

other social commentators enter the fray. Would achievement of such extreme longevity result in a “tragedy of the commons,” in which individual, self-centered pursuit of maximal longevity would produce grave losses to society and the survival of our species as humans in the form of increased ageism, elitism, classism, racism, sexism, maldistribution of resources and justice, intolerance of diversity of all kinds, and intergenerational conflict? Perhaps this concern is most eloquently captured by Leon Kass, who argues passionately that “immortality for oneself through children may be a delusion, but participating in the natural renewal of humankind through children is not.”

Finally, however, the authors are clear that they do not wish to debate, or become closely associated with, the antiaging movement (as championed by the American Academy of Anti-Aging Medicine, or A4M), choosing to distance themselves from those who might exploit the popular fantasies of those seeking the fountain of youth through unproven nostrums, superficial surgery, or other pseudoscientific approaches to life extension. Thus, the A4M and its 11,000 members would dismiss this book as another product of crusty, hidebound members of the “gerontological establishment.”

Nevertheless, all told, I would highly recommend this book as a most readable, provocative, and informative primer for all serious observers of biogerontology (including geriatricians) as they examine the progressive aging of the world’s population — a trend that is certain to pose a central challenge to 21st-century civilization.

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CORRECTIONS

Genotypes and Phenotypes — Another Lesson from the Hemoglobinopathies (October 7, 2004;351:1490-2). On page 1492, lines 2 and 3 of the second full paragraph should have read, “coding for phenylalanine instead of leucine,” rather than “coding for leucine instead of phenylalanine,” as printed.

New Drugs for Rheumatoid Arthritis (December 16, 2004;351:2659-61). On page 2659, the first footnote in Table 1 should have read, “The inclusion criteria required patients to have active rheumatoid arthritis,” rather than “to have rheumatoid arthritis,” as printed. We regret the error.

NOTICES

Notices submitted for publication should contain a mailing address and telephone number of a contact person or department. We regret that we are unable to publish all notices received. Notices also appear on the Journal’s Web site (www.nejm.org/meetings). The listings can be viewed in their entirety or searched by location, month, or key word.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH EDUCATION AND RESEARCH CENTER

The following courses will be offered in Chapel Hill, N.C.: “Supervising Asbestos Abatement Projects” (Refresher Course, Feb. 8, April 27); “Designing Asbestos Abatement Projects” (Refresher Course, Feb. 10, April 29); “Building Inspection and Management Planning for Asbestos” (Feb. 28–March 4; Refresher Course, Feb. 9, April 28); “Comprehensive Industrial Hygiene (CIH) Review Course” (March 14–18); “Asbestos Operations and Maintenance” (April 4 and 5; July 11); “Certified Safety Professional (CSP) Review Course” (April 11–15); “Certified Hazardous Material Manager (CHMM) Review” (June 6–9; Exam, June 10); and “Sampling and Evaluating Airborne Asbestos Dust (NIOSH 582)” (June 20–24).

Contact Occupational Safety and Health Education and Research Center, University of North Carolina, 3300 Hwy. 54 West, Chapel Hill, NC 27516-8264; or call (888) 235-3320 (national) or (919) 962-2101 (North Carolina); or fax (919) 966-7579; or e-mail oshercw@sph.unc.edu; or see <http://www.sph.unc.edu/osherc/>.

IBD CLINICAL EXPERTISE

The “9th Annual Medical Symposium” will be held in Rosemont, Ill., on Feb. 19. It is sponsored by the University of Chicago School of Medicine.

Contact Carla Bumba, Crohn’s & Colitis Foundation of America, 2250 E. Devon Ave., Suite 244, Des Plaines, IL 60018; or call (800) 886-6664.

3RD SYMPOSIUM ON THE FUNCTIONAL GENOMICS OF CRITICAL ILLNESS AND INJURY

The symposium will be held in Bethesda, Md., April 21 and 22. It is sponsored by the National Institute of General Medical Sciences and the Critical Care Medicine Department, Clinical Center, National Institutes of Health. Deadline for submission of abstracts is March 1.

Contact Strategic Results, 6004 Lakeview Rd., Baltimore, MD 21210; or see <http://www.strategicresults.com/fg3>; or e-mail anne@strategicresults.com; or call (410) 377-0110.

AMERICAN SOCIETY OF BREAST SURGEONS

The “6th Annual Meeting” will be held in Los Angeles, March 16–20.

Contact Jane Schuster, American Society of Breast Surgeons, 10440 Little Patuxent Parkway, Suite 810, Columbia, MD 21044; or call (410) 992-5470; or fax (410) 992-5472; or e-mail contact@breastsurgeons.org; or see <http://www.breastsurgeons.org>.

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