

THE NIH RECORD

Still The Second Best Thing About Payday

Bond Drive Kickoff Draws Interest

Potentially stormy weather may have sent the festivities indoors, but spirits were flying high as NIH kicked off this year's U.S. Savings Bonds campaign May 9 at the Clinical Center's Masur Auditorium. The event, "It's a Great Way to Save," was attended by a moderate crowd of staffers who heard why Savings Bonds may now be more attractive than ever before.

Special guest speakers, an appearance by a local professional soccer star, good music, and a number of attractive door prizes helped lure inquisitive employees for the annual event. But perhaps the most powerful incentive was a timely, investor-friendly move offered recently by the U.S. Treasury Department. This fortuitous, systematic change was not overlooked during the ceremony.

Playfully quizzing the audience, NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein asked, "How



Let them eat cake: (from l) NINR director Dr. Patricia Grady, NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein, and NINR Executive Officer Mary Cushing proudly display the flag-laden Savings Bonds cake.

many of you realize that the U.S. Treasury acted swiftly last week to raise its rates, which means that interest on bonds

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U.S. Department
of Health and
Human Services
National Institutes
of Health

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Emphasis on Employees

NIH Says 'Quality Worklife Equals Quality Science'

By Carla Garnett

Downsize, reorganize and change. Three terms that can strike uncertainty and fear in the heart of even the most well-adjusted, productive workforce. In recent years, those terms—no matter how gently expressed—often have been perceived only one way by employees: "threat to job." Recognizing that, NIH has joined an effort led by HHS Secretary Donna Shalala and top departmental staff to take the bite out of those and other job-related issues that weigh heavily on workers. Amid a festive rally atmosphere, NIH took time to focus on its workforce, launching a week-long Quality of Worklife celebration May 12-16.

"Today we celebrate our employees," Shalala announced,

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OD's Sheila Monroe (r) consults with a fellow NIH'er during the agency's recent Quality of Worklife kickoff.

NIH Honors Davies with a Day of Science

By Sharon Ricks

"When one discusses the three-dimensional shape of a protein at NIH, three things immediately come to mind: the first is excellence, the second is NIDDK, and the third is David Davies," remarked NIDDK director Dr. Phillip Gorden, launching an all-day symposium titled, "Structural Thinking in Molecular Biology."

"They don't necessarily have to be in that order, but they are inextricably linked."

The symposium honored Dr. David R. Davies, chief of the molecular structure section in NIDDK's Laboratory of Molecular Biology, for 42 years of contributions to the study of structural biology at NIH.

"What defines a scientist who



NIDDK director Dr. Phillip Gorden (l) greets Day of Science honoree Dr. David Davies.

SEE NIDDK'S DAVIES HONORED, PAGE 8



Dr. Michael Blaese (fourth from l), chief of the Clinical Gene Therapy Branch at the National Human Genome Research Institute, is this year's winner of the Federal Laboratory Consortium (FLC) Award for Excellence in Technology Transfer. The annual award recognizes researchers at government agencies across the country who have made significant contributions in technology transfer through commercialization of their work. "Through his discoveries and efforts in technology transfer, Dr. Blaese laid the foundation for an entire industry developed around gene therapy," his citation reads. "In addition, his work shows great promise in the treatment of a variety of genetic diseases, thus relieving great pain and suffering for many people all over the world." On hand to congratulate him were (from l) Dr. Maria Freire, director, NIH Office of Technology Transfer; Dr. Francis Collins, NHGRI director; Dr. Ron King, chief of NHGRI's Technology Transfer Office; Dr. Michael Gottesman, NIH deputy director for intramural research; and Tyrone Taylor, FLC representative.

Blue Cross/

Blue Shield Day

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of the National Capital Area will be on the NIH campus Wednesday, June 11, to assist enrollees who have claims or enrollment problems. A representative will be available from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. that day in Bldg. 31, Conf. Rm. 8, armed with a laptop computer to access directly the enrollee's records at company headquarters.

No appointment is necessary. Assistance will be provided on a first-come, first-served basis. Blue Cross/Blue Shield comes to the NIH campus one day each month, usually on the second Wednesday of the month.

Symposium on Hormones, Development

NICHD is sponsoring a symposium on "Nuclear Hormone Receptors and Development," organized by Drs. Yun-Bo Shi and Jamshed Tata, to be held June 12-13 from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Lister Hill Center Auditorium, Bldg. 38A.

Research in both the areas of hormonal signaling via their receptors and the diverse mechanisms underlying early and late processes of development is currently progressing rapidly and attracting a great deal of attention. The purpose of the symposium is to discuss recent advances in these two fields by focussing on the role of nuclear receptors for hormones and other signals in regulating postembryonic development. Topics to be covered include nuclear receptor structure and function, postembryonic development, programmed cell death, cellular differentiation and nuclear receptor-associated diseases.

Participants will include Donald D. Brown, Ronald Evans, David Hogness, Lorraine Gudas, Keith Yamamoto, Walter Wahli and Samuel Refetoff. All are welcome to attend. More information is available from Thuy Vo, 6-4045. ■

Women's Health Series Examines Elder Care

The ORWH Women's Health Seminar Series continues the 1996-97 season with a look at "Elder Options and Care Giving," at 2 p.m. on Thursday, June 5, in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. In addition to the seminar, an expo will be held from noon to 2 p.m. and from 4 to 5 p.m. in the Visitor Information Center.

Aging is a multidimensional process. People not only age biologically, but also face changes in living options, financial and legal obligations, and quantity and quality of interaction with their families. Dr. Maureen Edwards, coordinator of the Health Education Program, Montgomery College, will open the seminar with a focus on the problems and potential of the aging process. Marie Infante, an attorney at Powers, Pyles, Sutter & Verville, will discuss legal and management issues. Ellen Greenberg, director of information services for the Jewish Council for the Aging, will address choices in selecting services and programs for older people who choose to remain in their own home. Judy Kramer, a journalist for Gazette Newspapers, will wrap up the seminar with a discussion on how to avoid burnout. The seminar will close with a question-and-answer session.

The Women's Health Seminar Series is sponsored by the women's health seminar committee of the Office of Research on Women's Health. The next seminar, "Alzheimer's and Other Forms of Dementia," will be held Sept. 25. Admission is free and open to the public. Registration is not necessary. For more information, call 2-1770. ■

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Disorder of Pregnancy Linked to Placenta Irregularity, Say NICHD Grantees

A team of investigators has discovered that preeclampsia—a life threatening complication of pregnancy—results from a failure of the placenta to invade the wall of the uterus and to appropriately mimic the tissue which lines blood vessels. The finding has important implications for the diagnosis and treatment of this sudden, mysterious, and potentially fatal disorder of pregnancy.

The research, funded by NICHD, appeared in two papers published in the May 1 issue of the *Journal of Clinical Investigation*.

About 7 percent of first-time mothers and 1 to 2 percent of mothers having subsequent pregnancies develop preeclampsia. The condition occurs suddenly, without warning, and sometimes in as little as a few hours. Usually, a pregnant woman with preeclampsia develops dangerously high blood pressure and begins excreting protein in the urine. In some cases, the condition may progress to eclampsia, a series of potentially fatal seizures.

Preeclampsia is still one of the leading causes of maternal mortality. The need to screen for and detect preeclampsia early was one of the original reasons the medical community began recommending regular prenatal visits many years ago.

In cases where the condition does not progress to eclampsia, the children born to mothers with preeclampsia may be extremely small for their age or may be born prematurely. This may, in turn, place them at risk for a variety of other complications of birth. Infants born to mothers with preeclampsia may also grow more slowly during infancy than infants whose mothers do not have the condition.

Although the high blood pressure accompanying preeclampsia can be treated with blood pressure lowering drugs, the only effective treatment for the condition is immediate delivery. Known risks for preeclampsia are: diabetes, preexisting hypertension, kidney disease, being pregnant with twins, and having previously had the condition. ■

NIH'ers Earn HHS Honor Awards

Several NIH employees were among those honored by Secretary Donna Shalala and the Department of Health and Human Services at the recent DHHS Honor Awards ceremony. The following NIH honorees received the Secretary's Award for Distinguished Service: Matilde Alvarado, Dr. Carlos Crespo, Claire Lane, Eileen Newman and Laina Pack of the NHLBI Latino Community CVD Prevention and Outreach Initiative Team for "exceptional teamwork in developing and evaluating cardiovascular disease prevention and control strategies to reach Hispanic audiences"; Dr. Marian Willinger and Ruth Dubois of the NICHD SIDS "Back-to-Sleep" Campaign Team for "developing information on [sudden infant death syndrome] risks and translating it to health professionals and the public through a 'Back-to-Sleep' campaign that reduced SIDS deaths by 30 percent"; Dr. William Duncan of NIAID for "vision and leadership in the development and management of a comprehensive program in AIDS therapeutics research"; Dr. Sanford Markey of NIMH for "distinguished and unique contributions to the identification, quantification and elucidation of the biological and clinical relevance of neuroactive molecules"; and Dr. Susan Swedo of NIMH for "successfully leading the NIMH Intramural Research Program while serving in an acting period of transition." ■

Baron To Deliver Kreshover Lecture

Dr. Roland Baron, professor of orthopedics and cell biology at Yale University School of Medicine, will deliver the 1997 NIDR Seymour J. Kreshover Lecture on Wednesday, June 11, at 3 p.m. in Lister Hill Auditorium, Bldg. 38A.

A world-renowned scientist in bone research, Baron will discuss the "Molecular Mechanisms of Bone Resorption." His special area of interest is osteoclast cell biology, and the intracellular signaling pathways that are required by osteoclasts to attach to, and destroy bone. These studies are of great importance in finding ways to regulate osteoclastic bone resorption to prevent loss of bone in a variety of diseases including osteoporosis, and bone loss in association with metastatic bone disease.

Baron's early work led to generation of the current hypothesis of how osteoclasts degrade both the mineral and protein components of bone matrix. An osteoclast has the unique ability to set up a special compartment that contains lysosomal enzymes outside of the cell. Usually this lysosomal compartment is found only inside of a cell. Osteoclasts not only secrete enzymes necessary to degrade bone matrix proteins, but they also secrete ions that lower the pH level of this sealed extracellular compartment to dissolve the mineral and enhance the activity of the lysosomal enzymes that are secreted there.

Baron, a long-time NIDR grantee, also is director of biological research in the orthopaedics department at Yale and head of research in therapeutic area bone diseases at Hoechst Marion Roussel Pharmaceuticals. He is editor-in-chief of *Bone* and an editor of the *Journal of Cellular Physiology*. ■



Dr. Roland Baron

Experiencing Depression?

Adults ages 18-65 who are currently experiencing depression are needed to participate in a short-term NIMH research study. Comprehensive evaluation and consultation are offered. For more information, call Juliet Martin or Dr. Cora-Locatelli, 6-3421.

BOND DRIVE, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

accrues faster and the risk of penalty (for early withdrawal) is reduced?" Specifically, the new interest rate is 90 percent of the average yield for 5-year Treasury securities over the preceding 6 months. As alluded to by Kirchstein, interest on the new Series EE Savings Bonds now accrues monthly, instead of twice a year. In layman's language, the individual investing \$10,000 in bonds can currently reap between \$550 and \$600 in interest compared to a previous \$450 a year.

Dr. Patricia Grady, NINR director, also reviewed ways the government has made things not only

more desirable, but also easier for those investing. "Later this year, Treasury will introduce online buying (of the bonds) with credit cards. And early in



Under the direction of band director Benny Green, members of the Wheaton High School Jazz Ensemble belt out their sounds for a captivated audience.

1998, it will offer the first inflationproof Savings Bonds, with returns indexed to consumer prices," she said.

The ceremony was further highlighted by the appearance of Jim Larkin, a spokesman from Treasury, and Washington Warthog soccer player Tony Snyder, who signed autographs. The dancing, prancing team mascot "Rooter" was also on hand, spreading goodwill and handshakes to employees, who were enjoying the talented Wheaton High School Jazz Ensemble.

A special note of thanks goes to Geico, which contributed lunches for the band members. A number of employees gleefully walked away with door prizes. Twanda Johnson, NIGMS, won a \$100 Savings Bond, courtesy of the NIH Federal Credit Union. Carol Vandriak, NCRR, received a \$25 gift

The colorful, lively Washington Warthog mascot "Rooter," proved a real crowd-pleaser at the Savings Bond kickoff.

certificate from NIH's Recreation and Welfare Association. Portia Baker, NHGRI, took home two



complimentary movie tickets from Cineplex Odeon. Liem Nguyen, NLM, captured \$100 worth of children's books, while Leocadio Ayemonche, DCRT, received two tickets to see the Bowie Baysox play baseball. In addition, Martha Guice, NICHD, gathered a pair of tickets to see the Warthogs in action, and Patsy McCabe, CC, won a T-shirt from R&W.

Information on Savings Bonds can be obtained from a variety of sources. For current recorded rate information, call 1-800-4US-BOND. To receive online information, go to: <http://www.publicdebt.treas.gov>. Your local savings banking institution and your Savings Bond canvasser within your office can also supply you with details about purchasing bonds.—Jan Ehrman ■

June Is Skin Cancer Awareness Month

June is the kickoff for many summer outdoor activities and also the month for the Skin Cancer Awareness Program, sponsored by the Occupational Medical Service (OMS). This program highlights the relationship between excessive exposure to sunlight and the development of skin cancer.

OMS provides information regarding skin cancer: warning signs, associated risk factors and advice to reduce your risk of developing skin cancer. This information is available at OMS Health Units—Bldg. 10, Rm. 6C306; Bldg. 13, Rm. G904; Rockledge, Rm. 5054; EPN, Rm. 103 and Federal Bldg., Rm. 10B08.

OMS will present two videotapes showing the appearance of skin cancer, ways to treat it and reduce the risk of developing it. They will be shown in the main OMS unit in Bldg. 10 every Wednesday in June at 9, 10 and 11 a.m., and 1, 2 and 3 p.m. Learn about skin cancer and its causes; avoid being one of the almost 7,000 Americans killed each year by skin cancer.

For the safest approach to fun in the sun, remember: sunscreens can provide some protection against skin cancer—NCI recommends sunscreens with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 15 or higher for the best protection; use of sunscreen products may give a false sense of security, as prolonged exposure to ultraviolet rays may still accelerate the development of melanoma, the most serious form of skin cancer; the safest approach is to limit exposure to the sun, especially between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.

The Emotional Brain: Lessons from Fear Conditioning

By Mary Lynn Hendrix

You are walking through the woods, and you see a coiled shape lying across your path. Instantly—before you even think “A snake!”—your brain begins to respond fearfully to the danger. Fear is an ancient emotion involved in a number of mental disorders, says neuroscientist and NIMH grantee Dr. Joseph LeDoux of New York University. His research and that of fellow scientists, reported at the 24th annual Mathilde Solowey Award Lecture in the Neurosciences at NIH on May 8, has shown that the fear response has been tightly conserved in evolution, and probably follows much the same pattern in humans and other vertebrates.

According to LeDoux, he and others are making progress in tracing the brain circuitry underlying the fear response. Research attention is now focused on the amygdala, a small almond-shaped structure deep inside the brain. A portion of the amygdala known as the lateral nucleus appears to play a key role in fear conditioning, an experimental procedure in which an animal (rats were used in most of these experiments) is taught to fear a harmless stimulus such as a sound tone. The conditioning is accomplished by pairing the tone with a mild electrical shock to the animal's foot. After a few times, the animal comes to exhibit defensive responses whenever it hears the tone. These responses include freezing (remaining motionless) and elevation of blood pressure.

Use of cell-staining procedures to trace the connections between the neurons of the amygdala and other brain structures shows that frightening stimuli trigger neuronal responses along a dual pathway. One path, dubbed the “high road,” carries nerve impulses from the ear to the thalamus (a brain structure near the amygdala that serves as a waystation for incoming sensory signals). From the thalamus, the nerve impulses are sent to the auditory portion of the sensory cortex, a region of the brain that conducts sophisticated analysis of inputs and sends appropriate signals to the amygdala. Alternatively, nerve impulses may be sent much faster from the thalamus directly to the amygdala. This “low road” signal system does not convey detailed information about the stimulus, but it has the advantage of speed. And speed is of great importance to an organism facing a threat to its survival.

When the amygdala receives nerve signals indicating a threat, it sends out signals that trigger defensive behavior, autonomic arousal (usually including rapid heartbeat and raised blood pressure), hypoalgesia (a diminished capacity to feel pain), somatic reflex potentiation (such as an exaggerated startle reflex), and pituitary-adrenal axis stimulation

(production of stress hormones). In animals that have consciousness, these physical changes are accompanied by the emotion of fear.

LeDoux pointed out that having a very rapid, if imprecise, method of detecting danger is of high survival value. “You're better off mistaking a stick for a snake than a snake for a stick,” he said.

Cell-tracing and physiological studies show that the lateral nucleus of the amygdala has all the ingredients necessary for fear conditioning to take place: a rich supply of nerve cell extensions connecting it to the thalamus, other portions of the amygdala, and various parts of the

cortex; rapid response to stimuli; high threshold for stimulation (so that unimportant stimuli are filtered out); and high frequency preference (which corresponds to the pitch of rat distress calls).

Another part of the amygdala, the central nucleus, is the portion responsible for sending out the signals to trigger the “fight or flight” response.

The various portions of the amygdala communicate with each other by way of internal nerve cell connections. Once fear conditioning has taken place, these interior circuits tend to perpetuate the

response to the frightening stimulus. So a person with a phobia, such as a morbid fear of snakes or heights, may undergo behavioral treatment and seem to be cured, only to have the phobia return during an episode of high stress. What happened, LeDoux suggests, is that the signal pathways from the thalamus to the amygdala and sensory cortex have been normalized, but the internal circuits in the amygdala have not.

There are far more cell circuits leading from the amygdala to the prefrontal cortex (the area of the brain most responsible for planning and reasoning) than there are going the other direction. This may be one reason why it is so difficult to exert conscious control over fear, LeDoux said.

These findings have important implications for treating people who suffer from anxiety disorders, according to LeDoux. Recent functional magnetic resonance imaging scans of brains in living human subjects are beginning to show that the amygdala is the central site of fear conditioning, just as in rats. And fear conditioning is believed to play a role in such anxiety disorders as phobias, post-traumatic stress disorder and panic disorder. If, as research suggests, the memories stored in the amygdala are relatively indelible, the aim of therapy for anxiety disorders must be to increase cortical control over the amygdala and its outputs, LeDoux said.

LeDoux sees the need for more behavioral and neuroscientific research to increase understanding of how multiple memory systems work together in fear conditioning and other emotional responses. The brain is closer to yielding secrets of emotion now than ever before, he said, because more scientists are focusing on emotion. Soon we will have a very clear picture of fear and other ancient aids to survival that are products of the emotional brain.

Observed NIMH director Dr. Steven Hyman, “Joseph LeDoux's investigations of how the brain processes fear and forms emotional memories are pathbreaking science in their own right; they also provide the most important current leads for research on anxiety disorders.” ■



Dr. Joseph LeDoux

QUALITY, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

via a videotaped presentation with HHS Deputy Secretary Kevin Thurm, during the opening ceremony. "We celebrate teamwork and we celebrate tenacity. We look back at our past accomplishments and look forward to our future challenges. We renew our promise to the American people."

Acknowledging several HHS milestone achievements—that the nation's welfare rolls are down and more folks are being moved successfully from

welfare to work, that the number of teenage pregnancies has dropped, and that the impact of tobacco in the lives of children has been reduced—Shalala said the department has "three simple, but powerful goals" in its Quality of Worklife Initiative: to improve employee satisfaction, to strengthen workplace

learning, and to manage ongoing change and transition better.

"No employee can improve the health of the American people without first enjoying the benefits of a healthy worklife," she concluded.

Echoing those sentiments and reiterating the secretary's commitment to streamline department work without layoffs, Thurm said the magic words that had NIH'ers around Masur Auditorium smiling and nodding their heads in approval. "We will help you keep your job—maybe not the same job, but a good job...This is the beginning—not the end—of a process that will make us better employees and a better department."

NIH's individual strategy, which all HHS components were required to develop, was released several months in advance of the kickoff week and includes five major goals: To improve communication with

employees, to strengthen family-friendly work programs, to provide Internet access for the entire workforce, to create a learning organization and transition-management activities, and to promote and evaluate the effectiveness of diversity man-

agement. Representatives from a cross-section of NIH formed the committee that designed the plan, which is themed, "Quality of Worklife Equals Quality of Science." Each ICD has or will soon further define its individual strategy for improving worklife.

NIH deputy director Dr. Ruth Kirschstein said all employees can take a personal interest in the strategy's goals. "This week is all about working together so we can enhance those programs and create new ones that will result in a more positive and productive work environment at NIH," she commented. "Employees must be open to new ways of getting work accomplished. Although change can be invigorating and exciting, it must be managed properly or it can lead to uncertainty, frustration, low employee morale and job dissatisfaction. Managing change requires consideration of the people who will be affected by it and an understanding of how they—and not just the organization—will benefit from it."

Pointing out results of a recent HHS employee survey in which about 700 of the approximately 4,000 respondents were NIH'ers, Kirschstein said indications are that employees here feel pretty good already about their work environment. According to survey data, most NIH'ers feel they had been treated fairly, had received encouragement from their supervisors to work creatively, and almost always had been able to balance work with family lives. "This is a real tribute to our family-friendly programs and these results confirm that NIH is a leader with respect to helping employees meet the demands of work and home," Kirschstein claimed. However, NIH will not become complacent because of the positive report card, she continued. Projects on which the agency intends to place long-term emphasis include its diversity initiative ("We must continue to demonstrate respect for the similarities and differences that employees bring to the workplace," Kirschstein said, "and we are committed to



Information on employee security, violence in the workplace, and commuting issues is provided by the Division of Public Safety and NIH police officers Tart Dickerson (c) and Tom Hayden.



Jeanine McKay (l) and Diane Sullivan demonstrate Employee Express capabilities for an interested onlooker.

PHOTOS: ERNIE BRANSON



Employee Assistance Program staffers Jean Campenni and Dr. Mike Bowler



'Quality' planning committee members (from l) Julie Kotzin-Jacob, Shirley Villone, Joan Brogan and Rene Kimzey staff a display outside Masur Auditorium.

strengthening this area so that all employees are valued.") and the seemingly eternal, universal NIH employee woe—parking. Privatization of on-campus parking areas, increased leasing of offsite lots and establishment of telecommuting facilities are among the options being explored to alleviate parking stress, Kirschstein said.

In addition to greetings from Shalala, Thurm and Kirschstein, the kickoff included an awards ceremony honoring dozens of employees and groups who have already gotten into the spirit of the quality

initiative by taking leadership roles in projects ranging from promoting employee health and fitness to improving library operations to maintaining a safe and attractive NIH campus. Staffed by employee consultants and volunteers, a number of displays offering details of special programs for workers—on such topics as violence in the workplace, day care options, and employee counseling—lined the Clinical Center's main corridor. Other activities including brown bag lunches and video lectures closed out the week's celebration. ■

NHLBI's Barbara Peoples Retires After 30 Years

Barbara T. Peoples, a native Washingtonian, has retired after 30 years at the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute's Office of Prevention, Education, and Control (OPEC). She graduated from Fairmont Heights High School in Fairmont Heights, Md., and later completed business programs at Atlantic Business College and Temple Business School in Washington, D.C.

Peoples began working at NIH in April 1967 as a nursing assistant in the heart nursing service in the nursing department of the Clinical Center and became a unit clerk in the same office in 1968. She became a secretary for the chief of the service in 1971.

In 1975, Peoples came to NHLBI, working briefly in the administrative office. Several months later, she accepted a position in the Public Inquiries and Reports Branch as lead secretary for the chief. Peoples went on to outlast several branch chiefs. Her last one, Terry Long, remembers, "Barbara was always—and still is—a center of calm in a frequently stormy sea." In 1993, Peoples brought the calmness to a new place when she was promoted to lead secretary for the director of OPEC, where she handled the responsibilities of office manager, time and attendance recorder, and meeting coordinator.

Peoples was well-liked by friends and colleagues, and many were sad to learn of her decision to retire. Sandy Kamisar, senior printing management specialist, remembers Peoples' funloving nature: "I never saw Barbara have a bad day. She always had an upbeat, outgoing, and wonderful spirit."

Over the years, NHLBI became Peoples' part-time family. With mixed emotions, she admits, "I feel like I'm giving up my second family." But she adds, "I look forward to spending more time with my full-time family," which covers four generations—a mother, two daughters, and a granddaughter.

Peoples' good-heartedness also contributed to her readiness to help others; in her long career, she



Barbara T. Peoples

donated more than 50 gallons of blood to the NIH Blood Bank and enjoyed participating in many fundraising affairs at NIH.

Peoples excelled in her career, earning various awards. Among them were the OPEC Director's award in 1996, NHLBI Director's Bonus award in 1995, and Employee of the Month in 1994 for outstanding performance. Additional accolades include a Merit Award in 1989, performance awards from 1990 to 1996, and various quality increases.

Dr. Gregory Morosco, director of OPEC, comments that Peoples has been a key team player. "For all the time that I have known Barbara, which is nearly 14 years, I have always been able to count on her cheerful greeting each morning. No matter what personal challenges she may have faced during that time, she has an inner peace that says life is worth living! Barbara is an individual who finds real joy in life, in people, and in her work. Her positive attitude has been critical to the successful operation of the office. From the entire office, we wish her well in her retirement, but we will miss her greatly."

In retirement, Peoples plans volunteer work with senior citizens and orphan children. She also intends to play bingo, visit Atlantic City, and socialize with family and friends. She also wants to travel, starting with a trip to Las Vegas and a cruise to the Caribbean to celebrate her retirement.

Peoples attributes her successful career to her parents. "My mother gave me the spiritual part of life, and my father gave me life as it is realistically," she says. "And that's what made me what I am today. I thank God for enabling me to close this chapter and to start a new one." —Laina Pack ■

Lecture on 'Designer Estrogens'

NIH alumnus Dr. John Termine, now vice president, executive director, Lilly Research Labs, Eli Lilly & Co., will speak on "Raloxifene: The Future of Designer Estrogens," on Monday, June 9 from 9 to 11 a.m. in the Natcher Conference Center's balcony A lecture hall. The talk is sponsored by the federal working group on bone diseases and the hard tissues disorders group at NIH. All are welcome. ■

War Veterans Sought

The cognitive neuroscience section at the National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke is looking for war veterans to participate in cognitive psychology experiments. Volunteers will be paid. Call 2-6395 for more information.

NIDDK'S DAVIES HONORED, CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

actually moves a field rather than makes a contribution?" asked Gorden. "I really don't know. I suspect that during David's formative period at Oxford, he did not have any great insight or focus. He simply looked around at his classmates like Margaret Thatcher and decided that to be a consistent winner, it was better to be a crystallographer than a politician."

Speakers from the University of Oregon, MIT, NIDDK, Stanford Medical Center, NCI, Yale and Cambridge, and more than 200 colleagues gathered in Wilson Hall to share insights on protein structure and its inextricable link with Davies' career.

Nobel Laureate Max Perutz traced the history of protein structure back to 1934, when scientists learned that protein crystals produce x-ray diffraction. "I showed x-ray pictures to my friends," said Perutz. "But when they asked me what they meant, I changed the subject. We didn't know anything about proteins except that they are made of amino acid chains, so anything that we could squeeze out with x-ray crystallography was great!" Perutz said he visits Davies every 2 or 3 years, and always learns something new.

Dr. Brian Matthews, a Howard Hughes professor at the University of Oregon and one of Davies' former postdocs, shared some new information on proteins. In a recent study, he found that the core sites of an average protein are much more important than the surface sites. NCI's Dr. Michael Potter described the history of the McPC603 protein that Davies crystallized and solved, and NIDDK's Dr. Gary Felsenfeld discussed chromatin structure.

At the conclusion, a colleague presented Davies with a banner that read, "F.D.R. triplex 1957-

1997." According to Felsenfeld, he, Davies and Dr. Alexander Rich discovered the first three-stranded helical nucleic acid molecule in the late 1950's. The F.D.R. triplex stands for Felsenfeld, Davies and Rich.

Davies graduated from

Oxford University in 1949 and received a Ph.D. in 1952. In 1955, he joined NIMH and moved to NIDDK 6 years later. His research uses x-ray crystallography to determine the three-dimensional structure of proteins and nucleic acids.

At the symposium, NIDDK's Dr. William Eaton proclaimed Davies as the father of structural biology at NIH. Eaton said Davies was a major force in establishing seven different groups in protein crystallography and noted Davies' role in the development of the field of structural nuclear magnetic resonance.

"The most remarkable thing about David is the consistent excitement that he brings to science and that science brings to him," Gorden remarked. "If David were Scottish rather than Welsh, we would surely clone him." □



Attention TDSP, STRIDE and Career Curricula students: On Wednesday, June 11, a Recognition and Commencement Ceremony will be held in Bldg. 1, Wilson Hall from 2 to 4 p.m. All students, current and former, are welcome and encouraged to attend. Presenters will include graduates from the programs. The keynote speaker will be Dick Sherbert, NINDS executive officer. Certificates will be awarded and refreshments will be served. TDSP students attended evening classes at the Division of Workforce Development's training facility at EPS. Shown here are spring 1997 students of Montgomery College's Computer Concepts course. They are (standing, from l) Karl Robertson, Lori Cutick, Jacqueline McEachin, LaQuandra Brown, Gay Presbury, Carolyn Butler, Denise Sanders, and Prof. Larry Janicki. Seated are Montrue Nelson (l) and Michelle Gray.

Toastmasters Clubs Welcome New Members

The NIH Toastmasters Clubs welcome anyone interested in their goal of "self-improvement through action." Of the 200 clubs in the metropolitan area, two have NIH ties — clubs 3691 (meets second and fourth Tuesdays of each month in Bldg. 49, Rm. 1A50A from 7:30 to 9 p.m.) and 3421 (meets every Friday except holiday weekends from noon to 1 p.m. in Bldg. 36, Rm. 1B11). Club meetings are quite structured and dues are collected. To learn more about the clubs, contact Mary Ann Thomas, 6-1038, or point your Web browser to <http://www.recgov.org/r&w/nihtm/nihtm.htm>. □

Healthy Volunteers Wanted

The NIA Laboratory of Neurosciences is seeking healthy volunteers ages 18 and older to participate in research studies. Participation involves full medical evaluation, psychological testing, and brain scans (MRI, PET). Procedures require approximately 13 hours and participants will be paid \$300 to \$500, depending on time involved. For more information, call 1-800-350-5047, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday; or 6-4273, after hours. □



Nobel Laureate Max Perutz traces the history of protein structure back to 1934.



Banner Day: Dr. Gary Felsenfeld (r), Davies (c) and Dr. Alexander Rich, who together discovered the first three-stranded helical nucleic acid molecule in the late 1950's, gather following the symposium.

After 38 Years, Oliverio Says Farewell

Dr. Vincent T. Oliverio, associate director of NCI's Division of Extramural Activities and a highly respected pharmacologist, retired May 2 after 38 years of dedicated service.

During those years he served eight NCI directors, from Drs. Rod Heller to Richard Klausner, and saw three major reorganizations of the institute. He was praised for his contributions to the reorganization process in 1995, working closely with the much-publicized Bishop-Calabresi committee.

"Vince Oliverio's history with NCI personifies the best qualities one could ask for in a colleague," said

Dr. Marvin Kalt, DEA director. "He brought dedication and strong personal values to both research and administration. He fostered the growth and development of individuals under his professional mentoring with the same commitment and care that he gave to his own family. The individuals he trained and their subsequent development speak to his rare gifts in this arena."

Former NCI director Dr. Carl G. Baker (1969-1972)

also praised Oliverio. "With his nearly four decades of public service, he is a man who illustrates what a dedicated scientist can achieve," he said.

"I'm going away with good feelings and fond memories about my friends and colleagues with whom I worked," Oliverio said. "NIH is the world's premier biomedical institution and maybe, in some small way, I contributed to its excellent research reputation."

Oliverio developed and implemented NCI's plan for technical peer review of institute-wide research, resource, and intramural support contracts. This involved the formation of several new chartered contract review committees and the identification of additional budget, staffing, equipment, and space requirements to consolidate all NCI peer-review activities within DEA. With the support of the NCI director, he planned and coordinated a systematic 2-year scientific review of older anticancer agents for potential reevaluation by NCI.

"In the extramural setting, he made countless contributions, facilitating the mission of the NCI to formulate and expedite the extramural RFA and program announcements that the NCI uses to do business," Kalt said.

Oliverio is also known for his classic research with folic acid antagonists, and for the key role he played in the early development of the institute's national chemotherapy program. His first major contribu-

tion was the development of a method to separate and purify antifollic agents such as methotrexate. He also studied other anticancer drugs including nitrosoureas (BCNU, CCNU), hydrazines (procarbazine), and plant alkaloids (vincristine, camptothecin).

"I was part of an era," he said, "which started in the 1960's and continued well into the 1980's, when chemotherapy became an accepted modality of treatment. I worked with many brilliant clinicians and scientists." Many leading physicians, including Drs. Bruce Chabner, Archie Bleyer and Vincent T. DeVita, Jr., gained their early clinical research experience working under Oliverio.

More important to Oliverio than his scientific career is his family. With his wife, Kathleen Riley Moore, a registered nurse, he has 11 children, including a lawyer, a physician, two police officers, an accountant, a school teacher, and two nurses. He often points proudly to the pictures of his 33 grandchildren, adding that there are two more on the way.

Born in Cleveland in 1928, he received his bachelor of science degree in 1951 and his master's degree in organic chemistry in 1953, both from Xavier University, Cincinnati. In 1955, he earned his Ph.D. in oncology from the University of Florida, Gainesville.

From 1951 to 1953, he was an instructor in chemistry at Xavier, and from 1954 to 1955, he was a U.S. public health fellow in cancer research at the University of Florida. From 1955 to 1959, he was a project associate in oncology at the McArdle Memorial Laboratory at the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

Oliverio joined NCI in 1959 as a senior investigator in the Laboratory of Chemical Pharmacology. He was appointed head of the biochemical pharmacology section in 1967, a position he held until 1973, while also serving as lab chief.

In 1973, he was appointed associate director for the NCI Experimental Therapeutics Program, where he provided administrative and scientific leadership. From 1977 to 1983, he was associate director for NCI's Developmental Therapeutics Program in the Division of Cancer Treatment.

Oliverio is a member of several professional societies and associations. ■

Injured on the Job?

Do you have a work-related upper extremity problem or injury, i.e., carpal tunnel syndrome, tendonitis, or repetitive strain injury of the fingers, wrist, elbow or shoulder?

USUHS is conducting a study that includes a \$40 payment and opportunity to win \$500 in a study lottery. Volunteers must be ages 20-60, seen by a physician within the past month and currently working. Call (301) 295-9659.



Dr. Vincent Oliverio

Memory Loss Study Recruits

Individuals with mild to moderate memory loss who are suspected to have Alzheimer's disease are sought by the NIA Laboratory of Neurosciences. For more information, call 1-800-350-5047, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday; or 6-4273, after hours. ■

Teens, Pre-teens Needed for Study

Parents and their children ages 11 to 14 are being sought by NIMH for participation in a research study about how young people experience emotions, and how bad moods can sometimes cause problems. Payment will be provided. For more information, call Barbara Usher, 6-1301.

NIDDK Scientist Emeritus Elliot Charney Dies

By Dr. William A. Eaton

Dr. Elliot Charney, scientist emeritus in NIDDK's Laboratory of Chemical Physics and former chief of the spectroscopy and structure section, died Mar. 25 of a cerebral hemorrhage. He was 74.

Charney was an international authority on optical spectroscopy and the dynamics of biological macromolecules. He made major contributions to the theory and application of linear dichroism and optical activity measurements. He developed the "diene rule," one of the first theoretically based relations between optical activity and molecular conformation. His book, *Molecular Basis of Optical Activity*, published in 1979, remains the authoritative work on the subject.

Charney was a pioneer in developing transient linear dichroism as a surprisingly powerful tool for investigating the structure and dynamics of biopolymers. This experiment is more challenging than circular dichroism because the molecules in solution must align to produce linear dichroism, the difference in absorption of light linearly polarized in mutually perpendicular directions. Charney used electric field pulses to align molecules, obtaining structural information from the sign and magnitude of the linear dichroism, and dynamic information from the decay of the dichroism when the electric field is removed.

In a series of experimental and theoretical papers in the 1970's and 1980's, Charney showed how the ion atmosphere around charged polymers such as RNA and DNA influenced their orientation by the electric field. The availability of molecular biological methods for preparing specific nucleic acids allowed Charney to determine several physical properties of DNA that have important functional consequences. These properties included the sequence-dependent flexibilities of B-form DNA, the consistency between crystal and solution structures of Z-form DNA, and the characterization of the persistence length of A-form DNA. Protein-DNA complexes also proved accessible to structural analysis by electric dichroism. In collaboration with molecular biologists, Charney characterized the packing of nucleosomes into chromatin fibers, an important level of organization of DNA in the cell nucleus.

Born in New York City, Charney graduated from

the City College of New York in 1942. At age 20, he worked on the Manhattan Project at Columbia University. He was an active participant in the formation of the Federation of American Scientists

and also started the Queens, N.Y., chapter of the World Federalist Organization. In the early 1950's, he wrote the first volume of the history of the Manhattan Project for the Atomic Energy Commission. Charney earned a Ph.D. in chemistry from Columbia University in 1956. The same year he

joined NIH, where he remained until his retirement in 1990. Charney moved to Hartland, Vt., in 1992 and was appointed visiting scholar in the chemistry department at Dartmouth College. He continued his active involvement in science and government issues and conserved his 50 acres of field and woods through the Vermont Land Trust. He also created a scholarship fund in his name at the City College of New York.

Elliot Charney will be remembered as an outstanding scientist and an extremely warm person who was a constant source of inspiration to his colleagues and friends both personally and professionally. He is survived by his wife of 50 years, Gloria Kamen Charney, three daughters, a brother, and four grandchildren. A memorial service will be held on June 22 at 3:30 p.m. in the Chapel of the Cloister, Bldg. 60. ■



Sketch of Charney by his wife, Gloria

Electronic Forms Now Available

Before you spend time creating that form on your computer or borrowing a copy from your friend up the hall, check out the NIH electronic forms users' group Web site.

With help from DCRT and TASC, and with information from the official NIH forms files, the group has, for the last 2 years, been creating good quality, error-free forms that can be used by NIH'ers on both IBM Windows and Macintosh OS computers. The Web site now contains nearly 200 forms in Claris FileMaker Pro and Delrina FormFlow software. Nonprinting instructions appear on your computer screen to help you select paper color and choose special printing instructions. In addition, training is provided on the Web site and workshops will be provided in the future. The site also offers a comment page to allow users, for the first time, to opine on creation and use of the forms. Check out the site at <http://mantis.dcr.nih.gov/nihforms/>. ■

NIH Mourns Loss of Christine Campbell

The NIH community was saddened by the recent passing of Christine M. Campbell of the fire prevention section, Division of Public Safety. Campbell, 28, died Apr. 30 as a result of complications from a bone marrow transplant. She was being treated for Hodgkin's disease at Johns Hopkins Hospital in Baltimore.

Campbell was a fire prevention engineer whose office was in Bldg. 15G2, off Cedar Ln. She began working with the fire prevention section in June 1991, immediately after graduating from the University of Maryland. Her colleagues recalled her many attributes, including her enthusiastic spirit.

"Christine was a very friendly, outgoing individual. She had a warm heart. Anything she could do for you, she would," said longtime friend and coworker Charlie Barrett.

J.P. McCabe, her supervisor, echoed those sentiments, adding, "Christine was highly depend-

able. Even throughout all her treatments she came to work as often as possible. In fact, she would often stop at the doctor's office for radiation therapy early Friday morning, then head on to work. Or she would get chemo on Friday, and be back in to work on Monday—all this, traveling from her home in Glen Burnie. That's the type of person Christine was. She loved the challenge of the job."

Campbell was diagnosed with Hodgkin's disease in 1995. Her colleagues recall that, following the diagnosis, she traveled to Delaware where during a grueling 8-hour stint she took her professional engineering licensing exam, passing it the first time.

Among her many other accomplishments, Campbell and her coworkers received an NIH Merit Award in 1996.

She is survived by her parents and her brother and sister.—Jan Ehrman



Dr. Terry Burke, a research chemist and principal investigator in the National Cancer Institute's Laboratory of Medicinal Chemistry, was recently presented the 1996 Sato International Award by the Pharmaceutical Society of Japan in a ceremony held in Tokyo. He delivered an award address at the 117th annual meeting of the society. The yearly award recognizes scientific achievement in medicinal chemistry, and alternates between a Japanese and American awardee.

1997 STRIDE Program Recruits

The Office of Human Resource Management, Division of Career Resources announces the 1997 STRIDE Program. Applications will be accepted in the designated personnel offices until 4 p.m. on Friday, June 13 for the following targeted STRIDE intern positions:

ICD	Series	Entry Position	Target Position	Contact	Phone	Bldg./Rm.
DCRT	GS-335	Computer Assistant GS-5/6/7	Computer Specialist GS-334-9	Lori Thompson	6-6951	12A/3013
NCI	GS-303	Administrative Asst. GS-5/6/7	Admin. Officer GS-341-9	Carol Mohler	6-8657	EPS/531
NIAID	GS-203	Personnel Assistant GS-5/6/7	Personnel Mgt. Spec. GS-201-9	Susan Howard	6-4634	31/7A27

STRIDE is designed to offer employees an opportunity for career change and advancement, while also helping NIH meet its staffing needs. The program's aim is to provide a combination of on-the-job and academic training to prepare individuals for placement in targeted administrative positions. To be eligible, you must be an NIH employee on a career or career-conditional appointment for at least 1 year prior to the closing date of this announcement; be employed in a one-grade interval job series at the GS-5 or above or federal wage grade equivalent (WG); be a high school graduate or have a certificate of equivalency (general education diploma) at the time of application, but not have a bachelor's degree; and be employed in a nonprofessional position. Information sessions will be held at the following times and places:

Date	Time	Place
June 3	11 a.m. -noon	Bldg. 31/Conf. Rm. 9
June 5	12:30 -1:30 p.m.	EPN/Conf. Rm. H

For more information, contact the designated personnel office. Applications must be completed and received by the deadline above.

Distinguished Clinical Teacher Award Nominations Sought

The NIH fellows committee requests nominations for the 1997 Distinguished Clinical Teacher Award. The award is intended to recognize excellence in clinical training involving the direct care of patients by any NIH senior clinical investigator. Fax a short nomination letter to Distinguished Teacher's Award, Attn: Deborah Cohen, at the NIH Office of Education, 2-3437, or send email to fellows@box-f.nih.gov. The submission deadline is June 30. ■

French Seek NIAAA Advice on Alcohol Policy

Concern over the recent increase in alcohol use among French youth, as well as a heightened perception of the seriousness of the medical and social problems resulting from France's high rates of alcoholism, prompted a recent visit from members of the French National Congress to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. The

six-member delegation was part of a special mission on alcohol and health, which is gathering information to reform current laws representing national alcohol policy in France.

The French legislators met with



A French delegation visited NIAAA recently to get advice on alcohol policy. Visitors and their hosts included (seated, from l) Dr. M. Denis Jaquat, president of the delegation; Dr. Enoch Gordis, director, NIAAA; Dr. Jean-Francois Lacroix, counselor, Health and Social Affairs, French Embassy; (standing, from l) Vanina Patriarche (France); Claude Bartolone (France); Dr. Michel Ghysel (France); Dr. Bernard Leccia (France); Francisque Perrut (France); Dr. Mary Dufour, deputy director, NIAAA; Peggy Murray, coordinator, International Program, NIAAA; and Dr. Faye Calhoun, associate director for collaborative research, NIAAA.

NIAAA director Dr. Enoch Gordis and his staff to learn how alcohol research can play an important

role in policy development and decision making. NIAAA staff provided the French delegation with information about the institute's research in the areas of taxation, drinking and driving legislation, the risks and benefits of moderate alcohol consumption, community prevention strategies, and the most promising interventions targeted toward preadolescents to prevent early alcohol use.

Gordis stressed the importance of science as a tool in policy development: "Science can facilitate the task of choosing among complex social policies. In both the U.S. and France, alcohol is part of the culture and is widely used. In addition, sales of alcoholic beverages are an important source of revenue for our governments, through taxation, as well as for the individuals who make up the industry that manufactures it. However, alcohol sales and consumption must be regulated for health, social, and economic purposes. Choosing among policies to regulate the use of alcohol to accomplish the greater good is not easy, and one policy always runs the risk of being at cross purposes with another. Science can help make the task of choosing among policies more rational."

NIAAA staff also had the opportunity to learn about French concerns regarding alcohol use among their young people; the changing patterns of drinking, including mixing alcohol with other substances; and the debate in France over strict laws on advertising. ■

Wednesday Afternoon Lectures

The Wednesday Afternoon Lecture series—usually held on its namesake day at 3 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10—backs up a few hours on June 11 and starts at 1:15 p.m. That's because the General Motors Cancer Research Foundation will be holding its annual scientific conference here that afternoon. Foundation president Dr. Samuel A. Wells, Jr., will introduce the meeting, followed by laureates' lectures by winners of the GM Sloan, Kettering and Mott prizes for cancer research. The conference ends around 4:30 p.m.

On June 18, Dr. Peter N. Goodfellow, senior vice president, biopharmaceutical research and development, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals, Essex, England, will present "From Sex to Drugs."

The series then goes on summer vacation until next September, when a full schedule resumes.

For more information or for reasonable accommodation, call Hilda Madine, 4-5595.

FAES Concert Schedule Announced

The FAES Chamber Music Series will present nine concerts in its 1997-1998 season:

Oct. 5	Munich Chamber Orchestra
Oct. 19	Eldar Nebolsin, piano
Nov. 2	Aulos Ensemble with Jane Bryden, soprano
Dec. 7	John O'Conor, piano
Jan. 18	Vadim Repin, violin
Feb. 15	Stephen Prutsman, piano
Mar. 1	Borciani Competition Winner
Mar. 15	Wolfgang Holzmair, baritone
Apr. 5	Trio Solare

Concerts are held on Sundays at 4 p.m. in Masur Auditorium, Bldg. 10. Tickets are required. For more information, call 6-7975. ■

Adults with Down Syndrome Sought

Adults ages 18 and older who have Down syndrome are sought by the NIA Laboratory of Neurosciences to participate in memory and aging studies. For more information, call 1-800-350-5047, from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday; or 6-4273, after hours. ■