

abuse of their medication. This bill would make it more convenient for sick veterans to get their medication and would ensure that no gap time exists when veterans are without their medication.

Education, jobs, benefits, and prescriptions for our nation's veterans. I urge your support for this legislation!

TRIBUTE TO LEE M. ANCELL SR.

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with profound sadness that I take this opportunity to pay tribute to the life and memory of a veteran from my state, Lee M. Ancell, Sr. Lee passed away recently at the age of 88. As his family mourns their loss, I would like to take this moment to pay tribute to his life and accomplishments here today.

Lee was a part of what many call the "greatest generation," and when the United States entered World War II, he dutifully answered his nation's call by enlisting in the Army Air Corp. After his discharge, Lee returned to marry Margaret Galloway. Lee and Margaret lived a long life together, as their marriage spanned 53 years. After moving to Cortez, Colorado, Lee became involved in a number of groups and organizations. He enjoyed membership in groups like the National Rifle Association, the VFW, and the National Water Well Drillers Association. He was also a respected leader of the 4-H Club. Lee spent his free time engaging in a variety of activities, including welding, hunting, fishing, and playing the guitar. A family man, Lee is survived by three children, six grandchildren, and one great grandchild.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this Congress and this nation to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Lee Ancell, Sr. Lee was a solid contributor to his community and his nation, and I am grateful for his service. My thoughts and prayers go out to Lee's family and friends.

TRIBUTE TO JERLEAN BARRON

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mrs. Jerlean Barron, who will be retiring from the Dade County Public Schools at the end of this school year. Mrs. Barron is the very definition of a strong person. She dedicated her life to serving her family and her community, and she did both with distinction.

Mrs. Barron was born and raised in Baxley, Georgia and is a product of the Appling County Public School System. She attended Appling Elementary and Secondary Schools.

Mrs. Barron is a role model who demonstrated daily how to overcome obstacles. After raising six of her biological children, she took on the responsibility of raising four of her grandchildren. Mrs. Barron was always there to support her grandchildren morally, emotionally, spiritually, and even financially in their pursuits.

Mrs. Barron has had to deal with hard decisions in her life. Her husband and daughter became terribly ill, and she was responsible for their care. During this difficult time, and despite the tremendous effort it took, she nonetheless continued to give great help and service to the Phyllis R. Miller Elementary School.

Mrs. Barron's dedication, loyalty, compassion, and involvement will be greatly missed. She showed students and faculty alike, by her example, how to make lemonade from the lemons life gives them, and in doing so she contributed greatly to the Miami-Dade community.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. Jerlean Barron for her work, in thanking her for her service and in wishing her much happiness in her retirement.

HONORING ROBERT
KREAMELMEYER

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I stand before this body of Congress to pay tribute to Robert Kraemelmeyer, who recently passed away after many years of public service. Robert devoted his life to serving his community and this devotion will not be forgotten.

Robert began his life of public service when he left college to join the Air Force and serve in World War II, stationed with the 423rd squadron—306 Bomb Group in England. After the war, Robert returned to the United States and moved to Golden, Colorado. While in Golden, Robert began a career as plumber, and dedicated much of his time to his community. He spent a lot of time as the Scout Master of Troop 48. Robert knew that he could make a difference in the lives of America's youth, so he purchased some property in the Williams Fork area, which he turned into a summer ranch for boys. He ran the ranch until his move to Montrose, Colorado in 1972. While in Montrose, Robert got involved in politics, and continued to serve his community as a city councilman and town mayor. While serving as the Mayor of Montrose, Robert worked hard to serve his community to the best of his ability.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to stand before this Congress and pay tribute to the life and accomplishments of Robert Kraemelmeyer. Robert was an outstanding role model. I am saddened by the loss of such a good man, but am happy knowing he had such a positive impact on so many young people in his community. My thoughts and prayers go out to Robert's family and friends.

ARMED FORCES NATURALIZATION
ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 4, 2003

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Armed Forces Naturalization Act of 2003.

As of February 2003, there were 37,000 non-citizens serving on active duty in the U.S. armed forces. Moreover, almost 12,000 foreign nationals were serving in the selected reserves, and another 8,000 were serving in the inactive National Guard and ready reserves.

Their red, white, and blue patriotism has contributed extraordinarily to national security. Every single one of these heroes, courageous defenders of lady liberty—from the Philippines, Mexico, Jamaica, Haiti, among many other source countries—deserves an expedited procedure for citizenship.

Mr. Speaker, as of February 2003, there were 1,663 non-citizen members of the U.S. military whose unit was stationed in Florida. Every single one of them has made the commitment to risk his or her life to defend the United States of America.

Volunteering to serve in the U.S. armed forces exemplifies one of the important roles of a citizen. On April 14, 2003, Captain Armando Ariel Gonzalez, a Florida non-citizen resident, was killed in a non-hostile accident when a commercial refueler collapsed at a supply area in Southern Iraq.

Once more, I wish to express my deepest condolences to the Gonzalez family, and at the same time offer all my support and prayers. This tragedy only crystallizes the great risk and danger the brave members of the all-volunteer military experience in the name of the people of the United States.

We must never forget that the peace and prosperity that we enjoy are founded on the ultimate sacrifice made by all those who have lost their lives in war throughout our nation's history.

We have witnessed the commitment of non-citizen soldiers to the United States during the war in Afghanistan and Iraq. They have earned our gratitude and admiration. We must now accord them our appreciation and respect.

I support The Armed Forces Naturalization Act of 2003 because it,

(a) Ensures the ability of lawful permanent resident spouses, unmarried children, and parents of soldiers killed as a result of service in the U.S. military to apply for citizenship;

(b) Speeds up the naturalization process by allowing military members to naturalize after serving one year in the military, waive naturalization fees, and allow naturalization interviews and oath ceremonies to take place abroad, and

(c) Waives posthumous citizenship fees.

I am pleased with the bill proposed today, but urge my colleagues to further facilitate the naturalization process to these heroes and their loved ones.

RECOGNIZING THE DISTINGUISHED
CAREER OF JO ANN PISEL, EX-
ECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF CALL
FOR HELP

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the distinguished career and retirement of Jo Ann Pisel, Executive Director of Call for Help Incorporated from 1976 to 2003.