



3900 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085  
www.bccancerservice.org 269.429.3281  
staff@bccancerservice.org

# Newsletter

## THE MISSION OF THE BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE:

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

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## Arbor Day Hymn

*First verse*

Joy for the study trees,  
Fanned by each fragrant breeze,  
Lovely they stand!  
The songbirds o'er them trill;  
They shade each tinkling rill;  
They crown each swelling hill;  
Lowly or grand.



*Samuel F. Smith, author of "My Country Tis of Thee", sung to the same tune.*

## THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION

It is YOU our community that enables us to care for those with cancer and related illnesses in our community. We are grateful for all the support and are honored that you trust us to do our best to provide in-home skilled nursing care for our patients and those who need our assistance. **A special thank you to Van's Medical Equipment for picking up, cleaning and delivering our durable medical equipment as a courtesy to BCCS in support of our community!**

## STAY SAFE!

The Berrien County Cancer Service is joining healthcare providers and organizations to work collaboratively with other local, state, and national partners while the Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) situation is being closely monitored. **We are taking precautions to assist in the prevention of the spread of Coronavirus and have again limited our staff and services in accordance with MDHHS guidelines. Please call if you have loan closet donations so that we can phone screen items prior to bringing them. Please contact us at (269) 429-3281 if you need medical equipment, supplies, or our skilled nursing services.**

Follow us on social  
media today!



United Way  
of Southwest Michigan

# BCCS Bulletin Board



## PENNIES FOR PATIENTS



### SAVE THE DATE!!!

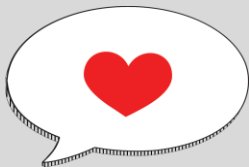
Virtual Art Play Workshop  
April 15<sup>th</sup> from  
4:30-6:00 p.m.

See the next page for more  
information

### *Thought for the Day. . .*

*Everything that I've been  
able to accomplish in  
skating and in life has come  
out of adversity and  
perseverance."*

*Scott Hamilton*



### Patient Remarks

"BCCS is always there  
when you need them.  
They are extremely  
helpful. We don't know  
what we would do  
without them."

Join us for PENNIES FOR PATIENTS DAY on Thursday, May 13!

### 2 COLLECTION SITES

7:30am – 6:00pm  
Cedarwood Med Building  
820 Lester Ave, St.

11:00am – 2:00pm  
St. John's United Church of Christ  
601 Sycamore Street, Niles

*So, keep adding to those jars of coins and remember, we also  
accept paper money, checks, as well as online donations at  
[www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) for Pennies for Patients Day.*

*If you would like jars to set out or flyers to post, please call us!  
269-429-3281*

### Current STAR GIVERS

We've had some awesome business STAR GIVERS recently:

- **First Presbyterian Church of Niles** – Thank you to the Mission and Outreach Team
- **Lighthouse Attic Resale Shop** – Thank you for your gift and the many hours that volunteers spend to be able to give gifts to community organizations.

### SUPPORT GROUPS

Due to social distancing requirements and facility restrictions, support groups for St. Joseph and Niles are cancelled until further notice. However, that does not mean that there is not support for those with cancer. There are a large variety of online cancer support groups with some groups being general and covering all cancer diagnoses while others are specific to a particular diagnosis. A few websites to get started with are [cancercare.org](http://cancercare.org), [cancerhopenetwork.org](http://cancerhopenetwork.org), and [cancersupportcommunity.org](http://cancersupportcommunity.org).

### The BCCS Frederick S. Upton Foundation Challenge Grant starts again this month!

We were excited to be awarded a two-year \$10,000 grant (\$5,000 per year) in 2020 for our loan closet, patient nutrition needs, and assistance for nurses traveling to patient homes. Thanks to you, we matched our first \$5,000 challenge for 2020! Our second portion of the challenge to match has started! We need to match another \$5,000 for 2021!

# April Cancer Awareness – Esophageal, Head & Neck, Testicular



## **ART PLAY WORKSHOPS**

**Art Play Workshops are now held virtually through the Krasl Art Center. Packets for the class can be picked up prior to joining a class via Zoom! If you are interested in joining a workshop, please call 269-429-3281 and ask for Nancy or email her at [director@bccancerservice.org](mailto:director@bccancerservice.org)**

These workshops are designed for families impacted by cancer and are designed for children and adults to learn side-by-side as they use clay, watercolor, and other media to express themselves through art. If you know of any children who have a family member or close friend with cancer, please call us.

You can also find more information at [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or [facebook.com/bccancerservice](https://facebook.com/bccancerservice).

**April 15th – Cartooning!**



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

He dazzled us with his triple axels, camel spins, double jumps, theatrical instincts, and his signature backflips. He stood out from the rest with his beaming smile and bubbly personality. We were so proud of him with the Gold Olympic metal hanging around his neck in 1984. Many of you will remember that moment and have guessed that this is Scott Hamilton. Many skaters hang up their skates after that pinnacle moment, but not Scott. Scott was different...there had been so many obstacles in his life leading up to this point. At age 2, his adoptive parents noticed he was not growing like other children. After several misdiagnoses, it was determined that he was not absorbing nutrients and a special feeding liquid was given to him. He hated liquid so much that he agreed to having a tube placed down his nose and at 9 years old, followed his sister to the ice rink one day and found his calling. His dad later told a Sports Illustrated reporter, "That frail little kid with the tube running across his cheek turned and said, 'You know, I think I'd like to try skating.'"

Skating became his passion and increased his strength and endurance so that by age 13, he started to compete. Financial burdens forced him to leave the ice in 1976, but his mother's death from cancer a year later had a big impact on him then he received a sponsorship that enabled him to return to the ice with a new drive to succeed. He finished 5<sup>th</sup> in the 1980 Olympics, won several World Champion titles as well as gold at the 1984 Olympics. From there he toured the professional skating world, co-founded Stars on Ice, and provided expert analysis during televised competition. While Scott has a very inspirational story, what does this have to do with April Cancer Awareness Month? Scott's life changed in 1997 when his severe shooting pain in his lower back and abdomen was diagnosed as testicular cancer. This disease strikes over 9,000 U.S. males each year, most often those age 15-44. It is often treatable and fortunately for Scott, the chemotherapy sent the cancer into full remission. Again, in Scott Hamilton style, he returned to skating and shared his story with the world. Since then, he has had 3 benign pituitary tumors, which unlocked the mystery to his early childhood lack of growth and thriving.

But, Scott's story doesn't stop with his overcoming tremendous health challenges to rise to athletic greatness. His passion to make a difference in the lives of others is his greatest story. Over the years, he's been involved with numerous charities; Make-A-Wish Foundation, Special Olympics, St. Jude's Children's Hospital, just to name a few. In 2014, he founded the Scott Hamilton CARES Foundation to fund advanced research that treats the cancer while sparing the patient.

One of Scott's newest ventures to encourage people is called **Live Your Days** and can be found at [liveyourdays.com](http://liveyourdays.com). To quote Scott, ***"It's a call to live, fully live, your days. To not letting day after day pass by, just going through the monotony of life. It's a challenge, but one that resets each morning. It is simple, but not easy. And ultimately, it guides the choices that make each day matter. And days that matter turn into extraordinary lives."***

I hope that you have been inspired by Scott's story as much as I have and to recognize each day as precious and one to be embraced. And by the way, maybe I'll start his Live Your Days 30-Day Challenge today.

# In Loving Memory

*Memorial and honorary donations were generously made by and for the following:*

**In Memory of Wendy Orosz**

Susan Coughlin  
Judith Groenke  
Richard Orosz  
Patricia Powers

**In Memory of James Patrick**

The Family of James Patrick

**In Memory of Denise Kantauskas**

Pamela Quandt

**In Memory of Thomas Pruzinski**

Pamela Snyder

**In Memory of Arla Heulsberg**

Jeanette Fester

**In Memory of Terry Schmaltz**

Sandra Barker

**In Memory of Robert Louis Krieger**

Joseph Kamp, Sr.  
Dawn Rice  
Donna Schmidt Uphues

**In Memory of Robert J. Rhoa**

Marana Group  
Xpander Management Group

**In Honor of Loren K. Wilson**

Joan M. Smith

**In Memory of Larry Barker**

Sandra Barker

**In Memory of Joseph Krejci**

Eleanor Krejci



*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 are very much appreciated and will help cancer patients in Berrien County. Thank you.*

# Looking Ahead....

## Looking Ahead

**BCCS SUPPORT GROUP** – St. Joseph  
Marie Yeager Cancer Center  
3900 Hollywood Road

*Will not be meeting in April*

**BCCS SUPPORT GROUP** – Niles  
Greater Niles Senior Center  
1109 Bell Road

*Will not be meeting in April*

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP**  
Lakeland Regional Medical Center

*Will not be meeting in April*

**CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Art Play Workshop**  
Thursday, April 15, 2021

Visit [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or call  
BCCS at 269-429-3281 for details

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## DATES TO REMEMBER IN APRIL

April 1 – April Fool's Day  
April 2 – Peanut Butter & Jelly Day  
April 3 – Play Outside Day  
April 7 – No Housework Day  
April 10 – Siblings Day  
April 11 – Pet Day  
April 15 – High Five Day  
April 20 – Library & Library Workers Day  
April 23 – International Cake Day  
April 25 – Hairstylist Appreciation Day  
April 28 – Workers Memorial Day  
April 30 – Bugs Bunny Day

### **Newsletters available online**

Our newsletters are available on our  
website: [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org). If you  
would like to be removed from this mailing  
list, please call our office at 269-429-3281  
or send us an e-mail:  
[staff@bccancerservice.org](mailto:staff@bccancerservice.org).

## Please Consider...

Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc., is a non-profit organization funded primarily by United Way, private donations and fundraisers. We receive no Medicare, Medicaid or other insurance payments. To continue our free services to Berrien County cancer patients, we need your help. Any donation is greatly appreciated.

Donations to our General Fund will help balance our current budget. Donations to our Endowment Fund will help guarantee that the Cancer Service will be available for as long as needed. Your contribution to our non-profit 501(c)(3) corporation is tax deductible – 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.

\_\_\_ General Fund \_\_\_ Endowment Fund

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Your Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Donation Amount \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**OR**

In Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

Please send notification of my gift to:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for your  
generosity!**

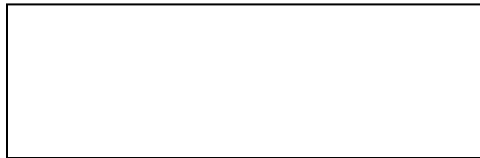
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3900 Hollywood Road  
St. Joseph, MI 49085

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EMAIL**

Help us save postage, you may call  
269-429-3281 or email us at  
[staff@bccancerservice.org](mailto:staff@bccancerservice.org). If you are  
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our readers and hope you enjoy it.

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\*Dr. Edmund Paloyan

\*Dr. Sapna Patel

Jolita Allene Smith

\*Indicates Honorary Members

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP - St. Joseph ON HOLD**

2nd Tuesday of each month 2:30 p.m.

Marie Yeager Cancer Center Second Floor

3900 Hollywood Road

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 429-3281

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP ON HOLD**

2nd Thursday of each month – 6:00 p.m.

Spectrum Health Lakeland Regional Medical Center

Community Room

1234 Napier Ave.

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 983-8804

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP – Niles ON HOLD**

3rd Tuesday of each month – 1:30 p.m.

Greater Niles Senior Center

1109 Bell Road

Niles, MI 49120

Phone: (269) 429-3281

**NURSING STAFF**

Nancy Church, R.N., President/CEO

Connie Demler, R.N.

Debra Hansen, R.N.

Sheryl Stone, R.N. PRN Status

**OFFICE STAFF**

Kimberly McCoy, Patient Care Coordinator

Lorna Pullen, Administration Assistant

Henrietta Hein, Office Assistant

Sarah Bennett-Stathakis, Office Assistant