

### Tracher STRONG Because with a little help, everything is possible.

It could be a best friend, a spouse, a sibling, or a staff member, but no matter what – at Beebe Healthcare's Tunnell Cancer Center, you are not alone. This mentality is part of the fabric of team members and volunteers who spend their days here. It's also the same mindset that will travel to the South Coastal Health Campus near Millville when the second cancer center opens in 2020.

Kindness never fades. For patients, knowing that staff and volunteers remember who they are and what they spoke about last time means something. Sharing a cup of coffee might soothe a loved one's stress as they watch chemotherapy begin.

Sheryl Miller always looked forward to telling the staff what restaurant she and her friend Blanche were going to try after each appointment. Ray Shaffer was so inspired by the thoughtfulness he received that he always made a point to give positive feedback and reach out to help others. These are just two examples of many at Tunnell Cancer Center that prove that togetherness makes us all stronger. We hope these stories inspire or strengthen your resolve that a team approach is the best way to treat cancer – with doctors, staff, or at home. Each of the patients and companions in this calendar truly express the difference it made to have someone by their side.

That presence can make a difference every single day, and it proves that when people are together, they are at their strongest.

#### SURVIVOR PORTRAITS BY CAROLYN WATSON



JANUARY **Melissa Watts** Breast Cancer Survivor



FEBRUARY **Ralph Williams** Prostate Cancer & Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Survivor



MARCH **Ray Shaffer** Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Survivor



A P R I L **Sheryl Miller** Melanoma Survivor



MAY **Meghan Morgan** Triple Negative Breast Cancer Survivor



JUNE **John Bezak** Prostate Cancer Survivor & Metastatic Bone Cancer



JULY **Judy Hrin** Lung Cancer Survivor



AUGUST **Bruce Frankum** Multiple Myeloma Survivor



SEPTEMBER **Mike Burns** Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Survivor



OCTOBER Bridget Buckaloo Breast Cancer Survivor



NOVEMBER **Russ Baker** Lung Cancer Survivor



DECEMBER **Carol Brumley** Hodgkin's Lymphoma Survivor "When I was diagnosed, I was terrified. I was scared to leave the house or try new things. Through the diagnosis and treatment, I really found myself and I learned how strong I can be. My husband, Jay, has been with me every step of the way. He and the entire team at Tunnell Cancer Center have supported me and encouraged me.

"As I went through my treatments, they encouraged me to step out of my comfort zone, which led me to apply and get hired for a great position at Delaware Technical Community College. It's the perfect job for me and I don't know if I would have even tried for it before.

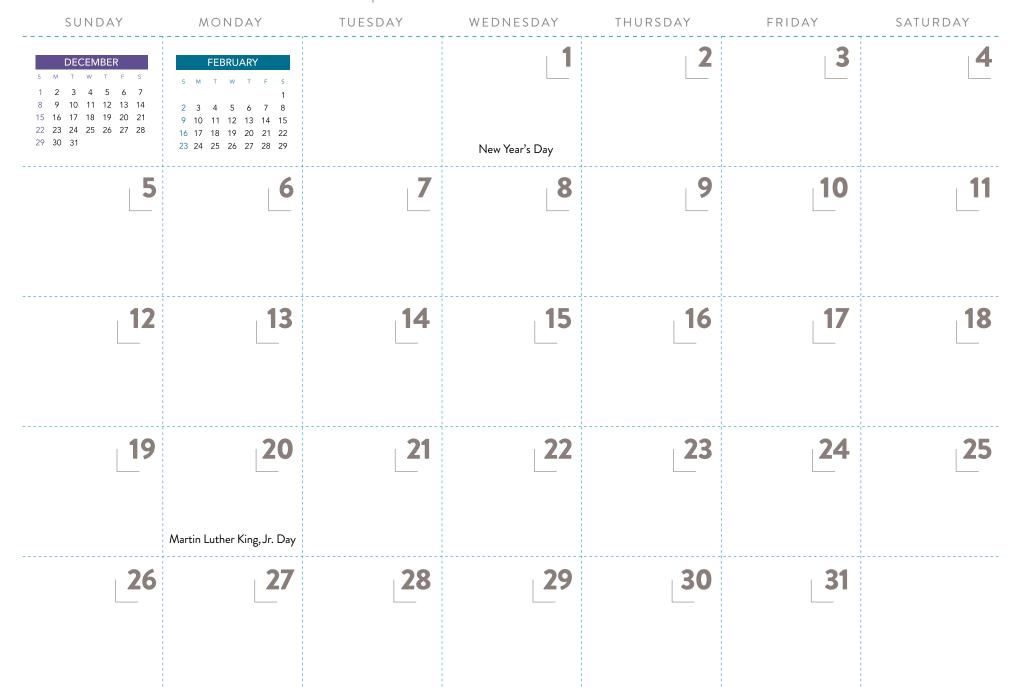
"We have also gotten back into bowling – a sport that initially brought us together when we were dating. I used to be afraid to be around people, but now I am happy to connect and share my story.

"I've found strength in meeting people and sharing our stories. I feel stronger and better than before. In many ways, I feel reborn and now I am able to live a happy, healthy life." Melissa Watts Breast Cancer Survivor

"I've found strength in meeting people and sharing our stories."

## JANUARY

#### NATIONAL CERVICAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH



alph Williams

Prostate Cancer & Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia Survivor

"Any time there was a rough patch, we would pray and always find new hope for the future." As the grandson of James Beebe, Ralph Williams joined the family legacy when he became a certified nurse anesthetist and returned to Lewes to work at Beebe.

He retired after 30 years to enjoy time with his wife, Bonnie, and their children and grandchildren. He also wanted to spend more time with his church family at New Covenant Presbyterian Church in Lewes.

He was first diagnosed with chronic lymphocytic leukemia, which affects white blood cells. Two weeks later, during routine blood tests, it was discovered that he also had prostate cancer.

"From that point on, a lot changed for us. We were never down and out because of our faith in God. So, we know God will get us through it – he's never given up on us," Ralph said.

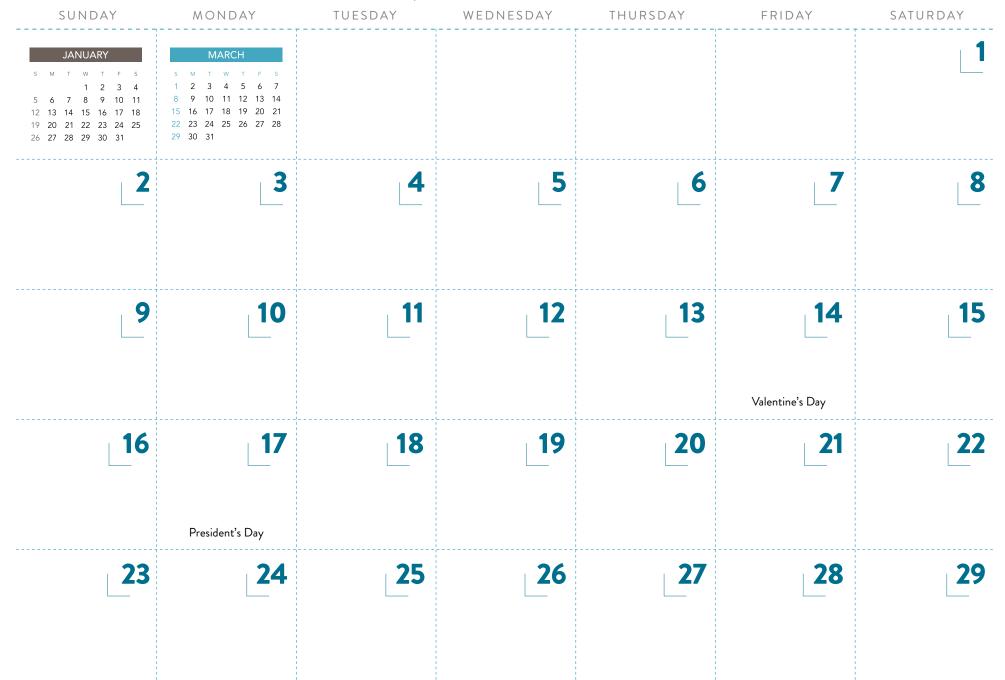
"Throughout the treatments and tests, God was there. He put people in our lives when we needed it," Bonnie said.

"Dr. Peri was there for us at every turn," Ralph said. "When a metastatic lesion was found on my spine, Dr. Peri jumped into the research and found a treatment for me. Dr. Costleigh was another who was right there when we needed him.

"As a nurse anesthetist, I've seen a lot of surgery, but I never really understood how surgery could knock you down. It was a long road to recovery. Through it all, my prayer warriors have been there for me."

## FEBRUARY

#### NATIONAL CANCER PREVENTION MONTH



"A few years into retirement, I was just lumbering and laboring. After blood tests and a sample of bone marrow, the doctors were able to determine it was Waldenstrom macroglobulinemia, a type of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"Doctors determined my cancer was caused by Agent Orange, a defoliant used during the Vietnam War, which caused a lot of distress in my family. When I found this out over 40 years later, there was a little bit of shock factor because I was doing OK as a 40-, 50-, 60-year-old guy. My siblings didn't take it as well as I did, but my wife has been my No. 1 supporter.

"Being a Christian, I'm aware that I need to give thanks for what I have. I always keep that in mind even now with my treatment.

"Dealing with my cancer has been almost inconsequential because whenever I was there, I was always thinking about how much the staff has to take care of so many people in my situation. I look at all of them as healers. The professionalism of the nurses, staff, and doctors, of everyone I've met – I make a point to give positive feedback.

"One of my biggest motivations to keep going is my granddaughter. It keeps me wanting to stay alive. She's 6 years old, and I have to keep kicking until she knocks out all of her milestones."

### Kay Shaffer Non-Hodgkin's Lymphoma Survivor "I'm aware that I need to give thanks for what I have."

# MARCH

#### NATIONAL COLORECTAL CANCER AWARENESS MONTH





"You can't always be strong. Let them help you." When Sheryl Miller started treatments for melanoma in May 2017, her father had just died of the same cancer. It was a series of events that could stagger anyone, especially someone as pessimistic as Sheryl, she admits. She decided to take a different viewpoint for this challenge, and a year later, the nodules and spots in her stomach, liver, pelvis, and lungs were gone. Because of her husband, three kids, six grandchildren, and best friends like Blanche Nickel, who was by her side for each treatment, Sheryl realized she had so much to live for.

"My husband and I went to get the results of the original scans, and we didn't even talk to each other the whole way home. It was just shock," Sheryl said. "I'm usually a really anxious person and have always been that way – a pessimist. But I haven't been with this because I feel that outlook is half the battle.

"I feel very blessed. Everyone at Tunnell is just wonderful. Just the encouragement helped. I feel now I have so much to live for. It's been eye opening. It's made me appreciate a lot more because you never know. You just don't.

"Don't block people out. If someone wants to help you, let them. Let them be there to do so. I feel that my relationship with Blanche has gotten stronger. I don't look at her like a friend. I look at her like a sister. Keep your family and friends close because they want to help. I'm a strong person, but you can't always be strong. Let them help you."



#### TESTICULAR CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



Meghan Morgan was not expecting cancer to be a part of her story. "It was absolutely shocking because I had previous clear mammograms and no problems at all. My sister had an issue with a mammogram, so I was thinking when I went for the biopsy that it was going be just like hers – a cyst with fluid. When it was more than that, I started to get a little worried, and then I got the call."

Meghan's husband, Tony, daughter, Autumn, and grandson, Lincoln, as well as many others, rallied around her. Tony took six months off of work, and Autumn made sure she did whatever she could for her mom, while working and raising Lincoln, who Meghan was still determined to babysit.

"My family has been super helpful. After my chemotherapy, I rang the bell, and Tony had a surprise luncheon at DiFebo's with all of my neighbors and friends. That was really nice – their positive energy has helped me, and then Lincoln really helped me push through. I have to do it for Lincoln."

Being on the receiving end of help was different for Meghan. She was used to being the helper. "I was a social worker, so it was very hard to let go and let others help me because who I am is helping other people, not people helping me.

"Now, I tell everybody my story. I say, "Make sure you get your mammogram." My friend from high school hadn't had one in seven years. My diagnosis devastated her, and I'm happy to say she went and got her mammogram."

### Meghan Morgan Triple Negative Breast Cancer Survivor

"Now, I tell my story to everybody that I see and talk to."

### CANCER RESEARCH MONTH

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_10	_11	_12	_13	_14	15th Annual Baywood	_16
Mother's Day					Golf Classic [date subject to change]	
_17	_18	_19	_20	_21	_22	23
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	Memorial Day					
_31						

Before John was diagnosed with stage 4 metastatic bone cancer, John and Sharon Bezak had already been through one cancer diagnosis. Through it all, they've been together strong for 51 years and counting. Now they're able to spend time with their seven grandkids and neighborhood friends.

**SHARON:** "When they said the intravenous chemo was not working, I panicked. 'We're going to see somebody else.' Not that I didn't trust them, I just said, 'Can I get a second opinion?' Because we had been doing fine, so all of a sudden I panicked. So we got an appointment at Johns Hopkins.

"[The doctor] was excellent. He said, 'Why do you want to be here? Tunnell Cancer Center is excellent. Whatever they're doing for you there, I would do for you here, but you've got to drive for two hours.' He raved about the Tunnell Cancer Center and told me not to worry." JOHN: "Tunnell Cancer Center staff treat you like, I don't know, it's different from other hospitals we've been in. You're not a number. You feel like you're somebody, like you're recognized. They know you – not as a number, but as a person. You get to talk to them about what they've done, what we're doing. You know our grandkids are coming down, we talk about that, and we joke. It's a good feeling knowing that that's all happening."

### Prostate Cancer Survivor & Metastatic Bone Cancer

"You go on with life. We just keep going together."

# JOURNEY TOGETHER

## JUNE7



# FIND POSITIVITY

### Judy Hrin Lung Cancer Survivor

"I found my strength inside and through connections with friends and family." Judy Hrin, her sister, Sandy, and her close friend and neighbor, Dana, enjoy letting off steam, especially if there is a view of the water.

"The water calms me, while my family and friends give me support," Judy said.

During Judy's treatments, Sandy and Dana, along with Judy's other sister, Carol, became a close-knit team. They took turns driving her to appointments and took special pride in making her laugh

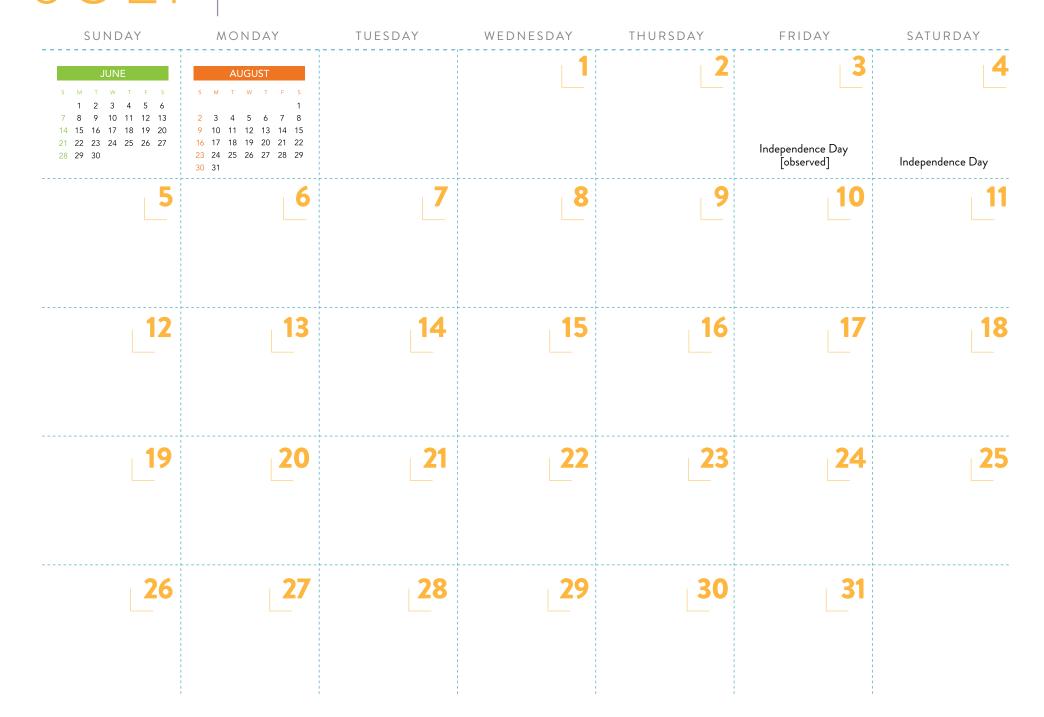
"I guess I've always been the serious one. Dana is the jokester and Sandy is Miss Sunshine – always a positive attitude," Judy said. "I really depended on them and on Carol, who lives in Pennsylvania, for a lot during my treatment. We got to know each other on an even deeper level."

Judy even found a positive attitude inside herself. "I am definitely more positive now than I have ever been. I found my strength inside and through the connection with my friends and family. And now, I'm more focused on being around others and giving back.'

Judy volunteers at Tunnell now in hopes of providing the support to others that she received during her treatment.

"Volunteering makes me happy. I am very grateful for my friends and my family who were there for me. Their support is just what I needed. I hope to be there for others who are going through the same journey that I've been on."

#### UV SAFETY MONTH



When Bruce Frankum was diagnosed with cancer in March 2017, his wife, Patty, said, "What do we have to do? Let's do it. Get it done." Together, they pulled their collective strength, with a little help from their dog, Lucy. Whether it was shots or trips to chemotherapy, Bruce and Patty were in it together.

"From the get go, when it was diagnosed, it was quite a shock to hear that," Bruce said. "I know [Patty] was quite upset that day. We didn't dwell on it. We both are fighters and just went from the get go with that mentality. We kind of always take what comes and deal with it. I think we do feed off each other and lean on each other more than anyone else [around us]. I don't know if I would say it made it us stronger because we were already strong anyway, but it definitely helped having her by my side going through the process.

"The doctor said, 'You can come back in six months if you want to, but I don't need to see you for a year.' That was a good feeling when we knew that things were [trending positive]... some people have the bone marrow transplants and they don't really take. That was a good feeling."

## Bruce Frankum

Multiple Myeloma Survivor

"We take what comes and deal with it. We are both fighters."

# AUGUST 12-18

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
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30	_ 31					



Burness

Mike and Debbie Burns were enjoying retired life in Lewes when fatigue started to disrupt Mike's daily routine. After tests, diagnosis, and treatment, Mike wants everyone to know: "You don't get through this alone."

"I just can't say enough about Dr. Desai, the nurses, and the infusion center nurses. The second time I walked in there, Candi at the front desk knew my name. I couldn't believe it.

"My attitude toward this whole thing is that it is what it is. Getting over the shock of it, I just said, 'I'm going to deal with today and tomorrow and not worry about yesterday.' I talked to a lot of people about that, and you don't get through these kinds of things alone. It was a team of people. My family, my wife, and our neighbors – I can't believe the encouragement I received, or the number of cards and phone calls. I just thought, 'I'm going to battle this,' and listened to what I was told to do. I did go for a second opinion early on with Johns Hopkins and they concurred with everything going on here at Beebe.

"I felt very confident with all the care I received. I just can't say enough about the Tunnell Cancer Center. I'm humbled by it all, and I'm grateful for where I am today. It's just hard to believe."

#### **DEBBIE:**

"The doctor at Johns Hopkins said: 'Go back to Lewes and keep up with what they are doing because it's exactly what I would be doing, which was so reassuring.""

# SEPTEMBER

#### BLOOD CANCER/LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA AWARENESS MONTH





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Being diagnosed with cancer can cause life to feel upside down. For Bridget Buckaloo, a nurse and the executive director of Beebe's Women's and Children's Health, she can say in a word how she felt – shocked.

"My shock over the diagnosis turned quickly into determination. I went into warrior mode, and was determined to give everything I had to overcoming this diagnosis and to continue living my life.

"I've learned through the diagnosis, treatment, and surgery not to take any of life's little moments for granted. As the mother of triplets, it was important to me to maintain a positive attitude. I wanted to focus my energy on my health and their health. Their coping was dependent on my coping. I did not want them to be afraid. So, it was critical for me to keep going with a positive attitude. I wanted to focus on what was good in the moment.

"I've been able to find reasons for gratitude through it all and that keeps me strong – gratitude for my children and my family, gratitude for an incredible "life hostage" who held my hand and went to treatments, gratitude for my team at Beebe, and gratitude for my <u>doctors.</u>

"I am grateful that I have the Tunnell Cancer Center in my backyard. With all of their experience and compassion, I know I am in good hands. They are an amazing team.

"I have learned more about my own strength through this, and I have learned how important it is to remain positive by focusing on joy and gratitude, not stress."

# OCTOBER

#### NATIONAL BREAST CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



For as long as he can remember, Russ Baker has been a morning person.

"I just wake up excited each day. I've always had a positive outlook," Russ said. But, when he was diagnosed with lung cancer, it threw him for a loop.

"I had no idea what to expect. It was scary. I felt some of that joy slipping."

Three months into his treatment, his mother was also diagnosed with cancer.

"She was the one I turned to, then when she was diagnosed, I had to be there for her. I found that helping her was helping me get back that positive spirit."

In addition, when times were difficult, Russ turned to his care team.

"Michele Fletcher, my nurse and my go-to person, was always there for me. We would talk, she would give me advice and encouragement, and we would just laugh. It was exactly what I needed.

"For treatments, you could be there several hours, and each time, I looked forward to the amazing support I received from Michele and the team at Tunnell."

Russ added, "At Tunnell, I received the best care from the best people. I got great news recently and am cancer-free. It might be unusual, but I look at this as a blessing – I got to meet Michele and many great people during my treatments."

Michele was humbled by Russ's words and said, "I always think of it as their journey and I'm here to make it the best journey possible."

## **Russ Baker** Lung Cancer Survivor

"I found that helping my mom was also helping me get back that positive spirit."

# NOVEMBER

#### LUNG CANCER AWARENESS MONTH



# FIND HOME

## Carol Brumley Hodgkin's Lymphoma Survivor

Hodgkin's Lymphoma Survivor "I never expected to feel so loved and supported by a cancer team." Carol and her husband, EJ, moved to Delaware 10 years ago. Like many new residents, they were still traveling to see some of their doctors in the Philadelphia area and in New Jersey.

When Carol started getting sick – her blood counts were alarming – she and EJ talked to friends and family about what options they might have for treatment.

"Many of our friends encouraged us to go to specialists in other states and I had planned to do that," Carol said. "That was until I met the doctors and care team at Tunnell Cancer Center. They were so welcoming and had a great plan for my treatment. I knew I would be more comfortable staying here, closer to home, and I was so right.

"My family came and visited and met the team and they told me that I had made the right decision.

"Everyone at Beebe and Tunnell gave me all the support I needed. I knew I would have the support of EJ and my family, but I never expected to feel so loved and supported by the cancer team."

Today, Carol and EJ share their story with new and old friends alike. They continue to support each other and enjoy going out to dinner at our many local restaurants.

"I find we are always talking to others about our great experience and care at Tunnell," Carol said. "There's no reason to travel for great care when we already have this amazing team of caretakers here." DECEMBER

#### **INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEERS DAY** DECEMBER 5





### Closer to Home

A second comprehensive cancer center will open in 2020 near Millville, offering treatments closer to home for our neighbors. This would not be possible without the generosity of Sussex County and the work of the Beebe Medical Foundation, which raised millions for Beebe's multi-campus expansion.







#### JUNE 2017

#### **JUNE 2018**

Renderings released for South Coastal Ground broken at South Coastal Health Campus

**NOVEMBER 2018** 

Steel beams create shape of building South Coastal beam signing

**JUNE 2019** 

Ready for first patient

SUMMER 2020

Beebe Healthcare announces threecampus expansion, including South Coastal Health Campus near Millville. It includes a freestanding emergency department and second cancer center, bringing cancer care much closer to patients in southern Sussex County.





for the excellent care they or their loved ones received and want to show their gratitude by making a tax-deductible gift to the Tunnell Cancer Center through the Beebe Medical Foundation.



Would you like to celebrate the compassionate and excellent care provided at Tunnell Cancer Center by sharing your story? DONATE: www.beebemedicalfoundation.org MAIL: Beebe Medical Foundation, 902 Savannah Road, Lewes, DE 19958 CONTACT: 302-644-2900; fax 302-644-2950; foundation@beebehealthcare.org MEMORIAL AND HONORARY GIFTS: Designate your gift in memory or honor of a family member, friend, or Beebe employee and the Foundation will notify the person or family of your gift. CREATING THE NEXT GENERATION CARE

#### CANCER SERVICES EXPAND TO SOUTH COASTAL REGION

Would you like to learn more about Beebe's plans for the expansion of Tunnell Cancer Center and its services?

For the most recent updates, visit www.nextgenerationofcare.org and sign up to receive our e-newsletter *The Blueprint*.



### Team Approach

We are dedicated to addressing our patients' medical and emotional needs. We work closely with your entire cancer care team and other doctors involved in your care. We communicate with referring physicians on a regular basis, keeping them informed of patient progress, findings, and recommendations for treatment.

### Our Doctors & Clinicians

Tunnell Cancer Center provides you with experts in cancer care. Our doctors and clinicians are experienced, knowledgeable, and caring. They work together, under one roof, to deliver integrative care that is personalized to your needs. This allows us to communicate regularly as a team to fight your cancer on all fronts.

#### HOW CAN BEEBE HELP? SUPPORT SERVICES

While facing cancer is a life-changing experience, we strive to support you and your caregivers in every way so you can maintain an attitude of well-being and hope, which we know plays a vital role in the effectiveness of treatment.

Support services, provided to patients and their families at no cost, include:

- + Counseling services and referrals
- + Integrative health services
- + Well coaching
- + Nutrition therapy
- + Support groups
- + Wig services and mastectomy fittings via the Jean and Joan New Reflection Center
- + Being Young with Cancer support group

- + Meditation and guided imagery
- + One-day cancer retreats
- + Prescription assistance
- + Cancer Patient Special Needs Fund (for those who qualify)
- + Transportation services (for those who qualify)
- + Assistance in navigating social service systems that may offer you additional assistance and support

To participate or receive more information regarding support services offered at Tunnell Cancer Center, please call 302-645-3087.

### BEEBE BREAST HEALTH PROGRAM & BREAST HEALTH NAVIGATION

Beebe's breast care experts provide comprehensive breast care for both women and men, and treat a wide range of breast conditions, including breast cancer and benign breast disease. Beebe's team also follows women who are at an increased risk for developing breast cancer. Beebe's Breast Health Program is fully accredited by the National Accreditation Program for Breast Centers. The Breast Health Navigator informs you of what to expect, addresses any barriers, and helps you navigate through your continuum of care from the time of an abnormal cell finding to survivorship.



Kathy Cook, MSN, RN Breast Health Navigator

For more information, call the Breast Health Center Nurse Navigator at 302-645-3630.



### Connect with Us

#### CONTACT BEEBE HEALTHCARE **TUNNELL CANCER CENTER**

- Medical Oncology
- **Radiation Oncology**
- **Clinical Trials**
- Counseling, Support Groups, & Integrative Health Programs
- Nutrition Services +
- **Oncology Social Worker**
- Cancer Screening Nurse Navigator +
- Breast Health Nurse Navigator

- 302-645-3770 302-645-3775
- 302-645-3100 (ext. 2635)
- 302-645-3087 302-645-3100 (ext. 2636) 302-645-3770 (ext. 2720)
  - 302-645-3169 302-645-3630

STAY CONNECTED WITH YOUR BEEBE HEALTHCARE CANCER CARE PATIENT PORTAL

Accessing your personal cancer care information through the patient portal can help you be more actively involved in your own healthcare. Accessing your family member's health information can help you take care of them more easily. Also, the Beebe Cancer Care Patient Portal offers secure messaging with your cancer care team, which may eliminate phone tag with your doctor and, sometimes, even save a trip to the cancer center. With your patient portal, you can be in control of your health and care.

#### CANCER RECOVERY & PATIENT ADVOCACY PROGRAMS

- Cancer Support Community Delaware 302-645-9150 + Delaware Breast Cancer Coalition 302-212-2947 + + American Cancer Society Information & Referral 1-800-227-2345
- Cancer Care +

1-800-813-HOPE (4673)