

# BERRIEN COUNTY CANCER SERVICE NEWSLETTER

[www.bccancerservice.org](http://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



December 2016

(269) 429-3281

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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.

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United Way  
of Southwest Michigan

# BCCS Bulletin Board

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO DR. BUSSE

We want to take this opportunity to thank Dr. Fred Busse for his 33 years of service on our Board of Directors, 23 years of which he served as President. Dr. Busse and his wife have dedicated their lives to being physicians in the Niles and NW Indiana area. They lent their physician talents as well as their passion for giving of their time and to several health and human services agencies. We wish them a long, healthy, happy retirement as they enjoy being with their family.



### 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.

### In Appreciation

**“THANK YOU”** to the **Mary-Martha Circle of the First Congregational Church of St. Joseph**. They provide and wrap many presents for our nurses to hand out at Christmas time. **Another “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.



## BCCS ART FESTIVAL

Thank you to everyone who attended the Art Festival on November 10. We had a wonderful time with interactive art, music, refreshments, bicycle drawing, face painting, and fun!

- ***Jenni Bush of Funny Face Face Painting***
- ***Recycle Artists, Jeff and Theresa Heaton***
- ***Jon Krugh of Center Line Music***
- ***Water Street Glassworks demonstrating Cardea Beads***
- ***Holly Garces, Art Therapist***
- ***Janet Dykstra of Kilwin’s for providing Mackinac Island Fudge Ice Cream***
- ***Mike Jones of Cycle and Fitness for donating a bicycle for raffle***
- ***Jamie Bingaman and Jackie Kenyon of the Box Factory for the Arts***
- ***Tracy Coombs of Thrivent Financial for providing the refreshment***
- ***Christania Waggoner for candy treats***
- ***Al Mussman for Zoup! and Biggby Coffee***
- ***The Art Play Workshop families***
- ***The many volunteers who gave of their time to our Art Festival***



# General Information About Unusual Cancers of Childhood

## KEY POINTS

- Unusual cancers of childhood are cancers rarely seen in children.
- Tests are used to detect (find), diagnose, and stage unusual cancers of childhood.
- There are three ways that cancer spreads in the body.
- Cancer may spread from where it began to other parts of the body.

## Tests are used to detect (find), diagnose, and stage unusual cancers of childhood.

Tests are done to detect, diagnose, and stage cancer. The tests used depend on the type of cancer. After cancer is diagnosed, tests are done to find out if cancer cells have spread from where the cancer began to other parts of the body. The process used to find out if cancer cells have spread to other parts of the body is called staging. The information gathered from the staging process determines the stage of the disease. It is important to know the stage in order to plan the best treatment.

## The following tests and procedures may be used to detect, diagnose, and stage cancer:

- **Physical exam and history:** An exam of the body to check general signs of health, including checking for signs of disease, such as lumps or anything else that seems unusual. A history of the patient's health habits and past illnesses and treatment will also be taken.
- **Blood chemistry studies:** A procedure in which a blood sample is checked to measure the amounts of certain substances released into the blood by organs and tissues on the body. An unusual (higher or lower than normal) amount of a substance can be a sign of disease.
- **X-ray:** An x-ray is a type of energy beam that can go through the body and onto film.
- **CT scan (CAT scan):** A procedure that makes a series of detailed pictures of areas inside the

body, taken from different angles. These pictures are made by a computer linked to an x-ray machine. This procedure is also called computed tomography, computerized tomography, or computerized axial tomography.

## There are three ways that cancer spreads in the body.

Cancer can spread through tissue, the lymph system, and the blood.

- **Tissue.** The cancer spreads from where it began by growing into nearby areas.
- **Lymph system.** The cancer spreads from where it began by getting into the lymph system. The cancer travels through the lymph vessels to other parts of the body.
- **Blood.** The cancer spreads from where it began by getting into the blood. The cancer travels through the blood vessels to other parts of the body.

## Cancer may spread from where it began to other parts of the body.

When cancer spreads to another part of the body, it is called metastasis. Cancer cells break away from where they began (the primary tumor) and travel through the lymph system or blood.

- **Lymph system.** The cancer gets into the lymph system, travels through the lymph vessels, and forms a tumor (metastatic tumor) in another part of the body.
- **Blood.** The cancer gets into blood, travels through the blood vessels, and forms a tumor (metastatic tumor) in another part of the body.

The metastatic tumor is the same type of cancer as the primary tumor. For example, if thyroid cancer spreads to the lung, the cancer cells in the lung are actually thyroid cancer cells. The disease is metastatic thyroid cancer, not lung cancer.

## Thought for the Day

To me, every hour of the day and  
night is an unspeakably perfect miracle.  
Walt Whitman

# *In Loving Memory*

During October 2016, Memorial Donations were generously made by and for the following people:

**In Memory of Barbara Bicard**

David Penwell, Buchanan

**In Memory of Julie Burkett**

Ruth Stanton, St. Joseph

**In Memory of Olive Colcord**

Kimberly Godfrey, Niles

**In Memory Edward Fester**

Harriet Fester, Bridgman

**In Memory of Isabel Gulino**

Mike & Cindy Burk, St. Joseph

**In Memory of Virginia Kamp**

Wendy Lozeau, Bridgman

**In Memory Elsa Maroon**

Ivelise Boynton, Benton Harbor

**In Memory of Dorothy J. Murdock**

Communication Workers of America  
Local 4900, Indianapolis IN

**In Memory Benjamin Praeger**

Karen Prieb, Stevensville  
Amy Caranci, Kalamazoo  
Patricia Conway, Evergreen, CO

**In Memory of Gladys A. Sandera**

Eleanor & James Krejci, Stevensville  
Donald & Norma Goldner, Eau Claire  
Michael & Ann Duensing, St. Joseph  
Harriet Fester, Bridgman  
Nancy Church, Berrien Springs  
Dorothy Ott, Bridgman  
Kathy Karnik, St. Joseph  
Claudia Brister, Baroda  
Louise Lausman, Stevensville  
JoAnne Parrish, St. Joseph  
Joyce Both, Stevensville  
Dolores & Jeanette Fester, Benton Harbor

**In memory of Raymond S. Wrona**

Ann Dawson, Harbert  
Nancy Wrona, Casa Grande AZ  
Virginia Hock, Galien  
Gene & Judy Brewer, Niles

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.

## *In Honor*

**In Honor of Dr. Fred Busse**

Barbara Lane

**In Honor of Karen Killian**

Donna Strine

**In Honor of Gladys Sandera**

Dolores & Jeanette Fester  
Nancy Church  
Barbara Lane

# Please Consider...

## Looking Ahead

### **BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Stevensville**

December 6 – 1:30 p.m.

January 3 – 1:30 p.m.

### **BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Niles**

December 20 – 1:30 p.m.

January 17 – 1:30 p.m.

### **RAINBOWS OF HOPE– St. Joseph**

Marie Yeager Cancer Center

December 8 – 5:30 p.m.

January 12 – 5:30 p.m.

### **Ostomy Support Group**

Lakeland Regional Medical Center

December 8 – 6:00 p.m.

January 12 – 6:00 p.m.

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER IN DECEMBER 2016**

December 1 – National Christmas Tree Lighting Day  
December 3 – International Day of Persons with Disabilities  
December 4 – National Cookie Day  
December 6 – St. Nicholas Day  
December 7 – National Pearl Harbor Remembrance Day  
December 9 – Weary Willie Day  
December 11 - Worldwide Candle Lighting Day  
December 14 – Monkey Day  
December 16 – National Chocolate-covered Anything Day  
December 17 – National Re-gifting Day  
December 21 - Humbug Day  
December 25 - CHRISTMAS DAY  
December 28 – Holy Innocents Day  
December 30 – Falling Needles Family Fest Day  
December 31 - New Year's Eve

#### **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).

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](mailto: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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Connie Demler, R.N.		Susan Lerke, R.N.
Debra Hansen, R.N.		Kimberly Penney, R.N.

**OFFICE STAFF:**

Claudia Brister (Office Manager)
Henrietta Hein (Newsletter)
Reneé Reid-Smith (Community Liaison)

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** – Stevensville Office

1<sup>st</sup> 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**

2<sup>nd</sup> 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

3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month – 1:30 p.m.

**Niles Senior Center**

1109 Bell Road  
Niles, MI 49120

Phone: (269) 429-3281

**OSTOMY SUPPORT GROUP**

2<sup>nd</sup> 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