



**Berrien
County
Cancer
Service**

**In memory of the committed
service of Olove Colcord, R.N.**

**February 2021
VOLUME XXVIII
ISSUE II**

**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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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.**

Happy Valentine's Day!

*I love you for a life time
Not only for a day
I love you for who you are,
Not what you do or say.*

Belinda Galea

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!**

Follow us on social
media today!



BCCS Bulletin Board

SAVE THE DATE!!!

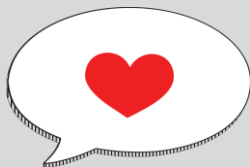
**Virtual Art Play Workshop
February 18th from
4:30-6:00 p.m.**

**See the next page for more
information**

Thought for the Day...

*"The ultimate measure
of a man is not where
he stands in moments of
comfort, but where he stands
at times of challenge
and controversy."*

Martin Luther King, Jr.



Patient Remarks

"I was surprised there was such a service and in such capable hands. May God bless you all!"



PENNIES FOR PATIENTS



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

Last year, COVID-19 sent us online but this year if virus transmission stays low, we will be planning a drive-by collection. **So, keep adding to those jars of coins and remember, we also will accept paper money, checks, and online donations for Pennies for Patients Day.** Watch for more information in the upcoming newsletters and on our website: www.bccancerservice.org

If it is a snowy day, please call us at 269-429-3281 to make sure the BCCS office is open. Our nurses will notify their patients of any schedule changes due to inclement weather.

Current STAR GIVERS

We've had some awesome business STAR GIVERS recently:

- LPL Financial for a gift match
- Fifth Generation, Inc. – Tito's Handmade Vodka for remembering the third-party fundraiser, Bottom's Up for a Cure Pub Run.
- Our Lady of the Lake Catholic Church – donation of prayer blankets

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 cancercaare.org, cancerhopenetwork.org, and 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!

February Cancer Awareness – Prevention and Gallbladder



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

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 or facebook.com/bccancerservice.

February – ceramic plates



From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN

As I look at the “In Loving Memory” column this month, I am reminded of those who have and continue to work with compassion here at Berrien County Cancer Service. In the first column, there is the name of Olove Colcord. If you are a regular reader of our newsletter, that name may look vaguely familiar since this newsletter is dedicated to her committed service on the first page. If you lived in the Niles area back in the 1990’s, you may have known her as the lady who ran “Love Incorporated”. If you had cancer between 1948 to 1984, you would know her as the founding nurse and director of BCCS. She was truly a nurse ahead of her time, filling her car with dressings and going into homes before there were in-home nursing agencies, taking a film projector with her to educate patients regarding their disease, and always having compassion for everyone she met. After retirement, she continued to touch the community by being the director of Love Incorporated, which gave a helping hand to those who had needs. Finally, at the age of 90, she gave up her nursing license. I remember her words of wisdom, humor (she always had a joke to tell), and kindness as she joined us at BCCS luncheons when I started working here in 1994. It was truly a privilege to know her until her passing in 2008.

As I continue down the column, there are kind words and gifts in honor of Connie Demler, RN, who I have worked with since starting here, myself, and for all the BCCS Staff. It always brings joy to my heart to know that we are appreciated for the care that we give. I like to think that Olove would be proud of the work that we continue to do.

February is cancer prevention awareness month. This might be a good month to plan some of those screenings that you have been putting off because you’ve been too busy with holidays or vacations. Maybe one of those in between months when life might be a little slower. Some of the common screening tests include colonoscopies for colon cancer, mammograms for breast cancer, PAP smears for cervical cancer, colorectal take home tests, low-dose CT lung scans for smokers, as well as other tests such as the PSA blood test. So, pick up the phone and to call your physician. Early detection is often the key to successful treatment.

While you have cancer prevention on the mind, think of ways that you can incorporate healthy food into your diet, decrease the high calorie junk food, and add some minutes of exercise into your day. You will feel better and decrease your risk for cancer.

This month is also gallbladder cancer awareness month. This infrequent cancer starts in a small pear-shaped organ that lies right under the liver. Its function is to store the bile, a fluid that breaks down fat that is made in the liver. This bile moves from the gallbladder through the bile ducts into the small intestines to mix with partially digested food to break down the fats. Often you hear about people having gallstones and having their gallbladder removed. Cancer of the gallbladder is much less common but is hard to diagnose in its early stages. While there are risk factors that you cannot control such as being female, age, ethnicity (highest in Mexican Americans and Native Americans) and family history, as stated in the previous paragraph, you can reduce your risk with a healthy diet and exercise.

In Loving Memory

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

In Memory of The Ted Lausman Family

Louise Lausman

In Memory of Pauline Plaia

Diane Sumrall

In Memory of Olove Colcord

Dick and Leora Godfrey

In Memory of Bette Ives

Karen Coffey
Cynthia Gray

In Memory of Marietta Ziebart

David Ziebart

In Memory of Karin Polstin

Patricia J Gedert

In Memory of Henry & Shirley Demler,

Parents

Denita Demler

In Memory of Gladys Stringer

Linda Lockwitz

In Memory of Gaylen Foster

Connie Foster

In Memory of Gayle Borst

Beverly J Archer
Gloria Parker
Elizabeth Vanderburg

In Memory of Carole Furner

Elizabeth Hesselstine & Marc Brandon

In Memory of Bruce Temple

Ann M Temple

In Memory of Brian Holt

Vicki Holt

In Memory of Betty Nernberg

Debbie Durren

**In Honor of Nancy Church, Staff &
all the great BCCS caregivers**

Sandra Schuermann

In Honor of Margaret Rose

Carolyn Corteville

In Honor of David Truhn

Norma Truhn

**In Honor of Connie Demler,
BCCS RN**

Ivelise Boynton

In Honor of Michael Meyer

Michael & Jo Ann Meyer

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 February

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

Will not be meeting in February

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP
Lakeland Regional Medical Center

Will not be meeting in February

CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
Art Play Workshop
Thursday, February 18th

Visit www.bccancerservice.org or call
BCCS at 269-429-3281 for details

DATES TO REMEMBER IN FEBRUARY

All month – Black History Month
February 1 – Ice Cream for Breakfast
February 3 – Feed the Birds Day
February 4 – World Cancer Day
February 7 Give Kids a Smile Day
February 12 – Lincoln’s Birthday
February 14 – Valentine’s Day
February 17 – Random Act of Kindness Day
February 21 National Caregivers Day
February 22 – George Washington’s Birthday
February 25 – Rubber Duck Day
February 28 – National Tooth Fairy Day

Newsletters available online

Our newsletters are available on our website: 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.

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!**

Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc.
3900 Hollywood Rd
St. Joseph, MI 49085

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**JOIN THE NEWSLETTER VIA
EMAIL**

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 it.

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Connie Demler, R.N.
Debra Hansen, R.N.
Sheryl Stone, R.N. PRN Status

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Kimberly McCoy, Patient Care Coordinator
Lorna Pullen, Administration Assistant
Henrietta Hein, Office Assistant
Sarah Bennett-Stathakis, Office Assistant

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