



**Berrien
County
Cancer
Service**

3900 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI 49085
www.bccancerservice.org 269.429.3281
staff@bccancerservice.org

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

September 2021
VOLUME XXXIII
ISSUE X

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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Remember

by Joy Harjo

Remember the sky that you were born under,
know each of the star's stories.
Remember the moon, know who she is.
Remember the sun's birth at dawn, that is the
strongest point of time.
Remember sundown and the giving away to
night.
Remember your birth, how your mother
struggled to give you form and breath.
You are evidence of her life, and her mother's
and hers.
Remember your father. He is your life also.
Remember the earth whose skin you are:
Red earth, black earth, yellow earth, white
earth, brown earth, we are earth.
Remember the plants, trees, animal life who
all have their tribes, their families, their
histories too.
Talk to them, listen to them.
They are alive poems.
Remember the wind. Remember her voice.
She knows the origin of the universe.
Remember you are all people and all people
are you.
Remember you are this universe and this
universe is you.
Remember all is in motion, is growing, is you.
Remember language comes from this.
Remember the dance language is, that life is.
Remember.

**Follow us on social
media today!**



BCCS Bulletin Board

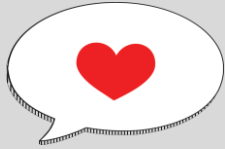
SAVE THE DATE!!!

**Art Play Workshop
October 21st**

Thought for the Day. . .

*“It always seems
impossible until it is
done”*

-Nelson Mandela



Patient Remarks

“Only borrowed a wheelchair and shower chair for a short time and it was great- we didn't have to buy anything.”

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**.

Announcement Regarding Flushing Out Cancer 2021

“It is with great sadness I must announce ‘Flushing Out Cancer 2021’ will not be taking place this Fall. Coping with Covid 19, the Variants and the challenges of everyday life & business. City Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning will not be hosting this amazing event this year. On a Happier note, ‘The Crew in Blue’ is proud to continue Cancer Awareness by wearing Pink on Fridays in October! A percentage of all Residential, Plumbing & HVAC services for the month of October will also be donated to Berrien County Cancer Services to show our support through our community. It is a great need to honor those who have battled this terrible disease and those who help fight the battle with them, providing comfort and care for the fight of life.”

Gods Blessings to all,

Mike Ross

Current STAR GIVERS

We've had some awesome STAR GIVERS!

Andrews University's Change Day: You've made an amazing difference in the yard of someone special to us who could use a little help – Thank you!

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 all 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 killed 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!**

October Awareness – Breast and Liver Cancers



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.



Thursday,
October 21st
At 4:30 p.m.
Project TBD

From the Desk of Nancy Church, RN

All of us are aware of October being the month for Breast Cancer as pink ribbons fly at various places and events. In fact, **some of you may remember or have been a part of the Pink Dance videos of years past, so here are the links and title and enjoy dancing along!** (You may go to youtube.com and insert the titles in the search box or use the URL.)

“Dance Our Towns Pink 2019”

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d4Nl5Jcr47k>

“Paint Our Towns Pink” Dance Video 2013:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wGi5auJjeOU>

Southwest Michigan Pink Ribbon Dance 2011:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=u5ewAA8jLZ8>

You may learn more about our services through Karol’s story.

Karol’s Story – Berrien County Cancer Service:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-ZUqILvV0o>

With breast cancer as the most commonly diagnosed cancer in the US, making up nearly 15% of all new cancer cases, all of us are affected by knowing someone with this disease. Remember, screening with mammography, finding and treating cancer in an early stage often increases the chance recovery.

If you happen to see any emerald green ribbons this month, October is also the awareness month for Liver Cancer. The liver is a large organ located under the right side of your ribs. It is essential to life and has many important functions including breaking down and storing nutrients that are absorbed from the intestines, making bile to help digest fat from food, making clotting factors that keep you from bleeding too much, and breaking down drugs, alcohol, and toxic wastes in the blood.

Primary liver cancer is a disease where cancer cells form in the tissues of the liver. The most common type is hepatocellular carcinoma. Risk factors for this include: 1) Hepatitis infection – B or C; 2) Cirrhosis; 3) Heavy alcohol use; 4) Nonalcoholic fatty liver disease which causes inflammation; 5) Tobacco use. Symptoms include a hard lump on the right side below the rib cage, discomfort on the right side, pain near the right shoulder blade, jaundice (yellowing of the skin and whites of the eyes), nausea/vomiting, loss of appetite, unusual tiredness, pale bowel movements and dark urine.

More commonly, when cancer is found in the liver, it did not start there but spread (metastasized) from somewhere else such as the colon, stomach, pancreas, lung, or breast cancer. This is secondary liver cancer and is treated and named based on the site where the cancer started.

New drugs are being studied for many cancer types including liver cancer that target specific proteins in cancer cells or enhance the immune system. While there are no specific screening tests for liver cancer, if you are having any symptoms, please see your physician.

In Loving Memory

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

In Memory of Alma Arent

Carol Akins
Jeanette & Delores Fester
Louise Lausman
Dale & Lynn Stover

In Memory of David Cox

Andrew Schmidtman

In Memory Lauren Essig

Gary and Diane Kurek
Timothy & Tamara Pallett
Jeff Roth
The "Old" LECO Eastern Service Dept.
Dave, Kirk, Bob, Rob, Don, Steve, Morris, &
Marty

In Memory of Jennifer Gerstenkorn

Juanita Erhardt
Veronica Guthrie



In Memory Donna Godush

Karol & Jack Banyon
Sandra Barker
Bonita Beckman
Katherine Bond
Marcia Bowers
Perry Brown
Deborah R. Charles
Larry & Karen Coffey
Greg Cornell
Betty Hak
Nancy High
Cathy & Jerry Fechner
Gary & Diane Kurek
Linda Scherer
Amy Semenk
Walter & Mary Waldenmaier
Carolyn Yoder

In Memory Jewel Jones

Delores & Jeanette Fester

In Memory of Robert Gruss

Donna Donnellan

In Honor of Loren Essig

James Roth

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 October

- October 1 – International Coffee Day
- October 4 – National Golf Day
- October 7- International Walk to School Day
- October 9 – Fire Prevention Day
- October 12 – National Gumbo Day
- October 15 – Bosses Day
- October 22 – National Nut Day
- October 23 – Make a Difference Day
- October 25 – World Opera Day
- October 30 – National Candy Corn Day
- October 31 - Halloween

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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*Indicates Honorary Members

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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