

for the B" campaign during National Hepatitis B Week will raise awareness about chronic hepatitis B. I am also impressed with community forums scheduled this week to educate those currently living with the disease as well as their doctors about new and improved methods that can prevent its transmission and progression to liver disease.

As we recognize National Hepatitis B Awareness Week, I encourage Americans who may be at risk for chronic hepatitis B to get tested for the disease and to understand there is a large group of patients who do need treatment right now. With increased awareness, education and treatment for the disease, we can help stop the progression of hepatitis B to liver damage and liver disease.

Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues in reflecting on the importance of the work being done to combat chronic hepatitis B and recognize the fact that this is a preventable and treatable disease. I appreciate the opportunity to convey my support for House Resolution 250 and to recognize the need for more federal attention on hepatitis B.

**HONORING THE WORK OF
MOHAMMED JAFFER**

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor Mohammed Jaffer. Mr. Jaffer is a talented photographer and a dedicated individual whom I have had the pleasure of knowing for years.

Mr. Jaffer was born in Hyderabad, India to a family wedded to the camera. His father, the late M.A. Rahim, was a renowned photographer, widely admired for his skill and vision. It was a popular belief that no one in the state of Andhra Pradesh could be deemed truly famous until Mr. Jaffer's father had photographed them.

Having grown up in a house where everyone looked at the world through a camera lens, it was only natural for Mr. Jaffer to follow suit. Not content to limit himself to his hometown or even his home country, he set himself a much broader goal. Accordingly, at the tender age of 19, he graduated from Nizam College in Hyderabad and came to the United States with just his camera and a dream. Mr. Speaker, it turns out that the United States has proved to be a land of opportunity for Mr. Jaffer.

Within a year, he formed his own news photo agency, SnapsIndia, and was well on his way to becoming the most-widely published Indian photographer in the country. In the next 15 years, Jaffer photographed various prime ministers and heads of states from different South Asian countries and around the world, as well as United Nations meetings and World Summits in New York.

Having established himself in America, he began to cover high-profile events around the world such as the 1991 Cricket World Cup in Australia and New Zealand, the 1992 Australian National Laser Sailing Regatta, the U.S. Open in tennis for the past 7 years, the 1996 Americas Cup in San Diego, as well as beauty pageants and fashion shows worldwide.

The highlight of Mr. Jaffer's career, however, came when he was invited to accom-

pany President Bill Clinton to India in March of 2000. As part of the White House entourage, Mr. Jaffer had access to the President that no other Indian photographer could lay claim to. For five days, he photographed President Clinton in some of the most picturesque, and historic locations on earth, capturing the leader of the Free World in both private, pensive moments and at spectacular public events.

In 2001, Mr. Jaffer once again accompanied President Clinton to India when he visited areas in the western state of Gujarat that had been devastated by an earthquake. President Clinton, who had admired the photos, inaugurated the exhibition of Mr. Jaffer's photos of the presidential visit at Regent Wall Street hotel in New York on June 12, 2001. That same year, Mr. Jaffer covered the inauguration and oath ceremony of President George W. Bush.

Having established SnapsIndia, the first news photo service specialized to cater to the South Asian community in the United States, Mr. Jaffer has fulfilled the dream his father started 25 years ago when SnapsIndia was first established in Hyderabad, India. With SnapsIndia Jaffer has woven bridges and contributed to strengthening the ties between India and the United States through photo-journalism.

AUTHORIZING USE OF CAPITOL GROUNDS FOR NATIONAL PEACE OFFICERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE

SPEECH OF

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2005

Mr. COSTELLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Con. Res. 136, a resolution that honors and celebrates the 24th Annual National Peace Officers' Memorial Service Observance Day on May 15, 2005. As a former police officer, I salute those law enforcement officials who died in the line of duty in 2004 and continue to honor those police officers who gave their lives in past years. As a member of the Congressional Law Enforcement Caucus, I strongly support critical funding for programs, such as the Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS) program, to hire additional police officers and help law enforcement acquire the latest crime-fighting technologies. I will continue to be a strong supporter of the law enforcement community and will advocate on behalf of public safety in Congress. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

RECOGNITION FOR KENTUCKY COUNTRY DAY SCHOOL

HON. ANNE M. NORTHUP

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mrs. NORTHUP. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the philanthropic work of forty high-school students at Kentucky Country Day School in Louisville, Kentucky whose original fund-raising work on behalf of local organizations won them nationwide recognition for cur-

riculum innovation in February 2005 by the Washington, D.C.-based National Association of Independent Schools (NAIS). Kentucky Country Day School was one of three schools nationally to receive this prestigious honor through the Leading Edge Program run by NAIS. The Leading Edge Program was created to explore, encourage, support and reward exceptional and innovative achievement in the areas of community relations, curriculum innovation, equity and justice initiatives and technology. This award is a testament to Kentucky Country Day School's commitment to developing and enhancing the leadership skills of the youngest and brightest among us through its unique Philanthropy course.

Philanthropy is no easy endeavor. Andrew Carnegie once said, "I resolved to stop accumulating and begin the infinitely more serious and difficult task of wise distribution." With a \$10,000 grant, these high school students began this "serious and difficult task" by creating a mission statement to help define their purpose and goals for The Artemis Fund, the charitable trust which they themselves operated. As trustees, these students were faced with the challenge of raising funds through telephone solicitations and establishing rules and procedures for giving and selecting worthy causes to fund.

Since the course's inception in 2001, The Artemis Fund has dispensed just over \$19,000 to local organizations. This year, among the recipients chosen by The Artemis Fund were The Deaf Oral School and Youth Alive, a western Louisville after-school reading program.

Mr. Speaker, one of the most exciting things for me to see is the building up of our youth through positive and enriching programs that last far longer than the prescribed semester. Life-impacting education serves as a bedrock for creative ideas that one day will be used to transform the way we, as a society, interact and live. I am proud to know that these students have learned more than how to accumulate and dispense funds. Indeed, they have learned to lead by example and commitment, following through on their stated goals. This opportunity to learn about "hands-on philanthropy" will serve them well into adulthood. We can all take an important lesson from their great achievement and service to their community. I am delighted to recognize the Kentucky Country Day School for this momentous accomplishment.

THE RETIRED PAY RESTORATION ACT AND THE MILITARY SURVIVING SPOUSES EQUITY ACT (H.R. 303 AND H.R. 808)

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of our greatest national treasure—our veterans. Throughout our Nation's history, brave men and women have been committed to protecting our freedom, security and prosperity. It is only right for us to do all we can to help those who have fought to keep us free. That is why I rise in support of two thoughtful and prudent pieces of legislation: H.R. 303—The Retired Pay Restoration Act of 2005 and H.R.

808—The Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act, sponsored by Mr. MICHAEL BILIRAKIS and Mr. HENRY BROWN, respectively.

Mr. Speaker, these two critical pieces of legislation are smart, balanced and respectful of the time served by our Nation's veterans and the sacrifices made by their families.

The Retired Pay Restoration Act would address a policy that has long been unfavorable to the men and women who have returned home from battle. This legislation will let our disabled veterans receive not only the disability compensation they deserve, but the retired benefits they have toiled long and hard to receive. It is incumbent upon us to mark the time given by these brave individuals with appropriate legislation, such as this, that honors their courage and dignity.

I am also proud to support and cosponsor the Military Surviving Spouses Equity Act. This common sense bill ensures surviving husbands and wives of our veterans will still be able to count on the consistent income earned by their spouses in service to our country.

Mr. Speaker, with the passing of the War Supplemental last week, this body came together to raise death benefits for our soldiers and sailors who have made the ultimate sacrifice. I was proud to enthusiastically support that measure. It is with that same spirit that I ardently urge my colleagues to again put politics aside, come together, and pass these patriotic and dutiful pieces of legislation to support our proud veterans.

RECOGNIZING THE MOUNT OLIVE BAPTIST CHURCH SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to acknowledge the contributions of a very special church in Louisiana's 7th Congressional District. For over fifty years, the Mount Olive Baptist Church has been an important part of the Lake Charles community, making countless contributions to the moral fabric of Southwest Louisiana. Today I want to praise this church especially for its commitment to the education of our youth. For the past twenty-five years, Mount Olive has run scholarship program that has allowed students in my district to become better educated and productive members of our society.

In 1980, Brother Charles Ellis came to the delegation with the idea of providing educational scholarships for children of the community. Under the supervision of Reverend N.D. Lee, the congregation began awarding scholarships to local students for \$400. Today the church awards scholarships of \$1,000. So far, over seventy students have benefited from this program.

This marks the 25th year that Mount Olive Baptist Church has supported the educational dreams of students. The church has taken upon itself the mission of improving their community in the most important way possible—by seeing to the education of tomorrow's leaders. I thank Mount Olive Baptist Church for this tre-

mendous service and wish them all the best in continuing to set such a fine moral example in Southwest Louisiana.

CHRONIC FATIGUE AND IMMUNE DYSFUNCTION SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, May 12th is Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Awareness Day.

Chronic Fatigue and Immune Dysfunction Syndrome afflicts more than 800,000 Americans. CFIDS, also known as Chronic Fatigue Syndrome (CFS) and myalgic encephalomyelitis, is a complex and debilitating medical disorder characterized by profound exhaustion, intense widespread pain, and severe problems with memory and concentration. It usually lasts for years, and many never recover. Because the symptoms of CFS are common to other conditions and no diagnostic test exists, it is often overlooked by health care providers. In fact, government studies show that only 15 percent of those who have CFS have been diagnosed by their doctor. It is even more difficult for CFS patients to get appropriate symptomatic treatment.

The cause of CFS is not yet known. Much of what we do know about CFS has been documented by researchers funded by the National Institutes of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Here are some facts: women age 30-50 are at greatest risk for developing CFS, and Latinos and African Americans are at greater risk for CFS than Caucasians or Asians. Children can get CFS too, although it is more common in teens than younger children. The condition may begin suddenly, as with the flu, or it may build gradually over time. Physical or mental exertion makes symptoms worse.

Individuals with CFS are severely impacted by the disease and, according to CDC studies, their functional status is the same as or worse than those suffering from obstructive pulmonary disease, coronary heart disease, osteoarthritis and severe depression. People with CFS often lose the ability to maintain full-time employment, attend school and participate fully in family life. The Nation's economy is also seriously affected; the annual direct cost of lost productivity due to CFS is \$9.1 billion, an amount equivalent to Wal-Mart's annual profits.

There is hope. The Department of Health and Human Services has chartered a CFS Advisory Committee that meets quarterly to discuss research and service to people with CFS. The CDC is conducting promising research that may lead to a diagnostic test for CFS. Other researchers are following important leads that may improve treatment and deepen understanding of the way CFS affects various body systems. However, in fiscal year 2004, just \$15 million was spent by the Federal Government to conduct research on this devastating illness. CFS consistently ranks at the bottom of NIH funding charts and even during

the period when Congress was doubling the NIH budget, support for CFS research declined.

Many challenges remain and more federal funding is needed to answer basic questions. It is time for Congress to do more to help them. I urge my colleagues to earmark \$10 million for CFIDS research in the next annual appropriation for the National Institutes of Health. CFS warrants the support of this Congress and we must find a way to help hundreds of thousand of Americans get back to work. Let's not wait another day.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL BRESLIN, JR.

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 11, 2005

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding individual, Michael Breslin, Jr. who was recognized on May 10, 2005 for his life-long dedication to litigation and the legal community.

It is only fitting that Michael Breslin, Jr. be honored, in this, the permanent record of the greatest freely elected body on Earth, for he has a long history of caring, leadership, creativity, and commitment to his noble profession.

A premier legal mind, "Jerry" as he is affectionately called, has let a few fundamental principles guide his career. He consistently makes a concerted effort to reach out into the community to make his services available. Mentoring and serving as a role model to the youth of Northern New Jersey has been his top priority. Lastly, he has never taken for granted his success or exploited his position for personal gain. Rather his humility seems to heighten with each passing year.

Michael Breslin has shared his invaluable knowledge and experiences as a Civil Trial Attorney by frequently lecturing at the Institute of Continuing Legal Education in the area of Civil Trial Practice techniques. As the borough attorney for Northvale, Dumont, Bogota, and Closter, Borough Prosecutor of both Palisades Park and Elmwood Park, and the former president of The Bergen County Bar Association, Michael Breslin's commitment to his community is unparalleled.

Michael Breslin exudes professionalism and dedication. Over the years Michael has been confronted by a wide array of obstacles and in each instance he has proven his resiliency. As a member of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority, he truly displayed his innovative flare while supervising the constructing of the Meadowlands Arena.

The job of a United States Congressman involves so much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of individuals like Michael Breslin. As a fellow alumnus of Fordham University, I am proud to bestow this honor onto Michael Breslin.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Michael's family and friends, all those who have been influenced by Michael, and me in recognizing the outstanding and invaluable service of Michael Breslin, Jr.