

Health [NIH]. This funding is critical for biomedical research and benefits all Americans, as it improves quality of life. In addition to researching treatments and cures for such disease as breast cancer, heart disease, and Alzheimer's disease. NIH funding is also used to advance medical devices that will save and enhance lives.

San Diego County is a leader in the field of biomedical research. This region of southern California is known for its advancements in medicine, and increased funding levels are vital to move forward with research that will find cures for diseases. Jonas Salk, the pioneering health researcher, did much of his greatest work at the University of California, San Diego. His development of the first polio vaccine saved countless lives, and spared countless families the crippling disabilities, and even death associated with this disease.

I commend Chairman PORTER in his commitment to NIH research. I am pleased that he joins me in recognizing the important NIH's support to thousands of scientists and research institutions throughout the country.

A TRIBUTE TO SHELTER ISLAND POLICE CHIEF L. GEORGE FERRER

HON. MICHAEL P. FORBES

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late L. George Ferrer, a selfless, dedicated law enforcement officer who for nearly 20 years served the town of Shelter Island, Long Island as its chief of police.

A 26-year veteran of the Shelter Island Police Department, George suffered a fatal heart attack while hard at work at his desk early on the morning of Thursday, June 27. Despite the quick reactions of Police Officer Jack Thilberg, who administered cardiopulmonary resuscitation, and Sergeant Jeffrey Brewer that enabled ambulance crews to transport the chief safely to the hospital, George Ferrer passed away at Winthrop University Hospital at 3:09 a.m. on Tuesday, July 2.

With George Ferrer's passing, not only has the community of Shelter Island lost a faithful protector, but Long Island's entire law enforcement community has lost one of its finest members. With an unyielding devotion to the badge he wore, and all that it represents, Chief George Ferrer set an example of professionalism and commitment for the officers of his department, for law enforcement officers everywhere and for the public he served so well.

The example George Ferrer provided will live on because it will be carried forward by men like Shelter Island Police Sergeant Jeffrey Brewer, who served under the chief for nearly 20 years. Delivering the eulogy at his chief's funeral service, Sergeant Brewer talked about the steadfast devotion to professionalism that George Ferrer brought to the job every day and how it shaped him and the other officers.

Though, as chief of police, George was the administrative head of the department, he was not afraid to do the routine police work, whether it was directing traffic or gathering evidence. "George led us past our feelings and emotions and into the trenches. For he was

spit and polished to most—to us he was never afraid to roll up his sleeves and get dirty, to get the job done," Brewer eulogized.

The greatest tribute that could be paid George Ferrer's legacy as chief of the Shelter Island Police Department are the police officers who mentored under his command and took to heart his dedication and who will continue to protect and serve the community. The Shelter Island police officers you see in front of you today are a product of George's legacy. They have all been with me in body and George in spirit since last Thursday morning. They have been away from their families for days on end. When the news came of George's passing, they knew what they had to do. I never told them—I didn't have to. They just knew they had to be spit and polished," Brewer told those who gathered to mourn George's passing and to comfort his family.

It was not just the law enforcement community that appreciated George Ferrer's dedication and commitment. Shelter Island Town Supervisor Huson "Hoot" Sherman described the chief as "very professional, very dedicated to Shelter Island and to the police work on Shelter Island. Whenever we had any kind of emergency or an accident, whenever there was somebody in distress in any way, George was always there on the scene, taking charge of the situation." Part of George Ferrer's duties was to act as Shelter Island's Emergency Management Coordinator during any sort of hurricane or winter blizzard.

Supervisor Sherman praised his ability as a law enforcement officer, but also an administrator, saying that "George ran a very tight department. He did a terrific job, his whole life was wrapped up being the Shelter Island Police Chief." As Supervisor Sherman also recalled, George was a very industrious man who was always working to supplement his police salary, doing carpentry work or selling real estate around the Island.

All who knew George Ferrer praised his dedication to the Shelter Island Police Department, his tireless devotion to the island's residents and to the police officers under his command. As impressive as his commitment to the police force, none of it surpassed George's love for his family. They were always his first consideration. Chief Ferrer leaves behind his wife Shirley, son Christopher and daughters Lori and Danielle, as well as his granddaughter Rebecca. He is also survived by his mother Cecelia Glas and stepfather, Adolph Glas, his brother Robert and sisters Celia and Elisa.

And as the Shelter Island Reporter, Chief Ferrer's hometown newspaper, put it, "We'll miss his professional energy and his enthusiasm, his personal honesty and his fairness with us. We'll miss him as a person. We'd be honored if he misses us when Tuesday mornings roll around."

For his many years of selfless, dedicated service to the community, we all owe Shelter Island Police Chief L. George Ferrer a great debt of gratitude and thanks. May his spirit of public service and professionalism live on in all our hearts. He was a class act and will be sorely missed by all who came to know him personally and professionally across eastern Long Island.

Sergeant Jeff Brewer's entire eulogy speech on Chief Ferrer follows:

To those of you who don't know me, I am sergeant Jeff Brewer of the Shelter Island

Police Department. For the past 19 years and 3 months, I have had the privilege to serve under Chief George Ferrer, first when he was sergeant then as a chief. We have been through a lot together. When I was a "rookie" we laughed as I fumbled over my own two feet. Then as time moved on, much like a teenager feeling his oats, I challenged some of his ways not knowing why. He always got the last word in by saying, "This is my sandbox." Through the years I learned to understand the meaning of that and from that grew a strong respect. The Chief was more like an older brother to be than a boss. We shared the private pain of losing longtime fellow officers and friends to retirement and injuries. Still we remained, Chief Ferrer, Detective Springer, and me. Over the years, oddly as it seems, George and I arrived at an ironic balance; similar to the odd couple, George with his unyielding serious side and me with my more witty approach. This combination seemed to get us through the daily occurrences from the trivial and mundane to the serious and the grotesque. George led us past our feelings and emotions and into the trenches. For he was spit and polished to most, to us he was never afraid to roll up his sleeves and get dirty to get the job done.

The Shelter Island Police Officers you see in front of you today are a product of George's legacy. They have all been with me in body and George in spirit since last Thursday morning. They have been away from their families for days on end. When the news came of George's passing, they knew what to do. I never told them what to do; I didn't have to. They just knew they had to be spit and polish. They spent hours and hours of their own time putting this together. They spent hours practicing every step for today. It had to be right.

I have heard through the grapevine that this is just a big show! They cannot understand! These fine officers and the rest of you in blue know this is no show! This how our family shows our respect to a fellow officer and his family. And it shows how law enforcement is not just a job but rather a way of life and Chief George Ferrer demonstrated it every day.

As in life as we know it, there are beginnings, endings, and new beginnings so let me finish by going back to the beginning. To Shirley and the Ferrer family, I am personally honored and privileged to have served under such a fine leader like Chief L. George Ferrer. We will do our best to keep his legacy of pride and professionalism alive in this department that he so proudly served. God bless the Chief in his new tour of duty.

ROBERT C. NELDBERG

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. STUPAK. Mr. Speaker and Members of the U.S. House of Representatives, it is an honor for me to bring to the attention of this body and the entire Nation the retirement of Robert C. Neldberg. A native of the Upper Peninsula of Michigan, Mr. Neldberg has been chief executive officer and administrator of the Marquette General Hospital in Marquette, MI, since October 1973.

After studies at Northern Michigan University and in the St. Louis' University Hospital Executive Development Program, Mr. Neldberg began his administrative career in August 1968 when he was hired as the director of personnel and public relations at St.

Luke's Hospital, Marquette, MI. After 3½ years he was promoted to assistant administrator for administrative affairs. After guiding Marquette and the medical community through the successful merger of St. Luke's and St. Mary's Hospitals, Mr. Neldberg was promoted to his current position of chief executive officer/administrator at the newly created Marquette General Hospital. Mr. Neldberg's drive and dedication nurtured Marquette General from a \$6 million revenue operation to a regional medical center with a yearly revenue of \$205 million with 2,350 employees and 250 physicians on staff.

Mr. Neldberg is leaving a distinguished medical and civil career. He is responsible for shepherding the 14 Upper Peninsula hospitals together to form a medical networking partnership led by Marquette General. In 1983, he received the prestigious Homminga Award, presented by the Michigan Hospital Association, signifying the most outstanding hospital administrator in Michigan. In 1991, Mr. Neldberg was named Northern Michigan University's Citizen of the Year. Included in his community service are his positions as a former board member of the Michigan Hospital Association, and former chairman of the United Funds Drive of Iron Mountain/Kingsford and Marquette.

Despite his retirement, Mr. Neldberg will remain active in Michigan's medical arena. Governor John Engler named him to the Board of Medicine for the term that began on March 1, 1996 and continues through 1999. Robert Neldberg is currently president of the Upper Peninsula Health Care Network and the Upper Peninsula Health Education Corporation.

Mr. Neldberg and his wife, Monica Ann Gunville-Neldberg, have four children and eight grandchildren and belong to St. Peter's Cathedral in Marquette. He is also a member of Marquette's Rotary Club and a past president of the Jaycees Organization. Mr. Neldberg has been politically active as chairman of the Marquette County Republican Party and vice chairman of the District Republican Party.

Although his career with Marquette General Hospital is coming to a close, I know Mr. Neldberg will continue to be a great asset both to his own community and Michigan's medical community. Through his dedication to his profession and through his volunteer efforts, Mr. Neldberg represents the very best of our free society. He has made his life his work, and his community is better for the effort. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Upper Peninsula and the entire State of Michigan, I would like to congratulate Mr. Robert Neldberg on his retirement.

HONORING THOMAS J. BALSHI,
DDS

HON. JON D. FOX

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. FOX of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, for almost a quarter of a century, Thomas J. Balshi, A Fellow of The American College of Prosthodontists, has impacted the health of thousands of individuals worldwide by contributions to research, education, and the clinical practice of prosthetic dentistry.

He trained others from Bosnia-Herzegovina to bring healing and restoration to that war-

torn population. He has championed the benefits of prosthetic care throughout the country of India, in Uruguay and Colombia, and has spoken before The Royal Society of Medicine in London.

Dr. Balshi is a pioneer in the field of implant prosthetics. His work has renewed the health and self-confidence of his patients. Dr. Balshi commits himself clinically and personally to the careful renewal of every patient's smile, whether the patient be indigent or celebrity. Through his years of professional practice, he has earned the reputation of being a dental court of last resort. By engineering innovative solutions, he has specialized in saving diagnosed hopeless dental cases.

Dr. Balshi is a recent recipient of the prestigious George Washington Medal of Honor from the National Freedoms Foundation at Valley Forge, PA. He was honored for his contributions to dental science through education. The Freedoms Foundation honors Americans whose lives reinforce and exhibit the patriotic values of our country's Founding Fathers.

A former captain in the United States Army (1972–1974), Dr. Balshi was Chief, Department of Fixed Prosthetics, Mills Army Dental Clinic, Fort Dix, NJ. He received the Army Commendation Medal for Extraordinary Service.

He became a Fellow of The American College of Prosthodontists in 1976, following graduation from Temple University School of Dentistry in 1972. He is a 1968 graduate of Villanova University.

He served as editor of the International College of Prosthodontists Newsletter for its inaugural 10 years. In this role, he actively participated in establishing worldwide communication among practitioners of his specialty.

Dr. Thomas J. Balshi is commended for his masterful way of blending heart, art, and science to serve those in need.

TRIBUTE TO ILLINOIS STATE REPRESENTATIVE ROGER P. McAULIFFE

HON. MICHAEL PATRICK FLANAGAN

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. FLANAGAN. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and regret that I note the passing on July 5, 1996, of my constituent, Illinois State Representative Roger P. McAuliffe. Roger represented the 14th state house district on Chicago's northwest side as well as several suburbs including Park Ridge, Rosemont, Norridge and Schiller Park. He was also the 38th ward Republican committeeman.

Roger was the dean of the Illinois State House Republicans, having served in the Illinois General Assembly from 1973 until the day of his tragic death. Roger was also an assistant majority leader of the Illinois House. Roger was particularly known for his constituent services and his efforts on behalf of senior citizens, fighting crime and for tax caps. Known as an innovator, Roger started having senior citizens driving seminars as far back as 1981, which have been attended by as many as 1,000 people at a time. As those who lived in his district knew, Roger always took care of those he represented and he always represented them well.

As a 1965 graduate of the Chicago Police Academy, and a Chicago police officer ever since, Roger had a keen interest in preventing crime and protecting the public safety. In 1981 Roger was a cosponsor of legislation to toughen Illinois' drunk-driving laws. The legislation, which became State law, ended the practice of allowing drunk driving suspects a 90-minute waiting period before deciding whether to take a breathalyzer test.

Roger was a 1956 graduate of my own alma mater, Lane Technical High School. He began his public service career path when he served in the U.S. Army from 1961 to 1963. Affectionately known as the Monsignor, Roger was well respected and well liked by Republicans and Democrats alike. I knew Roger both professionally and personally and I am proud to have had him as a friend. He was always there to help whenever he could be of assistance. Roger was something of an informal advisor and often guided me, and other Members as well, on legislation that had an impact on the Chicago area.

I extend my deepest sympathy to Roger's family. Roger was a truly great public servant and a truly great person. His loss has cast a long, sad shadow over the city of Chicago and the State of Illinois. Roger McAuliffe, you are deeply missed.

NEW ZEALAND ECONOMIC REFORMS

HON. SCOTT L. KLUG

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 11, 1996

Mr. KLUG. Mr. Speaker, I led a congressional delegation which visited New Zealand to study their economic reforms. We met with many people ranging from the privatization policymakers to sheep farmers and walked away with an insightful approach to rescuing an enormous Federal debt in a relatively short amount of time. Eliminating the deficit is crucial for the United States fiscal survival and the New Zealand model provides us with some options to explore. For the benefit of my colleagues, I would like to have printed in the RECORD the preface and executive summary of the United States-New Zealand Council report on the delegation's trip to New Zealand. For those who desire the complete report, please contact my office.

REPORT ON CONGRESSIONAL STUDY TOUR TO
NEW ZEALAND
PREFACE

A bipartisan Congressional study group visited New Zealand from April 8 to 13, 1996 to examine the causes and effects of New Zealand's remarkable economic reform that has brought New Zealand from the bottom to the top of various OECD lists in terms of economic performance. The group was comprised of Congressmen Scott Klug (R-Wisconsin), William Orton (D-Utah), and Dana Rohrabacher (R-California), plus four senior House staffers: Scott Palmer, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Majority Whip; John Feehery, Communications Director, Office of the Majority Whip; Paul Behrends, Legislative Assistant for Congressman Rohrabacher; and Joyce Yamat, Legislative Assistant for Congressman Klug. The group was accompanied by Ambassador (ret.) Paul Cleveland, President of the United States-New Zealand Council, the organization which funded and arranged the trip.