



Kate Clarke & Kendra Olvaney



Cara Novy-Bennewitz

breast cancer awareness

A calling for three North Shore women

BY LAURA TIEBERT

“YOU CAN’T SLING A DEAD POSSUM in any room full of people and not hit someone who was touched by breast cancer,” says **Peach Carr** of Lake Forest, a fashion designer who gained fame in 2010 on “Project Runway.”

Fashion Fights Cancer

“I used to make and decorate a jean jacket for each of my kids’ teachers each year,” says Carr. “My dearest friend Beth, who was my daughter’s third grade teacher, wore the jacket every day of her life. When she died of breast cancer, the jacket was at her memorial. I carried the jacket into the workroom on Project Runway. It’s been to Italy with me. I call it ‘bringing Beth.’”

Each year, Carr designs a special print for her tennis skirts

and tank dresses and donates 25 percent of the profits to Chicago-based **Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation**—you can buy them at *peachcardesigns.com* or at **My Best Friends’ Closet** in Highland Park.

Guidebook for Patients

Cara Novy-Bennewitz of Wilmette says she struggled to make sense of the materials provided as she went through treatment.

“I remember the day I thought I was dying during chemo. Well, I had just missed the page where they said you could get constipated,” she says.

As an educator by profession, Bennewitz used her skills to create a guidebook, which she describes as “a kind of

Cliffs Notes or ‘What to Expect When You’re Expecting’ for someone diagnosed with breast cancer.”

“Diagnosis: Breast Cancer, The Best Action Plan for Navigating Your Journey,” can be purchased on *amazon.com*, *burnesandnoble.com* and at **The Book Stall** in Winnetka, where Bennewitz will do a signing at noon on Oct. 20.

Online Local Resources

Katie Clarke of Wilmette was diagnosed in 2011 on a day she was substitute teaching at a local elementary school.

“It was like Grand Central Station—it was a blur,” Clarke says. “My sister commented that I had all the love and support in the world, and I was still overwhelmed, and there must be something we could do to help others in that position, using technology.”

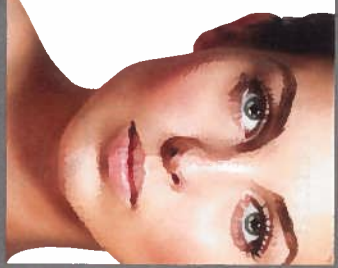
Clarke, with her sister **Kendra Olvaney** of Wilmette, has launched *helicopterproject.com*. The site is named after the sisters’ tradition of having their kids hand out licorice to walkers in the **Susan G. Komen Walk** for the Cure.

“The site is going to help connect people in the breast cancer community with information and resources—everything from where to get a free scarf to how to create a meal sign-up for a friend going through treatment,” Clarke says. **▶**



To purchase one of Carr’s designs that benefit the **Lynn Sage Cancer Research Foundation**, visit **▶PEACHCARDDESIGNS.COM**

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