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A New Face of Leadership

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute recently welcomed Karen Moran Saunders as its new executive leader. She replaces longtime Cancer Institute President, Robert Durkin, who resigned in August 2013, to become president and Chief Executive Officer of the Greater Scranton Chamber of Commerce.

A former marketing manager at Northeastern Pennsylvania Imaging Center, Ms. Moran Saunders formerly served on the Cancer Institute's Board of Directors and has volunteered at institute fundraisers. She also serves on the Board of Directors of the American Association of Healthcare Administrative Manager's NEPA Chapter.

Following Mr. Durkin's resignation, the Cancer Institute's executive committee, comprised of both former and current Board members, along with a search firm, worked to identify the most-qualified candidate to serve as the new leader of the Cancer Institute.

Mr. Peter Danchak, Chairman of the Cancer Institute's Board of Directors, says Ms. Moran Saunders was the ideal candidate. "She brings much strength to the position, including her experience in the health care industry and her years of involvement with the Cancer Institute as a volunteer and advocate in which she demonstrated her dedication to its mission of easing the burden of cancer in northeast Pennsylvania."

As president of the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, Ms. Moran Saunders will be responsible for the development and management of annual and long-term operations plans, community and business partnerships, legislative relationships, organizational marketing and outreach, and fund/resource development.

Ms. Moran Saunders says as President of the Cancer Institute she plans "to maintain an entrepreneurial culture with shared visions and achieve the long term goal of meeting the evolving needs of the community the Cancer Institute serves."



**Karen Moran Saunders named
President of NRCI**

Record Number of T-Shirts Sold for 11th Annual C.A.S.U.A.L. Day



**C.A.S.U.A.L. Day Participants at
Misericordia University in
Luzerne County**

The Cancer Institute would like to extend a sincere thank you to the thousands of individuals and organizations who took part in the 11th annual C.A.S.U.A.L. (Colon cancer Awareness Saves Unlimited Adult Lives) Day on March 27, 2014.

More than 5,300 C.A.S.U.A.L. Day awareness t-shirts and 3,000 pins were sold this year as part of the annual colon cancer awareness campaign. Nearly 800 more t-shirts were sold this year than in 2013, marking an all-time high in t-shirt sales! With your help, the Cancer Institute raised \$127,000 to support local colorectal cancer education and outreach services. More importantly, approximately 8,000 individuals took part in the event and raised awareness about life saving screening guidelines and risk factors for this disease.

The Cancer Institute looks forward to the 12th annual C.A.S.U.A.L. Day, set for March 26th, 2015, and reminds you to continue to share colon cancer awareness information throughout the year in "casual" conversation.



Cancer Survivors Celebration 2014



September 20th, Kirby Park, Wilkes-Barre &
September 27th, McDade Park, Scranton

Planning is underway for the 22nd annual Cancer Survivors Celebration. The first of two events will be held Saturday, September 20th at Kirby Park in Wilkes-Barre. The second will take place the following Saturday, September 27th at McDade Park in Scranton. Both will be held from 10am – 12pm.

The event provides cancer survivors, caregivers, and healthcare professionals the opportunity to gather and meet others who know first-hand the impact of a cancer diagnosis. The highlight of the Celebration will be the Circle of Survivors, allowing participants the opportunity to make a personal, inspirational statement about their cancer experience. Light refreshments will also be served after a brief speaking program.

Visit the Cancer Institute's website (www.cancernepa.org) for more information on Cancer Survivors Celebration 2014.

Board of Ambassadors Recognize Luzerne County Community College's Culinary Department



Ambassadors Recognize Luzerne County Community College's contribution to the annual Spirit of Hope Celebration

The Board of Ambassadors, along with the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, recently presented Luzerne County Community College's Culinary Department with a recognition plaque for its generous contribution to the Ambassador's 2nd annual Spirit of Hope Celebration. Salvatore Shandra, department Chair for Hospitality Management programs at Luzerne County Community College, along with culinary students, created and served desserts for the event held this past November at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs.

The Spirit of Hope Celebration, organized by the Board of Ambassadors, raises money for the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute's Patient Navigation Program. The community-based program helps cover the cost of recommended breast, cervical, and colon cancer screenings for low income, uninsured, or underinsured individuals in northeast Pennsylvania. One hundred percent of funds raised through this effort stay in northeast Pennsylvania.

The next Spirit of Hope Celebration will take place Friday, November 7th, 2014 at Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs in the Keystone Grand Ballroom.

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