

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.



June 2015

(269) 429-3281

VOLUME XXIII

ISSUE VI

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.

The True Man

by Edgar Guest

This is the sort of a man was he;
True when it hurt him a lot to be;
Tight in a corner an' knowing' a lie
Would have helped him out, but he wouldn't buy
His freedom there in so cheap a way—
He told the truth though he had to pay

Honest! Not in the easy sense,
When he needn't worry about expense—
We'll all play square when it doesn't count
And the sum at stake's not a large amount—
But he was square when the times were ban,
An' keepin' his word took all he had.

Honor is something we all profess,
But most of us cheat—some more, some less—
An' the real test isn't the way we do
When there isn't a pinch in either shoe;
It's whether we're true to our best or not
When the right thing's certain to hurt a lot.

That is the sort of man was he;
Straight when it hurt him a lot to be;
Times when a lie would have paid him well,
No matter the cost, the truth he'd tell;
An' he'd rather go down to a drab defeat
Than save himself if he had to cheat.



BCCS Bulletin Board



“Cars for Cancer”

Are you a car enthusiast or just someone who enjoys looking at beautifully restored and modified cars? Join us at “Cars for Cancer” Classic Car show at the Bridgman Festival on July 11. This car show is being organized by BCCS volunteer, Jessica Deam, with the proceeds going enable us to support those with cancer in our local community.

Eau Claire Cherry Festival Corn Hole Fun!

Come join us for the 4th annual Corn Hole Tournament at the Eau Claire Cherry Festival on July 4th. This event is being organized by Kirk Hansen. If you would like to join in on the fun, please call the BCCS office at 269-429-3281 and ask for Nancy for more details, including the start time. In case you don't know what a Corn Hole Tournament is, it looks like a bean bag toss but has specific rules. After the Corn Hole Tournament, stay for the parade and celebrate our country!



Art Play

We are excited about a new support program for children ages 5-18 whose lives are affected by cancer. This may be a family member, a close friend, or the child may have cancer. We are teaming up with local artists for art play sessions to allow the children to express their emotions through various art mediums. Currently we are in the process of scheduling for the late spring/summer months. If you would like more information, please call our office at 269-429-3281 and ask for Renee' or Nancy. This program is being made possible through a grant from the Berrien Community Foundation.



New Plans for the Bike Ride

Our 20th Annual Bike Ride will be taking a different course this year. Instead of being held the 4th Sunday in June, we will be hitting the roads on Sunday, September 13, 2015. This will allow us to honor Pediatric Oncology Month in September as this past year has seen a great increase in our service to children. We are also expanding the event so that we can celebrate survivorship with our patients, cancer survivors, and the community. This will take place on Saturday, Sept. 12 with a 5K Family Fun Run/Walk and a program in the afternoon/evening. There is much planning in process, so check next month's newsletter for more information or give us a call!



PENNIES FOR PATIENTS – THE POWER OF A PENNY!



Well, if you missed our 26th Annual PENNIES FOR PATIENTS DAY, stop by since we are keeping it open until June 15. After that, we will continue to accept pennies, but they will be counted in 2016. As a result of pennies continuing to come in, we do not have a final tally for this year, but I can tell you that we have received \$17,797 so far. We are getting close to our \$18,388.63 from last year so let's see if we can top that amount! Since it started, Pennies for Patients day has raised \$422,866.04! And remember, all proceeds stay local to help those with cancer in our community.

Bile Duct Cancer

Cancer that forms in a bile duct. A bile duct is a tube that carries bile (fluid made by the liver that helps digest fat) between the liver and gallbladder and the intestine. Bile ducts include the common hepatic, cystic, and common bile ducts. Bile duct cancer may be found inside the liver (intrahepatic) or outside the liver (extrahepatic).

Liver and Bile Duct Cancer

Definition of liver and bile duct cancer: Primary liver cancer is cancer that forms in the tissues of the liver. The most common type of primary liver cancer is hepatocellular carcinoma, which occurs in the tissue of the liver. When cancer starts in other parts of the body and spreads to the liver, it is called liver metastasis. Bile duct cancer forms in the small ducts (tubes) that carry bile (fluid made by the liver that helps digest fat) between the liver and gallbladder and the intestine. Bile duct cancer is also called cholangiocarcinoma. Intrahepatic bile duct cancer is found inside the liver. Extrahepatic bile duct cancer is found outside the liver.

Incidence and Mortality

Cancer arising in the extrahepatic bile duct is an uncommon disease, and is curable by surgery in fewer than 10% of all cases.

Pathogenesis Bile duct cancer may occur more frequently in patients with a history of primary sclerosing cholangitis, chronic ulcerative colitis, choledochal cysts, or infections with the fluke, *Clonorchis sinensis*.

Clinical Features

The most common symptoms caused by bile duct cancer include:

- Jaundice
- Pain
- Fever
- Pruritus

Treatment Modalities

In most patients, the tumor cannot be completely removed by surgery and is incurable. Palliative resections or other palliative measures such as radiation therapy (e.g., brachytherapy or external-beam radiation therapy) or stenting procedures may maintain adequate biliary drainage and allow for improved survival. Many bile duct cancers are

multifocal. Perineural invasion has a negative impact on survival.[]

Staging Information

Localized extrahepatic bile duct cancer

Patients with localized extrahepatic bile duct cancer have cancer that can be completely removed by the surgeon. These patients represent a very small minority of cases of bile duct cancer and usually are those with a lesion of the distal common bile duct where 5-year survival rate of 25% may be achieved. Extended resections of hepatic duct bifurcation tumors (Klatskin tumors, also known as hilar tumors) to include adjacent liver, either by lobectomy or removal of portions of segments 4 and 5 of the liver, may be performed. There has been no randomized trial of adjuvant therapy for patients with localized disease. Radiation therapy (external-beam radiation with or without brachytherapy), however, has been reported to improve local control.

Unresectable extrahepatic bile duct cancer

Patients with unresectable extrahepatic bile duct cancer have cancer that cannot be completely removed by the surgeon. These patients represent the majority of patients with bile duct cancer. Often the cancer invades directly into the portal vein, the adjacent liver or along the common bile duct, and to adjacent lymph nodes. Spread to distant parts of the body is uncommon but intra-abdominal metastases, particularly peritoneal metastases, do occur. At this stage, patient management is directed at palliation.

The TNM staging system should be used when staging the disease of a patient with extrahepatic bile duct cancer. Most cancers are staged following surgery and pathologic examination of the resected specimen. Evaluation of the extent of disease at laparotomy is most important for staging.

Staging depends on imaging, which often defines the limits of the tumor, and surgical exploration with pathologic examination of the resected specimen. In many cases, it may be difficult to completely resect the primary tumor.

From: nci.gov

In Loving Memory

During April 2015, Memorial Donations were generously made by
and for the following people:

In Memory of Richard Dudas

Heidi Lull, Benton Harbor
Mark & Vicki Matthews, Plymouth
Donald & Frances Young, Watervliet
Helen Braamse, Benton harbor

In Memory of Rhine Fecho

Edytha Bowerman, Berrien Springs

In Memory of Geraldine Rose Hacker

Joseph & Angelajo Naines, St. Joseph

In Memory of Nadine Kerns

Jerry & Peggy Schaffer, Sawyer

In Memory of Laurenda Mattix

Gladys Sandera, Stevensville
Sandra Robinson, Kalamazoo
Ivelise Boynton, Benton Harbor

In Memory of Rebecah Moyer

Rose Lucker, Benton Harbor

In Memory of John R. Myers

Marilyn Kiel, Stevensville

In Memory of Rebecca Niemi

The Niemi Family Trust
William Niemi Jr. Trustee, Stevensville

In Memory of Patricia Ponegalek

Carolyn Garbuschewski, Marblehead, MA

In Memory of Harry Rimes

Carl & Shirley Vanderveer, Grayling
Marilyn Rimes-Herrman & Lester Herrman,
St. Joseph
Passaro, Kahne & Taylor Law Office,
Benton Harbor

In Memory of Ann Louise Rose

Marie Kangas, Buchanan

In Memory of JoAnne Terns

Alma Arent, St. Joseph

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.

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If I can aid one in distress  
If I can make a burden less,  
If I can spread more happiness,  
Lord, show me how.

*Grenville Kleiser*

## Looking Ahead

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

June 2 & 16 – 1:30 p.m.

July 7 & 21 – 1:30 p.m.

### **BCCS SUPPORT GROUP – Niles**

June 9 & 23 – 1:30 p.m.

July 14 & 28 – 1:30 p.m.

### **RAINBOWS OF HOPE– St. Joseph**

Marie Yeager Cancer Center

June 11 – 5:30 p.m.

July 9 – 5:30 p.m.

### **Ostomy Support Group**

Lakeland Regional Medical Center

June 11 – 6:30 p.m.

July 9 – 6:30 p.m.

#### **DATES TO REMEMBER IN JUNE**

June 1 – National Leave Office Early Day

June 3 – National Running Day

June 4 – Old Maid’s Day

June 5 – National Moonshine Day

June 7 National Cancer Survivor’s Day

June 9 – Donald Duck Day

June 13 – National Bike Naked Day

June 14 – Flag Day

June 15 – Worldwide Day of Giving

June 21 – FATHER’S DAY

June 21 Alzheimer’s Awareness Day

June 23 Public Service Day

June 25 National Catfish Day

June 27 – Industrial Workers’ of the World Day

June 30 – NOW – National Organization For Women

#### **Newsletters available online and on email**

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 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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Henrietta Hein (Newsletter)  
Reneé Reid-Smith (Community Liaison)

**CANCER SUPPORT GROUP** – Stevensville Office

1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</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

2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</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