Concert to aid cancer patient

Friends rally around Springfield woman who is battling metastatic melanoma

By Stephen Herzog
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Meganne Rosen O’Neal got a call in October from her good friend and blog co-writer that was a little unnerving.

The friend, Lanie Brewster, reminded her of some discussions they’d had about Lanie’s health, and called to say she was planning something big for their shared blog “Blonds in Boots.”

“The night before the first post, she called to warn me,” Rosen O’Neal said.

What followed was a two-part story about Brewster’s recent hospital experiences.

She had 20 tumors, and was later diagnosed with metastatic melanoma, a form of skin cancer.

Over the past eight months, Brewster has had regular hospital trips, aggressive chemotherapy and mounting medical bills.

But she had something else, too: an abundance of friends.

A benefit concert for Brewster is set for Saturday at Patton Alley Pub.

Already, nearly 300 Facebook users have marked they plan to attend — thousands more have been invited.

“Lanie is the kind of person that builds very strong relationships,” Rosen O’Neal said.

“She’s a great friend, but she also builds great relationships with her work community and her volunteer community.”

The concert will feature 11 bands, including headliner METASTATIC MELANOMA

Metastatic melanoma is also known as Stage IV melanoma. It’s the general term for the spreading of melanoma into the lymph nodes or other parts of the body. Most often the liver, lungs and brain become affected. There is typically a less than 20 percent survival rate with Stage IV melanoma.

Source: Melanoma Research Foundation

Someone Still Loves You Boris Yeltsin.

Every band includes at least one personal friend of Brewster.

“No one we asked said no,” Rosen O’Neal said.

“When people found out about it they wanted to help, so we actually had to add bands.”

One musician who jumped at the chance to help was Nathaniel Carroll.

He’d met Brewster years before when they both worked at the Moxie Cinema, at its original location on Walnut Street.

“She was a really friendly, helpful person,” he said.

“Everyone loves her.”

They bonded over movies and music and became good friends. After his son was born, Brewster...
A Concert for Lanie
A Fight Against Cancer
11 Bands
Lanie

We love you

Brewster

Someone still loves you Boris Yeltsin

Dragon Inn 3, The Wrath of Cannes, Plaid Dragon

Ryan Spilken and the Beloved Villains, Houston Hands

Bella Donna, Nathaniel Carroll, Mackenzie Moore

Sister Shakedown, Brother Wiley

A benefit to fight cancer

Saturday June 8th 2013

Patterson Alley Pub

7:30 PM, Free show

Donations suggested, with proceeds going to Lanie.
I HAVE CANCER. AGAIN.

October 12, 2012 by Girl Number 2

For the last fourteen years, I’ve been bringing up my history with cancer nonchalantly at places like parties and in line at the store.

“Oh, I can’t donate plasma for cash...you know, I’ve had cancer.”

“I see you’re buying SPF 15...yeahhh, I’m more of a 45+ girl.” **cough** “Cancer.”

I was a cancer survivor after having a simple surgery and lymph node biopsy. I got to wear the t-shirt and sleep soundly at night knowing I was lucky to catch my melanoma early enough to walk away with just a bad-ass scar on my back.