

Not Just For Women Anymore . . .

Jennifer Wilday
8 Wren Street
Amsterdam, NY 12010
518-495-5580

Letter to The Editor:

October 6, 2008

As many of you know, October is breast cancer awareness month. I'm sure some people are saying, "There's already been a letter about that in the paper". I'm here to tell you why it is so important that you read those letters. On October 1st, perhaps by coincidence, I had an eye-opening experience that I wanted to share.

I am second year student in the Radiologic Technology Program at FMCC. I am doing my clinical work at a local hospital. Just yesterday, within my 8 hours at the hospital, I had the opportunity to meet, not one, but 2 MEN that have recently been diagnosed with breast cancer. The fellows were in different stages of discovery/treatment, and were open and honest about their experiences. The most profound statement made by both men was, "I never knew men could get breast cancer".

As part of a project for school, my classmates and I are writing a research paper on Breast Cancer Awareness. Through my recent research, I have learned that not only will 1 in every 8 women you meet be inflicted with breast cancer, but over 2000 men per year will also be diagnosed and treated. Of those men and women, one quarter still tragically end up in death.

I am sending this message out today to increase your awareness - anyone can get cancer, anyone can get help. If you would like information on how you can receive free breast, cervical and/or colorectal screenings (breast exams are offered for men), and if you are uninsured or underinsured, please contact Suzanne E. Hagadorn, Program Coordinator of the Cancer Services Program Partnership of Fulton and Montgomery Counties, 427 Guy Park Avenue, Amsterdam, NY 12010, (518) 770-7516 or hagadorns@smha.org

Submitted by Jennifer L Wilday
FMCC Rad Tech Student