

# BREATHING ROOM

AN UPDATE ON LUNG CANCER AND  
JOAN'S LEGACY

A NEWSLETTER OF THE JOAN SCARANGELLO FOUNDATION TO CONQUER LUNG CANCER

## 2005 STROLLING SUPPER WITH BLUES & NEWS RAISES OVER \$840,000 FOR LUNG CANCER RESEARCH



NBC Nightly News Anchor Brian Williams & Joan's Legacy President Patrick McNeive present Wall Street Journal Senior Editorial Writer Rob Pollock with the 2005 Joanie Award.

Times Square Studios set a dramatic stage for Grammy-winning blues artist Delbert McClinton and the 500 guests who attended Joan's Legacy's 2005 benefit. Welcomed by NBC Nightly News Anchor Brian Williams, guests celebrated the foundation's success and bid on amazing Silent Auction gifts to raise over \$840,000 for lung cancer research. Thanks to the generosity of our friends at ABC, NBC, Pavi Wines and Food in Motion, and Don Imus and all our donors, Joan's Legacy was able to net 94% of the proceeds to use for research and programming.

## JOAN'S LEGACY FUNDS \$1.3 MILLION IN INNOVATIVE RESEARCH

*Joan's Legacy: The Joan Scarangello Foundation to Conquer Lung Cancer is committed to fight lung cancer by funding innovative research into more effective diagnosis and treatments.*

We believe original and pioneering research is the key to a cure and have aggressively sought compelling projects at the nation's top cancer centers. Working with our esteemed Medical Committee, we have carefully pinpointed research in the areas that will have the greatest and most immediate impact on the campaign to end lung cancer.

The Joan's Legacy research grants tackle lung cancer from different approaches. As we bring projects to

fruition, and then convene our researchers together to share their findings and collaborate, we are confident we will make the fastest headway in our mission.

*(continued on page 2)*

### COMING THIS FALL!

5<sup>th</sup> Annual Strolling Supper with Blues and News  
Tuesday, November 7, 2006  
Frederick P. Rose Hall, Home of Jazz at Lincoln  
Center, Broadway at 60<sup>th</sup> Street, New York City

For tickets, sponsorship opportunities and to donate  
to the Silent Auction, please contact

Maureen Constantino at  
212-627-5500 x200 or  
mconstantino@joanslegacy.org

## JOAN'S LEGACY FUNDED THESE INNOVATIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS TO ANSWER THE FOLLOWING MAJOR QUESTIONS:

### WHAT CAUSES LUNG CANCER?

■ Dr. Matthew Meyerson, *Dana-Farber Cancer Institute*, is investigating whether a virus could cause lung cancer, while Dr. Sanford Barsky, *Ohio State University College of Medicine*, is determining whether bone marrow stem cells could transform to cause lung cancer.

■ Lung cancer can be the result of changes in the genes within lung cells. The investigation of specific genetic modifications could provide a useful tool for developing treatments against lung cancer. Drs. Matthew Meyerson; Julian Molina, *Mayo Clinic Cancer Center*; Kwok-Kin Wong, *Dana-Farber Cancer Institute*; and David Mu, *Cold Spring Harbor Laboratory*, are all investigating particular genetic alterations seen in lung cancers. These projects will enable a determination of why certain non-smoking women are more likely to have lung cancer, what causes some lung cancers to be more deadly than others, and which treatments used for other types of cancer might provide a remedy for lung cancer.

■ Other molecules that are altered within lung cells, typically as a result of changes in genes, could cause lung cancer. Drs. Thao Dang, *Vanderbilt-Ingram Cancer Center*; Laura Stabile, *University of Pittsburgh*; William Pao, *Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center*; Eric Haura, *H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center & Research Institute*; David Reisman, *University of Michigan*; and Charles Powell, *Columbia University*, are all investigating these potential molecular causes. By working on different and overlapping molecular pathways that result from these molecular alterations, it will be possible to develop multiple treatments to interfere with these aberrant pathways.

### WHY DO MORE NON-SMOKING WOMEN GET LUNG CANCER?

■ Dr. Laura Stabile is looking for a connection between lung cancer and estrogen. She has already found that, although estrogen can increase the progression of lung cancer, blocking estrogen can lead to the development of lung cancer through another pathway. Therefore, she is now looking for the molecular targets for the interactions between these pathways.

■ Dr. David Mu is comparing the genetic alterations in lung cancer cells of women and men to see if there are any female-specific mutations that could be responsible for the higher incidence of lung cancer in women.


### HOW CAN WE DO A BETTER JOB OF TREATING LUNG CANCER?

■ The best way to treat each individual with lung cancer is to learn more about their specific lung cancer. That way, an individual will only receive the treatments that will diminish their lung cancer, and not waste their time and energy on treatments that have no chance of working for them. Drs. Thao Dang, Julian Molina and Charles Powell are developing assessment methods to screen individual lung cancers to allow for directed care and treatment.

■ Drs. Laura Stabile and William Pao are learning how to make existing treatments more effective by combining them with additional drugs for a multi-pronged attack on the cancer cells.

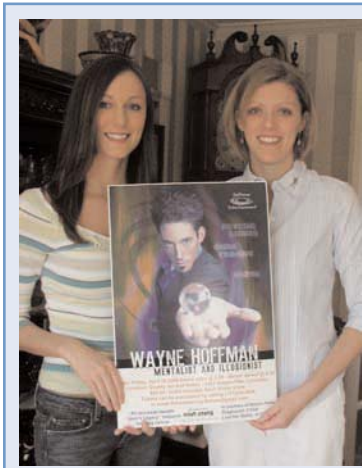
### WHAT NEW APPROACHES COULD PRODUCE A CURE?

■ Dr. Chong-xian Pan, *University of California, Davis*, is designing a custom virus that would specifically attack and destroy bronchioalveolar cells. This virus could be administered simply, using an inhaler.

■ Dr. Derick Lau, *University of California, Davis*, is developing molecules that specifically adhere to bronchioalveolar cells. These molecules could be used for targeting destruction to bronchioalveolar cells. 

## SPECIAL EVENTS TO RAISE FUNDS FOR RESEARCH

### Organizing Your Own Fundraiser to Benefit Joan's Legacy



Angela Steffy and Jasmine Heberlig promoting their event in Lancaster, PA.

Holding your own fundraising event is a fun and rewarding way to help raise awareness and funds to put an end to lung cancer. Joan's Legacy is honored to be the beneficiary of events nationwide.

Jasmine Heberlig and family are an inspiration, having held a successful walk last November and a dinner show featuring Mentalist and Illusionist Wayne Hoffman this past

April. One hundred sixty guests enjoyed the event which raised over \$2000 for research and honored the memory of Jasmine's mom Bonnie Reber.

### Joan's Legacy Supports the Thomas G. Labrecque Classic

The TGL Classic 5K race, a road race to benefit the Thomas G. Labrecque Foundation and its funding of lung cancer research, was a huge success. This year more than 7,000 people ran or walked in New York's Central Park to show their support for lung cancer research and raise awareness and funds to conquer lung cancer.



Joan's Legacy Executive Director, Susan Mantel; Rachel Roberge; M. L. Flynn; and Monica Musero, man the Joan's Legacy booth at the health fair in Central Park.

**If you are interested in organizing an event on behalf of Joan's Legacy and would like some ideas and support, please contact Maureen Constantino at 212-627-5500 x 200 or [mconstantino@joanslegacy.org](mailto:mconstantino@joanslegacy.org).**

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:



*I am pleased to bring you the first issue of Breathing Room. As we prepare to celebrate the 5<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Joan's Legacy, we have much news to share – both the research we've funded and the partnerships we've formed.*

*In just three years of funding, Joan's Legacy has distributed \$1.3 Million in research grants to leading scientists across the country. This includes two grants made in 2005 with co-funding partners – the Thomas G. Labrecque Foundation and the LUNgevity Foundation. Committed co-funders for the 2006 Grant cycle already include the Labrecque Foundation, as well as our new partner, the Felice Lipit Jentis Memorial BAC Research Trust.*

*We also would like to thank each and every donor and volunteer who has been a part of this success. Working together we will conquer lung cancer!*

*Susan Mantel*

## BREATHING ROOM

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For more information, contact:

Joan's Legacy  
Tel: (212) 627-5500  
Fax: (212) 627-7594  
Email: [mail@joanslegacy.org](mailto:mail@joanslegacy.org)  
[www.joanslegacy.org](http://www.joanslegacy.org)

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27 Union Square West, Suite 304, New York, NY 10003

*The Joan Scarangelo Foundation  
to Conquer Lung Cancer*

 JOAN'S LEGACY

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