

We all want the same things in life ... and we all need others to make these things possible. In our lifetimes, when we have achieved, no matter how grand it may be, we must realize it is a fleeting and delicate achievement. But if your dream or achievement has truth and merit, you must freely and unconditionally pass it on' ... and when you 'pass it on', you will receive all you need. - Dr. Joseph Jemsek



PATIENT SPOTLIGHT

The road to recovery from Lyme disease for the Culbert family has been filled with more twists and turns than a mountain highway; and throughout their journey, each family member has shown remarkable courage and perseverance.



It started simply enough, back in April 2004, when Pam Culbert was preparing for a move to join her husband, the Rev. Billy Culbert, at their new home in Goose Creek, S.C., where he had accepted a position as Senior Pastor at First Baptist Church of Goose Creek. Pam had remained at their former residence while the Culbert children – Lindsay, 17, and Alex, 13 – finished the end of their school year. One night when they were getting ready for a school event, Pam noticed what appeared to be a tiny scab on her leg. Two days later a rash resembling ringworm appeared in the same place.

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2008 Into The Light Gala



IMPORTANT ALERT

Here's your chance to stand up and be heard, even if by proxy, but you need to act fast. Lyme advocate Lorraine Johnson, of the [California Lyme Disease Association](#) (CALDA), will be presenting to a one-day hearing panel slated to be convened on July 30 by the [Infectious Diseases Society of America](#) (IDSA), to discuss revisions to its controversial set of Lyme guidelines.



The hearing is part of the anti-trust settlement the Connecticut Attorney General ordered to address what he called "serious flaws" in the IDSA's Lyme guidelines. The panel hearing will feature presentations by patients, physicians, and scientists.

CALDA wants your input and personal stories to be heard as part of the presentation being made by Lorraine, who is currently hard at work fine-tuning the reams of material she has collected. The easiest way to get your story and input into the mix is to complete this short and completely confidential survey being conducted by CALDA. Results of the survey will be included in [Lorraine's testimony to the IDSA panel](#).

The entire IDSA hearing will be broadcast live over the Internet on July 30, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (EST). Tune in at <http://www.idsociety.org/lymedisease.htm>

Connecticut Attorney General Richard Blumnthal recently penned a strong op-ed, published in [New London's "The Day" newspaper](#), that focused on the IDSA guidelines review. The full article can be [READ HERE](#).

LAW APPROVED TO PROTECT LYME DOCTORS

There's been a surge of encouraging momentum and positive developments building recently for patients suffering from chronic Lyme disease, and for the doctors who treat them. Signaling what many hope is a harbinger of commonsense legislative action that will eventually sweep across the country, Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Reil last month signed into law a bill that allows physicians to prescribe long-term antibiotics in the treatment of persistent Lyme disease.





>> [View Gala Video](#)

The inaugural Into The Light Gala, held March 20 at Ballantyne Village Theatre in Charlotte, N.C., was a resounding success by every measure. In addition to providing a wonderful evening of festive fellowship, the Gala also achieved its goal of bringing an awareness of Lyme disease to an audience that extended beyond so-called Lyme Nation.

Prominent guests who attended the Gala included a representative from NC Gov. Beverly Perdue's office, along with several members of the Charlotte City Council. The event, which received extensive media coverage, was attended by nearly five hundred people, including physicians from across the state; people whose lives have been directly impacted by Lyme; and others who were simply curious to learn more about the debilitating disease and the strides being made to bring lasting health to those who suffer from it.

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House Bill 6200 unanimously passed through both sides of the Connecticut General Assembly. The bill allows doctors to treat for Lyme disease outside standard guidelines, which were established by the Infectious Diseases Society of America and recommend against treating Lyme disease more than a few weeks.

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LYME RALLY IN SOUTH CAROLINA MAKES HISTORY

A crowd of nearly one hundred people experienced history in the making earlier this year, when South Carolina Lieutenant Governor Andre Bauer delivered the keynote address at the Lyme Disease Rally held May 14 on the steps of the State Capital in Columbia.

"I was very thankful for Andre Bauer's speech, which shed light and lent credibility to the seriousness of Lyme disease," said rally co-organizer Kathleen Liporace. "In a state where DHEC has recorded so few cases, this is a victory for the many who actually suffer from this disease in the great state of South Carolina. It was a first for our state and a history-making rally."

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