



# 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!



## Spring Fever

by Mark Twain

Its' Spring fever,  
that's the name of it is.  
You want-  
Oh, you don't quite know

what it is you do want  
but it just fairly makes  
your heart ache,  
you want it so!

Berrien County Cancer Service

### STRIKE It Up

For BCCS Cancer Patients

SATURDAY, MARCH 16, 2024  
\$25 PER PERSON  
\$100 PER TEAM

Sponsored by  
**Brown FUNERAL HOME**  
& CREMATION SERVICES

PRIZES  
TOP SCORING TEAM  
BEST DRESSED TEAM  
WACKY BOWLING  
BOWLING BINGO

AT JOEY ARMADILLOS IN NILES  
2732 S. 11th St., Niles, MI 49120  
[www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org)  
NOON - 2:00PM

## Strike it Up for BCCS

Saturday, March 16, 2024  
12pm to 2pm

### Sponsored by Brown Funeral Home

Fun and prizes abound at this Saturday afternoon  
FUN BOWL!

\$25 per bowler includes shoes, bowling ball & pizza.  
Bring a team or come by yourself to join another team.  
Dress up in your best bowling outfit and win prizes!  
All proceeds go toward BCCS Cancer Patient Care.

We have room for 46 teams.

See you at Joey Armadillos in Niles!  
See poster for details.



### Common kidney cancer symptoms

Persistent pain of the side and back

- Blood in your urine
- A lump or mass in your side or abdomen
- Weight loss and fever

### Risk Factors of Kidney Cancer

Smoking

- Obesity
- High blood pressure
- Family history of kidney cancer



Each year, approximately 10-20% of breast cancer diagnoses are designated the subtype "triple negative." A triple negative breast cancer diagnosis means that the tumor is estrogen receptor-negative, progesterone receptor-negative and HER2-negative, thus giving rise to the name "triple negative breast cancer."



# BCCS Bulletin Board



## 2023 Your Gifts in Review



We Celebrated our **75<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary at Andrews  
University



**\$100,273.32**  
Raised 2023 Fund Raising

**34<sup>th</sup>**

**\$35,799.43**

**PENNIES FOR PATIENTS**

Raised 2023  
Pennies for Patients



**522**

Individuals Served in 2023  
131 Nursing Patients  
1,215 Nursing Visits



**Berrien  
County  
Cancer  
Service**

[www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org)

## BCCS STARGIVERS

- Marzke Family Foundation
- Louise Udem Endowment Fund
- Brown Funeral Home & Cremation Services



## Multiple Myeloma Awareness



Some of the common manifestations of multiple myeloma as recommended by the International Myeloma Foundation suggests remembering the CRAB acronym:

- C for high blood calcium – Hypercalcemia may cause extreme thirst, loss of appetite, excessive urination, restlessness, confusion or nausea.
- R for renal function – A certain multiple myeloma protein can impair the ability of the kidneys to effectively dispose of excess fluid, salt and waste, which can produce symptoms like leg swelling, weakness and shortness of breath.
- A for anemia – Cancerous plasma cells can suppress the production of healthy red blood cells, leading to anemia and symptoms like weakness, dizziness and shortness of breath.
- B is for bone pain - Multiple myeloma increases bone breakdown and decreases the formation of new bone which can result in osteoporosis and spinal fractures.



**Berrien County  
Cancer Service**

Friday, August 9, 2024  
5:30-9:00PM

**TABOR HILL**

Private Event Tent  
donated by Moersch Hospitality Group  
333 Mount Tabor Road  
Buchanan, MI

Sponsored by



## Early Bird Special!

Tickets on sale now get them before March 31, 2024 for \$100! After April 1, 2024 \$125 per person. This includes a salad, appetizer, meal and 1 drink per person. See more information at the bottom left.



**Berrien County  
Cancer Service**



**TABOR HILL**  
Private Event Tent

5:30 VIP Cocktail Reception by  
6:00 Dinner is served

Raspberry Chicken or Zucchini Noodle Caprese

6:30 Nancy Church, RN, President & CEO

7:00-9:00 Live Music and Dancing  
Starring Jimmy Fastiggi

Sponsored by



## Colorectal Cancer Awareness Month

We learned last year that an unusual number of younger people (born after the 1990) have an increased risk of colorectal cancer compared with people born in the 1950's. If you have a concern, talk about it and ask your doctor about getting tested. It is the 2nd leading cause of cancer death behind lung cancer.

# In Memory

In Honor of Richard & Carolyn Durup

Hannah Noble

In Memory of Johnny Coulson

Linda Coulson

In Memory of Johnny Gorman

Eva Gorman

In Memory of Judith Jones

Jenifer Cureton

Ron, Miles, Carrie and all your friends at Dawn

In Memory of Jack Mucia

Djera Mucia

In Memory of Mike Pappa

Anthony & Carol Dlouhy

In Memory of Lynn Sommer

Michael and Claudia Hanley

Jill Jacobsen

Ralph Layman

John and Susan Lowers

*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 SW Michigan.*



**35<sup>th</sup> PENNIES FOR PATIENTS**  
5,000 PENNIES can provide a wig to help a patient cope with hair loss & maintain confidence to stay socially engaged

www.bccancerservice.org




**35<sup>th</sup> PENNIES FOR PATIENTS**  
25,000 PENNIES can provide a prosthetic to a woman who has undergone a mastectomy

April-May 2024  
www.bccancerservice.org




**35<sup>th</sup> PENNIES FOR PATIENTS**  
1,000 PENNIES can provide a week's worth of supplemental nutrition to help patients maintain strength, weight & health

April & May 2024  
www.bccancerservice.org



**April 13, 2024 10:00 am**  
**K CANCER SHOWDOWN**  
Bridgman Softball Field  
9964 Gast Road, Bridgman, MI



**St. Joe Today Welcome Center**  
May 17, 2024 9:00am - 4:00 pm



*Now is a great time to start your Pennies for Patients collection!*

*From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN*

In January, I promised to share some highlights from my trip to Peru when I returned. Peru is filled with vibrant colors from the clothing, blankets, murals, and parks. The people were gracious and helpful while the rides through the cities could create white knuckles at times! All the stair climbing turned out to be very helpful, especially for the stairs from the bus up to Machu Picchu. Holding a baby alligator, having a young sloth reach out it's arm in friendship, and watching a pink-toed tarantula scurry up my arm while I squeal are not experiences that I encounter in Michigan. The ancient Inka culture of Machu Picchu was amazing! I have to say that my favorite place to sleep was on a floating island on Lake Titicaca with a 2-liter bottle filled with hot water to keep the bed warm at night. Having family to share in the adventure made it even more special!



In reminiscing about my trip, I am reminded that I often encounter people from other cultures and lands...places I will probably never visit. How often do I take the time to converse with others about their life experiences and expand my view of the World? I want to challenge you this month to find someone who is from a country you have never visited and sit down to chat about the joy of living.



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

**Donate by QR code**  
**or online at:** *Thank you!*  
**www.bccancerservice.org**



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.*

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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.

"My nurse goes above and beyond what was expected"

Joyce

