



The ALS Association Greater New York Chapter

# Monthly Update

Serving Greater New York and Northern and Central New Jersey  
42 Broadway, Suite 1724, New York, NY 10004, 212-619-1400 f: 212-619-7409 www.als-nj.org

## February Support Groups

### SUFFOLK COUNTY, NY

February 2, 2010 6:00-8:00 PM  
(1st Tuesday of every month)  
Stony Brook University, Dept. of Neurology  
179 North Belle Meade Rd, E. Setauket  
(631) 444-1970

#### **Topic: Open Discussion.**

Facilitator: Theresa Imperato, RN - (631) 444-4623

### NASSAU COUNTY, NY

February 7, 2010 2:00-4:00 PM  
(1st Sunday of every month)  
North Shore's Central General Hospital  
888 Old Country Road, Plainview  
Downstairs Meeting Room; (516) 719-3000

#### **Topic: Superbowl Party!**

Facilitators: Theresa Imperato, RN - (631) 444-4623  
Jody Wiesel, PhD - (917) 699-9751

### MANHATTAN, NY

February 16, 2010 6:00-8:00 PM  
(3rd Tuesday of every month)  
Phillips Ambulatory Care Center (Beth Israel)  
10 Union Square East (Bet. 14th & 15th St.)  
2nd Floor, Conference Room #1

#### **Topic: Q&A About ALS**

#### **Speaker: Joel Bernor, RN**

Facilitator: Jody Wiesel, PhD - (917) 699-9751

### NEW BRUNSWICK, NJ

February 20, 2010 1:00-3:00 PM  
(3rd Saturday of every month)  
Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital  
Medical Education Building, Rm 108A  
180 Somerset Street, Follow signs to meeting.

#### **Topic: Home Modifications**

#### **Speaker: Antoinette Verdone**

Facilitators: Debbie Schlossberg, LMSW  
(732) 710-8832  
Mary Ann Mertz, RN

*For more information about our Support Groups  
go to the Patient Services section at:  
www.als-nj.org or call 212-619-1400.*

## First U.S. Stem Cells Transplanted Into Spinal Cord



ALS Association  
Chief Scientist  
Lucie Bruijn, Ph.D.

ALS Association Chief Scientist Lucie Bruijn, Ph.D., was interviewed by CNN regarding Thursday's announcement about the first ALS patient to receive transplanted stem cells.

Dr. Bruijn was quoted as saying, "This is the first study to see if the invasive injection into the spinal cord is safe for the patient."

She went on to say, "Our biggest hopes for stem cells is to significantly slow the progression of the disease."

To read the full article please visit our website at <http://www.als-nj.org>

## CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS

Volunteers are critical to The ALS Association Greater New York Chapter's success. We've always relied on volunteer support to keep our office running efficiently and to pitch in for all of our special events.

The Patient Services department is now launching an expanded Volunteer Home Visit Program which will pair volunteers with PALS (people with ALS), many of whom need help with daily tasks, or with a family member or caregiver, many of whom need assistance to lighten their work load. There are many ways to help from watching a video together to reading aloud, helping with correspondence, painting, repairs, yard work, even dog walking!

We will match volunteers based on proximity, interests of volunteers, and needs of the family. It could be a one-time experience or an on-going relationship and our Patient Services staff will help you every step of the way.

So if you are looking for a way to get involved we would love to meet with you for an interview and to discuss your interests. If you are interested in a New York assignment please contact Ms. Kayvan Freeman at [kayvan@als-nj.org](mailto:kayvan@als-nj.org) or call 212-720-3055 to schedule an appointment. For New Jersey assignments please contact Ms. Debbie Schlossberg at [dschlossberg@als-nj.org](mailto:dschlossberg@als-nj.org) or call 732-710-8832.

## CALENDAR of EVENTS

**02/01/10 - 2010 Walk to Defeat ALS Registration Opens.** Visit [www.alswalks.org](http://www.alswalks.org) for details or call Allison Lardner at 212-619-3042.

**02/26/10 - 4th Annual Big Ed Benefit in memory of Ed Flanagan**  
\$60 Per Person. Open Bar at Metro 53, 307 E. 53rd Street, NYC, 5:30 PM to 9:00 PM. Contact: Colin Flanagan at 917-868-5060,

**The NY Chapter has a Lending Library available to all PALS.**  
We have DVDs of movies & TV shows and books on CD or audio tape to lend.  
Please contact Christine Dunn at the Chapter office or e/mail [dunn@als-nj.org](mailto:dunn@als-nj.org).





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**From YOUR House... ..To The PEOPLE'S HOUSE!**



## **The ALS Association's National ALS Advocacy Day & Public Policy Conference.**

The ALS Association invites you to join us as we host the 2010 National ALS Advocacy Day and Public Policy Conference in Washington DC, May 9 - 11, 2010.

This powerful event has helped us to realize significant victories for people with ALS, from eliminating the 24-month Medicare waiting period to more than tripling funding for ALS research. But more must be done!

### **REGISTRATION**

To attend the 2010 national ALS Advocacy Day & Public Policy Conference, please register online at

[www.alsa.org/policy/alsday.cfm](http://www.alsa.org/policy/alsday.cfm). If you do not have internet access, you can register by calling the Advocacy Department at 1-212-619-1400.

Conference registration and hotel registration are available beginning February, 8, 2010 at 11AM EST.

In order to receive reduced registration rates, please register no later than April 9, 2010.

### **HOTEL INFORMATION**

JW Marriot Hotel, 1331 Pennsylvania Ave., NW, Washington, DC 20004. Phone: 202-626-6998.

In order to receive the reduced conference room rate, you must reserve your room directly with the hotel by April 9, 2010. Note: Reduced room rates are only available for those who already have registered to attend the conference.

In order to request an ADA accessible hotel room, attendees must contact Mary Wisniewski, event planner for the conference, at [mary-wisniewski@comcast.net](mailto:mary-wisniewski@comcast.net) or by calling 202-746-0043.

The number of ADA accessible rooms are limited so please reserve your room ASAP.



**WASHINGTON, DC - MAY 9-11, 2010**