



BCCS Newsletter

3900 Hollywood Road

St. Joseph, MI 49085

269-429-3281

www.bccancerservice.org

Mission Statement

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

staff@bccancerservice.org

Follow us on social media today!



2024

January-July

Our Nurses made 768 patient visits

Resource Locker loan/given value: \$31,130



Fall, Leaves, Fall

by Emily Brontë

**Fall, leaves, fall; die, flowers, away;
Lengthen night and shorten day;
Every leaf speaks bliss to me
Fluttering from the autumn tree.,**

**I shall smile when wreaths of snow
Blossom where the rose should grow;
I shall sing when night's decay
Ushers in a drearier day.**

Pink Party Thank You's

The Pink Party at Watermark on Wednesday, October 2, was a resounding success, bringing together community members for a day filled with fun and philanthropy. Seventeen dedicated volunteers from the St. Joseph High School Key Club, led by Lauri Berry, played a crucial role in organizing activities, including the sale of raffle tickets and a unique "Dunk the Duck" game by throwing them into the toilet, contributing to the \$500 in prizes awarded. The Watermark team generously donated \$175 in gift cards and provided drinks for those participating in the event's main attraction—sitting on pink toilets. Michigan Pizza Hut added to the festivities by donating ten specialty pizzas, while Tim Sizer and Chef Patti Kenworthy delighted attendees with their delicious meatballs, hummus, pita points, and veggies. Support from local businesses and organizations was overwhelming, with Honor Credit Union, Sturgis Bank, and United Federal Credit Union sending executives to take their turn on the pink loos. Competitive Edge made a spirited contribution with a team of nearly 20 members, each taking a ten-minute shift proudly donning cool shirts. Also wearing specially designed shirts was Team Aesthetics Lounge & Spa who all took turns sitting on the Loo. Community leaders, including Stevensville Village representatives, Berrien County Sheriff Chuck Heit, Bob Rogers from Serv Pro of Berrien County, and even Blossomtime queens and kings, participated, along with Dionne Rigozzi from the Berrien County Health Department joining in the fun. We even had a candidate for local office who sat with us, Libbi Urban. The event was a testament to the community's spirit and its commitment to supporting a worthy cause.



Watermark

BREWING CO.

Chef Patti K



BCCS Bulletin Board



First Presbyterian Church of Niles

Four Winds Casino Resort

The Green Dragon Coffee House

Honor Credit Union

Michigan Pizza Hut, Inc.

Millie's Antiques

New Buffalo Volleyball Team

Millie's Antiques

Pease Excavating

St. Joseph High School Key Club

Servpro of Berrien County

Tosi's

More Pennies for Patients donors:

Thank You!

Juan Ganum

City of Bridgman

Sandra White

Thank you for participating in our Pink Party

Anthony Allen

Erin Allen

Scott Allen

Den Akins

Nick Barber

Dave Brown

Kathy Burch

Amy Byrd

Teri Cooper

Scott Crawford

Lisa DeJong

Isocee Dochenetz

Kacee Dochenetz

Kacey Dominguez

Jenna Drake

Kierra Halfman

Teri Hays

Chuck Heit

Taylor Hoffman

Melissa Kantor

Chip Krieg

Julee Laurent

Stephanie Mack

Scott McFarland

Meryl Merritt

Sarah Morrow

Mike Murphy

Ella Olson

Megan Olson

Natalie Polaskey

Brittney Posten

Matt Posten

Glenda Potts

Josh Pratt

Mark Reisig

Bob Rogers

Ron Source

Deb Standen

Deb Tibbitt

Mary Jo Tomasini

Libbi Urban

Kelly Vaughn

Tina Vaught

Karen & Bob Walker

Sarah Waters

Carol Weller

Ginger Wregglesworth

Paula Wygonik

Patrick Yates

Anyone else we missed

NOVEMBER IS



CARCINOID, LUNG & PANCREATIC CANCER

AWARENESS MONTH



Thank you to The Renaissance Athletic Club for hosting Run And Creep



#GIVINGTUESDAY



Tuesday, November 29



At BCCS we work on Giving Tuesday to raise funds to help our patients with their holiday expenses. We would appreciate your support.

Special Holiday Hours

November 28 & 29: Closed

December 24: 9am to 12pm

December 25: Closed for Christmas

January 1: Closed for New Years Day

In the event of inclement weather, please call our office

269-429-3281 to make sure we are open

In Memory

In Memory of Josephine Baldanza
Mary Ann Forsythe

In Memory of Nora Boone
Jeanette and Dolores Fester

In Memory of Georgia Hornberger
Mildred Leslie
Denis and Marcia Stevens

In Memory of Colette McFarland
Scott McFarland

In Memory of Patricia Neuman
Jeanette and Dolores Fester

In Memory of Peggie Schaffer
Hannah Noble

In Memory of Margarite Souliotis
Jeanette and Dolores Fester

In Memory of Joseph Saratore
Vanessa Austin

Shirley Dreher
Chuck and Karin Falkenstein
Lisa Field

Yvonne Herkemij
Ronald and Janis Nate

In Memory of Judith Ann Vinnedge
Deanna Wolford

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

National Family Caregivers Month



The theme for 2024 is *I Care...*

My husband and I were facing an issue that we had not anticipated. A relative who was living overseas needed to come to the U.S. as he was dealing with serious health issues. He needed a place to live, but was unable to live on his own and his options were very limited. We had an extra room, so we opened our home and over the next year, provided support, love, and care as his health deteriorated over the next 11 months. There were sleepless hours of caregiving, living with only a few hours of sleep, trying to keep up with laundry, work, and the household. Finding strength you didn't know you had. This is what 53 million U.S. family caregivers experience as they deliver care for those who need extra support to manage their daily living. November has been designated as National Family Caregivers Month by the Caregiver Action Network. If you know a caregiver, ask them if you can bring over a meal, go grocery shopping, give them respite for a few hours. It is so needed and appreciated!

If you are a caregiver, there are some wonderful resources at Region IV Area Agency on Aging

Contact information: (800)654-2810 website: www.areaagencyonaging.org

Programs and resources that may help you:

- MI Choice Waiver to help individuals stay in their homes
- A new program for Dementia Care using the GUIDE model to provide caregiver support
- Trualta, a web based program providing skill-based training for caregivers
- Integrated Care at Home to help homebound individuals receive care in the home
- Respite care, in-person and virtual support groups, a caregiver newsletter, and more!

We had a delightful time at the Ladies' Tea on Oct. 21st with the 16 women who attended at the Corewell Health Center for Better Living. We had a pertinent discussion on cancer, especially as it relates to women of color with an emphasis on prevention and special considerations.

Special Thank-You's to:

- Bernice Mason for welcoming guest and Betsy Kreichauf for making room arrangements
- Jolita Burton starting the event with singing an amazing hymn and prayer
- The Guest speaker was Cassie Tillery, RN, Corewell Health Nurse Navigator
- Long term BCCS Board Member, Allene Smith shared her experience with BCCS services
- Cheryl Wiese, PT, for leading out in chair yoga.
- Nancy Church, RN, discussing BCCS services and how we can help. **Please join us next year!**

Giving Tuesday QR Code



Giving Tuesday is a special day to raise funds to give to our patients who need extra assistance for holiday cheer. If you would like to brighten a patient's Christmas, please give by using this QR code (it is also on the 2nd page).



Mail your gift to: BCCS
3900 Hollywood Road
St. Joseph, MI 49085

Donate by QR code
or online at:
www.bccancerservice.org

General Gifts QR Code



Thank you!

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. If you are not reading the newsletter, you may contact us to be removed. *We value our readers and hope you enjoy this newsletter.*

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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 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 when making your donation.

"I was blessed to have faithful nurses, I miss the nurses, I appreciate everyone. So friendly, the nurses always kept me laughing every time they came to see me. We all need laughter in our lives."

J. C.

