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# { Lily Upp and her mom, Sue Upp: help while battling cancer }

November 17, 2007

BY PATRICIA MONTEMURRI

>> Lily, 10, of Berkley was diagnosed with osteosarcoma bone cancer last Christmas. Doctors removed the upper bone of her left arm and replaced it with cadaver bone. Now a fifth-grader at Berkley's Rogers Elementary, Lily underwent aggressive chemotherapy that ended last month.

**Special blessings:** People helped without being asked. At Rogers Elementary, parents Conny Coon and Eileen Dooley ordered thousands of green wristbands, inscribed with "Live It Upp for Lily" that sold for \$2 and helped with expenses. School friends held bake sales.

**What they are thankful for:** Lily: "Having family and friends and a lot of good nurses at the hospital."

"It's a cliché to say family and friends, but you really get it (in) ... a situation like this," Sue says. "It becomes so powerful and where so much support comes from -- the prayer and the people coming out of the woodwork."

**How they show thanks:** Invitations designed by Lily are going to friends and family for a thank-you party Nov. 30. It's also a fund-raiser for Camp Casey, a camp for kids with cancer. **Favorite Thanksgiving dish:** Turkey with cranberries for Sue, 48. Mashed potatoes for Lily.

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• A green wristband to support Lily is \$2 at Leon & Lulu, 96 W. Fourteen Mile, Clawson.

Patricia is a Twist writer. You can talk to her at 313.223.4538 or [pmontemurri@freepress.com](mailto:pmontemurri@freepress.com).

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