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## Allentown Office Opens To Expand Coverage

**S**teady success in the areas of cancer research, registry and education have opened up grant opportunities which have branched Cancer Institute services into a new ten county coverage area. Cancer Institute outreach now extends into Carbon, Lehigh, and Northampton Counties - joining Lackawanna, Luzerne, Monroe, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming Counties.

To support these enhanced efforts, Cancer Institute staff are located in offices throughout the region including Scranton, Wilkes-Barre, as well as at member hospitals. And, most recently, the Cancer Institute opened an office in Allentown.

The Cancer Institute will be partnering with Lehigh Valley Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital of Allentown to conduct local research throughout Lehigh County.

"We are really excited to be working with these fine institutions on a wide variety of cancer control and regionally focused research projects," said Robert F. Durkin, President of the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute. "Likewise, having a physical presence - with the Allentown office, further solidifies our commitment to this area."

The Cancer Institute looks forward to the challenges associated with this expanded service area and the evolving collaborative relationships that will make these programs even more effective for the residents of northeast Pennsylvania.



*Pictured is (l to r) Samuel M. Lesko, MD, MPH, medical director and director of research; Stefanie Skoniecki, research interviewer; and Nancy Ziegler, research interviewer - all from the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute.*

### Did You Know?

*Insights* newsletter is also available online.

Visit [www.cancernepa.org](http://www.cancernepa.org) and click on the Insights newsletter image.



## Cancer Institute to Provide Tobacco Control Program

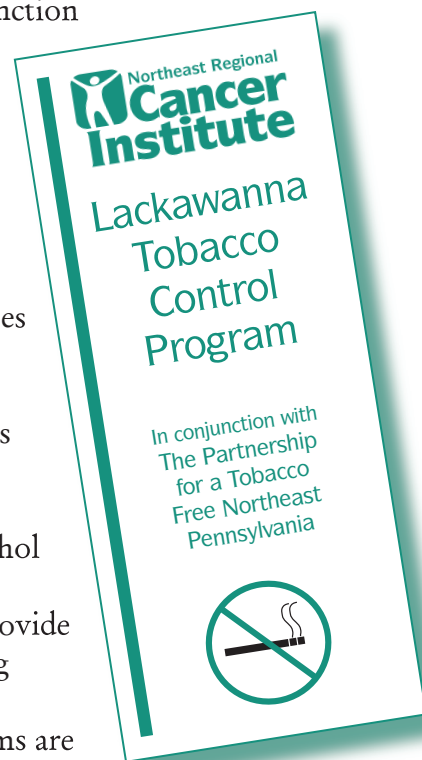
In October of 2007, The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, in conjunction with The Partnership for a Tobacco Free Northeast Pennsylvania began a Lackawanna Tobacco Control Program. This program provides tobacco prevention, cessation, compliance and outreach services throughout Lackawanna County in collaboration with local social service and healthcare professionals, policymakers, school districts, law enforcement professionals, businesses, and residents.

The initiative involved partnerships with area schools to promote prevention, the District Attorney's office on compliance and area businesses on secondhand smoke related issues.

As part of the Lackawanna Tobacco Control Program, smoking cessation programs are being scheduled to encourage quitting among adults and young people.

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is partnering with Community Medical Center Healthcare System (CMC) and Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services (DATS) to provide smoking cessation programs in Lackawanna County. As program partners both CMC and DATS will provide "Introduction to Quitting Smoking" presentations and the American Lung Association's "Freedom From Smoking®" programs.

Smoking Cessation Programs are now forming. Scheduled programs are available at Community Medical Center and Mid-Valley Hospital. Additional programs can be set up at worksites. Individuals interested in learning more about these programs or looking to sign up for these programs should contact the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute at (570) 941-7984.



# Smoking Cessation Programs

**In Partnership with Community Medical Center and Drug & Alcohol Treatment Services**



*Please call*  
**(570) 941-7984**  
or visit [www.cancernepa.org](http://www.cancernepa.org)

Presented by the Lackawanna County Tobacco Control Program

Partnership for a Tobacco Free Northeast PA is funded by a grant from the PA Department of Health, Edward G. Rendell, Governor





## Cancer Institute Welcomes New Board Members



*Christian S. Adonizio, MD*



*Michael Burke, MD*



*Cynthia Glawe Mailloux, PhD, RN*



*Robert J. Soper*



*Ragupathy Veluswamy, MD*

**B**arbara Bossi, RN, MHA; Chair of the Board of Directors of the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, announces the recent appointment of Christian S. Adonizio, MD; Michael Burke, MD; Cynthia Glawe Mailloux, PhD, RN; Robert J. Soper; and Ragupathy Veluswamy, MD, MMM, CPE, FAAP to the Board of Directors.

Christian S. Adonizio, MD is a practice member of Hematology and Oncology Associates of Northeastern PA, P.C. He is board certified in Hematology, Medical Oncology, Internal Medicine and Hospice and Palliative Medicine. Dr. Adonizio is a graduate of Jefferson Medical College and completed fellowships in Hematology and Oncology and Supportive Oncology at Fox Chase Cancer Center.

Dr. Adonizio is a member of the American Society of Clinical Oncology, the American Society of Hematology, the American Academy of Hospice and Palliative Medicine, the American College of Physicians, the American Pain Society, and the Pennsylvania Medical Society. Dr. Adonizio also serves as the co-chair of the Thoracic Committee of the Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group.

Michael Burke, MD is the Medical Director of Radiation Oncology at Professional Radiation Oncology Partners. He is board certified by the American Board of Radiology/Radiation Oncology. Dr. Burke is a graduate of Georgetown University School of Medicine in Washington DC. He completed his internship at St. Joseph Medical Center in Phoenix, AZ and his residency at the University of Kansas in Kansas City.

Dr. Burke is a member of the American Society for Therapeutic Radiology and Oncology and the American College of Radiation Oncology.

Cynthia Glawe Mailloux, PhD, RN is Associate Professor & Nursing Department Chairperson at Misericordia University. Dr. Mailloux's area of practice includes pediatrics and nursing education. Her primary teaching responsibilities include nursing research and graduate nursing education courses. Dr. Mailloux received her bachelor of science in

nursing from Wilkes University, her masters of science in nursing from Misericordia University, and her doctorate degree from Penn State University.

Dr. Mailloux is a member of the Pennsylvania State Nurse Association and the National League for Nursing. She also serves as School Director for Crestwood School District.

Robert J. Soper is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Mohegan Sun at Pocono Downs. Mr. Soper received his bachelor's degree from the University of Georgia and graduated with a Juris Doctor from the University of Georgia School of Law.

Mr. Soper serves on the Board of Directors of United Way of Wyoming Valley, Board of Directors of the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, Board of Trustees of Misericordia University, Board of Directors of Scranton Tomorrow, Board of Directors for WVIA, and Board of Directors of the Scranton Chamber of Commerce.

Ragupathy Veluswamy, MD, MMM, CPE, FAAP is the Vice President and Chief Medical Officer at Wyoming Valley Health Care System. He received his doctorate in medicine from Coimbatore Medical College of Madras University in India. Dr. Veluswamy completed his residency in pediatrics at Muhlenberg Medical Center in Plainfield, NJ. He is a Certified Physician Executive with Masters in Medical Management from Carnegie Mellon University.

Dr. Veluswamy is an American Academy of Pediatrics fellow, a member of the American College of Physician Executives, diplomate of the American Board of Quality & Utilization Review Physicians, American Institute for Healthcare Quality fellow, and member of the American Society for Quality.

The Cancer Institute welcomes Christian S. Adonizio, MD; Michael Burke, MD; Cynthia Glawe Mailloux, PhD, RN; Robert J. Soper; and Ragupathy Veluswamy, MD, MMM, CPE, FAAP to the Board of Directors.

## The Blue Ribbon Foundation Supports After Cancer Treatment Program

The Blue Ribbon Foundation of Blue Cross of Northeastern Pennsylvania is partnering with the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute to fund education programs for cancer survivors titled *After Cancer Treatment* (ACT).

The Blue Ribbon Foundation grant of \$43,800 will support ACT, a community based education initiative, to address long term/late effects of treatment, the rationale for and importance of adhering to a post-treatment follow up plan, and obtaining medical records and cancer treatment summaries. Participants will receive education and a comprehensive packet of information that will include resources to facilitate participant management of the aftercare process.

“The After Cancer Treatment programs will address those quality of life questions that many cancer survivors continue to face,” said Laura Toole, LCSW, Director of Education and Outreach at the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute. “This program was developed after considering the needs and requests from residents in our region.”

For a complete listing of program dates and times for upcoming ACT programs or any education and outreach program please visit [www.cancernepa.org](http://www.cancernepa.org) and click on Calendar of Events

## The Cancer Conference: A Multi-disciplinary Approach To Cancer Care

A diagnosis of cancer can be overwhelming. And once the news has sunk in, almost always there are questions—lots of them—about treatment, prognosis, support, medical costs and more. Each year, an average of 9,092 people are diagnosed with cancer across the ten counties served by the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute—Carbon, Lackawanna, Lehigh, Luzerne, Monroe, Northampton, Pike, Susquehanna, Wayne and Wyoming counties. Cancer Institute Member Hospitals - Mercy Health Partners in Scranton, Wayne Memorial Hospital in Honesdale, and Wyoming Valley Health Care System in Wilkes-Barre each hold regular cancer conferences to discuss a patient’s cancer care options.

The cancer conference recognizes the uniqueness of each patient by bringing together all the healthcare professionals involved in a particular patient’s care. This may include, for example, the patient’s primary care physician or related specialist (e.g. urologist, gastroenterologist) in addition to the patient’s basic cancer team—oncologists, pathologists, radiologists, surgeons, home health care nurses and social workers. The conferences facilitate referrals to appropriate disciplines to ensure patients are treated in accordance with national guidelines - toward the goal of providing the best possible care for the patient.

This multi-disciplinary approach is the hallmark of a cancer conference as outlined by the American College of Surgeons’ Commission on Cancer (CoC). To attain Commission approval, a cancer program, and the organization that controls it, must undergo a rigorous evaluation process and performance appraisal. In order to maintain approval, facilities with approved cancer programs must undergo an on-site review every three years. Mercy Health Partners, Wayne Memorial Hospital, and Wyoming Valley Health Care System all have accredited programs.

According to the CoC, “Cancer conferences are integral to improving the care of cancer patients by contributing to the patient management process and outcomes.”

For patients, cancer conference is assurance that their care and treatment meets very high national standards. That’s good news for the patient, as well as the community served by the hospital.



## Cancer Institute Welcomes New Employees

Mary Kay Driscoll, MBA, RHIA, of Peckville, has joined the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute as Cancer Registrar. She is responsible for abstracting and tracking cancer incident statistics in the cancer registry.



*Mary Kay Driscoll*

Ms. Driscoll received her bachelor's degree in Health Information Management from State University of New York at Utica and her master's degree in Organizational Development and Human Resources from the University of Mary Washington, Virginia.

Char-Anne Lyon, of Clarks Summit, has joined the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute as Staff Assistant. She is responsible for providing administrative support to



*Char-Anne Lyon*

the Cancer Institute Education and Outreach Program.

Ms. Lyon received her bachelor's degree in Counseling and Human Services from the University of Scranton and her associate degree in

Early Childhood Education from Keystone Jr. College.

Helene H. Williams, LPN, of Lake Wallenpaupack, has joined the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute as Registry Data Analyst. She is responsible for supporting contracted research projects and data management activities.



*Helene H. Williams*

Ms. Williams attended the University of Scranton and graduated from the Career Technology Center, Scranton.

## Check Yes And Contribute To Pennsylvania-Based Breast Cancer Research

The Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition urges you to donate your state income tax refund to breast and cervical cancer research.

A simple check mark on line 35 of tax form PA 40 will enable Pennsylvania residents to donate all or part of their state income tax refund to breast and cervical cancer research through the Breast and Cervical Cancer Research Act. Those who choose to donate their state income tax refund will join thousands of Pennsylvania tax filers who have contributed nearly \$2 million for Pennsylvania-

based cancer research.

The Pennsylvania Breast Cancer Coalition worked with the state legislature in 1997 to enact the Income Tax Check-Off program, which has since become the most popular

refund donation option in Pennsylvania. Every penny raised through the initiative goes directly to fund breast and cervical cancer research conducted by Pennsylvania researchers.

For more information, visit [www.pabreastcancer.org](http://www.pabreastcancer.org) or call 1-800-377-8828.



## Save the Date!

### 16th Annual Cancer Survivors Celebration

Saturday, June 14, 2008

1pm - 4pm

Scranton Memorial Stadium

*Climb Every Mountain - Living After Cancer*



## *Generous Spirit of Husband, Father and Friend lives on through the lives of those he touched*

Charles “Chick” Densevich was a husband, father and friend who touched the lives of everyone he met. He was a longtime cancer survivor who despite multiple cancer diagnoses never stopped living life to the fullest.

In August, Chick passed away, but his spirit of generosity lives on.

Chick was diagnosed with a cancerous growth on his neck when he was 3 months old. His doctors believed he wouldn’t live, yet alone make it to adulthood. Chick defied those odds and joined the army when he reached adulthood. While in the army, Chick was diagnosed with thyroid cancer. He received surgery to remove his second cancer.

Chick was ordained a priest in May of 1965. After serving in the priesthood for 8 years, Chick became re-acquainted with his childhood sweetheart, Dolly Marie, while visiting his family. They reconnected as adults knowing they were meant to be together. Chick received a dispensation by Pope Paul VI to marry Dolly Marie in 1974.

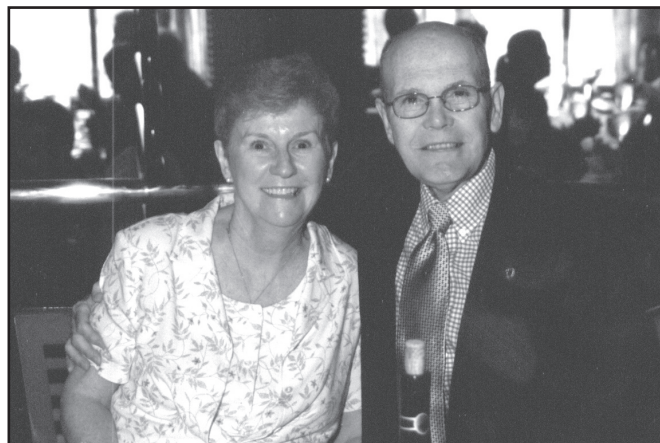
“We had real love,” said Dolly Marie. “We loved spending time together. Anything we did together was special, even if we were riding in the car for ice cream at Manning’s.”

Together Chick and Dolly raised 3 children, Chick, Jr., Mary and Annie.

When Chick was 59 years old, he faced a third cancer diagnosis of prostate cancer. His cancer was found during a free screening offered to the community.

In June of 2007 Chick was diagnosed with liver cancer. Six short weeks later Chick passed away surrounded by his family at home.

Despite his lifetime battles with cancer, Chick never gave up hope or abandoned his positive outlook on life. In fact, Chick never questioned why he was diagnosed with these cancers. He was



*Dolly Marie and Chick Densevich*

always positive and lived each day as best he could.

“Chick did it all,” said Dolly Marie. “He loved life and I am happy to have celebrated and enjoyed our life and children together. We have some beautiful memories.”

“Chick always looked forward to the annual Survivors Celebration! For the past 7 years we would attend the day. His favorite parts were the Polaroid photo and speakers,” remembers Dolly Marie. “I keep the most recent photo with me.”

Chick was a very loving husband and father, but he was also a great friend to many.

“Chick was known for stopping by at a friend’s house to say hello. Chick and I had cards printed that read, ‘Chick and Dolly dropped by’. He loved people and he loved life,” said Dolly Marie.

Not a day goes by that Dolly Marie doesn’t miss her soul mate and best friend, but she knows he is with her always.

“Chick was nice to everyone and in return everyone was nice to Chick. He touched so many lives as a friend and cancer survivor,” said Dolly Marie.

### **Share Your Story of Survivorship**

We would like to feature your story in our upcoming newsletter. To share your story with our readers, please send your story to [editor@cancernepa.org](mailto:editor@cancernepa.org) or write to Cancer Survivor Story, Northeast Regional Cancer Institute, 334 Jefferson Avenue, Scranton, PA 18510.



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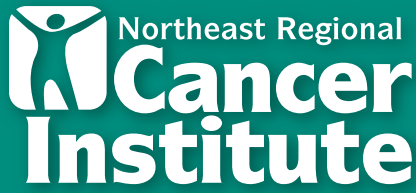
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The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a non-profit community-based agency working to ease the burden of cancer in Northeastern Pennsylvania. Focusing on research, education, and survivorship, the Cancer Institute invests all of its resources in this region.



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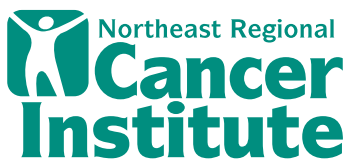
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# C.A.S.U.A.L. Day Kick-Off Event



*Pictured (left) are C.A.S.U.A.L. Day Kick-Off speakers, (center) C.A.S.U.A.L. Day committee members, and (right) C.A.S.U.A.L. Day committee members and volunteers with event shirts and pins. Thank you to everyone who supported this event!*

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