

Do You Know the Difference?

Submitted by Susan Wiers: Referenced by ChatGPT

In Michigan, the roles of **Physician Assistants (PAs)** and **Nurse Practitioners (NPs)** are distinct in terms of education, scope of practice, and autonomy.

Education and Certification:

PAs complete a master's degree in Physician Assistant studies, typically a two-year program, and their training follows a medical model, emphasizing disease diagnosis and treatment. To practice, PAs must pass the Physician Assistant National Certifying Exam (PANCE) and obtain state licensure. In contrast, NPs are registered nurses (RNs) who have earned either a master's (MSN) or doctoral (DNP) degree in nursing, specializing in areas such as family practice or pediatrics. They must also pass a national certification exam and secure state licensure.



One to One is devoted to the on-going support of those newly diagnosed, those in remission and those in recurrence.

100% of contributions directly benefit our group by providing activities and paying for expenses.

*Donations are gratefully accepted and can be made by check payable to **One to One Ovarian Cancer Support Group** c/o Marilyn Brozovic 4793 Alton Dr. Troy, MI 48085*

A receipt will be provided for tax purposes.

Scope of Practice:

PAs are authorized to diagnose and treat illnesses, prescribe medications, and perform certain procedures, all under the supervision of a physician. In Michigan, they require a collaborative agreement with a supervising physician, although they retain some autonomy in patient care decisions. NPs, meanwhile, can independently provide a wide range of healthcare services, including diagnosis and treatment. As a "reduced practice" state, Michigan allows NPs to diagnose and treat independently but requires collaboration with a physician for prescribing controlled substances.

Autonomy and Specialization:

PAs generally work under the supervision of a physician, meaning their scope of practice is closely tied to that physician's expertise. Conversely, NPs enjoy greater autonomy in diagnosing and treating patients but must collaborate for specific tasks. While PAs are trained as generalists and can switch specialties more easily, NPs often focus on specific areas, with certifications tied to their specialty.

In summary, while both PAs and NPs play vital roles in healthcare, NPs in Michigan have greater autonomy, particularly in patient care, while PAs operate within a more supervised framework.

★ PROFILE in *Courage* ★

By Marcia Gurche

Susan Wiers has a deep appreciation for historic things. She and her husband, **John**, also enjoy DIY projects, so it is not surprising that they have lived in and renovated two historic homes in the lovely village of Romeo. Given the age of the buildings, John, an engineer by trade, had to put his electrician's hat on to totally rewire them to bring them up to today's standards. Their current home, while still in the area, is not as historic, and John and Sue have decided to enjoy the fruits of others' labor and let professionals do the physical renovating this time around.

Sue and John both grew up in Romeo and attended Romeo High School but were a few years apart in school. They met when Sue was working at the local Big Boy Restaurant. Both attended Michigan State University, where Sue graduated with an undergraduate nursing degree in 1981. Interestingly, Sue's first job after graduating with her RN degree, was working at Beaumont 7North with OB and Gyn patients. The Ob/Gyn floor is now in the Central Tower, which is where she was hospitalized when she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer in 2023.

Sue returned to MSU and earned a Master of Science in Nursing degree (MSN) in 1999 in the family nurse practitioner program. She went on to earn the degree of Doctor of Nursing Practice (DNP) in 2016. These degrees all served her well in the twenty years that she worked as a family nurse practitioner for Cornerstone Medical Group in New Baltimore.

In addition to working at the medical center, Sue worked as a hospice nurse for five years. She really enjoyed the work and felt that she was making a difference because she had a chance to interact with the patients on a deeply personal level.



Speaking of making a difference, Sue also threw her hat into the teaching ring as she taught nursing at Wayne State School of Nursing for six years. Having a seasoned nurse like Sue as a teacher is such a tremendous gift for future nurses, as they learn to navigate the health care world.

Sue worked at a few other nursing jobs and took seven years off to be home when her children were small. Sue and John have two children, **Brian**, 41, is a chemist and lives in California. Their daughter, **Ashley**, 37, is married to **Tom** and lives in Washington, DC where she works for Google. Ashley got married in France, which made for an especially nice family trip.

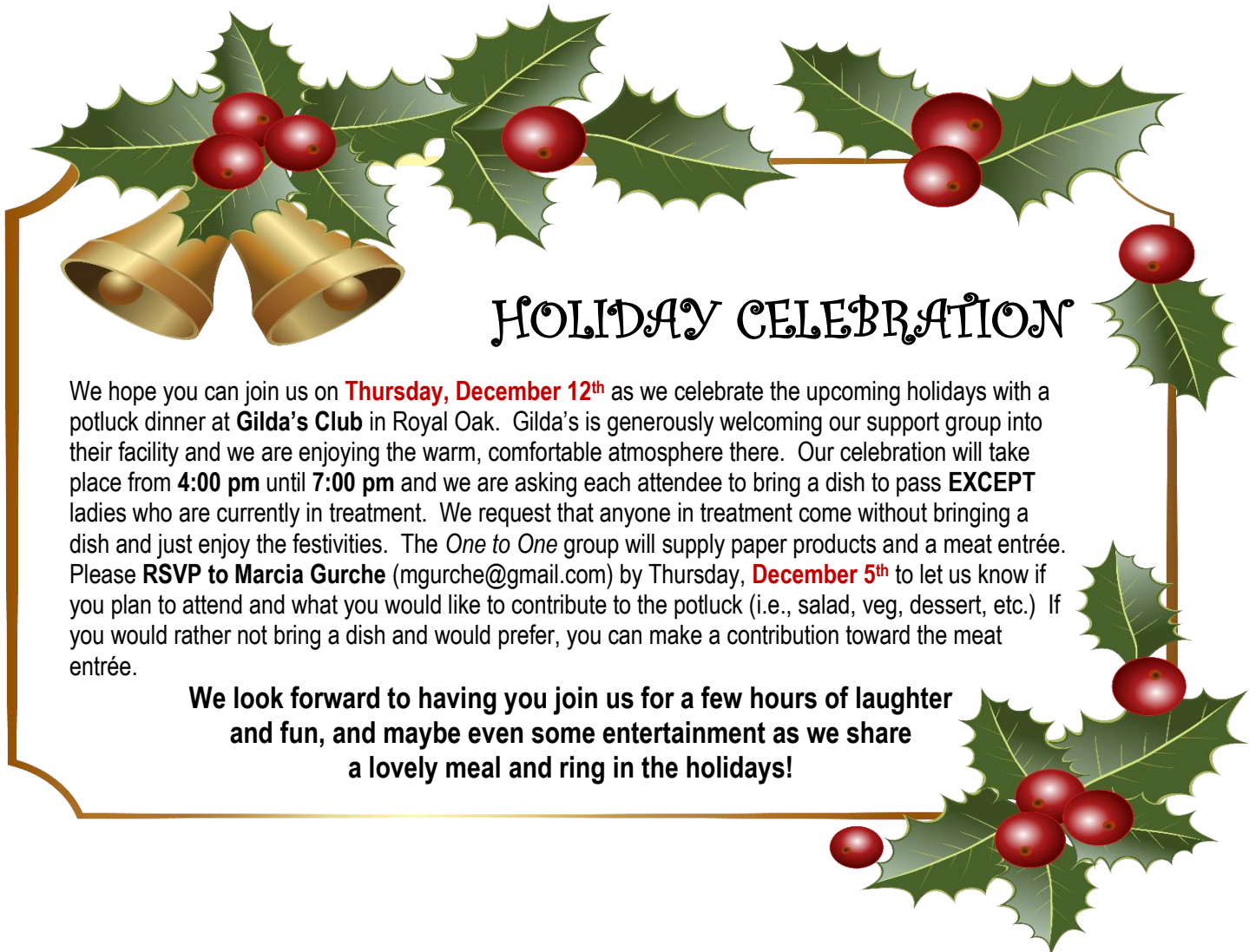


Recently, John and Sue visited Portugal and Spain. They thoroughly enjoyed their time away, however, their eleven-year-old, golden-lab mix, Bailey, was less than pleased with them for going away and leaving him for so long.

Two months before Sue retired from her teaching position, she had to have surgery to repair a tear in her rotator cuff and shortly after that, in July 2023 she was diagnosed with ovarian cancer. As with all ovarian cancer diagnoses, hers was unexpected and came just as she was preparing for a prophylactic oophorectomy and mastectomy after finding out that she carried the BRCA2 gene.

Sue likes to quilt and has made several quilts for family and friends. She has a dear friend who taught her how to do watercolor painting, which she also really enjoys. She has been in a book club with three friends for twenty years and yet she still finds time to indulge her passion for gardening.


Sue is involved in a community project called *Green Space on Prospect Street*. Basically, the supporters are attempting to save the plot of land at 297 Prospect Street which has always been a place of learning – first an early institute called Dickinson Institute in 1855, followed by the Romeo High School, then the Junior High School and finally the Middle School, which was removed in 2022. The supporters are promoting the creation of a public green space which advances health, wellness, and equity in the community, where kids can play and learn, and everyone can enjoy nature. With the goal of keeping the rich history of the site in mind, they hope to provide a space with amenities such as benches and picnic tables, that will invite people to spend time together. They plan to include an arboretum with a native tree canopy and shrub layer that augments the existing trees to create an attractive park setting. We wish Sue and her fellow supporters much luck in this worthy endeavor! 💜



HOLIDAY CELEBRATION

We hope you can join us on **Thursday, December 12th** as we celebrate the upcoming holidays with a potluck dinner at **Gilda's Club** in Royal Oak. Gilda's is generously welcoming our support group into their facility and we are enjoying the warm, comfortable atmosphere there. Our celebration will take place from **4:00 pm** until **7:00 pm** and we are asking each attendee to bring a dish to pass **EXCEPT** ladies who are currently in treatment. We request that anyone in treatment come without bringing a dish and just enjoy the festivities. The *One to One* group will supply paper products and a meat entrée. Please **RSVP to Marcia Gurche** (mgurche@gmail.com) by Thursday, **December 5th** to let us know if you plan to attend and what you would like to contribute to the potluck (i.e., salad, veg, dessert, etc.) If you would rather not bring a dish and would prefer, you can make a contribution toward the meat entrée.

We look forward to having you join us for a few hours of laughter and fun, and maybe even some entertainment as we share a lovely meal and ring in the holidays!

Do you Pray? 

I loved this interpretation of Prayer. What is a prayer? Prayer doesn't just happen when we kneel or put our hands together and focus and expect things from God. Thinking positive and wishing good for others is a prayer. When you hug a friend. That's a prayer. When you cook something to nourish family and friends. That's a prayer. When we send off our near and dear ones and say, 'drive safely' or 'be safe'. That's a prayer. When you are helping someone in need by giving your time and energy. You are praying. When you forgive someone by your heart. *That is prayer. Prayer is a vibration. A feeling. A thought. Prayer is the voice of love, friendship, genuine relationships. Prayer is an expression of your silent being. *Keep praying always*

On Being Seen


He saw a rock by the lake.

“A perfect rock!” he said.

“Nice,” she said.

He threw it.

Eons later, that was still the rock’s favorite day.



HAPPY SURVIVORSary
November

Barbara Solms	33 years!
Anita Dukich	16
Krystal Donovan	9
Jen Murakami	7
Jo Kwasny	6
Tina Roberts	6
Desiree Swiney	6
Mimi Gass	5

HAPPY SURVIVORSary
December

Marilyn Brozovic	28 years !
Lorraine Marsin	25
Marcia Gurche	24
Rose Newman	12
Louise Brown	10
Michelle Urbanczyk	10
Deb Claybaugh	9
Genevieve Riess	8
Eileen Shaughnessy	8
Jeanne Schaberg	6
Kathy Mills	4
Barb Clerebout	2
Lana Tapani	2



Group Meeting

Group meetings will be held at 4 pm on the 2nd Thursday of the month at

Gilda’s Club

3517 Rochester Rd.
Royal Oak, MI 48073
(located north of 13 Mile Rd.)

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NOTE: There will be NO meeting on Nov. 14

Our Holiday Dinner (Dec 12) takes the place of our regular monthly meeting

Next meeting: January 9, 2025

Newsletter information is presented in summary form, is general in nature and provided for informational purposes only. It is not intended in any way to be a substitute for professional medical advice, diagnosis or treatment.

This educational newsletter is supported through philanthropic donations to the *One to One* ovarian cancer support group through Corewell Health Foundation Southeast Michigan (formerly the Beaumont Health Foundation).

- Objectives of support group:**
- ✦ Provide a forum for ovarian cancer patients to address concerns;
 - ✦ Support each other through initial treatment phase, during potential recurrence, and with issues related to long term survival;
 - ✦ Establish core group of survivors willing to visit newly diagnosed patients;
 - ✦ Increase awareness of ovarian cancer, including its symptoms and risk factors, in the hope of achieving earlier detection and treatment.

