

The Research

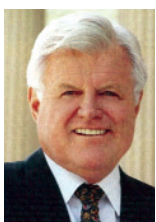
A D V O C A T E

MARCH 2008

Bringing Research Closer to Home

Research!America To Honor Stars of Research Advocacy

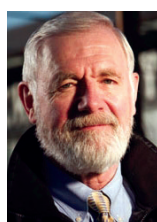
Hundreds of the nation's top leaders in science, medical research, advocacy, business, government and the media will join Research!America



Sen. Edward M. Kennedy



Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger



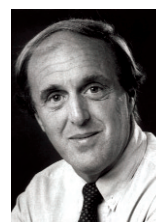
William H. Foege, MD, MPH



Pat Furlong



Mathilde Krim, PhD



Richard A. Lerner, MD

Randy Siegel, *PARADE* magazine, and our Grand Reception Sponsor is GlaxoSmithKline.

Our 2008 award recipients are:

- Sen. Edward M. Kennedy, Edwin C.

this month to honor our 2008 Advocacy Award recipients. Our 12th Annual Advocacy Awards Gala will be March 18 at the Andrew W. Mellon Auditorium in Washington, DC.

Gala co-chairs are Joseph M. Feczko, MD, Pfizer Inc, and Dennis A. Ausiello, MD, Massachusetts General Hospital/Partners Healthcare System. Our media host is

Whitehead Award for Medical Research Advocacy

- Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, State of California, *Isadore Rosenfeld Award for Impact on Public Opinion*
- William H. Foege, MD, MPH, Emory University and the

Continued on page 7

Research!America Backs Call for Presidential Debate on Science

Research!America has endorsed **Science Debate 2008**, joining the call for a debate among the presidential candidates about science and technology policy, medicine and health. The debate—co-sponsored by the **American Association for the Advancement of Science, Council on Competitiveness, National Academy of**

Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, Institute of Medicine and more than 100 other institutions and universities—is scheduled for April 18 at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia. See www.sciencedebate2008.com.

Americans have never had more resources available about candidates'

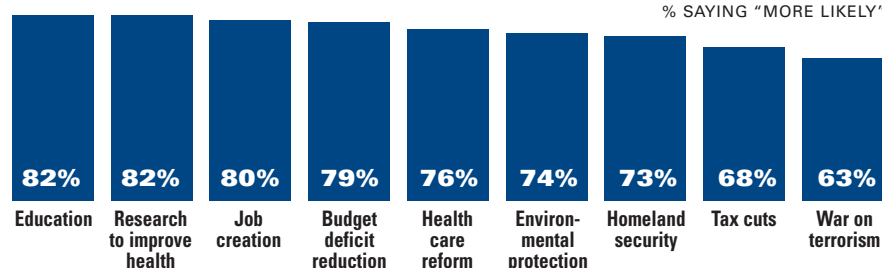
positions on health, science and research, but the candidates have yet to debate those issues. We encourage you to review *Your Candidates—Your Health: Presidential Primaries 2008* at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org and our partners' voter guides to learn more about the candidates' positions. Then, join the discussion on our blog (www.researchamerica.org/blog) about

Continued on page 5

AMERICA Speaks

Please tell me if you would be more likely or less likely to vote for a presidential candidate if he or she supported increased funding for the following

Likelihood to Vote for Candidate



New ON THE Web

www.researchamerica.org

Register to attend our **12th Annual Advocacy Awards Gala**, and RSVP for our **2008 National Forum and Annual Meeting of Members** at www.researchamerica.org.

Find out how your state's economy is affected by research for health with our new **Economic Impact of Health Research** tool at www.researchamerica.org/state_econ.

Download our new **global health fact sheet**, the latest in our **Research Saves Lives and Money** series, at www.researchamerica.org.

The Research ADVOCATE



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About Research!America

Research!America is the nation's largest 501(c)(3) public education and advocacy alliance working to make research to improve health a higher national priority. Founded in 1989, Research!America is supported by 500+ member institutions, businesses and organizations that together represent the voices of more than 125 million Americans. Our public opinion polls, advocacy programs and publications reach the public and decision makers to help advance medical, health and scientific research.

Research!America
AN ALLIANCE FOR DISCOVERIES IN HEALTH®

2 RESEARCH!AMERICA

Members T A K E Action **Kidney Cancer Association**



Bill Bro

The Kidney Cancer Association is a charitable organization made up of patients, family members, physicians, researchers and other health professionals. We fund, promote and collaborate with the National Cancer Institute, American Society of Clinical Oncology, American Urological Association and other institutions on research projects. We educate families and physicians, and serve as an advocate on behalf of patients at the state and federal levels. The Association was founded in 1990 by a small group of patients, including Eugene P. Schonfeld, PhD, and medical doctors in Chicago.

Awareness of kidney cancer is a priority for the Kidney Cancer Association. It is one of the more rare types of cancer, affecting a small population.

"We want people to be aware of kidney cancer and know the early symptoms to further reduce its reach," said **Bill Bro**, the association's CEO. "For patients with kidney cancer, we really try to make sure they're as educated as they can be and know about available therapies.

"Research and advocacy are also important components in the association's work. Membership in Research!America augments those components."

Not only does the association directly fund research into kidney cancer, in partnership primarily with the **American Society of Clinical Oncology** and the **American Urological Association**, but it also empowers its membership with advocacy tools.

"When patients receive a diagnosis such as kidney cancer, they can be overwhelmed by the lack of control they seem to have," Bro said. "But being an advocate is a way they can have a positive impact."

Not only has the association been a Research!America member since 1996, but it has also been a strong partner in our recent **Your Congress—Your Health** and **Your Candidates—Your Health: Presidential Primaries 2008** initiatives.

"These have been great collaborations for us," Bro said. "The sites allow

our members to know where their candidates and leaders stand, and to evaluate their positions."

The association reaches out to its more than 45,000 members primarily through e-communications. In addition to keeping its members informed of the latest research and advocacy opportuni-

"The more money you put into research, the more cures and treatments you can get out."

ties, the association promotes clinical trials, giving patients one more way to address their cancer.

"Translational research, or getting the research findings

to the patients' health care, is of tremendous importance to us," Bro said. "Clinical trials are an important part of that process."

The association's work does not focus exclusively on kidney cancer.

"Cancer research in general is important, too," Bro said. "You never know where a cure or treatment for kidney cancer might pop up."

A medical advisory board, made up of the top physicians working with kidney cancer patients, allows the association to help its members with medical referrals.

The association actively supports increasing public and private funding for all research.

"The more money you put into research, the more cures and treatments you can get out," Bro said. "That's the bottom line, and it's true not just for kidney cancer."

For more information, visit www.kidneycancer.org.

Research!America in the News

Donald Kennedy, PhD, recently retired editor-in-chief of *Science* magazine, announced in an editorial in the magazine that the **American Association for the Advancement of Science** was co-sponsoring **Science Debate 2008**, a call by concerned leaders in science, journalism, business, government and academia for a presidential debate on science and technology (see page 1). Kennedy also wrote about our related effort **Your Candidates—Your Health: Presidential Primaries 2008**. Our initiative compiles presidential candidates' responses to questions about health and medical research at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org.

Science magazine also mentioned Research!America's **Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research** in an editorial by **Alan I. Leshner, PhD**, AAAS CEO and Research!America board member. He wrote about the need for "glocal" advocacy for scientific, medical and health research—making a global issue local. "Some organizations, such as Stanford University, Research!America's Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research and AAAS, have good programs that can help guide scientists to become effective communicators," he wrote, but "many more need preparation of this kind."

Putting Science on the Presidential Agenda

Research!America's president, **Mary Woolley**, was recently a guest on 10 local, regional and national radio shows, including **CNN Radio** and **Wall Street Journal Radio**. Her message about making the public and the presidential candidates aware of the need for research funding was timely; she delivered it just a few days before Super Tuesday and days after the President's State of the Union address.

Woolley delved into more detail about the candidates' positions on science during a live panel discussion on Cleveland's local NPR station, **90.3 FM WCPN**. **Jeffrey Mervis**, deputy news editor of *Science*, **Andrew Revkin**, science reporter for *The New York Times*, and physicist **Lawrence Krauss, PhD**, Case Western Reserve University, were the other panelists.



Wisconsin Op-Ed: Why Global Health Research?

The Capital Times (Madison, WI) newspaper published an opinion piece by **Linda Baumann, PhD, RN**, University of Wisconsin. Baumann, an Ambassador in our Paul G. Rogers Society for Global Health Research, highlights the mutual benefits of health research to Americans and to people around the world. Noting the increase in diabetes in Madison and in countries like Vietnam and Uganda, she calls for greater investment in global health research as "the smart thing to do for America and the right thing to do for the world."

Nobel Laureate Winner Joshua Lederberg Remembered

Research!America's chair, **The Honorable John Edward Porter**, former Illinois Congressman, responded to the news of the death of Nobel Laureate **Joshua Lederberg, PhD**, a member of Research!America's Scientific Advisory Committee, in a statement. He said, "The loss of Joshua Lederberg is a substantial one to the scientific community and all those who care about the benefits that scientific research has brought our nation and our world. He was truly a giant among American scientists."



Joshua Lederberg, PhD



Why aren't the presidential candidates talking more about research? I think it's because the research community isn't

pressing our case hard enough. It's time to do so. Research!America is among the science organizations and scientists to have endorsed **Science Debate 2008**, the organizers of which have invited the candidates to talk about science topics at the Franklin Institute in Philadelphia on April 18. As we go to press, none of the candidates had signed on. Let's all reach out to the campaigns to turn that around and be sure this is a must-do event on the road to the White House! The more individuals the campaigns hear from, the more likely they are to respond to this invitation and to our voter education resource at www.yourcandidatesyourhealth.org. Numbers count! Not getting involved is like not voting—inexcusable!

There will be lots of talk about the challenges facing research at our upcoming **National Forum** at the National Press Club on March 18. If you can't be there in person, check out what the speakers have to say via our webcast at www.researchamerica.org/forums. That evening, we will honor outstanding advocates for research at our **12th Annual Advocacy Awards** at the Mellon Auditorium. If you can't be with us, please take a moment to salute the awardees via note or e-mail. I know they would appreciate hearing from fellow stakeholders in research who are committed to making research for health a much higher national priority, especially during this election year!

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The Honorable Paul G. Rogers, *chair emeritus*
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2009 Health Research Funding Outlook

On February 4, President Bush released his final budget proposal, and the outlook for funding for research to improve health is mixed. The president's budget proposes \$29.2 billion for the **National Institutes of Health** in FY09, the same level Congress allocated for FY08. For the sixth year, the NIH budget would fail to keep pace with inflation and growth in research opportunities.

Core funding for the **Centers for Disease Control and Prevention** fared the worst in the president's proposal and would decline 7.5% from \$6.4 billion in 2008 to \$5.9 billion in 2009. The **Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality's** budget would also decrease 2.7% to \$326 million.

As part of the administration's American Competitiveness Initiative, the **National Science Foundation** would receive a 13.6% increase to \$6.9 billion. This is the third year in a row Bush has requested a significant increase for NSF, but the proposed gains have been mostly unrealized.

Given the recent trends in funding for research to improve health, advocacy will be essential as Congress works through the FY09 budget and appropriations processes. Research!America will work with the **Campaign for Medical Research** and the **Campaign for Public Health** to increase funding in

2009 and keep advocates informed of opportunities to take action.

CMR released a statement following the release of the president's budget saying that at a minimum, Congress should provide an increase of 6.5% for NIH in order to cover biomedical research inflation and to match the average real growth of 3% above inflation per year for NIH over the previous 30 years.

Research!America's statement noted that the President's proposal "exacerbates the troubling pattern we have seen for the past five years."

As of press time, **Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH**, CDC director, is scheduled to speak at a congressional briefing sponsored by the Congressional Public Health Study Group on February 27. For more information, please visit www.fundcdc.org.

For the latest information on FY09 funding for research to improve health, visit www.researchamerica.org/advocacy.

Welcome New Members!

**American Medical Group
Association**

**Eastern Virginia Medical School
Muscular Dystrophy Association**

*Not yet a member? Join today!
E-mail cmconnell@researchamerica.org
or visit www.researchamerica.org/membership_signup.*

2009 FEDERAL RESEARCH BUDGET

Agency	President's Request	% Change from 2008
National Institutes of Health	\$29.2 billion	No change
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention*	\$5.9 billion	-7.5%
National Science Foundation	\$6.9 billion	+13.6%
Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality	\$326 million	-2.7%

* Reflects the CDC core program budget. For more information on the CDC budget, please visit www.FundCDC.org.

Discoverers Award and Clinical Trial Exceptional Service Award

At a Capitol Hill briefing, **The Honorable Billy Tauzin**, president and CEO, **Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America**, joined **Mary Woolley**, president and CEO, **Research!America**; **Alan Metz, MD**, vice president and medical director, **GlaxoSmithKline**; and several members of Congress to honor the scientists and researchers who discovered and developed GlaxoSmithKline's cardiovascular medicine Coreg.



The Honorable Billy Tauzin; Tian-Li-Yue; Eliot Ohlstein, PhD; Robert Ruffolo Jr., PhD; Mary Woolley

Coreg has reduced mortality from congestive heart failure and has changed the paradigm for treating this disease. It is used by patients to treat high blood pressure and prevent recurrent heart attacks.

"The recipients of these awards ... played such an incredible role in advancing health care here in America and around the world," Tauzin said. "Millions of patients will now live healthier, longer lives because of their work." Media coverage of the event included the *Philadelphia Business Journal* online, **Forbes.com** and **Reuters**.

Your Congress—Your Health



More than 130 members of Congress have responded to the *Your Congress—Your Health* initiative, and Research!America, the Albert and Mary Lasker Foundation and our partners will recognize all who have participated with a full-page ad on the inside front cover of *The Hill* newspaper on March 13.

We invited all members of Congress to complete a questionnaire about where they stand on medical, health and scientific research. The questions resulted from public input on *PARADE* magazine's Web site.

See www.yourcongressyourhealth.org for more information and a complete list of partners. See if your representative and senators have responded. Ask members of your delegation who haven't responded to participate.

Presidential Debate on Science

Continued from page 1

the issues you think should be included in the debate.

At **AARP's Divided We Fail**, www.dividedwefail.org, download statements from the candidates about prevention, long term care, wellness and health care.

Find out when candidates will be in your area using **OneVote 08's** candidate tracker at www.onevote08.org.

At **Scientists & Engineers for America's Science, Health and Related Policies (SHARP) Network** (<http://sharp.sefora.org>) and *Physics*

Today's Campaign 2008 blog (<http://blogs.physicstoday.org/politics08>), find biographical information, quotes, links to speeches and position statements from the candidates on a range of science issues from education to climate to investment.

Sign up for an election day reminder text message with the **Health Foundation for the Americas** and the **National Alliance for Hispanic Health's** Vote for Health at www.healthyamericas.org/vote.

Help shape the debate by letting the candidates know you want to hear their positions on research, science and health!

Annual Membership Meeting & National Forum

Our 2008 National Forum *Research for Health in 2008: Valuing Evidence and Enhancing*



Impact will be March 18 at the National Press Club in Washington, DC. A luncheon

will begin at noon, and the forum will start at 1 p.m.

Moderated by **Susan Dentzer**, health correspondent for "The NewsHour with Jim Lehrer" on PBS, the forum will provide an engaging and interactive discussion.

Forum panelists include:

- **Carolyn M. Clancy, MD, AHRQ** director
- **Julie L. Gerberding, MD, MPH, CDC** director
- **Joel Kupersmith, MD**, chief research and development officer, U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs
- **Garry Neil**, corporate vice president, Johnson & Johnson
- **William D. Novelli**, CEO, AARP
- **Andrew C. von Eschenbach, MD**, FDA commissioner
- **Elias A. Zerhouni, MD**, NIH director

Our 2008 National Forum sponsors confirmed to date are **Astellas Pharma U.S., Inc.**, *The Hill* newspaper, **Information Forecast**, **Johnson & Johnson**, **Novartis**, **Pfizer Inc** and **Pharmaceutical Research and Manufacturers of America**.

The **2008 Research!America Annual Meeting of Members** will take place at the Press Club at 10:30 a.m. on March 18. All Research!America members are encouraged to attend!

RSVP for these complimentary admission events at www.researchamerica.org. For those who cannot attend in person, the forum will be webcast. Register at www.researchamerica.org/forum.

Did YOU Know

Victor A. McKusick, MD, professor of medical genetics at **Johns Hopkins University**, a Research!America member, was awarded the 2008 Japan Prize for Medical Genomics and Genetics. The **Science and Technology Foundation of Japan** honors pioneers in science and technology each year. See www.japanprize.jp.

Venture capital funding reached a record high of \$29.4 billion in 2007, according to a new report from **PricewaterhouseCoopers** and the **National Venture Capital Association**. Biotech and medical device companies received \$9.1 billion of that investment. See www.pwcmoneytree.com.

The **National Academy of Engineering** unveiled its 21st Century's Grand Challenges for Engineering at the **American Association for the Advancement of Science** Annual Meeting. Advancing health informatics and engineering better medicines were among the challenges chosen. The public is invited to comment at www.engineeringchallenges.org.

Research!America's **Stacie Propst, PhD**, was promoted to vice president of science policy and outreach.

New Economic Impact Web Tool: State-by-State Data

Research!America recently launched a web tool that examines the economic impact of health research in every state. For the first time, this information is gathered in one, easy-to-use resource. Each state profile includes information about health research investment and funding sources, statistics for health-related industries and highlights from local economic impact studies. These practical statistics show the direct impact of health research state by state, as well as for the U.S. overall.

Research!America has already shared this new resource with members of Congress. It should prove to be a valuable and informative resource. The tool is available online at www.researchamerica.org/state_econ.

Global Health Fact Sheet Released

Healthy people are critical to economic growth and political stability. As the world grows more interconnected, America's own health, economy and national security are affected by the health of people worldwide. Scientists are continuously moving closer to cures and answers that help save lives around the world, but funding is inadequate and the need now is more pressing than ever.

These issues are addressed in Research!America's latest fact sheet in the *Investment in Research Saves Lives and Money* series. The global health fact sheet (see insert) highlights the importance and value of global health research.

Australia Funds New Generation of Researchers

Nicola Roxon, Australia's incoming Minister for Health and Ageing, has approved more than AU\$124 million in medical research funding, including AU\$74.8 million to support up-and-coming researchers.

Rebecca James, CEO of **Research Australia**, a Research!America interna-

ional affiliate, said this additional funding will significantly boost the country's ability to prevent and manage serious health conditions such as heart disease, cancer and infectious diseases.

See www.researchaustralia.org for more about Australian research funding and policy.

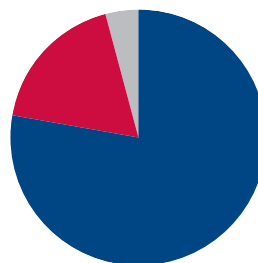
Public Health Nurses Advocate in Georgia

Research!America's **Karen A. Goralesski** delivered the keynote address to Georgia public health nurses at a continuing education conference in Atlanta on February 5. Goralesski offered our public opinion results and communication techniques to help the nurses make the case for increased investment in public health. Immediately following, about 100 nurses met with their state policymakers.

AMERICA Speaks

Congress should support policies that encourage private industries to conduct more medical research. Do you agree or disagree with that statement?

Congress Should Encourage Industry to Conduct More Medical Research



Agree	78%
Disagree	18%
Don't know	4%

SOURCE: TRANSFORMING HEALTH POLL, 2007
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA AND PHRMA

Stars of Research Advocacy

Continued from page 1

Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation,
Raymond and Beverly Sackler Award for Sustained National Leadership

- **Pat Furlong**, Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy, *Gordon and Llura Gund Leadership Award*

- **AmfAR, The Foundation for AIDS Research**, represented

by **Mathilde Krim, PhD**, *Paul G. Rogers Distinguished Organization Advocacy Award (Hogan & Hartson LLP)*

- **Richard A. Lerner, MD**, The Scripps Research Institute, *Builders of Science Award*

For more information, including details about our awardees and lists of our gala sponsors and honorary chairs to date, please visit www.research-america.org/advocacy_awards. For sponsorship/contribution information, contact Cindy McConnell at 703-739-2577, ext. 35.

2008 Advocacy Awards Selection Committee

M. Cass Wheeler, chair

Tenley E. Albright, MD John P. Margaritis
William R. Brinkley, PhD John Sherman, PhD
Debra R. Lappin, JD Mary Woolley

Did You Know?

Continued from page 6

The **National Foundation for Infectious Diseases** recently honored **The Honorable Louis W. Sullivan, MD**, founding dean and former president of Morehouse School of Medicine. Sullivan, a Research!America emeritus director, received the Jimmy and Rosalynn Carter Award for Humanitarian Contributions to the Health of Humankind. See www.nfid.org/fellow/awards.html.

* * *

The Advisory Committee to the Director of the **National Institutes of Health** has welcomed five new members. See www.nih.gov/about/director/acd/index.htm for the full list of members.

* * *

Research!America President Mary Woolley recently spoke to the **Association of Medical Schools Microbiology and Immunology Chairs**, the **North Carolina Association for Biomedical Research** and the **National Health Council** about public opinion, presidential politics and advancing the national agenda for research.

* * *

Ciro Sumaya, MD, MPHTM, dean of the Texas A&M Health Science Center School of Rural Public Health, was appointed board chair of the **National Hispanic Medical Association**. See www.nhmam.org.

* * *

Healthcare Partnerships Recognized

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Secretary **Michael O. Leavitt** recently designated 14 healthcare partnerships throughout the country as Chartered Value Exchanges. This new federal distinction recognizes work to transform health care at the local level.

The 14 communities join the **Collaborative Learning Network**, created in 2005 by the **Agency for Healthcare Research & Quality**. AHRQ's mission is to improve the quality, safety, efficiency and effectiveness of American healthcare. For more information, see www.hhs.gov/valuedriven.

Principal Partner Thank You

Thanks to our principal partners:

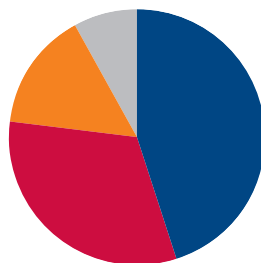
Alyniam Pharmaceuticals
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Association of American Medical Colleges
Astellas Pharma U.S., Inc.
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GlaxoSmithKline

Information Forecast
Novartis
PARADE magazine
Parent Project Muscular Dystrophy
Pfizer Inc
sanofi-aventis
The Scripps Research Institute
Squire, Sanders & Dempsey, LLP
TEVA Pharmaceuticals
Wyeth

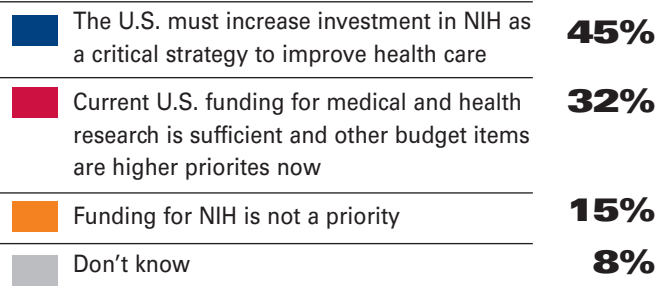
AMERICA Speaks

The National Institutes of Health is the agency that funds most of the medical and health research paid for by U.S. taxpayers. Since 2003, funding for the NIH has been outpaced by inflation. Which of the following statements comes closest to your view on funding for NIH?

SOURCE: YOUR CANDIDATES—YOUR HEALTH SURVEY, 2007
CHARLTON RESEARCH COMPANY FOR RESEARCH!AMERICA



Increased Funding for NIH



ComingUp



March 18, 2008—*Research!America's 2008 Annual Meeting, National Forum and Advocacy Awards Gala.* Washington, DC.

April 7-13, 2008—*American Public Health Association's Public Health Week.*
www.nphw.org.

April 18, 2008—*Science Debate 2008 at The Franklin Institute in Philadelphia.*
www.sciencedebate2008.com.

April 29, 2008—*Advances in Mental Health, Gains in Public Health, a Research!America forum with Pfizer.*
New Orleans.

Advocacy & Action

Your Congress—Your Health Thank You Ad on March 13 Ensure Your Delegation Is Recognized

More than 130 members of Congress are participating in the *Your Congress—Your Health* initiative. See how your delegation responded at www.yourcongressyourhealth.org. Please send a message to members of your delegation who have not yet responded to let them know you expect them to participate.

Research!America and the supporting partners of the *Your Congress—Your Health* initiative will recognize participating members of Congress in a full-page ad on the inside front cover of *The Hill* newspaper on March 13. Make sure that your representative and senators are included in this high-profile thank you. Visit www.yourcongressyourhealth.org today!

Visit
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