Coping® magazine is proud to be an ongoing national sponsor of National Cancer Survivors Day® (NCSD). This 29th annual Celebration of Life was held on Sunday, June 5, 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 2016 on the pages that follow. Due to space limitations, photo submissions most representative of NCSD events have been chosen to appear in the magazine. More event photos can be found online at copingmag.com.

National Cancer Survivors Day® 2017 will be held on June 4, and now is the time to get involved! Visit ncsd.org or e-mail info@ncsd.org for more information.

National Cancer Survivors Day® 2016 is supported by Genentech, Raquel Welch® Signature Wig Collection, Teva Oncology, and

ON THE COVER: Louisville, KY – And they’re off! Survivor Dana Atcher and husband Jason spend the day at Churchill Downs cheering on the horses to win at the 5th annual Survivor Celebration hosted by Norton Cancer Institute.

ON THE COVER: Chicago, IL – Celebrants embrace life with blue skies and warm breezes at Chicago’s Grant Park. More than 4,000 cancer survivors and supporters joined together to celebrate the 23rd annual Cancer Survivors’ Celebration Walk & 5K hosted by Robert H. Lurie Comprehensive Cancer Center of Northwestern University.


Glen Burnie, MD – Aloha! A guest is welcome by doggy kisses at the Survivors Day Celebration hosted by University of Maryland Baltimore Washington Medical Center.

Westlake Village, CA – At Cancer Support Community Valley/Ventura/Santa Barbara’s 4th annual Butterfly Release, program director Jody Tompkins enjoys the beauty of the monarch butterflies.
Evansville, IN – Cancer survivor Van Haas, as Jasper the Clown, has fun in front of the “Hands of Hope” wall at Deaconess Cancer Services and Vantage Oncology Cancer Survivor Celebration: A Day at the Museum event.

Wheat Ridge, CO – Survivor Jeri and hospital staff joyously cross the finish line at the 9th Annual Leaves of Hope Walk/Run and Survivor Celebration hosted by Lutheran Medical Foundation and Lutheran Medical Cancer Centers of Colorado.

Jackson, MS – Stephanie Harris adds her handprint onto a colorful poster as Alison Smith looks on at Baptist Cancer Services’ NCSD celebration.

New Brunswick, NJ – Barbara Hale gives a warm embrace to 22-year non-Hodgkin lymphoma survivor, Munson McLeod at Rutgers Cancer Institute of New Jersey’s luncheon where attendees heard “The Real Housewives of New Jersey” television star and breast cancer survivor Amber Marchese’s inspirational talk.

Wise, VA – Sandra Franklin, Eloise Lawson, Denise Maggard, Karla Lane, and Bonnie Aker show their aloha spirit while performing the hula at the luau-themed NCSD event hosted by Southwest Virginia Cancer Center.

Toledo, OH – Tracey Belehsen proudly celebrates her breast cancer survivorship at the “Picnic in the Park” National Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by The Victory Center.

Baltimore, MD – Members of Huber Memorial Church’s Unity Ensemble Choir perform with smiles and rhythm at Mercy Medical Center’s NCSD celebration.

Plano, TX – “Turn your wounds into wisdom. Leave a message on a stone reminding others cancer is merely a stepping stone in the road,” reads the inspirational sign on a garden-themed display at Texas Oncology’s weeklong Cancer Survivor Week event. During the week, cancer center visitors wrote messages of encouragement on hundreds of stones and left them in a colorful “Garden of Hope” display to remind survivors to never give up fighting. Throughout the week, visitors to the center could win gift baskets, receive giveaways and treats, and participate in activities such as massages, henna tattoos, and creating real flower crowns.
Avon, IN – Guests model fun accessories while enjoying the festivities at the Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by Hendricks Regional Health.

Brighton, MI – Survivors Ken Richards and Alicia Petrucci plant flowers at St. Joseph Mercy Brighton Cancer Center’s “Growing Hope” event.

Salem, OR – Celebrants come together in dance and support at the Salem Cancer Institute’s National Cancer Survivors Day event.

Weburn, MA – Lights. Camera, Action! Survivor, Linda Teller gets in the “Red Carpet Celebration” spirit at Winchester Hospital’s 15th Annual Cancer Survivors Day.

Cooperstown, NY – Pancreatic cancer survivor and Grammy nominated vocal performer Sharon Jones shares thoughts of inspiration with guests during a luncheon hosted by Basset Medical Center Cancer Institute.

Beachwood, OH – Survivor Laurie Merges and supporters make their way to the finish line in Race for the Place presented by University Hospitals Seidman Cancer Center to benefit The Gathering Place.

Liverpool, NY – Massage therapist melts away guests’ stress and tension at Hematology Oncology Associates’ “Hope Grows Here” NCSD celebration.

Munster, IN – David Roldan entertains the lunch crowd at the “Healing through Music and Touch” celebration hosted by Cancer Resource Centre in Munster and St. Catherine Hospital in East Chicago.

Sheboygan, WI – Breast cancer survivor Beverly Leonard is delighted to attend the “Celebrate Life: with Laughter” event sponsored by HSHS St. Nicholas Hospital.

Portland, OR – Ten-year-old Chrystalyn Sisayaket has her face painted by endometrial cancer survivor June Lizotte at Destiny Christian Fellowship’s National Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

Petaling Jaya, Malaysia – Attendees plant ginger flowers at the Keepable Cancer Community’s NCSD event, which also included a Qigong and colorful popiah-cooking session.

Fort Worth, TX – Survivors pause for a photo op in front of the survivors vs. cancer scoreboard at the “A League of Our Own” event hosted by Cancer Care Services.

Jeddah, Saudi Arabia – Cancer survivors and healthcare staff join hands for a cheerful group photo at the NCSD event hosted by King Faisal Specialist Hospital & Research Centre – Jeddah Branch.
Milwaukee, WI – Cancer survivor and Food for Life instructor Amberlea Childs shares her knowledge on healthy eating with the audience at Southeastern Wisconsin Oncology Nursing Society’s Survivors Day Celebration.

Fort Walton Beach, FL – At Fort Walton Beach Medical Center’s “Joined Hands in the Fight Against Cancer” event, a survivor and her caregiver create handprints for American Cancer Society’s quilt.

Mumbai, India – Young cancer survivors get in the spirit of the day by performing a folk dance of Gujarati-Dandiya in an event hosted by UGAM, the Indian Cancer Society’s childhood cancer support group.

Syracuse, NY – Brain tumor survivor Brianna Belair, age 12, and her family are mesmerized by sea urchins at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo where Upstate Cancer Center held its NCSD event.

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Homewood, IL – Attendees dance the day away at Cancer Support Center’s “Annual Survivors Block Party” that included live music, survivor speakers, and family-friendly activities.

Henderson, KY – Blaze Littrell, age six, keeps the crowd amused with his Elvis-like moves at the “I Can-Cer Vive” event hosted by Methodist Hospital Surgical, Oncology & Infusion Unit.

Kansas City, MO – A cancer survivor and his family celebrate 5½ years of survivorship at the 31st annual Celebration of Life Rally presented by R.A. Bloch Cancer Foundation.

Los Angeles, CA – Bill Kavanagh and Carlos Castellanos, members of Cancer Support Community – Benjamin Center, show off their groovy side at the National Cancer Survivors Day “Disco Party.”

Oklahoma City, OK – Reverend Nick Mezacapa entertains the audience with his harmonica and motivating message at the Cancer Survivors Day Celebration of Life hosted by INTEGRIS Cancer Institute.

Crown Point, IN – During the Cancer Survivors Day Canvas Painting Party hosted by Burrell Cancer Center, survivor Kerrie Panagiotidis gets in touch with her creative side as she paints a tropical island seascape.

Seattle, WA – A Honu World of Hula led fun hula-dancing lessons for survivors and staff members at the “Living Well – Celebrate with Aloha” National Cancer Survivors Day event hosted by Swedish Cancer Institute. Attendees also enjoyed ukulele music and healthy fruit smoothies.

Middletown, NY – Participants at Orange Regional Medical Center excitedly celebrate life as they raise their arms high at the National Cancer Survivors Day picnic with delicious food for survivors, staff, and loved ones. The event also featured a mini health fair and music.

Athens, GA – Rosa Willis proudly celebrates 66 years of survivorship with her daughter Sandra Hope at the first Golden Girls of Athens NCSD event.

Lewiston, ME – Artist Julie Breau created an illustration of a tree where participants pin a ribbon of their choice for the “It Takes a Village” event at Patrick Dempsey Center for Cancer Hope & Healing.

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Canaan, CT – Carolyn DeDomenico, Donna Di Martino, and Juliet Moore are all smiles as they proudly celebrate life at the NCSD event hosted by Salisbury Visiting Nurse Association.

Fairfield, CA – Vacaville police volunteer and breast cancer survivor Johanna Hoagland stands next to a retired Vacaville Police Department “Pink Heels” patrol car named in her honor, while a NorthBay staff member adds his signature along with cancer survivors and family members at NorthBay Cancer Center’s event.

Boca Raton, FL – Enthusiastic runners gather as the 5th annual Run for the Ribbons kicks off the “Cancer, Life Interrupted. Survivorship, Life Reclaimed” National Cancer Survivors Day celebration presented by Boca Raton Regional Hospital’s Eugene M. and Christine E. Lynn Cancer Institute.
Pinehurst, NC – Staff members joined survivors at FirstHealth Cancer Care’s “FirstHealth Moore Regional Hospital Cancer Survivors Day” event and reminded the survivors with their costumed fun that they are not in the fight alone.

Fort Lauderdale, FL – Venchies Simpson decorates her “Gratitude Tree” project during the National Cancer Survivors Day luncheon hosted by Broward Health Medical Center.

Rochester, NY – Young survivors, staff, and their families stand together with excitement at the Annual Survivors Day Picnic hosted by CURE Childhood Cancer Association. The event included mascots and games.

Flint, MI – Artist and cancer survivor Martina Hahn closed her inspiring talk with a 15-minute speed painting exercise at the McLaren Cancer Survivor Celebration hosted by Karmanos Cancer Institute.

Frederick, MD – Cancer survivor April Paul and her family smile for the camera before watching the Frederick Keys baseball team at Carroll Hospital’s 5th Annual National Cancer Survivors Day celebration.

Greenville, SC – John Boyle is greeted by the Greenville Drive mascot Reedy Rip’It during the Us TOO Prostate Cancer Education and Support Network Survivors Day event.

Stony Brook, NY – Brain cancer survivor and Stupid Cancer CEO Matthew Zachary engages the crowd with his message at Stony Brook University Cancer Center’s National Cancer Survivors Day.

Ayrshire, Scotland – Spirited participants of “Steps for Jo’s” fun run are pretty in pink at Jo’s Cervical Cancer Trust NCSD event.

Michigan City, IN – Before taking flight, a butterfly perches on the finger of Sara Hockney at the Hawaiian luau-themed event at Woodland Cancer Care Center of Franciscan St. Anthony Health – Michigan City.

East Stroudsburg, PA – David Tipka, a seven-year survivor of lung cancer, shares a moment of gratefulness with his wife Lee and staff Sandy Gentile and Juliet Singh at Pocono Medical Center’s Celebration of Life.

Durgapur, India – Dancers captivate the crowd with a traditional dance at the NCSD celebration hosted by Durgapur Cancer Foundation.

Scottsdale, AZ – Survivors, family, friends, staff, volunteers, and even therapy dogs gather for a group photo at the “Survivorship For The Journey” celebration hosted by Virginia G. Piper Cancer Center.