

# OCL Update



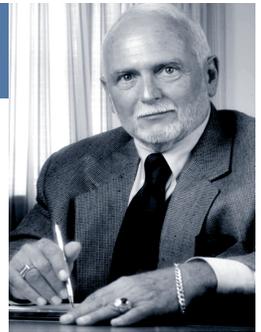
To: Community Representatives

From: Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D., Director  
Office of Community Liaison  
National Institutes of Health (NIH)

Date: March 2004

## NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

It should come as no surprise by now that the NIH and the neighborhoods surrounding the NIH have parking problems. On the NIH campus two parking garages are currently under construction and, late this year and early next year as they come online, internal parking problems on the campus will be significantly eased. But what about neighborhood parking? That's a more difficult problem.



Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D.

Many of the neighborhood streets surrounding NIH are already designated as "permit parking only." Permit parking means that without a daily parking permit obtainable only by residents, cars may not legally park. Permit parking-only streets are relatively problem free and, as a result, many more neighborhoods are currently seeking this solution. The process has been described several times previously in this column (see especially September 2003), but the short version is to contact Jean Gries at 240-777-2183 or Tim Briscoe at 240-777-2185. Internet users can visit the Montgomery County Residential Parking Permit Program's site at <http://dpwt.com/TraffPkgDiv/parkingfaq.htm>. Jean or Tim can guide neighborhood residents through the permit parking procedure, but be advised that this is not a quick solution. If pursued vigorously, it is reasonable to anticipate that the process will take at least nine months.

Another alternative is to request from Montgomery County that streets be designated as time-limited parking (two-hour or three-hour parking) zones. This solution has also proven to be successful, but again it takes time.

NIH is also looking at how it can help to alleviate neighborhood parking congestion. Clearly, a large portion of the current problem is caused by NIH construction workers who have chosen to park as close to their jobs as possible. Of course it is legal to park on a public street and no specific authority exists with either the NIH or the County to immediately stop construction workers from parking in the neighborhoods. But this parking is creating a problem for the neighborhoods, and NIH wants to help control it. Consequently, at the end of February, NIH officials from the Office of Research Facilities (ORF) met with the prime construction contractors currently involved in projects on the NIH campus. ORF explained the

The Community Liaison Council will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, March 18, at 4 p.m.**, in Conference Room D, Natcher Conference Center, Building 45 on the NIH campus.

severity of the problem and communicated the adverse impact this has had on community relations. It was stressed that this is not an issue of mere inconvenience or annoyance for the neighborhoods, but that it has had a direct effect on the quality of life for local residents. In addition to the noise and trash generated by this parking, the problem has expanded to the point that there is a potential for property damage, and some streets are being so narrowed by parked vehicles that emergency vehicles are unable to gain access.

NIH has a clause in its construction contracts that requires contractors to provide off-site parking for their workers. Unfortunately, simply providing off-site parking apparently does not solve the problem, as many construction workers choose to forego the designated lots and park more conveniently in the neighborhoods. In trying to resolve this and other issues, NIH has identified several challenges, including:

- Lack of additional commercial or other adequate parking facilities in the area.
- Complexity of creating adequate monitoring systems that provide assurance that contract workers are parking in designated areas.
- Development of effective enforcement (this is a real problem, because you can neither ticket, tow, nor in any way pursue a job action against an employee who is parking legally on a public road).
- Additional costs to current and future construction contracts.

The ORF will ask contractors to specifically demonstrate how they are complying with current contract requirements. The ORF is also working on more specific contract language that will outline the parking requirements in more detail.

The solution to the parking problem is not going to happen overnight, but incrementally the situation is improving. Montgomery County officials and the police department have been, as always, remarkably helpful. A lot of people are working to solve the problem, but in the meantime a lot of neighborhood residents continue to be inconvenienced and frustrated.

## NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

### NHLBI Takes *The Heart Truth* on the Road Warning Women About Heart Disease

More American women die of heart disease than any other cause, a fact that surprises many people. As part of NIH's continuing campaign to educate Americans about the risk of heart disease in women, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) is taking its national awareness campaign on women's heart disease, *The Heart Truth*, on the road nationwide. During March



Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson presents the Original Red Dress Collection 2003.

and April, this traveling exhibit will visit shopping malls in five major cities—Philadelphia, Chicago, Miami, Dallas and San Diego. The road show includes free heart disease risk-factor screenings for women, educational materials and a display of dresses from *The Heart Truth's* Original Red Dress Collection 2003. This collection was designed especially for *The Heart Truth* by such couturiers as Donna Karan, Michael Kors, Oscar de la Renta and Calvin Klein. *The Heart Truth's* Red Dress is the national symbol for women and heart disease awareness. It is a red alert that heart disease is the number-one killer of women—and an urgent reminder to every woman to care for her heart. For more information, visit <http://www.hearttruth.gov>.

### NIH Launches Virtual Career Center Web Site

Find out more about NIH careers and employment without leaving your home or office by visiting the NIH's new Virtual Career Center at <http://www.training.nih.gov/careers/careercenter/index.html>. Developed by the NIH Office of Education, the comprehensive online center helps you explore career options, continuing education, employment options and opportunities and the job search process.

"Whether you are at the very beginning, trying to define your interests or translate an academic major into a career," says Michael M. Gottesman, M.D., Deputy Director for Intramural Research, "or in the

final stages of negotiating competing job offers, this Web site will put timely, helpful guidance at the tip of your mouse."

With some 55 pages and more than 1,000 links, the comprehensive site also allows for a quick focus on areas that meet the user's particular needs. For instance, a visitor looking for information on the health sciences can zero in on that field. Someone wishing to continue their education can find information on admissions, application services, financial aid, loan repayment, grants, fellowships, education survival skills, medical schools and other professional programs. The Virtual Career Center was developed with the NIH community in mind, but the plethora of information is available to all who wish to visit the site.

### **NIH Sponsors Fifth Annual Health and Fitness Expo, *Share the Health***

Area residents won't want to miss NIH's Premier Health and Fitness Expo, the fifth annual community *Share the Health*, on Saturday, April 24, 2004 from 10:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, Maryland.

This free event, will feature interactive exhibits and health seminars led by NIH scientists, the 2004 NIH Healthy Games—NIH's own version of the summer Olympics—sports clinics, wellness workshops and a wealth of free health information for all ages. The exposition will also feature children's activities, such as crime-scene exploration, several mini-lab sessions, tours of rescue vehicles and much more.

Sponsored by the NIH Office of Community Liaison, the event is intended to promote community health through disease prevention



information, and will provide access to NIH speakers, institutes, staff and databases. NIH scientists want to reach out to the community and will use this event to show people easy and fun ways to improve fitness and maintain overall good health.

Health seminars led by expert NIH physicians and scientists will address important topics such as obesity

and nutrition, benefits of strength training, dental hygiene, diabetes, bone health, eye anatomy, music therapy, infectious



disease prevention and healthy heart tips from *Holly Heart*, a robotic spokesperson. Other workshops and presentations include the art of relaxation, acupuncture, Tai Chi exercise and Reiki therapy seminars.

NIH is excited to announce our special guest speaker, Mattie Stepanek, a local 13-year-old best-selling poet and the Muscular Dystrophy Association's National Goodwill Ambassador, who will offer an inspirational message for people of all ages.

Community members will have the opportunity in on-site computer labs to explore consumer-friendly, NIH-sponsored health Web sites such as NIH Senior Health and MedlinePlus and links to other reliable health information resources. Computer demonstrations will show participants how to access health information on the Internet. Guests may collect health information on the latest NIH research, visit exhibits by NIH institutes and receive free blood pressure and stroke screenings.

Children can don lab coats and goggles to experience what it is like to be an NIH scientist for the day, performing hands-on lab experiments. They can also jump on a Moon Bounce, see a puppet show, play the parachute game, tour fire and rescue vehicles, meet the National Capital Therapy Dogs and win prizes.

Teens can compete in the NIH Healthy Games—for awesome prizes. Football, basketball and soccer experts will be on hand to show teens the best ways to improve their favorite game. Other features will include scaling a rock-climbing wall, exploring the "Drunken Brain" and navigating an obstacle course with our Fatal Vision Goggles. Teens can also check out the latest healthy computer games and surf healthy Web sites designed just for them.

With information and activities for people of all ages, you won't want to miss this unique opportunity for your friends, family and neighbors to *Share the Health!* For more information or to register for this free event, call 301-650-8660 or visit <http://sharethehealth.od.nih.gov>.

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## NIH To Host National Sleep Conference To Devise Ways To Combat Sleep Deprivation

Our bodies are pretty busy while we are asleep, and failing to catch enough “ZZZs” on a regular basis is not only bad for our health, but also costly to industry and our national healthcare bill. Find out how chronic sleep loss and undiagnosed, untreated sleep disorders can profoundly affect our quality of life at a national sleep conference hosted by NIH in March. *Frontiers of Knowledge in Sleep and Sleep Disorders: Opportunities for Improving Health and Quality of Life* will take place March 29–30 on the NIH campus in Bethesda. Experts at the NIH will address how information about sleep and sleep disorders can translate into cost-effective, comprehensive and broadly applied strategies to improve all aspects of sleep-related healthcare. Held in the Natcher Conference Center in Building 45, this free conference will bring together healthcare providers, public health and education experts, policymakers, patient advocacy organizations, sleep specialists and other stakeholders. For more information and online registration, visit [http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/meetings/slp\\_front.htm](http://www.nhlbi.nih.gov/meetings/slp_front.htm).

## NIH Supports Research Leading to First U.S. Tuberculosis Vaccine Trial in 60 Years

For the first time in 60 years, NIH-supported researchers have developed a new tuberculosis (TB) vaccine suitable for human trials in the United States. The vaccine, made with several proteins from the TB-causing bacterium *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, drew support from the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) in its earliest stages. The proteins used were initially identified by screening the blood of volunteers who never became ill with TB, despite long-term infection with *M. tuberculosis*. Using recombinant DNA technology, the proteins were fused and then combined with adjuvants, substances that further boost the immune system’s response.

This Phase I trial will be performed by a Seattle-based biotechnology company and a Belgium-based vaccine manufacturer, with 20 volunteers enrolled at a single site. The TB vaccine currently available, called BCG, offers some protection against the form of TB most often contracted by

very young children. But the vaccine’s efficacy wears off over time and it is not very effective against pulmonary TB, the most contagious form of the disease. For more information, visit NIAID’s Web site at <http://www.niaid.nih.gov>.



## Montgomery County Women's Fair Set for March 27

The Montgomery County Women’s Fair 2004 takes place Saturday, March 27, at Montgomery Blair High School in Silver Spring, Maryland. Sponsored in part by the NIH Office of Community Liaison and the NIH Office of Research on Women’s Health, this year’s theme is *Women: Fairytales, Facts and Fantasy*. Dr. Charlene R. Nunley, president of Montgomery College, serves as the fair’s keynote speaker. Dr. Nunley has twice been named among Maryland’s Top 100 Women by *The Daily Record*, and was the Montgomery County Business and Professional Women’s 2002 Woman of the Year.

This annual fair gives professional and home-based women the opportunity to expand their horizons by participating in workshops, networking with other women and exploring business opportunities in the metropolitan Washington area. The fair donates its net proceeds to charities that benefit women in Montgomery County. Past recipients have included women’s shelters, programs for women reentering the job market and funds to shelter abused women and their children. On-site registration is \$20. The fair takes place from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Montgomery Blair High School, 51 East University Boulevard in Silver Spring. For more details, please see the enclosed flyer or visit <http://www.mcwomensfair.org>.

## National Alcohol Screening Day To Raise Awareness of At-Risk Drinkers

NIH is once again participating in the annual National Alcohol Screening Day (NASD) on April 8, during Alcohol Awareness Month. Designed to raise public awareness about the consequences of at-risk drinking and alcohol’s effects on general health, NASD offers a variety of planned activities and services including free, anonymous health screenings with referrals for further evaluation if appropriate. The National Institute on Alcohol

Abuse and Alcoholism is hosting the events, together with Screening for Mental Health and the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services' Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration. For online registration or information about becoming a part of NASD, please visit <http://www.nationalalcoholcreeningday.org>.

## NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS\*

### March 8 .....

**NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series:** *Unique Features of Neurotrophin Receptor Signaling* by Moses Chao, Ph.D., New York University School of Medicine, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Continuing Medical Education (CME) credit is offered. For more information, call Peggy Whittingham at 301-435-2232 or visit <http://reuroseries.info.nih.gov/schedule.asp>.

### March 10 .....

**NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:** *Tiny Conspiracies: Cell-to-Cell Communication in Bacteria* by Bonnie Bassler, Ph.D., Princeton University, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

### March 11 .....

**NIH Work/Life Center's Faces and Phases of Life Seminar Series:** *Elder Care Advocacy*, noon–1 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-435-1619 or visit <http://wlc.od.nih.gov>.

### March 16 .....

**NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series (special Tuesday lecture):** *Transcriptional Control of Heart Development and Disease* by Eric N. Olson, Ph.D., University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

### March 17 .....

**NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:** *Transcription-Coupled mRNA Export* by Ed Hurt, Ph.D., University of Heidelberg, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

**NIH Work/Life Center's Faces and Phases of Life Seminar Series:** *Conflict Resolution With Your Teen*, noon–1:30 p.m., Building 50, Room 1227/1233, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-435-1619 or visit <http://wlc.od.nih.gov>.

### March 19 .....

**NIH Director's Seminar Series:** *Language in Action: Functional Neuroimaging Studies of Higher Level Language* by Allen Braun, M.D., National Institute on Deafness and Other Communication Disorders, NIH, noon–1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call Colleen Crone at 301-496-1921 or visit <http://www.nih.gov/about/director/dirsem.htm>.

### March 22 .....

**Manchester String Quartet Concert Series:** *Britten Quartet #2 in C Major, opus 36*, 12:30 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call Sharon Greenwell at 301-496-4713.

### March 23 .....

**NIH Work/Life Center's Faces and Phases of Life Seminar Series:** *Managing Up*, noon–1:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-435-1619 or visit <http://wlc.od.nih.gov>.

### March 24 .....

**NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:** (rescheduled) *Retroviral Insertional Mutagenesis: A Roadmap for Navigating the Cancer Genome* by Neal G. Copeland, Ph.D., and Nancy A. Jenkins, Ph.D., NCI's Center for Cancer Research Mouse Cancer Genetics Program, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

### March 25 .....

**NLM History of Medicine Seminars for 2004:** *We Can Rebuild You: Artificial Organ Technologies in Modern Medicine*, by Dr. Shelly McKellar, 2–3:15 p.m., Lister Hill Auditorium, Building 38A, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call the National Library of Medicine's History of Medicine Division at 301-594-5983 or visit [http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/seminars\\_2004.html](http://www.nlm.nih.gov/hmd/seminars_2004.html).

### March 29 .....

**Foundation for Advanced Education in the Sciences (FAES) Music Series:** *Michaela Ursuleasa, piano*, 4 p.m., Landon School Mondzac Performing Arts Center, 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda, \$25. For more information, call 301-496-7976 or visit <http://www.faes.org/music.htm>.

### March 30 .....

**NIH Work/Life Center's Faces and Phases of Life Seminar Series:** *Conflict Resolution for Work and Home*, noon–1:30 p.m., Neuroscience Center, Conference Room D, 6001 Executive Boulevard, Rockville, free and open to the public. Pre-registration is required. For more information, call 301-435-1619 or visit <http://wlc.od.nih.gov>.

### March 31 .....

**Distinguished Lectures in the Science of Complementary and Alternative Medicine:** *From Molecules to Mind: Stress, Individual Differences, and the Social Environment* by Bruce McEwen, Ph.D., Rockefeller University, noon–1 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus. For more information, visit <http://www.nccam.nih.gov/news/lectures/upcoming.htm>.

**NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series:** *Structural and Digital Biology of Macromolecular Complexes* by Wah Chiu, Ph.D., Baylor College of Medicine, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

\*Calendar items subject to change. Call to confirm your event.

## OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

### BAPA's Imagination Stage Children's Theater to Show *Liang and the Magic Paintbrush*

There's magic in the air when Liang uses mime, movement, American Sign Language and digital media to tell the story of the power of goodness and innocence to change the world. Conceived and



Credit: BAPA's Imagination Stage

The magical stage on which *Liang* comes to life.

directed by Eric Johnson in collaboration with BAPA's Imagination Stage artists, *Liang and the Magic Paintbrush* will be performed at the 377-seat Lerner Family Theater, 4908 Auburn Avenue, Bethesda, from March 27 to May 2, with special Spring Break matinees April 6–9 and 12. Tickets cost \$7.50 or \$12, with discounts for groups. Telephone orders add \$1 per ticket. For more information, visit <http://www.imaginationstage.org/bapa> or call the box office at 301-280-1660.

### Strathmore Hosts Literary Luncheon Series

It may be difficult to stretch your body at this time of year, but you can stretch your mind by attending lunchtime lectures hosted by the Strathmore Hall Arts Center and sponsored by Montgomery County's non-profit Friends of the Library. Lectures feature writers of newly published books and begin at 11:30, followed by lunch and book signings. Members of the Friends of the Library pay \$15 for the lecture, and \$3 more for the lunch. Non-members pay \$18 for the lecture alone, plus \$2 for the lunch. Strathmore is located at 10710 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda. For more information or to make reservations, call 240-777-0020. The schedule is:

• **Cathy Trost:** Thursday, March 18

Longtime journalist and author, Cathy Trost is co-author of *Running Toward Danger: Stories Behind the Breaking News of 9/11*.

• **Michael Dirda:** Thursday, April 15

Writer and senior editor for the *Washington Post* Book World since 1978, Michael Dirda received the Pulitzer Prize for Distinguished Criticism in 1993. He will speak about *Coming of Age in the Heartland*, a book filled with light-hearted humor.

### Free Income Tax Preparation for Low and Moderate Income Residents

Your tax return can be prepared for you at no charge by volunteers from the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) and Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP), if you have a low or moderate income. Volunteers are available at several sites in the Wheaton/Silver Spring area, including the Silver Spring, Wheaton and Long Branch Libraries and the Gilchrist Cultural Center, among others. The maximum time allowed for each return is 1.5 hours and you must have an appointment and the necessary paperwork with you.

For an appointment at any of the sites and for further information, please call the AARP/RSVP Tax Scheduling Office at (301) 468-4179, between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., Monday through Friday.

## Montgomery Youth Works to Hold Scavenger Hunt April 17

What better than a day of crazy clues, cool prizes and hilarious fun to take your mind off the usual Saturday chores and raise money for charity? On April 17, the Montgomery Youth Works launches its annual fundraiser Scavenger Hunt from the Strathmore Hall Arts Center in Rockville. Teams will find clues by solving riddles, and each individual will receive a free duffle bag, T-shirt and clue book, as well as hunt tools such as a Metro Rail pass and a disposable Polaroid camera. There will be at least 80 prizes dished out. The event is open to youth, families, businesses and community members, and funds raised will help young people get jobs. The cost is \$25 per person. Meals are included. The schedule is as follows:

8:30–9:30 a.m.	Registration and breakfast
9:30–10:00 a.m.	Welcome and orientation
10:00 a.m.–1:30 p.m.	Scavenger hunt
1:30–3:00 p.m.	Report-in, scoring, lunch and awards

For more information, see <http://www.montgomeryyouthworks.com> or call 301-929-6880.

## Roundhouse Theatre Premieres *Fences*

For people on the fence about whether to see a theatre production this spring, there's a great opportunity to attend the 1987 hit, *Fences*, at the Round House Theatre in Bethesda. This powerful dramatic work earned its author, American August Wilson, a Pulitzer Prize and is regarded today as a turning point in the history of American theater.

The play's focus is the African-American experience, touching on such subjects as racist hiring practices of public employees, segregation of professional athletics and the cycle of poverty that has held back so many. But the play also offers portrayals of father-son relationships, marriage and friendship. The characters are African-American, but the play is for all.



*Fences* will be shown at the Round House Theatre (<http://www.round-house.org>) from March 31 to May 2. Tickets cost between \$29 and \$32 the first week and then between \$33 and \$39. Discount tickets of \$10 are available for people 30 or under. For more information, call 240-644-1099.

## Montgomery Historical Society Opens Exhibit on Small-Town Jewish Life

At one time, almost every Maryland market town or transportation center had Jewish merchants along Main Street. While some of them moved away, others established families and friendships, putting down deep roots in their adopted towns.

An exhibit, *We Call This Place Home: Jewish Life in Maryland's Small Towns*, chronicles the challenges and rewards of maintaining Jewish traditions while assimilating into the larger cultural community. It will show at Waters House in Germantown from March 7 to May 23.

The first of its kind in Maryland, the exhibit includes photographs and first-person texts from Jewish communities throughout the state. It was produced for the Jewish Museum of Maryland by curator Karen Falk working with historians Eric Goldstein and Lee Shai Weissbach who conducted research, collected objects and recorded the stories of dozens of individuals. Waters House is located at 12535 Milestone Manor Lane in Germantown. For more information, visit <http://www.montgomeryhistory.org/WatersOpening.htm> or call 301-515-2887.

## TRY THIS WEB SITE

<http://smoking.drugabuse.gov>

An easy way to access research on nicotine addiction and other nicotine-related facts is to visit <http://smoking.drugabuse.gov>, a site recently created by the National Institute on Drug Abuse. Look at the InfoFacts fact sheet on cigarettes and other nicotine products, read a research report on nicotine addiction or search a list of additional publications. There is also a news release section on such topics as adolescent depression and high receptivity to tobacco, reasons for why quitting smoking is harder for women than for men and how African American teens are at greater risk of tobacco addiction.

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## **VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES**

### **Health Volunteers Needed for Alzheimer's Disease Study**

The NIH is seeking healthy volunteers for a study investigating potential signs of Alzheimer's disease. Anyone interested should call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010 and mention study #02-M-0158.

### **Rheumatoid Arthritis Sufferers**

People who have been diagnosed with rheumatoid arthritis may be able to take part in an NIH research study. For more information, please call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010.

### **Cervical or Focal Hand Dystonia**

Researchers at NIH are conducting a study to determine if amlodipine can improve the effects of botulinum toxin injections for individuals with

cervical or focal hand dystonia. If you have this type of dystonia and are interested in participating in the study, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010.

### **Women Sought for Study on Uterine Fibroids**

Women with uterine fibroids who are planning a hysterectomy may be eligible to participate in an NIH study using a new medication during the three months before surgery. Compensation will be provided and study-related treatment will be free. If interested, e-mail [prpl@cc.nih.gov](mailto:prpl@cc.nih.gov) or call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010.

### **Severe Aplastic Anemia**

The NIH is conducting a study that uses a new monoclonal antibody treatment for people suffering from aplastic anemia. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010.

*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. 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 send her an e-mail at [tlamotte@palladianpartners.com](mailto:tlamotte@palladianpartners.com).*

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