



*A Member of
Catholic Health East,
Sponsored by the
Sisters of Mercy*

**Contact: Linda Blauers
Public Relations Specialist
St. James Mercy Hospital
411 Canisteo Street
Hornell, NY 14843
Phone: 1-607-324-8146
Fax: 1-607-324-8115
Email: lblauers@sjmh.org**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

SJMH Auxiliary...the Gift that Keeps on Giving.

January 7, 2013...Hornell, NY – For more than 100 years, St. James Mercy Hospital (SJMH) has been proud to partner with the Hospital Auxiliary, founded in 1904 to provide volunteer and financial support to SJMH. Throughout the year, Auxiliary members, all of whom volunteer their time and talents, organize and coordinate numerous fundraising activities at both the hospital and McAuley Manor to help support SJMH’s strategic priorities to improve quality of, and access to care.

The Auxiliary’s most recent activities include a two-day Holiday Bazaar in November, chaired by Margaret Johnson and raising over \$3,300. The bazaar, an annual event, featured home-baked goods, handmade crafts, “new to you” sale, and variety of raffles. Throughout December, the “Trees of Life” on display in the Hospital and McAuley Manor lobbies provided a beautiful opportunity for employees and community members to honor loved ones with gold ornaments for a \$10 donation. “This year’s ‘Trees of Life’ raised \$1380 to support St. James Mercy Hospital,” said Lynne Freeland, Auxiliary co-chair and event organizer. “It’s become a holiday tradition for SJMH staff and community residents who take time to honor loved ones while helping to beautifully decorate the lobbies.”

Another popular December event—the Book Fair—offered a wide variety of books and fun accessories for children and adults. Coordinated by Terry Pullman, this year’s one-day sales totaled over \$2,800, with SJMH Auxiliary receiving a portion of the proceeds from the vendor, “Books R Fun.” The Auxiliary plans to offer a spring Book Fair, date to be announced.

Proceeds of Auxiliary activities help fund various Hospital projects including the purchase of equipment, construction and renovation projects, scholarships, and other program needs that serve patients, residents and clients. “In recent years, the Auxiliary has funded refurbishments for Mercy Care Break, the adult day program at McAuley Manor, renovations to the SJMH lobby, and scholarships and instructional materials for the School of Radiologic Sciences,” said Sylvia Bryant, Executive Director, SJM Foundation. “In 2012, the Auxiliary’s contribution of \$27,250 made it the largest single donor to the SJM Foundation. We are so fortunate to have such a dedicated and resourceful group like the Hospital Auxiliary working on behalf of SJMH.”