

OUR LADY OF LOURDES MEMORIAL HOSPITAL

Lourdes Hospital Foundation
news

Sustaining the vision. Supporting the mission.

Your Generosity Really Makes A Difference In So Many People's Lives!!!!

EVER FAITHFUL TO OUR VINCENTIAN MISSION OF ASSISTING THOSE MOST IN NEED

On a frequent basis the Lourdes Hospital Foundation receives requests to assist those in need with the basic necessities of life. Here are some of those individuals and their stories:

♥ **One of our patients here at Lourdes**, who was treated at Broome Oncology, was suffering from Stage IV Metastatic Cancer. Due to this reality, our patient who was the only wage earner in the household was forced to be at home thus eliminating any steady income. She was able to receive disability, but still found it difficult to make ends meet. **The Lourdes Foundation** was able to assist this patient with a gift card to be utilized in the purchase of groceries.

♥ **A cancer patient** who had been receiving chemotherapy here at Lourdes was also traveling to New York City to Sloan Kettering Hospital for additional treatment and eventual surgery. This individual had to make several trips there and was faced with mounting hotel and gasoline costs. Through the **Sock Out Cancer Fund** here at Lourdes our patient received the vital support to assist with these bills, which surely put this patient's mind at ease and aided in the healing process.

These are but a few of countless people recently assisted as a result of your generosity in support of the Lourdes Hospital Foundation. It is indeed a great privilege to be able to assist so many people especially in difficult times like these. Please keep all of our patients in your prayers. May God bless you for your generosity and support which makes all of this a reality.

♥ **A patient at Broome Oncology** was recently treated for advanced Lymphoma. As a result of this illness he was unable to work, which effected his ability to pay bills, including a bill for an in-patient stay recently completed. Due to the financial hardships and challenges being faced our patient communicated to a nurse navigator that he was considering discontinuing his cancer treatment. Thankfully we were made aware of this situation and assistance in paying these bills was received through the **Geller Oncology Fund**.

♥ **A young Hospice patient** being cared for by her young adult children recently was assisted by the **Lourdes Foundation** in the payment of a recent NYSEG bill. In addition, this patient also received assistance in attaining the basic necessities of life.

If you would like to make a donation to any of the funds listed above or learn more about other funds at the Lourdes Foundation, please contact us. You may also send a donation to us indicating your choice of fund or send an unrestricted gift to be used where the need is greatest.

One kind donation can change a person's entire life!

Lourdes Hospital Foundation Received \$65,498 as Part of This Year's Sock Out Cancer Benefit!!!

On Friday the 12th of April, the Annual Sock Out Cancer benefit was held at Binghamton's Forum Theatre. A lively crowd gathered to hear an all-star concert of music from the 1980s performed by the renowned Phillip Meyers Band.

The featured artists that performed that night were Alex Ligertwood, the former lead singer for *Santana* and Kevin Chalfant, who has performed on stage as lead vocalist with *Journey*.

The show included classic songs from *Van Halen*, *Toto*, *Led Zeppelin*, *Joan Jett*, *Styx*, *Survivor*, *Boston* and *U2*.

Many cancer survivors, their families, as well as those currently receiving cancer treatment were in attendance. They very much enjoyed the performance and the opportunity to share in the joy and fellowship of that special evening.

The Sock Out Cancer initiative is the idea of Bruce Boyea, CEO and President of Security Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York. His dream of putting on an all-star show with proceeds being evenly divided between Binghamton's two health systems UHS and Lourdes has become a much-anticipated annual event.

The Lourdes Hospital Foundation recently received \$65,498 as a result of this year's Sock Out Cancer event. These funds are utilized on a frequent basis to assist those going through cancer treatment and their families. Such things as groceries, mortgage payments, utility bills, and the basic necessities of life are attained via this fund.



We are so grateful to Security Mutual for organizing this annual extravaganza! It truly brings so many people together to give them hope and reassurance in a most difficult time.

Many Thanks to Security Mutual and its Sock Out Cancer initiative!!!



In Loving Memory of



George F. Akel, Jr.

January 29, 1935-May 22, 2019

It is with great sorrow and heavy hearts that we pay tribute to our former board member and true friend, George F. Akel, Jr.

He was born in Binghamton and attended local schools, graduating from Binghamton Central High School in 1953. He went on to attend the University of Pennsylvania and afterwards attended the Wharton School of Business. He was certainly blessed with a keen intellect and profound insight into business and life in general.

After his college years, he returned to his native Binghamton to work alongside his two brothers, Ferris and Ron, in the family business.

An active member of the local community, George served on multiple boards including SUNY Broome Community College, McFarland Johnson, NYSERDA, Regional Advisory Board of Excellus Blue Cross Shield, Willow Run Foods, Tri-Cities Opera and many others.

He was very supportive of the local community, and all of us here are most grateful to him and his family for their generosity and dedication to making the greater Binghamton area a better place.

Always the gentleman, he had a gift for putting you at ease and he always took an interest in what others were doing.

Although very successful in life, George was a very humble and modest man. Indeed, he set a great example of how to live and how to share with others the fruits of ones labors.

All of us at the Lourdes Foundation are most grateful to George for his service and his generosity in support of our mission.

Indeed, we lost a great friend and are saddened by that reality, however, we are not without hope, for death is not the end but the beginning. George truly believed this.

What a wonderful man of great charity and concern for those in need.

May he rest in peace.

Requiem Aeternam dona eis Domine, et lux perpetua luceat eis. Amen



We Welcome These Individuals to Our Board!

Armond George

Armond George was born and raised in Endicott N.Y. Armond holds a Bachelor of Science degree from Mansfield University of Pennsylvania. He and his wife, Mary Beth, reside in Endicott with their son, David, a senior at Lafayette College. After graduation, David will be working as an analyst with US Trust in New York City. Their daughter, Alexis, works as a Wealth Management Advisor for Merrill Lynch in Baltimore, MD. Armond has served as Treasurer of the Klee Foundation as well as on the Finance and Audit committee for the Catholic Diocese of Syracuse. Over the years he has also served as Vice-President of the Catholic

Education Foundation of The Southern Tier and Board Advisor and Coach for Endicott Youth Baseball and Football. Armond enjoys playing golf and tennis in his free time.

Since joining Merrill Lynch in 1984, Armond George has served his clients and his community as a trusted Financial Advisor. In 2001, he and his wife (and colleague), Mary Beth, established The George Group of Merrill Lynch. In 2014, Armond was named Resident Director of the Binghamton office of Merrill Lynch. In his role, he leads and mentors 12 financial advisors who help manage \$2 billion of clients' assets and liabilities.

Michael J. Dobransky

Michael Dobransky was born in the 1st Ward and raised in the Binghamton area. He received a Bachelor of Arts from Colgate University and then joined the US Air Force. As a Captain, Michael served as weapons instructor and director, and as missile site commander in places as diverse as Iran, Turkey, Libya, France, England and West Germany.

After leaving the armed forces a career in marketing development and management blossomed. From field sales for the Maxwell division of General Foods to Export Manager to Development Manager to General Manager to Director, from Newark to Rye Brook to Brussels to Novi Sad to Anchorage to Vienna; Michael's managerial and financial skills and knowledge of the world at large developed. In the early 1980's he also returned to the world of higher education, studying both Marketing and Financial Management at

Columbia University. Presently Michael consults with the Dobransky Group Ltd., based in Vienna, Austria.

Upon his return to the USA, Michael has been very active in his church, St. John's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, both locally and nationally. He is also an active member of the German-American Club and the Ukrainian-American Veterans Post 43 in Johnson City, NY where he is presently serving as Commander.

A bold and result oriented trailblazer with a comprehensive record of solid achievements, Lourdes Foundation is pleased to welcome Michael's extensive strategic planning skills and experience to the board.

Fr. Anthony Amato *in his own words...*

I was born in Greece, NY, a suburb to the west of the City of Rochester and I am the second of four boys in my family. We were educated at the Catholic school at our parish and then attended the Aquinas Institute of Rochester for high school. It was there, during my senior year, that I first considered the call to the priesthood. I did not pursue that call at first, but became a Computer Science major at the University of Rochester in the Fall of 2005. Rather quickly during that first year of college, I realized that I needed to explore my desire to think and write on topics in philosophy and religious studies. I switched to a double-major in those areas and during those years I had continued to develop a prayer-life. As I had entered my third year of college, I had decided that I wanted to pursue graduate studies in theology and become a college professor. As I graduated in May 2009, I began graduate studies at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry that Fall.

It was there, in Boston, living on my own for the first time, that I kept hearing a persistent call to look deeper

into the possibility of being a priest. I committed myself to praying the Liturgy of the Hours throughout the day and by the end of my first year of my Master's program, I began the conversation with the Diocese of Rochester to begin seminary when I graduate. Through a life of study and prayer, I was able to discern who God was calling me to be. I graduated in May 2011 and began the first year of seminary, in Rochester, that summer.

In August of 2012, the diocese sent me to study at Theological College at the Catholic University of America in Washington, DC. After four years of study, and one year full-time in a parish in my diocese, I earned a Licentiate in Sacred Theology and was ordained a priest on June 3, 2017. The bishop sent me to Tioga County, at St. Patrick Parish and Blessed Trinity Parish, as the parochial vicar. I have enjoyed my time in this part of the state and have made many friendships that will endure.

Lourdes Oral Health Initiative: Lourdes Oral Health Receives Delivery of a New Mobile Unit!



Lourdes Dental Services, consisting of Lourdes Centre for Oral Health and Lourdes Mobile Dental Services, advances our mission of providing quality, preventative and therapeutic oral health care to children and their families. Through collaboration, out-reach and education, Lourdes Dental Services increases public awareness of the importance of good oral health and its impact upon total health and well-being. Our Centre for Oral Health has been in existence since 2005 and continues to assist those most in need, especially children, with vital dental care.

An essential part of this undertaking is the mobile dental initiative, specifically the van itself, which goes out in the local community to assist those in urgent need of dental care, who are mostly children.

The current mobile unit was nearing the end of its life and therefore needed replacement. To that end, two local foundations heard our call for assistance and very generously granted us the much-needed funds for the replacement of our current mobile oral unit.

In the spring of 2018 the Dr. G. Clifford and Florence B. Decker Foundation made a commitment of \$401,566 that completely covered the purchase of a brand new mobile dental unit.

This new van will be used in out-reach to elementary schools as well as to rural and underserved communities in the Greater Binghamton area. Children will now have access to dental services such as our dental sealant program that has as its goal the preservation of first and second permanent molars from tooth decay by applying sealants to these young patient's teeth.

The Mee Foundation also made a commitment of \$50,000 which will fund the purchase of four Dexis Platinum Digital X-Ray Sensors that are utilized as part of this new unit.

These radiographic sensors will allow the dental clinician to take bite-wing and periapical images, which will then be used by the dentist to diagnose dental decay, abscesses, bone levels, missing teeth and developmental delays or abnormalities.

We expect delivery of this unit in July of 2019!

Big smiles will be seen from miles away and in the years to come as a result of the generosity of the Decker and Mee Foundation's generous support of this endeavor.

A world of thanks to these Foundations for their wonderful support which will literally brighten countless lives and smiles for years to come!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Lourdes Foundation Board Members

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Contact us

M – F 8:00am – 4:30pm
Phone: 607-798-5684
www.lourdes.com/about-us/foundation

Planned Giving & The Heritage Society

There are many ways to support the work of Lourdes Hospital. One of the easiest ways to make a planned gift is through a bequest. Through a simple provision in your will, you may make a gift to the Foundation.

Making a bequest is the most common type of planned gift, and is an excellent choice if you want to maintain control of your assets during your lifetime, and support Lourdes in the future. We can work with you and your financial advisor to craft specific bequest language that accurately reflects your gift intentions.

Our Heritage Society gratefully acknowledges the following individuals who have demonstrated their devotion to Lourdes Hospital through a planned gift. We would like to express our deepest appreciation as their gifts have enabled the Foundation to continue its support of Lourdes Hospital.

Estate of Albert M. Anderegg*
Estate of Robert L. McDevitt*, K.S.G, K.C.H.S
& Catherine H. McDevitt*, L.C.H.S.
Sara E. O'Connell* Trust
Estate of Paul F. Reich, MD*

Estate of Hans F. Weil*
Estate of Helena E. Weil*
Mr. & Mrs. Earle Wootton
J. Paul Wynne* Charitable Trust

**Deceased*

**If you would like more information on Planned Giving or The Heritage Society,
please feel free to contact the Foundation office at 607-798-5684.**