

13th Annual

HOPE SPIRIT OF
Celebration

Friday, November 14, 2025
Mohegan Pennsylvania

www.spiritofhopecelebration.org

Presenting Sponsor:



2025 Tribute to Courage Honoree
John “Slick” Baum



John “Slick” Baum is a retired USAF Lieutenant Colonel, entrepreneur, philanthropist, and leading business strategist. John enlisted in the USAF at 17 serving as an avionics maintenance technician. He then attended Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University graduating with a BS in Aeronautical Science in 1999 and a Masters of Aeronautical Science in 2008.

Col. Baum attended Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training and graduated F-16 training as the Distinguished Graduate. He then attended USAF Fighter Weapons School (Top Gun) and returned as an instructor. John was then requested by the Commander of Air Combat Command to fly as a Demonstration Pilot for the 2009-2010 Thunderbird team. Following the Thunderbirds, he was selected as a Secretary of the Air Force Strategic Communications Fellow earning a Masters in Strategic Communication from George Mason University.

John was also co-founder of Draken International providing contract air support to the US and NATO military forces with the world’s largest fleet of privately owned fighter aircraft.

Slick provided high G flight training for the Crew of Inspiration4, the first all civilian space program in partnership with SpaceX, and then served as the Philanthropy Director for the Polaris Program endeavoring to further understand the requirements for long duration human space flight. For his successful fundraising and awareness efforts, he was honored as the 2025 Extraordinary Performance Award recipient from St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital.

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What is the Spirit of Hope Celebration?

The Spirit of Hope Celebration is an event hosted by the Board of Ambassadors. This cocktail party celebration includes an open bar, food stations, live music, and a silent auction, lottery ladder and gift card guarantee. It raises money for the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute's Community Based Cancer Screening Navigation Program, which helps individuals in northeast Pennsylvania to facilitate breast, cervical, colon and lung cancer screenings.



Who are the Board of Ambassadors?

The Board of Ambassadors consists of individuals and business leaders in northeast Pennsylvania who come together to raise funds & awareness to fight cancer in the local community through their support and promotion of a gala event. We hope you will join with us in support of The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute and its mission of easing the burden of cancer in Northeast Pennsylvania.



Front row, seated from left to right:

Steven J. Szydlowski, Ph.D., Pat Sicilio, Philip Medico, Mark Mesko, Shelley Meuser, Robin Long, Leo Vergnetti, Board of Ambassadors Chairman, Vanessa Vergnetti-Thomas, Sonya Eddings, Maria Donahue, Rep. Dan Meuser, Richard P. Conaboy, Jr. and Edward Cosgrove.

Second row, standing from left to right: Julie Eisenman, Kristie Hynoski, Nicholas Colangelo, Ph.D., Dino Campitelli, Tammy Saunders, Vito Pizzo, Nevin Gerber, Casey Quinn, Joe G. Ferguson, Esq., and Matt Beynon.

Board of Ambassadors: Absent from photo: Susan & Jim Brady, Trish Colangelo, John & Jennifer Heil, Charles C. Jefferson, Brian McQuestion, John P. Rodgers, Esq., P. Richard Scheller, Joseph Tomko, Tony Vergnetti, Linda Marino-Brooks, Atty. Chuck Volpe, Tom DePietro, Greg Gagorik, Brigitte Baum, Jo Ann Romano Hallesky, Dana Morris, Joe Mattioli, and Christopher A. Peters, M.D., Meghan Gagorik, Patty Vergnetti, Traci Fosnot, Marta Gomes, Vince Scarpetta, William Davis, Angela Rempe Jones, William Rinaldi, and James T. Gorman.



**Proceeds from the Spirit of Hope Celebration
benefit the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute's
Community Based Cancer
Screening Navigation Program**

**Northeast Regional Cancer Institute
Community-Based Cancer Screening Navigation Program**

One of the vital services that the Cancer Institute offers to our community is the Cancer Screening Navigation Program. This initiative helps low income, uninsured and underinsured individuals not current with recommended colon, breast, and cervical cancer screenings to obtain these screenings.

The Patient Navigator also:

- Helps participants overcome barriers to screening, such as childcare, transportation, and financial needs
- Continues to assist participants through diagnosis, treatment, and aftercare, where necessary
- Connects participants with a medical home (primary care physician or facility) to encourage continuation of preventative care practices

The Cancer Institute relies on the continued support of the community to ensure that the Community Based Cancer Screening Navigation Program can continue to help those most in need access lifesaving cancer screenings and connect to a medical home for ongoing preventative health care. Thank you for your support!

Since the Spirit of Hope Celebration started in 2012, the proceeds from this event have been able to help provide over 12,500 lifesaving screenings.

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute serves the following counties: Bradford, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Wayne, Wyoming, Pike, Tioga, Susquehanna, and Monroe and has offices in both Scranton and Wilkes-Barre.



About The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a local, non-profit organization working to ease the burden of cancer in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The three main program areas that the Cancer Institute focuses on are: community and patient services, hospital and practice support services, and cancer surveillance. The Cancer Institute is unique in that it is an independent, exclusively local entity. This means that the organization has the flexibility to respond directly to the evolving needs of the community it serves. The Cancer Institute invests 100% of its resources in our region.

Northeast Regional Cancer Institute Board of Directors

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SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES (please check your selection)

	Presenting Sponsor 10 Tickets to Event, Full Color Page Ad (5" w x 8"h) and integration into back cover of program Recognition as Presenting Sponsor in ALL event media communications and advertisements including the video loop, event program; SOH website and Facebook page. event speaking opportunity, signage display and promotional opportunity at event to provide information and giveaways to attendees	\$5,000
	Diamond Sponsor 8 Tickets to Event, Black & White Page Ad (5" w x 8"h) Recognition as Diamond Sponsor in all event communications and signage including the video loop and event program; promotional opportunity at event to provide information and giveaways to attendees and SOH website and Facebook page.	\$2,500
SOLD OUT	Cocktail/Mocktail Sponsor (1 opportunity) *Must be secured by October 7th to order napkins. 6 Tickets to Event, business logo/name displayed prominently on event signage and promotional materials. Full Black & White Page Ad (5" w x 8"h), Your company name or logo printed on Event Night Cocktail Napkins (if secured by October 7), Logo/Name placement on SOH website and Facebook page.	\$2,500
	Platinum Sponsor 8 Tickets to Event, Full Black & White Page Ad (5" w x 8"h) Recognition as Platinum Sponsor in the video loop and SOH website and Facebook page.	\$2,000
	Entertainment Underwriter (1 opportunity) 6 Tickets to Event, Business logo/name displayed prominently on event signage, Logo/name placement on SOH website and Facebook page, Half Page Black & White Page Ad .5"w x 3.875"h)	\$2,000
	Gold Sponsor 6 Tickets to Event, Half Black & White Page Ad (5" w x 3.875"h) Recognition as Gold Sponsor in the video loop and SOH website and Facebook page	\$1,500
	Emerald Sponsor 4 Tickets to Event, Half Black & White Page Ad (5" w x 3.875"h) Recognition as Emerald Sponsor in the video loop and SOH website and Facebook page	\$1,000
	Silver Sponsor 2 Tickets to Event, Quarter Black & White Page Ad (2.375" w x 3.875"h) Recognition as Silver Sponsor in the video loop and SOH website and Facebook page	\$500

PROGRAM ADVERTISEMENT

Full Page Ad (5"w x 8"h)	\$250	
Half Page Ad (5"w x 3.875"h)	\$125	
Quarter Page Ad (2.375"w x 3.875 h)	\$75	

Please e-mail your high resolution black and white program ad in PDF format no later than **Monday, November 3, 2025, to amanda.marchegiani@cancernepa.org.**

Donor Information

NAME: _____

COMPANY: _____

ADDRESS: _____

PHONE: _____

EMAIL: _____

The Northeast Regional Cancer Institute is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, tax-exempt organization. "A copy of the registration and financial information may be obtained from the Pennsylvania Department of State by calling, toll-free, within Pennsylvania, 1 (800) 732-0999. Registration does not imply endorsement.

ENCLOSED IS MY CHECK PAYABLE TO "NRCI" IN THE AMOUNT OF \$_____.

Credit card payments can be made by calling the Northeast Regional Cancer Institute at (570) 904-8808.

Please send this form along with your payment to

Northeast Regional Cancer Institute

Attn: Spirit of Hope Celebration, 312 Adams Avenue Scranton, PA 18503

or E-mail to: Barbara.cerra@cancernepa.org