



# BCCS Newsletter

## Mission Statement

To provide  
compassionate in-home  
skilled nursing care and  
supportive resources for  
those affected by cancer  
or related illnesses in  
Southwest Michigan.

## Location

Marie Yeager Cancer  
Center - 2nd floor  
3900 Hollywood Road  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
269-429-3281

[www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org)  
[staff@bccancerservice.org](mailto:staff@bccancerservice.org)

Follow us on social  
media today!



How does Love speak?  
In the faint flush upon the telltale cheek,  
And in the pallor that succeeds it; by  
The quivering lid of an averted eye--  
The smile that proves the parent to a sigh  
Thus doth Love speak.

How does Love speak?  
By the uneven heart-throbs, and the freak  
Of bounding pulses that stand still and ache,  
While new emotions, like strange barges, make  
Along vein-channels their disturbing course;  
Still as the dawn, and with the dawn's swift force--  
Thus doth Love speak.

How does Love speak?  
In the avoidance of that which we seek--  
The sudden silence and reserve when near--  
The eye that glistens with an unshed tear--  
The joy that seems the counterpart of fear,  
As the alarmed heart leaps in the breast,  
And knows, and names, and greets its godlike guest--  
Thus doth Love speak.

## Love's Language *By Ella Wheeler Wilcox*

How does Love speak?  
In the proud spirit suddenly grown meek--  
The haughty heart grown humble; in the tender  
And unnamed light that floods the world  
with splendor;  
In the resemblance which the fond eyes trace  
In all fair things to one beloved face;  
In the shy touch of hands that thrill and tremble;  
In looks and lips that can no more dissemble--  
Thus doth Love speak.

How does Love speak?  
In the wild words that uttered seem so weak  
They shrink ashamed in silence; in the fire  
Glance strikes with glance, swift flashing high ...,  
Like lightnings that precede the mighty storm;  
In the deep, soulful stillness; in the warm,  
Impassioned tide that sweeps thru throbbing veins,  
Between the shores of keen delights and pains;  
In the embrace where madness melts in bliss,  
And in the convulsive rapture of a kiss--  
Thus doth Love speak.

## February is Gallbladder and Bile Duct Cancer Awareness Month

The gallbladder is a small, pear-shaped organ located under the liver. It's primary job is to store bile, a substance that helps with the digestion of fat. Sadly, often there are no symptoms until the later stages of cancer. Symptoms include jaundiced yellowing of skin and eyes, abdominal pain or lumps, nausea and vomiting. Some risk factors for these include chronic ulcerative colitis and bile duct cysts. It is important to get to know your body and when something feels off get checked early detection and screenings as always are the key to good health.

## Things to give your Valentine who has cancer

Do you wonder what would make a good gift for your Valentine?

1. Your time, spend the day together, take photos together, frame them, organize photos from the past to remember happier times.
2. A love letter or poem, write about your feelings and need for them, frame it.
3. A stuffed animal who can travel to treatments with them.
4. Give the gift of journaling or gratitude, give a journal and encourage your valentine to write about their life, their journey, how they feel or things they are grateful for each day. You could even have them tell you stories to record in a journal.
5. Surround your valentine in a cozy blanket or have a blanket made from favorite memories, photos or t-shirts.

# BCCS Bulletin Board

## World Cancer Day Saturday, February 4, 2023

Challenges are what make life interesting, overcoming them is what makes life meaningful.

Surviving a day with cancer is an achievement, so hold on and make your way out of it like a fighter. Sending you prayers on world cancer day.

We all can contribute so much to this fight for Cancer. May Almighty give us all the strength and capability to support and go through this disease.

Battling cancer is hard, but the support of family and friends can make the process a lot easier.

## BCCS STAR (Heart) GIVERS - BUSINESS/ORGANIZATIONS

Angelo's Food Specialties, Inc.  
City Plumbing, Heating and Air Conditioning  
Great Lakes Eye Care  
Moersch Hospitality Group  
Michigan Masonic Charitable Foundation #437  
Trinity Lutheran Ladies League of Glendora

## February is National Cancer Prevention Month

Over 40 percent of cancer cases are attributable to preventable causes, including tobacco use, poor diet, physical inactivity, and obesity. National Cancer Prevention Month aims to decrease that percentage. More than a 100,000 cancer-related deaths each year can be prevented by adhering to prevention tips. It is important to eat natural foods and become more active which can help reduce cancer risk. Get regular recommended screenings to spot anything odd.

- In the US, 4 of 10 cancer cases are associated with preventable risk factors.
- Tobacco products including e-cigarettes are associated with the development of 17 types of cancer along with lung cancer.
- Nearly 20 percent of U.S. cancer diagnoses are related to excess body weight, alcohol intake, poor diet, and physical inactivity.
- Many cases of skin cancer could be prevented by protecting the skin from ultraviolet radiation from the sun and indoor tanning devices.

In January we enjoyed the Martin Luther King, Jr. Breakfast & Expo hosted by Lake Michigan College and the Slap the Puck Out of Cancer Event hosted by the Garden Ice Arena Youth Hockey League. We met many people at both of these events. They were both truly inspiring and took a lot of great people to organize and implement. These are the types of activities that make Berrien County a great place to live, work, and play!

## March is Colorectal Awareness Month with a Blue Ribbon - So join us!

Join us for the fun

## The Blue Party

Thursday, March 30, 2023  
5:00-8:30 pm



\$10 per person

- Silent Auction
- Raffle
- Get Crafty
- Games
- Live Music
- Blue Drinks

12857 Red Arrow Hwy  
Sawyer, MI

Grab your besties, wear your favorite shade of blue, and head to Local Pour to get the party started, with the Berrien County Cancer Service in its mission to provide in-home skilled nursing care to local cancer patients at no cost.

269-429-3281 with questions



2023 Art Play Workshops  
**FEBRUARY 16, 2023**  
Join us for a  
fun time  
creating art!



**KRASL  
ART  
CENTER**

707 Lake Blvd  
St. Joseph, MI

Mixed  
media  
collages  
4:30-6:00 pm

The Art Play Workshops are for any child who is impacted by cancer including a family member, grandparent, close friend, or stable pediatric patient.

A program of the Berrien County  
Cancer Service 269-429-3281 to  
register or email  
director@bccancerservice.org



# In Memory

In Honor of Patricia Anderson

Vicki Metzger

In Memory of Josephine Baldanza

Mary Ann Forsythe

In Memory of William Ballard

Julia Ballard

In Memory of Irene Czajkowski

William and Barbara Klein

In Memory of Mario J DiPisa

DiPisa's Pizza

In Memory of Carolyn J Fanslau

Marvin Abbott  
Norma Kirchner  
Mary Sundblad

In Memory of Ted & Hertha Kroschel

JoAnne Smith

In Memory of Karen Demis

Such a Kind and Loving cousin.  
I will truly miss her - John Cygan

IKaren will be greatly missed.

Love from her cousins,  
Wanda, Karen and Rocco

From your friends at

Orchard Hill Landfill

Ann Smith

Susan Herman

Richard and Kay Kobetz

Tom and Laura LaVanway

Judy Machalleck

Mike & Karon Miller & Family

Kristina Myers

Barbara Nord

David and Kathy Pallas

Lonnie & Renee Scheetz

Randy & Linda Willmeng

In Memory of Betty Nernberg

Debbie Durren

In Memory of Helen Schultz

Kay Schultz

In Memory of Betty Swanson and  
her daughter Susan Swanson

Lyman

Greg Lyman

In Memory of Adam Tilly

Rebecca Eichler Toth

In Memory of Timothy L Trucks

Carol McLarty

In Memory of Susan VanderWaal

Curtis VanderWaal

*Berrien County Cancer Service sends our sincere sympathy to all those who have recently lost loved ones. We thank all of our generous donors. Your donations appreciated to help those with cancer in Southwest Michigan.*

## *From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN*

One of the amazing resources for nonprofit organizations in Berrien County is the Berrien Community Foundation and their grant opportunities. We would not be able to meet the requests that come in for our loan closet without being awarded grant monies. Recently we were awarded 2 grants for 2023.

- A "For Good" grant from the Berrien Community Foundation. With these funds, we are able to keep our loan closet equipment in tip-top shape, provide nutritional supplementation for those going through cancer treatment, and help with our nurses traveling to patients' homes.
- A grant from the Frederick S. Upton Foundation for items that our nurses need for their patients during treatment.

It is the grant funds that have kept us from having to tell people that we don't have the equipment that they need for items that we normally keep in stock. So often I have been told how much the items from our loan closet have helped someone. During a health crisis, it is so important to have what you need to be safe and comfortable. Our goal is to make it easy for you. So if you see the team from BCF, tell them, "Thank You" for the great work they do!

Welcome Kala Greene, we are pleased to introduce our new patient Care Coordinator, Kala Greene, she came to us straight out of the emergency room where she worked for 5 years. She is vibrant, energetic and organized. Currently Kala is looking at our processes with new eyes to re-organize the patient folders, calendars and the loan closet. We are very happy to have her join our team.



**Berrien County Cancer Service**  
3900 Hollywood Road  
St. Joseph, MI 49085  
**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

**JOIN THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL**

To help us save postage, you may call 269-429-3281 or email us at [staff@bccancerservice.org](mailto:staff@bccancerservice.org). If you are not reading the newsletter, you may contact us to be removed. *We value our readers and hope you enjoy this newsletter.*

**NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION**  
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**BCCS is a non-profit organization funded primarily by donations, memorials, fundraisers, and United Way of Southwest Michigan. We receive no Medicare or insurance payments. To continue our services at no cost to those with cancer who need our help in the home, we need your help. Any donation is greatly appreciated. You may donate online at [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or mail your check to our address listed on the front cover. An acknowledgment and receipt for tax purposes will be sent.**

**Donations can be made in honor of someone or in memory of a loved one. In these instances, we would also like to send acknowledgment to the honoree or next-of-kin, so please provide that information when making your donation.**

**"I am so glad I do not have to go to the hospital lab, this makes things so much easier."**

**Michelle**