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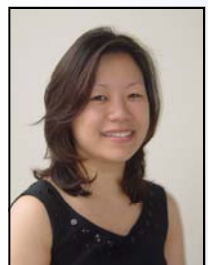
Conference for Physicians & Allied Health Professionals



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Carl W. Bazil, M.D., PhD



Associate Clinical Professor
of Neurology
Lawrence J. Hirsch, M.D.



Associate Professor of
Clinical Neurology
Amanda Pong, M.D.



Associate Professor of
Clinical Neurology
Alison Pack, M.D.

CME Conference with Columbia University and their Comprehensive Epilepsy Center on **March 26th, 2009**.

New Medications and Treatments for Epilepsy: An Update for Physicians and Allied Health Professionals

Schedule of Events:

- Dinner
- 2009's New AED's and Results of Brain Stimulation Trial for Patients with Epilepsy
Lawrence J. Hirsch, M.D.
- Practical Aspects of Bone Health and Pregnancy in Patients with Epilepsy
Alison M. Pack, M.D.
- Update on AED's in Children
Amanda Pong, M.D.
- AED's: Generics, Extended Release Forms, and Recent FDA Warnings
Carl W. Bazil, M.D., Ph.D.
- Q & A and Review Your Own Cases
- Dessert and Coffee



Structured Day Program Now Open!



Our Structured Day Program has opened its doors and is already welcoming consumers to enjoy its many benefits.

The beautiful **Thomas P. Morahan Program Center** offers instruction about independent living skills to our consumers. Cooking and household skills have proven to be popular with the Center's ability to prepare meals, do laundry, and sharpen computer skills. Staff and consumers have enjoyed hosting several holiday parties already and are looking forward to many more!



Our consumers also relax and learn Social Interaction Skills in **The Chris McCarthy Socialization Room**. This area has a welcoming, clubhouse like atmosphere for our consumers to hang out with their peers.



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Disability Awareness at St. Stephen's School



William Pinkham, Julius Radakovits, and Brenna Costello, first graders at St. Stephen's Catholic School, hold the jug of pennies they and their classmates have been collecting for ESSNY.

St. Stephen's parochial school in Warwick, NY, has welcomed the Epilepsy Society of Southern New York's Community Education Program into their classrooms. This program will enhance students' awareness of disabilities and reinforce the importance of community service. The students will be provided with opportunities to participate in various service activities, such as the "Pennies from Heaven" fundraiser. Students have been collecting their pennies since January and they will decide how it can best be used to help others. The goal of this program is to increase students' understanding and knowledge in order to increase service participation and encourage an open dialogue about living with disabilities.

St. Stephen's students are also receiving education about how to speak with their peers and families on what they have learned from our Disability Awareness curriculum and sharing their service experience. We look forward to the continued partnership and for students to enrich their commitment to volunteer in their school, neighborhoods, and community.

For information on implementing this program in schools near you, please contact ESSNY or check out our website at www.learnaboutepilepsy.com.

ESSNY and CPI welcome new staff-



Jeannine Malvey — is our newest Junior Employment Specialist. She helps to advocate for employment for the disabled through such services as job development and coaching. Jeannine comes to us as a graduate of Marist College with a BA in English Literature and a minor in Theatre. After working as a personal assistant and an extra in the film industry, we are all happy to welcome Jeannine here!



Jessica Lupi - works with families through both the MSC and TBI waiver programs as a Service Coordinator. Before joining ESSNY/CPI, she graduated from Fordham University and worked in a residential treatment center for foster care youth. She then spent six years at MHA of Westchester working to help emotionally disturbed children through their mental health waiver.

Interested in finding
out more about our
Consumer Advisory Council?

Contact Susanne Finn at
(845) 627-0627 ext. 148

to see how you can become a member.

Privacy Notice

Consumer Privacy is important to us. You can get a copy of our Privacy Policy on our web-site or by contacting us directly.

1st Orange County Bowl-A-Thon!



Kirstylee Marie Rivera



Our first **Annual Orange County Bowl-A-Thon**, in honor of **Kirstylee Marie Rivera**, took place on October 18th at the Colonial Lanes in Chester and was a rousing success. Over 60 people came to bowl and have fun. \$5,000 was raised through raffles and the generous support of sponsors and donations. Our thanks to everyone that participated and especially the Rivera family for sharing their memories of Kirstylee with us all. Keep your eyes open for our next Rockland Bowl-A-Thon in the spring!

Jayne's Walk For Epilepsy



Jayne Gershfeld and Friend

November 2nd was a bright and sunny day for "Jayne's Walk for Epilepsy" at the Fox Lane High School in Bedford. The turnout was amazing with over 300 people coming to show their support and walk with Jayne and others who live with epilepsy. Many student volunteers helped raise donations and assisted with the walk. The students received community service credit as well as the opportunity to learn about epilepsy and support their friend. Walkers were treated to delicious snacks and live music. Through the tireless efforts of the Gershfeld family, there were many raffles with over 40 prizes, such as a ring valued at \$750, a cashmere throw donated by Ralph Lauren, and tickets to a Broadway show. The community banded together to raise over \$17,000 to support epilepsy education and raise awareness! Thank you so much to Jayne, the Gershfeld family and friends, and all who came out to enjoy 'Jayne's Walk'!

Senator Ted Kennedy Released from Hospital after Seizure

Senator Ted Kennedy of Massachusetts was released from a Washington hospital after suffering a seizure during an inaugural luncheon and is reportedly doing well. This was Senator Kennedy's second seizure, the first occurring in May 2008 due to a brain tumor. Seizures are not unusual in patients being treated for brain tumors.

However, epilepsy can affect anyone, of any age, at any time. Older Americans have the highest percentage of newly diagnosed cases each year. It is important that seniors, family members, and caregivers know how to recognize the signs and symptoms of a seizure.

First Aid for Seniors having Convulsions

- Ease the person onto the floor or another flat surface
- Put something soft underneath their head
- Turn the person gently to one side to prevent choking and clear airways
- Do not put anything in the mouth
- Do not give fluids or medications until the seizure is over and the person is fully recovered

If you are a family member or a caretaker for an older person who has seizures, speak with their health care team. They can provide suggestions and help you to come up with a response plan for when a seizure happens. The doctor may want to be notified every time a seizure happens, so good record-keeping of your observations can be important. A medical professional can advise you as to when to call an ambulance and whether there are any special warning signs that you should look for. Good rest, good nutrition, and a positive attitude can also be key to living the most fulfilling and happy life with epilepsy!

Would you like to become a member of ESSNY/CPI?

Yes, I want to HELP those with epilepsy and other developmental disabilities by becoming a member with my donation of:

___ \$25 Basic ___ \$50 Supporting ___ \$100 Gold ___ \$250 Patron ___ \$500 Benefactor

___ My Employer has a matching gift program. Attached is the required form.

Name _____ Card # _____ Amount _____

Please charge my: ___ Visa ___ Mastercard ___ Amex Exp. Date _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Signature _____ (Thank you for your tax-deductible check made payable to ESSNY/CPI)

ESSNY/CPI Staff News

Chief Clinical Officer **Kim Egan** attended a radio interview with author and traumatic brain injury survivor Daniel Windheim. Transcripts of their session can be found at www.tbilife.com.



AAA to the Rescue!

Service Coordinator **Kristen Hveem** was happy to take advantage of the AAA program that we offer to all staff here. Kristen was on her way back to the office on one of our recent cold and snowy days when she ran into car trouble. Thanks to the prompt service of AAA, Kristen was able to have her car quickly towed and fixed for a reasonable price. We're all glad she was okay!



On Sunday, November 23rd, a group went to celebrate the holiday season at the Westchester Broadway Theater in Elmsford. They viewed the musical “**A Wonderful Life**” and a wonderful time was certainly had by all.

Mark Your Calendar!

Upcoming events to help raise awareness and community education

What: Rockland County Adult Epilepsy Support Group

When: 3rd Monday of every Month
7pm-9pm

Where: West Nyack Offices, West Nyack, NY

What: ESSNY & CPI Golf Outing

When: 12 Noon Friday, June 15th 2009

Where: New York Country Club,
New Hempstead, NY

What: 18th Annual Bowl-A-Thon

When: 6pm-10pm
Friday, June 19th 2009

Where: New City Bowl, New City, NY

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