

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**LIGHT OF DAY BENEFIT CONCERT SERIES FOR PARKINSON'S AND ALS**

**RETURNS TO NIAGARA** - On June 14, 2008 the Light of Day returns to Niagara Falls. This year, Niagara organizers Mike Minervini and Dave Rotella have created a special summer concert series to benefit both national and local Parkinson's and ALS organizations. Limited tickets are available for each of these four exclusive concerts hosted by Yanks Old Niagara Bar and Grill. The series kicks off on Saturday, June 14 with Light of Day alumni Joe Grushecky and the Houserockers. Joe D'Urso and Stone Caravan, Ron Lasalle and more will be at Yanks each month through to September. The series culminates in November at the Niagara Centre for the Performing Arts with the showcase event featuring an international line up of performers with proceeds again benefiting people living with Parkinson's disease and ALS.

The Light of Day shows originated back in 2000 in New Jersey at the infamous Stone Pony. In 2006 the Light of Day made its way to Europe with concerts in Rome, Bedford and Barcelona. In 2007, Stockholm and Rotterdam were added to the European schedule along with only two Canadian shows in Toronto and Niagara Falls. With artists such as Southside Johnny, Joe Grushecky and Bruce Springsteen headlining, these shows have raised over \$200,000 in the fight against Parkinsons.

Parkinson's disease is a chronic and progressive neurological condition that affects movement and muscle control. The disease occurs when cells in the brain that control movement malfunction and eventually die. Patients endure tremors, rigidity or stiffness of the limbs and trunk, slowness of movement, and postural instability or impaired balance and coordination. Their condition can be treated to a degree with drugs but currently there is no cure.

Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, ALS, (Lou Gehrig's disease) is a devastating neurodegenerative disease. Those living with the disease become progressively paralyzed due to degeneration of the upper and lower motor neurons in the brain and spinal cord. Eighty per cent of people with ALS die within two to five years of diagnosis - unable to breathe or swallow.

**For more information on shows and contact with the performers:**

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**Information and tickets for all shows are available through Light of Day Niagara's website at [www.lightofdayniagara.com](http://www.lightofdayniagara.com).**