

To: Community Representatives

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

Date: December 2000

NOTES FROM THE DIRECTOR, OFFICE OF COMMUNITY LIAISON

n what was perhaps the NIH's best community outreach event yet, the Office of Community Liaison sponsored the third annual community health forum, *Share the Health: An Exposition of Health Resources from NIH to Its Neighbors*, on October 21. With over 300 community members pre-registered for the event, we knew it would be a successful day. However, when nearly 500 area residents showed up at the Natcher Center on a beautiful fall Saturday to participate, it became clear to all how far the relationship between the NIH and members of the community had come.

Throughout the day, local community members were able to listen to various health seminars covering topics from Alzheimer's Disease to Women's Health to Cardiovascular Disease Research. There was also an Internet Resources Room available for use all day, tours of the Children's Inn and the National Library of Medicine, and a highly popular workshop on the Art of Relaxation. Nearly every Institute and Center at the NIH participated as an exhibitor, and there was plenty of information for everyone. Also, this year, the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services provided blood pressure screenings, allowing people to stay updated on their own personal health. The keynote lunch speaker was Dr. Francis Collins, Director of the National Human Genome Research Institute. He eloquently discussed

the Medical and Societal Consequences of the Human Genome Project, and those in attendance were highly appreciative of his magnificent presentation.

All in all, the day was a great success. Spirits were high, and everyone seemed to have an excellent time, whether they were teaching, learning, or a little of both. Although this year will definitely be hard to top, we have already started planning next year's community health forum. As always, I would love to hear any suggestions you may have—your input is vital!



Dr. Collins speaks with participants at the Share the Health Forum.

The Community Liaison Council (CLC) will hold its next meeting and holiday party on **Thursday**, **December 14**, **at 4:00 p.m.** in the Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, Conference Room F on the NIH campus.



Health forum participants collect materials from NIH exhibitors.

NIH CAMPUS NEWS AND ACTIVITIES

Dr. Kington to Direct NIH Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research

This fall, Acting NIH Director Ruth Kirschstein, M.D., appointed Raynard S. Kington, M.D., Ph.D., as director of the Office of Behavioral and Social Sciences Research. In his new position, Dr. Kington "will help guide NIH priorities for research in the behavioral and social sciences," said Dr. Kirschstein.

Prior to his new position, Dr. Kington served as the director of the Division of Health Examination Statistics at the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) National Center for Health Statistics, where he led the National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey. Before joining the CDC, Dr. Kington served as the senior natural scientist at the RAND Corporation and as co-director of the Drew/RAND Center for Health and Aging. He also was assistant professor of geriatric medicine at the University of California, Los Angeles.

In addition to his extensive experience, Dr. Kington has received numerous academic awards and a grant from the National Institute of Aging, and he has served on several scientific review committees. He received his medical degree from the University of Michigan and his masters and doctoral degrees from the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania.

NIH To Perform Messiah Sing-Along

On Sunday, December 10, 2000, the NIH Community Orchestra and the Bethesda Little Theatre will join forces once again to create the "Messiah 2000 Sing-Along." This special holiday show, which features a variety of music from Handel's *Messiah*, will begin at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium of Building 10 on the NIH campus. All community members are welcome to participate. A \$10 donation is suggested. All proceeds from the performance will benefit the NIH Recreation and Welfare Association (R&W) Foundation, which funds charities such as the Children's Inn and the Patient Emergency Fund. For more information, call 301-897-8184 or visit http://www.gprep.org/~music/nih.

NIH Grantees, Scientists Honored with Nobel and Presidential Awards

This fall, more than a dozen NIH grantees and scientists have received some of science's most prestigious awards—the Nobel Prize and Presidential Early Career Awards for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE). NIH grantees Dr. James J. Heckman and Dr. Daniel L. McFadden received the Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for their work in the field of microeconometrics, where they developed widely-used theories and methods in statistical analysis. Long-time NIH grantees Dr. Eric R. Kandel and Dr. Paul Greengard received the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine for their discoveries in signal transduction in the nervous system. Their work has improved treatments for Parkinson's disease, schizophrenia, and depression, and it has the potential to improve memory in dementia.

"I am proud that NIH has provided long-term and consistent support to these fine scientists over the decades," said NIH Acting Director Ruth Kirschstein, M.D.

Two intramural scientists and 10 NIH grantees received PECASE awards at a White House ceremony in October. PECASE are the highest honor the United States can bestow on scientists at the beginning of their independent research careers. Dr. Kirschstein said, "Such talented young researchers are essential to the future success of medical research."

The award recipients are: Philip Ashton-Rickardt, University of Chicago; Michael L. Dustin, Washington University; Leslie S. Ritter, University of Arizona at Tucson; Monica Kraft, National Jewish Medical and Research Center; Charles E. Murry, University of Washington; Henrique von Gersdorff, Oregon Health Sciences University; Karl Kandler, University of Pittsburgh; S. Barak Caine, Harvard Medical School; Christopher S. Chen, Johns Hopkins University; Geoffrey A. Chang, Scripps Research Institute; Orna Cohen-Fix, National Institute of Diabetes and Digestive and Kidney Diseases intramural program; and Jeffrey S. Diamond, National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke intramural program.

NIH Blood Bank Appeals for Donations

The NIH Blood Bank urgently needs blood donations of all types. Call 301-496-1048 or stop by the Department of Transfusion Medicine in Building 10, the Clinical Center, 1st floor, Room 1C713B.

Bethesda Little Theatre Announces Holiday Show

For 20 years, the Bethesda Little Theatre (BLT) has been delighting audiences with its annual lunchtime NIH holiday show. This year's show, at noon on December 14, 2000, promises to continue the tradition. The show, which is held in Masur Auditorium in Building 10, features a variety of Christmas, Chanukah, and seasonal holiday music with a grand finale inviting everyone to join in and sing a collection of Christmas carols. BLT President Alice Smith, who directs, produces, and performs in the show, said that the purpose of this lighthearted program is to get people in the holiday spirit. She added that she likes to think of the program as "a gift" to NIH employees and patients. For those that are unable to come to the show, the BLT is holding a second free show on December 20, 2000, 7:30 p.m., at Strathmore Hall Arts Center, located at 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland. The BLT consists of NIH and community volunteers who help to raise money for the Patient Emergency Fund and Camp Funshine. The Patient Emergency Fund helps NIH patients and their families meet unexpected expenses incurred while a family member is undergoing treatment at

NIH, and Camp Funshine is a camp for children with AIDS. For more information or to volunteer, call Alice Smith at 301-496-6310.

FOCC Announces Holiday Charity Bazaar

The Friends of the Clinical Center is holding its annual holiday bazaar on Tuesday, December 5, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the lobby area of Building 10 on the NIH campus. Purchase some last minute holiday gifts and help raise money for this important NIH charity. Proceeds from the event will provide financial support to NIH patients in need. In the past, this assistance has helped patients pay their mortgages, utility bills, travel expenses, and air ambulance services. For more information, call 301-402-0193.

The Manchester String Quartet Series Continues

Join the Manchester String Quartet for its 12th season this winter as its 2000–2001 season continues into the spring. The series features a wonderful variety of classical music to help keep the winter blues at bay. All concerts are free and open to the public and are held on Mondays at 12:30 p.m. in Masur Auditorium in Building 10 on the NIH campus. The show schedule is as follows:

December 11	Schubert Quartet in D Minor, D. 810 "Death and the Maiden"
January 22	Beethoven Quartet in A Minor, Opus 132
February 12	Mendelssohn Quartet in A Minor, Opus 13
March 12	Dvorak Quartet in G Major, Opus 106
April 30	Bartok Quartet #1, Opus 7
May 14	Shostakovich Quartet #10, Opus 118

For more information about the program, call Sharon Greenwell at 301-496-4713.

Clinical Center to Hold Annual Holiday Auction for Charity

Don't miss the Clinical Center Department of Laboratory Medicine's 28th annual holiday auction on December 8, 2000, benefitting the Patient Emergency Fund and the Friends of the Clinical Center. "Quilts 2000" is this year's auction theme, and a variety of handmade quilts will be showcased. The fundraiser, which runs from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in Building 10, Room 2C310, features a bake sale, a white elephant sale and silent auction, a raffle of handmade quilts, and pizza for lunch. Tickets are \$1 each or \$5 for 6. They are available outside the second floor cafeteria of the Clinical Center through December 7 and are tax deductible. Volunteers and donations are always needed. For more information or to make a donation, call Norma Ruschell at 301-496-4473 or Sheila Barrett at 301-496-5668.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FAES Chamber Music Series: Auryn String Quartet with Peter Orth, piano, 4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, \$25 (\$10 for students and fellows), open to the public. For more information or for tickets, call 301-496-7975 or visit http://faes.org/music.htm.

NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: *Multidirectional Trophic Signaling at Neuromuscular Synapses* by Rita J. Balice-Gordon, Ph.D., University of Pennsylvania, noon-1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: Life Coping Skills & Avoiding the Pitfalls, 1–2:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: *The Creation of Human Cancer Cells* by Robert Weinberg, Ph.D., Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/.

Office of Research on Women's Health 2000 Women's Health Seminar Series: *Heart and Brain Attacks in Women,* 1–3 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-1770.

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Using the MBTI Assessment in Your Career,* 11:30 a.m.–2:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C7, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

Cinema Bethesda Foreign Movie Screening and Discussion: *Thieves,* Cinema Bethesda at NIH, 5:30 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, \$12, open to public. For more information, call 301-365-3679.

NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: Pre-Frontal Cortex and the Neural Basis of Cognition by Earl K. Miller, Ph.D., Massachusetts Institute of Technology, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

WFLC Faces & Phases of Life Seminar Series: *Stress Management*, 12–1:30 p.m., Building 31, Room 6C6, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information or to pre-register, call 301-435-1619.

National Library of Medicine History of Medicine Seminar Series: *Smallpox Vaccination in the 19th-Century American Army* by Dr. Dale C. Smith, 2–3:15 p.m., Conference Room B, Building 38, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-8878.

2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: *The Patients Who Taught Me and Led to My Discoveries in Endocrine Disorders* by Maria New, M.D., New York Presbyterian Hospital and Weill Medical College of Cornell University, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/.

Mobile Mammography Screening, sponsored by the George Washington University Breast Care Center, 9:30 a.m.–3:45 p.m., in front of Building 45, NIH, \$138. For more information or to schedule an appointment, call 202-994-9999.

2000–2001 Human Genome Lecture Series: *Hardwired Genomic Programming for Development* by Eric Davidson, Ph.D., California Institute of Technology, 9:30–11 a.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-402-0911.

Clinical Center Roundtable Program: Managing Septic Shock by Charles Natanson, M.D., panel leader, Warren Grant Magnuson Clinical Center, NIH, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call 301-496-2563.

NIH Director's Seminar Series: Recombinant Immunotoxins for the Treatment of Hematologic Malignancies by Dr. Robert J. Kreitman, National Cancer Institute, NIH, noon–1 p.m., Wilson Hall, Building 1, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call 301-496-1921.

Scientific Conference on Health Disparities in Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases, 8 a.m., Natcher Conference Center, Building 45, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Courtesy Associates at 202-973-8696 or visit http://www.nih.gov/niams/news/currmeetregmat.htm.

NIH Neuroscience Seminar Series: Sex and Social Regulation of the Brain by Dr. Russell Fernald, Stanford University, noon–1 p.m., Lipsett Amphitheater, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. CME credit is available. For more information, call Dr. Story Landis at 301-435-2232.

2000–2001 Wednesday Afternoon Lecture Series: *Gene Mutations that Remodel the Heart* by Christine Seidman, M.D., Harvard Medical School, 3–4 p.m., Masur Auditorium, Building 10, NIH, free and open to the public. For more information, call Hilda Madine at 301-594-5595 or visit http://www1.od.nih.gov/wals/.

OTHER NEWS AND ACTIVITIES OF INTEREST

Montgomery County Develops Flu Vaccination Plan

Last month, Montgomery County announced its plans to distribute the flu vaccine. Because of limited flu vaccine this year, county officials have developed a schedule that first provides vaccinations to those persons at high risk of developing complications. Area hospitals and the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services (MCDHHS) are holding flu clinics throughout the county this month. For a listing of clinic locations, visit http://www.co.mo.md.us/hhs/phs/flu_clinic_schedule.html or call the MCDHHS Immunization Hotline at 240-777-1520. A \$10 or \$15 donation is

requested for each flu shot given, depending upon the location. Persons on Medicare will not be asked for a donation if they bring their Medicare card.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), approximately 20,000 Americans die each year from flu or flu-related pneumonia. Over 90 percent of these deaths occur in people over 65. The CDC lists the following people as those at high-risk for developing flu-related complications:

- All people over 65;
- Adults and children with chronic disorders of the pulmonary or cardiovascular systems, including asthma;
- Adults and children who have required regular medical follow-up or hospitalization during the preceding year because of diabetes, kidney disease, hemoglobinopathies, or immunosuppression caused by a health condition, medication, or organ transplant;
- High-risk children or teenagers with chronic conditions or those who are receiving longterm aspirin therapy;
- Women who will be in the second or third trimester of pregnancy during the flu season;
- Residents of nursing homes and other facilities that house persons, of any age, who have chronic medical conditions;
- Health workers who give direct care to and have household contacts with those at high risk for complications from flu or pneumonia; and
- People considering travel to foreign countries (These persons should review their flu vaccination history with their private doctors).

Adequate supplies of the vaccine are expected to be available before the flu season peaks, usually January through March. If you are not in the highrisk category and want a flu shot, you should wait until more clinics are scheduled for lower-risk categories or contact a private physician. Other community groups and organizations are also sponsoring flu clinics, such as Giant Food (http://www.co.mo.md.us/hhs.

Strathmore Concludes Music in the Mansion Series

This month marks the last two performances for the year in Strathmore Hall Arts Center's Music in the Mansion music series. Both are very different holiday performances. The New Minstrels of the Rhine explores the traditional German roots of American folk songs, carols, and popular seasonal tunes on Sunday, December 10, 2000 at 7:30 p.m. Concert Artists of Baltimore present their yuletide celebration on Sunday, December 17 at 3 p.m. Old and new seasonal favorites, such as "White Christmas" and "Ave Maria" will fill Strathmore in all of its holiday splendor. Tickets for each performance are \$20, \$17 for seniors, and \$10 for students. Strathmore is located at 10701 Rockville Pike in North Bethesda, Maryland. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 301-530-0540.

Suburban Hospital Named As Eye Trauma Center

This fall, the Maryland Institute for Emergency Medical Services Systems officially designated Suburban Hospital as an Eye Trauma Center for the State of Maryland, making Suburban one of only two centers in the state. The other is the Wilmer Eye Institute at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore.

"Suburban's eye trauma program will provide the highest level of clinical management of severe eye injuries in the greater Washington D.C. area," said Leonard Parver, M.D., medical director for Suburban Hospital's Eye Trauma Center. He added that the center brings clinicians together with expertise in all specialities of major ocular trauma and provides the technology for managing these emergencies.

In addition to state-of-the-art eye trauma equipment and technology, Suburban has a specially-trained eye trauma team available 24 hours a day. "Our community will greatly benefit from having this expertise available so close to home," said Dr. Parver.

County Plans Alcohol-Free New Year's Eve Celebration

If you're looking for a New Year's Eve celebration that the entire family can enjoy, then First Night Montgomery is for you. On December 31, 2000, from 3 p.m. to midnight, at the Montgomery County Fairgrounds

in Gaithersburg, more than 20 entertainers in heated tents promise to delight audiences with music, ice sculptures, children's programs, and laser shows and fireworks. Well-known oldies band The Fabulous Hubcaps, rock 'n roll musicians The Nighthawks, popular bluegrass band The Seldom Scene, and blues artist Tom Principato are just a few of the featured performers in the evening. Children's festivities, from 3 to 6 p.m., are free and include the Dinorock Puppets; magician and ventriloquist Ron Johnson; The Breakfast Band, a group of interactive Irish musicians; and other children's performers, followed by a fireworks and laser show at 6 p.m. Evening entertainment begins at 7 p.m. and concludes at midnight with a spectacular laser show and fireworks display. A First Night button allows admission into the evening festivities for \$10. Children 10 and under are admitted free. Buttons can be purchased in advance in county libraries and recreation and regional centers. Parking is free and shuttles will be provided from the Shady Grove Metro station. For more information, visit http://www.co.mo.md. us/services/rec/fnm.html or call 240-777-6821.

Variety of Local Holiday Programs Planned

December always brings an assortment of holiday programs to the local area, and this year is no exception. Listed below are a sampling of some of the events being held in honor of the holidays:

Bethesda Row Holiday Lighting

On December 7, from 6 to 7 p.m., watch Bethesda Row light up with Christmas trees, then join in some holiday caroling. Carriage rides will be featured along with food and more. Bethesda Row is located at the corner of Bethesda and Woodmont Avenues. Call 301-998-8234 for more information.

History of the Poinsettia Holiday Display

Brookside Gardens has planned a free holiday display of poinsettias in its North and South conservatories from December 9 to January 14. The display traces the plant's origins to Mexico, then explores its diverse native regions from the mountains to the desert. Open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. daily, Brookside Gardens is located at 1800 Glenallan Avenue in Wheaton, Maryland. For more information, call 301-949-8230.

Glenview Mansion Holiday Open House

Enjoy traditional entertainment and festive decorations at the historic Glenview Mansion in Rockville, Maryland on three Sundays in December. From 1 to 4 p.m. on December 3, 10, and 17, visitors to the mansion can enjoy the good cheer of the season during this holiday celebration. Glenview Mansion is located in Rockville Civic Center Park at 603 Edmonston Drive. For more information, call 301-309-3340.

Historic Bussard House Candlelight Tour

On December 9 and 10, from noon to 8 p.m., history buffs can enjoy a candlelight tour of the historic Bussard House. The house is located in the Agricultural History Farm Park at 18400 Muncaster Road in Derwood, Maryland. For more information, call 301-563-3400.

Winter Lights Display

Visit a winter wonderland of toy soldiers, flying reindeer, Santa's workshop, and many other festive lights while driving through 3.5 miles of lighted forms at Seneca Creek State Park in Gaithersburg, Maryland. The display is available Sundays through Thursdays from 6 to 9:30 p.m. and on Fridays and Saturdays from 6 to 10 p.m. through December 31, 2000. Admission is \$10 per car, and a portion of the proceeds are donated to local charities. The park is located at 11950 Clopper Road. For more information, call 301-258-6350.

Rockville Holiday Concert

The Rockville Concert Band and the Rockville Community Chorus have planned two free holiday concerts on December 17, 2000 at the F. Scott Fitzgerald Theatre in Rockville, Maryland. At 3 p.m., the Rockville Concert Band will perform a variety of holiday music, and at 7:30 p.m., the Rockville Community Chorus will showcase their holiday show. Both concerts are free and open to the public. The theatre is located in Rockville Civic Center Park at Baltimore Road and Edmonston Drive. For more information, call 301-309-3001.

TRY THIS WEB SITE: http://chid.nih.gov/

The Combined Health Information Database (CHID) is a bibliographic database developed as a cooperative effort by the National Institutes of Health, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the Health Resources and Services Administration to provide health information and resources to the public. Recognizing the need for a single source of health information, these agencies combined their information files into one database which provides health professionals and the public with access to information on 16 health topics. The database includes a title, author, publisher, and a brief abstract on each document. It also provides ordering information. Some featured topic areas are AIDS education, Alzheimer's disease, cancer prevention and control, alternative medicine, oral health, maternal and child health, rare disorders, and digestive diseases.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Heart Disease Study Seeks African Americans

The Heart Disease Risk Factors in African Americans Study is investigating the relationship of obesity to heart disease risk factors in healthy, non-diabetic African American men and pre-menopausal women. Participants between the ages of 18 and 50 can be of any weight. Four outpatient visits to the NIH Clinical Center will be required for body fat analyses, an electrocardiogram, blood tests, and oral and intravenous glucose tolerance tests. All participants in the study will be paid. For more information, call 301-402-7119.

Adults with Sickle Cell Anemia Needed

Researchers at the NIH Clinical Center are looking for adults with sickle cell anemia to participate in a study that tries to find ways to understand and treat the disease. Study participants will be compensated. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222.

Healthy Twins Needed

The Child Psychiatry Branch of the National Institute of Mental Health seeks healthy twins aged 5 to 16 to participate in study of the brain. The study involves one visit to the NIH Clinical Center for a brain MRI (using no radiation), a physical exam, computer testing, and an "ouchless" blood draw. Twins will be paid \$160 each and will receive a photo of their brain. For more information, please call 301-496-4319 ext. 6.

Individuals with Jaw Pain or TMD Sought

The National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research seeks people aged 18 to 65 with early onset or later stage temporomandibular disorders (TMD) for a study testing treatment medications against placebo. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222.

Women with Fibromyalgia Needed

Doctors at the National Institute of Dental and Craniofacial Research invite women aged 18 to 45 diagnosed with fibromyalgia to take part in a new study testing the benefits of exercise. There is no charge for participating. For more information, call 1-800-411-1222.

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

Office of Community Liaison

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