

Mr. Speaker, my friend, Dr. Ron Anderson, dedicated his life to improve the lives of countless thousands of people. He exemplified the virtues of a true care-giver and was an exemplary model for other physicians. I urge my colleagues to celebrate the life and legacy of Dr. Ron Anderson.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
CARMEN BALASQUIDE

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Carmen Balasquide. Carmen was born in San Juan, Puerto Rico and is mother to three children Janpierre, Kiara, and Adriel.

Carmen moved to Florida in 1993. In 1996, Carmen first got involved in community organizing by volunteering for Osceola County Commissioner Robert Guevara's campaign in which the first Hispanic-American was elected to a local office. While volunteering on the campaign she organized community town halls and candidate meet-and-greets.

After spending time away from politics, Carmen had the opportunity to get back into community organizing in 2008 when she met State Senator Gary Siplin during his reelection campaign. She took a campaign coordinator job with the Florida Democratic Party to help reelect State Senator Siplin and to work on the presidential election.

In 2012, Carmen worked with Organize Now as a community organizer where she educated and developed Hispanic community leaders through their Earned Sick Time and Anti-Foreclosure campaigns. Carmen's work on the Earn Sick Time campaign helped collect over 52,000 signatures in support of earned sick time and was the first successful citizen-petition campaign in Orange County. In addition to her organizing work, Carmen arranged meetings and educated legislators on voting against sick time pre-emption.

In 2013, Carmen started working with National Council of La Raza (NCLR) to educate Members of Congress on the need to support comprehensive immigration reform (CIR). During the CIR campaign, she worked with community leaders and local elected officials in Orange, Osceola, and Polk counties by conducting local Hispanic media interviews, organizing public letters of support, and facilitating congressional legislative visits. Additionally, Carmen worked with state Hispanic legislators to pass S.R. 1722 a Florida Senate resolution in support of CIR. Carmen has been leading NCLR's vote-by-mail canvass campaign in Central Florida as well as educating voters on the need to vote in midterm elections and to support key issues like expanding healthcare access to all and increasing the minimum wage.

In addition to her professional work, Carmen has served as secretary to the Florida Democratic Hispanic Caucus and is currently a member of Congressman GRAYSON's Puerto Rican Advisory Board.

I am honored to recognize Carmen Balasquide, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her service to the Central Florida Hispanic community.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE BARRINEAU PARK 4-H CLUB

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the Barrineau Park 4-H Club. Located in Escambia County, Florida, Barrineau Park is the oldest continuous 4-H club in the State of Florida.

4-H began in 1909 with "corn clubs" for young men. At these clubs, youth learned how to prepare and plant their fields with hybrid corn seed, with cash prizes awarded to those who produced the most corn. Two years later, in 1911, tomato clubs were established for young women to plant, harvest, and can tomatoes.

In 1914, the Barrineau Park 4-H Club was founded with an initial membership of about 10 local youth. Holding meetings in homes, church fellowship halls, and the Barrineau Park School and Community Center, the group learned a wide variety of skills, including how to grow corn and tomatoes, raise poultry and livestock, garden, and sew. Since then, the Barrineau Park 4-H Club has helped teach hundreds of young people in Escambia County invaluable life and leadership skills.

Today, there are 23 students participating in the Barrineau Park 4-H Club, taking part in events to develop leadership skills, learn the important values of citizenship, and practice public speaking. In addition, the group learns invaluable skills related to livestock and horses, shooting sports, food and nutrition, environmental education and marine science. In particular, the club has developed a strong reputation for raising and showing prize-winning hogs. In addition to these traditional programs, the Barrineau Park 4-H Club also gives its members experience in an array of technological areas vital to success in the future, including computers, robotics, and global-positioning satellite programs.

As a former 4-H participant, I can attest to the incredible leadership and educational opportunities that 4-H provides to our Nation's youth. The Barrineau Park 4-H Club's incredible 100 year history is a testament not only to the Barrineau Park and Escambia County community, but also to the entire 4-H program and its mission to "empower youth to reach their full potential, working and learning in partnership with caring adults."

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the 100th Anniversary of the Barrineau Park 4-H Club. My wife Vicki and I congratulate everyone associated with the club and wish them another 100 years of success.

20 YEARS OF VAWA—THE
PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE AND
THE LONG ROAD AHEAD

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) changed

the way we view domestic violence in the United States.

On the 20th anniversary of VAWA, we celebrate the progress we have made, but we also take this time to recognize how much further we have to go in ending this horrific crime.

20 years ago domestic violence was viewed as a "family issue."

Fortunately, in 2014, we educate men and women on this issue and have many more resources available for victims and tougher punishments for abusers.

As a society, we try to make victims feel comfortable coming forward so they can be protected and move forward with their lives, away from their abuser.

Sadly, though, many individuals and organizations still do not take domestic violence seriously enough.

The NFL had to be shamed into suspending Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice for two games for abusing his fiancée after a video surfaced of him dragging his unconscious fiancée out of an elevator by her hair.

And shamed even further for the Baltimore Ravens to finally terminate his contract and for the NFL to suspend him indefinitely.

That is, only after, the full, more graphic video was released making it beyond clear what happened inside of that elevator.

Ray Rice knocked his fiancée out cold.

Like it or not, professional athletes are role models. Is this the type of person we want our children looking up to?

This summer, the NFL did not care about intimate partner violence as a serious crime. They cared about saving face.

Not saving the faces and bodies and souls of women in this country, but protecting their own image and bottom line.

In the spirit of VAWA, we must continue to speak out against abusers and those that do not take criminal conduct seriously, and we must continue to stand up for victims.

Victims of abuse must come forward for their own safety and that of their children.

What kind of message are we sending these victims when we put men who abuse their partners on a pedestal? When we treat celebrities or professional athletes who commit the same crime differently because of their status?

I am proud of how much VAWA changed the landscape for victims in our country over the past 20 years, but this latest incident demonstrates there is more work to be done.

And that's just the way it is.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF
STATE REPRESENTATIVE VIC-
TOR M. TORRES, JR.

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Victor "Vic" M. Torres, Jr., Florida State Representative for District 48. Vic is of Puerto Rican descent and was born and raised in New York, New York. Vic's lifetime of service began when he joined the U.S. Marine Corps during the Vietnam War. After his service in the U.S. Marine Corps, he served his community as a police officer for the New York City

Transit Police. After twenty years, Victor retired from the New York City Transit Police as 2nd Grade Detective.

In 1993, Vic relocated his family to Florida and became a volunteer and leader with several community organizations, the labor movement, and grassroots efforts. He has established a strong reputation as a committed political activist and an effective leader. Vic has volunteered for various local, state and federal campaigns, including presidential, congressional, and state and local electoral campaigns.

In 2012, Vic was elected as State Representative for Florida House District 48 in Orange County. Vic currently serves on the Education Committee, Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, Rulemaking Oversight and Repeal Subcommittee, and the Transportation and Economic Development Appropriations Subcommittee.

Vic has served with organizations involved in the labor movement including Political Coordinator for the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU) Local 1596 Orlando, Southeast Region Representative for the ATU Latino Caucus, and Trustee for the Central Florida Labor Council of Orange County (CLC).

Vic has also been a member of several political organizations including the Orange County Democratic Executive Committee, the Orange County Chapter of the Democratic Hispanic Caucus, the Florida Voters League, Inc., and the Steering Committee of the Marion County Democratic Executive Committee.

Vic has been married to Carmen L. Torres for over twenty years. Vic and Carmen are the proud parents of five children and eight grandchildren. They are faithful members of St. John's Episcopal Church in Kissimmee, Florida.

I am honored to recognize State Representative Victor M. Torres, Jr., during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his service to the United States and the Central Florida community.

DANIEL MCHENRY AND THE
MCHENRY CHAPEL

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the McHenry Chapel for 200 years of serving the community in White County, Illinois. For 200 years, the McHenry Chapel has continually been a spiritual home for area residents.

Being almost as old as our country and older than the State of Illinois, the McHenry Chapel has a long history. It was formed by Daniel McHenry in 1814, two years after the War of 1812 with many immigrants flooding into the area from southern states. This gave McHenry the inspiration and devotion to preach the gospel to his neighbors. After forming the church, McHenry served in creating the town of Carmi.

The original log church was used from 1814–1870. And as the faith community continued to thrive, plans for a new, larger church were begun in 1914, during World War I. Completed in 1916, the existing church has continued to attract people from the area.

I would like to congratulate and thank the current pastor and his wife, Jon and Stephanie

Carrell, for answering the call to serve their community and bring hope and faith to the people.

McHenry Chapel will hold a 200th anniversary celebration on October 19, 2014, with services in both the morning and afternoon. A lunch will be held after morning service at the fairgrounds.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the McHenry Chapel and offer my best wishes for another 200 years.

HONORING LAWRENCE BROOKS

HON. CEDRIC L. RICHMOND

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. RICHMOND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Lawrence Nathaniel Brooks, Sr. Mr. Brooks, a World War II veteran and Louisiana resident, celebrated his 105th birthday on September 12, 2014.

Mr. Brooks was born in 1909 in Norwood, Louisiana. He joined the United States Army in 1940 and did basic training at Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Mississippi. Serving our country was a family legacy for Mr. Brooks. He had three uncles who fought in World War I, and his brother, Chester, was a member of the United States Coast Guard.

The bombing of Pearl Harbor would change Mr. Brooks' life forever. Shortly thereafter he was called to duty. He served in the predominantly African-American 91st Engineer Battalion which was stationed in New Guinea and then the Philippines during World War II. He served three white officers in his battalion, and his daily routine included cleaning the officers' sheets, shining their shoes, making sure their uniforms were clean, and accomplishing any task these officers asked of him. Brooks attained the rank of Private 1st Class during the war. During his service, he had two alarming encounters. While he was stationed in New Guinea, the Japanese bombed the base where he was located. Additionally, Mr. Brooks was on a C-47 going from Australia to New Guinea, transporting a load of barbed wire when one of the engines went out. The crew had to work quickly to lighten up the load in order to make the plane light enough to continue on.

A true New Orleanian, even Hurricane Katrina couldn't keep Mr. Brooks away from the city he loves for too long. A few days after the levees failed and the city flooded, Mr. Brooks moved to Los Angeles. However, he returned to New Orleans a little more than a year later.

Mr. Brooks' most enduring legacy is his engagement and involvement with his community in New Orleans. He is widely known as a pillar of his community and regularly volunteers at his church, St. Luke's.

Mr. Brooks was married to the late Leona B. Brooks, and he is a father of five, grandfather of thirteen, great-grandfather of 19, and great-great grandfather of 2, and he is loved by even more. He is known for his love of dance, and has committed to enjoying and celebrating life.

The National World War II Museum, which I proudly represent, recently hosted a celebration for Mr. Brooks. During the celebration, he was honored by the Museum, the Veterans'

Administration, and a host of national and local organizations. It is my honor to introduce Mr. Brooks to the country. I invite everyone to join me in congratulating Mr. Lawrence Brooks on a life well-lived, and wishing him the best.

IN RECOGNITION OF JIM AND EVA
DYKES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recognize Mr. and Mrs. Jim Dykes who have been married 59 years and serve as clergy in Lee County, Alabama.

Jim and Eva met while Jim was still serving his country in the U.S. Army. They were married in Mannheim, Germany in 1955.

When Jim's tour of duty ended, the Dykes moved to Denver, Colorado. In 1970, they moved back to Lee County, Alabama where Jim served as a pastor.

The Dykes raised four children and are the proud grandparents of seven grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Their children include: Jimmy Dykes, Helene Sykes, Ernest Byron Dykes and Maryanne Pillgreen.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Mr. and Mrs. Dykes for their tireless service in the Lee County community.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF
MIGUEL ANTONIO NIEVES BOU

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 15, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, to recognize Miguel Antonio Nieves Bou. Miguel was born in Puerto Rico to Miguel Angel Nieves Diaz and Iris Bou Cordova of Corozal on June 13, 1963. Miguel attended Catholic school and the American Military Academy in Guaynabo, Puerto Rico before moving to Sebring, Florida in 1977.

Miguel graduated from Sebring High School and received a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration from Gardner-Webb University in Boiling Springs, North Carolina. After graduating from college, he married Kathy Lynn Duckett and soon moved back to Central Florida. He began his career with the Western Auto Supply Company and rapidly rose within the organization to become the second youngest and first Hispanic District Manager in company history. While his career with Western Auto Supply Company began in Central Florida, job promotions took him to assignments throughout the state of Florida and then to Greensboro, North Carolina.

In 1990, Miguel and Kathy gave birth to their first of two sons, Michael Alexander Nieves. Looking to settle down, Miguel left Western Auto to join the Communications Industry as a Sales Executive for a radio station. Soon media became his passion. Within three years, he became Sales Manager for two English language radio stations in Greensboro, North Carolina. During this time Miguel