Cancer patients get together for support

CANCER Council NT cancer support nurse Chelsey Dunne will be facilitating a get-together for cancer patients in Katherine on Tuesday April 30, from 5.30pm to 7pm at Willem Westra van Holthe’s office on Katherine Terrace.

Ms Dunne said an increasing number of Katherine residents were being treated for cancer with many travelling to Darwin on a regular basis to receive treatment at the Alan Walker Cancer Care Centre.

“This informal meeting will provide an opportunity for all cancer patients, male and female, as well as family and friends to come together to share information and support in a confidential environment,” Ms Dunne said.

The cancer support group aims to:

• help people to connect with others who have been through a similar cancer journey.
• provide a forum to discuss cancer diagnosis and treatment.
• increase knowledge about cancer – share experiences and exchange information.
• help people learn to live with cancer.
• help people enjoy life after cancer.

Cancer Council NT’s Katherine representative Tanush Bangay said the meeting would be an “excellent opportunity” for people affected by cancer to discuss their problems and receive the best support and information available.

A KATHERINE businessman is preparing to open a new restaurant in Katherine after purchasing the old River Lodge complex on Giles Street.

New owner Phil Jazyschyn said the bar and restaurant area are currently undergoing a major overhaul, to turn the old Katherine River Lodge into a new location for “casual fine dining” and cafe-style lunches.

“From seafood to steak and home made dessert - you’ll find a lot of great Australian dishes with a twist of Asian cuisine on our menu,” he said.

Mr Jazyschyn, who bought the River Lodge in January said he was planning to open the restaurant in June.

It will employ about ten local staff and chef Michael Junnio, the former head chef at Parap’s famous Bogart’s Bar and Grill restaurant in Darwin.

Mr Jazyschyn said he is excited about providing Katherinites and travellers a new opportunity to have a tasty meal. However, he still doesn’t have a name for the new restaurant and he is hoping the Katherine community can come up with a great idea.

“We can’t call it Fat Phil’s,” he said, laughing.

New alfresco restaurant needs name

KATHERINES enjoyed clowning around last week, when the Commonwealth Bank organised a fundraiser to bring the Clown Doctors to town.

Bank staff embraced their inner clowns by dressing up for the cause that will help young hospital patients to be treated to a dose of fun and laughter.

Katherine Commonwealth Bank branch manager Sofia Kosmatos said the team would go the extra mile for the cause.

“We’re passionate about supporting the work the Clown Doctors do in hospitals around the country, bringing laughter and joy to sick and injured children and their families,” she said.

“We hope the local community get behind this great cause by making a donation.”

Donations to Clown Doctors can be made at the Katherine Commonwealth Bank branch throughout April or online at commbank.com.au/clowndocs.

Doctor Peter Spitzer, Co-Founder of the Humour Foundation, which runs the Clown Doctors program, said research has shown that “laughter can provide a variety of health benefits such as reduction in pain, fear and stress as well as muscle relaxation and positive impact on the immune system”.

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