Celebrating NATIONAL CANCER SURVIVORS DAY® 2017
Coping® magazine is proud to be an ongoing national sponsor of National Cancer Survivors Day® (NCSD). This 30th annual Celebration of Life was held on Sunday, June 4, in hundreds of communities throughout the world. In cooperation with the National Cancer Survivors Day Foundation, Coping is pleased to provide you with exclusive coverage of NCSD 2017 on the pages that follow. Due to space limitations, photo submissions most representative of NCSD events have been chosen to appear in the magazine.

National Cancer Survivors Day® 2018 will be held on June 3, and now is the time to get involved! Visit ncisd.org or email info@ncsd.org for more information.

National Cancer Survivors Day® 2017 was made possible by

**ON THE COVER: Houston, TX** – Attendees “Sock it to Cancer” at Memorial Hermann Cancer Centers’ National Cancer Survivors Day® Sock Hop while showing off their 1950s-style dance moves to “Rock Around the Clock” (above). At the event, survivors’ names and length of survivorship were displayed on vinyl records. Nine-month cancer survivor Jewel Johnson showcases how long she’s been “rock’n it” as a survivor (below).

**ON THE COVER: Wheat Ridge, CO** – Thirty-one-year cancer survivor Suzi Jennings raises her arm in triumph (above) after finishing the Heroes of Hope 5K as part of the 10th annual Walk/Run and Survivors Celebration hosted by the Lutheran Medical Center Foundation and the Lutheran Medical Center and Cancer Centers of Colorado. Survivors and fellow cancer support group members celebrate their survivorship together while holding a National Cancer Survivors Day® banner (below).

**ON THE COVER: Sugar Land, TX** – Cancer survivor Beatrice Turner and her husband share a heartwarming moment (above) at the Hawaiian-themed “Survivors: Let’s Wipeout Cancer” 30th annual NCSD event hosted by Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. Volunteer and cancer survivor Linda Ruggieri receives high fives and applause as she’s named cancer service line volunteer of the year (below).
Portsmouth, OH – Cancer survivors and grandmother-granddaughter duo Patricia and Emma embrace life – and each other – in their tie-dyed t-shirts at King’s Daughters Medical Center Oncology and Health Foundation’s National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration.

Plano, TX – Lights, camera, action! Staff members rolled out the red carpet to make cancer survivors feel like stars during Texas Oncology – Plano West’s Cancer Survivor Week. Their festive week included therapeutic massages, therapy dogs, food, dress-up themes, and photo ops like this one.

Charleston, SC – Marybeth and therapy dog Fierce sport funky hats as they enjoy the festivities at Tri-County Cancer Survivors’ “Hats Off To Survivors” NCSD event.

Woburn, MA – At the 16th annual Winchester Hospital Cancer Survivors Day celebration, Dr. Kelley Cornell, surgeon and clinical medical director of the Breast Care Center at Winchester Hospital, plays the part of a French mime for their “Joie De Vivre – The Joy of Living” event.

Stony Brook, NY – Cancer survivor, The Little Couple star, and keynote speaker Dr. Jennifer Arnold (middle) proudly celebrates life with fellow survivors Mattia Terranova (left) and Carol Alt (right) as they lead Stony Brook University Cancer Center’s Parade of Survivors.

Orange Park, FL – Participants are mesmerized by the butterflies being released to honor cancer survivors at the 5K Fun Run & Walk hosted by Pink Ribbon Symposium.

Columbus, OH – Fearless American Pie Party founder Tony Sobony is covered in whipped cream from head to toe after getting hit with an astounding 604 whipped cream pies in 100 seconds at American Pie Party’s National Cancer Survivors Day® event.

Crown Point, IN – Cancer survivor Sharon Tillery paints a bright floral arrangement at the “Create and Celebrate with Us” Cancer Survivors Day Canvas Painting Party hosted by Burrell Cancer Center at Franciscan St. Anthony Health.

Syracuse, NY – During Upstate Cancer Center’s 21st annual National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration at Rosamond Gifford Zoo, cancer survivor Lori Grabowski takes a peek at the vibrant butterfly painted on her face.
Bel Air, MD – Cancer survivors get in the aloha spirit at the Hawaiian-themed Survivors Day celebration hosted by The Kaufman Cancer Center at the University of Maryland Upper Chesapeake Health.

Oklahoma City, OK – Grammy Award-winning vocalist Sherman Andrus sings, “Celebrate good times...come on!” to cap off INTEGRIS Cancer Institute’s NCSD event at the National Cowboy & Western Heritage Museum.

Elmont, NY – At the Belmont Stakes Run/Walk for Prostate Cancer presented by Integrated Medical Foundation, runners honor cancer survivors and kick-start the Belmont Stakes Racing Festival at Belmont Park.

Orlando, FL – Guests enjoy the festivities, including fun photo ops like this one, during the National Cancer Survivors Day® Picnic in the Park at Harry P. Leu Gardens.

Sunnyvale, CA – On a beautiful day at Baylands Park, NCSD guests play a friendly game of giant Jenga as part of Accuray’s Survivors Day picnic, which included a silent auction and plenty of lawn games.

Fort Wayne, IN – Pooch Auggie is ready for smooches at the Lapper and Survivors Day Celebration hosted by Cancer Services of Northeast Indiana.

Liverpool, NY – A cancer survivor shares an embrace with her doctor during the “Hope Grows Here” National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration hosted by the Hematology Oncology Associates of Central New York.

Quincy, IL – During Blessing Hospital and Cancer Center’s Survivors Day event, cancer survivors and supporters gather to form a cancer awareness ribbon on the lawn of the cancer center.

Commerce, MI – Survivor Jerry Laatsch and his wife dance as the blues band Spoonful performs at the Celebration of Life Picnic hosted by DMC Huron Valley/Sinai Hospital’s Charach Cancer Treatment Center.

Las Cruces, NM – Ukulele players and hula dancers entertain the crowd at Memorial Medical Cancer Center’s “Survivors ROCK” celebration.

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Columbus, OH – Celebrity chef judges taste delicious dishes during a cooking competition at the NCSD event hosted by Cancer Support Community Central Ohio.

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Houston, TX – Miss Houston 2015 Chyna Wheatley paints a survivorship tree at Houston Methodist West Hospital’s “Healing through Art” National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration.

Munster, IN – Dr. Robert Prock, a 27-year cancer survivor, and his daughter Calleigh “Savor the Sweet Life” at Franciscan Health Dyer & Hammond’s NCSD event, complete with a sundae bar and candy buffet.

Little Rock, AR – Cancer survivors and caregivers strike heroic poses at the “Superheroes of Cancer Survival” National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration hosted by the American Cancer Society, Leukemia & Lymphoma Society, Little Rock Blood Cancer Support Group, and local hospitals and cancer centers.

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Photo by Doug Dalton, Double D Photography

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Photo by Chris Schmauch, GoodEye Photography, Inc.

Photo by Doug Dalton, Double D Photography
Girard, OH – During Mercy Health Foundation Mahoning Valley’s Cancer Survivor Picnic, two-year cancer survivor Marie Harris gets in touch with her creative side as she paints a mosaic by number.

Kansas City, MO – Survivors Poppy Zurcher and Stella Karionis proudly celebrate survivorship at the Celebration of Life Rally hosted by the R.A. Bloch Cancer Foundation.

Toledo, OH – Dianne Barden, executive director of The Victory Center, gets in the game at The Victory Center’s Picnic in the Park, which included face painting, crafts, and an egg toss competition.

Pinehurst, NC – Survivors Ed and Darlene Reeves show off their “Kentucky Derby” hats at the Derby-themed NCSD event held at the Pinehurst Fair Barn and hosted by FirstHealth of the Carolinas.

Evansville, IN – Cancer Survivors, friends, and family have a ball at the Tri-State Survivors Day celebration hosted by Gilda’s Club Evansville, St. Vincent, Deaconess Health System, and American Senior Care.

Sacramento, CA – During UC Davis Health Comprehensive Cancer Center’s Survivors Day event, cancer survivor Taylor Hurst enjoys playing with a pet therapy dog.

Halifax, VA – Cancer survivor Vickie Cassada and a guest enjoy the festivities at the 1960s-themed Celebration of Life hosted by Halifax County Cancer Association.

Philadelphia, PA – Ray Capella, Tess Capella, oncology nurse navigator Terri Cannon, and Rose Capella cook up a “Recipe for Survivorship” at Nazareth Hospital’s National Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

Green Bay, WI – Beverly Roehrborn, a breast cancer survivor, is all smiles at the St. HSHS Vincent Hospital Cancer Centers “Celebrate Life with Attitude” Survivors Day event.

East Chicago, IN – Attendees practice tai chi during St. Catherine Hospital and Cancer Resource Centre’s “Therapy through Creativity and Movement” NCSD event.

Los Angeles, CA – Survivor and volunteer Judy Stark tells her survivorship story at the 27th annual Festival of Life hosted by Keck Medicine of USC, where the USC Trojan band entertained the crowd, and 100 doves were released.

Towson, MD – Stage IV oral cancer survivor and keynote speaker Eva Grayzel and survivor Bernadette Peterson share a warm embrace at the Cancer Survivorship Celebration hosted by Greater Baltimore Medical Center.

Anaheim, CA – Participants at Kaiser Permanente Orange County’s NCSD event explore booths showcasing community organizations, in addition to attending a nutritional education seminar and cancer survivor panel and participating in a Zumba workout.

Scottsdale, AZ – Participants gather inside the butterfly atrium at Butterfly Wonderland and excitedly celebrate life as they raise their arms high at the National Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by HonorHealth Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center.
Yeadon, PA – Chante and Yvonne enjoy the fun during the “Everybody’s Birthday Party” Cancerversary Celebration hosted by Sisters R Us Circle of Survivors and Little Caesar’s Pizza.

Amarillo, TX – Leukemia survivor Everett Ceniceros sports an “I’m a Survivor” shirt at the Survivor Send-Off for the 24 Hours in the Canyon bike ride, an NCSD event hosted by Harrington Cancer and Health Foundation.

Taneytown, MD – Participants groove to the DJ’s music at the National Cancer Survivors Day® event hosted by Carroll Hospital.

Lakewood Ranch, FL – A couple shares a heartwarming dance at the “Celebrate the Music of Life” National Cancer Survivors Day® event hosted by several local organizations and hospitals.

Eau Claire, WI – Wearing leis and Hawaiian shirts, Don and Kayleen Pedersen enjoy the festivities at the luau for HSHS Sacred Heart Hospital’s 23rd annual Celebration of Life.

Arcata, CA – Two young attendees pose for a photo with Crusty, the Humboldt Crabs’ mascot, as part of the Cancer Awareness Day hosted by St. Joseph Health: St. Joseph Hospital and Redwood Memorial.

San Juan, Puerto Rico – Oncology nurses Wanda Jimenez and Vanessa Diaz get silly at Veterans Affairs Caribbean Healthcare System’s National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration.

Anchorage, AK – During the “Thriving in Survivorship” NCSD celebration hosted by Alaska Medical Specialties, massage therapist Anna Hoffmann demonstrates how to use a racquet ball for self-massage.

Chicago, IL – Cancer survivors Janet Williams, Mary Wilkins, Jamela Ward, Abraham House-El, Tasha Holmes-Kimble, Sandra Buckhoy, and Camesha Holmes (pictured here with Pastor Ira Acree) are honored at Greater St. John Bible Church’s NCSD service.

Boca Raton, FL – Breast cancer survivor Cynthia Rilling and her daughter Andrea show off their painted tiles at the Survivors Day celebration hosted by Lynn Cancer Institute, where the tiles will be added to a “Wall of Hope.”

Decatur, GA – An NCSD attendee is all smiles while enjoying the festivities at the “Art of Survival” Cancer Survivors Block Party hosted by DeKalb Medical Cancer Center.

Wise, VA – Oncologist Dr. Sue Prill gets in touch with her Western side at Wellmont Cancer Institute’s “You Gave Cancer the Boot” NCSD event.

Auburn, NY – Nurse Courtney Gilmore shares a tender moment with a survivor at Hematology Oncology Associates of Central New York’s Survivors Day celebration.

Seaford, DE – Nurse Doreen Steely and Janice and Bruce Justice smile for the camera at Nanticoke Cancer Center’s Survivors Day event.

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Derby, CT – NCSD guests celebrate life at the Cancer Survivor & Caregiver Picnic Luncheon hosted by Griffin Hospital and Relay for Life of Naugatuck.
Laurinburg, NC – The staff at Scotland Cancer Treatment Center dressed the part for a fairytale-themed “Happily Never After” Mystery Dinner Theater for National Cancer Survivors Day®. As the production concluded, survivors voted who they believed the horrible villain among them was.

Los Angeles, CA – “Life, love, and endless possibilities.” A guest proudly displays what she’s celebrating at the National Cancer Survivors Day® event hosted by the Cancer Support Community Los Angeles.

Petaling Jaya, Malaysia – Participants at Keepable Cancer Community’s Cancer Survivors Day celebration join together for batik painting, a method of dyeing fabric with wax to make beautiful artwork.

Fairfield, CA – Cancer survivor Jamie Ramirez (on right) and her mom are delighted to take part in NorthBay Cancer Center’s 21st annual Celebration of Life.

Queens, NY – Young attendees show off their “Beat Cancer” bams bams during the We Run for Hope 5K and 10K Run/Walk in Flushing Meadows Park honoring cancer survivors and caregivers.

Raleigh, NC – During Lung Cancer Initiative North Carolina’s National Cancer Survivors Day® event, celebrants add their handprints to a tree of hope.

Los Angeles, CA – Shelley Ramsey, a breast cancer survivor, shares her survival story with the audience at the NCSD celebration hosted by Kaiser Permanente West Los Angeles Medical Center.

New Brunswick, NJ – Breast cancer survivors Diana Boardman and Kriss Fierro share a hug with Eddie Vargas at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey’s Cancer Survivors Day Luncheon.

Cooperstown, NY – Cancer survivors John Parks Sr. and Wanetta Daniels enjoy the festivities at Bassett Cancer Institute’s Survivors Day celebration, where a balloon artist made colorful creations for those in attendance.

Henderson, KY – Nurses Melissa and Terry show their style at the NCSD Derby Party hosted by Methodist Hospital, Methodist Hospital Hematology and Oncology, Field & Main Bank, and Weaver, Dalton & Associates.

Albany, NY – Attendees rock their tuxedo t-shirts at the Red Carpet Affair Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by St. Peter’s Hospital Cancer Care Center and St. Peter’s Health Partners Medical Associates.

Lubbock, TX – Cancer survivors at the Lubbock Outpatient Clinic Veterans Affairs reveal what they’re celebrating on National Cancer Survivors Day®.
Annapolis, MD – NASA astronaut, keynote speaker, and cancer survivor Dr. Don Thomas poses for a photo with Madeleine Binner, Bobbie Burnett, Bonnie Bresnahan (director of DeCesaris Cancer Institute), Dr. Barry Meisenberg (medical director of DeCesaris Cancer Institute), and nurse Cathy Copertino during the “Overcoming Obstacles and Reaching for the Stars” National Cancer Survivors Day® celebration hosted by DeCesaris Cancer Institute at Anne Arundel Medical Center.

Hastings on Hudson, NY – Cancer survivor Nancy Rodriguez Lewis and her friends celebrate National Cancer Survivors Day® with Ladies Do Brunch.

Abuja, Nigeria – Participants join in prayer and giving thanks at the Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by Project Pink Blue’s Abuja Breast Cancer Support Group.

Rome, GA – A man in a Scottish kilt plays the bagpipes during a walk and daisy drop in honor of cancer survivors at the Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by Cancer Navigators.

Macon, GA – Celebrants smile for the camera at the Butterfly Release for Cancer Survivors hosted by Coliseum Medical Centers.

Penang, Malaysia – Celebrants get rowdy at the “Survivors Rock” Mount Miriam Cancer Hospital Cancer Survivors Day celebration hosted by and held at Hard Rock Café.

Chicago, IL – Cancer survivors at the 24th annual Cancer Survivors Celebration Walk & 5K hosted by the Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University don purple shirts and big smiles as they enjoy the beautiful day celebrating life at Grant Park.

Rochester, MN – A 50-plus-year cancer survivor smiles as she’s honored at the Celebration of Life hosted by the Mayo Clinic Cancer Education Program, American Cancer Society, and Andre Gauthier Foundation.


Miami, FL – A staff member and furry friend take advantage of a photo op during the University of Miami Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center’s National Cancer Survivors Day® Week events.

Greenville, SC – During the seventh-inning stretch, Greenville Drive players honor survivors and “Stand Up to Cancer” at the “Drive to Thrive” baseball game as part of the 27th annual Cancer Survivors Day celebration hosted by Cancer Survivors Park Alliance.
Torrance, CA – Participants gather together to show off their flowers at Torrance Memorial Hospital’s Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

Concordville, PA – Harpist Elyse Kistler entertains the crowd during the “A Night of Inspiration” NCSD event hosted by Riddle Memorial Hospital.

Bloomington, IN – Participants enjoy the festivities at “A Celebration for Cancer Survivors” hosted by Indiana University Health Bloomington and Olcott Center, Bloomington Hospital Foundation, and Oliver Winery.

Woodbury, NY – Dr. Johnny Kao and nurse Bonnie Edsall, of Good Samaritan Hospital Medical Center, accept a donation from West Islip Breast Cancer Coalition president Margaret Campise, in honor of NCSD.

Oshkosh, WI – Lily, Jacob, Seth, and Jessica O’Mally celebrate Jacob being in remission on National Cancer Survivors Day®.

Rochester, NY – Childhood cancer survivors in matching t-shirts at CURE Childhood Cancer Association’s NCSD celebration.

Salisbury, CT – Sharon Hospital’s Sandy Glickman speaks to the crowd at Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association’s Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

Rexford, NY – Guests smile for the camera at the “Follow the Yellow Brick Road to Survivorship” NCSD event hosted by New York Oncology Hematology, complete with Wizard of Oz-themed decorations and games.

New Delhi, India – Cancer survivors join together for a photo at the “National Cancer Survivors Meet” hosted by radiation oncologist Dr. Manish Pandey and Metro Hospital and Cancer Institute.

Homewood, IL – Attendees take a moment to capture a memory at the Cancer Survivor Block Party hosted by Cancer Support Center.

St. Louis, MO – Cancer survivor Diane Huddleston shows off her official NCSD merchandise and reveals what she is celebrating on National Cancer Survivors Day®.