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Cancer Survivors Day Celebration held in Effingham on Sunday, June 12

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Effingham, IL – Cancer survivors celebrated Cancer Survivors Day on Sunday, June 12, 2011, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus Hall in Effingham. The event was hosted by Crossroads Cancer Center and sponsored by the Cancer Care Specialists Charitable Fund.

Master of Ceremonies was John Lange, former Mayor of Effingham and cancer survivor. The invocation was given by Michael Kesling, retired United Methodist Church and cancer survivor. Guests enjoyed musical entertainment provided by J. Christopher “One Man Band” and a dinner catered by Martin's Catering. Dr. Philip Dy, medical oncologist with Cancer Care Specialists at Crossroads Cancer Center, welcomed survivors and provided updates on cancer treatments. Surgeon Dr. Ruben Boyajian provided special recognition of the cancer survivors, who each received a carnation during the ceremony.

The celebration marked the 22nd annual local celebration and was held in conjunction with the 24th annual National Cancer Survivors Day, which is now a worldwide celebration in June. Cancer survivors, caregivers, family members, friends and healthcare professionals united to show that life after a cancer diagnosis can be meaningful and productive.

The National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation defines a “survivor” is anyone living with a history of cancer, from the moment of diagnosis through the remainder of life. Over 11 million Americans are now living with and beyond a diagnosis of cancer. In the United States, almost half of all men and one third of all women are expected to be diagnosed with cancer at some point in their lives. Learning about this disease is crucial, because many forms of cancer can be prevented and most cured if detected early. Major advances in cancer prevention, early detection and treatment have resulted in longer survival, and therefore a growing number of cancer survivors.

Physicians and staff from Crossroads Cancer Center salute our community’s cancer survivors who face each day with courage and dignity and serve as an inspiration to all of us. Thanks to all of the volunteers and best wishes to all of our community’s cancer survivors who made this year’s Celebration of Life so meaningful!

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Diplomates of the American Boards of Internal Medicine, Medical Oncology, Hematology, Radiology, and Pathology

Affiliated with National Cancer Institute supported research organizations including MD Anderson Cancer Center, University of Chicago, Southwest Oncology Group, Eastern Cooperative Oncology Group, Gynecologic Oncology Group, National Surgical Adjuvant Breast and Bowel Project, University of Rochester Cancer Center, Wake Forest University Cancer Center, NCI Clinical Trials Support Unit, and CICCOP

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