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AIRPORT BOOKING CODE: ABE

610-266-6000

ISSUE No. 11 – December 2023



## **Next Stop: Orlando, Florida**

Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) didn't wait long for the excitement surrounding the arrival of a new route next year.

Allegiant Air has announced the start of nonstop flights to Orlando International Airport (MCO) in May 2024.

"Adding Orlando International Airport expands our regional footprint to serve the southeast metropolitan area, providing visitors and residents even more travel options to make the most out of their vacations," said Drew Wells, Allegiant's senior vice president of revenue and planning and chief revenue officer.

Allegiant will continue to provide strong connectivity into the Orlando area, through daily service at

Orlando / Sanford International Airport (SFB). But MCO remained on the airport's target list.

"We consistently heard requests from Lehigh Valley air travelers regarding direct flights to MCO. There's always interest in more capacity for vacationers headed to Orlando theme parks. Now, Allegiant will help us deliver more options," said Stoudt.

With nonstop flights to Denver, Colorado and Melbourne, Florida already underway, this marks the third time in less than twelve months that Allegiant expanded their operations at ABE.

"When Allegiant chose ABE as their 18th crew base, we spoke about the potential for increased air service. They continue to demonstrate their outstanding partnership in serving this region," said Stoudt.

# allegiant

#### **Nonstop to:**

- Denver (DEN)
- Fort Lauderdale (FLL)
- Melbourne (MLB)
- Myrtle Beach (MYR)
- Nashville (BNA)
- Orlando (MCO) \*Starts May 2024
- Orlando Sanford (SFB)
- Punta Gorda (PGD)
- Sarasota (SRQ)
- St. Petersburg (PIE)

# American Airlines



#### **Nonstop to:**

- Charlotte (CLT)
- Philadelphia (PHL)



#### **Nonstop to:**

- Atlanta (ATL)
- Detroit (DTW)



#### **Nonstop to:**

- · Chicago (ORD)
- Newark (EWR)













# Space Coast Launch



Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) and Allegiant Air launched new nonstop flights in November to Melbourne, Florida – also known as the Space Coast.

Each passenger on the inaugural flight received a signature NASA bag from the Kennedy Space Center stuffed with goodies.

"Known for being Florida's Space Coast, this destination delivers plenty of excitement for everyone, with access to the Kennedy Space Center, a



Before takeoff for the inaugural flight from ABE to Melbourne Orlando International Airport (MLB) aboard Allegiant Air, a ceremonial water arch showered the departing aircraft.

Thank you, PA State Senator Nick Miller, PA State Representative Jeanne McNeill, Lehigh County Executive Phillips Armstrong, Selina Winchester (representing Congresswoman Susan Wild), and LNAA Board Chairman John Hayes for attending the celebration.



In September and October, ABE posted its highest passenger traffic totals for each month since 2004.

September 72,031 October 84,747

Thank you for choosing us!





# Holiday Tradition!

It's the perfect backdrop for your holiday travel photo. The Annual Poinsettia Tree is located on the 2<sup>nd</sup> level of the Main Terminal at ABE.

Do you know how many poinsettias are needed to construct the tree?

The answer is: 374!

Thank you to the ABE Maintenance team for helping to create a festive travel environment for our passengers.

## **Happy Anniversary!**

ABE celebrated 10-years of nonstop flights aboard <u>Allegiant</u> to Punta Gorda, Florida.

Passengers went fishing for prizes that included: (2) round-trip tickets to Punta Gorda, a two-night stay at the Historic Hotel Bethlehem, and a swag bag from the Punta Gorda/Englewood Beach Visitor & Convention Bureau.

Congratulations to the winners!

Before boarding the aircraft, passengers also enjoyed a tasty travel treat provided by Amy's Creative Cakes.





## **Passenger Appreciation Week!**

Every year, this is our chance to say THANK YOU!

Passenger Appreciation Day was filled with excitement and energy... plus, plenty of food, fun, friends, family, music, and memories.

Special guests included FeRROUS and FeFe from the Lehigh Valley IronPigs, several therapy dogs from the C.O.P.E. program (Canines Offering Passengers Encouragement), and a musical performance by Sharon Pires.

Airport advertising partners and local organizations distributed giveaways throughout the terminal complex.

We look forward to celebrating with you again next year!



# ABE

#### **Pulling for a Purpose!**

Mother Nature didn't dampen the Lehigh Valley Plane Pull in support of Special Olympics Pennsylvania (SOPA) in October.

"Our athletes, volunteers, and teams were determined to pull with a purpose," said Julie Benjamin, Regional Executive Director, Special Olympics Pennsylvania.

17 teams lined up and grabbed the rope attached to a 175,000-pound FedEx Airbus 300. The stopwatch started, and every group raced to successfully move the aircraft 12 feet.

"ABE hasn't hosted a plane pull in over a decade. From the initial conversation, the Airport was 100% onboard to host this spirited competition and support the mission of Special Olympics Pennsylvania and of course their inspirational and amazing athletes," said Thomas R. Stoudt, Executive Director, Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority.

Special Olympics Pennsylvania's newest event focused on raising funds to help ensure that more than 2,700 athletes in the Greater Lehigh Valley Pocono Region have access to year round programs.

"SOPA provides sports, health, fitness, and leadership programs free of charge. The incredible support we've received with the Plane Pull creates opportunities for Special Olympics athletes on and off the field," said Benjamin.

Sheetz was the presenting sponsor for the event. Additional sponsors included FedEx, Lehigh Northampton Airport Authority, Wegmans, Driscoll's Home Center, Members 1st Federal Credit Union, Law Enforcement Torch Run, and Penske.



Thank you for supporting the Special Olympics Pennsylvania athletes of Berks, Bethlehem, Carbon, Lehigh, Monroe, Northampton, and Schuylkilli



## **ABE Goes to the Dogs!**

Lehigh Valley International Airport's Customer Experience Team attended Barktoberfest at The Promenade Shops of Saucon Valley for a fun-filled day visiting with an abundance of canines and their owners to promote the C.O.P.E. (Canines Offering Passengers Encouragement) Therapy Dog Program.







# **Fire Prevention Week**

The ARFF Department (Aircraft Rescue & Fire Fighting) shared tips and information with ABE passengers during Fire Prevention Week in October. Sparky the Fire Dog (mascot of the Catasauqua Fire Department) certainly remained a fan favorite among the kids, as they learned the importance of having a plan at home in the case of a fire emergency.





#### **Future in Aviation?**

Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) visited Northeast Middle School in Bethlehem during Career Day to educate 8th grade students about aviation career opportunities and the ability to earn community service hours through the Jr. Navigators Volunteer Program.

Roughly 400 students participated in the Lehigh Valley Academy Regional Charter School Career Day at their new location on Avenue C in Bethlehem. ABE was joined by St. Lukes, SHI, Girl Scouts of America, and many more to discuss career and volunteer opportunities with students from grades 9-12.



#### **Mission: Movie Night!**

Over 100 Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA) employees enjoyed Mission: Impossible - Dead Reckoning Part One at The Roxy in Northampton in November. A special marquee message and the smell of delicious popcorn welcomed everyone to the theatre.



# **Employee Spotlight**



#### **Kimberly Eisenhart (XLL)**

"For those that love aviation, an airport is home!"

This phrase perfectly describes Kimi Eisenhart – Operations Manager at Queen City Airport (XLL) in the City of Allentown and Braden Airpark (N43) in Forks Township.

During her 15-year career at the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA), Kimi's positive attitude towards versatility has provided extensive knowledge regarding the aviation industry and prepared her to deliver the highest level of customer service for pilots, tenants, and visitors.

Since arriving at the Airport Authority in 2005, Kimi became a Ramp Agent at Lehigh Valley International Airport (ABE) before transitioning to Flight Line Technician at Hangar 7 (FBO). After getting a taste of the corporate and general aviation world, Kimi landed the role of Operations Manager at the LNAA's GA facilities, her scope of responsibilities at XLL and N43 include ensuring superior safety and elite customer service for all daily operations; oversight of fuel pricing and financial management; staff scheduling; and the execution and evaluation of logistical procedures (repairs, initiatives, etc.) for both general aviation airports.

#### **Employee Fall Picnic**

Hangar 7 hosted the Employee Fall Picnic in September. Rows of tables and chairs were set up, and platters of cupcakes were waiting when the employees arrived. Hamburgers and hot dogs were cooked on the grill and an assortment of sides were available. Everyone enjoyed their meal with music playing in the background and good conversation between co-workers.



# **Snow Preps!**

What's it like to ride in one of the massive snow removal vehicles at ABE? Airport Staff accompanied a member of the Maintenance Snow Operations Team for a ride-along on Runway 13/31 during their initial equipment check to prepare for the upcoming winter season. Plows, high-speed snow-brooms, and snow-blowers were powered up and tested to ensure that when Mother Nature arrives, they are ready to roll.



# **Volunteer Spotlight**



**Barb Bauer (Navigator Volunteer)** 

Barb has volunteered at ABE since September of 2022. She retired from the Lehigh-Northampton Airport Authority (LNAA) following a 36-year career on the custodial staff.

Barb enjoys reading, walking, spending time with her twin granddaughters and volunteering at various organizations.



**ABE'S TRAVEL TIP** – Tablets, e-readers, smart watches, electronic game consoles, and blue tooth speakers can all come onboard in your carry-on bag. Remember, if the device is larger than a cell phone, you will need to remove the item from your carry-on bag at the security checkpoint. Learn more about traveling with <u>electronics</u>.