

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.

Jo Ann Pisel has been with Call for Help for the past 27 years, 26 of which as the Executive Director. Call For Help is a not-for-profit multiple social service agency in St. Clair County, Illinois. Under her guidance, the organization, which started in the basements of volunteers, has grown and continued to offer critical services to the communities in Illinois that they have served for the past 33 years.

Starting with a Suicide and Crisis Hotline, the Call for Help agency includes a Victim Sexual Assault Care Unit, now with three satellite offices (Mt. Vernon, East St. Louis and Madison County). It also includes an Information and Referral Program, giving links to resources in the community and assisting with rental, utility and prescription assistance when available. Also, there is a domestic violence program that has evolved and has become an entity on its own now celebrating 25 years of service. Furthermore, Call for Help has an Adult Residential Program serving those who find themselves in a mental crisis, Crisis and MISA Counseling Services and a Transitional Living Center, housing homeless young women and their dependent children.

Serving people of all ages has been Jo Ann's stock in trade. In addition to her duties at Call for Help, Jo Ann also serves as a Home Health Social Worker for a variety of Home Health Agencies, currently BJC and Nurses and Company. From 1980–1992, Jo Ann was the Social Service and Activity consultant for Dammert Geriatrics, Parkview Manor and the St. Paul's Home for the Aged. She was a Medical Psychiatric Social Worker at St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Granite City and also served as a private consultant. She served as a caseworker for female ex-prisoners in the late 60's and was a caseworker for foster families from 1968–1969. From 1966–1969, she served as a childcare worker at Villa Maria Maternity home in St. Louis, working with single, young pregnant women. From 1959–1966, Jo Ann taught the elementary grades first through sixth.

Jo Ann was recognized in 2001 as one of the Top Ladies of Distinction and in 1997 she received the St. Louis University-School of Social Service, Alumni Distinguished Service Award. That same year she was named a Hardees Hometown Hero and in 1995, was honored as being recognized as both the State of Illinois and Metro East Social Worker of the Year.

Jo Ann has worked tirelessly all of her life in the service of people and has given much of herself to filling the needs of the community, both the young and old.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the contributions of Jo Ann Pisel and wish her the best in the future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO JOHN GIRON

HON. SCOTT McINNIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. McINNIS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor a lifelong educator from my district. John Giron has devoted his life to the students of Trinidad State Junior College in Trinidad, Colorado for 33 years. As he embarks on his retirement, it gives me great joy to inform this body about John's ex-

emplary service to his community and this nation.

John's family has deep roots in Trinidad, going back four generations to his great-grandfather who homesteaded in the area. His father worked as a miner, and John attended Trinidad High School where he excelled as a runner, becoming state champion in the half mile. Following graduation in 1957, John attended the University of Colorado on an athletic scholarship, but within weeks of starting school, his nation came calling. John received a draft notice in the mail and immediately gave up his scholarship to enlist in the Navy. The Navy trained John as an electrician and stationed him on two aircraft carriers before John returned to school, this time at Trinidad State Junior College and Adams State College.

John earned a BA in education and later an MA in counseling, which led to a job as a guidance counselor and launched his career with Trinidad State Junior College. He later worked as the Director of Upward Bound, a program designed to help students successfully complete high school and college. John also served as the Director of Student Life before spending the last 15 years as the Dean of Students. John is deeply connected to the school. His entire family, including his wife, three children, and daughter-in-law, has graduated from Trinidad State Junior College.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to stand before this body today to recognize John Giron, a man who has clearly demonstrated his commitment to our nation's youth. His counsel and leadership helped guide the academic careers of numerous young people, and I thank him for his outstanding service and wish John all the best in his retirement.

JANICE PEREZ ATOIGUE

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Ms. Janice Perez Atoigue for completing her Bachelor of Arts degree with Honors in Anthropology at the University of Maryland on May 22, 2003.

Janice was always an outstanding student both in high school and at the University of Maryland. She was born on Guam and her family resided in the village of Yigo during her early years. Her family later moved to Maryland where she attended the Talented and Gifted School and Suitland High School. At Suitland she was an honors student in both the Dance and French Programs.

While attending at the University of Maryland, she concentrated her studies in Biological Anthropology and was on the Dean's List. The Anthropology Department at the University of Maryland is a respected program, and she took advantage of educational opportunities available on campus and overseas. During the summer of 2002 she studied in Belgium and Germany, where she visited many archeological sites and museums. Just before graduating she completed a senior honor thesis on prehistoric Pacific migration, which reflects her quest for knowledge about the origins of the Pacific, Guam, and her Chamorro heritage.

This degree will now open many doors of opportunity for her to continue her education and to pursue a career in the field of anthropology. She plans to do some anthropology work in the Pacific in the future and has accepted an internship at Counterpart International. We all look forward to hearing of Janice's contributions in her profession and we hope she continues to pursue her interest in the cultural roots of our people and our region.

I am proud of Janice for her dedication and hard work in completing her undergraduate degree. I also want to take the time to commend Janice's parents, Jacinta and Lawrence Atoigue, who encourage her to do her best. They have every reason to be proud of her achievement.

Today I join the Atoigue family and friends in congratulating Janice for her accomplishment and in wishing her the very best in the future.

TO HONOR THE HEROIC ACTS OF
UNITED STATES ARMY PVT.
JASON KLEINMAN

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2003

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Private Jason Kleinman, of the United States Army, whose courage and valor in the face of tremendous danger saved the lives of three fellow United States soldiers during an enemy ambush outside of Baghdad on Memorial Day. Pvt. Kleinman, along with two fellow soldiers, ignored flames and exploding ammunition to pull three wounded comrades from a burning Humvee.

Pvt. Kleinman, a member of the Army's 3rd Infantry Division's Task Force 270, was traveling in a convoy of Humvees when an Iraqi man tossed a home-made bomb under the wheels of the vehicle in front of his. The bomb blew the Humvee back 80 feet, igniting the gas tank as well as machine gun and anti-tank rounds inside. Without hesitation, Pvt. Kleinman, along with Pvt. Dustin Meeks and Pvt. Enrique Alvarado, dragged three soldiers from the burning Humvee despite at least 50 secondary explosions as ammunition continued to discharge inside the vehicle. Though the Humvee's gunner succumbed to his injuries, the other two soldiers have Pvs. Kleinman, Meeks and Alvarado to thank for their lives.

I am proud to represent Pvt. Jason Kleinman, a nineteen year-old native of Roslyn Heights, Long Island who joined the Army last September, after graduating from Herricks High School in New Hyde Park. Jason had dreamed of joining the Army since he was a child. Now he will return home as a hero.

I commend Jason Kleinman for his tremendous display of bravery in the face of mortal peril and I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to please join me in praise of this young man's heroic acts.