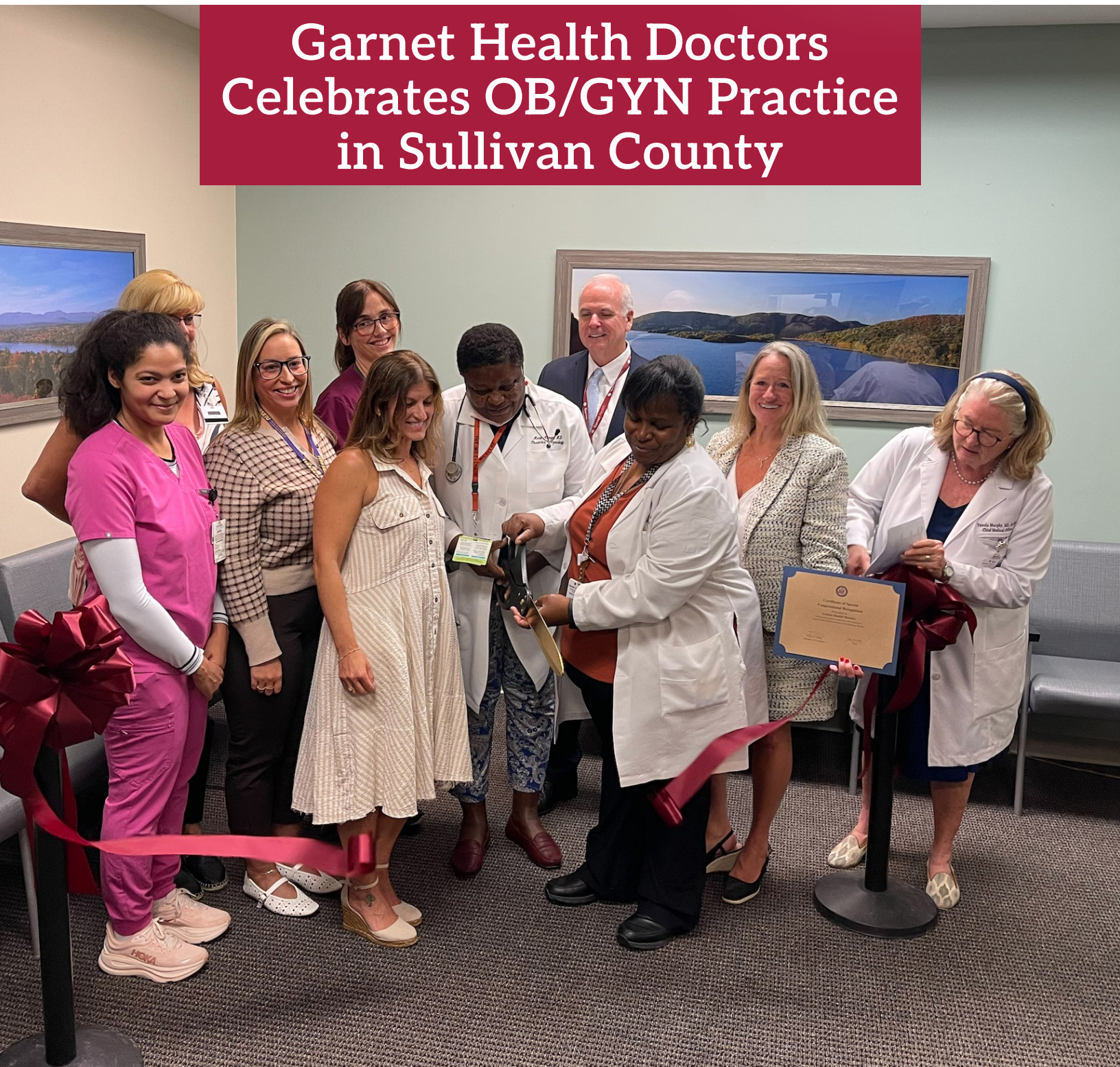


Garnet Health.

Gems

Exceptional
Lives Here.

Garnet Health Doctors Celebrates OB/GYN Practice in Sullivan County



On the cover:

Community leaders, Garnet Health leadership, physicians and staff gathered to celebrate and cut the ribbon for the opening of the new OB/GYN practice at the Harris campus.

2026 Annual Education Is **NOW OPEN**

**Deadline to complete is
September 30, 2026, at 4:00 p.m.**

Any employee hired AFTER January 1, 2025, is exempt.
Please refer to policy #SM-002-0060 regarding failure to complete.



Ribbon Cutting of the OB/GYN Practice

Garnet Health Doctors recently celebrated the opening of their new obstetrics and gynecology (OB/GYN) practice at the Harris Campus which opened on July 1. The ribbon-cutting ceremony brought Garnet Health leadership, community leaders, physicians and staff together to recognize the expansion of women's healthcare services in Sullivan County.

The practice is led by Irvelyne Camille, MD, Medical Director of Obstetrics and Gynecology for Garnet Health Doctors, along with Marie Abougou, MD. Together, they provide comprehensive care for women at every stage of life.

For more information or to schedule an appointment, visit garnethealth.org/obgyn or call (845) 333-8909.



Preparing for What's Next

Chris Cammarata recently completed specialized healthcare emergency preparedness training at the Center for Domestic Preparedness in Anniston, Alabama. The program brought together healthcare professionals from across the country for hands-on exercises focused on leadership, incident management and decision-making during complex emergencies.

Chris will use these new skills and best practices to help strengthen our emergency planning, training and response efforts. Check out a video of the capstone exercise: ghvhsorg.sharepoint.com/sites/GarnetHealthEM.



Christopher Cammarata

Recognizing Excellence in Emergency Preparedness

Congratulations to **Christopher Cammarata**, Director of Safety & Emergency Management, for completing the Master Exercise Practitioner Program (MEPP) through the National Disaster & Emergency Management University (NDEMU).

His completion of MEPP highlights the specialized emergency management expertise within Garnet Health and the organization's continued commitment to preparedness, continuous improvement, and the safety of its patients, staff and communities.

If you're interested in attending future training opportunities through the Center for Domestic Preparedness, please email Chris at ccammarata@garnethealth.org.



A Shared Gift from Past and Present Leaders



Scott Batulis

Garnet Health Foundation is proud to recognize a generous gift from former Garnet Health President and CEO **Scott Batulis**, in support of new infusion chairs for the Spagnoli Family Cancer Center. In a powerful demonstration of continued leadership and commitment to patient

care, current President and CEO **Jonathan Schiller** has matched Scott's gift, doubling the impact of this meaningful contribution.

Together, their generosity will enhance the comfort, dignity and care experience for our patients and their families during treatment. We are deeply grateful to both leaders for demonstrating that our history and our future are united in serving our community.

Would you like to make a difference in the health of our community? To donate to Garnet Health Foundation or Garnet Health Foundation – Catskills, visit garnethealth.org/giving/foundation.



Jonathan Schiller



The Occupational Health and Wellness Office is now offering FREE Reiki classes for Garnet Health Medical Center employees!

Reiki is a non-invasive Japanese energy healing practice. This complementary therapy promotes relaxation and stress relief.



Session Leader:
Jennifer Malinchak, RN, BSN
Certified Reiki Specialist

Live Well, Be Well

HOW TO REGISTER:

- Via the Intranet, hover over "Quick Links" and select "HealthStream".
- Click "HealthStream Employee Login" > "Continue" > "Catalog".
- Type "Reiki" in the search bar and hit enter.
- Click "GHMC Reiki Sessions" > "Choose Class" and select a time and date to register.

NOTE: Employees should **not** be clocked in during their scheduled session.

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

Garnet Health Medical Center - Outpatient Services Building
Occupational Health Office, 4th Floor

SESSION TIMES

10:00 am - 10:30 am
10:45 am - 11:15 am
11:30 am - 12:00 pm

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24

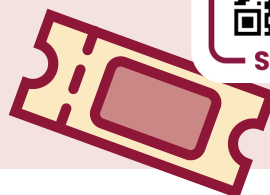
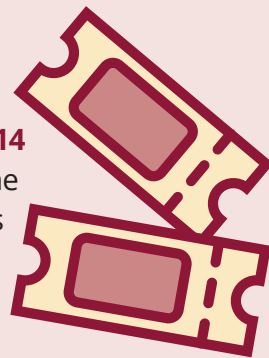
Garnet Health Medical Center - Outpatient Services Building
Occupational Health Office, 4th Floor

SESSION TIMES

12:00 pm - 12:30 pm
12:45 pm - 1:15 pm
1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

Enter to Win!

Enter the Garnet Health Foundation raffle **now through September 14** with proceeds benefiting the Garnet Health Foundation's 35th Annual Golf Classic!



Leading the Way

Please join us in congratulating **Maria Battipaglia-Nieves**, BSN, RN, and **Kimberly Jablonski**, MSN, RN, CMSRN, on their new leadership roles at Garnet Health Medical Center.

Maria has been promoted to Nurse Unit Director for 4 South Progressive Care Unit. She joined Garnet Health in 2017 as a Registered Nurse in the Medical Intensive Care Unit and most recently served as Assistant Director of Nursing.

Maria can be reached at mbattipaglia@garnethealth.org.

Kimberly has been promoted to Nursing Unit Director for the 3 South Stroke Unit/Progressive Care Unit. She has been with Garnet Health since 2004 and has held nursing leadership roles since 2015. In March 2023, she assumed leadership of the 3 South PCU/Stroke Unit.

Kimberly can be reached at KJablonski@garnethealth.org.

Please join us in congratulating Maria and Kimberly and wishing them continued success in their new roles!



Maria Battipaglia-Nieves



Kimberly Jablonski

BEE AWARDS

Celebrates July Employees of the Month

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.



Katrina Heinle, BSN, RN

Obstetrics, Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills

Katrina is being recognized for the compassion and thoughtfulness she brings to the OB team. On her own initiative, Katrina created a beautiful tree to honor every baby born in the OB unit. A different color represents each month's births, multiples are symbolized by bird nests with eggs and angel babies are lovingly remembered with delicate butterflies.

Thank you, Katrina, for creating such a meaningful legacy and for the compassion you bring to every patient and family you serve.



Catherine Herring, NA

4 South, Garnet Health Medical Center

Catherine always goes above and beyond for her patients. Recently, she noticed a change in a patient's condition and alerted an RN. Her quick thinking and strong instincts led to the patient being evaluated. Catherine's attentiveness and commitment to patient safety make her truly deserving of this recognition.

Congratulations, Catherine, and thank you for always putting our patients first!

Good Catch and Great Save Awards

We're proud to recognize **Danielle DiFazio**, RN, of the Emergency Department at Garnet Health Medical Center, who was recently honored with a Great Save Award for identifying a patient concern, promptly escalating the concern and recognizing the need for urgent evaluation. Thanks to her quick thinking and decisive action, the patient received the timely care and support they needed.

Thank you, Danielle, for your attentiveness and commitment to providing high-quality care!



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.

Welcome!



**Marie
Abougou**

Marie Abougou, MD, recently joined Garnet Health Doctors as a member of the Obstetrics & Gynecology team.

Dr. Abougou brings more than 15 years of experience providing comprehensive women's health services, including preventative care, pregnancy, childbirth, and gynecologic health. She completed her OB/GYN residency at Lincoln Medical and Mental Health Center/Weill Cornell after her first year of residency at Brookdale Hospital. She earned her medical degree from the University François Rabelais in Tours, France.

Dr. Abougou can be reached at mabougou@garnethealth.org.

Alexandria Mesropyan, PA-C, joins Garnet Health Medical Center as a new physician assistant to the Neurosurgery department. Alexandria is a board-certified Physician Assistant with extensive experience in neurosurgery. Alexandria will provide operative, rounding, and clinical neurosurgical coverage, supporting high-quality, coordinated care for our neurosurgical patients.

Alexandria can be reached at amesropyan@garnethealth.org.



**Alexandria
Mesropyan**



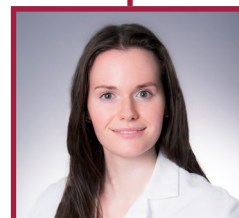
**Lois
O'Connell**

Lois O'Connell, MSN, APN, FNP-BC, has joined Garnet Health Medical Center as an Inpatient Gastroenterology Nurse Practitioner, bringing extensive experience providing care to high-acuity patients across critical care, cardiac intensive care, medical-surgical units, and inpatient gastroenterology. In her new role, Lois will provide primary care services at Garnet Health Doctors' Goshen location.

Lois can be reached at loconnell2@garnethealth.org.

Dr. Casey Petronella, DO, joins Garnet Health Doctors as a Primary Care Family Medicine provider who recently graduated from Garnet Health Medical Center's Family Medicine Residency Program, where she has served as a physician since July 2023. In her new role, Dr. Petronella will provide primary care services at Garnet Health Doctors' Goshen location.

Dr. Petronella can be reached at cpetronella@garnethealth.org.



**Casey
Petronella**

September Is National Preparedness Month: Are You Ready?

Being prepared helps us respond safely and effectively to emergencies while protecting our patients, visitors, colleagues and community.

This month, take a few minutes to:

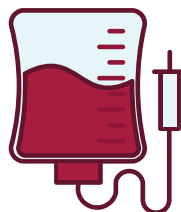
- ✓ Review emergency procedures and codes
- ✓ Make sure you know your evacuation routes and emergency equipment
- ✓ Familiarize yourself with your department's emergency plan

Be informed. Be prepared. Be ready.

Thank You For Making Our Blood Drive a Success!

A huge thank you to everyone who donated, volunteered, promoted, or supported Garnet Health Medical Center's recent blood drive! We collected from **96 donors**, including **53 employees**, a wonderful reflection of our commitment to giving back to our community.

Special thanks to Angelica Baeza and Jane Dever for going above and beyond, and to the NYBC team for helping make the event run smoothly.



June Perfect Attendance Winner!



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 our Perfect Attendance Incentive Program!

Congratulations to our June 2026 Perfect Attendance winner, **Erin Starr**, Clinical Manager, Emergency Department, Garnet Health Medical Center – Catskills. Erin was awarded \$1,570 for achieving perfect attendance in June's monthly incentive program!



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 2026.

Maintain perfect attendance throughout 2026 for a chance to win a growing **POT OF GOLD!** Through June 2026, the annual pot of gold is up to



DID YOU KNOW? Garnet Health Doctors Provides Newborn and Pediatric Care

Garnet Health Doctors Family Medicine providers care for newborns. Our Family Medicine team provides care from a baby's first days through childhood and into adulthood.

Newborns should be seen within 72 hours of leaving the hospital. We reserve appointments for newborns and make every effort to schedule your baby's first visit within three days of discharge.

We provide:

- Newborn care and your baby's first well visit
- Well-child exams and preventive care
- Immunizations
- Growth and developmental monitoring
- Sick visits for common childhood illnesses and minor injuries
- Daycare, school, sports and camp physicals
- Care for children, adolescents and young adults through age 21 and beyond

If specialized pediatric care is needed, we'll coordinate referrals while continuing to provide your child's primary care.

To book an appointment visit garnethealth.org/familymedicineproviders.

FREE Prostate Screenings!

Garnet Health Medical Center is offering free prostate screenings for eligible men ages 40-75. Screenings will be held September 23 and 24 on the 3rd floor of the Outpatient Services Building.



PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED.

Call 845-333-1133 or visit garnethealth.org/prostatescreening to schedule an appointment.

SAVE THE DATE

Wellness Wednesday September 9

Wellness Fair Suicide Awareness Month

Garnet Health Medical Center
Conference Center Lobby
11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

Stop by the Conference Center
Lobby to connect with this month's
featured participants:

- Employee Assistance Program (EAP)
- National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI)

Thoughtful Thursday September 10

Meditation and Mindfulness with Danielle Moser, Orange County Department of Health, Community Health Outreach

Garnet Health Medical Center
Conference Room #7

Each session will have six to eight spots.

Available times:

- 10:15 a.m.
- 11:00 a.m.
- 11:45 a.m.
- 12:30 p.m.
- 1:15 p.m.

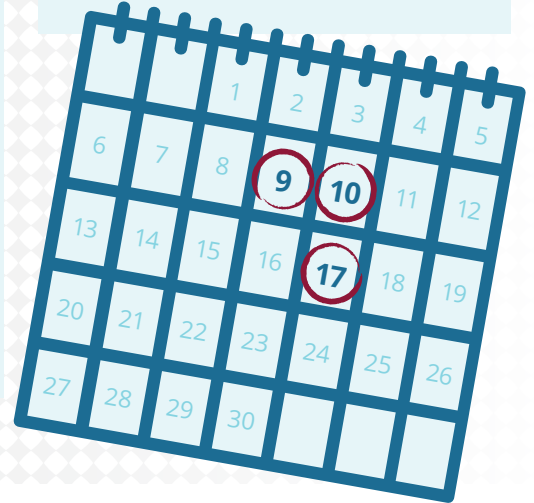
To sign up, please email

VolunteerResourceDept@garnethealth.org.

New York Life Representative September 17

Garnet Health Medical Center
Conference Center Lobby

11:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.



YOU ARE CORDIALLY INVITED TO ATTEND

National Cancer Survivors Day

September 20, 2026 | 11:00 am to 1:00 pm



Recognizing **Cancer Survivors**. Supporting **Cancer Patients**.
Educating the Community.

Join us at Garnet Health Medical Center's **FREE National Cancer Survivors Day Event** at the Erie Way Park Pavilion, 1-31 Union Street in Middletown, NY. There will be lunch served, music and guest speakers!

Please register by emailing jgerlach@garnethealth.org - using the *name of the Survivor* and select the number of tickets needed. Your group must be registered before 9/14/26.

If you have any questions please contact **Jessica Gerlach** at (845) 333-1133 or jgerlach@garnethealth.org



QUALITY CORNER

Raising the Bar—Federal Quality Priorities for 2027

As we look toward 2027, federal healthcare priorities continue to reinforce a simple principle: high-quality care begins with patient safety.

CMS is strengthening its focus on outcomes that matter most to patients, including preventing hospital-acquired harm, reducing avoidable readmissions, improving mortality outcomes and ensuring reliable transitions of care. Beginning in 2027, hospitals performing in the lowest quartile for Safety of Care may also see their Overall Hospital Quality Star Rating reduced, further emphasizing that safety is foundational to excellence.

New and evolving quality measures will continue to increase expectations around patient safety, care planning and clinical outcomes. CMS is also expanding how Medicare Advantage patients are incorporated into several hospital performance measures, providing a broader picture of the patients we serve.

For Garnet Health, these priorities align with our ongoing commitment to zero preventable harm, reduced readmissions, improved outcomes and exceptional patient-centered care. Quality is everyone's responsibility, and every safe, reliable interaction moves us closer to excellence.

September 2026 Recognition Days

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.

September is National Recovery Month.

This recognition helps to promote the available treatments and mental health services for those suffering from substance abuse.

September 3

Yamashita Surrender Day commemorates Japanese General Tomoyuki Yamashita, who surrendered during World War II. The Philippines celebrates this day in commemoration of its liberation from Japanese tyranny.

September 10

World Suicide Prevention Day recognizes those struggling with the pressures of life. This year is about creating hope through action.

September 11

Patriot Day is the anniversary of the September 11 attack, which remembers those who perished as well as those who survived yet gained horrid afflictions on this historic day.

September 15 through October 15

National Hispanic Heritage Month honors the culture and contributions of both Hispanic and Latino Americans.

September 23

International Day of Sign Languages raises awareness of sign languages and the rights of deaf communities.

September 29

National Veterans of Foreign Wars Day

commemorates the hard work and sacrifice of veteran men and women who have selflessly served the United States of America.

Recognizing Our September Care Champions

September is National Preparedness Month

September 6 begins Vascular Nurses Week

September 8 is National Pediatric Hematology and Oncology Nurses Day

September 12 starts National Neonatal Nurses Week

September 13 kicks off National Environmental Services Week, Nephrology Nurses Week and Nursing Professional Development Week

September 14 begins National Rehab Week and ACDIS CDI Week

September 15 recognizes IT Professionals Day

September 20 kicks off National Surgical Tech and Security Officer Appreciation Week

Garnet Health Medical Center September Auxiliary Vendor Sales

Want to shop and do some good at the same time? Throughout September, 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.

September Vendor Dates

9/1	John's Jewelry Box	9/21	Ott'rageous Cookie Co
9/3	A Stylish Bling	9/23	Silver Dollar Boutique
9/4	Northern Medical	9/24	Northern Medical
9/10	Northern Medical	9/25	Farmhouse Sourdough Breads
9/14	Scentsy Candles	9/28	Wieber's Warehouse
9/15	Your Nutz	9/29	Carol's Handmade Designs
9/16	Arlene's Hair Accessories	9/30	Magnolia Label Designs
9/18	Carol's Handmade		

Gems Newsletter

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

garnethealth.org