

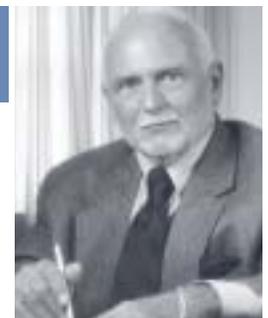
To: Community Representatives

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

Date: May 2003

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

As most area residents now know, the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) plans to construct a new Integrated Research Facility (known as Building 33) on the NIH campus. NIH receives many of the same questions about this building on a regular basis, and I'll attempt to address these questions over the next few months.



Thomas Gallagher, Ph.D.

First of all, Building 33 will employ the highest safety standards recommended for the proposed research to be conducted there. These standards are known as Biosafety Level 3 (BSL-3). BSL-3 laboratories are expressly designed to prevent scientists and the environment from being exposed to microorganisms. Other laboratories of this same type have been operating on the Bethesda campus for decades without incident. Like the older BSL-3 laboratories, the new BSL-3 laboratories will comply with stringent federal and state regulations for construction, use, security, inspection and certification.

The 85,000-net-square-foot building that is planned will be an Integrated Research Facility housing laboratories, offices, conference rooms, animal quarters, mechanical space and a waste-handling area. In addition to the BSL-3 laboratories, the facility will include a suite of laboratories designed to operate at the BSL-2 level. The NIH campus already has many laboratories operating at the BSL-2 and BSL-3 levels.

BSL-3 laboratories are required to include biosafety cabinets, controlled double-door laboratory access and special facility engineering. Before an individual can begin work in a BSL-3 laboratory, he or she will be required to undergo special training and receive preventive vaccines.

BSL-3 laboratories have several safeguards to ensure that infectious agents are properly contained or destroyed. These measures include maintaining the BSL-3 suites at negative air pressure relative to the surrounding rooms so that all the airflow is directed into the suites and never out into the surrounding rooms; micro-filtration of air; air-lock buffer zones; and long-time, high-temperature decontamination of all materials produced in the facility. For an extensive list of safety requirements and policies, see <http://bmb1.od.nih.gov/sect3bsl3.htm>.

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The Community Liaison Council will hold its next meeting on **Thursday, May 15, at 4 p.m.**, in the Wilson Hall, Building 1 on the NIH Campus.

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BSL-2 laboratories are used for moderate-risk agents associated with human disease. Scientists and technicians must wear splash shields, face protection, gowns and gloves while using extra care with needles and glass, and they must decontaminate the work area and materials after each procedure. Biosafety cabinets are used to work with concentrated cultures or procedures that generate aerosols.

The ultimate goal of NIAID research is to develop new diagnostics, vaccines and treatments against diseases caused by infectious agents. Such products can be developed only within a solid understanding of the basic biology of the disease-causing agents and only with the use of specialized, high-containment labs, such as Building 33. NIAID is world renowned for expertise in basic and clinical research on infectious microbes. The NIAID group of infectious disease experts is uniquely qualified to apply their knowledge and skills to investigate infectious microbes and to develop strategies and products to counter the health threats they pose.

The research agenda planned for Building 33 could be carried out in existing laboratories currently operating on the NIH campus, but there is insufficient existing laboratory space for all of the necessary research. This shortage of facilities has delayed development of vaccines for naturally occurring diseases that threaten our local population, such as that caused by West Nile virus.

Also, having this facility on the NIH campus takes full advantage of the rich infrastructure, both physical and intellectual, present in the NIAID's existing intramural research program. The proximity of basic and clinical researchers with expertise in infectious diseases provides the foundation for the research and development program that is NIAID's mandate. It would take at least 10 years and more than one billion dollars to duplicate this basic and clinical infrastructure elsewhere. The NIH campus minimizes replication of costly support services and allows use of analytic capability in genomics, proteomics and imaging.

The facility will be constructed within a secured perimeter, with the required setback distance from any unscreened vehicles. In addition, there will be extra security for the areas of BSL-3 research within the facility. New lighting, observation cameras and card reader systems are being installed for the entire campus, and additional measures will be implemented in the BSL-3 laboratories. Multiple levels of security devices will be installed throughout the new facility.

Specific regulations govern the transportation of infectious materials. Infectious materials are safely transported worldwide on a daily basis under these regulations. More information on these regulations can be found at <http://bmbi.od.nih.gov/appendc.htm>.

NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

NHLBI Launches Red Dress Project; Offers Commemorative Pin

This winter, the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute launched the Red Dress Project—a partnership with the fashion industry and Mercedes-Benz to introduce the red dress as the new national symbol for women and heart disease. Part of NHLBI's national *The Heart Truth* campaign, which says "heart disease is not just a man's disease—it's the number one killer of women," the project debuted in February during the Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week in New York. Nineteen top designers donated a red dress from their collections to create the Red Dress Collection. Plans are underway to make the collection a traveling exhibit along with heart health screenings and educational events.



Cover Girl and model Angela Lindvall cuts the ribbon to unveil the Red Dress Collection at the New York opening of Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week.

"It is vitally important for women to take heart disease seriously, know their risk and act to protect their heart health," said NHLBI Director Dr. Claude Lenfant. "This important partnership with Mercedes-

Benz USA and Mercedes-Benz Fashion Week allows us to reach millions of women with information that can help them live longer, healthier lives.”

The Red Dress Project is designed to build awareness that women are at risk of heart disease; give a sense of hope that women can reduce their risk; and provide a clear call to action coupled with a sense of urgency.

“Many people still believe that cardiovascular disease is a man’s disease, when in reality, it has claimed the lives of more females than males since 1984, killing more than half a million women a year,” said U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy Thompson. “However, many risk factors such as smoking, high blood pressure, physical inactivity and obesity are controllable. That means each of us can take steps to help reduce our risks and prevent this deadly disease.”

At Fashion Week, officials unveiled the Red Dress pin. Designed by accessory designer Angela Cummings, the pin symbolizes that “heart disease doesn’t care what you wear.” NHLBI officials are hopeful that the pin will become what the pink ribbon has become for breast cancer. Made of two-tone silver plate with an overlay of red enamel, the two-inch-high pin features a delicate heart accent to reinforce the heart disease message. Each dress pin costs \$27 plus shipping, is attached to a campaign message card and is packaged in a red box. A limited quantity of pins is still available. To order, call 301-592-8573 or TTY: 240-629-3255.



U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson presents the Red Dress Project in Washington, proclaiming the third Friday in February as Women’s Heart Day.

Following the New York debut, the Red Dress Collection traveled to Washington and was on display in the HHS Great Hall. On February 21, 2003, HHS Secretary Thompson proclaimed the third Friday in February to be Women’s Heart Day.

To learn more about the campaign, visit <http://nhlbi.nih.gov/health/hearttruth>.

Outdoor Film Festival Benefiting NIH Charities Set for August

Summer is almost here, so mark your calendar with 10 nights of free films offered by the 7th Annual Comcast Outdoor Film Festival, August 15–24, 2003. Be sure to take advantage of the good food on hand and have a picnic with popcorn! Proceeds from the food sales benefit NIH charities, including The Children’s Inn at NIH, Special Love/Camp Fantastic and the Friends of the Clinical Center. Back for the second year on the grounds of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association and Strathmore Hall Arts Center in N. Bethesda, movies are preceded by live concerts featuring some of the area’s finest performers. Restaurants open at 7 p.m. and movies begin at 8:35 p.m. Tentative movies are listed below:

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| August 15 | <i>E.T.</i> (115 minutes, rated PG) |
| August 16 | <i>Lord of the Rings, The Fellowship of the Ring</i> (178 minutes, rated PG-13) |
| August 17 | <i>The Sound of Music</i> (174 minutes, rated G) |
| August 18 | <i>Jurassic Park</i> (127 minutes, rated PG-13) |
| August 19 | <i>Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory</i> (100 minutes, rated G) |
| August 20 | <i>Vertigo</i> (128 minutes, rated PG) |
| August 21 | <i>Spider-Man</i> (121 minutes, rated PG-13) |
| August 22 | <i>My Big Fat Greek Wedding</i> (96 minutes, rated PG) |
| August 23 | <i>Titanic</i> (194 minutes, rated PG-13) |
| August 24 | <i>Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets</i> (161 minutes, rated PG) |

For more information about the free outdoor film festival, visit <http://www.filmfestnih.org/>.

NIH Launches New Study to Lower Heart Disease, Stroke in Type 2 Diabetics

NIH recently launched a major new study to test the best approaches to lowering the risk of heart disease and stroke in adults with type 2 diabetes. Sponsored by the National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI) with additional support from the National Institute on Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases (NIDDK), the Action to Control Cardiovascular Risk in Diabetes (ACCORD) study seeks to enroll 10,000 adults with type 2 diabetes in 70 clinics around the United States and Canada.

All eligible participants will be in the blood sugar control part of the trial, and patients will be randomly assigned to a treatment regimen involving either aggressive or standard control of blood sugar. Then, depending on their blood pressure and cholesterol levels, they will be assigned to either a high blood pressure or high blood fats (cholesterol and triglycerides) part of the study. Most participants can expect their involvement to last from 5.5 to 8.5 years.

“This is the first large-scale study in patients with diabetes to test the effects of intensively controlling blood sugar along with aggressive control of blood pressure and lipids,” said NHLBI Director Claude Lenfant, M.D. “Given the serious consequences of type 2 diabetes, we expect that the ACCORD study will meet its overall goal to address this significant public health challenge.”

Currently, about 17 million Americans have diagnosed diabetes and more than 90 percent of them have type 2 diabetes. The number of people with this form of diabetes, formerly known as adult onset or non-insulin dependent diabetes, is growing rapidly. By 2050, the number of Americans with diagnosed diabetes is projected to increase by 165 percent to 29 million, 27 million of whom will have the type 2 form. Cardiovascular disease (CVD) is the leading cause of death in people with type 2 diabetes, who die of CVD at rates 2 to 4 times higher than those who do not have diabetes. They also experience more nonfatal heart attacks and strokes.

Type 2 diabetes is associated with older age and is more common in those who are overweight or

obese, or who have a family history of diabetes. Women with a history of diabetes during pregnancy, adults with impaired glucose tolerance, people with a sedentary lifestyle and members of a minority race/ethnicity also are at greater risk for type 2 diabetes.

To learn more about the study or how to participate, visit <http://www.accordtrial.org>.

NHGRI Debuts Spanish Talking Glossary of Genetics Online

In March, the National Human Genome Research Institute (NHGRI) launched an online Spanish Talking Glossary of Genetics to provide a resource to Spanish-speakers looking for a better understanding of recent advances in genetics and genomics.

The Spanish “Talking Glossary of Genetics,” which is located at <http://www.genome.gov/sglossary.cfm>, provides an innovative combination of text, illustrations and audio commentary to explain key genetic terms in an accessible, user-friendly format.

The glossary features more than 150 terms, offers handy pronunciation guides, brief text definitions and dozens of richly illustrated diagrams of selected terms. Beyond its standard dictionary-style definitions, the glossary also includes in-depth audio clips—spoken explanations—provided by Spanish-speaking genetic researchers.

For more information about this resource, visit the NHGRI Web site at <http://www.genome.gov>.

Papers of Nobel Laureate Linus Pauling Added to Profiles in Science Web Site

Not many would believe that a high school dropout and political activist would then go on to win two Nobel prizes and publish more than 500 papers and 11 books. But Linus Carl Pauling, Ph.D., (1901–1994) did just that. He is the eighth scientist to be added to the National Library of Medicine’s (NLM) *Profiles in Science* Web site (<http://profiles.nlm.nih.gov/>), which showcases some of the unpublished work of great 20th century biomedical scientists in an online exhibit.

Dr. Pauling remains the only person in history to win two unshared Nobel Prizes—one for his scientific accomplishments in chemistry and another for his peaceful activism to ban nuclear weapons testing. He is known for discovering the molecular basis of sickle-cell anemia; he wrote *The Nature of the Chemical Bond*, one of the most-cited texts in the history of science; he solved the large-scale structures of many proteins, including hemoglobin; and he proposed a model for the structure of DNA—all of which contributed to earning the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in 1954.



Linus Pauling, Ph.D.

Complementing his scientific achievements, Dr. Pauling joined other scientists in speaking out against nuclear bomb testing. Despite being put under FBI surveillance, having his research grants canceled and being declined a passport for his outspokenness, he continued his peace work. He and his wife gained world-wide fame for gathering the signatures of 11,000 scientists asking for an end to nuclear weapons testing, which they presented to the United Nations. The day the ban went into effect, Dr. Pauling earned the Nobel Peace Prize in 1963.

The *Profiles* online exhibit features correspondence, unpublished manuscripts, lecture notes, photographs, reprints and transcripts from speeches documenting the life and career of Dr. Pauling.

NIH CALENDAR OF EVENTS*

May 9
The NIH Director's Seminar Series: *MRI of Brain Function: Breakthroughs in Spatial and Temporal Resolution* by Jeff Duyn, Ph.D., National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, 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.

May 12
Behavioral and Social Sciences Lecture Series: *Studying the Relationship between Religion and Health* by Neal M. Krause, Ph.D., University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, 3–5 p.m., Neuroscience Center Building C, 6001 Executive

Boulevard, Rockville, MD, free and open to the public. Call Ronald Abeles at 301-496-7859 for more information.

The NINDS Neuroscience Lecture Series: *Can Neuroimaging Validate Cognitive Models of Working Memory?* by Julie Fiez, Ph.D., University of Pittsburgh, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call 301-435-2232 for more information, or visit <http://neuroseries.info.nih.gov/schedule.asp>.

May 14
The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures: *What Makes it Tick? Attempts to Understand the Dynamics of the Ribosome Using Cryo-electron Microscopy* by Joachim Frank, Ph.D., New York State Department of Health/New York University, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information, or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

May 19
The Manchester String Quartet: *Dvorak Quartet in D Minor, opus 34*, 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.

May 20
2003 Vaccine Research Center Seminar Series: *The Roles of Cellular and Humoral Immunity in Controlling SIV Replication in vivo* by Joern Schmitz, M.D., Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center, Harvard University, 4 p.m., Rooms 1201–1203, Building 40, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call Mario Roederer at 301-594-8491 or visit <http://vrc.nih.gov/cgi-shl/vrc/seminars.cfm>.

May 21
The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures: *From Long-term Gradients to Local Cell Shape Changes: How the Drosophila Embryo Controls its Morphogenesis* by Eric F. Wieschaus, Ph.D., Princeton University, 3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information, or visit <http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/schedule.htm>.

May 27
2003 Vaccine Research Center Seminar Series: *Lentiviral Vectors Based on Simian Immunodeficiency Viruses for Gene Transfer and Vaccination* by Dr. Klaus Uberla, Ruhr–Universität Bochum, 4 p.m., Rooms 1201–1203, Building 40, NIH campus, free and open to the public. For more information, call Mario Roederer at 301-594-8491 or visit <http://vrc.nih.gov/cgi-shl/vrc/seminars.cfm>.

May 28
The NIH Director's Wednesday Afternoon Lectures: *Tracking Immunity in vivo* by Richard M. Locksley, M.D., University of California at San Francisco, 3 p.m., Masur

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Auditorium, Building 10, NIH campus, free and open to the public. Call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 for more information, 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

Bethesda Brings Back its Free Summer Concert Series

Once again, live music fills the streets of Bethesda as local bands and musicians showcase their talents all summer long at various outdoor stages throughout downtown Bethesda. Beginning this month, free concerts at lunchtime and in the evening feature jazz, blues, rock, oldies, swing, top 40 and more! Concerts are held on Thursdays from 12–2 p.m. in Bethesda Place Plaza at the intersection of Old Georgetown Road and Woodmont Ave., and on Thursdays from 6–8 p.m. in Veteran’s Park at Woodmont and Norfolk Avenues. For more information or for a complete schedule of performances, call the Bethesda Urban Partnership at 301-215-6660 or visit <http://www.bethesda.org>.



Jefferson Starship, Spin Doctors and Spinners Headline Rockville’s Celebration

Musical groups Jefferson Starship, the Spin Doctors and the Spinners are just a few of the internationally-known artists to perform during the City of Rockville’s Hometown Holidays celebration May 23–26, 2003. The annual celebration, which is free and open to the public, features a brand new mobile skateboard park, carnival rides and games, children’s activities, arts and crafts, fireworks, and laser shows. The celebration continues on Memorial Day with patriotic musical concerts and a parade. Free skate sessions are available each day from 1 to 8 p.m. with stunt performances by Maximum Velocity, a professional group of skaters and bikers. Held in Rockville’s Town Center, the celebration takes place at 7–11 p.m. on Friday, 1–11 p.m. on Saturday, 1–10:30 p.m. on Sunday and 9 a.m.–5 p.m. on Monday. For a schedule of events, visit <http://www.ci.rockville.md.us/recreation/speevent/hth03/index.html> or call the city’s special event line at 240-314-5022.

Free Community Lectures Offered by Holy Cross Hospital

Holy Cross Hospital offers several free community lectures this month—from toddler tips to weight-loss. A schedule is listed below. Lectures take place in auditorium 2 at Holy Cross Hospital, which is located at 1500 Forest Glen Road in Silver Spring. For more information or to register, call 301-754-8800.

- May 7** **Taming Your Toddler: Tips and Tools**
7–8 p.m. by Alyssa Sanders, M.S.W., and Shari Waddy, Montgomery County Mental Health Association
- May 8** **Smallpox: What You Need to Know**
7–8:30 p.m. by Kathleen Wood, R.N., M.P.H.
- May 15** **Weight Loss: Looking at the Low-Carbohydrate Craze**
7–8 p.m. by Ann Caldwell, R.D.

Potomac Hunt Steeplechase to Benefit Suburban Hospital

Horse-lovers of all ages won’t want to miss the 51st running of the Potomac Hunt Races on Sunday, May 18, 2003. Held on Bittersweet Field of the Kiplinger estate in Seneca, Maryland, the Potomac Hunt features world-class steeplechase racing, festive tailgate parties, equine vendors and pony rides for the kids. Gather your family and friends, pack a picnic and enjoy an afternoon filled with pageantry and excitement—while contributing to a worthy cause. Proceeds from the races benefit the expansion and renovation of Suburban Hospital’s Emergency and Shock Trauma Center. Gates open at 11 a.m. with the first race starting at



Racers vie for position at the annual Potomac Hunt Steeplechase.

12:30 p.m. General admission is \$20 per car. Kiplinger's Bittersweet Field is located at the intersection of River and Partnership roads. For more information, call the Suburban Hospital Foundation at 301-896-3971.

Brookside Gardens Opens Wings of Fancy Butterfly Show

This month visitors to Brookside Gardens can experience what it is like to be surrounded by free-flying butterflies in a setting of colorful nectar plants. On May 10 through September 21, Brookside Gardens opens its popular "Wings of Fancy" butterfly show. Held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily in the South Conservatory, this year's show features exotic Central and South American butterflies in addition to species native to Maryland. Show visitors can learn what plants attract butterflies, how to attract butterflies to their own garden and how butterflies metamorphose from caterpillars. Admission is \$4 for adults, and \$3 for children ages 3 to 12. No strollers are permitted. Brookside is located at 1800 Glenallan Ave. in Wheaton. For more information, call 301-962-1429 or visit <http://www.brooksidegardens.org>.



Mental Health Association Holds Obsessive Compulsive Disorder Event

The Mental Health Association is holding its 15th annual conference on the treatment of obsessive compulsive disorder and obsessive compulsive spectrum disorders on Thursday, May 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. The conference, which takes place at the University System of Maryland, Shady Grove Center, Building II, features R. Reid Wilson, Ph.D. as its keynote speaker. Conference attendees can earn 6 continuing education credits for participation. Cost is \$75 including a continental breakfast and a box lunch. For more information, visit <http://www.mhamc.org> or call 301-424-0656 x156.

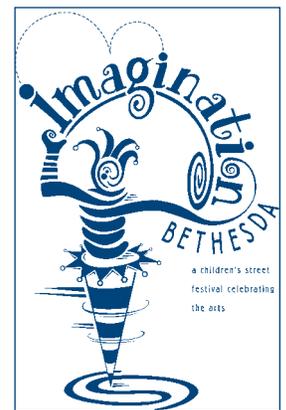
Taste of Wheaton Planned for May 18

Join some of the finest restaurants in Wheaton for a day of good food and free family fun on Sunday, May 18, 2003. The Taste of Wheaton, which takes place from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Grandview Ave., features exotic food, free children's rides, musical

entertainment, exhibits, blood pressure screenings, the Recycling Mobile, fire and rescue equipment—including the Jaws of Life—and more. All food tastes are only \$1. Located only a block from the Wheaton Metro station, the festival offers free parking at the Metro parking garage on Viers Mill Road. Free shuttle service is also available from Garage 45 on Amherst Avenue and Reedy Drive. For further information, call 240-777-8122.

Bethesda Children's Festival Set for June

Area children won't want to miss this year's Imagination Bethesda—an annual children's street festival—on Saturday, June 7. Held from noon to 4 p.m., the free festival features costumed characters, face painters, international dance troupes, theater performances and plenty of hands-on arts activities. The festival, which takes place between Bethesda Avenue and Elm Street, highlights the arts of downtown Bethesda, while providing a fun, cultural and educational event for children under 12. For more information, call the Bethesda Urban Partnership at 301-215-6660 or visit <http://www.bethesda.org>.



TRY THIS WEB SITE

<http://www.ready.gov>

In light of recent world events, the threat of terrorist attacks remains real. To help Americans prepare for a possible biological, chemical or nuclear event, the Department of Homeland Security created the Ready.Gov Web site. The site offers planning suggestions and common sense tips to better prepare for the unexpected. In particular, visitors to the site can learn how to make and what to include in an emergency supplies kit. Tips on how to make an emergency contact plan with family members as well as deciding whether the family should stay or go in the event of an emergency are included. Fact sheets providing basic information on biological, chemical, nuclear, radiation and explosion threats are also available to download from the site.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Children Needed for Weight Loss Study

Doctors at NIH are enrolling overweight children, ages 6 to 17, in two new weight loss studies. There is no charge to participate. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010, or send an e-mail to prpl@cc.nih.gov.

Post Partum Depression Study

If you or someone you know suffers from post partum depression, then consider participating in a medical research study at the NIH. The study focuses on understanding how maternal moods are linked to mother-infant interaction and to infant development. To learn more, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010, or send an e-mail to prpl@cc.nih.gov.

Healthy Adults Needed

Healthy adults between the ages of 18 and 30 who have never been immunized against smallpox are sought to participate in a phase I/II trial at the Vaccine Research Center on the NIH campus. The trial will evaluate an experimental smallpox vaccine for safety, dosing schedule and immune responses. All participants will also receive the standard smallpox vaccine. To volunteer or for more information, call 1-866-833-LIFE or TTY: 1-866-411-1010.

Overweight?

Doctors at the NIH are studying the health effects of calcium supplementation on healthy overweight adults. The study takes place over two years, and compensation is provided. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222 or TTY: 1-866-411-1010, or send an e-mail to prpl@cc.nih.gov.

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.

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