



Berrien  
County  
cancer  
service

## BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE NEWSLETTER

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

In honor of the committed service of  
Olove Colcord, R.N.

### **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.

DECEMBER 2018

(269) 429-3281

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The **BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE SUPPORT GROUP** is a group of patients,  
family members and care givers. Come share successes, feelings, fears and practical  
methods of coping with the physical and emotional aspects of living with the diagnosis of cancer.



United Way  
of Southwest Michigan

# BCCS Bulletin Board



Enjoy delicious refreshments, see our new offices, learn about our services, and connect with friends

We would be delighted to have you join us as we **CUT THE RIBBON** to celebrate our new location.

Come to the 2nd floor of the Marie Yeager Cancer Center  
 Tuesday, December 11th  
 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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**A BIG THANK YOU to Mike, Carey & Connie Ross and the entire Ross Family of City Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning** along with **Mid-West Family Broadcasting** for hosting the 4th Annual Flushing Out Cancer fundraiser. We enjoyed Pat Moody with Moody in the Morning and Jonny Reinhardt all day long with their radio broadcasts. There was much fun with this unique fundraiser and we appreciate those who participated by sitting on a toilet, those who stopped by to clog the toilets with their contributions as well as those who donated online. If you want a laugh, visit our Facebook page: Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc. and see additional photos from Flushing Out Cancer!

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Look for our **ART PLAY WORKSHOPS** to return February-November 2019

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## *Christmas Sponsors Needed*

Christmas giving is always a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit. We always have families who are in need of a little extra help at Christmas. If you would like to help by giving a contribution or sponsoring a family, please give us a call at the office: 269-429-3281.



## **BCCS will be closed for the following Holidays!**

Christmas Eve - December 24th  
 Christmas Day - December 25th  
 New Year's Day - January 1<sup>st</sup>

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## Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow

Just wanted to remind you that BCCS may be closed for snow days during inclement weather. So if it is snowing, please call us first at 269-429-3281 prior to coming to the BCCS office to make sure that we are open. On the days that the office is closed, the answering machine will be checked periodically. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911. The nurses will still be visiting patients unless the roads are hazardous. Often the nurses will make patient visits a day early if they know that a snow storm is coming.

### Mallory's Cancer Survivor Story

Today, at only 26 years old, I got my first skin cancer spot removed. Soon, I'll go back to the doctor to have my sutures taken out and my wound checked. Later, I have an appointment to get my whole body checked for more spots that may be skin cancer.

I'll have to go to the doctor regularly for skin exams for the rest of my life, and will probably have to go through the painful experience of having more skin cancer removed in the future.

I wish I could tell 16-year-old me to never start tanning. As a teenager, I tanned almost every day for four years. I didn't realize at the time how much damage I was doing to my skin.

As a mother, I will try very hard to make sure my children never tan, in a tanning bed or in the sun. Hopefully, seeing what their mama went through will be enough. I want them to know that the skin they were born with is perfect, just the way it is.

I want to tell everyone--protect your skin when you're outside in the sun! Tanning is so not worth the scars and pain of having skin cancer.

I remember seeing skin cancer posts on Facebook and thinking, "Oh, that will never happen to me." But it turns out, skin cancer is the most common type of cancer that people get in the United States, and most skin cancers are caused by exposure to ultraviolet rays from the sun or tanning beds.

**Now, I'm the mom at the beach with an umbrella, a cover-up on, and sunscreen HEAVILY applied, and so are my kids. It takes a little extra planning before we go out, but I'll do anything I can to avoid having to go through this again and to protect my kids from having to experience the same pain that I've had.**

**It's worth the effort!**

### \*\*\* Volunteer Spotlight \*\*\*

I chose to volunteer at the BCCS in honor of my 17 year old nephew who was diagnosed with leukemia 3 years ago. He was just released from treatment 2 months ago and is now cancer free! Cancer patients, especially children need all the support they can get through their families, community and services such as BCCS. I am happy I can give a little something back to the community.

Nicole Randall

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### December is Cancer Awareness Month

#### What is Cancer?

Cancer is the name given to a collection of related diseases. In all types of cancer, some of the body's cells begin to divide without stopping and spread into surrounding tissues.

Cancer can start almost anywhere in the human body, which is made up of trillions of cells. Normally human cells grow and divide to form new cells as the body needs them. When cells grow old or become damaged, they die, and new cells take their place.

When cancer develops, however, this orderly process breaks down. As cells become more and more abnormal, old or damaged cells survive when they should die, and new cells form when they are not needed. These extra cells can divide without stopping and may form growths called tumors.

Cancerous tumors are malignant, which means they can spread into, or invade, nearby tissues. In addition, as these tumors grow, some cancer cells can break off and travel to distant places in the body through the blood or the lymph system and form new tumors far from the original tumor.



## *In Loving Memory*

During October 2018, Memorial Donations were generously made by and for the following people:

### **In Memory of Majorie Amb**

Judy Davis, Coloma

### **In Memory of Edna Mae Best**

David Menefee, Benton Harbor

Gail Lovelady, Buchanan

### **In Memory of Paul Greer**

Georgia Sikich, Benton Harbor

### **In Memory of Walter P. Jann**

Richard McCreedy, Niles

### **In Memory of Don Leibel**

J. Patrick Dyson, Kalamazoo

Allen & Ruth Edlefson, St. Joseph

Stephen & Patricia Nordberg, St. Joseph

Margaret & Thomas Wolohan, Sarasota FL

### **In Memory of Doris Miller**

Paul Miller, Stevensville

### **In Memory of Veronica Pockrandt**

Donna Springs, Bridgman

### **In Memory of Janice Stevens**

Marilyn Anderson, Stevensville

Ruth Fricke, Watervliet

Pauline Yost, Stevensville

Carolyn Mason, Kalamazoo

Nancy Saylor, St. Joseph

Anonymous

Phyllis Kraunz

### **In Memory of Janice Stevens (con't)**

Terri Radde, Wauwatosa WI

DC COOK Opp. "E" Shift

Allison Arend, Benton Harbor

Louise Hufnagel, Benton Harbor

Cynthia & Mark Herzog, St. Joseph

Jeffery Saylor, St. Joseph

Linda Mason, St. Charles IL

Carla & George Frischkorn, St. Joseph

Brenda & Mark Searfoss, St. Joseph

Chris Glendening, St. Joseph

John & Nancy Johnson, St. Joseph

John & Pamela Olson, St. Joseph

Sharon Mason, Kankakee IL

Fred & Kathy Wagner, Stevensville

Suzanne Jewell, Stevensville

Gail Wells, Benton Harbor

Richard & Angela Valha, Baroda

Pamela Bender, Stevensville

### **In Memory of Kenneth Teske**

Roger & Evelyn Teske, South Bend IN

Jim & Linda Teske, Edwardsburg

### **In Memory of Gary Elton Thompson**

Patricia Turrell, Niles

Foster Express Incorporated, Niles

Scarlet Bachmann, Niles

### **In Memory of George Truhn**

Norma Truhn, St. Joseph

*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

### **BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Niles**

December 18 - 1:30 pm

January 15 - 1:30 pm

### **RAINBOWS OF HOPE– St. Joseph**

Marie Yeager Cancer Center

December 13 - 5:30 pm

January 10 - 5:30 pm

### **CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**

#### **Art Play Workshop**

2nd Thursday at Marie Yeager Cancer Center

2nd Monday at the Buchanan Art Center

Visit [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or call

BCCS at 269-429-3281 for details

### **OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP**

Lakeland Regional Medical Center

December 13 - 6:00 pm

January 10 - 6:00 pm

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### **DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER 2018**

December 1 - Day without Art Day

December 4 - National Cookie Day

December 6 - National Christmas Tree Lighting

December 7 - National Pearl Harbor Remembrance  
Day

December 10 - Human Right Day

December 12 - National Ding-a-Ling Day

December 14 - National Ugly Christmas Sweater  
Day

December 16 - National Chocolate Covered  
Anything Day

December 20 - World Day of Prayer and  
Action For Children

December 24 - CHRISTMAS EVE!

December 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY!

December 27 - Howdy Dowdy Day

December 31 - NEW YEARS EVE!

### **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 fund-raisers. 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!**

**BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE, INC. - BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

Joshua Simons	Chairperson	Tim Brown	*Peter Lai	*Dr. Edmund Paloyan
Dr. Gerald Kozuh	Vice Chairperson	*Dr. Fred Busse	*Barbara Lane R.N.	*Dr. Sapna Patel
Joseph Dick	Treasurer	Sharon Hainer	*Dr. Eric Lester	Jolita Allene Smith
Nancy Gothberg	Secretary	Darlene Hawkins	Mike Levi	
Dr. Melinda Gruber	Executive Comm	*Dr. Betty Koshy	*Hannah Noble	

\*Indicates Emeritus Members

**NURSING STAFF:**

Nancy Church, R.N.	President/CEO	Susan Lerke, R.N.
Connie Demler, R.N.		Kimberly Penney, R.N.
Debra Hansen, R.N.		

**OFFICE STAFF:**

Claudia Brister	Office Manager
Henrietta Hein	Office Clerk
Sarah Rodgers	Admin Assistant

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**RAINBOWS OF HOPE GROUP- St. Joseph**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month – 5:30 p.m.

**Marie Yeager Cancer Center**

Ward and Kinney Room

3900 Hollywood Road

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 556-7114

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP**

2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday of each month – 6:00 p.m.

**Lakeland Regional Medical Center**

Community Room

1234 Napier Ave.

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 983-8804

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP – Niles**

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month – 1:30 p.m.

**Niles Senior Center**

1109 Bell Road

Niles, MI 49120

Phone: (269) 429-3281

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