



## Cancer Survival

By Harold B. Cook, President of CCS

If “you need triple bypass surgery” are the most dreaded five words in the English language, “you have cancer” must be the most dreaded three words. I have had doctors say both phrases to me. Even though I knew the basal cell carcinoma on my scalp most likely would not be a major problem, I was still somewhat apprehensive. I chose to have surgery in the OR so the tissue could be examined as the surgery was being done. The surgeon told me that the shave biopsy apparently removed the small cancer. I was relieved but wondered if the surgeon had operated on the correct location. I now know that in the future I am likely to get another cancer of some sort on my scalp. Because of this and other cancer concerns, I have a skin cancer screening every year. I also go for my regularly scheduled colonoscopy. Early detection and treatment are the best ways to ensure survival in a world in which about 40 out of 100 people will be told sometime in their life that they have cancer.

A recent report by the American Cancer Society indicated that there are about 14 million cancer survivors alive in the U.S. today and that the number is expected to grow to about 18 million by 2022. Because of medical advances and life style changes, the rate of new cancer cases is decreasing and survival rates are increasing. While it is impossible for Community Cancer Services of Isabella County (CCS) to know how many patients survive because of its work, it operates on the assumption that no patient who has limited financial resources

...continued on page 2...

## Nancy Carey Support Group for Women

This amazing group of compassionate women meets the last Wednesday of each month to provide friendship, information and comfort to those who have had a cancer diagnosis recently or in the past. Women at any stage of diagnosis or treatment are welcome to attend. The meetings are informal, upbeat and informational and begin at 7:00 pm and are held the last Wednesday of each month at Oxford Row/Canterbury club house. Call Giesela Moffitt at 772-1602 for more information.

*CCS is not affiliated with American Cancer Services*

## CCS Makes a Difference in Isabella County

- Has been helping cancer patients in Isabella County since 1982.
- Is run completely by volunteers and almost every penny goes directly to meet patient's needs.
- Pays transportation costs in addition to medical expenses.
- Pays for mammograms during National Breast Cancer Month for those without adequate health insurance.
- Maintains at the public library a rack of current National Cancer Institute booklets on many kinds of cancer.
- Supports the Nancy Carey Support Group for women in Mt. Pleasant.
- Your tax-deductible donations, gifts, memorials stay here in Isabella County for research, patient support and education.

## “This Little Light of Mine....”

Zora Walsh

*“This little light of mine, I'm going to let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine”.*

Bring your cancer survivor to the Cancer Survivor Ceremony at 7:00 pm on September 27th and help them celebrate being a survivor – a cancer survivor.

“This Little Light” is the closing song for our celebration before we head out to walk the luminary lit pathway as a cancer survivor.

It has so much meaning to me as a survivor – it brings home the fact that I am so very, very lucky to be a 28 year breast cancer survivor! It has helped me to realize that I am not alone with this relentless disease. Bring your survivor and help them celebrate too!

## Cancer Survival (continued from page 1)

should be denied the chance to get treatment that may allow them to survive. Over the past 20 years the number of people dying each year from cancer in the U.S. has dropped from about 700,000 to about 590,000. CCS believes that it has been a significant component in improving the outcomes for cancer patients in Isabella County during these years.

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### Breast Cancer Awareness Month – Mammograms Available

For the last ten years, CCS has been offering mammograms to individuals without adequate health insurance during October, “Breast Cancer Awareness Month”. Early detection is the key to breast cancer survivorship and if we helped just one man or woman with an early detection, we will have met our goals. To schedule an appointment call Vanda at 772-2524.

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## Teams Now Forming Help Wanted – Volunteers Needed At the 16th Annual “Into the Light” Cancer Awareness Walk

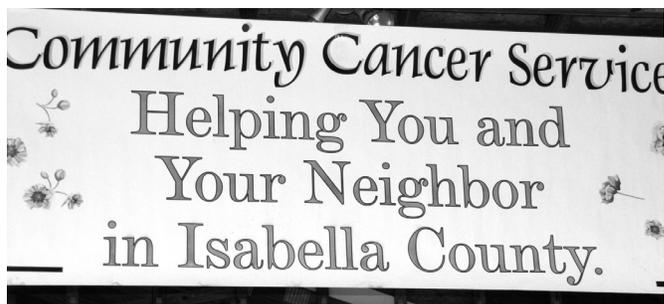


**Teams** – go to our new website of [www.isbellacommunitycancer.org](http://www.isbellacommunitycancer.org) and download the forms to form a team to walk at the cancer walk (although teams are not required to walk).

**Help Wanted** – we need lots of volunteers on September 27th from 9:00 am to 11:00 pm cleanup time.. You can call 773-0346 or just sign in at the walk.

### *Tentative Schedule of Events:*

9:00 to noon – set up	2:00 opening ceremony
2:00 to 5:30 kids games – bouncy	2:00 to 5:30 musical events
All day – Poster Contest	4:00 – 7:00 food
7:00 Cancer Celebration Ceremony	7:45 Cancer Survivor Walk
8:00 poster contest ends – judging	8:00 Scavenger Hunt
8:30 Sky Lanterns	9:00 Close of Silent Auction
9:00 line dancing	10:30 – closing ceremony
11:00 cleanup – lots of volunteers please!	



### Current CCS Board Members

#### **President**

Harold Cook..... 773-9781

#### **Vice President**

Don Bertsch ..... 772-1424

#### **Treasurer**

Mary Ann McPherson ..... 772-4673

#### **Service Coordinator**

Vanda Barker..... 772-2524

#### **Secretary**

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#### **Publicity**

Zora Walsh ..... 773-0346

#### **Memorials**

Mary Bourns ..... 506-3443

#### **Historian**

Jane Clark..... 773-3596

#### **Board Members**

Donna Parr ..... 772-3925

Minde Lux..... 773-3428

Mary Kay Price ..... 289-5374

Ruth Anne Sowle ..... 773-7648

Clarence Tuma ..... 773-5639

Paulette Schieber..... 588-2089

Traci Florian..... 772-0906

Betty Campbell ..... 773-9639

Megan Wedge ..... 944-4843

#### **Nancy Carey Support Group**

Pam Pfau ..... 828-5476

Shirley Wiltse..... 773-7565

#### **Community Liaison Director**

Bill Sowle..... 773-3673

#### **Educational Coordinator**

Karen Williamson ..... 773-5478

#### **Mastectomy Counselors**

Betty Stiff..... 644-2334

Ruth Anne Sowle ..... 773-7648

#### **Financial Advisor**

Bill Cain..... 772-3929

#### **Newsletter Co-Editors**

Zora Walsh ..... 773-0346

Ruth Anne Sowle ..... 773-7648

#### **Professional Advisors**

Sandra Howell, M.D.

Somdev Roy, M.D.

## CCS Board of Directors Meetings

CCS Board of Director Meetings are held the second Thursday of each month at 6:30 pm at the Commission on Aging building on Lincoln Road. New members are welcome. If you are looking for a tangible way to give back to your community, consider CCS. For more information call Harold at 773-9781.

## Mileage Program for Cancer Treatment Travel

Did you know that CCS will help pay your mileage to and from cancer treatment? With gas at over \$3.00 per gallon, this will help fill up the tank. Last year, 2013, CCS provided \$59,096.00 in medical mileage to their clients. Call Vanda, the Patient Coordinator at 772-2524, for more information.

## “Protect The Skin You Are In”

Skin cancer can be successfully treated before it has a chance to spread. Warning signs suggesting skin cancer include: a change on the skin, a sore that does not heal, change in an existing mole, or the development of a new mole. Even a small change in the skin can be a warning sign, so delaying treatment may be harmful to your health.” Free Skin Cancer Screenings with Tom Mink, PA-C on Friday, September 12th. Call 989-779-5606 to schedule an appointment. *Reprinted from McLaren Central Michigan Community Health Classes, summer 2014*

## Thank you

Once again the students of the Mt. Pleasant schools have worked together on their “Mileage for Miracles” cancer campaign and raised over \$32,000 for five cancer organizations in mid-Michigan. Thank you students!  
A big thank you to Roz’s Diner for their walk/run for CCS.

## “Understanding Screening Tests for the Early Detection of Cancer”

Join Oncologist Somdev Roy, MD for a discussion on risk factors associated with cancer, recommended screening tests and an explanation of the screening process. Tues, Sept 30th at 6 pm at the McLaren Conference Center. Call 989-779-5606 to register. *Reprinted from McLaren Central Michigan Community Health Classes, summer 2014*

## [www:isabellacommunitycanverservices.org](http://www.isabellacommunitycanverservices.org)

Check out our new website! It was created by our new board member, Megan Wedge. It is very colorful, easy to use and has links to other cancer related web sites. On it you can read previous newsletters, check out our board of directors and get forms for our Into the Light Walk. Thank you Megan for all of your hard work.

Veterans Day Concert  
Presented by Central Michigan Community Band  
Sponsored by Krapohl Ford  
Sunday, November 9th – 3:00 pm  
Plactha Auditorium, CMU

## Important Phone Numbers

Pardee Fund of Isabella County 772-6896  
Community Cancer Service 772-2524  
NCI (up-to-date information) 1 800-4CANCER  
Y-ME: (24 hour breast cancer hotline) 1 800-221-2141

## Memorials / Luminary Request Form

Yes, I would like to make a tax deductible donation to Community Cancer Services.

Please accept this contribution in the amount of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of: \_\_\_\_\_ or in Honor of: \_\_\_\_\_

Your name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to: Community Cancer Services of Isabella County, PO Box 36, Mt. Pleasant, MI 48804-0036

An acknowledgement will be sent to the person or family you choose. Your gift will help fight cancer in a concrete way.



\*Please make a luminary in honor of \_\_\_\_\_  
for the “Into the Light” cancer awareness walk this fall.

# COMMUNITY CANCER SERVICES OF ISABELLA COUNTY

“Your Local Cancer Organization”

PO Box 36  
Mt. Pleasant MI 48804-0036

NON-PROFIT ORG.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Ithaca, MI  
Permit No. 35



In Memory of *Julia Sias*

5/7/93 - 8/19/98

Dx: Brainstem Glioma 12/1/97

Newsletter Donated in part by Julia's family at:

**E & S Graphics, Inc. - 989 875 2828**



- Cancer Survivors Ceremony & Walk 7:00 pm sponsored by Isabella Bank & Trust.
  - Teams now forming
  - Silent Auction
  - Music, games, food, clowns
  - Come walk as a survivor, family, friend or volunteer
  - To order Luminaries in advance, pick up Team Packets or for more information call 773-0346 or 773-9781 or log onto [www.isbellacommunitycancer.org](http://www.isbellacommunitycancer.org)

## 16th ANNUAL Into the Light Cancer Awareness Walking Event

COMMUNITY CANCER SERVICES  
OF ISABELLA COUNTY

“YOUR LOCAL CANCER ORGANIZATION”

**Island Park**  
**September 27, 2014**  
**2:00 PM to 11:00 PM**