



*Welcome to our first Newsletter!*  
*Seize the Ribbon for Bladder Cancer Research*

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Dear Friends of Seize the Ribbon,

Happy New Year to each of you. We hope this Newsletter finds you and your loved ones in good health.

A very important message from Dr. John Phillips:

“We would first like to thank all of you for your support last year and tell you that because of your donations to Seize the Ribbon, we have been able to support innovation and progress in the treatment of bladder cancer, a disease known for its great toll on quality of life, life expectancy, and cost of therapy. Your efforts have supported Drs. John Phillips and Senuki Konno at New York Medical College who continue the groups’ work in both molecular and herbal approaches to bladder cancer treatments. A recent advance was achieved by the group’s post-doctoral resident, Dr. Vladimir Valera, who presented his findings on Seize the Ribbon-supported research at last year’s Society of Urologic Oncology in Washington DC. Dr. Valera’s work was awarded first prize beating out researchers from Harvard, Memorial Sloane Kettering, and Johns Hopkins. The research team is also working on a combination approach of Vitamin C and Mitake mushroom extracts which are shown to be safe for human consumption. A clinical trial for early bladder cancers is underway and interested participants can contact Dr. Konno or Dr. Phillips at 914 594 2440. We want to emphasize that while we focus on Bladder Cancer, Seize the Ribbon supported research dollars from you go beyond a specific cancer and may aid in finding answers to help fight other cancers as well.”

Wow! We are all so excited with this progress it makes us want to redouble our fundraising efforts!

We’ll begin by preparing to kick off our first fundraising and awareness event for 2015...our Annual Walkathon in NYC.

Our date this year is Saturday, April 25th. As in the past, we’ll meet at 11am at 40 Fulton Street in lower Manhattan. Our plan this year will be to start out with our annual walk across the Brooklyn Bridge. This year we will then return to M&O at 40 Fulton Street by noon for refreshments. Walkers who are ready to continue for the full 5K Walk leave 40 Fulton and head up to Broadway and through the financial district, ending once again at 40 Fulton. We have broken into two walks so that the Walkathon is an enjoyable walk for everyone.

Our exact route will be posted a month in advance on our website and on our Facebook page. Ps. If you’re not a "friend" yet, please join us on Facebook.

Our Walkathon T-shirts are a popular way to help us raise money and awareness for Seize the Ribbon.

Contact me and become a Sponsor for our Walkathon. Sponsorships are available for a donation of \$100 or more. Our Sponsors each are encouraged to add a graphic to our 2015 Walkathon Commemorative T-shirt. I can add your business logo, or post a message, or even create a special picture for you in memory of your loved one.

In order to have our T-shirts ready to distribute to our walkers on the day of the Walkathon I need to have all graphics ready for the printer on March 18th.

We are proud to announce that Sarah Sphon, has accepted the position of Vice President of our Board. Congratulations and thank you, Sarah.

Sarah has been an active member of our Board of Directors. Last year Sarah organized a second Seize the Ribbon Walkathon on the "Monongah Rails to Trails" in Monongah, West Virginia. There was a good turn out and everyone enjoyed their time while they raised funds for research and helped build awareness of Bladder Cancer symptoms.

If you'd like to set up a Walkathon in your area, contact Elisabeth or Sarah and let us help you coordinate with our efforts and set up Commemorative T-shirts for you as well.

We also had a big success this past Fall with our Second Annual Halloween Harvest Fundraiser in Greensburg, Pa.

Special thanks to all who participated in this event. We really appreciated Dr. Phillips who spoke with us over the phone that evening answering questions and discussing the research we're funding.

Help Seize the Ribbon spread the word. Let us know any ideas you have for events and fundraising. It only takes one person to help bring awareness to your community, gather a group and begin to "talk the talk" or even "walk the walk".

There are so many exciting ideas for how we can continue to grow our Seize the Ribbon supporters. We have now begun our "Newsletter" which we'll plan to send out often to keep our supporters up to date with our progress. Help us expand and spread the word to a friend. Send me names and addresses to add to our mailing list of Friends of Seize the Ribbon.

We also would love to hear your ideas and comments so please contact us:  
Elismin@aol.com or Sarah.sphon@gmail.com or Victoria.Miningham@mandosys.com  
Facebook is open to any story or thought you want to share as well.

Seize the Ribbon will be 5 years old this year. We began with a mission to remember Robert Miningham and help insure that other families didn't have to lose their loved ones to Bladder Cancer. Thank you for your help.

Elisabeth Miningham

Seize the Ribbon Board of Directors and the Miningham Family

Seize the Ribbon is a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.  
We welcome your contributions which qualify for a charitable tax deduction

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