



**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 XXXII**  
**ISSUE IX**

# 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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## *My Rock*

*by Pat Mora*

Summer's ending.

I sit on my desert rock, listen  
to the world's hum.

Crows and ravens caw,  
finches and sparrows chirp. A dog barks.

Can I face  
the halls of judgments?

A breeze strokes my face,  
brings me back to spiders  
and lizards busy at their chores,  
private conversations—  
sights and sounds I savor.

This earth, my home.

High on the vast blue canvas,  
clouds curl, float.

Taking a deep breath, I gather myself.  
I bring what I am.

**Follow us on social  
media today!**



# BCCS Bulletin Board

## **BCCS VIDEO PROJECT**

LET YOUR VOICE BE HEARD!

We are seeking people who have been impacted by our nursing and loan closet as well as those who have donated or volunteered to be part of a video that is being developed to highlight our services. When completed, this video will be available to play in a variety of venues, such as civic clubs, churches, and businesses as well as on our social media sites. Please email [director@bccancerservice.org](mailto:director@bccancerservice.org) or call 269-429-3281 and ask for Tyanna or Nancy.

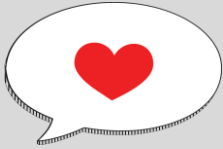
## **SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**Art Play Workshop  
September 16th**

*Thought for the Day. . .*

*“Nothing is  
IMPOSSIBLE  
The word itself says  
‘I’M POSSIBLE!’”*

*-Audrey Hepburn*



## **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](http://cancerhopenetwork.org), [cancercare.org](http://cancercare.org), and [cancersupportcommunity.org](http://cancersupportcommunity.org).

## **Current STAR GIVERS**

**We've had some awesome STAR GIVERS!**

- Chapel Hill United Methodist Church – Every year, this church is a STAR GIVER! Thank you so much!
- Paris' Purse, Inc. – Dawn Moore: The backpack bags are SO BEAUTIFUL! Everyone we have given one to is so excited!

## **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!**

# September Awareness –Leukemia, Lymphoma, Uterine, Ovarian, Prostate, Thyroid, and Childhood 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](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 more information at [www.bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) or [facebook.com/bccancerservice](https://facebook.com/bccancerservice).



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

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

For all of us, it has been difficult to have to restrict ourselves over something that we cannot even see – all we can see is the devastation that it causes. As mentioned on the Bulletin Board page, we are sad to have to pull back from events just when we were hoping to move forward and enjoy seeing you in person. Feeling the need to connect with you at this time as well as share our mission of compassionate caring with the community, we are starting to work on a project that we hope will be shared over and over again here in Berrien County.

Over the next few weeks, we will be working on a video to highlight the ways we bring our compassionate caring into the lives of people in our community. Our desire is to increase awareness of the in-home skilled nursing care, loan closet, and other supportive assistance for those with cancer. Additionally, we have a program for anyone who needs durable medical equipment to borrow items on a short-term basis. This is needed information for the person facing surgery, has an injury, or is waiting for equipment on order. All of our services are no cost because we have been loved and supported by individuals, churches, businesses, civic groups and others here in Berrien County for 73 years! This support allows us to provide our in-home skilled nursing care to people going through cancer treatment who need extra support but are not eligible for an in-home skilled nursing service by their insurance provider or Medicare. Our patients never have to worry that their number of visits will run out before their needs are taken care of. This nursing care is unlike any that I have been able to find anywhere. What a precious jewel we have here in Berrien County—all because of YOU!

As I sit here contemplating the several varied cancer types that utilize September as their awareness month, trying to choose one doesn't seem quite right and my mind goes to various friends and family members that have been impacted by these cancers.....the friend who was diagnosed with chronic leukemia soon after the development of a break-through targeted therapy drug over 15 years ago who continues to do well, my aunt who passed away when I was 7 years old from uterine cancer, a friend who had to drop out of college for a year during treatment for Hodgkin's lymphoma who has gone on to have children and grandchildren, several friends and relatives with prostate cancer, a friend with young children diagnosed with thyroid cancer who has also been able to see her children grow up, a lady where I picked strawberries when I was a kid diagnosed with ovarian cancer. We all have memories and stories of how cancer has affected our lives. Let's make this month a month to reach out to someone who is going through treatment and would feel your love with a card, a favorite dish of food, or a "May I do a load of laundry for you?"

***PS: We are looking for people who have been helped by our nursing services, loan closet, been a donor or volunteer of BCCS to be part of our video. Please email [director@bccancerservice.org](mailto:director@bccancerservice.org) or call 269-429-3281 and ask for Tyanna or Nancy.***

# In Loving Memory

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

**In Memory of Walter “Wally” Bennett**

Deborah McCartney

**In Memory of Robert VanDerbeck**

Jeff Bassett

**In Memory of Michelle Trigger**

Phyllis Ellis

**In Memory of Matthew Kickles**

Ruth Ann Owca

**In Memory of Marilyn Cotman-Ridge**

Jackie Adams

Joyce Bunk

Sally Dupuie

Madelyn Huelsberg

Susan Ott

Peter Yancich

**In Memory of Lucille Slosson**

Edward Roush

**In Memory of Kaye Jones**

Passaro, Kahne, Taylor, DeFrancesco  
& Thompson Law Offices

**In Memory of David Walter**

Kim Blanchard

**In Memory of Constance  
McCormick**

Jeannette and Dolores Fester

**In Memory of Ann Herrygers**

Southwest Michigan Newcomers  
Club

**In Memory of Alma Arent**

Pamela & Steven Arent

Wesley Hemerling

Mary Sundblad

**In Honor of Hannah Noble**

Deborah McCartney



*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 September*

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

*Will not be meeting in September*

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP**  
Lakeland Regional Medical Center

*Will not be meeting in September*

**CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP**  
**Art Play Workshop**

Thursday, October 21, 2021

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 SEPTEMBER

- September 1-7 – National Nutrition Week
- September 2 – World Coconut Day
- September 5 – International Day of Charity
- September 6 – Labor Day
- September 10 – World Suicide Prevention Day
- September 11 – 911 Remembrance Day
- September 13 – Fortune Cookie Day
- September 18 – National Cheeseburger Day
- September 21 – Miniature Gold Day
- September 22 – Autumn Equinox
- September 27 – Crush a Can Day
- September – National Mud Pack 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 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](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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\*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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