

# SUMMER SOULSTICE

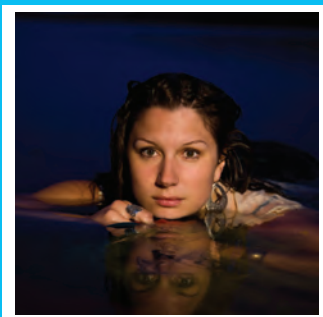
“The Spirit of Friendship” Fundraiser

for the  
*Birchall-Ellis*

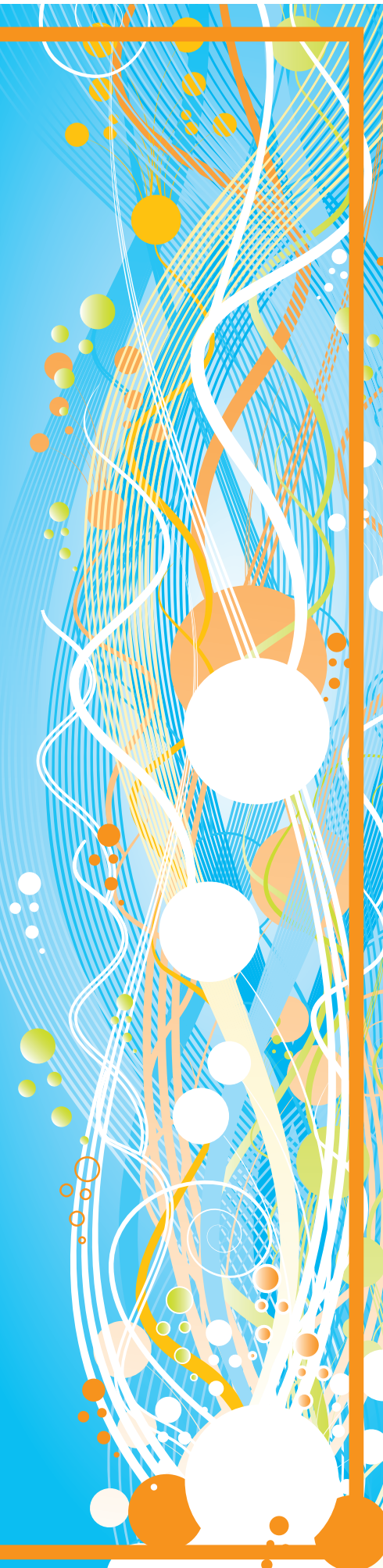
**Bursary for Excellence in Oncology**

**JUNE 18, 2011**

- WHERE:** The Ellis Ranch  
(14.5 km north on Box Springs Road,  
7 km East on TWP Rd. #144)
- CONTACT:** Tami Ellis at [tamiellis@xplornet.com](mailto:tamiellis@xplornet.com)  
(403-528-7723)
- NOTES:**
- 5:00 p.m.: Cocktails (Cash Bar)
  - 6:00 p.m.: Supper
  - 7:30 p.m.: Auction and 50/50 draw
  - 8:30 p.m.: Party with Kim Wempe  
(East Coast Rising Star of the Year) & Friends
- COST:** \$50 (with charitable donation tax receipts  
from the University of Calgary)
- ONLINE LINK:** <https://netcommunity.ucalgary.ca/birchall-ellis>



**Party with Kim Wempe**  
(East Coast Rising Star of the Year)  
**& Friends!**



# The *Birchall-Ellis*

## Bursary for Excellence in Oncology

Dear friends:

On Saturday, June 18th, I'm facilitating a gathering to stimulate a fundraiser for cancer. One of my dearest friends, Jenn Birchall, from Calgary, is fighting Stage 4 breast cancer that has spread very aggressively to her liver, lung, bones, and brain.

Jenn is my true kindred spirit in life. We solidified the beginning of a long and fulfilling friendship, based on the fact that both of us lost our very young mothers to lung and brain cancer when we were 12 years of age.

My mom lost her life at the age of 33, and Jenn's mom was diagnosed with brain cancer when Jenn was only 10 days old. Jenn's mom fought hard to preserve her life for the next 12 years, and passed away at 41 years of age.

Imagine a life without cancer.

Friends and Family, in advance, we thank you so very much. The importance of this fundraiser is sitting deep within our hearts.

It is our hope that our collective spirits will uplift and celebrate the

true meaning of friendship, and that we, together, will contribute directly to "life without cancer."

Jenn and I are hoping that a student or students will be deeply moved by our story and will connect and stay inspired to practice Oncology.

Together, we can contribute to deserving students out there, demonstrating academic merit and financial need. Thank you so much for your support!

- *Tami*

Dear friends:

It's hard to believe that it's been 18 months since my diagnosis with Stage 4 breast cancer.

As well as extraordinary support from family and friends, Pat and I have said many times that we "won the Oncology Lottery." The treatment I have received at the Tom Baker Cancer Centre has been second-to-none, from the Medical (Chemotherapy), Surgical, and Radiological Oncologists to the nurses, technicians, and many volunteers. The care, compassion, and even friendship these dedicated professionals have shown us have been truly remarkable.

Of course, throughout my treatment, I have drawn much of my inspiration from my mom and the other members of my family that have also had - and beat! - cancer: my dad (colon), grandma (ovarian), uncle (throat), and sister-in-law (breast).

I have to tell you that cancer is, in a word, humbling. Things that once seemed certain are suddenly uncertain. That sense of independence that was once taken for granted can no longer be relied upon. The waiting seems, at times, interminable. And a sense of frustration at one's inability to really

"do" anything is always just under the surface.

So I was excited when Tami approached me with the idea to create a bursary that will ensure advancements in the study of oncology continue and that future cancer patients will have the opportunity to receive the excellent standard of care that I have been fortunate enough to receive.

Where life presents the biggest challenges, it also presents the biggest opportunities. Thank you for helping to make significant strides toward achieving a cancer-free future.

- *Jenn*

**Our goal is to establish the Birchall-Ellis Bursary for Excellence in Oncology by raising \$20,000.**

**Rather than holding an annual fundraiser, this one-time effort will establish the endowment to allow a yearly bursary to be awarded in perpetuity.**

**The bursary will be awarded annually to a University of Calgary student specializing in Oncology (as a nurse or a doctor), who demonstrates both academic standing and financial need.**

**ALL DONATIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE AND CAN BE MADE ON-LINE AT:  
<https://netcommunity.ucalgary.ca/birchall-ellis>**



Please see over