

# THE JOURNAL

## Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab

A Jewish Senior Life Community

SUMMER 2025  
Elul 5785

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**2025 Jewish Food Festival**  
Including Proud Sponsors Elan Skilled  
Nursing & Rehab And Elan Gardens



# Elan Celebrates National Skilled Nursing Care Week

HONORING THE ESSENTIAL ROLE OF  
SKILLED NURSING CARE CENTERS



This past May, Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab residents and staff celebrated National Skilled Nursing Care Week (NSNCW) – formerly known as Nursing Home Week. Established as an annual, week-long observance by the American Health Care Association (AHCA) in 1967, NSNCW honors the essential role of skilled nursing care centers in caring for America’s seniors and individuals with disabilities. It’s also a time to recognize skilled nursing care center staff for their hard work, compassion and dedication to improving the lives of those in their care.

To celebrate NSNCW, Elan hosted special theme days all week for residents and staff. Themes included Western Day, Baseball Day, Beach Day and Wizard of Oz Day.

The NSNCW 2025 theme was “Tapestry of Life,” which highlighted the meaningful stories that make up each person’s journey in skilled nursing care. From residents and families to caregivers and staff, everyone adds a unique thread that is woven into this vibrant tapestry. This theme celebrates the connections, resilience and strength that unite us all.



# Stronger Every Day: Elan's Path to Excellence in Dialysis Care

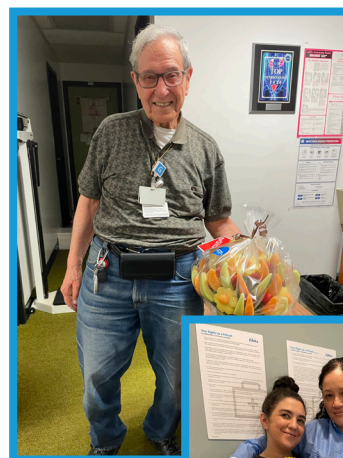
Our journey began like many others—with uncertainty and hope. When we launched our dialysis program two years ago, census numbers were low as we awaited the long, winding process of Medicare and licensing approvals for Acute Kidney Injury reimbursement.

But we didn't give up.

With steady support from our partners at DaVita and the incredible guidance of Dr. Lindsay Smith, along with our dedicated in-house dialysis nurses, Leanne and Susan, we pushed forward. Together, we built something stronger — establishing new processes, nurturing our hospital partnerships, and delivering care that truly makes a difference.

Bit by bit, the story changed. Census numbers climbed, relationships deepened, and Elan emerged as a trusted provider of dialysis care.

This isn't the end of the story — it's just the next chapter. With every patient and every success, we're growing into the provider of choice, committed to outcomes that inspire.



## Clip And Save Phone List

*You have connections at Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, a Jewish Senior Life Community!*

To assist you in reaching members of the staff, we are enclosing a directory of the most frequently called extensions. Others can be reached by pressing 5 for the directory or pressing "0" for the receptionist.

**The main number is 570-344-6177.**

Name	Department	Ext.	Name	Department	Ext.
Anglin, Jim	Director of Facilities	1128	McCabe, Gina	Clinical Operations Executive/DON	1131
Bednar, Missy	Director of Human Services	1151	Molinaro, Donna	Administator	1102
Burman, Sue	Beautician	1115	Nurses Station	Bridge at Elan	1142
Chellino, Kathy	Clinical Coordinator	1118	Nurses Station	3rd Floor	1143
Duff, Sheila	3rd Floor Clinical Director	1134	Nurses Station	4th Floor	1145
Giuliani, Christine	HR Coordinator	1173	Nurses Station	5th Floor	1147
Gorki, Ryan	Director of Social Services	1154	Pepson, Kelly	4th Floor Clinical Director	1136
Guman, Amy	ADON/Infection Preventionist	1152	Petrovsky, Joyce	Business Office Manager	1132
Harris, Nancy	5th Floor Clinical Director	1133	Puksta, Sara	2nd Floor Clinical Director	1139
Klemick, Lynn	Secretary	1109	Sandhaus, Samuel K.	Development Director	1170
Kranick, Mary Louise	Director of Life Enrichment	1113	Tetreault, Kevin	Director of Project Management	1159
Kuriger, Samantha	Directory of Dietary	1119	Webb, Lisa	Therapy Program Manager	1157



# Welcome, Samantha Kuriger!

*NEW DIETARY SERVICES DIRECTOR MAKING A DELICIOUS DIFFERENCE FOR RESIDENTS*

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab recently welcomed Samantha Kuriger, CDM, CFPP to the team as the new Director of Dietary Services. In this role, Kuriger is responsible for the complete operation of the dining services department, which includes planning, organizing, overseeing, and managing. She leads the day-to-day dining services functions, while providing high-quality meals, snacks and supplements to residents and assessing residents' nutritional needs in conjunction with the nursing and leadership teams.

Kuriger is a graduate of Barton College's Nutrition Sciences Program and is a Certified Dietary Manager and Certified Food Protection Professional (CDM, CFPP). She joins Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab after working at another skilled nursing and rehabilitation center for many years and leading their dietary team to achieve a 5-star rating for its annual health inspection last year.

"I worked at another long-term care facility for the better part of my adulthood, and it was time to venture out to a new horizon," Kuriger said. "I am very excited to be part of the Elan team, and to learn and grow within the company."

Outside of work, Kuriger is a mom of two young daughters, and she says that the girls keep her on her toes. She also enjoys home-steading - baking, growing vegetables in her garden, and keeping chickens and chicks.

"I started raising baby chicks over the late winter and now have more than 30 chickens," Kuriger said. "My older daughter loves them, we spend a lot of time in the coop, and I am very lucky that my fiancé is crafty and can build anything. He built our chicken coop from the ground up, and our girls love it!"





# Elan Skilled Nursing & Rehab, Elan Gardens Sponsor Jewish Food Festival

For over a decade, the Jewish Food Festival has brought food lovers from NEPA and beyond to Nay Aug Park in Scranton to enjoy delicious food that has survived centuries for a reason. The Festival took place June 29 to July 2, and attendees enjoyed classic Jewish foods like corned beef sandwich, schnitzel sandwich, stuffed cabbage, and babka.

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab and Elan Gardens were proud sponsors of this year's event, which also featured family-friendly activities, live music, and immersive Jewish cultural experiences. Hosted by the Jewish Discovery Center, proceeds from the Jewish Food Festival help underwrite the JDC's year-round programs.

To learn more about the Jewish Food Festival, visit [www.jewishfoodfest.com](http://www.jewishfoodfest.com).





# Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab Scrapbook

## Recent Events





## Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab Scrapbook

### Recent Events







# Celebrating The Expansion Of Memory Lane

 **Elan Gardens**  
**Senior Living**

A Jewish Senior Life Community

GROWING TO MEET THE NEEDS OF SENIORS  
IN OUR COMMUNITY



At Elan Gardens Senior Living, we developed our memory care program, Memory Lane, to better serve residents with dementia. In recent years, it has become apparent that there is an increasing need for more memory care options in our community.

In 2024, we announced an expansion to our Memory Lane program. This project would renovate a large portion of our building into a secure dementia unit, allowing us to house more residents in a safe environment while still offering private apartments and excellent personal care.



The unit features a comfortable common area with a kitchen, reclining chairs, and large television. This new space also increased our maximum capacity for memory care residents, allowing us to serve even more members of our community.

In October 2024, we hosted the Scranton Chamber of Commerce for an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony. Our team worked together to throw a beautiful reception for the evening. We are grateful to our board members, families, and friends in the community who came out to celebrate the completion of the unit.



We were thrilled to finally welcome our residents into their new home in March 2025. Residents are able to enjoy meals together, play games, and relax while staff are close at hand, and locked doors and elevators allow for added safety.

Thank you to all of our supporters and friends who made this new Memory Lane possible. We are grateful for all your patience, dedication, and encouragement as we made this journey. With your help, we will continue to meet the needs of our community seniors for many years to come.



# Momentum Builds At The Jewish Resource Center Of The Poconos

*RENOVATIONS, ACTIVITY EXPANSION, DONOR WALL AND MORE!*

The Jewish Resource Center of the Poconos (JRC) is alive with energy, activity, and connection. As we start re-opening our main activity area, we're thrilled to announce new programming that brings people together in vibrant and engaging ways. With our popular weekly Lunch Club; yoga classes that promote wellness and relaxation; hands-on cooking workshops that unite people through culture and tradition, and much more, there is truly something for everyone. These programs are especially vital for our seniors, offering them opportunities to get out, connect, and combat loneliness - helping them stay active, vibrant, and engaged.



While programming is at the heart of what we do, the transformation of our physical space is making it all possible. The JRC has undergone a stunning renovation—new flooring, updated lighting, and elegant chandeliers now cast a warm and inviting glow throughout.

One of the most meaningful additions is the newly designed Torah ark, in the process of being created to house the Torah donated several years ago. Though the JRC is not a synagogue, the ark—thoughtfully designed as a “shul in a closet”—will serve our August vacationers who come to pray, as well as the occasional Shabbaton, allowing us to blend tradition with functionality.

Our donor wall stands as a permanent tribute to those whose generosity made this transformation possible. More than a display, it symbolizes the shared values and vision that fuel our mission. If you would like to honor a loved one or leave a lasting legacy, please contact Rabbi Yehuda Salkow at 570-357-8401.



The JRC is more than just a building—it's a growing center for Jewish life, learning, and community in the Poconos, fostering meaningful Jewish education and connection for all ages. Whether you're revisiting familiar teachings and traditions or discovering them for the first time, the Torah and Judaism offer a powerful way to connect with your heritage and find deeper meaning in your life.

With gratitude to the Abeloff Foundation, the Spitz Foundation, the Foundation for the Jewish Elderly, and the Jewish Federation of NEPA, we look forward to all that's still to come!



# Greetings From Webster Towers

A Jewish Senior Life Community

Although the weather outside is hot and muggy, we are keeping our residents cool at Webster Towers! Over the past few months we've had a Father's Day Pizza Party, July 4th Picnic and Trivia time with Jackie, the Human Service Coordinator, just to name a few. With the weather as hot as it's been we encourage plenty of liquids and light meals.

The Ice Creamer truck comes by our location 2/3 times each month, thanks to resident Dan Ceccacci. It's a nice way to cool off and socialize with your neighbors.

Our Community Room is a cool gathering place and you will often find a friend to chat with. Socialization is highly encouraged at Webster Towers and we are always looking for new ways to entertain our residents; welcome suggestions!

The next time I check in with you the weather will be much cooler and it will feel, as always, where has the time gone..... enjoy the moments, stay cool and safe!

Be Well!  
Pamela Goodall





Elan Gardens claimed two recent awards from local newspaper publisher Times Leader. Community readers named Elan Gardens the Best Nursing/Retirement Home in Lackawanna County, and the Best Senior/Assisted Living Center of the Abingtons. We are incredibly grateful to our friends and neighbors for recognizing the hard work we do to serve our residents. These awards are a testament to our consistent dedication, and we are proud to be valued members of our local community.



## Elan Days Of Summer

Elan Gardens held its 3rd Annual Elan Days of Summer celebration in July, and this year's event had a cruise line theme. Every day, residents enjoyed events, activities, and food representative of various cruise destinations including Hawaii, Mexico, Scandanavia, and the Mediterranean. Everyone had a great time!

Keep up with all things Elan Gardens, including our wellness programs, on our Facebook page @elangardenspa.





# You Made It Happen: Celebrating NEPA Gives 2025!

We're excited to share the outstanding results of this year's NEPA Gives Day! Held on June 5–6, 2025, and hosted by several local foundations, this community-wide fundraiser brought people together in an inspiring show of generosity. Thanks to the heartfelt support of individuals, businesses, and philanthropic partners, we proudly raised an impressive **\$13,914 from 27 kind donors!**

A heartfelt thank you to Dr. Robert Greenburg for his generous \$5,000 matching gift challenge, which inspired others to give and helped amplify the impact of each donation. We also extend our deep appreciation to an anonymous donor with strong ties to the community, who contributed a \$1,500 match in gratitude for the exceptional care their loved ones received at Elan Skilled (formerly The Jewish Home). Together, these matching gifts doubled and even tripled the value of individual

contributions. We are also honored to have received a \$1,000 prize from the Moses Taylor Foundation—thank you for your support!

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab cares for a growing number of residents living with cognitive challenges, including dementia and Alzheimer's disease. These individuals benefit greatly from tailored programs and sensory-based therapies. This year, your generous contributions will support our patient Life Enrichment Department, allowing us to purchase interactive robotic puppies and kittens that provide comfort, engagement and emotional support to those in our care.

We are deeply grateful for your continued support of the elderly in our community. Below, we proudly list our supporters, separated by category and including identified tributes.

GOLD CHAI	\$3,600 and up
SILVER CHAI	\$1,800 and up
FOUNDER	\$1,000 and up
PATRON	\$750-999
PILLAR	\$500-749
BENEFACTOR	\$250-499
GUARDIAN	\$100-249
SPONSOR	\$50-99
DONOR	\$25-99
CONTRIBUTOR	under \$25

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Arlene Moranville



## Thank You, Toyota of Scranton!

Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab wishes to give special thanks to Andrew Weinberger and Toyota of Scranton for their generous support of Elan on NEPA Gives Day, each year since 2021. Pictured left to right, Patric Rogers, CFO, Toyota, Melissa Bednar, Director of Human Services, Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, Sam Rudin, Assistant GM, Toyota, Andrew Weinberger, Management Representative, Toyota.



# thank you

## To Our Donors!

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In Honor of receiving "Community Matters Award"  
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In Honor of your New Grandson  
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Marlene Lieber

**Mr. and Mrs. Dovid Saks**

Happy, Healthy Pesach  
Marlene Lieber

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Happy, Healthy Pesach  
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Happy, Healthy Pesach  
Happy New Year  
Marlene Lieber

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Happy, Healthy Pesach  
Happy New Year  
Marlene Lieber

**Henery Thompson**

Get well  
Gloria Davidow

**Arelene Wineberg**

In honor of your Services and contributions to the community  
Marlene Liber

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# Elan Skilled Nursing & Rehab Launches 2025-2026 Annual Fund Campaign

*MAKE A MEANINGFUL DIFFERENCE IN THE LIVES OF OUR RESIDENTS!*

We are pleased to announce the launch of Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab's 2025-2026 Annual Fund Campaign and invite you, our dedicated supporters, to once again join us in making a meaningful difference in the lives of our residents. (You may remember this campaign as the Annual Membership campaign.)

As a Jewish Senior Life Community, Elan's Annual Fund Campaign plays a vital role in ensuring that we can continue to deliver the highest standard of care. Public funding and reimbursements often fall short of covering the full costs of our comprehensive services. Your generous contributions help bridge this gap—supporting essential healthcare, programming, and quality-of-life enhancements for our seniors.

GOLD CHAI	\$3,600 and up
SILVER CHAI	\$1,800 and up
FOUNDER	\$1,000 and up
PATRON	\$750-999
PILLAR	\$500-749
BENEFACTOR	\$250-499
GUARDIAN	\$100-249
SPONSOR	\$50-99
DONOR	\$25-99
CONTRIBUTOR	under \$25

Scan Here to Donate Online!



To make giving easier, we've enclosed a special donation envelope. You may also receive a letter in the mail with additional details about the campaign. Every gift, regardless of size, directly impacts the well-being of the aging individuals entrusted to our care.

We're proud to share that our 2024-2025 Annual Campaign was a resounding success. Richard Bishop, Board President, expressed heartfelt thanks to the 286 donors whose contributions totaled \$154,260. These funds have had a direct and lasting effect on the lives of our residents.

In recognition of this generosity, we are pleased to share a complete list of our 2024-2025 donors below, grouped by location and giving level, as a small token of our immense appreciation.

Thank you for standing with us in support of our mission. With your help, we look forward to another impactful year.

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The Journal is published by:  
Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab  
1101 Vine Street  
Scranton, PA 18510

Phone: 570-344-6177  
Fax: 570-344-9610  
Web: [www.elanseniorlife.org](http://www.elanseniorlife.org)

Rick Bishop, President

Proofreading & Content:  
Rasonia Nicholes  
Kevin Tetreault  
Lynn Klemick  
Melissa Bednar  
Chris Tansits  
Rabbi Samuel Sandhaus  
Mary Grattan  
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Photography: Elan Skilled Nursing and Rehab, Elan Gardens,  
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