

# The Third Annual Twilight Gala



In Partnership With



March 17, 2012  
6:30-Midnight  
Aqua Turf Club

Sponsored by  
NSCIA Connecticut Chapter &  
The Christopher & Dana Reeve Foundation

## **EVENT PROGRAM SCHEDULE**

The Event is from 6:30pm - Midnight

- 6:30pm** Registration starts, Silent Auction bidding starts, appetizers are brought around to bidders, bar is open.
- 8:00pm** Close Auction, Dinner service begins
- 8:05pm** David P. Morgana Jr., NSCIA CT President's Welcome
- 8:15pm** Awards Ceremony  
1) Paige McCullough-Casciano Appreciation Award presented by David P. Morgana Jr.  
2) James Quick Appreciation Award presented by David P. Morgana Jr.
- 8:30pm** Live Auction during dinner
- 9:30pm** Close of dinner, purchase silent auction items, dancing begins
- 12:00am** Stop Music & Close Event

### **2012 Twilight Gala Committee**

Raymond Gorneault  
Gala Co-Chairman

Joseph Uccello  
Gala Co-Chairman

Tim Fournier  
Todd A. Johnston  
Bill Mancini  
David P. Morgana Jr.  
Diana Pernigotti

*The Mission of the Connecticut Chapter of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association is to support those with spinal related injuries or diseases and their families by being an advocate for their rights while serving as a resource to its members and the general public. We will provide individual support and furnish information to afford greater awareness of disabilities, spinal cord research, prevention and education. In addition, we will provide activities and events with the goal of empowering our members.*

## **WHO WE ARE:**

- We are individuals with spinal cord injuries and/or spinal cord injury related diseases.
- We are family members and friends of persons with spinal cord injuries.
- We are professionals in various related fields striving to improve the quality of life for persons with spinal cord injuries.

Our purpose is to help persons with spinal cord injury and/or disease restructure and rebuild their lives. We offer the experiences and support of persons who successfully live with spinal cord injury. We can provide an individual with information regarding spinal cord injury. We want to help you learn to live with the extensive changes you will experience at home, at work, at school and in various relationships with others.

The Connecticut Chapter of the National Spinal Cord Injury Association is part of a nationwide network of people committed to: Providing better services to individuals, families and communities to assist persons with spinal cord injuries. Prevention activities and campaigns to reduce the incidents that cause spinal cord injuries. Supporting research aimed at improving the quality of medical care and eventually, a cure for paralysis.

The Chapter is committed to ensuring anyone with a spinal cord injury has the opportunity for a full, meaningful, independent and active life.

## **FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

### **NSCIA CT Chapter**

Call 203-284-1045

Email [nsciact@gmail.com](mailto:nsciact@gmail.com)

Website [www.sciact.org](http://www.sciact.org)

## **GOALS:**

### **SUPPORT & SHARING**

We share our experiences and ideas with each other through community support groups. Through our Peer Assistance Program, spinal cord injured persons who have successfully coped with the results of their injuries assist newly injured individuals and their families adjust to changes in their lifestyle.

### **RESOURCES**

We provide information about specific programs and services available to spinal cord injured persons. Use our Connecticut Resource Directory as a helpful resource. We also provide a quarterly membership newsletter, The ConnCord. We also have a website available to all interested parties, [www.sciact.org](http://www.sciact.org).

### **COMMUNITY AWARENESS & PREVENTION**

We share information on spinal cord injury and its impact on a person's lifestyle. Our Stop Trauma Program explains the causes and consequences of spinal cord and acquired brain injury. This program is available to those interested on request to educators who want to bring the message of trauma prevention into the classroom.

### **EDUCATION**

We sponsor and support informational seminars for persons with spinal cord injury and/or related diseases, health care professionals and the general public addressing issues of spinal cord injury.

### **ADVOCACY & LEGISLATION**

We fight for the rights of present and future spinal cord injured persons and their families. We inform newly injured individuals of these rights.

*Appreciation Award Recipient*

**Paige McCullough-Casciano**



Paige has been a key facilitator for many of the spinal cord injured related programs within the state of Connecticut. She is a graduate of Springfield College and a certified Therapeutic Recreation Specialist. For over fourteen years, Paige has been an employee of the Mount Sinai Rehabilitation Hospital.

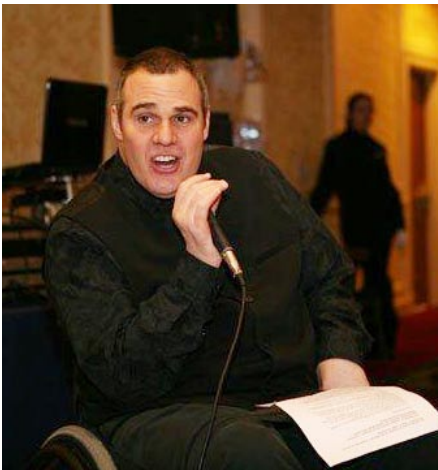
Presently Paige is associated with many key programs such as the Connecticut Adaptive Rowing Program, Golfers in Motion, and the Spinal Cord Informational Series and Support Group. She also coordinates Peer Assistant visits for Mount Sinai patients.

Paige continues to dedicate her time to enhance the quality of life for the spinal cord injured population. For those of us who know her best, Paige has yet to give up the opportunity to serve the people around her. It is

for these reasons and many more that the Connecticut Spinal Cord Injury Association proudly honors Paige with our appreciation award.

*Appreciation Award Recipient*

**Jim Quick**



Jim Quick has been involved with the National Spinal Cord Injury Association CT Chapter since 1987. During his many years of involvement, he has held countless Chapter positions including Vice President of Services, Vice President, and President. Currently, he holds the office of Treasurer. In addition to Jim's role with the Chapter, he is also involved in various other organizations and committees. On a state level, he currently holds two Governor appointed positions, President of the Connecticut State Independent Living Council and Chair of the Consumer Satisfaction Committee on the State Rehabilitation Council.

Throughout the years, Jim has proven himself an integral part of the Chapter's success. He is a great leader and mentor, to not only the Chapter and its

members, but also a true champion of disability rights and advocacy throughout the state of Connecticut.

On behalf of the spinal cord injury and disability community, the Chapter would like to recognize and sincerely thank Jim for his unwavering service and dedication.



## **Special Guest Emcee**

### **Brad Field**

Brad Field forecasts Connecticut's weather on NBC Connecticut News at 5 p.m., 5:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. He's been with NBC Connecticut since March 1983. He has been awarded the American Meteorological Society's "Seal of Approval For Excellence In Television Weathercasting." Brad has also received awards for his coverage of Hurricane Gloria and the blizzards of 1995-'96.

Brad is a New England native who received his bachelor of science degree in meteorology from the College of Pure and Applied Science at the University of Lowell, in Lowell, Mass.

Before he came to NBC Connecticut, Brad worked in Providence, R.I., where he was a meteorologist at WLNE-TV for three years. He has also worked at Weather Services Corporation in Bedford, Mass., and enjoyed forecasting for the Boston Red Sox.

Brad, his wife, Sandy, and sons, Curtis and Connor, live in the northwest hills of Connecticut. He enjoys hockey, baseball, skiing, football, politics and history.

Follow Brad on Twitter @BradNBCCT

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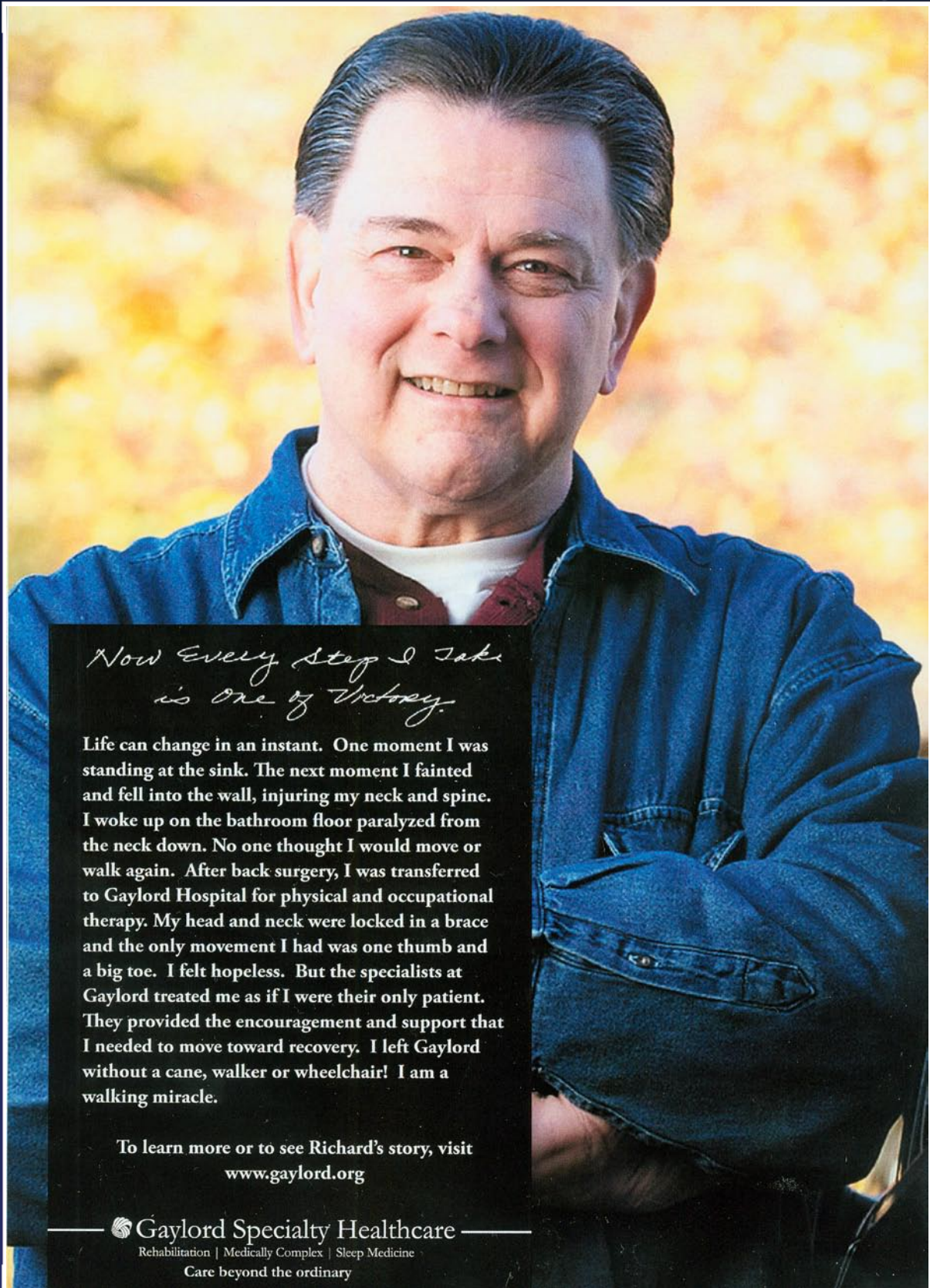
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*Subramani Seetharama, M.D., Kevin J. Felice, D.O., David Monti, M.D.*

Congratulations on behalf of the Hospital for Special Care family to Subramani Seetharama, M.D., Kevin J. Felice, D.O., and David Monti, M.D., for their distinguished recognition again this year in *Connecticut Magazine's* 'Top Docs' issue.

We are proud that this hospital has such esteemed experts in their field, and are invaluable resources for those affected by neuromuscular disorders, spinal cord injury, and the challenges of complex medical rehabilitation.

Hospital for Special Care (HSC), with locations in New Britain and Hartford, Connecticut, is the only long-term acute-care hospital in the nation serving adults and children. HSC is nationally recognized for advanced care and rehabilitation in the highly specialized areas of pulmonary care, acquired brain injury, medically-complex pediatrics, neuromuscular disorders and spinal cord injury.

Responding to the needs of a rising patient population, HSC now leads the state by recently opening the first Comprehensive Inpatient Heart Failure Unit in Connecticut.

The Neuromuscular Center at Hospital for Special Care is the largest and most comprehensive neuromuscular care and clinical research facility in the state. The Center treats over 1000 patients annually in one of four multidisciplinary and specialized weekly clinics - including the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Clinic for Adults, MDA Clinic for Children, Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis Association (ALSA) Clinic, and Neuropathy Clinic. Under the leadership of Dr. Jinsy Andrews, the Center's Research and Clinical Trials Unit experiments with promising new medications - hoping to find cures for amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and other chronic neuromuscular disorders.

Hospital for Special Care is the only hospital in the state of Connecticut accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities (CARF) for Comprehensive Integrated Inpatient and Outpatient Medical Rehabilitation for the Spinal Cord System of Care for adults, adolescents and children.

To learn more, visit [www.hfsc.org](http://www.hfsc.org).

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Hello everyone and welcome to the 2012 Twilight Gala!

I would like to start by saying thank you to all our great sponsors and guests that are attending this year's event. Without your generous support, none of this would be possible.

I would also like to thank the members of our chapter, the Twilight Gala Committee and the Co-Chairman of this years Gala, all which worked very hard to make this event another great success!

The Chapter has various programs to assist people with spinal cord injuries, their families, and the public at large.

The Chapter provides a resource directory, which is a great source of information, especially for those who are newly injured. It is available through our website. [www.sciact.org](http://www.sciact.org)

The Chapter also helps coordinate with local hospitals to provide Spinal Cord Injury Support Groups. It is at these support groups that friendships are forged and information is provided to new and established members.

We support a program called "Think First". This program is facilitated by a Physical Therapist along with a person with a spinal cord injury and is provided free of charge to schools throughout Connecticut. The program promotes education to children and young adults in the prevention of spinal cord injuries through healthy and safe life choices.

One of the greatest resources the Chapter is able to provide is the Peer Assistance Program. It is through this program where we are able to connect people who have been previously injured with those who are newly injured. The personal connection of these individuals provides a positive path forward for those newly injured. In most cases, forming lifelong friendships.

The Chapter is in it's 32nd year of existence and in that time this organization has helped countless numbers of people with spinal cord injuries and their families. Through education, support, and provision of resources, the individual learns to advocate for themselves and others.

The day we no longer need to offer these services will be a great day but until the eradication of spinal cord injury is realized, our organization is dedicated to helping the injured community.

The Chapter has had great success in our recent fundraising events and our outreach program is growing. The work of the Chapter, more than ever before, needs to go on. I call upon our members, both new and old, to become more involved in any way you can. Come to our events, peer assist, volunteer for an event committee or even become a board member. For more information on these opportunities, please check the event listing on our website.

I look forward to the challenges ahead and with everyone's help, this organization will have continued success for years to come.

Thank you again to everyone here and I hope all of you have a great night!

Sincerely,

David P. Morgana Jr

President NSCIA-CT



Friends,

As chairman of Team Connecticut, which serves as the local chapter of the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation, we are excited to join forces with the Connecticut Chapter of the Spinal Cord Injury Association. We believe that the event will raise awareness of people living with paralysis in Connecticut.

It is the mission of both of our organizations that we make people aware of the services and support they can receive in the community. We also support the continuing efforts to fund research to find a cure for paralysis. Fundraising events are necessary to ensure that we can continue our work toward reaching these goals. We also believe in the importance of recognizing the achievements of people living with paralysis. There are many incredible stories about people who persevere despite the most difficult circumstances. This event will certainly be an entertaining evening and a wonderful opportunity to bring people together in support of a common cause. We truly appreciate your support.

Sincerely,

Greg Hughes

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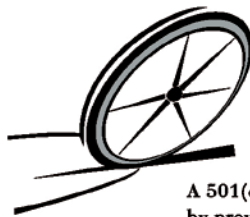
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