

NRCI Insights Newsletter

Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

Get a deeper look at the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute- its board, staff, volunteers, and activities.

2023 Holiday Card Spotlight



Each year, we look forward to sharing the talent of one community member through our digital holiday card. We feature an artist that is a cancer survivor. Thank you to Angie DeMuro for being our 2023 Holiday Card Artist. Angie was a friend of last year's card artist, Amy Bezek. Amy connected us to Angie. We are grateful to have both women as part of the NRCI community network!

Angie DeMuro is a published author, illustrator, artist, cartoonist, and instructor.

In August of 2018 Angie was diagnosed with triple positive breast cancer. She took that and focused on the 'positive' part of the diagnosis and began cartooning her way through this chapter of her life. It inspired a collection of uplifting images for other women facing cancer.

She is the proud mom of three sons, two of whom are now adults, and she recently became a grandmother. She happily lives and creates in a cozy farmhouse located in Northeastern Pennsylvania with her husband, youngest son and their silly sheepadoodle, who is usually at her feet. Find out more about Angie at <https://angiedemuro.com/>

Spirit of Hope Celebration

The Spirit of Hope Board of Ambassadors hosted their 11th Spirit of Hope Celebration on Friday, November 11 at Mohegan Pennsylvania. The evening featured cocktails, food stations, a silent auction, gift card guarantee and a lottery tree. In addition to that, this year's Tribute to Courage Honoree was a longtime familiar face to NRCI and the medical community, Christopher A. Peters, MD.



He joined NRCI's Board of Directors in 2012 and served as the Board Chair in 2017 and 2018. He remains a Board of Director today.

Dr. Peters is a partner in Radiation Medicine Associates of Scranton (RAMAS). He is medical director of Northeast Radiation Oncology Centers (NROC). He is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and received his Doctor of Medicine degree from Case Western Reserve University, Cleveland. He performed his Radiation Oncology residency at Mount Sinai Hospital, New York City, and served as Chief Resident in his final year.

Dr. Peters continues to touch the lives of his patients and the Spirit of Hope Board of Ambassadors was honored to recognize him at this year's event.

He lives in Clarks Summit with his wife, Jennifer, and their children Rose, Kate and Gavin.

Community Fundraising for NRCI

This year has been outstanding because of the efforts of businesses and organizations that created unique opportunities to fundraise for us. Most of these community fundraising efforts come from individuals who have had a personal connection with cancer or a philanthropic mission at their organization.

In October and November, we received 10 calls and/or emails from organizations and businesses hosting events to benefit NRCI. No event is too small to make an impact on easing the burden of cancer in NEPA. The staff of NRCI is grateful and continuously impressed by the generosity of our community. A heart felt thank you.

You can see photos and read the descriptions of several of the fundraisers held to benefit NRCI.



Sprint Print donated a percentage of their October promotional sales for the month to NRCI.



Northeast Title and Tag sold t-shirts to their employees throughout their nine locations. They donated the proceeds in Memory of Molly Gurick, an employee's best friend who recently passed away from breast cancer.



Citizens Saving Bank hosted a dress down day and had a donation bin in their Clarks Summit office.



Plains Township Police sold specially designed breast cancer t-shirts to the community members.



The 10th Annual Grouse Hill Gallop grassroots 5K run/walk took place on Thanksgiving



Scranton High School Varsity Cheerleaders hosted a dress down day and pink out game in October.



Texas Roadhouse posted table tents throughout their business and offered appetizers to guests who donated at least \$5.



Fairfield by Marriott shared information and had a bin in their lobby where guests could make a monetary contribution.

Wilkes University students hosted a No Shave November event to support NRCI.

CASUAL Day 2024



CASUAL Day 2024 will be the 21st year of this fundraising and awareness campaign. This event is in memory of Helen Philips.

In February of 2002, Helen Phillips was diagnosed with colon cancer. Less than six months later, the cancer took her life. In 2003, Helen's family and friends approached the Cancer Institute to undertake a community awareness initiative to promote colorectal cancer screening – a preventative act which might have saved Helen's life.

We are happy to announce black as the color for this year's t-shirt. We will continue to offer a short-sleeved and long-sleeved T-shirt, a new Argyle design for CASUAL socks, and a new product, a baseball cap. If you are interested in learning more about sponsorship or becoming a team captain, please call us at (570) 904-8808 or visit our website, www.cancernepa.org.

In addition, Alessandro Smeraldi, MD will serve as our 2024 CASUAL Day Chair. Dr. Smeraldi is a board-certified vascular surgeon. He provides care for women and men who need a wide range of vascular procedures. Dr. Smeraldi earned his medical degree from The Albert Einstein College of Medicine at Yeshiva University in New York, followed by a general surgery residency at Saint Barnabas Medical Center in Livingston, New Jersey, and a vascular surgery fellowship at Staten Island University Hospital in New York.

Dr. Smeraldi is an active member of the Society for Vascular Surgery and Society for Vascular Ultrasound. He is proud to serve his community and values the interaction he has with those in his care. Additionally, he serves as a clinical professor of surgery and resident mentor at the Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine in Scranton.

Dr. Smeraldi draws daily strength from the love of his wife, Gail and their children Hayley and Caleb.

About the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a nonprofit community-based agency serving seven counties in northeast Pennsylvania with offices located in Scranton and Wilkes-Barre. Focusing on surveillance, community and patient services, and hospital and practice support services, the Cancer Institute invests 100% of its resources locally.

SERVING NORTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA COUNTIES
Lackawanna | Luzerne | Monroe | Pike | Susquehanna | Wayne | Wyoming



312 Adams Ave
Scranton, PA 18503

(570) 904-8808 (Scranton)

57 North Franklin Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701

(570) 208-2444 (Wilkes-Barre)

