

spotlight

AUTUMN 2026

GUTHRIE LOURDES AUXILIARY NEWS

Enhanced Auxiliary webpages!

Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary worked diligently with Guthrie tech specialists over the last few months to develop interactive webpages that enable users to learn about Auxiliary projects, become a member or renew a membership, make a donation, access our newsletters, and purchase sponsorships and tickets to our annual Ball fundraiser. Please check out our newly launched pages at [Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary](#).

We are beholden to Guthrie's Digital Strategist Rich Steele, Annual Giving & Donor Engagement Officer Austin Lafever, and Manager of Philanthropy Services & Data Analytics Jennifer Warner for their expertise. They made our long-held vision a reality! ●

Plans underway for 2027 Ball after one-year hiatus

The Auxiliary's Ball committee, headed by Auxiliary President Denise Consol, is making preparations for Guthrie Lourdes Ball 2027, to be held on Saturday, February 27, at The Riverdale in Endwell, NY. Attendees will forget the bitter chill outside as they stroll through our "garden" enjoying festive cocktails and bountiful food stations. Group du Jour is on tap to provide musical entertainment.

Proceeds from the 2027 event go toward purchase of a high-precision linear accelerator for targeted radiation therapy.

We are pleased to announce that, after our recent digital upgrades, sponsorships, ticket purchases and donations can now be securely processed online. For more information, please visit our event webpage: [Guthrie Lourdes Ball 2027: Garden Party](#).



The Auxiliary is grateful to the Lourdes Foundation's Major Gifts Officer Jacqueline Maillet for stepping up and orchestrating a marvelous alternative winter gala this past February. She kept the tradition alive while we focused on online improvements. ●

Scooping for Guthrie Lourdes caregivers



Auxiliary board member Barbara Simonds chaired this year's caregiver appreciation event. She and her committee dished up ice cream for 460 first and second shift employees on Friday, June 26. One hundred forty ice cream novelties were delivered to those on third shift, and cookie trays went to offsite offices.



Thank you to Bob Weslar for making this event possible! ●



Right: Ariana Roberts prepares to scoop another serving. Thanks for your help, Ariana!

Below: Nancy Boushie, Kate Newberry, Pauline Utimazrui, Nancy LaRose, Jennifer Gates, Bonnie Zulick, Barbara Simonds, Jaclyn Boushie-Bombard, Denise Consol, Barb Palmer and Annette Varcoe



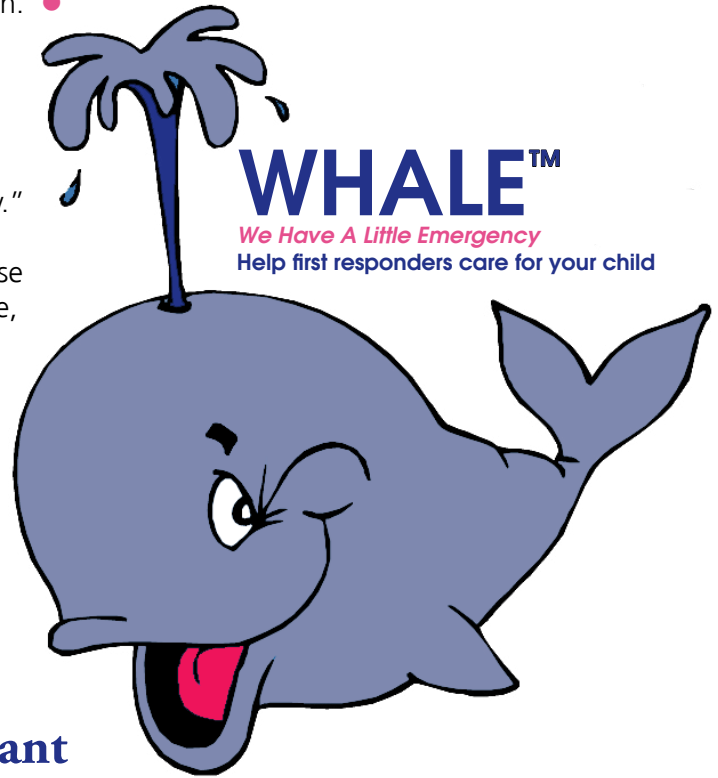
“We Care” bags for cancer patients

In 2025, “We Care” bag program chair Pam Previti assembled and delivered 140 bags of comfort items for patients undergoing initial chemotherapy or radiation treatments at Guthrie Lourdes Medical Oncology or Radiation Oncology. She has delivered several dozen additional bags so far this year. The bags contain a bottle of water, lip balm, ginger candy, hand sanitizer, Aquaphor ointment, a notepad, a package of tissues, an inspirational card, peppermint tea and a pen. ●

WHALE™ child identification kits

WHALE™ is an acronym for “We Have A Little Emergency.” It is a nationally-recognized program that helps first responders identify and care for small children in the case of an auto accident. The Auxiliary’s WHALE™ chair, Nancy Boushie, distributes hundreds of WHALE™ kits annually to local agencies that provide services to children and young families, including the Broome County Health Department, HCA (Helping Celebrate Abilities), Benjamin Franklin School PACT (Parents & Children Together), Guthrie Lourdes Maternity, Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network, and Broome County car safety seat check events.

As always, we thank Plumbers & Pipefitters Local 112 for funding production of WHALE™ kit contents. ●



GiGi’s Playhouse receives Auxiliary grant

GiGi’s Playhouse Southern Tier received a \$1,000 grant from the Auxiliary in April. Located in the Oakdale Commons, Gigi’s Playhouse provides educational, therapeutic and career development programs for those with Down syndrome, as well as support and information for their families and the community. All programs are offered free of charge. ●

“Patient Cheer” tray favors

Inpatients received small bags of goodies from the Auxiliary in December 2025 (cocoa, a candy cane, chocolates Christmas cookies and a gold star ornament) and May 2026 (Guthrie Lourdes pen and mints). Additional deliveries are planned for October and December of this year. “Patient Cheer” is among the most enduring Auxiliary programs, a charming reminder of the Auxiliary’s long history of service to Lourdes.

“Patient Cheer” chair Barb Palmer thanks the following for helping with assembly and delivery: Nancy Boushie, Denise Consol, Phil Knapp, Nancy LaRose, Kate Newberry, Pam Previti and Barbara Simonds. ●





Vendor feature: Pit Stop Popcorn

The Auxiliary sponsors a series of vendor sales at the hospital and receives a percentage of the proceeds. This amounts to thousands of dollars annually that fund our initiatives.

Pit Stop Popcorn is one of our most popular vendors. Owner Steve Sherwood of Apalachin (pictured, left) sets up shop at the hospital one or two days each month. Steve launched his small-batch artisanal popcorn business in 2021, four years after acquiring and then painstakingly refurbishing a 1964 General Motors delivery truck. Installation of a mobile kitchen allowed him to take the operation on the road.

Pit Stop has dozens of flavor options. A selection of six or seven are offered at any given event. While Steve says kettle corn is an overall fan favorite, dill pickle has recently been the top seller at Guthrie Lourdes Hospital.

The Auxiliary is thrilled to have this mutually beneficial relationship with Pit Stop Popcorn.

Thank you to Volunteer Services Supervisor of Office Operations Jennifer Gates for coordinating all of our vendor sales! ●



Exceptional junior volunteers earn Auxiliary scholarships

Junior volunteers Kaden Schultz of Chenango Forks High School and Sommara Turk of Johnson City High School each received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Auxiliary in spring 2026.

To be considered for an Auxiliary scholarship, students must complete a minimum of 100 volunteer hours at the hospital within the previous twelve months and submit an essay about their volunteer experiences, two letters of recommendation and a transcript of their grades. Thank you to committee chair Jaclyn Boushie-Bombard and to Nancy Boushie, Ellen Burns, Jennifer Gates and Francine Butler Groat for their careful consideration of all applications.

The Auxiliary wishes Kaden and Sommara the very best as they begin their college adventures! ●

spotlight
GUTHRIE LOURDES AUXILIARY NEWS

Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary
169 Riverside Drive
Binghamton, NY 13905



Spotlight Staff

Beth Taylor and Nancy LaRose

Want to go paperless?

If you would like to receive *Spotlight* by e-mail, please contact Beth Taylor at beth.rose.taylor@gmail.com.

Join us!

New and returning Auxiliary members are always welcome! Print and complete the membership form below or go to [Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary](#) and click on "Become a Member." Dues support Auxiliary projects.

Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary

General / Lifetime Member Application

Thank you for your interest in Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary membership! The Auxiliary is dedicated to supporting Guthrie Lourdes Hospital caregivers, patients, volunteers and our community through volunteerism, special events and fundraising.

There are two ways to become a member or renew your membership:

- 1. Complete the form below and mail with a check made out to "Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary" to:**
Barb Palmer, Membership Chair
Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary
169 Riverside Drive
Binghamton, NY 13905
- 2. Go to [Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary](#) and click on "Become a Member" to complete the form and pay securely online.**

First Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Last Name: _____

E-Mail Address: _____

Mailing Address: _____

Membership type:

- ☐ General — \$20 per year
☐ Lifetime — \$150

I am interested in helping with the following:

- | | | | |
|--|---|--|---|
| ☐ Books for Pediatric Clinics | ☐ Newsletter | ☐ "We Care" Bags for Cancer Patients | ☐ I would like to serve on the Auxiliary board |
| ☐ Caregiver Appreciation | ☐ Patient Cheer | ☐ WHALE™ Child Identification Program | |
| ☐ Gift Shop | ☐ Scholarships for Junior Volunteers | | |
| ☐ Guthrie Lourdes Ball | | | |

Questions?

Phone: 607-798-5675
Email: lourdesauxiliary@guthrie.org

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| Guthrie Lourdes Auxiliary

| 169 Riverside Drive

| Binghamton, NY 13905