
OCL Update



To: Community Representatives

From: Janyce Hedetniemi, Director
Office of Community Liaison
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: September 2000

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

The end of summer means the beginning of planning for a new fiscal year at NIH and a new round of activities for the Office of Community Liaison. Elsewhere in this issue, you'll find information about the October 21 Community Health Forum, "Share the Health." I'll give you a heads-up—our luncheon speaker will be none other than Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute! More information will follow, but I hope that each of you will make note of the day and the event.

The Community Health Forum is a direct result of NIH's commitment to share its resources with the public and with our immediate neighbors. I'd like to use this month's Director's Notes to tell you about another example of sharing that was highly successful.

This past spring, my office, in cooperation with a number of NIH Institutes, offered in-service training for workers of the Montgomery County Department of Social Services. Almost a year ago, I was approached by Ms. Jane Fidler of the County's Center for Continuous Learning. Her enthusiasm and dedication made it easy for us to agree to engage with the County to offer training programs of special need and interest to the County's social workers.

Credit Barbara McDonald of my office and Ms. Jennifer Kirby, Presidential Management Intern, with a lot of phone calls and persuasion—the result was a series of seminars offered from February to May on the topics of: Infant and Early Childhood Brain Development; Attention Deficit Disorder; Psychotropic Medication and Children; Personality Disorders; Working with the Aging; and Violence in Families. Credit also the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, which made its Executive Boulevard conference facility available for the series. The result—almost 600 County social workers and other Social Services staff had the opportunity to hear about new research findings and to talk with scientists and administrators active in social and behavioral sciences research. Credit especially the remarkable talents of the seminar leaders—Drs. Lisa Freund; Allan Mirsky; Benedetto Vitiello; Kathleen O'Leary; and Linda Lewandowski!

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The Community Liaison Council (CLC) will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, September 21, at 4:00 p.m.** in Conference Room D of the Natcher Conference Center (Building 45) on the NIH campus.

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We understand that the program has been cited by Chuck Short as being a model partnership and indeed, the Center for Continuous Learning received an Outstanding Program Award for the In-Service Training initiative from the National Association of Counties!

This opportunity has been mutually beneficial. And, thanks to Jane Fidler's initiative, we plan to offer another program of in-service training this fall and again in the spring of 2001.

I hope that all of you will enjoy the remaining days of summer. We at NIH look forward to continued partnerships with the community and with our neighbors.

NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

NEI Director Dr. Carl Kupfer Steps Down After 30-Year NIH Career

After a distinguished 30-year career and a long list of accomplishments, Carl Kupfer, M.D., the only person to ever serve as the director of the National Eye Institute (NEI), stepped down from his post at the helm of the government's leading vision research agency this summer.

"During Dr. Kupfer's long tenure, the NEI has been critical in the shaping of vision research in this country, and his outstanding leadership has contributed enormously to the fabric of the National Institutes of Health (NIH)," said Ruth Kirschstein, M.D., acting director of the NIH. "Due to his leadership, NEI research results have made a difference in the lives of millions of Americans. His leadership has made NEI, today, the largest and most comprehensive vision research center in the world."

Dr. Kupfer was appointed director of NEI in January, 1970, after Congress established the institute in 1968. He was quick to identify the needs and opportunities in vision research. Dr. Kupfer insisted that the area of central visual processing

be included as part of the NEI mission, which was then adopted by NIH leadership. He also stressed the importance of individual research grants as opposed to the more accepted, umbrella-type program project and center grants. This process resulted in the first of many five-year strategic plans that greatly



Carl Kupfer, M.D.

accelerated vision research progress in the United States and ultimately became a model for other NIH institutes. "Our first strategic plan identified areas in vision research that needed immediate attention," said Dr. Kupfer. "By identifying these opportunities, the entire research process was hastened, and the public's tax dollars were used more efficiently."

An outspoken and effective advocate for high-quality clinical research at NIH, Dr. Kupfer expanded research at the NEI by establishing laboratory programs in molecular biology, immunology, neuroscience, and molecular genetics. "Our first priority has always been the highest quality research and projects that give us the opportunity for 'lab-to-bedside' clinical trials, where laboratory research can be conducted, and treatments quickly applied, to small groups of patients," he said.

As NEI director, Dr. Kupfer oversaw the development of NEI's National Eye Health Education Program (NEHEP), a partnership of professional, civic, and voluntary organizations and government agencies that conducts public and professional prevention education programs. "The program helps disseminate research findings from the laboratory to health professionals, patients, and the public," Dr. Kupfer said. "This is a natural extension of our activities in vision research and is the final step in the research process," he added.

Dr. Kupfer, who has served six U.S. presidents and six NIH directors, is the recipient of numerous awards and honors. He is a graduate of Yale University and received his medical degree from

NIH Plans to “Share the Health” with Its Neighbors during Its Third Annual Community Health Forum in October

The NIH Office of Community Liaison will share health information and offer ways to help its neighbors lead healthier lifestyles at its third annual community health forum, *Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to Its Neighbors* on Saturday, October 21, 2000. The purpose of this free event, which features health screenings, seminars on important health topics, and health-related information from exhibiting NIH institutes, is to promote health through the prevention of disease by showcasing what NIH has to offer to the community. The health forum will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the Natcher Conference Center in Building 45 on the NIH campus in Bethesda, Maryland.

Internationally renowned geneticist **Dr. Francis Collins**, director of the National Human Genome Research Institute, will give the keynote luncheon presentation on the human genome. He will be joined by as many as 12 more NIH scientists, who will discuss various health topics in the seminars. Confirmed seminar topics include Alcohol and the Brain, Dry Mouth and Dry Eyes: Could It Be Sjögren’s Syndrome?, and the Mission and Focus of the National Center for Complementary and Alternative Medicine. Other potential seminar topics include Alzheimer’s disease and caregiving; women’s health; depression; teaching your child to read; learning disabilities; eye and ear health; health disparities research; drug abuse; and sleep deprivation.

Forum participants also will be able to visit an Internet resource center, where experts will pro-

vide tutorials and hands-on demonstrations on “healthy” Web sites, database searches, and medical clearinghouse information. Participants can learn how to access the health information of their choice, print the results of their searches, and take this and other information with them. Additionally, nearly every NIH institute will have an exhibit where the participants can pick up the very latest information on health and disease.

Event activities include special health demonstrations and workshops, tours of the National Library of Medicine and Children’s Inn, tours of NIH emergency medical vehicles, canine demonstrations, volunteer opportunities, and efforts by local officials to promote health within the community.

Save the date and plan to bring the entire family to the premier biomedical research facility in the world, NIH, on Saturday, October 21 for a day of community health. The Natcher Conference Center is equipped with an infrared system to accommodate those who need sound amplification. Sign language interpretation will be provided. For more information, for reasonable accommodations, or to receive a registration brochure, call Terry LaMotte or Monique Simpson of Palladian Partners at 301-650-8660 (TTY users should call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339), send an e-mail to tlamotte@palladianpartners.com, or visit the event Web site at <http://health.info.nih.gov/forum2000>.

The Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore. Dr. Kupfer will not leave NIH entirely. He now plans to devote the majority of his time to completing a catalog of the Cogan Collection, a compilation of clinical cases and pathology reports of more than 50,000 patients. He will also continue to see patients at the NIH Clinical Center.

“My journey at the NEI and the NIH has been richly rewarding,” Dr. Kupfer said. “As a scientist, clinician, and administrator, I have been wonderfully blessed with experiences that have brought me to the cutting edge of vision research. These have been exciting and challenging times ..., and I am fortunate to have been a part of it.”

FAES Announces the Start of Its Chamber Music Series

The NIH Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) has announced its 2000–2001 Chamber Music Series. Now approaching its 32nd season, FAES promises a wonderful schedule of renowned performers and upcoming young artists. The series begins on October 1 and continues through the spring, and the concerts are held on Sundays at 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium of Building 10 on the NIH campus. Tickets may be purchased in advance or at the door. A series subscription is \$165 for nine performances, and individual shows are \$25 or \$10 for students and fellows. The series schedule is listed below. For more information or for tickets, call 301-496-7975 or visit <http://www.faes.org/music.htm>.

October 1	Brentano String Quartet
November 5	Thibaud String Trio
November 19	Ysaye String Quartet with Regis Pasquier, <i>violin</i> , and Jean-Claude Pennetier, <i>piano</i>
December 3	Auryn String Quartet with Peter Orth, <i>piano</i>
January 28	Wolfgang Holzmaier, <i>baritone</i> , and Russell Ryan, <i>piano</i>
February 4	Trio di Parma
February 18	Tokyo String Quartet
March 11	Concerto Soloists of Philadelphia with Ignat Solzhenitsyn, <i>conductor and pianist</i>
March 25	Winners of the Borciani String Quartet Competition

NIH Supports Expansion of Women's Health Research

In a major new effort to stimulate women's health research across a variety of disciplines, NIH announced that it will award \$5.5 million to 11 universities to help develop new research in women's health. The program, Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health (BIRCWH), seeks to increase the number of researchers working on women's health issues and to mentor junior researchers by pairing them with senior investigators.

Lead by the NIH Office of Research on Women's Health (ORWH), the BIRCWH program is jointly

sponsored by nine other NIH institutes and the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality (AHRQ). "The BIRCWH program offers a tremendous opportunity to advance women's health research," said ORWH Director Vivian Pinn, M.D. "This program will encourage researchers from a variety of areas—basic, clinical, behavioral, health services, and public health research—to approach a scientific question from different perspectives."

If selected as Interdisciplinary Women's Health Research (IWHR) Scholars, junior faculty members from the participating universities will expand their research skills in these interdisciplinary career development programs by working with seasoned senior investigators who will mentor them for two to five years.

Other NIH institutes sponsoring the program include the National Institute on Aging, the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, the NCI, the National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, the National Institute on Drug Abuse, the National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences, and the National Institute of Mental Health.

Dr. Lawrence Tabak Named NIDCR Director

Acting NIH Director Ruth L. Kirschstein, M.D., appointed Lawrence A. Tabak, D.D.S., Ph.D., as director of the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research (NIDCR) in July. Dr. Tabak, who will begin his directorship this month, most recently served as the director of the Center for Oral Biology at the Aab Institute of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Rochester.

"I am honored to join the NIH team at a time when scientific opportunity has never been greater," said Dr. Tabak. "It will be my privilege to work together with the scientific community, the public, and the outstanding members of NIDCR to improve oral health."

As NIDCR's seventh director, Dr. Tabak will lead more than 400 NIH scientists and administrators,

as well as several hundred NIDCR grantees around the world, in research related to craniofacial, oral, and dental health and disease.

In his prior position at the University of Rochester, Dr. Tabak oversaw several interdisciplinary research groups studying the molecular and genetic aspects of craniofacial, oral, and dental conditions. His own research on mucin-glycoproteins, a group of molecules that protects the mucosal surfaces of the body, has been well established, and Dr. Tabak has an extensive publication record. A recipient of numerous awards and honors for his work, Dr. Tabak also served as senior associate dean for research at the School of Medicine and Dentistry at Rochester, directed three graduate research training programs, and held professorships in dentistry, biochemistry, and biophysics.

“His experience as a senior administrator in a prestigious academic health center, as well as his studies on glycoproteins, will be invaluable to the institute and to NIH as we address the scientific opportunities before us,” said Dr. Kirschstein.

Dr. Tabak received his undergraduate degree from City College of the City University of New York, his dental degree from Columbia University, and both a Ph.D. and certificate of proficiency in endodontics from the State University of New York at Buffalo.

NHLBI Launches Innovative Hearts N’ Parks Program to Reduce Heart Disease

In July, the NIH National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) joined forces with the National Recreation and Park Association (NRPA) to launch a new community-based program aimed at reducing obesity and decreasing the risk of heart disease among Americans nationwide. The very first Washington, D.C. area Hearts N’ Parks program was introduced on July 18 in Arlington, Virginia, at a special news conference that featured U.S. Assistant Secretary for Health and Surgeon General David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D.

Hearts N’ Parks aims to reduce the growing trend of obesity and the risk of coronary heart disease in

the United States by encouraging Americans of all ages to aim for a healthy weight, follow a heart-healthy eating plan, and engage in regular physical activity. Health officials say these goals are important because heart disease is the leading cause of death in the United States and being overweight or obese

increases the risk of developing heart disease, stroke, diabetes, and cancer, as well as other conditions. Approximately 97 million American adults are currently overweight or obese, and one in five children over the age of 6 is considered overweight.



U.S. Surgeon General
David Satcher, M.D., Ph.D.

“A major goal of Healthy People 2010 is reducing the prevalence of overweight and obesity, as well as improving the nutritional status and level of physical activity among all Americans,” said Dr. Satcher. “Hearts N’ Parks shows what the federal government can accomplish with community and private sector support to improve the health of Americans from all ethnic and socioeconomic backgrounds.”

Through the Hearts N’ Parks program, science-based information about lifestyle choices that can reduce one’s risk of heart disease and skills for incorporating heart-healthy behaviors into one’s life are taught as part of the regular activities offered by park and recreation departments and other community-based agencies. The program also provides tools for measuring the impact of these activities.

The Arlington Hearts N’ Parks program will include activities that promote heart-healthy eating in existing elementary after-school and playground camp programs and in senior programs. Heart health classes will also be offered through recreation and leisure programs this fall.

Community organizations that are interested in becoming a Heart N’ Parks community can contact the NRPA at 1-800-649-3042 or at programs@nrpa.org.

NIH Announces Start of 2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series

NIH announced the start of its 2000–2001 season of the Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series. Beginning on September 13 and continuing through June 27, 2001, the program features weekly scientific talks by some of the top biomedical researchers in the world. The lectures, which are free and open to the public, are held at 3 p.m. on Wednesdays (unless otherwise noted) in Masur Auditorium of Building 10 on the NIH campus. The schedule for September follows:

September 13

How Viruses Suppress the Immune System: Molecular and Cellular Mechanisms and Consequences by Michael Oldstone, M.D., Head of the Division of Virology at The Scripps Research Institute

September 18*

Why Did Human History Unfold Differently on Different Continents for the Last 13,000 Years? by Jared Diamond, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Physiology, School of Medicine, University of California, Los Angeles

September 20

Life at the End of the Chromosome: Telomeres and Telomerase by Thomas Cech, Ph.D., Distinguished Professor of Biochemistry, University of Colorado, Boulder; and President, Howard Hughes Medical Institute

September 25*

Genes from the Fountain of Youth by Cynthia Kenyon, Ph.D., Herbert Boyer Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics, University of California at San Francisco

September 27

Olfaction in *Drosophila*: Genetics and eGenetics by John Carlson, Ph.D., Professor of Molecular, Cellular, and Developmental Biology, Yale University

**Special Monday lecture*

Informal receptions with poster displays by Fellows Awards for Research Excellence winners follow each presentation. Continuing Medical Education credits are available, and lectures may be accessed from personal computers via NIH's MBONE. All presentations will be taped, and the videotapes will be available in the NIH Library in Building 10 approximately one week following the lecture. For more information about the series or for a lecture schedule, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals>.

Custom Car and Street Rod Show to Benefit the Children's Inn

Join the NIH Recreation & Welfare Association and Chevy Chase Cars for the 10th Annual Come Back to Bethesda Custom Car and Street Rod Show on Saturday, October 7, 2000. More than 100 of the best custom cars, trucks, classics, and street rods in the Washington, D.C. area will fill the garage and surrounding streets of Chevy Chase Cars, from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. in downtown Bethesda. If someone you know is a car aficionado, then this is the place to be. Register your custom car or hot rod, and raise money for the Children's Inn. Pre-registration by September 25 is \$15 per car and includes a free T-shirt, dash plaques for the first 150 registrants, lunch for the car owner, and goodie bags while they last. For more information or to pre-register, call Karen at 301-496-6061 or register online at <http://www.chevychasecars.com/bethesda.htm>.

NIH Blood Bank Appeals for Donations

NIH continues to experience a shortage of blood donations. The NIH Blood Bank currently needs A-positive and O-positive blood types. Call 301-496-1048 or stop by the Department of Transfusion Medicine in Building 10, the Clinical Center, 1st floor, Room 1C713B.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 6
2000–2001 Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Quality of Work Life at NIH*, 12:30–1:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information about the program, to pre-register for one of the seminars, or for reasonable accommodations, call 301-435-1619.

Parkinson Exercise Group, Mondays and Wednesdays through October 25, 11 a.m., Bethesda Senior Source, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, minimal fee, open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-951-1990.

September 7
Introduction to Chinese Calligraphy and Ink Brush Painting, Thursdays through October 5, 2–3:30 p.m., Bethesda Senior Source, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda, \$24 (\$20 for members), open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-951-1990.

September 8-10

Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Conference, featuring 40 workshops and presentations for thyroid cancer patients and their family members, sponsored by the Thyroid Cancer Survivors' Association, Inc., various times, National 4-H Conference Center, 7100 Connecticut Ave., Chevy Chase, \$40 or free to those requesting a scholarship. For more information or to request a registration brochure, call 301-260-0975, email conference@thyca.org, or visit <http://www.thyca.org>.

September 9

Living with Breast Cancer: Finding Balance, features a keynote presentation by Ernestine Schlant Bradley, Ph.D., breast cancer survivor and advocate, professor, author, and wife of former senator Bill Bradley (D-NJ), 8 a.m.-1 p.m., Suburban Hospital Conference Center, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information or to request a registration brochure, call 301-896-3939 or visit <http://www.suburbanhospital.org>.

September 11

ORWH Anniversary Celebration: Celebrating a Decade of Progress in Women's Health Research: Embracing the Challenges of the 21st Century, 8:45 a.m.-5 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Ellyn Pollack at 301-402-1770.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Why Joint Replacements Are Totally Hip (Or Knee!), 1-2:30 p.m., Suburban Hospital Conference Center, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-896-3939 or visit <http://www.suburbanhospital.org>.

Music in the Library: Andrew Waldron, classical guitar, 7 p.m., Kensington Park Community Library, 4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-897-2211.

September 12

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Saving Your Skin! by Dr. Saundra Seamon, 1:15 p.m., Holiday Park Community Center, 3950 Ferrara Drive, Wheaton, free and open to the public. Call 301-896-3939 to register.

September 13

2000-2001 Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: The Basics of Balancing Work and Family, 12:30-2:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information about the program, to pre-register for one of the seminars, or for reasonable accommodations, call 301-435-1619.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Advances in Cosmetic Surgery for Seniors by Dr. Janette Alexander, 1 p.m., Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, free and open to the public. Call 301-309-3050 to register.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Don't Get Knocked Off Your Feet by Christina Mage, 1 p.m., Hebrew Home of Greater Washington, Wasserman Social Hall, Wasserman Building, 6121 Montrose Road, Rockville, free and open to the public. Call 301-869-3939 to register.

September 15

Road Runners Club of America Run to Work Day, a national event sponsored by the RRCA. Call 301-353-0200 to arrange for running partners.

September 17

Spirit of Rockville: A Celebration of Cultures, featuring a celebration of ethnic traditions and tastes, including traditional dance, music, demonstrations, crafts, games, and parade, 1-6 p.m., Rockville Civic Center Park, 603 Edmonston Dr., Rockville, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-309-3330.

September 19

2000 Medicine for the Public Lecture Series: New Directions for Organ and Tissue Transplantation by Dr. Allan D. Kirk, Chief, Transplantation Section, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases, NIH, 7 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-496-2563.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: The ABCs of Eating Disorders—Anorexia, Bulimia, and Compulsive Eating, 7-8 p.m., Suburban Hospital Conference Center, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, Bethesda, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-896-3939 or visit <http://www.suburbanhospital.org>.

September 20

National Library of Medicine History of Medicine Seminar Series: The French Connection: Pathological Anatomy at the University of Pennsylvania Medical School, 1820-1845, by Dr. Simon Baatz, NLM research historian, 2-3:15 p.m., Building 38, Conference Room B, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-8878.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Breathing Better! by Dr. Thomas Winkler, 1 p.m., Friendship Heights Community Center, 4433 S. Park Avenue, Chevy Chase, free and open to the public. Call 301-896-3939 to register.

September 21

ORWH 2000 Women’s Health Seminar Series: Women’s Health Research: A Decade of Progress: *Stress*, 1–3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-1770.

September 22

2000–2001 Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Communicating Effectively: Starting from Scratch*, noon–2 p.m., Building 1, Wilson Hall, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information about the program, to pre-register for one of the seminars, or for reasonable accommodations, call 301-435-1619.

September 23

Brookside Gardens Children’s Day, a fun-filled day for children encouraging an interest in plants, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Brookside Gardens Grounds, 1800 Glenallan Ave., Wheaton, free and open to the public. Call 301-949-8230 for more information.

Potomac Family Fun Festival 2000, a festival featuring carnival games, music, face painting, food, and prizes, 11 a.m.–5 p.m., \$5, Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, Potomac. Call 301-983-4471 for more information.

September 26

2000 Medicine for the Public Lecture Series: *Adolescents and AIDS: Millennium Milestones* by Dr. Lauren Wood, Senior Clinical Investigator, HIV and AIDS Malignancy Branch, National Cancer Institute, 7 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-496-2563.

September 27

2000–2001 Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Helping Your Child Apply to College*, 10–11:30 a.m., Building 31, Room 6C10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information about the program, to pre-register for one of the seminars, or for reasonable accommodations, call 301-435-1619.

September 28

Davis Community Library Parent Workshop Series: *Making a Successful Transition to Middle School*, 7:30–9 p.m., Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda, free and open to public. Registration is requested. For more information or to register, call Bethesda Youth Services at 301-229-1347.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

Olney Theatre Hosts Author to Address Women’s Roles

On September 18, 2000, the Olney Theatre Center presents a special performance of *Conversations with the Goddess*, a staged reading that examines women’s roles in today’s society, by author Agapi Stassinopoulos. Leadership, equality in the workplace, and raising a family are all issues that women have struggled with in recent decades. While these issues appear to be modern phenomena, Stassinopoulos will illustrate, through passages from Euripides, Shakespeare, and Shaw, how women in the past have dealt with these “modern” dilemmas. The performance begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Multz-Gudelsky Theatre Lab at the Olney Theatre, located at 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road in Olney, Maryland. Tickets are \$45 and \$35 for individuals under 35 years of age. For more information or for tickets, call 301-924-3400 or visit <http://www.olneytheatre.org>.

Montgomery County to Celebrate Its 224th Birthday

Help Montgomery County celebrate its 224th birthday on Sunday, September 10, 2000. From noon until 5 p.m., county residents can enjoy a community day of history and fun for all ages, including birthday cake. Meet historical characters from the county’s past, watch living history demonstrations, see local history groups and other exhibits, make crafts with the kids, listen to music, go on a history hunt, and more. The Montgomery County Historical Society (MCHS) and the Historic Preservation Commission are sponsoring these and other free activities at Beall-Dawson Historical Park, 103 W. Montgomery Avenue in Rockville, Maryland. For more information, call MCHS at 301-762-1492 or visit www.montgomeryhistory.org.

County Sponsors Computer Recycling

Have you ever wondered what to do with your old, outdated computer equipment? Unfortunately, most people throw it in the trash. According to Montgomery County officials, over 150 million computers will be discarded in the United States

this year, enough to fill a hole 3½ miles deep and an acre wide. To help combat this problem, the county has started a new computer drop-off recycling program at the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station in Derwood, Maryland. For four Sundays this fall, residents may drop off old or unwanted central processing units, hard drives, monitors, keyboards, printers and copiers, laptop computers, wires and power cords, computer speakers, surge protectors, video cards, scanners, computer mice, software, and other related equipment. Computer age or operating speed is not important; however, monitors with broken screens will not be accepted. All of the equipment that is collected will be donated, reused, or remanufactured. Residents can drop off used computer equipment between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. on **September 17, October 8, October 22, and November 12** at the transfer station located at 16101 Frederick Road. Residents should use the Shady Grove Road entrance. For more information or to volunteer during one of the collection days, call 301-840-2852 or visit <http://www.dpwt.com/SolWstSvcDiv>.

Germantown to Hold Oktoberfest in September

Germantown is holding true to its name by hosting the eighth annual Oktoberfest September 22–23, 2000 at Phillips Farm in Germantown, Maryland. The free festival begins on Friday, September 22 with a concert by Powerhouse from 6 to 9 p.m. Glowing hot air balloons will light up the sky, followed by fireworks, while festival goers listen to music and eat dinner from local food vendors. On Saturday, September 23 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., residents can enjoy German food and music, beer, and hay rides; sort their way through a corn maze; see a variety of entertainment for all ages; putt for \$10,000 cash; see puppet shows; make scarecrows; purchase local crafts; and much more. A hot air balloon race will also be featured at 7 a.m. Free parking and shuttle buses will run from the Germantown MARC station to Phillips Farm, 13710 Schaefer Road. For more information or directions, call 240-777-6820, or visit <http://www.co.mo.md.us/services/rec/oktoberfest2000.html>.

Maryland Renaissance Festival Hosts Upcoming Special Events

Bring the kids to the Maryland Renaissance Festival and take part in living history! Learn what it was like to live in 16th-century England! See jousting matches, listen to King Henry VIII, and experience town life with local merchants and roving entertainers. Every weekend, from now until October 22, and on Labor Day Monday, fair goers will be able to purchase crafts, see demonstrations, listen to live entertainment, and take part in games. Beginning this month, the festival, which takes place from 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. in Crownsville, Maryland, will host a series of special events:

- September 3** **Seniors' Day**, adults aged 62 and over are admitted free
- September 9, 10** **Deaf Awareness Weekend**, selected stage shows are sign-language interpreted for the deaf and hearing-impaired
- September 16, 17** **Scottish Weekend**, a Celtic celebration featuring music, dance, and caber toss demonstrations
- September 23, 24** **Pirate Invasion**, enjoy all things pirate, including costume contests for adults and children
- October 7, 8** **Oktoberfest**, features German bands and dancing

Tickets are \$14.95 for adults, \$12.95 for seniors, and \$5.95 for children (ages 7 to 15). Admission is free for children 6 and under. Discounted tickets of \$12 for adults and \$5.50 for children are available for NIH Recreation & Welfare Association (R&W) members at R&W stores or by calling 301-496-6061. For more information about the festival, call 1-800-296-7304 or visit <http://www.rennfest.com/mrf/index.html>.

National Chamber Orchestra Piano Recital Series Begins This Month

Join the National Chamber Orchestra in celebrating 300 years of the piano during its piano recital series, which opens this month. For three spectacular evenings, talented pianists will take the stage in Rockville, Maryland and offer classics by Beethoven, Chopin, Mozart, Ravel, Tchaikovsky, and Brahms—to name a few. The series schedule is listed below. Tickets range from \$21 to \$43 for the series and from \$9 to \$19 for single performances. All performances begin at 8 p.m. and take place in the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre concert hall at the Rockville Civic Center, located at 603 Edmonston Drive. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 301-762-8580 or visit <http://www.nationalchamberorch.org>.

- September 16** **Brian Ganz**, performing the music of Beethoven, Chopin, Moss, and Simpson
- March 10** **Thomas Pandolfi**, performing the music of Mozart, Ravel, Brahms, Mussorgsky, Prokofiev, and Tchaikovsky
- June 2** **Yuliya Gorenman**, performing the music of Tchaikovsky, Rachmaninoff, and Scriabin

TRY THIS WEB SITE: <http://healthdisparities.nih.gov>

“Addressing Health Disparities: The NIH Program of Action” is a newly established Web site that NIH has launched to inform the public of its efforts to reduce racial and ethnic health gaps. The site provides background information on the NIH health disparities program, including the goals and initiatives related to its inception. The site also explains what health disparities are, the areas of health most affected, and a section of frequently asked questions. Future events and related resources are also available.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Interpreters Sought

The Clinical Center Volunteer Office is in need of in-house language interpreters to serve as back-ups when others are not available. The interpreters would assist patients and their families who are not fluent in English. Speakers of Arabic, French, Portuguese, Spanish, and Creole are particularly needed. To help, call Andrea Rander at 301-496-1807.

Administrative Help Needed

The Bethesda Senior Source is in need of part-time or full-time administrative help between the hours of 9 a.m. and 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, at its office on 4805 Edgemoor Lane in Bethesda, Maryland. Tasks include answering the telephone, directing people to classes, and other light administrative tasks. Call Tina Purser at 301-951-1990 to help.

Postmenopausal Women Wanted for Blood Study

Doctors at the NIH seek post-menopausal women (not currently taking hormone replacement therapy) to take part in a study. Participants will be required to give a small sample of blood (about 2 tablespoons) in an initial screening. Total visit time required is approximately 30 to 45 minutes. The study does not require you to take any new medications, and it takes place at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland (with free parking). The study involves only a blood sample, and there is no age limitation. NIH will pay participants \$50 for each blood draw. For more information, please call 301-496-5150.

Healthy Married Men and Women Sought

The Pediatrics and Developmental Neuropsychiatry Branch at the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), seeks healthy men aged 56 to 73 and women aged 51 to 59 to participate in a functional magnetic resonance imaging (fMRI) study on the visual processing of faces. Participants must be right-handed and currently married. Volunteers should have no history of medical or psychiatric disorders, and should not be taking prescription medications, with the exception of hormone

replacement therapy (estrogen and/or progesterone), thyroid medication, and medications for high blood pressure (diuretics or ACE inhibitors). Volunteers must have normal vision or wear contacts. Participation requires a 2-hour screening interview, a follow-up visit, and a 3-hour visit for an fMRI scan. Participants will be reimbursed. For more information, call Tara Harrison or Christen Devine at 301-496-8381.

Male Volunteers Wanted

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch at the NIMH is seeking male volunteers between the ages of 18 to 45 to participate in a five-month study investigating the effects of reproductive hormones on brain and behavior. Volunteers must be free of medical illnesses and not be taking any medication on a regular basis. Participants will complete daily rating forms and will be asked to participate in one of several protocols. Payment will be in accordance with the duration of each visit and the type of protocol. For more information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair at 301-496-9576.

Perimenopause, Midlife Depression Study Subjects Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch at the NIMH is looking for women and men between 40 and 65 who are experiencing lack of pleasure or motivation, feelings of sadness or feeling “flat,” anxiety, irritability, difficulty coping, or decreased sexual interest. Eligible participants for studies involving DHEA (a natural hormone that decreases with age) will receive free laboratory screening and evaluation, bone density testing, and transportation assistance, if needed. To be eligible, participants must be medication free and in good physical health. For more information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair at 301-496-9576.

Healthy Women Needed for Genetic PMS Study

The NIMH is seeking healthy women between the ages of 18 and 45 to participate in a genetic study of the interaction of genes, mood, and menstrual cycle. Volunteers must have regular menstrual cycles, be medication free (including birth control pills), be available to participate in a 3- to 4-hour

appointment at NIH, and be able to complete three consecutive months of daily mood ratings at home. In addition, participants will be asked for a blood draw. Payment will be provided upon study completion. For more information, call 301-402-6846.

THE PATIENT RECRUITMENT AND PUBLIC LIAISON OFFICE

1-800-411-1222

prpl@nih.gov

<http://www.cc.nih.gov>

The Patient Recruitment and Public Liaison Office (PRPL) is a service of NIH's Warren G. Magnuson Clinical Center (CC) in Bethesda, Maryland. PRPL staff members assist patients, their families, physicians, and healthy volunteers by providing information about participating in research conducted at the CC. NIH offers all study-related evaluation, testing, and treatment at no charge to the participant. There are nearly 1,000 studies available to patients and healthy volunteers. They cover a wide range of common and rare diseases and conditions.

Below are some of the studies for which the PRPL currently is recruiting. For information about these or other CC studies, visit the CC Web site at <http://www.cc.nih.gov> (Click on “Clinical Research Studies”), or call the PRPL at the toll-free number listed above:

- **Endometriosis.** The National Institute of Child Health and Human Development invites women with pelvic pain associated with endometriosis to take part in a study of a potential new treatment.
- **Fibromyalgia.** Doctors at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research invite women aged 18 to 45 diagnosed with fibromyalgia to take part in a new study testing the benefits of exercise. There is no charge for participating.
- **Jaw Pain/TMD.** The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research seeks people between the ages of 18 and 65 with early onset or later stage Temporomandibular Disorders (TMD) for study testing treatment medications against placebo.

- **Psoriasis.** National Cancer Institute researchers seek people with psoriasis for study of a potential new treatment.
- **Shingles.** The National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases seeks healthy volunteers aged 60 and older who have never had shingles for a study to determine whether an enhanced version of the chickenpox vaccine can prevent shingles. Study participants need to make one outpatient visit to the NIH Clinical Center and monthly phone calls via a toll-free number for up to five years.
- **Sjögren's Syndrome.** The NIH researchers seek adults aged 18 or older who have been diagnosed with Sjögren's syndrome to take part in studies of a potential new treatment.
- **Teen Obesity.** Parents: Is your teenager overweight? Overweight teens are at risk for developing serious medical conditions during their teen years and as adults. NIH doctors are enrolling teens, aged 12 to 17, in a research study of a new weight loss medication. The Food and Drug Administration has approved the drug Orlistat for use by overweight adults. There is no charge for study tests, exams, medication, and weight-control education.
- **Uveitis.** The National Eye Institute seeks adults and children with uveitis for research studies to help find ways to improve diagnosis and treatment. The studies take place at the NIH Clinical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. NIH patients receive study-related eye exams, testing, and care at no charge.

The OCL Update is available on our Web site at <http://ocl.od.nih.gov/>. If you would rather view this document online and not receive a printed version, please contact the OCL office at 301-496-3931 or send us an e-mail at jh69z@nih.gov. If you would like to list an upcoming event of interest to the local community, call Terry LaMotte at Palladian Partners, OCL support contractor, at 301-650-8660, or e-mail tlamotte@palladianpartners.com.

Office of Community Liaison

National Institutes of Health
Building 1, Room 259
One Center Drive
Bethesda, MD 20892-0172

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