



Pilot News

Local news and weather at www.thepilotnews.com

Weekend, June 5-6, 2010

Marshall County, Indiana's community news source since 1851

Volume 160 Issue No. 131 50¢

Celebrating life, supporting cancer survivors



GUEST COMMENTARY

By Vu NGUYEN, M.D.
XRC MEDICAL IMAGING

It's hard to find a reason to celebrate when the word "cancer" is involved. But for survivors, overcoming the disease is truly a celebration of life.

The 23rd Annual National Cancer Survivors Day is Sunday, June 6. While the fight against cancer continues, the good news is that nearly half of all Indianans who will be diagnosed this year will survive, according to the American Cancer Society. In America alone, there are more than 11 million people living with a history of cancer.

Nationwide, the five-year relative survival rate for all cancers diagnosed from 1996 to 2004 is 66 percent, up from 50 percent between 1975 and 1977. This improvement in survival is a cause for celebration and reflects advances in treatment and progress in diagnosing certain cancers at an earlier stage.

The National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation defines a survivor as anyone living with a history of cancer, including those recently diagnosed as well as long-term survivors. The commemorative day provides a source of inspiration and hope to adults and children who are living with or have a history of cancer. We believe surviving cancer starts with diagnosis and continues through treatment and beyond



Danielle Richter is the Ultrasound Tech from Stroke Detection Plus. Diane Watsabaugh is the participant. Danielle Richter is doing a stroke screening on Diane.

PHOTO PROVIDED

once that treatment is complete.

As radiologists, researchers and health care providers, we recognize and salute the contributions of Michiana families, friends and communities who support cancer survivors. We believe that building support groups, aiding in recovery and sharing experiences help to overcome the many obstacles of moving into post-cancer life.

With my fellow radiologists and health care providers at XRC Medical Imaging, we seek to improve our community members' health by providing them with the highest-quality, specialty diagnostic imaging. Arming our community with top-notch imaging exams and the first fixed PET/CT in the area not only allows us to do what we love, but it also provides a trust-

worthy source for the early detection and prevention of cancer.

This year, take a moment to honor those touched by cancer by supporting research. Or sign up for the American Cancer Society Relay for Life happening June 11 and June 12 in South Bend. Make prevention a priority for you and your family and celebrate healthy lives.

Dr. Nguyen is a board-certified radiologist and the Medical Director at XRC Medical Imaging, is a division of X-Ray Consultants, Inc., a private radiology practice consisting of 16 radiologists. X-Ray Consultants has practiced in the Michiana area for more than 50 years, providing professional radiology services to regional hospitals.