

Hello Friends,

Since the 33rd Taste of the Town was moved to November this year, we transitioned quickly into planning the Winter Affair. With the success of both of these events and other events throughout the year, the Auxiliary continues to be faithful to our mission and support the final portion of our \$500,000 pledge to help fund the ICU expansion and the construction of a Healing Garden with a Labyrinth. Often, Jody White, President of Lowell General Hospital and Circle Health recognizes and acknowledges the importance of the Auxiliary's work in supporting patients and families at the hospital. Thanks to all of you for ongoing support and donations throughout the year.

As mentioned, our 33rd Taste the Town was held in November with guest host Susan Wornick from WCVB Channel 5. On behalf of the Auxiliary, I offer my sincere thanks to all the individuals, restaurants, and businesses who supported Taste of the Town, especially those who volunteered their time and talents to make this signature event such as success.

The Festival of Holidays was held on both campuses featuring both holiday merchandise as well as popular items featured in the gift shops. The gift shop continues to offer a selection of great gifts in the shared space with the pharmacy.

The book fairs were held on both the Main and Saints campuses as well as in Tyngsboro throughout the year and is a staff and visitor favorite. Thank you to Christine Fraser for coordinating the book fairs.

The January Raffle Calendar was once again popular this year with great prizes, gift cards and cash amounts. Winners were chosen daily for the month of January. Thank you to all the generous donors that fill the calendar each year.

The Winter Affair was held just a few weeks ago, and Vesper Country Club was dazzling with winter décor. Local talented bartenders held a friendly competition by creating signature cocktails for guests to judge. More than 150 guests enjoyed a delicious meal, silent auction, gift card pull, and many other fun activities. An event not to miss next year! Special thanks to Alison Burns and Tara Morrissey for co-chairing this wonderful event.

This year we will celebrate our 25th annual Daffodils & Desserts event on March 26th in the lobby at both the Main and Saints campuses. We are hoping to make it a record-breaking year where all proceeds go directly to help patients at the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center. Please consider donating baked goods, purchasing daffodils or making a donation. I want to especially thank Pauline Lambert and Mary Bennett for co-chairing this event for many years.

The Annual Meeting will be held Thursday, May 14th at Vesper Country Club. More details to follow.

Thanks for your continued support of the Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary.

All the best,

Susan Dionne, President
Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary

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Auxiliary Board 2019-2020

Officers:

President: Susan Dionne

Vice President: Molly Bennett

Treasurer: Deborah Lemos

Corresponding Secretary:
Pauline Lambert

Recording Secretary:
Alison Burns

Immediate Past President:
Paula Leavitt

Directors:

Mary Bennett

Fran Dallmeyer

Christine Fraser

Margaret Leighton

Tara Morrissey

Trish O'Donnell

Renee Psinois

Anne-Marie Sousa

Deborah Trull

Pam White

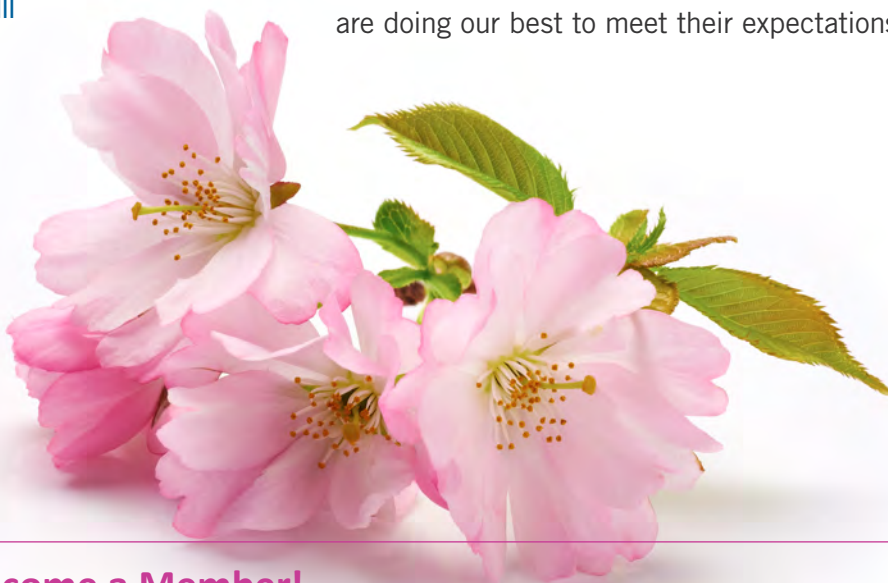
Gift Shop News

After a successful holiday season behind us, the Main and Saints campus gift shops are counting down the days until spring! We are continuing to see an uptick in sales. Our customers are adjusting to our new space and recognizing that we still carry the same variety and quality of merchandise they love. Our top categories continue to be clothing, jewelry and handbags.



We've been thrilled to add even more products that support charitable causes like Bridgewater Candle and Caus. Bridgewater Candle provides a meal for a child in need with every candle purchase. Caus is a drinkwear company that supports several causes including disaster relief, pet rescue and breast cancer research. Mona B, a handbag line, does great things with conservation and sustainability. They make wonderful products out of recycled materials. They even have a nylon tote bag made out of recycled plastic bottles!

Our merchandise is turning quickly and we are working hard to keep both gift shops looking fresh and fun for our customers. We are hopeful that our sales will continue to grow to the level they were before our transition. In the meantime, we will continue to have a positive attitude and reassure our customers that we are doing our best to meet their expectations.



Become a Member!

There are many ways to get involved. For more information about joining the Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary, please contact the Philanthropy Office at 978-937-6696, or visit: <https://www.lowellgeneral.org/auxiliary>.

Daffodil Pin Now on Sale!

Daffodils, the colorful first flower of spring, represent a universal symbol of hope and life to cancer patients and those affected by the disease.

This year the Auxiliary is offering daffodil pins in honor of longtime Auxiliary member, Pauline Lambert, who has worked tirelessly to help ease the burden of cancer patients.

Pauline is founder of Daffodils and Desserts and has chaired this annual event for 25 years. Daffodils and Desserts, which raises money for Cancer Center patient needs, has evolved from just selling daffodils to its present form, selling daffodils and donated desserts, candy, flower arrangements, and Easter Baskets.

This event holds a special meaning for Pauline as, like most of us, cancer has touched both family members and friends.

In addition to being a long time gift shop volunteer, Pauline is a past president of the Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary, and presently serves as Corresponding Secretary. After many years of dedicated service to Lowell General Hospital and its mission, Pauline announced she will be stepping down this spring.

Please join us in recognizing Pauline's years of work supporting Lowell General Hospital, especially its cancer patients, by purchasing and proudly wearing a daffodil pin.

A limited supply of these colorful daffodil pins are available in the hospital gift shops for \$5.

All proceeds from these pins will be donated directly to the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center in Pauline's honor.



daffodil pins are available at the gift shops



New Board Member



Anne-Marie Sousa is the President and Founder of Catie's Closet, a 501(c) nonprofit organization, which she started in 2010 in memory of her daughter.

Catie's Closet improves school attendance by providing clothing and toiletries to children in need. The organization works on the front lines, battling child poverty, right where kids need to be – in their schools. Catie's Closet currently operates in over 80 schools in the Greater Lowell, Boston, southern New Hampshire and Springfield areas.

After 30 years in the banking industry, primarily as VP of Marketing & Financial Education at Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union, Anne-Marie is now the Director of Marketing at The Arbors Assisted Living Community in Dracut, MA where she hopes to provide

compassion and understanding to families as they transition their loved one to assisted living.

Anne-Marie has been recognized as a Credit Union Hero by Bankers & Tradesman, was inducted into The Lowell's Sun's Salute to Women Program, and was named an Unsung Heroine by the Massachusetts Commission on the Status of Women, in addition to several other awards and recognitions. She is a proud graduate of the inaugural class of Public Matters, the City of Lowell's Leadership and Civic Engagement Initiative.

Daffodils & Desserts



Looking back over the past twenty five years to the inception of “Daffodils and Desserts” provides an opportunity to view how this event has evolved from a bake sale that also sold daffodils for the American Cancer Society to the present day when all proceeds benefit the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center.



Read about the daffodil pin on page 3

All proceeds benefit the Lowell General Hospital Cancer Center.

At the time of its inception, the Auxiliary was looking for a new endeavor to raise funds that could help contribute to our annual gift to the hospital, while also providing an opportunity for members to participate and socialize. Hearing how bake sales were held in the United Kingdom in conjunction with the blooming of daffodil gardens, we thought that this idea would work for our organization and “Daffodil and Cakes” came

into being in March of 1996. At the time, the hospital supported the American Cancer Society and sold daffodils through the various departments of the hospital. We joined in that effort by taking orders for daffodils and asked members to provide home baked goods and desserts. For our efforts, we sold \$221.50 that first year and turned over \$360 to the American Cancer Society.

In 1999 the name was changed to “Daffodils and Desserts” as we realized that we were offering more

than cakes and our name should reflect our expanded goods. Interest in this event grew each year and the goal was always to surpass the previous year's sales. In 2002, gift baskets were added to our offerings and we passed the \$1,000 mark for the first time.



The following year, 2003, the Board voted to purchase specific items that the Cancer Center requested and thus began our presentation of gifts to representatives of the Cancer Center at our annual meeting. Our first specific gift was a phlebotomy chair and since then we've bought BOSE acoustic systems, chairs for



the Patient Resource Room, a puzzle table and chairs, a large TV, DVD player, video cart and videos, comfortable chairs for visitors of patients undergoing chemotherapy, books, acrylic covers for quilt displays, chairs for the infusion area and thousands of dollars in gift cards for holiday dinners. In total our donations amount to \$57,944.

Another change came in 2014 when the American Cancer Society announced that it was discontinuing the daffodil program. To this date, the Auxiliary had

raised \$14,435 for the American Cancer Society. After discussion, it was decided to continue the event and a source for the flowers was found. That same year we were able to add an additional site on the Saints campus which greatly helped our efforts. Now all our profits would be directed to the Cancer Center at Lowell General Hospital in direct benefit to its patients. Last year that amount was \$6,400.



As spring arrives and we mark our 25th year on March 26th, we are confident that the generous nature of Auxilians, patients and visitors will support our efforts and exceed our expectations as we provide a day of colorful daffodils and the hope they provide for all. We invite you to join us and participate in this day of celebration!



Taste of the Town



The Auxiliary was honored again this year to have Emmy Award winning Boston WCVB newscaster and consumer reporter Susan Wornick host Taste of the Town. Held Sunday, November 17, 2019 at the UMass Lowell Inn and Conference Center, this was the Auxiliary's 33rd annual Taste of the Town.

As in past years, Taste of the Town attendees were treated to creative offerings from some of Greater Lowell's finest restaurants, food service companies, and caterers who came together to support the hospital.

While sampling the creative cuisine, guests enjoyed the musical talent of Bill Connors of New England Dueling Pianos. Attendees also had the opportunity to bid on a delightful assortment of live and silent auctions and take a chance on a variety of beautiful raffle baskets all generously donated by individuals and businesses from the Greater Lowell area.



As is our tradition, attendees were asked to vote for their favorite appetizer, entrée, and dessert, known as the People's Choice Awards. This was a formidable task given the outstanding quality and variety of offerings.

This year's winners:

Best Appetizer:

The Chowder Factory for its Butternut Squash Soup

Best Entrée:

Two Chefs are Better than One for its Southern Fried Chicken over a loaded Potato Croquette with Creamy Buttermilk Gravy



Best Dessert:

Sodexo for its Zabaglione with Fresh Berries and Homemade Whipped Cream

The Auxiliary is grateful to each of these organizations for their generous donation to our event and we ask you to patronize these restaurants, food service companies, and caterers in the future.

110 Grill

Burton's Grill and Bar

The Chowder Factory

Eviva Trattoria

Harrows Chicken Pies

I Dream of Jeanne Cakes

The Irish Cottage Restaurant and Pub

Mr. Mac's

NoLo Bistro and Bar at the Stonehedge Hotel

Olympia Restaurant

Sodexo

Two Chefs are Better than One

The Chairmen's Choice Award

is presented to the participant deemed to have the best table presentation by the Taste of the Town Committee. This year's winner was to **Two Chefs are Better than One Catering**.

The real winners of the evening were the patients of Lowell General Hospital, as all proceeds from this event assist the Auxiliary in honoring its commitment to support the hospital.

The Auxiliary is thankful to all the organizations and individuals who donated their time, talent, and resources to make the 33rd Annual Taste of the Town a great success and we look forward to seeing you again next year.

A Winter Affair with a Flair

Over 140 guests enjoyed a delicious dinner, cocktails and fun at the Winter Affair on February 6th. Vesper Country Club was beautifully decorated with a winter theme and music from New England Dueling Pianos echoed throughout the rooms.

There was a feeling of excitement in the ballroom as guests sampled signature cocktails made with Nautical Gin, Skrewball Peanut Butter Whiskey and Hammer & Sickle Vodka. Local bartenders from Fishbones, Evviva Trattoria,



110 Grill, Lowell Burger Company, Brother's Sports Bar & Grille and Andiamo displayed their creativity with unique samples. Congratulations to George Quirbach

from Fishbones for winning best bartender and thank you to all participating bartenders.

In addition to cocktail sampling, the event also featured a cornhole competition, a deck of cards raffle and silent auctions. New this year was a prize board with 110 picks of prizes which included gift cards, wine and passes which sold out in 40 minutes. Thanks to everyone who donated to this popular event.

Lovely floral arrangements from Classic Flowers, Floral Arts, Blossoms, Piccirillo Designs, Rose of Sharon at Blossom Hill, Flowers by Albert and A Floral Moment by JuJu Buds were raffled off at the end of the evening. Jody White, President and CEO of Circle Health and Lowell General Hospital thanked the crowd for their support.

At the end of the evening, longtime Auxilian Pauline Lambert was recognized for her



commitment to Lowell General Hospital and the Cancer Center. Her leadership organizing the annual Daffodils & Desserts event has resulted in thousands of dollars in contributions to patient needs in the Cancer Center.

Profits from the event went towards the Auxiliary pledge

for the ICU Renovation Project and the Healing Garden.



Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary Calendar 2020

March 4, 2020

Book Fair - Saints Campus

8 am – 2:30 pm

March 5, 2020

Book Fair - Main Campus

10 am – 3 pm

March 26, 2020

Daffodils and Desserts Main & Saints Campus Lobbies

9 am - 4 pm

May 14, 2020

Annual Meeting

Vesper Country Club

Time TBA

September 16, 2020

Book Fair - Saints Campus

September 17 & 18, 2020

Book Fair - Main Campus

October/November 2020

Taste of the Town

Date and Time TBA

December 2, 2020

Book Fair - Tyngsboro Campus

December 8, 2020

Book Fair - Saints Campus

December 9 & 10, 2020

Book Fair - Main Campus

A sincere thank you for your Auxiliary Membership!

Your Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary membership makes a difference! Since its inception in 1951, the Auxiliary has actively worked to promote and to advance the welfare of Lowell General Hospital. Through a variety of events and activities, the Auxiliary provides its members, the hospital and the community at large with the opportunity to enjoy social events, purchase unique items and engage in educational healthcare programs while providing important financial support for the hospital.

Recent Contributions by the Auxiliary to Lowell General Hospital Include:

- \$425,000 to support the construction of the Intensive Care Unit and outdoor Healing Garden at Lowell General Hospital's Main Campus
- \$6,400 to support patient care priority items in the Cancer Center

New members of the Auxiliary are always welcome!

Do you know someone who would like to become an Auxiliary Member? As a reminder, annual members receive a 10% discount in the Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary Gift Shop on both Main and Saints Campuses. Lifetime members also get their name on the Auxiliary Membership Plaque on display in the conference center lobby. For more information about joining the Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary, please contact The Philanthropy Department at 978-937-6696 or the Lowell General Hospital website at www.lowellgeneral.org/auxiliary.

We greatly appreciate your commitment to and support of the Lowell General Hospital Auxiliary, as together we directly assist in the hospital's mission of *Complete connected care*.



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