

ruling Section 5 unconstitutional. Since this ruling, we have seen an unprecedented number of bills introduced in state legislatures intended to restrict the precise right that the men and women we are honoring today fought to gain.

Not only are minority and low-income Americans' voting rights under assault, but the persistent opportunity gaps in employment, education, life skills, and career preparation continue to make the American Dream elusive for far too many Americans.

We must follow the example of these brave Foot Soldiers, and continue to fight injustice and inequality to create economic opportunities for everyone.

STEM EDUCATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. TONY CÁRDENAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 24, 2015

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I offer today my full support for H.R. 1020, the STEM Education Act of 2015. In an increasingly technology-based world, businesses and other organizations continue to invest in, and rely heavily upon, information technology (IT) to increase efficiency, reduce costs, and safeguard information. The U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics projects that the high tech industry will be among the fastest growing industries in the coming years. We must do more to ensure that our youth are properly prepared and educated to compete in the job market of the future, so that the United States can continue to be an international innovation leader. Unfortunately, our education system has been slow to adapt to the growing demand for computer scientists and software engineers. By 2020, there will be an estimated 1.4 million computer programming jobs, with only 400,000 American computer science students to fill those jobs.

With globalization increasing competition for high paying jobs, I cannot stress enough the importance and value of a strong and innovative computer science education in today's economy. Computer programming jobs are growing at twice the national average rate of job growth and computer science remains one of the highest paying college degrees, more than doubling the national median annual wage. These jobs also provide Americans with a living-wage and an opportunity to be financially secure. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the median annual wage in 2010 for computer programmers was \$71,380 while the median annual wage was \$33,840 for all workers.

I support H.R. 1020, because it continues the push for STEM programs to better prepare our youth for the computer programming jobs of the future so that the United States can continue being a world leader in innovation.

WELCOMING AUNJANUE ELLIS TO
"MOVING FORWARD AND SET-
TING THE WORLD"

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to welcome Ms. Aunjanue Ellis to the annual Black History Month event "Moving Forward and Setting the World," organized by the Canisius College Academic Talent Search Program.

The Moving Forward and Setting the World event will feature the African-German Art Exhibition from Homestory, Germany to honor Black History Month.

The Canisius College Academic Talent Search Program, the host of this event, has shaped positive impact on many Western New York communities. The program is among eight federally funded TRIO programs established under Title IV of the Higher Education act of 1965. The Academic Talent Search Program provides educational, social and career support services for individuals with disadvantaged backgrounds in local schools and community service organizations.

Ms. Aunjanue Ellis, who I welcome to this event, is a famed actress who will star as the lead character in the 2015 miniseries "The Book of Negroes." Ms. Ellis has also been a star in award winning films such as "The Help," "Men of Honor," and "Ray."

Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to welcome the accomplished Ms. Aunjanue Ellis. I ask you to join me in thanking Ms. Ellis for speaking at this valued local event. I wish Ms. Ellis continued success in her acting career, and to continually see Ms. Ellis in influential roles.

HONORING GONZALO ARROYO

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Gonzalo Arroyo for his nearly two decades of commitment to helping low-income and immigrant families in Aurora, Illinois, through his leadership of Family Focus Aurora.

Gonzalo began working at Family Focus' Aurora Center in 1996, and has served as the director of the facility since 1998. During that time, he has helped countless families and individuals through the organization's many programs, from counseling new parents to computer classes aimed at improving work skills. Under Gonzalo's direction, Family Focus also has become a leader in providing guidance for recent immigrants looking to start a new chapter of their lives in Illinois.

I would like to congratulate Gonzalo for his hard work and his commitment to Family Focus Aurora and the people of our community. Although Gonzalo's leadership will be missed, I have no doubt that the work he has done and the lessons he has passed on will continue to serve and inspire the people of Aurora for many years to come.

HONORING MARTINSVILLE CANDY
KITCHEN OF MARTINSVILLE, IN

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, mom-and-pop businesses are a vital part of local economies. Martinsville Candy Kitchen, located in Martinsville, Indiana, is a primary example of a small, family-owned business that has maintained a tradition of community involvement and devotion to making quality products. The Candy Kitchen not only influences the local economy but also serves as an important landmark in the Martinsville community.

The Martinsville Candy Kitchen has been in operation since 1919, producing 16 flavors of candy canes and other sweet treats. Over 30,000 candy canes are handmade in this shop every year. Considering that a batch takes more than 3 hours, we can understand the immensity of the task they take on each year. The owners of the business, Pam and John Badger, have been known to spend late nights in the kitchen working on large batches of candy canes. Therefore, I am proud to honor the Martinsville Candy Kitchen in this installment of the 9th District's "Hoosier Small Business Spotlight."

Following 95 years of business, the Martinsville Candy Kitchen continues to be a staple within the area in which it operates. People from all across Indiana visit the business to see candy canes being made during "pour times," becoming a Christmas tradition for many families. In addition, the alleyway adjacent to the shop has been officially named "Candy Cane Lane" in recognition of the Candy Kitchen's presence in the community.

The history of Martinsville Candy Kitchen begins with its founder, Jim Zapapas, who learned the candy trade in St. Louis before moving to Indianapolis in 1916. His business originated as a short-order restaurant, soda fountain, and candy shop two years later. Over time, the company has had several owners. In early 2004, Pam and John Badger bought the Candy Kitchen from Bob and Karen Boyce, who were on the verge of having to close the doors of their business. The Badgers decided to buy the company in order to keep the historic business as a living part of Martinsville. Balancing their time between working full-time jobs and owning a business, they demonstrated their dedication to the community and the work ethic necessary to run a successful organization.

The Badgers' devotion to their customers and to the quality of their products has sustained their company's legacy. Their efforts serve as a testimony to the longstanding success of their business. The Candy Kitchen has been a Martinsville attraction since opening over 95 years ago, and it will continue to be a significant landmark for years to come.

HONORING GUSTAVO SAMBRANO

HON. BETO O'ROURKE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. O'ROURKE. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to recognize Mr. Gustavo

Sambrano, a native El Pasoan with a commendable record of service to his community and our nation.

Mr. Sambrano was born on March 26, 1932. He attended Bowie High School, a local institution with a rich and distinguished history of overcoming adversity and a consistent dedication to service. Mr. Sambrano was a proud member of the 1949 Texas state championship baseball team. This team primarily consisted of economically disadvantaged, Mexican-American students from El Paso's historic Segundo Barrio neighborhood. While traveling to Austin to play in the state championship, the team faced rampant racial discrimination. Upon arrival and against all odds, the Bears beat the most favored team in the state, the Austin Maroons. Mr. Sambrano would continue to remain engaged with his teammates and participate in community initiatives throughout his lifetime. In 2006, the El Paso Baseball Hall of Fame recognized the accomplishments of the team. Additionally, Sports Illustrated wrote a 2011 feature on the team further amplifying recognition of their profound accomplishment.

Following graduation from high school in 1950, Mr. Sambrano enlisted in the United States Air Force. Mr. Sambrano served honorably in numerous locations throughout the world to include England, Greenland, Italy, Korea, Spain and Thailand.

Following retirement after 20 years of faithful service from the U.S. Air Force, Mr. Sambrano attained a B.A. from The University of Texas at El Paso. Mr. Sambrano continued to serve his local community as an educator with the El Paso Independent School District and his nation through federal civilian service in numerous capacities, with his career eventually culminating in retirement from the Defense Logistics Agency in Alexandria, Virginia. Following the completion of his civilian career, Mr. Sambrano once again returned home to El Paso, the community he held dearly.

I thank Mr. Sambrano for being an honorable ambassador of our community to the world through his notable service. While his road to success was often filled with adversity, Mr. Sambrano represents the ambition, dedication, perseverance and resilience that is so indicative of the many great El Pasoans I have the distinct privilege to represent.

IN HONOR OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNIVERSITY OF KENTUCKY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the University of Kentucky, which celebrates its sesquicentennial anniversary this month. As an original land grant research university and Kentucky's flagship public institution of higher learning, UK is the cornerstone of education in the Commonwealth, having prepared graduates of exceptional quality and character for 150 years.

With humble beginnings in 1865, the school began as the Agricultural and Mechanical College of Kentucky University. In the time since its founding, the University of Kentucky has

maintained its traditional values while also extending and enhancing its multifaceted mission of teaching, research, service, and health care. The University of Kentucky has progressed from its early innovative roots to become a vibrant and diverse place of development and potential.

Its faculty, staff, students, and alumni are deeply devoted to the University's central value of service to others. Students are civically engaged and most take advantage of the volunteer, leadership, service, and activism opportunities on the University's diverse and creative campus.

The University of Kentucky now looks to the next 150 years of higher learning, innovative discovery, transformative outreach and sophisticated care, as it honors the legacy of those who established its campus, nurtured its early work, upheld and enhanced its mission in the present, and who will deliver a new century of promise in the future. Athletics have also been an important part of the school's heritage, with the Kentucky Wildcats laying claim to more than 30 NCAA Championships and 270 conference titles across 22 intercollegiate sports. In particular, the University of Kentucky is home to the "Greatest Tradition in College Basketball" as the winningest program of all-time, in both the number of total wins and total win percentage. The Cats have also proven dominant in the postseason, with the most NCAA tournament appearances, the most tournament game wins, and eight national championships.

There is no doubt that the University will continue to accrue both academic and athletic achievements into the 21st Century. I encourage my colleagues to join in congratulating my alma mater, the University of Kentucky on this milestone. Kentuckians are proud of the progress this distinguished institution has made over the past 150 years in preparing our nation's next generation of leaders for success, and look forward to seeing all of the prosperity that the next 150 years will bring.

Go Cats.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GREGG HARPER

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. HARPER. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 84 on H.R. 212, I am not recorded due to inclement weather resulting in a travel delay.

Had I been present, I would have voted Aye.

RECOGNIZING GABRIELLE DEBINSKI AND MILLICENT ALLAN OF THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. HASTINGS. Mr. Speaker, for decades the United States and Australia have shared a

special union, being one of our nations closest cultural, economic, and security partners. I rise today to recognize a unique international exchange program between our two nations: the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program

For the past 16 years, the Uni-Capitol Program has paired students from Australia with offices on Capitol Hill. Since the program's inception, more than 170 students, from 10 partner Australian universities located across 5 of the 6 Australian states and the Australian Capital Territory, have participated. The students in this program are the best and the brightest that Australia has to offer. They bring a unique perspective to the House and Senate offices that they serve—strengthening the special alliance between our two nations and fostering greater understanding and mutual respect between us.

This year, it has been my pleasure to host two outstanding Australian students in my Washington office: Ms. Gabrielle Debinski and Ms. Millicent Allan. Gabrielle and Millicent are great examples of the high-caliber students this program provides Congressional offices. They both proved themselves to be very intelligent and hard working. Furthermore, they excelled in drafting correspondence to my constituents, researching legislative issues, and attending briefings, all while demonstrating a desire to learn about, and engage in, the important policy issues facing our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that Gabrielle and Millicent will go on to do great things in their future. I wish them both all the very best, and the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program many more years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. BOST. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on February 24, 2015 and missed roll call votes on H.R. 212 and H.R. 734. Had I been present, I would have voted Yea on Roll Call 84, and Yea on Roll Call number 85.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,141,409,083,212.36. We've added \$7,514,532,034,299.28 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.