





A YEAR OF RESURGENCE

Amidst the ongoing pandemic, expectations for a quick return to normal air travel routines at Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) seemed unlikely in 2021.

"Would we have optimistically predicted over ¼ million passengers during the summer and over 700,000 passengers choosing your neighborhood airport for the year? I don't think so. This resurgence was a welcome sight and certainly created positive momentum at the Airport," said Thomas R. Stoudt, Executive Director, Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA).

752,111 passengers traveled through ABE in 2021 nearly reaching the 2018 total of 792,974.

Following a steady flow of Thanksgiving fliers, a strong holiday travel season continued in December with 68,034 passengers taking off and landing at ABE - a 146.2% increase from the same month the previous year.

"We've said it all along, the aviation industry pointed to 2023 or 2024 as the recovery period. Fortunately, this timetable was expedited throughout the year as vaccinations increased and the level of confidence grew in the COVID-19 safety measures used by airlines," said Stoudt.

With construction of the new Terminal Connector / Security Checkpoint on schedule to be complete by 2023, the Airport Authority received \$3 million in state RACP (Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program) funding to support this critical infrastructure improvement.



"We are extremely grateful for the commitment of our delegation in Harrisburg which ensures the Airport maintains its primary role of being an economic asset for the region," said Stoudt.

"ABE's Terminal Connector project will set the stage for the Airport's continued growth well into the foreseeable future," said Senator Pat Browne, (R-16).

"Lehigh Valley International Airport is an important economic engine for the Lehigh Valley and our Commonwealth, and this state investment will allow them to build upon its economic impact," said Senator Lisa Boscola, (D-18).

It was another record setting year for air cargo, with 232,201,033 pounds processed at ABE in 2021. The Airport remained a critical conduit for the expedited transportation of goods into and out of the Lehigh Valley, as the rise of E-commerce hasn't slowed down.

"Through our FAA-approved Airport Master Plan, we have identified the need to develop additional air cargo capacity to meet current and future demand, and we are evaluating some potential options," said Stoudt.

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Construction of the Terminal Connector Project and new Security Checkpoint at Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) is twenty-six percent complete!

"Getting out of the ground remains the biggest challenge. Mother nature didn't slow down this project so far, which has allowed us to have less than 30 of the 215 micropiles (deep foundations) left to install. The connection of the necessary utilities, including the sanitary sewer and water main were completed in November 2021," said Cedrick Johnson, President, Airport Design Consultants, Inc.

Since early fall, construction crews excavated a 22-foot hole near the former Gate 1, which is needed for the installation of new elevators and escalators from the Departure Concourse down to the existing tunnel. This will become the new pathway for arriving passengers to reach the baggage claim area.

"They needed to break through 22-inch-thick reinforced concrete to create a 60-foot-wide opening on the side of the current underground tunnel," said, Ryan Meyer, Director of Planning and Programming.

In the coming months, the structure is expected to take form with the installation of foundations for elevator / escalator shafts and the erection of steel beams to commence.



Scheduled for completion in 2023, the Terminal Connector at ABE delivers the following:

- Up to (4) security screening lanes for efficient passenger processing
- New vertical circulation equipment with redundancy to enhance ADA compliance
- Enhanced air purification system and improved air circulation
- Separation of outbound and inbound passenger flow

Visit ABE's Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube for construction updates.







PARDON THE INTERRUPTION!

Public restrooms located on the 2nd level of the Main Terminal are closed for renovations. We appreciate your patience and look forward to providing an improved customer experience at ABE.

Additional restrooms in the Main Terminal are located on the 2nd level by the Allegiant ticket counter and on the lower level by the TSA Checkpoint.





Get Away Faster, Get Home Faster.

TSA Preè open enrollment sessions return to Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) from February 21st through February 25th. To register, visit **flyabe.com.**

Applicants will be required to pay a non-refundable \$85 fee and TSA $\text{Pre}\checkmark^{\circ}$ is valid for 5 years.

With TSA Preè, there is no need for travelers to remove shoes, 3-1-1 liquids, laptops, light outerwear, or belts. Today, TSA *PreCheck®* has more than 450 lanes at 200+ U.S. airports.



PET FOOD DRIVE

For a third consecutive year, the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA) and airport stakeholders were able to deck the howls for the Animal Food Bank of the Lehigh Valley (AFBLV).

A two-week pet food drive in December 2021 produced 600 pounds of delicious treats for AFBLV.

Thank you to LNAA employee Kimi Eisenhart for coordinating this annual event, and we appreciate everyone that participated.



TRADITION FOR 25 YEARS!

The annual Holiday Festival of Trees is a popular display inside the Main Terminal of Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE).

17 trees were decorated by local students, charity organization staff, and our own TSA!

Four local tree farms donated trees: **Kemmerer's Christmas Tree Farm, Unangst Tree Farm, Walker's Tree Farm, and Yenser's Tree Farm.**

As always, kudos to ABE's maintenance team for doing such a wonderful job setting up the trees and keeping them watered throughout the month-long display.



"3-2-1, LET'S SHOP!"





Following a year hiatus due to the ongoing pandemic, Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA) Police Officers were back on assignment.

"Since this event launched in 2016, our department is determined to give the best Christmas possible for some local families," said Sgt. Steve Gensits.

The 5th Annual Shop with an Airport Cop held on December 5, 2021, delivered unforgettable moments this holiday season as fourteen (14) students from Catasauqua Area School District patrolled the aisles at Target (Airport Center) accompanied by an LNAA police officer with \$300 to spend on gifts.

"It's really exciting when we're able to see the happiness on their faces, and feel the same excitement I have for Christmas," said Officer Adam Gangaware.

As always, the focus remained on giving to others, not themselves.

"It happens every year. I had to remind my student that he's not on his list. He has nothing for himself. It's just a reflection of their giving nature," said Officer Jake Scoble.

Serving as a lead sponsor for the first time, Lehigh Valley Community Benefit (LVCB) provided the shopping funds.

"These kids have huge hearts and are selfless," said Rick Nauman, President, LVCB.

The students and their families also received a 6 ½ foot pre-lit Christmas Tree with ornaments and topper courtesy of Home Depot Allentown South Store (#4140), holiday dinner which included a frozen turkey and a frozen ham courtesy of NAM Knights, event jackets were provided by Phillipsburg / Easton Honda, a \$50 gift card to Game Stop Bar & Grill, and a \$100 gift card to Wegmans courtesy of the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority.

"The police officers make this event about the kids, and not about them. They really do a lot to put this together, and it's awesome," said Anthony Sherman, General Manager, Phillipsburg / Easton Honda.

SOUNDS OF THE SEASON

Led by choral director Edward Hong, the Whitehall High School Chorale entertained passengers and airport staff in the Wilfred M. "Wiley" Post Departure Concourse with performances of "Silent Night," "We Wish You a Merry Christmas," and a "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" medley.

The chorale kept singing as they walked through the terminal complex which delighted the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) officers, people processing at the screening checkpoint, and everyone in the baggage claim area.

Their visit ended with a picture in front of the famous poinsettia tree.

DEAR SANTA!

Elves delivered 74 letters to Santa in the North Pole from passengers of all ages with a special request this holiday season. Airport Authority K-9 Officer Mikki made sure to visit the annual Santa Mailbox in the Wilfred M. "Wiley" Post Departure Concourse and mail her letter.







GIVING THANKS TO PASSENGERS

Thanksgiving travel can be hectic and stressful for passengers. In an effort to create a more relaxed environment for those flying through ABE, the airport held Customer Appreciation Day that included free snacks, visits from the C.O.P.E. family (Canines Offering Passengers Encouragement), and photo ops with Lehigh Valley Phantoms Mascot, Melvin, before takeoff.





JOURNEY TO THE NORTH POLE!

Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) and **United Way Community of Schools** invited 90 elementary school students from the Allentown and Bethlehem School Districts to participate in the annual North Pole Charity Event in December 2021.

Their journey began with a photo taken with Santa and Mrs. Claus before scheduled stops at various stations: Candy Land, Mixed-Up Toys, Winter Wonderland, Santa Station, Reindeer Landing, Tinsel Town, and Stocking

Stop. Before departing, participants received a bag of popcorn, water, and hot cocoa packets with peppermint spoons.

Additionally, C.O.P.E. (Canines Offering Passengers Encouragement) therapy dogs and Muhlenberg College / Magical Memories entertained the families along the way.

A special thank you to all our sponsors:
BalloonWorks, Dan's Camera City, Fresh Market, Just
Born, Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs, Lehigh Valley
Phantoms, Lehigh Valley Health Network, Muhlenberg
College / Magical Memories, The Promenade Shops
at Saucon Valley, RCN, Repertory Dance Theatre,
Service Electric, St. Luke's University Health Network,
and Staybridge Suites / Hilton Garden Inn.





MISS PA VISITS SENSORY ROOM

Using her strong voice for creating autism awareness, Miss Pennsylvania Meghan Sinisi (Altoona, PA) wanted to see the Sensory Room at Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) firsthand.

She left extremely impressed and grateful for the facility.

"Whether the air traveler is on the autism spectrum or have any sensory sensitivity, the TSA security screening process can be overwhelming. The location is perfect, because they can go right up the escalator and straight into the sensory room for decompression and to regulate their bodies for the flying experience," said Sinisi.

In partnership between ABE and The Arc of Lehigh and Northampton Counties, the Sensory Room opened in May 2018. For more information, visit **flyabe.com**.





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TALKING TRAVEL TRENDS

Paula Bonstein, Customer Experience Manager and Leanne Hill, Customer Experience Coordinator represented Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) at Eastern Travel Association (ETA) Tradeshows in November 2021.

Over 150 travel agents from Harrisburg, Scranton, and the Lehigh Valley attended these interactive events to discuss the latest trends and learn more about the advantages of choosing ABE for their clients.

ETA celebrated their 65th Anniversary in 2021!

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT



Anthony Potts (U.G.E.)

Anthony has been at United Ground Express (U.G.E.) for 2 years at Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) and has been a Lead Agent for 1 year. Working for U.G.E. as a ramp agent has its challenges, but he has been able to continue to push through with the understanding of the company's policy and procedures and always remembering their Core Values.

Anthony was born in Newark, New Jersey, and now resides in Pennsylvania. He has three beautiful daughters, 10, 4 and 2 years of age who are his world and the main reason he chose to work for U.G.E. at ABE.

"Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) is a wonderful place to work. The environment is safe, and the staff are friendly and professional. I love it here."

CANINE CORNER



Terry Talbot and Logan (C.O.P.E. Volunteers)

A certified member of the Alliance of Therapy Dogs, Terry and Logan have been active volunteers with the Lehigh Valley International Airport's Canines Offering Passengers Encouragement (C.O.P.E) Program since 2016.

Logan was found as a stray in Louisiana when he was 6 months old and was brought to an organization in Rhode Island where they adopted him. Originally, they thought Logan was a Scottish Terrier mix. However, following a DNA test, he is part Cairn Terrier (like Toto from Wizard of Oz), part Rat Terrier, and part Chihuahua.

Logan has a great personality for the job and loves people. He also likes to take long walks and chase anything that moves (including his "sister" Calypso, who is a Chihuahua, Rat Terrier, Jack Russell mix).

A life-long Pennsylvanian, Terry lives in the Pocono Mountains in Northeast PA with her husband of 34 years, Jonah. They have one adult son, Noah, and two rescued terrier mix dogs.



ABE'S TRAVEL TIP – The mask mandate has been extended through at least March 18, 2022, and applies to all persons, regardless of their vaccination status. Transportation Security Administration (TSA) requires face masks for all individuals while at transportation hubs – including your #neighborhoodairport.