

# Support group hosts Breast Cancer Survivor Center rep

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By ELANE JONES, Daily Mountain Eagle

The Breast Cancer Support Group of Walker County is inviting all breast cancer survivors and their co-survivors (family and friends who care for them) to their monthly meeting being held today at 1:30 p.m. at the Carl Elliott Library in Jasper. A representative from the new FORGE Breast Cancer Survivor Center in Birmingham will be the guest speaker.

”We’re inviting all survivors, whether you’ve been recently diagnosed or you’re in remission, and their caregivers,” said Gretel Holston, a member of the local breast cancer survivor support group. “This will be a very important and informative meeting, and we wanted to be sure we get the word out to all the breast cancer survivors in our county, women and men.”

Holston said according to FORGE there were an estimated 3 million breast cancer survivors in the United States, and an estimated 100 currently reside in Walker County.

”Breast cancer survivors face many challenges as a result of their diagnosis and treatment and the new FORGE Center is there to help,” said Holston, who is a breast cancer survivor. “FORGE assist survivors and co-survivors in taking an active role in their fight against breast cancer by offering support and providing resources as needed.”

The FORGE Breast Cancer Survivor Center is a holistic, patient centered, community based, breast cancer survivorship center, that is a partnership between the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, Brookwood Baptist Health, Grandview Medical Center, St. Vincent’s Health System, UAB Medicine and the UAB School of Nursing.

Forge was established in 2016 and is located at One Medical Park East Drive in Birmingham. It serves breast cancer survivors and co-survivors treated at one of the partnered health systems or living in Blount, Jefferson, Shelby, St. Claire and Walker counties.

Support for the Forge Breast Cancer Survivor Center comes from the Women’s Breast Health Fund of the Community Foundation of Greater Birmingham, and its collaborating partners as part of an effort to improve the quality of life for breast cancer survivors and their loved ones.

For more information about the Forge Breast Cancer Survivor Center you can visit the center’s website at [www.forgeon.org](http://www.forgeon.org). or call 205-838-6159. Those interested in attending today’s meeting are asked to contact BCSSG member, Jan Price, at 205-221-2334 or 205-275-0838.