

spotlight

AUTUMN 2023

LOURDES AUXILIARY NEWS

Lourdes

| Lourdes Auxiliary

| 169 Riverside Drive

| Binghamton, NY 13905

It's been a while!

Welcome to Lourdes Auxiliary's retooled *Spotlight* newsletter! Much has happened since our last issue, not the least of which was COVID-19. We're excited to brief you on our activities of the last few years as well as upcoming events. ●

Fundraising for good causes

Over its 68-year history, the Auxiliary has raised approximately \$4 million to benefit Lourdes Hospital and the community.

Funds have gone toward hospital equipment, renovation, expansion, special projects and departmental grants, as well as support for deserving non-profit agencies.

2020

In 2020, the Auxiliary's signature Lourdes Ball fundraiser took place on February 29, just three weeks before New York State's pandemic shutdown. Proceeds from the event allowed the Auxiliary to give \$50,000 for renovation of Lourdes' bariatric care facilities and \$25,000 for community grants.

The Auxiliary donated \$50,000 toward purchase of this aquatic treadmill



2021

In lieu of the 2021 Ball, we launched our *Community in Bloom* campaign. Assisted by donations from individuals and corporations, we were able to give a total of \$82,500 to nineteen area

organizations that in turn provided food, supplies and services for those impacted by the pandemic.

2022

Though COVID again precluded staging the Lourdes Ball, greatly reducing our fundraising capacity, we honored our mission by contributing \$50,000 toward an aquatic treadmill (see photo, left) for use in orthopedic rehab at Lourdes Health & Fitness.

2023

February 25, 2023 saw the return of the Lourdes Ball! With the help of generous sponsors and individuals, we paid a \$200,000 installment on a \$386,000 pledge earmarked for purchase of state-of-the-art equipment for spinal surgery.

Other income sources

Ongoing revenue sources include proceeds from the Café dePaul and Lourdes Gift Shop, member dues, on-campus sales by local artisans, vending machines and donations from individuals. ●



Phil Knapp named 2022 Volunteer of the Year

Congratulations to Phil Knapp, who was honored as Lourdes Volunteer of the Year on October 25, 2022.

After thirty years with IBM, Phil turned to volunteering. He recently surpassed 6,000 volunteer hours in his seven years at Lourdes.

Phil worked in Medical Records, the Medical Staff Office and elsewhere before settling at the greeter's station, where he is a warm and welcoming presence. In addition, Phil now contributes his perspective and experience as a member of the Lourdes Auxiliary board.

Job well done, Phil! ●

Auxiliary funds Wet & Wild Wednesdays at CSBC summer camp

Over 200 children from Broome and Tioga counties enjoyed Wet & Wild Wednesdays at Catholic Schools of Broome County's three summer enrichment camps, courtesy of a \$2,000 donation from Lourdes Auxiliary. The fun included a double water slide, a bounce house, miniature golf, t-shirt tie dying and an ice cream truck!

Gigi's Playhouse also receives funds

The Auxiliary granted \$2,000 to Gigi's Playhouse to assist in funding a therapeutic play area at its new Oakdale Commons facility.

Many thanks to Denise Consol and



Lauren Maisano for handling community funding requests made to the Auxiliary. ●



Jodi Miller is 2023 Auxilian of the Year

On October 24, Jodi Miller was celebrated as Lourdes Auxiliary's Auxilian of the Year. Jodi has been an Auxiliary board member for eight years, the last three as president. Despite COVID-19 constraints, her hallmark smile, tenacity and awesome positivity kept us true to our core purpose of supporting Lourdes and the community.

In 2021, under Jodi's leadership, our *Community in Bloom* initiative was conceived, ultimately generating \$82,500 for the benefit of area residents suffering pandemic distress.

As the world tentatively emerged from the virus, she co-chaired our Lourdes Ball 2023

fundraiser with Kate Newberry, managing corporate sponsorships almost single-handedly. Due in large part to her efforts, the Auxiliary was able to donate \$200,000 toward purchase of high-tech surgical equipment for Lourdes' orthopedic practice.

The Discovery Center, Vestal Schools, local political campaigns and Lourdes Hospice have all benefited from Jodi's dynamism. Lourdes Auxiliary is grateful for her dedication to our organization.

Congratulations and thank you, Jodi! Thanks, also, to Barbara Simonds for chairing the festive event. ●



Front L-R: Barbara Simonds, Ellen Burns, Lauren Maisano, Barb Palmer, Denise Consol, Pam Previti & Nancy Boushie
Back: Nancy LaRose, Bonnie Zulick, Kate Newberry, Carole Hagopian, Jodi Miller, Phil Knapp, Laura Freeze & Jennifer Gates
Board members not pictured: Jaclyn Boushie-Bombard, Francine Butler Groat, Marina Resciniti & Beth Taylor

Auxiliary Board 2023-2024

Executive Board

Co-Presidents: Kate Newberry & Barb Palmer
 Co-Vice Presidents: Denise Consol & Lauren Maisano
 Secretary: Bonnie Zulick
 Treasurer: Pam Previti
 Immediate Past President: Jodi Miller

Members at Large

Jaclyn Boushie-Bombard	Carole Hagopian	Barbara Simonds
Nancy Boushie	Phil Knapp	Beth Taylor
Ellen Burns	Nancy LaRose	
Francine Butler Groat	Marina Resciniti	

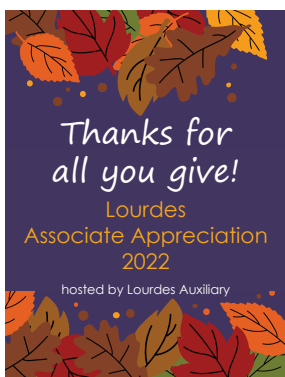
Ex-Officio Members

Kathy Connerton, Lourdes Hospital President & CEO
 Robert O'Connell, Lourdes Foundation President
 Susan Bretscher, Chief Mission Integration Officer
 Amy Pratt, Accounting
 Laura Freeze, Volunteer Services
 Jennifer Gates, Volunteer Services Secretary

Auxiliary Gift Shop & Café DePaul

Proceeds from Lourdes Auxiliary Gift Shop and Café DePaul, both located in Lourdes' Atrium, fund Auxiliary projects and thus benefit the hospital, its associates, patients and the greater community. Laura Freeze, Manager of Volunteer Services, is the liaison between the Auxiliary and these two enterprises.

Gift Shop Merchandiser Donna Breidenstein has filled the store with a variety of delightful gifts. A new "Grab 'n' Go" cooler offers easy access to snacks and drinks. Café Supervisor Donna Harchar and her staff offer delicious soups, sandwiches and freshly-made baked goods. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. ●



Lourdes associates feted with ice cream

Auxiliary members smiled behind their masks while serving ice cream at the Associate Appreciation event on November 10, 2022. Boxes of goodies were delivered to associates at off-site offices.

Barb Palmer chaired the event. ●





Ball set for February 24!

Lourdes Ball 2024 will be held at The Riverdale in Endwell, NY. Event co-chairs are Lourdes President & CEO Kathy Connerton and Micki Matthews.

The annual Ball is the Auxiliary's biggest fundraiser for the

hospital.

Proceeds from the 2024 gala will be applied to our \$386,000 commitment to fund the purchase of state-of-the-art surgical equipment for Lourdes' orthopedic practice. ●

Vestal's Rania Kahn earns Auxiliary scholarship

Each spring, the Auxiliary grants scholarships to select high school seniors who volunteer at Lourdes Hospital. Considerations include hospital volunteer hours, academic achievement and community involvement. The scholarship recipient for the 2022-2023 academic year was Vestal High School's Rania Khan. She was awarded \$2,000. Rania plans to pursue healthcare-related studies in college.

Over the past ten years the Auxiliary has granted more than \$50,000 to almost 40 exceptional area students.

The Scholarship Committee is chaired by Kate Newberry. She and the entire Auxiliary wish Rania continued success! ●

Community outreach

Lourdes Auxiliary has a variety of ongoing initiatives that support our objective of outreach to the extended community. These include:

- Books for pediatric clinics
- Patient Cheer
- "We Care" bags for cancer patients
- WHALE™ child identification program for first responders

Look for details in coming issues. ●



Auxiliary outreach projects include providing books for Lourdes pediatric clinics and cheer for patients

Lourdes Auxiliary's Mission Statement

The mission of Our Lady of Lourdes Hospital Auxiliary shall be to support and enhance the services provided by Our Lady of Lourdes Memorial Hospital in the care of its patients and the people within our community.



JOIN US!

New members are always welcome. Contact Nancy LaRose at nancyalarose@gmail.com for a membership form.

Dues support Auxiliary projects.

Want to go paperless?

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

Spotlight Staff

Beth Taylor, Nancy LaRose and Carole Hagopian, with assistance from Larry LaRose