

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



October 2017

(269) 429-3281

VOLUME XXIV

ISSUE X

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.

AUTUMN

No, no I must protest against the word
Too often given to this season—"sad."
All things need not be true that we have heard,
For autumn tries to tell us it is glad.

Because there have been spring and summer blooms;
It now bedecks itself in colors, all
Rich royal bronze and red and gold costumes;
The trees and fields will take a curtain call
Before retiring for their winter sleep.

Yes, there is something vital in the air,
Impellent urge of praise, profound and deep,
As though Nature, lifting her head in prayer,
Recounts past blessings. Summer slips away,
And smiling whispers she'll be back some day.

Unknown



BCCS Bulletin Board

Open House

STOP ON BY! Join us for our annual Open House on **Wednesday, October 11th from 11 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.** We will have a table full of refreshments (and you know we always have delicious food!), so stop by for lunch or on your way home. We will be having tours and giving away prizes. Bring a friend and enjoy the fun!



“TEAM UP AGAINST CANCER”

Grab your pom poms and join the fun at the St. Joseph High School varsity football game in Dickinson Stadium on Friday, October 6. This will be a particularly exciting game for the St. Joe Bears vs. the Niles Vikings. **The gates open at 5:00 p.m. with the game starting at 7:00 p.m.** **Food vendors, a survivor walk, memory ribbon on field formed post-game, cancer resource information tables and a pink football jersey exchange to the sponsors will highlight the evening festivities.** “Team Up Against Cancer” is a community fundraising and educational event dedicated to helping those fighting cancer, provide education regarding the prevention of cancer, and to celebrate cancer survivors. All proceeds will go to assist local cancer patients in SW Michigan and will be distributed to the following organizations: 1) Marie Yeager Cancer Center that cares for over 83% of our cancer patients in Berrien County and provides oncology/hematology services for our local cancer patients, education, supportive resources; 2) BCCS that provides local cancer patients skilled oncology nursing services, medical equipment, nutrition, comfort care items, emotional support through adult support groups and “Art Play” workshops for children and their families impacted by cancer...all at no cost to Berrien County residents.



ART FESTIVAL

On Tuesday, November 14 from 5:30 – 7:30pm at the Box Factory for the Arts, please join us for an enjoyable evening strolling through the beautiful art objects that children have created while taking part in our “Art Play Workshops” this year. Come talk with the children and their families that have benefitted from this program about their experiences and art pieces along with our talented artists, volunteers, and staff. ***Joining us will be Jenni Bush, a professional face painter as well as interactive art projects, refreshments, and live music to make your evening memorable.*** “Art Play Workshops” are a BCCS community based therapeutic art program for children ages 5-17 who have been impacted by cancer (family member, friend, self). Come and learn about and experience the benefits of art as a means of expressing feelings. A BIG “Thank you” to Jamie Bingaman for hosting the BCCS Art Festival. The Box Factory for the Arts is located at 1101 Broad Street, St. Joseph, MI. Come support these children and families of Berrien County. You may call us for more information at 269-429-3281 or on our website at: <http://www.bccancerservice.org/events/art-festival>.



Check out our website and Facebook page for additional events that are in currently being planned: website – [bccancerservice.org](http://www.bccancerservice.org) Facebook – Berrien County Cancer Service, Inc.

Male Breast Cancer Treatment

Breast cancer may occur in men. Men at any age may develop breast cancer, but it is usually detected in men between 60 and 70 years of age. Male breast cancer makes up less than 1% of all cases of breast cancer.

Radiation exposure, high levels of estrogen, and a family history of breast cancer can increase a man's risk of breast cancer. Anything that increases your risk of getting a disease is called a risk factor. Having a risk factor does not mean that you will get cancer; not having risk factors doesn't mean that you will not get cancer. Talk with your doctor if you think you may be at risk. Risk factors for breast cancer in men may include the following:

- Being exposed to radiation.
- Having a disease linked to high levels of estrogen in the body, such as cirrhosis (liver disease) or Klinefelter syndrome (a genetic disorder.)
- Having several female relatives who have had breast cancer, especially relatives who have an alteration of the BRCA2 gene.

Men with breast cancer usually have lumps that can be felt. Lumps and other signs may be caused by male breast cancer or by other conditions. Check with your doctor if you notice a change in your breasts.

Tests that examine the breasts are used to detect (find) and diagnose breast cancer in men.

The following tests and procedures may be used:

- **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..
- **Clinical breast exam (CBE)**: An exam of the breast by a doctor or other health professional. The doctor will carefully feel the breasts and under the arms for lumps or anything else that seems unusual.
- **Ultrasound exam**: A procedure in which high-energy sound waves (ultrasound) are bounced off internal tissues or organs and make echoes.
- **MRI (magnetic resonance imaging)**: A procedure that uses a magnet, radio waves, and a computer to make a series of detailed pictures of areas inside the body.
- **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 in the body. An unusual (higher or lower than normal) amount of a substance can be a sign of disease.

- **Biopsy** : The removal of cells or tissues so they can be viewed under a microscope by a pathologist to check for signs of cancer.

If cancer is found, tests are done to study the cancer cells. Decisions about the best treatment are based on the results of these tests. The tests give information about:

- How quickly the cancer may grow.
- How likely it is that the cancer will spread through the body.
- How well certain treatments might work.
- How likely the cancer is to recur (come back).

Tests include the following:

- **Estrogen and progesterone receptor test** : A test to measure the amount of estrogen and progesterone (hormones) receptors in cancer tissue. The test results show whether hormone therapy may stop the cancer from growing.
- **HER2 test**: A test to measure the amount of HER2 in cancer tissue. HER2 is a growth factor protein that sends growth signals to cells. When cancer forms, the cells may make too much of the protein, causing more cancer cells to grow. The test results show whether certain therapies should be used.

Survival for men with breast cancer is similar to survival for women with breast cancer. Survival for men with breast cancer is similar to that for women with breast cancer when their stage at diagnosis is the same. Breast cancer in men, however, is often diagnosed at a later stage. Cancer found at a later stage may be less likely to be cured.

Certain factors affect prognosis (chance of recovery) and treatment options. The prognosis (chance of recovery) and treatment options depend on the following:

- The stage of the cancer (whether it is in the breast only or has spread to other places in the body).
- The type of breast cancer.
- Estrogen-receptor and progesterone-receptor levels in the tumor tissue.
- Whether the cancer is found in the other breast.
- The patient's age and general health.

Adapted from nih.org

In Loving Memory

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

In Memory of John Allen Martin Sr.

Carol Allen, Watervliet
Betty Martin & Family, Bloomingdale
Greg & Kayleen Schultz, Hartford
Butch & Margot Mason, Hartford
Barry & Allyn Winkel, South Haven
Todd & Bette Spearritt, St. Joseph
Steve & Ardene Martin, Dimondale
Maryann McCarthy, Eau Claire
John & Carri McCarty, Coloma
Edward Martin, Hartford

In Memory of Ruth Moritz

Kenneth & Barbara Doroh, Coloma
Doris & David Rindfield, St. Joseph

In Memory of Beverly Ulrath

Jacquelin Grahn, Chicago IL

In Memory of James Albert Wishart

Kerlikowske Farms, Berrien Springs
Joan Wishart, Berrien Springs

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

A smile is rest to the weary,
Daylight to the discouraged,
Sunshine to the sad,
And an antidote for trouble.

Please remind me today to spend
My smiles lavishly. Amen.

Unknown



Looking Ahead

BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Stevensville

October 3 – 1:30 pm
November 7 – 1:30 pm

BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Niles

October 17 – 1:30 pm
November 21 – 1:30 pm

RAINBOWS OF HOPE– St. Joseph

Marie Yeager Cancer Center
October 12 – 5:30 pm
November 9 – 5:30 pm

CHILD & FAMILY SUPPORT GROUP

Art Play Workshops

2nd Monday at Buchanan Art Center (**3rd Oct 16**)
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
October 12 – 6:00 pm
November 9 – 6:00 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER IN OCTOBER 2017

October 1 – International Day of Older People
October 4 – Improve Your Office day
October 7 – National Forgiveness Day
October 9 – International Beer & Pizza Day
October 11 – Emergency Nurses Day
October 13 – National No Bra Day
October 15 – National Grouch's Day
October 16 – National Boss's Day
October 18 – National Chocolate Cupcake Day
October 23 – Lung Health Day
October Howl at The Moon Night
October 28 – Make a difference Day
October 31 – Beggars Night

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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OFFICE STAFF:

Claudia Brister	Office Manager
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