

Caregiver Connection

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Welcome to the Caregiver Connection Ezine, your source for the most current information about caregiving events, conferences, and issues that are important to you.



Please consult our website for more information: www.njcaregivers.org.

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Somerset Patriots Helping Hands Night



The Family Resource Network will be partnering with the minor league baseball team, the Somerset Patriots for a Helping Hands Night honoring "Organizations and the lives they touch". Tickets to the game are on sale for \$5. This is a great way to learn about the services FRN provides and an inexpensive night out for families. The game is Thursday, July 2nd at 7:05pm at TD Bank Park in Bridgewater, NJ, near New Brunswick.

Please call 800-336-5843 for more information.

Disability Awareness Night at Trenton Thunder!

Disability Awareness Night with The Trenton Thunder!

Sponsored by Exceptional Parent Magazine and
Faulkner Financial/MassMutual

July 30th, 2009

5:30p.m. - 7:30p.m.

Disability Resource Fair

Providers from the area will be available to speak to families and
provide them with resources and information prior to the game

7:05 p.m.

Trenton Thunder vs. Harrisburg Senators

Tickets are free to the first 100 People that register to attend!
Kids 12 and under eat for free (Hot Dog, Chips and a Soda) Extra Details:

Don't forget the Fireworks!

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Eric M. Joice, Executive Director of The Family Resource Network and Caregivers of New Jersey will be awarded with the EP Maxwell J. Schleifer Distinguished Service Award. This award named after the founder and former Editor-In-Chief of Exceptional Parent Magazine, is awarded to an individual who has displayed remarkable accomplishments and dedication in the care and advocacy of individuals with disabilities/under difficult circumstances. Pre-game ceremony held at Waterfront Park, home of the Trenton Thunders Minor League Baseball team.



Register for tickets on-line at:

<http://whoscoming.com/thunder/DisabilityAwarenessNight.html>

VISOR Program for Visually Impaired and Low Vision Veterans

With exciting the return of New Jersey's National Guard last week, the issue of Veteran benefits is bound to be a topic of conversation. Please read below to find out more about a new program from Veterans Affairs, VISOR.

The purpose of the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) Visual Impairment Services Outpatient Rehabilitation (VISOR) Program is to provide comprehensive low vision and rehabilitation services to Veterans with vision loss. The goal of the VISOR Program is to help Veterans and their family members adjust to the challenges of visual impairment.

The VISOR Program is made up of three components.

Outpatient Clinic Services are set up in the VA NJ Health Care System to identify and treat Veterans with low vision. Specialists and Optometrists will assess and help Veterans to adjust to their vision conditions.

The VISOR Hoptel Program is an intensive 10-day training program for Veterans who are able to attend to their personal needs without requiring nursing care. Veterans are evaluated and rehabilitated in skill areas including low vision orientation and mobility, living skills, and manual skills. Computer skills are offered where appropriate. Veterans also receive counseling to help cope with vision loss.

VISOR Home Services involve rehabilitation follow up at the home of the Veteran after the Hoptel Program to make sure the skills have been transferred from the clinical environment to the home environment and in the community.

For more information, please contact William Kallenberg at 908-647-0180 x. 4437 or by email at William.kallenberg@va.gov.

CareOne Caregiver Support Groups

CareOne at Dunroven in Cresskill offers FREE programs that are open to the public

Caregiver Support Group:
2nd Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm

Features different guest speakers and light fare provided

July 8th: Robert Romano- Elder Law Attorney
August 12th: Jonathan Schwartz- on Long Term Care Insurance

Other Programs Available
Tai Chi/movement therapy for those w/ mobility impairments
Preventative health screenings
Stroke awareness and prevention

RSVP/or more info 201-567-9310



If this is not in your neighborhood, perhaps we can help find a support group near you. Every CareOne offers a support group, so call 201-567-9310 to find CareOne resources near you.

Sotomayer Not Deterred by Diabetes

When President Obama announced his nominee for the Supreme Court, he trumpeted her childhood diagnosis of diabetes as one of the challenges she'd overcome. Sonia Sotomayer's success is a testament to how extraordinary life with diabetes can be.

Most cases - 90 to 95% - are Type 2 which usually develops in adulthood. Sotomayer has the less common Type 1, in which the pancreas is no longer able to make insulin, the hormone that the body needs to process glucose, its main source of energy. If the disease is untreated, glucose will build up in the bloodstream and can damage cells throughout the body.

Sotomayer needs to replace the insulin her body no longer makes, and she needs to keep an eye on the amount of glucose in her blood to make sure that it isn't going too high or too low. Highly motivated people like Sotomayer do particularly well with the self management tasks of diabetes. She is also lucky enough to have health insurance given that diabetes can be expensive to treat.



If you are interested in learning more about diabetes, treatment or support, please call the Family Support Center of NJ at 800-372-6510.

NJ's Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System State Survey to Include Questions about Caring for Someone with Alzheimer's

Caregivers of New Jersey and other organizations are interested in reassuring that the questions regarding caregivers and Alzheimer's disease and other forms of dementia are included in the statewide BRFSS study for 2010, run by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The BRFSS is a valuable tool for state agencies and nonprofit organization when assessing and responding to the needs of the local community. With the older population on the threshold of a book, the BRFSS should incorporate questions that identify the needs of America's seniors and their caregivers.

The inclusion of the caregiver module in the BRFSS will help to better assess the growing impact of Alzheimer's disease and the needs of family caregivers at the community level. Data collected from the module would provide state and local agencies, as well as nonprofit organizations offering patient and caregivers services, with the foundation for planning efforts and funding decisions.

Interested organizations and agencies should contact Dana Goldberg at dgoldberg@njcaregivers.org or (732) 262-8020.

Thank you for reading Caregiver Connection! 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 dgoldberg@njcaregivers.org or click the "Join Our Mailing List" button on the top right side of the newsletter.

Additionally, CNJ is dedicated to spreading awareness and knowledge of caregiving, so we invite you to utilize the "Forward Email" button at the bottom of this email.

Sincerely,

Dana Goldberg, Administrator
Caregivers of New Jersey

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