





# The importance of ONE package

We understand the importance of ONE package. After all, it's not just for any patient, it's for your patient.



# TRUST IN O P

## A HELPING HAND FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Illinois CancerCare physicians and staff understand the demands that treatment can place on our patients and their families. We recognize that this could be especially true during the holidays.

In an effort to engage in our mission of providing comprehensive, compassionate care, Illinois CancerCare Foundation's Trust In Hope program provides Thanksgiving meals and holiday gift donationsto eligible patients and their families.

In the last 11 years, 2,604 Thanksgiving meals have been delivered and 233 families with 423 children have received holiday gifts through this program, we are able to provide even more compassion, support and hope to our patients over the holidays.

364 Thanksgiving meals were delivered to 82 families IN 2019 40 families were provided holiday gifts for 53 children

## WE ARE MORE THAN CANCER CARE



8940 N Wood Sage Rd | Peoria, IL 61615 | 309.243.3000 illinoiscancercarefoundation.org

## **Dear CUREageous Friends & Supporters,**

#### It is my pleasure to welcome you to our 11th Annual Illinois CancerCare Foundation CUREageous VIRTUAL event - our signature fundraiser of the year!

And what a year it has been. When 2020 began, none of us could have foreseen the challenges we would face this year due to the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic. Recently, I was talking with one of our Foundation board members who just celebrated her one year cancer journey anniversary. She shared how this year parallels a cancer patient's journey - planned family vacations, busy everyday activities, work and school events and then one appointment suddenly changes everything when you hear the words, "You have cancer". All cancer patients and their family members are forced to instantly stop everything, pivot and change their entire focus, energy and daily routines to a "FIGHT" they didn't plan for.

This is why we are here tonight... To bring more state-of-the-art RESEARCH to the FIGHT! To bring more PATIENT SERVICES to the FIGHT! To bring more cutting-edge TREATMENTS to the FIGHT! Tonight's proceeds fund clinical research, education, and patient support and assistance programs. All money raised stays local, giving cancer patients the very best care possible right here in their hometown. Your participation tonight keeps HOPE alive!

While this evening's Outrageous Party won't happen exactly as it has in the past, the reasons for holding CUREageous have only grown more important. Cancer patients are the most immunosuppressed and the most susceptible to viruses. They need cancer research and treatments to continue. Tonight we will celebrate cancer patients and their family members, caregivers, physicians, researchers and staff who are committed to improving the lives of cancer patients throughout central and western Illinois.

Since 2001, No One Fights Alone has been the mantra of the Illinois CancerCare Foundation. We want every cancer patient to have every weapon available in their battle against this disease. Dollars raised tonight help make that possible every day for local cancer patients and their families.

Over the past couple of years, the Foundation has seen an exponential need for patient service programs. Our patient service grants are designed to improve cancer patients and their loved ones quality of life through the following comprehensive cancer support services: transportation assistance support, social service and nutritional services, and much needed meals and gifts for eligible families during the holidays through the Trust in Hope program. Last year, over 300 Thanksgiving

meals were delivered to 82 families, and 53 children of Illinois CancerCare patients received holiday gifts from the Foundation.

HOPE. It is something we can all provide during a cancer diagnosis. Your participation this evening provides genuine hope and loving compassion to those forever touched by cancer. On behalf of our Board of Directors, Advisors, Young Leaders, and our CUREageous event committee, thank you for joining us tonight and for giving so generously.

## Although we are not all together in one room tonight – we are connected by one mission!

Friends in the Fight,





PRESHOW	Prepare to be entertained "I Got A Feeling" performed by MacQueen Street Band
	Important Preshow Announcements
7:00 PM	Let's get this OUTRAGEOUS party started!
	AMP Champ Announcement   Sarah Gonzales
	Rock Doc Announcement   Dr. Mackenzie McGee
7:30 PM	Raffle Closes!
	Survivor Spotlight   Cathy Pusch
	Live Auction
	Announcement of the Raffle Winner
	High Five
	Our Very IMPORTANT Announcement!
	Get up and dance! "Uptown Funk" & "Forget You" performed by 3 and a Half Men
9.20 DM	Silent Auction Closed

**8:30 PM** Silent Auction Closes!



What's in the box:

Thanks to these local partners, your **WATCH PARTY BOX** is complete with all the supplies to make CUREageous come to life... no matter where you are joining us from tonight!

- CURATORS:

create à scene

CUSTOM CHARCUTERIE BOARDS:



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ILLINOIS CANCERCARE foundation



#### **DR. MACKENZIE McGEE**

Radiation Oncology | OSF St. Francis Medical Center

#### Tell us about you - Where did you grow up? Where did you go to school? What makes you, YOU?

I grew up in central Illinois and moved to Peoria when I was 8 years old. I attended Peoria Notre Dame High School and then Saint Mary's College in South Bend, Indiana for undergraduate studies. I completed medical school at Loyola University Chicago Stritch School of Medicine. I interned and completed my radiation oncology residency at Beaumont Health System in Royal Oak, Michigan.

I learned a lot about mindset, discipline and teamwork from music and sports growing up which has served me well through my career. I try to carry those things in all aspects of my life and strive to put the needs of my family, patients and friends as my top priorities.

## Looking back over your career, what are you most proud of?

I am most proud of offering both advanced skills in radiation therapy in addition to working with our Cancer Support Services team to offer more comprehensive services to patients as they go through cancer treatment and into survivorship. Compared to early in my career, more patients are receiving nurse navigation, psychosocial, physical therapy and dietary support which has truly benefited our community. I am proud to work with such an amazing team!

## How do you spend your time when you're not working? How do you like to relax?

When I'm not working, I'm most often with my husband and kids or out with friends. We love to play tennis, go for bike rides on the Rock Island Trail and in COVID times we have been very appreciative of our Quaranteam friends! We love spending time as a family going to the drive-in movies at Keller station on the weekends!



## If you had an extra four hours in the day, how would you fill that time?

If I had an extra four hours in the day, I would likely spend much of it with my husband and kids. I'd also use some of that time to exercise and see my friends more often!

## What made you choose to get involved in research?

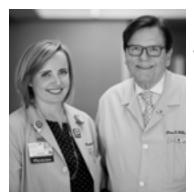
I had a truly inspiring chemistry professor in college, Dr. Toni Barstis, and she always challenged me to push what I thought were my limits and apply for new challenges. From her encouragement, I ended up doing several summers of basic science research in college and medical school because I loved the challenge of answering a scientific question. As a clinician the questions have become bigger and more impactful for large numbers of patients. Being involved with clinical research allows my patients to gain access to novel treatments that may improve upon the current standard of care.

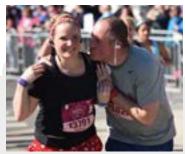
#### Tell us about the best part of your work.

The best part of my work is getting to know my patients. It is a truly humbling experience to be involved in a patient's cancer story. I love looking at my schedule for the day and seeing some of my longterm follow-up patients. It makes my day to catch up with my patients and find out how they are doing and how we can best support them.

Favorite song? Livin' on a Prayer by Bon Jovi























The AMP Champ is an Affiliated Medical Professional who also provides exemplary contributions to research and works hand-in-hand with Rock Docs.



## **CELEBRATING OUR 2019 ROCK DOCS!**



DR. ALEXANDER ADLER Cardiology | UnityPoint Health - Methodist
DR. JOSEPH R. EVANS Radiation Oncology | Formerly at OSF St. Francis Medical Center
AMD Champ RACHEL DELONG, APN Advanced Practice Nurse | Peoria Surgical Group
DR. PATRICK L. GOMEZ Medical Oncology | Illinois CancerCare

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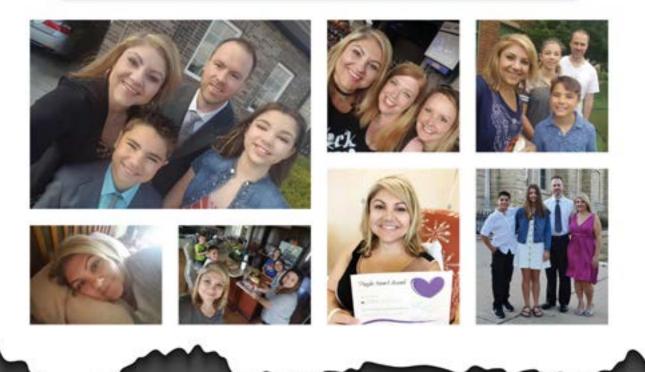


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## This year we're VIRTUALLY CUREageous!

On behalf of all of the Vertex team, we're excited to be able to support Illinois CancerCare Foundation again this year, just virtually.

We look forward to a return to normalcy and the ability to celebrate with everyone in person in 2021!



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Through memorials and tributes, you can honor a loved one AND create a lasting legacy. We are working hard to create a beautiful garden for our patients and their loved ones to enjoy for years to come. These tribute benches are what we hope to be the beginning of bringing this vision to life!



MORE DETAILS & PURCHASING OPTIONS AT: illinoiscancercarefoundation.org/ donate/bench





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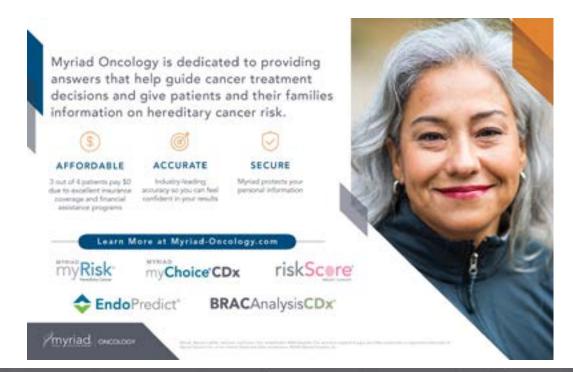
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#### Congratulations to all of the Rock Docs and AMP Champs



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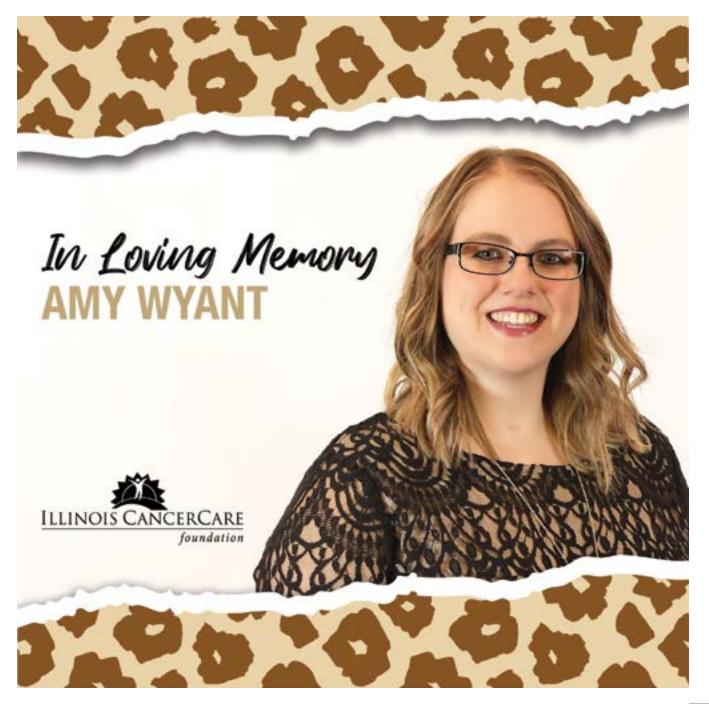
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Thank You Ashley Stegall

for your continued CUREageous support & loyalty to our mission over the years!



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## Share your ribbon to show your support for our survivors, for those still fighting, and for those we have lost to this terrible disease.

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## CONGRATULATIONS

2020 Rock Doc Dr. Mackenzie McGee 2020 AMP Champ Sarah Gonzales





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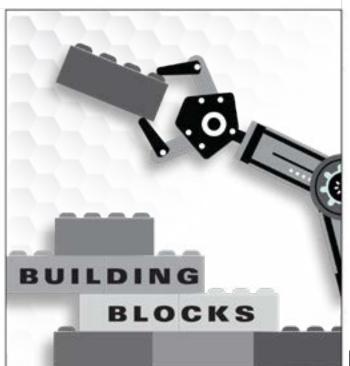
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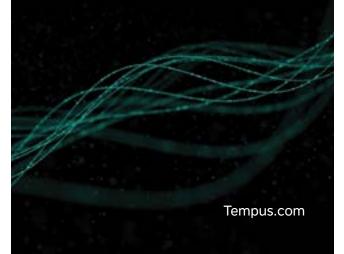
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## In Loving Memory TERESA KITSON





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