
OCCL Update



To: Community Representatives

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

Date: May 2000

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

Recently, I received a report from NIH's Division of Engineering Services that merited sharing with our community. In May of 1992, NIH executed a Transportation Management Plan (TMP) as part of a Memorandum of Agreement with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission and the National Capital Planning Commission. As part of that agreement, NIH monitors its traffic to measure the effectiveness of the TMP in reducing the rate of peak hour vehicular trips at the Bethesda Campus.

I won't go into technical detail about the equipment used to measure the traffic; the full report is available if you call my office or go to the NIH Environmental Reading Room.

Since May of 1992, there have been 14 surveys, with data collected from 11 campus entrances at peak hours of commuting. The fourteenth survey results, which I am sharing with you, are as follows:

- The number of vehicle trips during the morning peak hours has decreased approximately 31 percent from the 1992 base survey;
- Vehicle trips during the evening peak hours have decreased by about 32 percent since the 1992 survey; and
- The number of vehicle trips during the morning peak hours has decreased by about 17 percent from the base survey, and the number of vehicle trips generated during the evening peak periods have decreased by about 28 percent.

These results reflect NIH's aggressive efforts to reduce single occupancy vehicular traffic by supporting mass transit through Transhare and satellite parking programs and by encouraging employees to use vanpools and carpools.

I hope that you will find these data of interest, and that you will join me in commending the staff of the Division of Engineering Services for their efforts to contribute to reducing traffic density and congestion in our community.

The Community Liaison Council (CLC) will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, May 18, 2000 at 4:00 p.m.** in Building 1, Room 151 on the NIH campus. Potential topics include a presentation on the NIH grounds and on Bethesda's gardens, a presentation on NIH's stream restoration, and an update on parking.

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NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

NCI and CDC Collaborate on Cancer Surveillance and Control System

The National Cancer Institute (NCI) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) announced this spring that they will pool their resources to develop a comprehensive, federally integrated cancer surveillance and cancer control research system to better coordinate major cancer information. The collaboration allows the two agencies to coordinate training, technical assistance, methodology development, and other aspects of cancer registry management.

“NCI and CDC have been working together with partner organizations for a number of years to assure the availability of a core set of cancer data that both agencies can use to better understand and tackle the burden of cancer in the United States,” said Dr. Nancy Lee, director of CDC’s Division of Cancer Prevention and Control.

NCI and CDC are responsible for monitoring cancer rates in the United States as well as for building a better understanding of risks, lifestyles, screening, clinical care, outcomes, quality of life, and economic burdens related to cancer. NCI collects data on cancer incidence, mortality, and survival rates in several states, metropolitan areas, and select populations through its Surveillance, Epidemiology, and End Results program. CDC uses its National Program of Cancer Registries to collect cancer information in 45 states, the District of Columbia, and three territories.

“By using data from both programs, NCI and CDC will be creating an infrastructure for cancer control and surveillance research efforts nationwide,” said Dr. Robert Hiatt, deputy director of the NCI

Division of Cancer Control and Population Sciences.

“This information will also help direct effective cancer prevention and control programs by giving us data to determine cancer patterns among various groups of people, monitor cancer trends over time, and identify where cancer screening efforts need to be enhanced,” added Dr. Lee.

NIH Acting Director Receives “Hero of Science” Award

National Institutes of Health (NIH) Acting Director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, was honored with a distinguished award last month by the Americans for Medical Progress for her tremendous contributions in support of biomedical research. Dr. Kirschstein was one of six recipients honored with the 2000 Albert B. Sabin Heroes of Science awards at a ceremony in early April in Washington, D.C. Other award recipients include NIH Council of Public Representatives member Dr. David Frohnmayer, who is president of the University of Oregon and co-founder of the Fanconi Anemia Research Fund, Inc., and Rep. John Porter, an Illinois congressman and ardent supporter of NIH.

Tell Us What You Think

The NIH Office of Community Liaison (OCL) wants to hear from you! We want to provide our readers with interesting and informative articles, information about upcoming NIH and community events, answers to questions about NIH, ways for the community to get involved at NIH, and more. Please let us know what you find useful about the OCL Update, what you think could be improved, and anything else that may make this a more enjoyable publication. Please call 301-496-3931, send an e-mail to jh69z@nih.gov, or write to OCL/NIH, Building 1, Room 259, One Center Drive, Bethesda, MD 20892-0172.

OCL Update Available Online

The OCL Update is now 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.

Household Hazardous Waste Pickup Scheduled

Attention residents! Start saving your household hazardous waste for disposal at NIH from **10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 24, 2000.** Residents will have the opportunity to safely dispose of toxic, flammable, reactive, or corrosive waste that is commonly used or stored in the home, garage, or basement. Examples of items to bring include liquid oil, latex paint, thinners, solvents, pesticides, fuels, swimming pool chemicals, photographic chemicals, brake fluid, car batteries, nickel-cadmium (Ni-Cd) batteries, and mercury button batteries. Used motor oil and antifreeze will also be accepted. County officials will accept these materials in Parking Lot 31H at the corner of Rockville Pike and Wilson Drive. Residents should enter the campus on Wilson Drive and turn right into the parking lot. A Montgomery County volunteer will provide assistance upon arrival. For more information, call the Division of Solid Waste Services (DSWS) at 301-840-2370 or the Recycling Hotline at 301-590-0046 (between 1 and 4 p.m.). Additional information is available on the DSWS Web site at <http://www.dpwt.com>.

NIH Sets Date for Third Community Health Forum

The NIH Office of Community Liaison has just announced the date for its third annual community health forum, ***Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to Its Neighbors.*** The event, which features free health-related information, lectures, and activities will be held on **Saturday, October 21, 2000** at the Natcher Conference Center on the NIH campus.

Community members will have an opportunity to collect informational pamphlets on a variety of health issues, participate in a demonstration of NIH's Web site and its links to many sources of health information, attend free health seminars, see computer demonstrations on how to access health information on the Internet, take tours of the National Library of Medicine, participate in dance workshops, learn about volunteer opportunities, and hear what health officials are doing to promote health within the community.

So save the date and plan to bring the entire family to the premier biomedical research facility in the world on October 21 for a day of community health. Call Terry LaMotte or Jessica Harrison of Palladian Partners, Inc., at 301-650-8660 for more information, or visit the health forum Web site at <http://health.info.nih.gov/forum2000>.

NIH Chamber Singers Plan Spring Concert

The NIH Chamber Singers will delight audiences once again with music from jazz to classical at their annual spring concert on Friday, May 5. This year's concert features four pieces of Rachmaninoff's *Vespers*—all sung in Russian—and other *a capella* treats. The concert, which is free and welcomes all, will begin at noon in Masur Auditorium in Building 10 on the NIH campus. The NIH Chamber Singers, who have been performing for NIH patients, staff, and community members for several years, include 19 men and women. For more information, call 301-443-1263 or visit their Web site at <http://www.recgov.org/r&w/chamber>.

Bethesda Little Theatre Holds Spring Musical

Join the NIH Bethesda Little Theatre (BLT) for a "Lovely" Evening in Camelot for three weekends in May, and raise money for NIH charities. As a musical revue of Lerner and Loewe, the show will feature selections from "My Fair Lady," "Camelot," "Gigi," "Brigadoon," and "Paint Your Wagon." Proceeds from the shows will benefit the NIH Patient Emergency Fund, which helps NIH patients and their families meet unexpected medical expenses, and Camp Funshine, a camp for children with AIDS. Tickets are \$10 for adults, \$8 for seniors, and \$5 for children under 12. NIH Clinical Center patients may attend at no charge. Beginning on Friday, May 5, performances will be held in Masur Auditorium in Building 10 at 8 p.m. on Fridays and Saturdays, and at 3 p.m. on Sundays:

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|-------------------|--------------------|
| ■ Friday, May 5 | ■ Saturday, May 13 |
| ■ Saturday, May 6 | ■ Sunday, May 14 |
| ■ Sunday, May 7 | ■ Friday, May 19 |
| ■ Friday, May 12 | ■ Saturday, May 20 |

For more information, call Elaine at 301-589-0720.

The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series Continues into Spring

The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series continues this spring with five new lectures in May. Each lecture, which is held in Masur Auditorium in Building 10 on the NIH campus at 3 p.m., is free and open to the public. Featuring poster displays by winners of the Fellows Awards for Research Excellence, each lecture is followed by an informal reception to view and discuss the posters. Continuing Medical Education credit is available for physicians, and all lectures may be accessed from personal computers via NIH's MBONE. Lectures are also available on videotape at the NIH Library in Building 10, approximately one week after the lecture date. For more information or special accommodations, please contact Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595. The May schedule is as follows:

- May 3** **A View of Public Health and Biomedical Research** by Dr. Barry R. Bloom, Dean of the Faculty and Professor of Immunology and Infectious Diseases, Harvard School of Public Health
- May 10** **Molecular Mechanisms of Membrane Trafficking and Exocytosis** by Dr. Richard H. Scheller, Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute and Professor, Department of Molecular and Cellular Physiology, Stanford University Medical Center
- May 17** **Mechanisms of Odor Discrimination in *C. Elegans*** by Dr. Cornelia I. Bargmann, Vice Chair, Department of Anatomy, Investigator, Howard Hughes Medical Institute, University of California, San Francisco
- May 24** **Spatial and Temporal Aspects of Antigen Receptor Signal Transduction** by Dr. Doreen A. Cantrell, Principal Scientist and Head of Lymphocyte Activation Laboratory, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London
- May 31** **Controlling the Fission Yeast Cell Cycle** by Dr. Paul M. Nurse, Director-General and Head, Cell Cycle Laboratory, Imperial Cancer Research Fund, London

NIH & FDA Announce New Initiatives to Protect Patients in Gene Therapy Trials

To ensure continued patient protection, NIH and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) launched two new initiatives in March to strengthen safeguards for individuals enrolled in gene therapy clinical trials. Health officials said the two initiatives—the Gene Therapy Clinical Trial Monitoring Plan and the Gene Transfer Safety Symposia—will complement and advance current patient protections.

The FDA's monitoring plan addresses emerging evidence that monitoring by study sponsors has been less than adequate. To buttress the rigor of the oversight, the FDA will require that sponsors of gene therapy trials submit their monitoring plans to the FDA. The FDA will review and modify the plans as necessary to improve the quality of monitoring. It will also perform "for cause" inspections of the trials to assess whether the plans are being followed and whether the monitoring has been adequate to identify and correct critical problems. In addition, NIH and the FDA will convene a conference of investigators, including the most experienced professionals in the field, to discuss appropriate monitoring practices aimed at enhancing the conduct of gene therapy trials.

"Clinical trial monitoring and responsible reporting must be taken seriously by all parties involved in gene therapy trials," said Commissioner of Food and Drugs Dr. Jane E. Henney. "Our plan will help restore the confidence in the trials' integrity that is essential if gene therapy studies are to be able to fulfill their potential."

In a second new initiative, a series of Gene Transfer Safety Symposia, NIH and the FDA will enhance patient safety by providing critical forums for the sharing and analysis of medical and scientific data from gene transfer research. The symposia, which are expected to occur four times per year, will bring together leading experts in gene transfer research and give them an opportunity to discuss medical and scientific data pertaining to their specialities. The first symposium took place in March during the Recombinant DNA Advisory Committee meeting.

(continued on page 5)

(continued from page 4)

To further their educational outreach efforts, NIH and the FDA will support other professional organizations and academic institutions interested in holding safety conferences focused on gene therapy. "The knowledge and understanding gained through these safety symposia and educational outreach efforts will guide the conduct of current trials and enhance the design of future gene transfer trials to maximize patient safety," said NIH Acting Director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein.

NIH Shows Students What's Really on Their Minds for Brain Awareness Week

Local students found out what's really on their minds, when they participated in a hands-on brain educational program sponsored by NIH and the Dana Alliance for Brain Initiatives. The program, which took place during Brain Awareness Week in March, offered students the chance to touch and feel and learn all about the brain from some of the country's leading brain researchers. The event was held at the National Museum of Health and Medicine in Washington, D.C., and was one of many held around the world during Brain Awareness Week to educate the public about the importance of brain research. Several NIH institutes used this opportunity to provide students with brain-related educational information, visual aids, and games:

- The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke showed students brain slices through a microscope, MRIs on a light box, brain samples with magnifying glasses, and "brain toys."
- Scientists at the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA) introduced students to "Sara Bellum"—NIDA's middle-school-aged mascot for its Mind over Matter education program about drugs. NIDA scientists explained the effects of drugs on the brain.
- National Institute on Aging scientists explained how the brain develops as we age and how those neural changes can be seen in behavior over time.
- Researchers from the National Institute of Mental Health discussed the "Wonders of the Brain," showing students slides of the brain at work and ways to exercise the brain with fun mental games and puzzles.

R&W to Sponsor Celebrity Golf Tournament

Duffers alert! Spring has arrived, and what better way to spend a Tuesday than on the golf course? On May 9, beginning at 9 a.m., the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association (R&W) will host the Seventh Annual Jeff Bostic Celebrity Golf Tournament at the Lansdowne Resort in Virginia. The event, which raises money for NIH charities, costs \$675 per player and includes greens fees, meals, and contests. Each foursome plays with a Redskins football player or a radio/TV personality. For more information, call Karen at 301-496-6061, ext. 3.

Fresh Fruit, Vegetables, and Seafood Available Year-Round

Reid Orchard and the Salt River Lobster truck bring fresh produce and seafood to the NIH campus Fridays from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., all year long, in NIH's 41B parking lot.

NIH Blood Bank Appeals for Donations

NIH continues to experience a shortage of blood donations. The NIH Blood Bank currently needs O-positive and B-negative 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

May 5-7
Montgomery County Public Schools Art Show, Fri. & Sat. 10 a.m.–9:30 p.m., Sun. 12–6 p.m., White Flint Mall, 11301 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda. For more information, call 301-468-5777.

May 6
Looking at Art with David Tannous, a lecture on the *Baltimore Watercolor Society* exhibition, 1 p.m., Strathmore Hall Arts Center, 10701 Rockville Pike, N. Bethesda. Reservations are required. Call 301-530-0540 for reservations or for more information.

May 7
Movie Screening & Discussion: *Rosetta*, by Jean-Pierre & Luc Dardenne, 5:30 p.m., Bethesda Theatre Café, 7719 Wisconsin Ave., \$12. For more information, call 301-365-3679.

May 7-10
Bringing It All Together: Drug Use, HIV, Hepatitis:
A national research- and practice-based conference, jointly sponsored by NIDA, the Center for Substance Abuse Treatment, and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Baltimore Convention Center, 1 West Pratt Street, Baltimore, \$295. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-443-6245 or visit <http://www.nida.nih.gov>.

May 8
1999-2000 NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: A Robust Potential for Axon Regeneration Exists in the Damaged Adult Mammalian CNS: Fact or Fantasy by Jerry Singer, 12 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-435-2232.

The Manchester String Quartet: Haydn Quartet in F Major, Opus 77 No. 2 (1799) and Alberto Ginastera Quartet No. 2 (1958), 12:30 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Sharon Greenwald at 301-496-4713.

Gorgas Memorial/Leon Jacobs Lecture: Roll Back Malaria: Is it Doable? by Dr. Kamini Mendis, World Health Organization, 4-5 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Karen Leighty at 301-435-8599.

2000 Monthly Live Music Program: The Art of the Duo, a chamber music concert for viola and horn and for viola and flute by Kristin Snyder, Vince McCool, and Monica Malendez, 7 p.m., Kensington Park Community Library, 4201 Knowles Avenue, Kensington, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-897-2211.

May 9
Work and Family Life Center Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: Successful Step Families: Common Concerns, Practical Solutions, 12-1:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. Call 301-435-1619, TTY 301-480-0690 to pre-register.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: All About Colon Cancer by Dr. Richard Gelfand, 1 p.m., Rockville Senior Center, 1150 Carnation Drive, Rockville, free and open to the public. Call 301-309-3050 to register.

May 10
Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Preventing Sports Injuries for Youth by Rachel Meditz,

P.T., and Dr. James Rascher, 7:30-9 p.m., Suburban Hospital Auditorium, Suburban Hospital, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, free and open to the public. Call 301-896-3939 to register.

May 15
The 1999-2000 Audubon Lecture Series: Wild Places for Wild Species: Coral Reefs of the Bahamas—Exotic but Endangered Ecosystems by Thomas McGrath, 6 p.m., Carmichael Auditorium, National Museum of American History, 14th and Constitution Avenues, NW, Washington, DC, \$14. To register or for more information, call 202-357-3030.

May 16
Work and Family Life Center Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: Compassion Fatigue: Care for the Caregiver, 12-1:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C10, NIH, free and open to the public. Call 301-435-1619, TTY 301-480-0690 to pre-register.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Why Joint Replacements are Totally Hip (or Knee!), 9-10:30 a.m., Suburban Hospital Conference Center, Suburban Hospital, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, free and open to the public. Call 301-896-3939 to register.

May 16-18
National Cancer Institute Conference: Fourth International AIDS Malignancy Conference, 8:30 a.m., Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, NIH, \$175. For more information, call Jamie Quinn at 301-496-6711 or visit the conference Web site at <http://ctep.info.nih.gov/AIDSONcoResources/4thAidsConf.htm>.

May 17
Bethesda Senior Source Foreign Film Series: A Nameless Star, Russian with English subtitles, 2-4 p.m., Bethesda Senior Source, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, \$4. For more information, call 301-951-1990.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Healthy Backs by Rachel Meditz, P.T., 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.

May 19
1999-2000 NIH Director's Seminar Series: Studying the Developing Vascular System Using the Zebrafish by Dr. Brant M. Weinstein, National Institute of Child Health and Human Development, NIH, 12-1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Audrey Boyle at 301-496-1921.

May 20

The Spring Festival: A celebration of county agriculture, 11 a.m.–4 p.m., Agriculture History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Road, Rockville, \$5 per car. The festival features baby farm animals, children’s crafts, working sheep dog demonstrations, live music, hay rides, historic games, sheep shearing, plowing and planting, old-time crafts, and more. For more information, call 301-924-4141.

May 23

Work and Family Life Center Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: Mentoring and Being Mentored in a Dynamic Workplace, 11 a.m.–1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Room 1, NIH, free. Call 301-435-1619, TTY 301-480-0690 to pre-register.

May 25

1999–2000 Behavioral and Social Science Seminar Series: Biopsychosocial Research on Violence by Drs. Delbert Elliott, Klaus Miczek, and Adrian Raine, 3 p.m., Neuroscience Building, Room C, 6001 Executive Blvd., Rockville, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-594-5943.

May 27–29

Hometown Holidays 2000: A festival featuring national recording artists, carnival rides, laser light show, fireworks display, and a Memorial Day parade, Sat. & Sun. times to be determined, Mon. 9:30 a.m.–1 p.m., Rockville Town Center, Middle Lane & Rt. 355, Rockville. Call 301-309-3330 for more information or visit <http://www.ci.rockville.md.us>.

May 31

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Saving Your Sight! by Dr. Stephen Pappas, Jr., 1 p.m., Hebrew Home of Greater Washington, Wasserman Social Hall, Wasserman Building, 6121 Montrose Road, Rockville, free and open to the public. Call 301-896-3939 to register.

Suburban Hospital Community Health Seminar: Menopause—Natural and Alternative Approaches by Drs. Norton Fishman and Yan Qiu He, 7:30–9 p.m., Suburban Hospital Auditorium, Suburban Hospital, 8600 Old Georgetown Road, free and open to the public. Call 301-896-3939 to register.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

Potomac Hosts Kemper Open

Yes, it’s that time again. Time for area golfers to catch a glimpse of greatness as the Kemper Open spends one short week in town. The Kemper Open golf tournament begins this month on May 29 and continues through June 4 at Avenel Country Club in Potomac, Maryland. Golf professionals from around the country will try to steal this year’s title and \$2.5 million purse away from Rich Beem, the 1999 defending champion. Each year the Kemper Open donates a portion of its proceeds to area charities. This year a minimum of \$650,000 will be donated to charitable organizations. So start planning now, and pick up some pointers from the golf greats. Various ticket packages are available. For more information, call the tournament office at 301-469-3737 or send an e-mail to kemperopen@kemperlesnik.com.

Celebrate Spring at Audubon Nature Fair

Experience all of spring’s wonders and join in a day of activities for the entire family at the Audubon Naturalist Society’s (ANS) nature fair on Sunday, May 7 from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Explore the 40-acre Woodend preserve by taking woodland walks, visit more than 40 juried artisans selling hand-made nature crafts, enjoy talks on nature topics, purchase native plants and birdseed, and eat good food while listening to several popular musical entertainers. Kids will enjoy live performances by the Bethesda Academy of the Performing Arts, meeting an owl at Scales ’n Tales, and participating in making their own nature crafts. Performances will be sign-interpreted for the hearing-impaired.

The fair will take place at the ANS Woodend preserve, located at 8940 Jones Mill Road in Chevy Chase, Maryland. Because onsite parking is limited, a free shuttle bus will operate from Metro’s Medical Center Station at NIH and from North Chevy Chase Elementary School on Jones Bridge Road. Tickets are \$6 for adults, \$2 for children under 12, and free for children 2 and under. Proceeds from the event will benefit the environ-

(continued on page 8)

(continued from page 7)

mental education and conservation programs of ANS. For more information, call 301-652-9188, ext. 22, or visit the ANS Web site at <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org>. A coupon for \$1 off admission is available on the Web site.

New Quarters Honoring Maryland

Take a look at your quarter next time you make a phone call, and you may discover you have one of the new quarters honoring Maryland. The U.S. Mint began production and distribution of the seventh design in its 50-state quarter series this past March. As with other state quarters, the Maryland quarter will be produced for 10 weeks before it retires and production begins on the next design. The design features the Maryland State House dome in Annapolis surrounded by oak leaf clusters and the nickname "The Old Line State." Governor Parris N. Glendening said, "The new quarter will be a lasting reminder of Maryland's heritage and its place in American history." Other quarter designs now retired include Delaware, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Georgia, Connecticut, and Massachusetts. Upcoming state designs for the year 2000 include South Carolina, New Hampshire, and Virginia. For more information on the 50-state quarter series and how to collect the new quarters, visit the U.S. Mint Web site at <http://www.usmint.gov>.



Maryland Governor Parris N. Glendening presents the commemorative Maryland state quarter at a ceremony this past March in his reception room. This is the seventh quarter to be released by the U.S. Mint.

Strathmore's Music in the Mansion Series Concludes

Two of Washington's finest freelance musicians bring Strathmore Hall Arts Center's Music in the Mansion concert series to a triumphant close this month. On Friday, May 12, at 8 p.m., violinist Teri Lazar and pianist George Peachey will conclude the season with the world premiere of Strathmore's first-ever commission by composer Garrison Hull. The program features sonatas by Beethoven and Debussy and a concerto by Vivaldi. Tickets are \$20 for adults, \$17 for seniors, and \$8 for students. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 301-530-0540.

Potomac Hunt Benefits Suburban Hospital

Attention all horse racing fans. Watch exciting steeplechase action at the Potomac Hunt Steeplechase Races on Sunday, May 21, while helping Suburban Hospital purchase new hospital equipment. As a primary beneficiary of the races, the Suburban Hospital Foundation plans to use the money raised for new equipment in its Emergency Shock Trauma Unit. So pack a picnic lunch, bring the kids, and enjoy a day at the races. The steeplechase races will be held in Bittersweet Field (located at the corner of River and Partnership roads) in Potomac, Maryland. Gates open at 11 a.m. and events begin at noon. There will be plenty of activities for all. Kids can enjoy pony rides, clowns, and a moon bounce. General admission tickets are \$20 per car and \$150 per car for reserved railside passes. For more information or for tickets, call the Suburban Hospital Foundation at 301-896-3971.

Brookside Gardens Holds Special Events in May

What better way to celebrate spring than in the garden? In honor of spring, Brookside Gardens is holding several special events this month. Beginning on May 13, join Brookside for its fifth annual sculpture show. Local sculptors will display their creations in a unique setting of tropical flowers in the North Conservatory. The conservatory will be open for visitors from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily through July 9 and is free of charge.

In the South Conservatory, visitors will be delighted by Brookside's "Wings of Fancy" exhibit. This live butterfly show features native Maryland butterflies flying freely among a colorful garden of host and nectar plants. Also opening on May 13, this exhibit will run through July 16. Visitors can experience the entire butterfly life cycle from eggs to unusual caterpillars to chrysalides to beautiful adults fluttering by. Tickets, which are sold in the gift shop, are \$3 for ages 3 and up. No strollers will be permitted. Conservatory hours are from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily.

In addition, Brookside will be selling selected flowers and plants throughout the month:

- May 6 Dahlia Tuber and Plant Sale
- May 21 Azalea and Chrysanthemum Sale
- May 26-28 Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Brookside Gardens is located at 1800 Glenallan Avenue in Wheaton, Maryland. For more information about these and other events, call Brookside Gardens at 301-949-8230.

Lions Clubs, Public Libraries Collect Eyeglasses for Recycling

Do you have old pairs of eyeglasses lying around that haven't been worn in years? Then take them to your local Montgomery County Public Library and drop them in specially marked Lions Club boxes. Local Lions Clubs are partnering with county libraries through June to collect used eyeglasses and recycle them. The used eyeglass collection program is part of a comprehensive program of services offered for blind and visually impaired persons, such as the Lions Eye Bank, which provides corneas for transplants. For more information, call Jack Peoples, former president of the Lions Eye Bank, at 301-881-6220.

Park Officials Offer Free Firewood & Mulch

Working on perfecting your spring garden? Then pick up some free mulch from the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission (M-NCPPC). From now through June 24, M-NCPPC is providing free mulch and firewood to residents every Saturday from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. at its landfill

in Silver Spring. Interested individuals should be prepared to cut their own wood and load and haul away mulch in their own vehicles. The landfill is located at 1201 Bonifant Road in Silver Spring, Maryland. For more information, call 301-670-8093.

Bethesda Urban Partnership Sponsors Free Music in Downtown Bethesda

Grab your dancing shoes and join in the fun as music fills the streets of downtown Bethesda. Once again, the Bethesda Urban Partnership (BUP) is sponsoring free lunchtime, evening, and dance concerts throughout downtown Bethesda during the summer. Beginning in May, **free dance concerts** will be held every Friday night from 6 to 9 p.m., **May 12 to May 26**, in Bethesda Metro Plaza (located at 3 Bethesda Metro Center). So leave the office behind and dance the night away. Pack a lunch and listen to **free lunchtime concerts** every Thursday from noon to 2 p.m. in Bethesda Place Plaza (located at the corner of Old Georgetown Rd. and Woodmont Ave.):

- May 4 James Bazen Project
- May 11 The Reasons
- May 18 The Wayne Wilentz Trio
- May 25 Oasis

Or enjoy the **free evening concerts** on Thursdays from 6 to 8 p.m. in Veteran's Park (located at the corner of Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues):

- May 4 Butch Grant and Crossfire
- May 11 The Grandsons
- May 18 Cityscape
- May 25 Ruthie and the Wranglers

For more information about the summertime lunch or evening concerts, call 301-215-6660. For information about the dance concerts, call 301-652-4988.

TRY THIS WEB SITE:

<http://www.nih.gov/od/ocpl/index.html>

The NIH Office of Communications and Public Liaison (OCPL), which recently launched its new Web site, provides the public with information on NIH programs and activities. It also coordinates how NIH implements the Freedom of Information Act. The new Web site provides visitors with an overview of how each branch operates and how the office is structured, contact information for key staff, a well-organized list of OCPL resources, and answers to frequently asked questions.

Visitors to the site will also find a comprehensive list of electronic and written resources provided by OCPL, including contact information. Some of the resources available from the site include access to the Environmental Reading Room, the Freedom of Information Office, NIH news and events, and health information in Spanish.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Interpreters Sought

The Clinical Center Volunteer Office is in need of in-house language interpreters to serve as backups when others are not available. The interpreters assist patients and their families who are not fluent in English. Speakers of Spanish, Farsi, Italian, Japanese, and Korean are particularly needed. To help, call Andrea Rander at 301-496-1807.

Identical Twins Needed for Study

The Human Leukocyte Antigens (HLA) Laboratory is looking for normal, healthy, adult identical twin pairs for a study analyzing the T-cell receptor repertoire of normal identical twins. Each twin pair should be willing to undergo a thorough medical history, HLA testing, complete blood count, and leukopheresis. Optimally, subjects should also be available for further questioning about their medical history. Twin donors will be paid for their blood donations. For more information, call 301-496-8852.

Healthy Volunteers Needed

The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is looking for healthy men and women aged 18 to 35 years for functional magnetic reso-

nance imaging (fMRI) studies of brain and cognitive function. Volunteers should be right-handed and should have learned English as their first language. A one- to two-hour screening interview and a three- to four-hour visit for the fMRI scan are typical. Tasks may be as simple as moving your fingers or as complex as remembering ideas and responding by pressing buttons. Volunteers should have no implanted metal in their bodies and should have normal vision or wear contact lenses. Participants will be reimbursed. For more information, call Milan Makale at 301-402-2583.

Postmenopausal Women Wanted for Blood Study

The Clinical Center and the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute seek postmenopausal women to take part in a study of normal blood. To be eligible, participants must have had no abnormal bleeding or clotting in the past, and be willing to stay off of any hormone treatment for nine months. Participants will give a small sample of blood in the initial screening. On the basis of the screening results, some women will be asked for additional small blood samples once a month for three months. The study involves no hormones or medications, and participants will be paid \$50 for each blood draw. For more information, 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/or medications for high blood pressure (diuretics or ACE inhibitors). Volunteers must have normal vision or wear contact lenses. Participation requires a two-hour screening interview, a follow-up visit, and a three-hour visit for an fMRI scan.

(continued on page 11)

(continued from page 10)

Participants will be reimbursed. For more information, call Lisa Kalik or Neil Santiago at 301-496-8381.

Female Volunteers Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch at NIMH is seeking female volunteers aged 40 to 50 to participate in a 6-month study of the effects of aging and reproductive hormones on measures of cerebral activity, blood flow, and stress hormone production. Volunteers must have regular menstrual cycles with no changes in mood in relationship to menses, be free of medical illnesses, and not be taking any hormones or medication on a regular basis. 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.

Depressed, Anxious Teens Sought

The Child Psychology Branch at NIMH is looking for depressed and anxious teens aged 14 to 16 to take part in a research study. This is a study of how young people experience emotions and how feeling sad or worried can cause problems. Payment will be provided. For more information, please call Barbara Usher at 301-496-1301.

Women on HRT Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch at NIMH is looking for women who have experienced depressed mood, anxiety, or irritability during hormone replacement therapy (HRT). Free hormonal evaluation and payment are offered to those who complete the study. To be eligible, you should be a medically healthy woman aged 45 to 65, be medication-free (except for HRT), and have experienced mood symptoms during the progestin part of the HRT. For more information, call Linda Simpson-St. Clair at 301-496-9576.

Healthy Men Needed

The Behavioral Endocrinology Branch at NIMH is seeking male volunteers aged 18 to 45 to participate in a 5-month study of the effects of reproductive hormones on the brain and behavior. Volunteers must be free of medical illness and not be taking any medication on a regular basis.

Participants will complete daily rating forms and be asked to participate in one of several protocols. Payment will be made in accordance with the duration of each visit and the type of protocol. For more information, contact Linda Simpson-St. Clair at 301-496-9576.

Difficult Teens Sought

The Child Psychology Branch at NIMH is looking for difficult teenagers aged 11 to 16 to take part in a research study. This is a study of how young people experience emotions and how anger and bad moods can cause problems. Payment will be provided. For more information, please call Barbara Usher at 301-496-1301.

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. The studies 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 "Current Clinical 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.

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- **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.
 - **Sjogren's Syndrome.** The NIH researchers seek adults aged 18 or older who have been diagnosed with Sjogren's syndrome to take part in studies of a potential new treatment.
 - **Stuttering and Speech Disorders.** The National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke seeks adults and children aged 5 or older who stutter or have familial speech disorders for an experimental study of the causes of these speech disorders. The NIH researchers offer speech, voice, and language testing.
 - **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, MD. NIH patients receive study-related eye exams, testing, and care at no charge.

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

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One Center Drive
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