



Auxiliary

ST. PETER'S HEALTH PARTNERS

# ST. MARY'S AUXILIARY NEWSLETTER

Spring 2024



As we welcome the arrival of spring, we are excited to extend our help to those in need.



**President-**

Nancy Doran-Hite  
[doranhite@hotmail.com](mailto:doranhite@hotmail.com)

**Past President-**  
Maureen Noonan

**Vice President-**  
Ann Apicella

**Secretary/Treasurer-  
Finance Officer-**  
Jeffrey Baltes

**Assistant Treasurer-**  
Carolyn Smith

**Newsletter Editor-**  
Sarah Adriaance  
[snowy@nycap.rr.com](mailto:snowy@nycap.rr.com)

To receive your newsletter electronically, please forward an-mail to the newsletter editor at the above address to request future editions in an e-mail/PDF format.

**Auxiliary Webpage**

If you've misplaced or mistakenly deleted your PDF copy of the newsletter, you can find the latest edition posted on SPHP'S website:

[St. Mary's Auxiliary](http://St.Mary'sAuxiliary.com)  
[St. Peter's Health Partners \(sphp.com\)](http://St.Peter'sHealthPartners.com)

**Printing is generously provided by the Center for Philanthropy:**  
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Please email Auxiliary articles or photos that you would like to see in your future newsletters to Sarah Adriaance:  
[snowy@nycap.rr.com](mailto:snowy@nycap.rr.com)

**Thank you!**

**M**essage from your President: The term "hero" often brings to mind someone who has achieved something monumental, accomplished a difficult task, or is rushing to save the day. We tend to forget that heroes exist all around us, in the form of people who quietly support those in need, offer a helping hand, or serve in challenging and often thankless jobs.

It has been said that true heroism is not measured by physical strength but by the size of one's heart. For our Auxiliary, our members are our heroes. When you become a member, purchase raffle tickets, volunteer for unique projects, attend our holiday brunch, or engage with us in other ways, you help support the mission of not only St. Mary's Auxiliary but also of St. Peter's Health Partners and their commitment to the community.

Our Auxiliary donates directly to various agencies through our yearly donation to local food pantries, our assistance to the behavioral health unit, our support of the Employee Fund Drive, and our collection of items at our brunch. We also contribute to the Foundation, which helps to strengthen the medical and social fabric of the broader community.

And so—our hats go off to you—our “unsung heroes” whose dedication to St. Mary’s Auxiliary provides the bedrock on which we have been able to build. We are most grateful!

**Tree of Light Dedication Ceremony 11/30/2023**

During January’s Auxiliary Board meeting, Chair Paul Apicella informed us that the dedication ceremony was successful! With around 40 attendees, the ceremony represented 221 names and raised \$1245 in proceeds. This amount is \$275 higher than the previous year, thanks to the support of people like you. It was an excellent opportunity to honor and celebrate someone dear to our hearts.

Next year, we plan to print programs for the lighting ceremony. The programs will include a list of names of those who have been honored or recognized so that people can take them home.

We want to express our heartfelt gratitude to Charles Sanderox, a talented local floral designer, for his exceptional work in designing and decorating the St. Mary's Auxiliary Holiday Tree of Light. His kindness and generosity have enabled us to create a beautiful and unforgettable display for everyone to enjoy. We would also like to thank Carolyn Smith for her invaluable assistance in this project.

We want to thank Jeff Baltes for creating the beautiful display on your right, which features the names that are near and dear to our hearts.



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**We want to be sure to stay in touch!**

Please notify Jeff Baltes,  
[ljeffreymbaltes@gmail.com](mailto:ljeffreymbaltes@gmail.com)  
if you have moved or changed information.



**THINKING OF YOU**

If you know of an Auxilian who is in need of a "thinking of you" message for any reason, please contact: **Elizabeth Hite** [Elizhite90@gmail.com](mailto:Elizhite90@gmail.com)

**LEARN / EARN / RETURN  
Volunteers Needed**

Please Contact: Carol Favreau  
[Carol.Favreau@sphp.com](mailto:Carol.Favreau@sphp.com)  
(518) 271-3336

**Love is a word,  
Love is a feeling,  
Love is for sharing.**

**THANK YOU!**

Again, thanks to our past and present volunteers for their incredible generosity, hard work, and dedication.

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**FOCUSING ON COMMUNITY HEALTH**

**When most of us hear "St. Peter's Health Partners,"** thoughts most likely immediately turn to St. Peter's Hospital, Eddy Senior Services, or various satellite health-related facilities around the community. At a recent Auxiliary Board meeting, the Board learned about the host of additional community-based services, social outreach programs, and health equity initiatives that provide a diverse and inclusive investment into community health and well-being.

A recently published Fiscal Year 2023: Community Health and Well-Being Report highlights how St. Peter's Health Partners supports healthy living and social care, directly serving over 335,000 persons in the 2022-23 fiscal year. From advanced medical and acute care and rehabilitation, home care, hospice, independent senior living, and more to working to ensure healthy starts for mothers, babies, and families, advanced social care (smoking cessation, diabetes prevention programs, development of service directories, transportation support services, social needs screenings, and community health workers), St. Peter's Health Partners has made a significant investment in the overall health of our communities.

We all want to know where our money goes when donating to any cause. When donations are made to St. Peter's Health Partners, those funds support a broad menu that impacts more than just "brick and mortar" buildings. As when a stone is dropped into a pool of water...the ripples create a larger and larger sphere of influence, and the impact grows exponentially.

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**"What legacy you leave behind will mark your life on Earth?"**

**By Kathie Ziobrowski  
St. Peter's Health Partners Director of Legacy Giving**

I saw that in an obituary recently. The gentleman who passed was active in his community and left his mark here on Earth through volunteer efforts as well as being a generous donor to his favorite Legacy Foundation within St. Peter's Health Partners.

I sat and thought about the quote in his obituary and realize how true it is. As humans, what we want is to make a better life for us and others. As a member of St. Mary's Auxiliary, you know first-hand the positive impact you have made through your volunteerism and fundraising for St. Mary's and the Troy community. Times have changed, but what has not changed is the commitment of St. Mary's to the community and the patients we serve.

Have you ever thought about leaving a legacy that will allow us to enhance the programs and services we provide to those who need it most each day? You can make an impact in far-reaching ways by including Samaritan Hospital and The Eddy Foundation in your estate plan (Tax ID 22-2743478) for the benefit of the St. Mary's Campus.

Start today by contacting your financial advisor or attorney for help in establishing your legacy and help patients in the Troy community and beyond. For a confidential discussion, please contact Kathie Ziobrowski, Director of Legacy Giving at (518) 525-1529 or email her at [Kathleen.Ziobrowski@sphp.com](mailto:Kathleen.Ziobrowski@sphp.com).

## CONGRATULATIONS TO THE WINNERS OF ST. MARY'S HOLIDAY RAFFLES!

**First prize winner:** Joyce Murphy  
(\$500 in gift cards)



**Second prize winner:** Tim Berger  
(\$300 in gift cards)

We thank all St. Mary's Auxiliary Board Members who donated gift cards for our holiday raffle. We appreciate everyone's generosity. Look for a flyer soon for our Spring Raffle, which will help support our Memory Garden project.

## SPRING HAS SPRUNG!

**Spring has sprung** at Rose's Gift Gallery! Recently, Rosemarie Fuchs carefully selected new merchandise for the Gift Gallery. The Gift Gallery offers the latest products that will impress you and at lower prices, too! So why wait? Take advantage of this opportunity to enhance your Spring shopping experience. Although the business is growing moderately, it still heavily relies on the activity in the building. Knowing you have contributed to a meaningful cause, walking out of the store after making a purchase is always a warm and heartfelt feeling. Once again, we thank our faithful volunteers for their generous time working in Rose's Gift Gallery.

### A Condensed History of the Seaton Health Auxiliary 1907—1987

Seaton Health  
St. Mary's Hospital  
Troy, NY

### THE LATER YEARS, 1980 - 1987

The more things change...



Throughout the 1980s and 1990s, fund-raisers continued. In January 1982, \$150,000 was paid toward the Redevelopment Fund, and in June, a new pledge of \$100,000 was made to fund the Surgical Suite Parlor and the Material Management Department.

As part of the Diamond Jubilee in 1982, proceeds from a diamond raffle were \$4000. Many events took place that year: a brunch, a luncheon, a fashion show at the Troy Country Club, an Ice Cream Social, a Monte Carlo night, and a Dinner Dance.

The auxiliary entered a float in the Uncle Sam parade. The first Seton Health Pilgrimage to Emmitsburg, Md., sponsored by the auxiliary, occurred in 1982. These pilgrimages continued through 1995 and were extremely popular in the hospital and within the community.

"Lifeline" emergency response units were purchased for \$8,000. "Reach to Recovery" kits for mastectomy patients were made by Auxilians and are still being made. A donation of \$100,000 was made toward a new operating room, and a check was given to Poison Control. In 1986, \$2500 was donated for the kitchenette in the first-floor meeting room, (DePaul Room). That same year, the hospital conducted a "Silent Campaign," i.e., a fund drive for a new emergency room, because there were so many other drives in the City in 1986. The auxiliary gave \$10,000 toward the fund. New vestments for the Priest conducting mass in the Sacred Heart Chapel were purchased for \$2,000.

**In 1987**, the auxiliary celebrated its 80th birthday. A special American Flag, which had been flown over the NYS Capital on September 4th for St. Mary's Hospital Auxiliary at the request of Senator D'Amato, was given to the auxiliary.

(More info in the following issue)

## Holiday Brunch and Annual Meeting

**Our holiday brunch** was a huge success! We want to extend our gratitude to Amy Hale and Joan Mance for collecting numerous items before the brunch started. These items were distributed to various agencies in the area. We also appreciate the volunteers and members of St. Mary's Auxiliary who participated and enjoyed the special holiday brunch and annual meeting. President Nancy Doran-Hite and Secretary Jeff Baltes led the meeting.



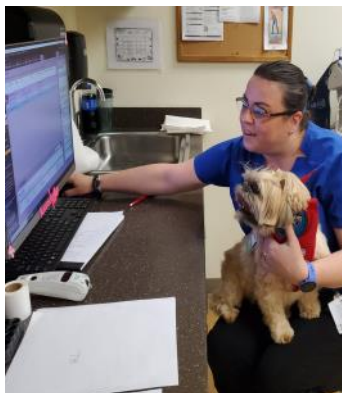
From upper left to right: Nancy Doran - Hite, Jeff Baltes, Fran Hyde, Amy Hale and Joan Mance. Bottom right: Beatrice Meichtry, Lise Harris, Karen Jandali and Marie Malsch.

## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Last year, the St. Mary's Auxiliary Board voted to extend the membership period for those who are yearly members an additional year through June 30, 2024, without payment of dues. Time has passed quickly, as is often the case, and it will soon be time to renew your membership.

For those members who pay yearly dues, you will receive a dues statement in early June to renew your membership for the forthcoming year. We genuinely appreciate your membership and hope you will continue to be part of our Auxiliary family as we continue our mission of community outreach and support. Yearly dues remain at \$15 (single) and \$25 (couple). You may also consider a lifetime membership - \$150 (single) and \$200 (family).

Those who are already lifetime members will not receive this communication. However, if your contact information (address, phone, email) has changed, we urge you to please provide new information to Jeff Baltes, Auxiliary secretary, at [Jeffrey.baltes@sphp.com](mailto:Jeffrey.baltes@sphp.com). **We want to be sure to keep in touch!**



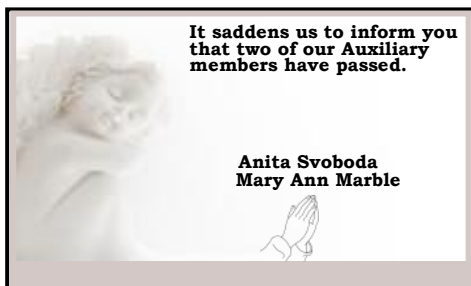
The St. Mary's Cancer Treatment Center in Troy, NY, was recently visited by a therapy dog named Molly Sue. She comforted patients and staff alike.

## HOW DOES YOUR GARDEN GROW?

Ours grows because of the care and dedication of Auxiliary members who assist in planting and maintaining the Memory Garden, located across from the cafeteria on the St. Mary's Campus. Especially important is a group of committed volunteers who provide daily watering to ensure a colorful display throughout the summer. The season will be here before we know it, and we are seeking additional folks to help us with this watering task. Are you available for about 20 minutes one day a week?

Please send an email to Jeff Baltes [Ljeffreymbaltes@gmail.com](mailto:Ljeffreymbaltes@gmail.com) to find out more about how you can help!

There's a garden hose with your name on it!



It saddens us to inform you that two of our Auxiliary members have passed.

Anita Svoboda  
Mary Ann Marble



ST PETER'S HEALTH PARTNERS

1300 Massachusetts Avenue  
Troy, New York 12180-1695