

Epilepsy News

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Welcome to Epilepsy News. We pride ourselves at sending you the most up-to-date information about epilepsy events, conferences, and issues that are important to you.



Please consult our website for further information: www.efnj.com.

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Quick Links

- [Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey](#)
- [The Family Support Center of New Jersey](#)
- [The Family Resource Network](#)

Exhibit focuses on little-known history of epilepsy in New Jersey

By: KRISTEN COPPOCK
Burlington County Times

BORDENTOWN CITY - People with epilepsy were once sent to live in a state-run communal camp. After the settlement closed during the 1950s, those with the seizure disorder were institutionalized in mental health centers.

Today people with epilepsy live among the general population, but a new exhibit focuses on the condition's past. "Disorder: The History of Epilepsy in New Jersey" shares the stories of patient treatments, both medically and socially.

"A lot of people have found it simply remarkable that in the middle of the past century, if you had seizures, you could be institutionalized," said Dr. Eric Joice, executive director of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey in Trenton. "With the exhibit, we wanted to demonstrate this to people in the state."



The exhibit coincides with the foundation's 40th birthday. It will be open to the public during an anniversary party to celebrate the organization that started in 1970. "Disorder" also can be viewed Saturday in Suites C & D at 4 Park St. from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., as well as Feb. 3, 6, 17 and 20. The foundation will open its doors by appointment for school groups.

To read the entire article, [please click here](#).

Calling all NJ Devils Fans!



If you're a Devils fan or just like hockey, come and join the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey on March 20, 2010 when the NJ Devils host the St. Louis Saints. The game starts at 7:00pm at the Prudential Center in Newark. As part of this special offer, tickets normally priced at \$56 are being offered for only \$49. Also included in the price is a \$10 food and non-alcoholic beverage card. Proceeds from these tickets benefit programs of the Epilepsy Foundation of New Jersey. [Click here to download an order form](#). Order deadline is March 18, 2010, so hurry!

Wrightslaw Special Education Law and Advocacy Training

Led by Peter Wright, Esq.

April 15, 2010

Registration & Breakfast 8:00am-9:00am

Event Ends at 4:30pm

Maggiano's Little Italy, Hackensack, NJ 07601

Registration until Monday April 12th: \$150.00

Each registrant will receive breakfast and lunch at Maggiano's, and two books, Wrightslaw: Special Education Law and Wrightslaw: From Emotions to Advocacy.

[Click here to register online today.](#)

If you have any questions, please contact Dana at (732) 262-8020 or DGolberg@familyresourcenetwork.org.

Boy Has Seizure While Watching 'Avatar'

CENTER TOWNSHIP, Pa. -- An afternoon screening of the movie "Avatar" may have induced a seizure in a Center Township moviegoer on Sunday. Kayla Krall attended the 3-D matinee at the Cinemark Theater in Center Township. She told Channel 11 News shortly after the movie began, a woman began screaming for someone to call 911 when her son started having a seizure.

"This woman screams, 'Somebody help. Get a doctor. My son's having a seizure. Call 911,'" said Krall, who sat five rows away. Krall said she alerted the theater's manager and then did what she could to help. "I held the emergency exit door open that leads to outside to get some light in, because they didn't turn on the lights," said Krall.

James Meredith, a spokesman for Cinemark communications, said he couldn't comment on whether the movie brought on the episode, but said the boy has had seizures in the past, according to Channel 11's news exchange partners at the Beaver County Times.



Worldwide, James Cameron's "Avatar" has topped \$2 billion, a record that surpasses the \$1.84 billion of Cameron's "Titanic," which had been the No. 1 modern blockbuster. The movie has also been nominated for nine Oscars. However, [Epilepsy.com](http://www.epilepsy.com) message board has people reporting that the film's flashy lights and fast-moving scenes are raising health concerns among some cinemagoers.

An Internet discussion thread at www.epilepsy.com carried more than a dozen posts from people claiming to know someone or personally experienced seizures, nausea, headaches and other physical discomforts, the Times reported. "There are people who have epilepsy who can have their symptoms triggered by visual stimuli," said a Pittsburgh neurologist. "A separate group from the people who don't have epilepsy who just get some seizures when they watch the wrong thing on television or on their computer." The neurologist also said watching 3-D movies can cause seizures.

Mardi Gras Celebration



The Family Resource Network will be hosting its 6th Annual Mardi Gras Gala on Wednesday, March 3, 2010 at The Madison Hotel in Morristown, NJ. Gus Lebiak, Vice President of Center Store at Foodtown, Inc. will be serving as this year's Mardi Gras King. The event is set to be an exciting evening bringing the style of Bourbon Street to the city of Morristown with past entertainment including a Dixieland Band, tarot card reader, stilt walkers, caricaturist, jugglers and more. In 2009 the Mardi Gras Celebration netted over \$50,000 for The Network and included a Camp NOVA Campership auction that raised an additional \$22,250.00 to support Camp NOVA.

For more information please contact Heather Comstock at 800.336.5843 or hcomstock@efnj.com.

Purple Day is March 26th

Purple Day was founded in 2008, by nine-year-old Cassidy Megan of Nova Scotia, Canada. Motivated by her own struggles with epilepsy, Cassidy started Purple Day in effort to get people talking about the disorder and inform those with seizures that they are not alone. She named the day Purple Day after the internationally recognized color for epilepsy, lavender. Purple Day is a grassroots effort dedicated to increasing awareness about epilepsy worldwide. On March 26, people from around the globe are asked to wear purple and spread the word about epilepsy.



With the help of partners worldwide, Purple Day 2010 is guaranteed to be even bigger and better than the last. Please join us in spreading the word about epilepsy - wear Purple on March 26, 2010.

Getting involved is easy!

Wear purple - the international color for epilepsy
Host a Purple Day awareness event or fundraiser
Get the facts about epilepsy-visit www.purpleday.org

For more information about Purple Day, visit www.purpleday.org.

Thank you for reading Epilepsy News! If you have any information you would like included in our e-zine, or know of anyone that would like to be added to our listserv, please email me at aracioppi@efnj.com or click the "Join Our Mailing List" button on the top right side of the newsletter.

Sincerely,

Andrea Racioppi
Associate Director
Epilepsy Foundation of NJ

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