



# 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!



## The Promise

By Jane Hirshfield

Stay, I said  
to the cut flowers.  
They bowed  
their heads lower.

Stay, I said to the spider,  
who fled.

Stay, leaf.  
It reddened,  
embarrassed for me and itself.



Stay, I said to my body.  
It sat as a dog does,  
obedient for a moment,  
soon starting to tremble.

Stay, to the earth  
of riverine valley meadows,  
of fossiled escarpments,  
of limestone and sandstone.

It looked back  
with a changing expression,  
in silence.

Stay, I said to my loves.  
Each answered,  
Always.



When was the last time you got out to listen to live music? Join the Berrien County Cancer Service in the Fight Against Cancer in All Colors with an evening of live music, fun activities, and food on Friday, October 7th from 6:30-10:00pm. Enjoy pizza, sliders and desserts at the Watermark Solarium at 2688 Kimmel St, Stevensville, MI 49127. Live music from the Dan Moore Band will have your toes tapping, singing along and lure you to the dance floor. There will be some inspirational moments, a silent auction and the BCCS Testimonial video. We look forward to a fun evening and hope you will join in. Watch for opportunities to buy tickets at [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or contact our office at 269-429-3281. Tickets are \$40 if purchased before August 31, 2022 or \$45 if purchased between August 31 and September 30, and \$50 at the door.

**SPONSOR A TABLE OR SEATS FOR FAMILIES IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CANCER**  
call Tyanna at 269-429-3281

# BCCS Bulletin Board

## August is Summer Sun Safety Month

Summer is a great time to get out and enjoy the sun. Beaches, baseball and outdoor activities are bound to be enjoyed. With all the fun to be had, here are tips to keep you safe in the sun!

1. **Avoid Sunburn** - If in the sun especially between the hours of 10:00 AM-4:00PM, be sure to wear sunscreen.
2. **Hydrate** - Be sure to drink lots of water when in the sun, especially if you're participating in activities
3. **Skin Checks** - See a dermatologist yearly to have your skin checked for potential "hot spots," or spots to keep an eye on. Also, make note of any changes in the skin that seem to be different than before.

Enjoy the summer and be safe!

**"The really happy person is the one who can enjoy the scenery, even when they have to take a detour."**

*Sir James Jeans*



## STAR GIVERS!

A Special Thank You to Nitro Biomedical and Sturgis Bank for being early sponsors of our October Fight Against Cancer in All Colors

Much Gratitude to LithoTech Graphic Services for assisting with our needs.



## RESOURCE CLOSET SPECIALS! WOMEN'S MASTECTOMY SWIMSUITS

We were recently given a supply of women's mastectomy swimsuits in sizes 6-18. Come to the BCCS office on the 2nd floor of the Marie Yeager Cancer Center if you would like to see what we have. We also have an excess supply of regular walkers, mastectomy bras, oral swabs, lancets, and some ostomy items for anyone who needs them. If you need a durable medical equipment item for short-term use, you may borrow equipment from us regardless of the diagnosis. If you have cancer and need medical items, we have a large array of supplies including bed pads. Please call 269-429-3281.

## 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 those who donate items. If you have items to donate, please call us at 269-429-3281 so that we may assist you.

## ART PLAY WORKSHOP

For children and families impacted by cancer  
Join us on Thursday, August 18th from 4:30-6:00pm  
for a fun time at the Krasl Art Center.

The art project is Air Dry Clay Refrigerator Magnets.  
Registration is required. Call Nancy at 269-429-3281 for more information



Are you a member of a church, group, or organization who invites speakers to talk about community services?

Our Director of Development, Tyanna Essig, is available to give a 20-30 minute presentation to your group upon request. Please contact Tyanna Essig in our office at 269-429-3281 or email [tyanna@bccancerservice.org](mailto:tyanna@bccancerservice.org).

We want everyone in Berrien County to know about our services!



# In Memory

In Memory of Marie Wood  
Hans and Susan Schroeder

In Honor of Barbara Lane  
In honor of Barbara Lane's many years of dedicated service to Berrien County Cancer Service and also the many people she served. A job well done! We thank her.  
Dolores and Jeanette Fester

In Memory of Judy Fogarty  
Nancy Bowen

*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 those with cancer in Southwest Michigan.*

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

We're all familiar with the colored ribbons associated with cancer and other diseases or conditions. These ribbons help heighten awareness and are used in fundraising campaigns. They've become so common that more than 30 cancers have staked claim to a specific color, or multiple ones. Our own logo uses two colors - lavender to represent all cancers and our traditional color of blue which came from our previous logo combine to create the illusion of a ribbon. When you see the various colored ribbons, your mind associates it with a particular type of cancer in a symbolic way. Symbols allow people to go beyond what is know or seen by creating linkages between different concepts and experiences.

While ribbons have been used throughout history, the recent usage seems to stem from a folklore story of a prisoner writing to his family to ask her to tie a handkerchief in a tree if they want him to get off the bus. This inspired the pop song, "Tie a Yellow Ribbon Round the Ole Oak Tree" sung by Tony Orlando and Dawn in the early 1970's. Yellow ribbons were used in 1979 by the wife of one of the Iranian hostages, Bruce Laingen to remember their plight. The color pink was chosen by Susan G. Komen organization and the use of ribbons for cancer awareness took off the the 1990's.



Currently, the Niles District Library, Benton Harbor Library and Bridgman Library are partnering with BCCS to have visitors add ribbons to a wreath symbolizing how cancer has impacted you or someone you love. As you can see, our heart-shaped wreath can use more ribbons, so if you are at the Marie Yeager Cancer Center, please stop by, add a ribbon, say "Hi!" and find out about our services. Also, be sure sure to stop by the Olove Colcord exhibit at the Niles District Library on display through October and get a sense of the dynamic nurse who lead this organization for 34 years. Olove was originally hired as a nurse for Cancer Signals Program (American Cancer Society) to educate people regarding sign and symptoms of cancer. In addition to education, she provided in-home nursing to those with cancer. A few years later, when that program changed to focus on education only, Olove and community business leaders were committed to the needs of those with cancer and the name, Berrien County Cancer Service was established. While I am sure there were many nurses hired for the Cancer Signals Program, our community was the only one committed to continue the in-home nursing care for cancer patients. Each of us should be proud of this community legacy of caring hearts and keeping the Berrien County Cancer Service compassionate care going for nearly 75 years!



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.

*"Thank you. This was a first time visit. Jill RN was very friendly, compassionate, and helpful. She is a good caring nurse."*

- Coleatha Ferguson