

BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE NEWSLETTER

www.bccancerservice.org

In honor of the committed service of Olove Colcord, R.N.

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.



December 2017

(269) 429-3281

VOLUME XXV

ISSUE I

The **BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SUPPORT GROUP**
is a group for patients, family members and care givers. Come
share successes, feelings, fears and practical methods of coping
with the physical and emotional aspects of living with
the diagnosis of cancer.



United Way
of Southwest Michigan

BCCS Bulletin Board



3rd ANNUAL ART FESTIVAL

We are sincerely grateful to all of our guests who attended the Art Festival on November 14th and to the many volunteers who made this evening possible. Thanks to The Art Play Workshop families for creating their Art throughout the year that all could enjoy on this special evening. We had a wonderful time with interactive art, music, refreshments, silent auction, face painting, and fun!

BCCS would like to thank

Our Special Friends

- *Jenni Bush of Funny Face Face Painting*
- *Holly Garces, Art Therapist*
- *Jeff and Theresa Heaton- Cheeky Chicy-Art, Interactive Art Projects*
- *Cathy Tapia, Ceramic Art Teacher*
- *Randy Miller, Interactive Art Projects*
- *Pam Kirkham, Interactive Art Projects*
- *Vanessa Moura, Photographer*
- *Al Mussman for Zoup!*
- *Thayer Products*
- *Randy Miller for providing appetizers*
- *Jamie Bingaman of the Box Factory for the Arts*
- *John Tolhuizen, Deloris Landeck, and Michael Mason of Mockingbird Music*
- *Aiden Schnell vocalist with Michael Koch*
- *Janet Dykstra of Kilwin's for providing Mackinac Island Fudge Ice Cream*
- *Ball State University Students*

Our Sponsors

- **Marta's Chicken Nook-Art Program**
- Brown Funeral Home
- Marie Yeager Cancer Center-Lakeland
- Cycle and Fitness
- Caring Circle – Lakeland Health
- Andrews University
- Edgewater Automation
- Fiskars, Inc.
- Hill Electrical Services, Inc.
- Keller & Keller
- The John DeVries Insurance Agency
- Papa Vino's
- Tyler Automotive
- United Federal Credit Union
- Whirlpool Foundation
- Miller Johnson Schroeder
- B&L Information Systems, Inc.
- Jim & Debbie Agens
- Thayer Products
- LithoTech Graphic Services

Thank you for the following Silent Auction Donations

Mike Jones of Cycle and Fitness for donating a bicycle

Cathy Tapia for Ceramic pieces

YMCA of Southwest Michigan for a Family Membership

Cindy Klutz of Focused Fitness for class punch cards

Richard Smith for handcrafted jewelry, stained glass suncatcher

Nancy Church for Mendel Center Tickets to "Caberet"

Village Hardware for a Bird Feeder & Seed

Check out our Facebook Page for photos of all our events!

BCCS Bulletin Board (con't)

Welcome to Sarah!

We are excited to welcome Sarah Curtiss to our team here at BCCS! She lights up our office with her great sense of humor and smiles. Welcome aboard!

Christmas Sponsors Needed

Christmas giving is always a wonderful way to get into the Christmas spirit. We always have families who are in need of a little extra help at Christmas. If you would like to help by giving a contribution or sponsoring a family, please give us a call at the office: 269-429-3281.



“THANK YOU” to the Wolverine Pathfinder Club of the Village Adventist Church in Berrien Springs for Thanksgiving food to pass out to our patients. It is the generosity of our community that allows us to touch people in a special way beyond our nursing care. This support is so meaningful to those who are going through difficulties, to know that someone is there and reaching out to them.

Let it Snow, Let it Snow, Let it Snow



Just wanted to remind you that BCCS may be closed for snow days during inclement weather. So if it is snowing, please call us first at 269-429-3281 prior to coming to the BCCS office to make sure that we are open. On the days that the office is closed, the answering machine will be checked periodically. If you have a medical emergency, please call 911. The nurses will still be visiting patients unless the roads are hazardous. Often the nurses will make patient visits a day early if they know that a snow storm is coming.

Wolverine Pipeline Company Day of Caring

Thank you to David Brooks and his crew at Wolverine Pipeline Company for all their hard work to make a difference at the house of one of our patients. It is amazing what about a dozen guys can do in 8 plus hours! Check out the pictures on our Facebook page: Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc. Check out those smiles! We also want to say, “Thank You” to Milano’s Pizza of Niles for providing delicious pizza and subs for lunch. What a difference it makes when we come together to help each other out!



THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING OUR MISSION

Berrien County Cancer Service would like to thank the following organizations for including us in their fundraising recent events. We at BCCS are so appreciative of all the committees, participants, volunteers, sponsors and everyone involved with making our mission a reality for those with cancer in southwest Michigan. Thank you for giving of yourselves and from your hearts.

Little Black Dress Party

With glimmer and shimmer, the Little Black Dress Party was held on October 19th at the Shadowland Ballroom. Everyone had a wonderful time with amazing décor, great food, enjoyable entertainment, and rhythm on the dance floor! The total raised was \$14,039.31! These proceeds were shared between Berrien County Cancer Service, Marie Yeager Cancer Center, and a special donation to Susan G. Komen Michigan in memory of our good friend Denise Bohn. Special “Thank You’s” to Nicole Heugel, Executive Director of Silver Beach Shadowland, Suz Schalon, Executive Director of the Silver Beach Carousel Society and the entire Little Black Dress Committee and volunteers. We hope to see you next year on Thursday October 18th for the next Little Black Dress Party!

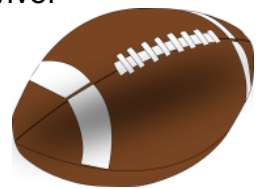


8th Annual Play Fore Pink Denise Bohn Memorial Golf Outing

Thank you to Wayne Yamaguchi and his committee at the Lake Michigan Hills Golf Club for the Denise Bohn Memorial Golf Outing on October 8th. There were 32 teams of golfers ready to take off for the greens, the banquet hall set up beautifully by Kari Stevens, with Mike Cortson crooning out the melodies during the potato bar after the golfing. We appreciate all the volunteers and work that went into making this day special and for raising nearly \$5,000 for BCCS to help those with cancer here in southwest Michigan.

Team Up Against Cancer

There was excitement at the St. Joseph High School varsity football game in Dickinson Stadium on Friday, October 6th with the St. Joe Bears Homecoming Game. Food vendors, a survivor walk, memory ribbon on the field formed post-game, cancer resource information tables and a pink football jersey exchange to the sponsors highlighted the evening festivities. Regina Ciaravino chaired the committee to make “Team Up Against Cancer” a success! The proceeds of just over \$10,000 were shared between the Berrien County Cancer Service and the Marie Yeager Cancer Center along with a donation to Susan G. Komen. Thank you to all the committee members, volunteers, survivors, sponsors, food vendors, and T-shirt/hoodie wearers who made this event such a success!



Check out our website and Facebook page for additional events that are currently being planned: website – bccancerservice.org Facebook – Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc.

Lip and Oral Cavity Cancer

Lip and oral cavity cancer is a disease in which malignant cells form in the lips or mouth.

The oral cavity includes the following

- The front two thirds of the tongue
- The gingiva (gums)
- The buccal mucosa (the lining of the inside of the cheeks)
- The Floor (bottom) of the mouth under the tongue.
- The hard palate (the roof of the mouth)
- The retro molar trigone (the small area behind the wisdom teeth)

Most lip and oral cavity cancers start in squamous cells, the thin, flat cells that line the lips and oral cavity. These are called squamous cell carcinomas. Cancer cells may spread into deeper tissue as the cancer grows. Squamous cell carcinoma usually develops in areas of leukoplakia (white patches of cells that do not rub off).

Treatment options depend on the following:

- The stage of the cancer.
- The size of the tumor and where it is in the lip or oral cavity.
- Whether the patient's appearance and ability to talk and eat can stay the same.
- The patient's age and general health.

Patients who have had lip and oral cavity cancer have an increased risk of developing a second cancer in the head or neck. Frequent and careful follow-up is important. Clinical trials are studying the use of retinoid drugs to

reduce the risk of a second head and neck cancer.

Key Points:

- Lip and oral cavity cancer is a disease in which malignant (cancer) cells form in the lips or mouth.
- Tobacco and alcohol use can affect the risk of lip and oral cavity cancer.
- Signs of lip and oral cavity cancer include a sore or lump on the lips or in the mouth.
- Tests that examine the mouth and throat are used to detect (find), diagnose, and stage lip and oral cavity cancer.
- Certain factors affect prognosis (chance of recovery) and treatment.

Signs of lip and oral cavity cancer include a sore or lump on the lips or in the mouth.

These and other signs and symptoms may be caused by lip and oral cavity cancer or by other conditions. Check with your doctor if you have any of the following:

- A sore on the lip or in the mouth that does not heal.
- A lump or thickening on the lips or gums or in the mouth.
- A white or red patch on the gums, tongue, or lining of the mouth.
- Bleeding, pain, or numbness in the lip or mouth.
- Change in voice.
- Loose teeth or dentures that no longer fit well.
- Trouble chewing or swallowing or moving the tongue or jaw.
- Swelling of jaw.
- Sore throat or feeling that something is caught in the throat.

In Loving Memory

During October 2017, Memorial Donations were generously made by and for the following people:

In Memory of Gertrude Berndt

Loren Berndt, Bridgman

In Memory of Naomi Coburn

Mike & Pam Stamm, Paw Paw

In Memory of Marilyn & Jerry Conrad

Glen & Dorothy Conrad, St. Joseph

In Memory of Martha Gossett

Dan & Sally Loikits, Stevensville

James & Cathy LeBlanc, Ponte Vedra FL

Jeannine Marks, Stevensville

Frances Douglas, High Point NC

Janice Fischer, Stevensville

Patricia, Dan, Jennifer, Caleb & Chloe Little,
Taylorsville NC

Neighborhood Sunshine Fund

Janet Johnson, Richardson TX

Cynthia Washburn Ahearn, St. Joseph

Scott, Becky, Grace & Paige Sichmeller, St. Joseph

Larry Ward, Stevensville

Hobart & Betty Benson, Kannapolis NC

Vickie Hefner, Taylorsville NC

Karen Coffee, Stevensville

Gail Kuntz

David Wade, St. Joseph

Mike & Kim Shelton, St. Joseph

Clark & Stacy Lybbert, Stevensville

Cynthia Wachtler, Richardson, TX

Jane Saucer, St. Joseph

In Memory of Martha Gossett (con't)

Jane Penwell, St. Joseph

Joan Bullard, St. Joseph

Alina Grier, Bridgman

Austin Men's Group

Julie Calkins, St. Joseph

Shirley Abbott, Algonquin IL

Rex & Merlene Corley and Katherine & Douglas
Degrow, Plano, TX

John & Sherry Lackey, Taylorsville NC

Catherine Smith, Newton, NC

The Atria Canyon Creek, Plano TX

Bill & Benny Vann, Richardson, TX

Bill & Patricia Fox, Taylorsville NC

In Memory of Sandra Hamilton

United Federal Credit Union, St. Joseph

In Memory of Deby Hayes

Carol Hayes, Dowagiac

In Memory LuAnn Potter

John & Judith Deaner, Grand Beach

In Memory of Dr. Michael Rodriguez

Lynda Martin, Bridgman

In Memory of Jerold "Jerry" Scoma JR.

Eileen Baltazar,

Paul Andrulis, Willowbrook IL

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.

Thought For The Day

For everything you have missed
You have gained something else.

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Looking Ahead

BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Stevensville

December 5 – 1:30 pm
January 2 – 1:30 pm

BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Niles

December 19 – 1:30 pm
January 16 – 1:30 pm

RAINBOWS OF HOPE– St. Joseph

Marie Yeager Cancer Center
December 14 – 5:30 pm
January 11 – 5:30 pm

CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Art Play Workshop

2nd Thursday at Marie Yeager Cancer Center
Go to www.bccancerservice.org or call
BCCS at 269-429-3281 for details

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP

Lakeland Regional Medical Center
December 14 – 6:00 pm
January 11 – 6:00 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER 2017

December 1 – Day of Art
December 4 – National Cookie Day
December 6 – National Christmas Tree Lighting Day
December 7 – National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day
December 10 – Human Rights Day
December 12 – Gingerbread House Day
December 14 – National Ugly Christmas Sweater Day
December 16 – National Chocolate Covered Anything Day
December 20 – World Day of Prayer & Action for Children
December 25 – CHRISTMAS DAY
December 27 – Howdy Doody Day
December 31 – New Year's Eve

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 the 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.
7301 Red Arrow Highway
Stevensville, MI 49127

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

JOIN THE NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL

Help us save postage, 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 also. We
value our readers & hope you enjoy it.

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Debra Hansen, R.N.		Kimberly Penney, R.N.

OFFICE STAFF:

Claudia Brister	Office Manager
Sarah Curtiss	Admin Assistant
Henrietta Hein	Office Clerk

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP – Stevensville Office

1st Tuesday of each month - 1:30 p.m.

Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc.

7301 Red Arrow Highway
Stevensville, MI 49127

Phone: (269) 429-3281 or (269) 465-5257

RAINBOWS OF HOPE GROUP- St. Joseph

2nd Thursday of each month – 5:30 p.m.

Marie Yeager Cancer Center

Ward and Kinney Room
3900 Hollywood Road

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 556-7114

CANCER SUPPORT GROUP – Niles

3rd Tuesday of each month – 1:30 p.m.

Niles Senior Center

1109 Bell Road
Niles, MI 49120

Phone: (269) 429-3281

OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP

2nd Thursday of each month – 6:00 p.m.

Lakeland Regional Medical Center

Community Room
1234 Napier Ave.

St. Joseph, MI 49085

Phone: (269) 983-8804