

Warren County Board of Supervisors

Proclamation

WHEREAS, when a person has two or more unprovoked seizures, which may be caused by a brain injury, infection or family (genetic) tendency, has epilepsy and for 7 out of 10 people the cause of their epilepsy is unknown; and

WHEREAS, three million Americans have epilepsy, making it the fourth most common neurological condition in the U.S., which is more prevalent than cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, Parkinson's disease and autism combined; and

WHEREAS, each year another 15,000 Americans will be diagnosed with epilepsy and a national report by The Institute of Medicine states that one in 26 Americans will develop epilepsy at some point in their life - despite all available treatments, 4 out of 10 people with epilepsy have uncontrolled seizures while many more experience less than optimal seizure control; and

WHEREAS, every year 1 in 150 people who have uncontrolled seizures dies from SUDEP (Sudden Unexpected Death in Epilepsy) and there are at least 2,750 U.S. cases of SUDEP every year, which is more than the 1,575 cases of sudden infant death syndrome (SIDS) reported in 2013, and The Epilepsy Foundation's SUDEP Institute has released a special report to raise public awareness in the epilepsy community and promote steps that can prevent SUDEP; and

WHEREAS, now in its 35th year, the Epilepsy Foundation of Northeastern NY (EFNENY) offers programs and services at no charge to an estimated 45,000 with epilepsy and their families living in a 11-county service area in northeastern New York - including over 1,300 people with epilepsy in Warren County; and

WHEREAS, EFNENY's mission is to stop seizures and SUDEP cases, find a cure and help people with families overcome the challenges created by epilepsy through services, education, advocacy and research; and

WHEREAS, EFNENY provides advocacy, counseling, support groups and service coordination, as well as education and first aid training in schools, businesses and to first responders, EFNENY also works to ensure that people with epilepsy have the opportunity to live their lives to their fullest potential; and

WHEREAS, "Epilepsy Awareness Month" each November challenges the general public to better understand this disorder, how to recognize seizures and provide proper first aid technique while also providing an opportunity to encourage government at all levels to fully support epilepsy research programs that are seeking new treatments and a cure; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Warren County Board of Supervisors here by recognizes the month of November 2016 to be

EPILEPSY AWARENESS MONTH

and, in doing so, encourages the citizens of Warren County to better understand this disorder and promote epilepsy research programs that seek new treatments and a cure.

Dated: October 21, 2016


Kevin B. Geraghty, Chairman
Warren County Board of Supervisors