



**Berrien  
County  
Cancer  
Service**

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

**January 2021  
VOLUME XXVIII  
ISSUE I**

**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 New Year from the staff of Berrien County Cancer Service!

*Nancy Church, Kimberly McCoy, Suzanne Arent,  
Connie Demler, Debra Hansen, Sarah Stathakis, Lorna Pullen,  
Henrietta Hein, and Sheryl Stone*

## 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**  
**January 21<sup>st</sup> from**  
**4:30-6:00 p.m.**

**See the next page for more information**

## *Thought for the Day...*

*"The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched – they must be felt with the heart."*

*Helen Keller*



## Patient Remarks

"I looked forward to my nurse coming. She was a friend to me and I was sad when I didn't need her help anymore!"

*T. H.*

## Current STAR GIVERS

We've had some awesome business STAR GIVERS recently:

- Despite the COVID restrictions, **City Plumbing, Heating, and Air Conditioning** in St. Joseph amazingly stepped up for another year of **Flush Out Cancer** in October. Joining them were **Mid-West Family Broadcasting** with advertising and processing donations, **South Shore Women's Health Care** with a display including a mini pink toilet, and **Plumbers and Pipefitters Union Local 357** along with a whole lot of community supporters --- **GREAT JOB!**
- **Campbell Ford Lincoln in Niles** for donating based on car sales in October – **WHAT A LOT OF SALES!**
- **Chapel Hill United Methodist Church** has faithfully remembered us for many years – **THANK YOU!**
- **Hair By The Shore** in Stevensville – Pink was the color for October Hair Extensions – **HOW FUN!**
- **Lakeshore HS Volleyball Booster Club** – **KEEPING THE BALL UP!**

**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.**

## **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!

## **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 cover all cancer diagnoses while others are specific to a particular diagnosis. A few websites to get started with are [cancercaare.org](http://cancercaare.org), [cancerhopenetnetwork.org](http://cancerhopenetnetwork.org), and [cancersupportcommunity.org](http://cancersupportcommunity.org).

## **HOLIDAY APPEAL RESULTS**

**A HUGE THANK YOU** to all those who responded to our holiday appeal. Your response is helping to make up the difference to replace funds that normally are generated through our fundraisers. As this is being written, the envelopes are still coming!

# January Cancer Awareness - Cervical



## **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 out more information at [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or [facebook.com/bccancerservice](https://facebook.com/bccancerservice).

### **January – Valentines Painting Sculpture**



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

I think that most of us were ready to see 2020 pass and are hopeful that the pandemic that we have been living through will be brought under control in 2021. This past year there have been moments of distress on many different levels as well as moments of people rising above the distress and giving in heroic ways. I am very proud of the BCCS staff as they have continued to care for our patients in the home and from the office despite fears of COVID and changing guidelines. Thank you to each of you who have supported us and our patients. We also thank patients who have been flexible as we have made changes based on recommended guidelines.

One of the changes that has occurred in the new year, is that Suzanne Arent is moving on to a new horizon and Lorna Pullen will be the new administrative assistant. We will certainly miss Suzanne and wish her the best while welcoming Lorna and are excited to have her with us.

As we observe the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday and the National Day of Racial Healing, we reflect on the need to serve and empower all individuals equally. Unfortunately, cancer sees no racial boundaries. Disparities in healthcare make this a greater risk for those of color. We are here to help anyone who is in need of services. Please call our office at 269-429-3281 for assistance.

With January being cervical cancer awareness month, let's spend a few minutes discussing it. According to the American Cancer Society, cervical cancer can often be found early, and may even be prevented by having regular screening tests. If detected early, it is one of the most successfully treatable cancers. This cancer starts in the cells lining the cervix which is found at the lower part of the uterus as it connects to the vagina. Generally, the normal cells of the cervix first gradually develop abnormal changes that are called pre-cancerous. If these cells are caught at this stage, treatment of these cells often by removal will prevent further abnormal growth. Having certain human papilloviruses (HPV) which cause some types of genital warts are strongly linked to cervical and other cancers while other HPVs have a low cancer risk.

Ways to prevent cervical cancer:

- Regular screen tests called the Pap test and HPV test evaluate the cervical cells for abnormalities. If a pre-cancer is found, it can be treated to keep it from turning into a cervical cancer.
- Vaccines are available that can protect children and young adults against certain HPV infections. Talk with your physician to find out if this is recommended for your child or young adult.
- Limit exposure to HPV. HPV is passed from one person to another during skin-to-skin contact with an infected area of the body. Most people associate it with sexual activity, but sex doesn't have to occur for the infection to spread. Limiting the number of sexual partners and avoiding sex with people who have had many other sexual partners may lower your risk. Condoms may provide some protections but don't completely prevent infection.
- Avoid smoking – women who smoke are about twice as likely as non-smokers to get cervical cancer. Adapted from: [www.cancer.org](http://www.cancer.org)

# In Loving Memory

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

**In Memory of Douglas Allen**

Ferol Allen  
Karol and Jack Banyon  
DiMaggio's  
Robert Ehrenberg  
Frederick and Linda Fish  
Courtney Flanagan  
Barbara and William Klein  
George and Julie Kolettis  
Roy H. Liskey, Inc.  
Loeb and Loeb, LLP  
Richard and Nancy Marzke  
Douglas Masters  
Richard Radtke, Jr.  
Stephanie Rayyan  
Mark Reiser  
Alison Schwartz  
Dan and Monica Sherlock  
Anna Russo Sieber  
Straub, Seaman and Allen, P.C.  
Robert and Courtney Zalik

**In Memory of Gayle Borst**

Pamela Forst

**In Memory of Siegfried Herrmann**

Selma Herrmann

**In Memory of Cindy Clausen**

Marvin and Judy Anderson

**In Memory of Karen Jordan**

Randall and Shelly Frank

**In Memory of Dieter Kruger**

Katai Machine Shop  
Todd and Ginny Tyler

**In Memory of Ronald Kruger**

Irma Reed

**In Memory of Family members who lost their lives to cancer**

Deanna Wolford

**In Memory of Marion Milnikel**

John Kroonblawd

**In Memory of Gerald Schaffer**

Peggy Schaffer

**In Memory of Janice Stevens**

Carolyn Mason

**In Memory of Janey Waterhouse**

Mary Jane Waterhouse Rev Trust

**In Honor of Matt Alisch**

Kim Alisch

**In Honor of Nancy Church**

Dana and Dawn Wales

**In Honor of Joan Clausen**

Marvin and Judy Anderson

**In Honor of Marilyn Miller**

Randy Miller

**In Honor of Krislyn Rousseau**

Jack and Sharol Burd

**In Honor of Helen Schultz**

Kathryn Schultz

**In Honor of Aida Torres**

Renee Catania

**In Honor of Sue VanderWaal**

Curtis VanderWaal

*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 January*

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

*Will not be meeting in January*

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP**  
Lakeland Regional Medical Center

*Will not be meeting in January*

**CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Art Play Workshop**  
Thursday, January 21st

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 JANUARY

January 1<sup>st</sup> – New Year's Day  
January 2<sup>nd</sup> – Happy "Mew Year" for Cats  
January 4<sup>th</sup> – National Trivia Day  
January 9<sup>th</sup> – National Static Electricity Day  
January 16<sup>th</sup> – National Nothing Day  
January 18<sup>th</sup> – Martin Luther King, Jr. Day  
January 19<sup>th</sup> – National Day of Racial Healing  
January 25<sup>th</sup> – National Opposite Day  
January 28<sup>th</sup> – Bubble Wrap Appreciation 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 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.  
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](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 it.

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**BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE, INC. – BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

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| Sharon Hainer                      | Mike Levi       | Karen Walker     | *Indicates Honorary Members |

**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

**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