



**Berrien
County
Cancer
Service**

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

**November 2021
VOLUME XXXIII
ISSUE XI**

**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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**Follow us on social
media today!**



Fall

By Edward Hirsch

Fall, falling, fallen. That's the way the season
Changes its tense in the long-haired maples
That dot the road; the veiny hand-shaped leaves
Redden on their branches (in a fiery competition
With the final remaining cardinals) and then
Begin to sidle and float through the air, at last
Settling into colorful layers carpeting the ground.
At twilight the light, too, is layered in the trees
In a season of odd, dusky congruences—a scarlet tanager
And the odor of burning leaves, a golden retriever
Loping down the center of a wide street and the sun
Setting behind smoke-filled trees in the distance,
A gap opening up in the treetops and a bruised cloud
Blamelessly filling the space with purples. Everything
Changes and moves in the split second between summer's
Sprawling past and winter's hard revision, one moment
Pulling out of the station according to schedule,
Another moment arriving on the next platform. It
Happens almost like clockwork: the leaves drift away
From their branches and gather slowly at our feet,
Sliding over our ankles, and the season begins moving
Around us even as its colorful weather moves us,
Even as it pulls us into its dusty, twilit pockets.
And every year there is a brief, startling moment
When we pause in the middle of a long walk home and
Suddenly feel something invisible and weightless
Touching our shoulders, sweeping down from the air:
It is the autumn wind pressing against our bodies;
It is the changing light of fall falling on us.



BCCS Bulletin Board

Thought for the Day. . .

Success is not final,
failure is not fatal: it is the
courage to continue that
counts.”

-Winston Churchill



Patient Remarks

“Thank you for helping me
out during a difficult
recovery.”

SUPPORT GROUPS

Due to social distancing requirements and facility restrictions, in-person support groups for St. Joseph and Niles are cancelled until further notice. However, there are a large variety of online cancer support groups. A few websites are cancerhopenetwork.org, cancercare.org, and cancersupportcommunity.org.

REACH OUT, GIVE THANKS, SHOW SUPPORT

Looking for a way to bring some holiday cheer to someone? There are people we serve who could use a little extra help with Thanksgiving dinner or at Christmas. Pick up a gift card the next time you are at a grocery store. It's an easy way to ensure that someone would have a special holiday meal to remember. Give us a call at 269-429-3281 for further instructions. May each of you have a special holiday season with your loved ones!

Current STAR GIVERS

We've had some awesome STAR GIVERS!

A HUGE THANK YOU! to Wolverine Pipeline Company who supplied a day's worth of muscle power while **Milano's Pizza of Niles** provided a wonderful lunch of pizza, subs, and salad for a well deserving veteran in the Niles area who needed some help keeping up with his property. This was the 7th year these 2 Niles businesses have come together to make a difference. Also, a **BIG THANK YOU to Senior Nutrition Services, Meals on Wheels of Southwest Michigan** who was a co-sponsor and the **United Way of Southwest Michigan**.

BCCS EVENTS

With the recent increase in COVID-19 infections in our area, we are very sorry to announce that we are having to place events on hold at this time. Keep in touch with us through our Facebook, Website, and Instagram postings.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS!

We are taking precautions to help prevent the spread of COVID-19. Please call if you have loan closet donations so that we can phone screen items prior to bringing them. Please call (269) 429-3281 if you need medical equipment, supplies, or our skilled nursing services.

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!**

November Awareness – Pancreatic, Lung, Stomach, Carcinoid, and Honoring Caregivers



ART PLAY WORKSHOPS

Art Play Workshops are held monthly through the Krasl Art Center, with limited classroom seats. We are in a transition with having both in-person and Zoom options at this time. 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.



Special session on Wednesday, November 3rd. Call for info!

From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN

Thanksgiving is the time of year we begin reflecting on the past year and showing appreciation for all we have received. I am always reminded in late fall of how blessed I truly am. The Berrien County Cancer Service is here to provide blessings to all those affected by cancer in Berrien County and beyond. We, in turn are blessed with support from so many generous people, businesses and organizations in the community. Our desire is to help even more people, we want to be the number one thought that pops in your head if you are diagnosed with cancer so we can assist in some way through the process that is cancer.

We have so many to thank in this season of Thanksgiving 2021, there are so many of you who have helped us survive and continue to provide the services we have throughout the pandemic. In Late September and October, we received a boost from several businesses and a church who did a fundraiser to assist us. Those businesses include Campbell Ford Lincoln Mercury, City Plumbing: The Crew in Clue in Pink, Round Barn Winery, Distillery & Brewery and Tosi's Restaurant each of which took donations in October for Breast Cancer Awareness. Peace Lutheran Church included us in a fundraiser they did in September. We filmed for an awareness video in October with the help of Zachary Bucholtz of FourFour Productions, he has some close connection with cancer in his family. Zach is making this video a reality. We truly appreciate the efforts made by these organizations. We hope you will personally take the time to thank at least one of these organizations for including us in raising funds for BCCS.

"Cancer is a journey that does not end when treatment ends" as said by a former cancer patient. The Berrien County Cancer Service assists patients with compassionate nursing care, durable medical devices, nutritional supplements or wigs and prosthesis for as long as they need care. Cancer is truly a journey, we are here to help! Take the time to honor a caregiver this season of Thanksgiving, caring for a sick person is a thankless job but truly a labor of LOVE! Every caregiver could use a little boost this time of year!

Please consider the Berrien County Cancer Service for **Giving Tuesday** or your **End of Year giving**. We have been revisiting our strategic plan and are striving to increase our patient count by 10 percent a year over the next 3 years. We truly want to become the first place everyone thinks of to help them through a cancer diagnosis, the journey of healing and living life after cancer!

I wish you a wonderful Thanksgiving with those you love!

In Loving Memory

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

In Memory of Beverly Burkett

Jeanette Fester

In Memory of Clayton Walker

Betty Knoll

In Memory Donna Godush

Madeleine Manning

In Memory of Jennifer Gerstenkorn

Keith and Elsie Bermingham
Cara Gillespie and Mike Sladen
Erika Lucius
Bruno and Edith Nickel
Steven and Cindy Schmidt
Patricia Spear
Lilli Zehn

In Memory Marvin Hainer

Nancy Mead
Barb Smith

In Memory Mike Mead

Richard Peterson



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 October

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

Will not be meeting in October

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP
Lakeland Regional Medical Center

Will not be meeting in October

CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP
Art Play Workshop

Thursday, October 21, 2021

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

DATES TO REMEMBER IN November

November 1 – All Saints Day
November 3 – U.S. General Election Day
November 7 – Book Lovers Day
November 11 – Veterans day
November 13 – World Kindness Day
November 17 – World Peace Day
November 23 – Eat a Cranberry Day
November 26 – Thanksgiving Day
November 27 – Black Friday

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 _____

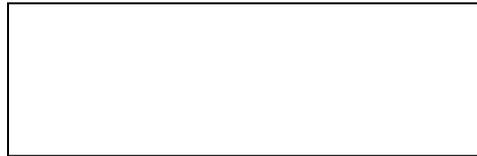
**Thank you for your
generosity!**

Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc.
3900 Hollywood Road
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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BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE, INC. – BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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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

Sarah Bennett-Stathakis, Patient Care Coordinator
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