

the Cuban people who call for freedom like Sonia Garro.

TIM RUSSERT EXHIBIT

(Mr. HIGGINS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, since 2008, the "Inside Tim Russert's Office" exhibit has been on display at the Newseum here in Washington, D.C. This week the exhibit is in the process of relocating to the Buffalo History Museum in western New York.

This unique mix of personal and professional pieces of Tim's life will represent a homecoming, as he was born, raised, and began his career in Buffalo, New York. Even after moving to Washington, D.C., he never forgot his hometown and his dedication to his beloved Buffalo Bills. Whether working in politics or in journalism, Tim Russert made western New York proud as he exemplified the values that he learned right in our own community: love of family, faith, community, and country.

Mr. Speaker, it has been my honor to work with the Russert family, the Buffalo History Museum, and the Newseum in making this homecoming a reality. We eagerly await the debut of this expanded exhibit in the fall, including additional pieces that reflect Tim's south Buffalo roots and the story of Buffalo, the city he never forgot.

GET OUR ECONOMY BACK ON TRACK

(Ms. FOXX asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, today the first quarter GDP numbers were revised downward, again, and now show the economy contracted by 2.9 percent in the opening months of 2014. The administration's spin machine cited cold weather as the root cause of this, but as critics noted, Canada's GDP grew by 1.8 percent in the first quarter. Was it warmer in Canada?

It is clear that this President is out of ideas about how to get our economy back on track. It now seems we have exhausted even his supply of excuses as well.

Being out of excuses is a positive development. Since this administration seems prone to believing their own spin, perhaps they will now, at long last, work with House Republicans on legislation that will put Americans back to work.

There are 40 House-passed bills awaiting action in the Senate. These bills will help. Will the President and his party act on them?

TRIA AND THE THREAT TO NEW YORK

(Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, the terrorist who is at this moment leading insurgent attacks against Iraq and cities in Iraq reportedly once said to U.S. soldiers, "I will see you guys in New York."

When he said it, he didn't mean he wanted to go to a Broadway show like "Jersey Boys" or "Beautiful." New York has been and continues to be a target for terrorists to attack. It is a towering symbol of all that makes America so exceptional. That is why it is so important for Congress to get the changes that were being made to the Terrorism Risk Insurance Act absolutely correct.

The TRIA bill that was recently reported out of the Financial Services Committee, as it now stands, would drive small- and medium-sized insurers out of the market and actually reduce the amount of insurance available. That is just the wrong way to go.

At a time like this, Congress should acknowledge that a very real threat still exists and pass the strongest TRIA bill possible. It is important to the American economy, and it is important for American jobs.

IRS INVESTIGATION

(Mr. SMITH of Nebraska asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call on the Department of Justice to appoint a special prosecutor to examine political targeting at the IRS. Abuse of the Tax Code for political purposes by the most feared and powerful agency in the Federal Government is simply unacceptable.

Despite promises of full cooperation, we have yet to receive all of the documents we have requested from the agency. The IRS tells us it cannot locate nearly 2 years of emails from Lois Lerner, a central figure in the investigation. We know the IRS has been aware of this concern for months and chose not to notify Congress in a timely manner.

We must work to restore confidence that Americans won't be targeted for their political beliefs. The House of Representatives has already voted on a bipartisan basis to urge the Department of Justice to appoint a special prosecutor, and I hope that the Department of Justice will work to assure the American people that the scales of justice also apply to the IRS.

RHODE ISLAND HOUSING

(Mr. CICILLINE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rhode Island Housing, a public agency that works to ensure that all people who live or work in Rhode Island can afford a healthy, safe home that meets their needs.

Rhode Island Housing has made a real impact on the lives of thousands of Rhode Islanders helping over 60,000 families buy homes; and its success is due in large part to its dedicated and talented staff, led by executive director, Richard Godfrey.

Last week, Rhode Island Housing was awarded over \$856,000 in Federal funds to continue its important work to end homelessness in Rhode Island.

A good home provides a foundation upon which individuals and families thrive, children learn and grow, and communities prosper; but finding affordable, healthy housing has become a real concern for middle class working Americans. According to the Providence Journal, in 2012 a Rhode Island household earning the State's median income could afford a median-priced house in just 11 of our 39 cities and towns.

For more than 40 years, Rhode Island Housing has been providing valuable assistance to middle class Rhode Islanders to help them become homeowners and overcome the many challenges they face. I am delighted that these funds will support their efforts to end homelessness in Rhode Island, and I am proud to support their outstanding work to strengthen our communities.

POSTTRAUMATIC STRESS DISORDER AWARENESS MONTH

(Mr. DESJARLAIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. DESJARLAIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to tell my colleagues about H. Res. 631, which supports the goals and ideas of Posttraumatic Stress Disorder Awareness Month. PTSD is a condition affecting more than 5.2 million Americans.

Our heroic servicemen and -women face daily atrocities and dangers on the battlefield. When they return home, adjusting to everyday life can be a brutal challenge, and living with PTSD can become a waking nightmare. Without treatment, PTSD can lead to alcohol and drug abuse, flashbacks, depression, and suicide. Sadly, because of the stigma surrounding mental health in our country, less than 40 percent of returning military personnel seek help.

My first job out of medical school was at a VA hospital. I witnessed firsthand the toll PTSD takes on our soldiers and their loved ones.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 631. Show our brave men and women in uniform that we have their backs like they have ours.

Thank you to Bob Mims of Tennessee's Fourth District for his continued efforts on this critical issue.

PASS COMPREHENSIVE IMMIGRATION REFORM

(Mr. HINOJOSA asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the urgent need to fix our Nation's broken immigration system. We cannot continue to wait. The time is now to pass comprehensive immigration reform.

According to the Congressional Budget Office, the bill H.R. 15 would reduce the deficit by \$900 billion over the next two decades. There are 200 bipartisan cosponsors supporting H.R. 15, and the Senate overwhelmingly passed an immigration reform bill, almost to the day, last year.

We know that comprehensive immigration reform will grow our economy, so what are we waiting for?

Americans across the country want us to do something on this issue, and they want us to act now. I urge a vote on H.R. 15, the comprehensive immigration reform bill introduced by my Hispanic Caucus colleague Congressman JOE GARCIA from Florida. Now is the time.

IRS HARD DRIVE CRASH

(Mr. DESANTIS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. DESANTIS. Mr. Speaker, the American people are not buying what the IRS is selling re these lost emails.

They want us to believe that within 10 days of DAVE CAMP requesting emails from the IRS, Lois Lerner's hard drive just happened to crash; her emails are gone and unrecoverable.

Now, what are the odds that the IRS is telling the truth? My friend, colleague, and MIT grad THOMAS MASSIE provided me the following calculations:

Using the IRS's own figures, the chance that a hard drive would crash on any given day is 0.01 percent. So, over a 10-day period, the odds are basically 1 in 1,000 that your hard drive would crash. But here's the thing: only 10 percent of hard drive crashes result in having data and emails that are completely unrecoverable. So if you multiply those probabilities out, the odds that the IRS is telling the truth is one one-hundredth of 1 percent.

Now, if you, as a taxpayer, provided the IRS with an explanation that was that improbable, how long do you think it would take them to laugh in your face and hold you accountable? So the question we have, Mr. Speaker, is: Why should we accept such an improbable explanation from the IRS?

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BRING BACK OUR GIRLS

(Ms. WILSON of Florida asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Mr. Speaker, in April, nearly 300 Nigerian schoolgirls were kidnapped by the terrorist group Boko Haram. As late as yesterday, there are reports of more abductions.

I listened in horror as the Nigerian Government announced it has com-

pleted its inquiry in the April abduction and has little progress to report. This means these girls remain in the hands of Boko Haram. Boko Haram has emerged as a well-armed insurrection, with a growing thirst for blood, and the government has no plan to take action. This is unconscionable.

The government's failure to rescue the girls and protect them has sparked international outrage and launched the Bring Back Our Girls movement dedicated to the support and rescue of the girls.

We must keep pressure on the Nigerian Government until the girls are safely returned to their families.

Please join our Tweet war every day, 9 a.m. to noon, #bringbackourgirls and #joinrepwilson. Tweet, tweet, tweet "Bring Back Our Girls."

CALLING FOR A SPECIAL PROSECUTOR TO BE APPOINTED TO INVESTIGATE THE LOIS LERNER EMAILS

(Mr. MARCHANT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, after months of requesting all of Lois Lerner's emails, the agency now tells Congress that it has lost 2 years' worth of her emails. The IRS knew about these problems for months. They even told the White House about the lost emails, but withheld this information from Congress.

This stonewalling by the IRS must end. The complete lack of faith of my constituents in the IRS compels me to demand a special prosecutor to independently investigate the lost emails of Lois Lerner.

There needs to be an independent investigation that leaves no stone unturned. This should also include a forensic audit of their IT systems. Only then will the American people know the truth. This will send the message to the IRS that the American people will not tolerate further abuses.

EXTEND FEDERAL UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I am calling, again, on the House to introduce a dose of democracy into this body.

For months, since December 28, millions of Americans have lost their extended unemployment benefits. We were elected to represent the will of the people, to chart a course for this country, and to deal with the exigent needs of those Americans who are struggling.

A majority of this House is ready to do that. A majority of this House would vote to extend Federal unemployment benefits to prevent people who have worked hard for their entire lives from losing everything that they have worked for because this body fails to act.

A majority is for it—a majority of the people and a majority of this House. The Senate will pass unemployment extension. They did once already. The President will sign it.

It is incumbent upon us to do the will of the people. If we do not do this, we bear responsibility for the fact that, for generations, poverty could be inflicted upon people who have worked hard their entire lives and stand a chance of losing everything simply because we won't act.

CONGRATULATING ANDREW ARSHT AND ANDREW MARKOFF

(Mr. BISHOP of Utah asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Mr. Speaker, on April 1 of this year, Georgetown University seniors, Andrew Arsht—who happens to be a Utahan in my district—and Andrew Markoff won the 68th National Debate Tournament for the second time in 3 years.

As sophomores and seniors, they were the national citizenship team. As juniors, they were in the final four, which means they are the only team in the history to accomplish these standards each year.

There have been 286 colleges who have competed at this tournament since 1947. Only eight of those colleges have actually won more championships than these two guys by themselves.

They are the only team to have won two national championships and the Copeland Award for the best yearlong performance. Arsht was also named as the top individual speaker at the tournament.

I congratulate these two debaters, as well as congratulations to Jonathan Paul, who is the director of debate at Georgetown University.

75TH ANNIVERSARY OF LOU GEHRIG'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

(Mr. LANGEVIN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, this Fourth of July will mark the 75th anniversary of Lou Gehrig's historic farewell address at Yankee Stadium, where he brought national attention to the disease that bears his name today. Sadly, so many decades later, we are still struggling to understand the cause of ALS, and there is still no known cure.

On June 13, I was proud to join the Rhode Island ALS chapter to reaffirm our commitment to the families affected by this disease. Hearing their stories emboldened me to fight harder than ever for additional research funding that will lead to more effective treatments and, ultimately, a cure.

Lou Gehrig famously said in his farewell speech:

I might have been given a bad break, but I've got an awful lot to live for.