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News

Cancer Center holds appreciation luncheon

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To graciously honor all of the Cancer Center's Clinical Trial Participants, Phoenixville Hospital held an appreciation luncheon last Friday, July 9, organized by Peggy Beauchesne, RN, CCRP and the center's Clinical Research Nurse.

"Our clinical trial participants go the extra mile and are proud to be a part of this important research," she said. "This is an opportunity to honor our patients who selfishly participate in clinical studies to help others."

Pleased with a turnout of over 50 guests, Susan Reichenback, Chief Quality Officer and IRB Member, welcomed the group of individuals who have assisted the local hospital in furthering research for future treatments of cancer.

"I am humbled by all of you," she said, before she requested a round of applause for all attendees. "You are all heroes. You have thought beyond yourselves and are a gift to Phoenixville Hospital, the community, the nation and the world."

Christopher Holroyde, MD, Phoenixville Hospital's Medical Director of the Cancer Center, also expressed his thankfulness for the individuals at the luncheon, stating that the center "does their best to care for those within the cancer center, making sure everyone locally is taken care of."

Harry Chen, MD, Department of Radiology of Phoenixville Hospital, and IRB Chairman; Leonas Bekeris, MD, Medical Director of the Department of Pathology; and Carl Sharer, DO, Principal Investigator of the Cancer Center, were additionally vocal at the afternoon session.

"You all are doing something quite notable," said Sharer. "Without having people to contribute to these studies we wouldn't be where we are today."

Phoenixville community members Barry Delger and Cheryl Messere, who assist the local hospital in reviewing protocols so patients understand the all aspects of the care and documentation they receive, attended the gathering and were pleased to see the people for which their work impacts.

"I am glad to see all of these faces," said Messere. "This is our community and this is an opportunity to help everyone within the community."

Although the local hospital has took part in previous research studies, the last eight years have been very beneficial, running relatively "smooth," said Sharer.

"Peggy organized this whole event on the patients' behalf, that is well-beyond is her job. We thank her for that," concluded Reichenback.