centered care close to home. Together, when finalized, we'll be able to expand access to specialty services, enhance clinical programs, and bring even greater resources to the more than 500,000 residents we proudly serve throughout Orange and Sullivan counties and the surrounding region.

This is an exciting and forward-looking moment for us and our region, one that ensures Garnet Health remains strong, sustainable and ready to meet the healthcare needs of our communities for decades to come.

Together, we'll move forward with confidence, knowing that our future is built on the same strong foundation that got us here: teamwork, compassion and a deep love for the people we serve.

Town Hall Session with Jonathan Schiller, President & CEO of Garnet Health

You're invited to an in-person Town Hall session hosted by Jonathan, where he will share an update on Garnet Health. Jonathan will talk about where we are, where we're headed, cover recent accomplishments, and discuss our exciting next chapter as we pursue an affiliation with Montefiore Health System.

Sessions will last about an hour. There is no virtual option.

If you have any questions for Jonathan, please email townhall@garnethealth.org by Wednesday, October 29, at 11:59 p.m.

Questions can also be asked in person.

Friday, October 31

Garnet Health Medical Center,
Conference Rooms 1, 2 & 3 | 7:30 am
Garnet Health Medical Center - POB,
Medical Education Rooms A, B & C | 12:00 pm

Monday, November 3

Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills,
Callicoon Campus, Solarium | 12:00 pm
Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills,
Harris Campus, Board Room | 2:00 pm

Tuesday, November 4

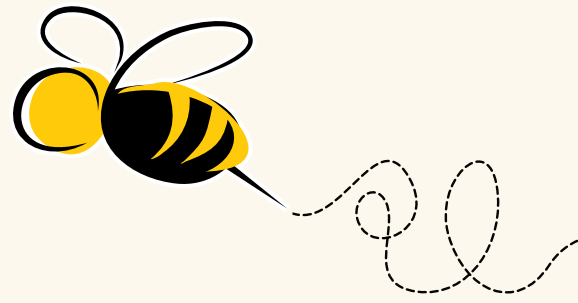
Garnet Health Medical Center - Catskills,
Harris Campus, Board Room | 7:30 am
Garnet Health Doctors Urgent Care - Monticello,
Community Room | 12:00 pm

Wednesday, November 5

Garnet Health Doctors Urgent Care -
Goshen, 2 Floor Waiting and Area | 12:00 pm
85 Crystal Run Road,
I.T. Computer Training Room | 2:00 pm

Celebrates September Employees of the Month

BEE AWARDS



Julia Parlier,

Physical Therapist

Outpatient Rehabilitation Center,
Garnet Health Medical Center –
Catskills, Callicoon Campus

Julia went the extra mile in starting Callicoon's Parkinson's Support group a few years ago, and it has since grown into a well-attended and supportive initiative.

She has devoted much of her personal time to running the group, developing informative topics, finding guest speakers and more. Recently, Julia invited a neurosurgeon to share updates on deep brain stimulation for people with Parkinson's, resulting in a highly successful and well-attended session.

Thanks to Julia and her efforts, patients and their families have the opportunity to learn more about Parkinson's and their options.

Congratulations, Julia, and thank you for going above and beyond for our patients!



DeAnna Lynch,

Food Service Supervisor,

Nutrition and Food Services –
Garnet Health Medical Center

Recently, a patient who was unable to attend a family member's wedding expressed a wish for the ceremony to be held in their room so they could still witness

the special moment. DeAnna took it upon herself to provide food and dessert for the service, to ensure it felt as special as possible. On another occasion, she quickly coordinated with several departments to ensure a patient received a special meal that met their needs when a mix-up occurred.

Her compassion and dedication are inspiring, and make a lasting difference in the lives of our patients.

Congratulations, DeAnna, and thank you for putting our patients first!

Team Award, Garnet Health Medical Center Emergency Department

In July, Garnet Health Medical Center's Emergency Department received a transfer patient from Garnet Health - Catskills who had stage 4 cancer and sepsis. She was very sick, and her days seemed limited. The day of her transfer also happened to be her birthday, so the team was eager to do something special. They bought a cake, gifted her two handmade blankets and gathered a group of staff to sing Happy Birthday. The patient's family was deeply moved and appreciative of such a thoughtful gesture.

Thank you to our Emergency Department for being such a caring and thoughtful team.

Congratulations on this well-deserved recognition!



The Employee of the Month program is also known as the Being Exceptional Every day (BEE) Award—and Being Exceptional Every day takes dedication, loyalty and commitment. To nominate an employee, physician, volunteer or team/department, visit the intranet page, scroll down and click on the BEE Award icon.

Good Catch and Great Save Awards

A big thank you to Armed Security Officer Tariq Khan and RN Alex Keener for their quick response during a high-risk-patient situation outside the GHMC Emergency Department. Their quick thinking and ability to deescalate helped ensure the safety of everyone.

We're proud to recognize Tariq and Alex with a Great Save Award for going above and beyond to protect our community.

Good Catch occurs when someone's corrective action and/or timely intervention prevents an incident or medical error.

Great Save happens when someone's immediate action keeps a patient safe during an event.

The Patient Safety Subcommittee judges the nominees. For more information about the Good Catch Award, email Vice President, Quality/Patient Safety Officer Mary Ellen Crittenden at mcrittenden@garnethealth.org.



Pictured left to right: Gregg Mills, Manager of Security; Andrew Myles, Nurse Director of Emergency Services; Kristin Flood, RN, Emergency Services; Christine Mackay, Nurse Manager, Emergency Services; Tariq Khan, Armed Security Officer; Alexander Keener-Connolly, RN, Emergency Services; Gregg Hough, Director of Security; Mary Ellen Crittenden, VP, Quality/Patient Safety/Experience.

In Every Moment, They Find a Chance to Care

Jennifer Morgan, RN, Garnet Health Medical Center

Jennifer demonstrated compassion in caring for a patient who had a nonsurvivable condition and no family present. Despite these circumstances, she ensured the patient received the same level of dignity and attention as any other voluntarily coming in on her day off to provide comfort during the patient's final moments. She also assisted in a full bed bath, showing care and respect beyond what was expected. Her empathy and dedication to patients and colleagues truly stands out.

Jenny Fiore, RN, Garnet Health Medical Center

Jenny is a dedicated and reliable nurse who consistently steps in to support patients and staff. She has calmly and effectively deescalated challenging situations with confused or combative patients, often staying with them until they are stable. On her days off, she comes in when help is needed to ensure patients receive high-quality care. Jenny is also learning Spanish to better communicate with patients facing language barriers. Her commitment and proactive approach make her an invaluable part of the team.

Joe Rivera, RN, Garnet Health Medical Center

Earlier this year, a patient admitted for chest and back pain received exceptional care from Joe, who had floated in from another unit. When the patient's blood pressure suddenly dropped, Joe responded calmly and efficiently, explaining each step of care and closely monitoring them. His attentiveness and clear communication helped reassure the patient during a critical time. Joe's dedication and professionalism made a positive impact on the patient's experience and recovery.

Vanessa Collins, RN, Garnet Health Medical Center

Vanessa consistently provides compassionate, judgment-free care, even in the most challenging situations. She recently went above and beyond for a complex discharge case, spending her entire shift advocating for a patient with no support and limited resources. When every option failed, she coordinated with other teams to secure donated equipment, giving the patient hope and dignity. Vanessa stands out through her steady dedication and genuine care for her patients.

Michelle Degraff, RN, Garnet Health Medical Center

Earlier this year, a patient experiencing a massive heart attack was brought to the Emergency Department and rushed to the cardiac catheterization laboratory for life-saving intervention. After the procedure, Michelle assisted in the patient's care and took the time to personally speak with his family. Despite the intensity of the situation, she calmly answered questions and provided clear explanations during an extremely emotional time. Michelle's compassion and professionalism brought comfort to the family and made a lasting, positive impact.

Ta'bia Herring, RN, Garnet Health Medical Center

Ta'bia, a postpartum maternity nurse, provided exceptional care and support during a family's stay after the birth of their son. She went the extra mile by assisting with the baby's first bath and patiently teaching important newborn-care skills. Ta'bia's compassion and attentive listening eased the family's fears and concerns. Her clinical expertise and kindness reflect outstanding nursing.

To nominate a nurse at any of our Garnet Health locations, please visit garnethealth.org/about-us/nursing-excellence/nominate-nurse.



*Pictured left to right:
Vanessa Collins,
Joe Rivera, Jenny Fiore,
Michelle Degraff,
Jennifer Morgan*

*Not pictured:
Ta'bia Herring*

About the DAISY Foundation: The not-for-profit DAISY Foundation was established by family members in memory of J. Patrick Barnes. Patrick died at the age of 33 from complications of Idiopathic Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP). The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families.

Honorees receive a certificate of commemoration, a hand-carved sculpture called A Healer's Touch, and Cinnabon® cinnamon rolls, one of Patrick's favorites.



MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER

Garnet Health made a strong showing at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, October 19, at Woodbury Common Premium Outlets. Sporting all things pink, several staff members turned out to support the cause. Thank you to all who took strides to help during Breast Cancer Awareness Month!





Congressman Ryan Speaks Out Against Medicaid Cuts

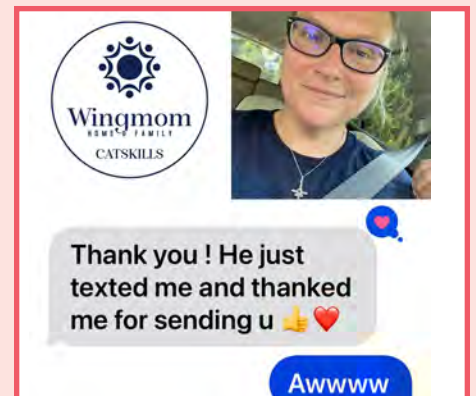
On September 24, Congressman Pat Ryan held a press conference at Garnet Health Medical Center to address the Medicaid budget cuts that will have devastating effects, especially on medically underserved communities. Healthcare leaders and community advocates gathered to show support and speak out against these cuts, calling for action to protect essential care.



Wingmom Catskills Lends a Helping Hand to Garnet Health Patient

A Garnet Health patient undergoing chemotherapy faced some additional challenges, including limited family support and transportation. Aimee Monastero, Patient Navigator, reached out to Wingmom Catskills, an organization serving families, individuals and seniors, for support. Not only did the owner, Anna Steppich, volunteer her time, but so did her employees. Volunteers stayed with the patient, arranged care, and organized community donations that resulted in over 10 boxes of food and household essentials.

Garnet Health is thankful to Wingmom Catskills for its generosity and support for our patients in need.



*Pictured left to right: Caitlyn Villafane, Dawn Colon, Jane Giganti, Karen Donaldson, Kate Pecora, Maureen Binnam, and Courtney Obregon
Not pictured: Peggy Ensslin, Leah O'Brien, and Latoya Stukes*

National Nursing Professional Development Week

The Nursing Professional Development Department (NPD) celebrated National NPD Week September 15-19. In addition to hosting new RN and NA orientations, the team offered more than 120 classes this year. It's also contributed to Shared Governance Committees, launched the new IV Task Force, developed the Charge Nurse Class and even created an escape room for Hospital Week, among other initiatives.

Thank you to our NPD team for your hard work and dedication!

Spanish DPP Class Celebrates Program Completion

Participants of the Diabetes Prevention Program (DPP) Spanish class gathered at the Newburgh Free Library to celebrate completing the program, led by Community Health RN Leslie Miccio Manager and DPP lifestyle coach, Delilah Socci, alongside Leslie Miccio, MSN, BSN, RN, and fellow DPP lifestyle coach. The group completed the one-year program with dedication and enthusiasm. This highlights the importance of culturally responsible, community-based health education and wellness in our communities.

For more information on the DPP, visit garnethealth.org/diabetesprevention.



Leading the Way in Age-Friendly Care

Garnet Health Medical Center has been recognized as an Age-Friendly Health System Participant by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement (IHI). This recognition highlights our commitment to providing safe, high-quality healthcare tailored to the individual needs of older adults.

In February 2025, our hospital joined the IHI Age-Friendly Health Systems Action Community, focusing on the "4Ms" Framework: What Matters, Medication, Mentation and Mobility. Our dedicated pilot teams on units 3 South, 4 North and 5 North have played a vital role in this achievement, implementing such strategies as engaging activities for older adults, safe mobility practices, patient-specific goals, and screening for delirium and malnutrition.

This achievement reflects the power of collaboration across multiple departments and demonstrates our ongoing commitment to ensuring older adults receive personalized and effective care.



3 South Team



4 North Team



5 North Team



Age-Friendly Care Committee

Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills Anniversary Luncheon

On October 10, Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills honored our team members who celebrated service anniversaries from one year to an impressive 52 years! They celebrated with a delicious buffet of foods prepared by our outstanding Nutrition & Food Service Team.

A special thanks to Suzanne Lange-Ahmed, Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills Chief Nursing Officer and VP of Patient Care Services, and Jerry Dunlavey, Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills CEO, for their thoughtful planning and support.



November Recognition Days 2025

Garnet Health is committed to being an inclusive organization that supports growth and innovation by providing an environment where employees, patients and visitors feel they belong.

We also recognize that having diverse backgrounds among our staff and providers contributes to better patient care.

Please join us in acknowledging the following national and/or worldwide recognitions.

November 1 - November 2

Día de los Muertos

The belief that the souls of the dead return to visit their living family members.

November 2

All Souls' Day

A Christian day of prayer and remembrance for all the faithful departed, especially souls in purgatory.

November 11

Veteran's Day

A tribute to military veterans who have served in the U.S. Armed Forces.

November 19

International Men's Day

Highlights positive male role models and issues that face men globally.

November 20

Transgender Day of Remembrance

This day honors, commemorates and memorializes those who face discrimination and stigma across the nation.

November 25

International Day for Elimination of Violence Against Women

In December 1999, the United Nations General Assembly designated this day as the beginning of 16 days of remembrance and activism, culminating in International Human Rights Day.

November 27

Thanksgiving Day

On this day, we celebrate our blessings and those we love.

Recognizing Our November Care Champions

November marks **National Diabetes Month**

November 2 kicks off
National Medical Staff Services Awareness Week

November 2 begins **National Radiologic Technology Week**

November 2 celebrates **National Patient Transport Week**

November 2 starts **Corporate Compliance & Ethics Week**

November 15 starts **National Philanthropy Day**

SAVE THE DATE



VETERANS DAY CELEBRATION

Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills

Friday, November 7

11:00 am | Main Lobby, Harris Campus

Garnet Health Medical Center

Tuesday, November 11

10:00 am | Main Lobby

SAVE THE DATE



Artist Showcase

Join us on **Wednesday, November 12**, from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m., at the Garnet Health Medical Center Gift Shop, as we showcase the work of **Bradford R. Devins**, a Hudson Valley based filmmaker and photographer whose art highlights the beauty of local nature. Limited edition prints and postcards will be available for purchase.

Pocket Bingo Raises \$8K

On Friday, September 25, the Garnet Health Auxiliary and the Montgomery Ambulance Corps teamed up for a night of Pocket Bingo at the Montgomery Senior Center. The event drew more than 120 attendees and raised an impressive \$8,000 to support both organizations.



Pictured left to right: Suzanne Jones, Marianne Walker, Beth Brady, Suzanne Murray Tetz, Ginny Rizzo, Catia Pereira-Gentile, Dr. Pamela Murphy, and Desiree Laguna-Vega.



Pictured left to right: Janet Formisano and Maureen DeStefano, Auxiliary members.

THANK YOU TO OUR SUPPORTERS

Commitment to our patients, philanthropy and mission were all themes at the annual Gratitude Reception for 180 Garnet Health Foundation donors on October 16 at The Barn at Villa Venezia.

The event celebrates the generosity of all Garnet Health donors. The power of giving has driven the growth of patient care by supporting programs, services and equipment needs, as well as helping to provide compassionate care to all our patients and families served. Thank you to all who give unselfishly to help provide quality patient care.

Our 2025 Honorees were:

Volunteer Philanthropy Award:
Dr. Luz M. Ricardo-Torres PT, DPT

Corporate Philanthropy Award:
Resorts World Catskills

If you would like to donate, visit www.garnethealth.org/giving/foundation or call the Foundation office at **845-333-2333**.



July & August Attendance Winners

At Garnet Health, we deeply appreciate our team members who show up every day to keep our organization running smoothly and to support one another. That's why we're proud to offer a great **Perfect Attendance Incentive Program!**

Congratulations to **our July 2025 Perfect Attendance winner**, Julia Price, Radiologic Technologist and Medical Assistant of Garnet Health Doctors. Julia was awarded \$1,594.50 for achieving perfect attendance in July's monthly incentive program!

And congratulations to **our August 2025 Perfect Attendance winner**, Matt Mulzac, ED Operations Director. Matt was awarded \$1,594 for achieving perfect attendance in August's monthly incentive program!

Thank you, Julia and Matt, for your commitment and reliability. We truly appreciate your dedication to showing up and making a difference!



100% Julia Price, July Winner



100% Matt Mulzac, August Winner

Garnet Health's Attendance Incentive Program provides all full-and part-time employees the opportunity to earn extra cash for perfect attendance. Each month, \$1 per employee who had perfect attendance the month prior will be added to an incentive pot. By random drawing, 50% of the monthly pot will be awarded to one of the employees who had perfect attendance. The remaining 50% will be contributed to the annual prize for those with perfect attendance throughout 2025. Additionally, three runners up, one from each entity, will receive a reserved parking space for three months.

Maintain perfect attendance throughout 2025 for a chance to win a growing **POT OF GOLD!** Through August, the annual pot of gold is up



Cashanova

The 2025 Attendance Incentive Program's mascot!



Welcome SCP Health

We have officially transitioned our Garnet Health Doctors Adult Hospitalist services to SCP Health. SCP Health has been part of the Garnet Health family since 2012 through their work in our emergency departments, and we're excited to expand this collaboration. Pediatric Hospitalists and Pulmonary & Critical Care services will not be transitioning and will remain employed by Garnet Health Doctors.

To contact the Hospitalist Office at Garnet Health Medical Center, call **845-333-3370**, or at Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills, call **845-333-8484**.

◆ Garnet Health

Thanksgiving Day Meal

The Nutrition & Food Service Department would like to wish the Garnet Health family a very happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

A complimentary meal will be available with proper ID for Garnet Health employees, physicians, volunteers, and uniformed personnel (EMT, firefighter, and police officers).



Visitor's meals: \$12.95 price fixed per person or a la carte pricing.

Additional cafeteria menu items are available at regular prices at the **Middletown Campus only**.

November 27, 2025 Hours of Operation

Middletown Campus

Complimentary Breakfast for Overnight Staff
5:00 am - 6:30 am

Hot Breakfast Available for Purchase
7:00 am - 11:00 am

Complimentary Thanksgiving Meal
11:00 am - 9:00 pm

Harris Campus

Complimentary Breakfast for Overnight Staff
5:00 am - 6:30 am

Hot Breakfast Available for Purchase
8:00 am - 11:00 am

Complimentary Thanksgiving Meal
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Callicoon Campus

Complimentary Thanksgiving Meal
12:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Coffee shops at all locations will be closed for the holiday.

Symplr Workforce Mobile App

Shift Trade Can Help You Achieve Perfect Attendance!

Are you part of our clinical staff? If so, have you heard about the Symplr app? This tool makes shift trading simple, helping you avoid unscheduled absences and to stay eligible for the monthly Perfect Attendance Award. Scan the QR code to get started today!



DOWNLOAD FROM THE APP STORE



How You Can Help Patients Access Food & Diabetes Support

Community Health Manager, Delilah Socci, recently presented to the Garnet Health Medical Center Shared Governance Nursing Congress to present how our Community Health department serves patients and local communities in Orange and Sullivan counties, in hopes of collaborating with our clinical staff to refer patients.

Staff referrals are essential to programs like **Food Farmacy**, which provides food, water, clothing and personal-care items, and the **Diabetes Prevention Program**, a CDC-approved lifestyle course for those at risk of type 2 diabetes.

If you meet a patient experiencing food insecurity or risk factors for diabetes, please refer them for support.

For more information, please contact Delilah Socci at dsocci@garnethealth.org.



Pet Therapy Program Celebrates Blessing of the Animals

A Blessing of the Animals ceremony was held on October 1 for our pet-therapy volunteers. This event serves as a meaningful way to honor and celebrate the special bond between our furry friends, patients and staff. It's also a time to recognize the important role therapy animals play in providing comfort, healing and compassion. The blessing symbolizes gratitude for the animals' contributions to the emotional and physical well-being of those they serve, while also fostering a sense of community and connection among program participants, caregivers and the therapy animals themselves.



Meet a few of Garnet Health's "pawsome" therapy animals!



Upcoming Things to Know

Employee Assistance Program (EAP) Representative

Garnet Health Medical Center Conference Center Lobby | 11:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.
November 3 | December 1

Garnet Health Medical Center November Auxiliary Vendor Sales

Want to shop and do some good at the same time? Throughout November, we're welcoming vendors to showcase their merchandise. A percentage of vendor sales will support the Garnet Health Medical Center Auxiliary, a group of community volunteers dedicated to enhancing patient programs and services at the hospital. All vendors will be located in the lobby of the ground-floor level unless otherwise noted.

November Vendor Dates

11/4	Your Nutz	11/17	Joint 2 Jewelers
11/5	J's Divine Jewelzz	11/18	Your Nutz
11/6	Bitachon	11/19	Arlene's Hair Accessories
11/7	Silver Dollar Boutique	11/20	Devilish Dog Lovers
11/10	Flameless Candles	11/21	Krafty Kandles
11/11	Wieber's Warehouse	11/24	A Stylish Bling
11/12	John's Jewelry Box	11/25	Wieber's Warehouse
11/13	Scrub's Nyack	11/26	Personally Yours
11/14	Scrub's Nyack		

Gems Newsletter

Produced by Garnet Health Marketing & Corporate Communications.
For more information, email dmontes@garnethealth.org or call (845) 333-2391.

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