

used in hijackings. Both terrorists and pirates traumatize civilians and prey off of fear. As of now there is no international community specifically designated to prevent piracy like there is for terrorism, simply because the legal jurisdiction of piracy is in question. What we all should agree on, however, is that maritime piracy is a devastating form of terrorism.

The topic of most apprehension is the proven fact that modern pirates fund terrorist groups. Whether taken by force or friendship from the pirates, Al-Qaeda now possesses around 15 cargo vessels. Confiscation of vessels hasn't been the only recent breach in maritime security. Thanks to unobstructed leadership of Somali pirates, we've experienced an increase in maritime trafficking of narcotics, people and illicit goods, and arms proliferation. The evidence shows that maritime terrorism has recently gained the attention of most terrorist groups. Large and heavily loaded commercial vessels, offshore gas rigs, and maritime hub ports are easy shots for maritime terrorists, who seek mass destruction of human life, infrastructure, and nature.

Though piracy off the Somalia coast has recently decreased, it has caught flame and prospered in other regions of Africa, such as the waters of Guinea and Nigeria. Squashing these pirates once and for all is easier said than done. They do not proudly announce their presence on the sea, but rather use silence and stealth to steal an average of \$5,000 to \$15,000 per ship. Some of these raids are exceedingly violent, while others are bloodless. In both terrorism and maritime piracy, there must be extensive planning, and those involved must be willing to sacrifice their lives.

Our friends in England recently recognized a dire loophole in worldwide attempts to combat terrorism. Since 2010, the international community has poured billions into the hands of pirates as ransom for the release of vessels and crew. These pirates are not necessarily terrorists themselves, yet many have direct connections to major terror groups. We can be sure that piracy has summoned nearby terrorist groups with the scent of money and the bribe of civilian fear. Maritime piracy is now used as the ever-prosperous bank for terrorists. Great Britain understands this and is in the midst of editing a bill which prohibits all forms of ransom payments to terrorists.

Somali pirates appear to give the ransoms from their pirated material to al-Qaeda. There is no doubt that piracy could not only fund, but also be used as a form of terrorism or for political purposes, especially because of the unusual amount of security breaches easily accessible on ports and at sea compared to land. Take for example al-Qaeda's attack on United States. It only took two men in a tiny boat to kill seventeen U.S. citizens and injure 39 more, just by placing a shape charge against the hull of the USS *Cole* while it was refueling at a Yemeni port.

We must ensure the future does not hold a pirate-terrorist group merger. This event would spin to a halt all anti-terrorism efforts. Al Shabaab and al-Qaeda are difficult and resilient as it is, but imagine these groups with access to strategic waterways, billions of dollars, high grade ships in their grasp, and American captives at their disposal. Debate on the floor of the House has found, Piracy is "Booming without any credible deterrence, without the type of deterrence you saw at one point in

time from the British navy or from the U.S. fleet. As we speak, there are 27 vessels and 449 hostages being held by Somali pirates" Yet nothing substantial is done.

Though many ships are now well-armed, piracy continues without hiccup. It's time the United States takes some action and put these outlaws in the high seas out of business and send them to Davy Jones' locker. An estimated \$160 million was paid as ransoms to pirates in one year alone. Using a private navy is almost as drastic a cost. So, the question is: what should we do? One of the most considered solutions is that of modern privateering. Privateers as defined by international law are "vessels belonging to private owners, and sailing under commission of war empowering the person to whom it is granted to carry on all forms of hostility which are permissible at sea by the usages of war." Privateers will be given the opportunity to disable dangerous non-state enemies, and in the process, create revenue. This is not a hard decision. It's a win-win.

The U.S. military has used a form of privateering in the past certain types of air combat and warfare. In fact, in the 1930's, the U.S. Navy bought blimps from—and hired—a private company, Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, to build a fleet of airships and blimps. These blimps were previously used for advertising, yet the Navy used these simple civilian mechanisms to help defend the country.

In the past, the problem of piracy was largely wiped out due to privateers. The privateers, though used as a sort of political pawn, were extremely successful and motivated. In a system of capitalism, it's important to consider all parties, and the relationship in which each benefits another. If privateering and letters of marque were used by the United States government today, the government would gain a significant amount of hegemony, credibility, and sea power. The privateering ship owners would receive rewards or payments in return for the seized pirate ships, as well as a higher safety and low insurance prices. Maritime piracy is indeed a threat that, if not soon stopped, will lead to increased terrorism and economic disaster.

In my Congressional office, we employ interns to help with writing and tasks around the office. One of our interns, Rachel Jones, researched this issue regarding piracy on the open seas. Her help this summer was valuable and I thank her for all of her work and assistance. I wish Rachel luck in her future endeavors and with the rest of her time at my alma mater—Abilene Christian University.

And that's just the way it is.

WHAT KIND OF HISTORY SHOULD WE MAKE?

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, today on this Restoration Tuesday, I rise to acknowledge the continued voter suppression around the country during this election year and the ongoing battle for protection of the constitutional right to vote.

This Restoration Tuesday is particularly special, as it is the last primary vote. At the clos-

ing of the polls, we will officially be embarking on the first general election in 50 years without the full protection of the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Countless Americans gathered together in the years up to the passing of the historic legislation that banned discrimination in voting polls, and solidified voting equality. Backpedaling into times of racial disparity in the voting process is a dangerous course of action that we should refrain from venturing into. We are currently defacing the legacy of those who gave up their lives in order to secure equal representation in the voting booth.

It is imperative that we rally together and Restore The Vote. We cannot allow this presidential election to greet us without being protected against those who wish to slant the election through harsh voting laws. It is the right of every eligible American to cast a ballot in the favor of their interests without hurdles being placed in their path. Through the passage of the Voting Rights Advancement Act of 2015, we will be able to complete the order handed down to us by the Supreme Court of the United States. We will be able to recreate the safe haven in voting, where everyone feels entitled and able to exercise their democratic right. I ask my colleagues to join me in support of the Voting Rights Advancement of 2015 so that we can make the democratic process democratic again.

TRIBUTE TO EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE WORKERS

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the emergency medical service (EMS) workers of Pinellas County for their hard work and sacrifice.

From May 15th to May 21st we recognize the importance of our EMS workers who sacrifice every day to provide the emergency care our community needs.

EMS workers put their lives on the line for the people of Pinellas County. City Council Member Jerry Beverland's son was recently saved by his local EMS team who were on the scene within four minutes of his call for help. It is only right that EMS workers get the recognition they deserve for their dutiful efforts.

Several members of our local emergency response teams received awards for their efforts. Aaron Gonzalez, a Fire Rescue administrator for Oldsmar, accepted the EMS Week Award, and Chris Collins, who has been a Sunstar paramedic for two years, was recognized as Paramedic of the Year. Nick Eberhardt won the Emergency Medical Technician of the Year award, and Eric Fayad was named Emergency Medical Dispatcher of the Year. He also works fulltime as a lieutenant for the Seminole Fire Department.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank and acknowledge these award winning emergency response workers who sacrifice their time and lives for the residents of Pinellas County. Their work makes our community a better place, and I ask that this body join me in recognizing our EMS teams of Pinellas County for their exceptional work.

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF THE
GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Girl Scouts of the USA for 100 years of making meaningful and lasting change in their communities and around the world through the Gold Award.

Girl Scouts who pursue the Gold Award—the highest award in Girl Scouting—aspire to transform ideas into action.

Young women who earn their Gold Award are true leaders, dedicated to civic engagement and community empowerment.

Since 1916, approximately 1 million Girl Scouts have earned this prestigious award or its equivalent.

Girl Scouts builds girls of courage, confidence, and character.

They build true leaders, in fields as diverse as business, medicine, and politics.

As Juliette Gordon Low, the founder of Girl Scouts said, “Scouting rises within you and inspires you to put forth your best.”

I am pleased to join Girl Scouts as they celebrate 100 years of the Girl Scout Gold Award, and wish them continued success in inspiring girls to excel and make a difference in the world.

IN MEMORY OF GORDIE HOWE

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Gordie Howe, who passed away on June 10, 2016, at the age of 88. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and fans across the country.

Born on March 31, 1928, he grew up in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan before coming to Detroit, where he made his National Hockey League debut on October 16, 1946, scoring in his first game at the age of 18. Gordie Howe, or as he was known to a generation and beyond, “Mr. Hockey”, was the embodiment of the National Hockey League, and an ambassador from Detroit to the rest of the country and to the world. I speak here for Detroit, for the Red Wings, and for the entire NHL, when I say that we will miss him dearly.

Gordie Howe, a 23-time All-Star, was unmatched on the ice, and in his twenty-five seasons with the Red Wings, he led the city of Detroit to four Stanley Cups, winning numerous distinctions along the way. He was also instrumental in the conception of what would become the National Hockey League Players’ Association. But Gordie Howe was so much more than a man with a hockey stick; he was a force for good off the ice as well. Gordie, whose wife Colleen “Mrs. Hockey” Howe, suffered from Pick’s Disease, was heavily involved in the search for a cure to degenerative brain diseases, founding the Gordie and Colleen Howe Fund for Alzheimers, in partnership with the University of Toronto Baycrest.

Mr. Speaker, on June 10, we lost one of the greats. For almost half of his adult life, Gordie

Howe represented the city of Detroit with distinction and class, and his legacy will live on long after we are gone, on the banners hanging in Joe Louis Arena, at the charities he championed in retirement, and in the hearts of millions of hockey fans across the continent.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE GIRL SCOUTS GOLD AWARD

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, today we honor Girl Scouts of the USA and Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council, as they celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Gold Award, Girl Scout’s highest honor.

Congratulations to the young women who earn the distinguished Gold Award and become exemplary leaders in communities across our country. This accomplishment reflects outstanding leadership and civic engagement. Today, women pilot rockets into space, lead international conglomerates, pioneer new innovations in medicine and technology, and occupy positions of international leadership in countries all over the world. Many of those female leaders are Girl Scout alumnae.

As a Girl Scout, I learned how to be an effective leader and how to work as part of a team. I also learned the importance of being part of a community. The Girl Scouts enables young women to discover their passions. Scouting empowers girls and young women, and teaches the importance of working collaboratively. The Gold Award inspires girls in Arizona to find greatness inside themselves and to channel ideas and passions to benefit our communities.

Thank you to Girl Scouts-Arizona Cactus-Pine Council and Girl Scout councils across the nation for giving young women courage, confidence, and character.

TRIBUTE TO DAVE AND LAYLE KREMSKE AND DOTTIE AND BOB BELLAVANCE

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Dave and Layle Kremske, and Dottie and Bob Bellavance, the new inductees of the 2016 Senior Hall of Fame.

For decades, these two couples have made significant contributions to the city of Dunedin. They have donated their time and effort to Pinellas County by being active members of many charitable organizations.

The Kremskes are members of the Friends of the Library program, an organization that provides funding, enhancements, and support to the staff and programs of the Dunedin Library. Layle also served as PTA President and President of the Dunedin Youth Guild, which focuses on supporting youth-focused community projects in Dunedin. Dave has been an active member of the Stadium Advisory and Parks Recreation Advisory committees.

Dottie Bellavance is also on the board of the Friends of the Library program and is active with the Dunedin Youth Guild. She mentors students and volunteers at the Church of the Good Shepherd and serves at the Dunedin Cares Food Pantry. Bob Bellavance has served as CEO and President of the Dunedin Chamber of Commerce and has been a member of the Dunedin Rotary Club for years. He was also a member of the Dunedin Fine Arts Center. Due to his efforts, many local businesses have a stronger relationship with their local government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the Kremskes and Bellavances for their work and efforts for Pinellas County. They have made their city of Dunedin a better place, and I ask that this body join me in recognizing and thanking them for their diligence and care for our community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAKE FARENTHOLD

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Mr. FARENTHOLD. Mr. Speaker, on roll call Nos. 297 and 298, I missed votes because of a flight delay due to weather conditions. Had I been present, I would have voted Yes.

CELEBRATING THE SERVICE OF
RABBI DOUG KAHN

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 14, 2016

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise with Representatives JACKIE SPEIER, JARED HUFFMAN, MIKE THOMPSON, BARBARA LEE, ANNA ESHOO and ERIC SWALWELL to honor Rabbi Doug Kahn as he retires as Executive Director of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties.

For 34 years, Rabbi Kahn has served with distinction and led with integrity. Rabbi Kahn’s analytical mind, diplomatic skills, endless energy and compassion have earned him the admiration of people around the world. As a consensus builder and community leader, Rabbi Kahn has dedicated his life to answering the sacred call, “tikun olam,” to repair the world.

Since 1938, JCRC has been committed to improving relations between the Jewish community and the community at-large. A strong advocate for the Bay Area Jewish community, Rabbi Kahn has masterfully managed sensitive and challenging issues, built bridges with Americans of many faiths, interests, and ethnic groups.

Under his leadership, JCRC confronted anti-Semitism, the oppression of Soviet Jews, and anti-Israel activities on college campuses.

A fourth-generation San Franciscan, Doug Kahn was born in 1951 to a family that discussed current events around the dinner table. The Civil Rights Movement and protests against the Vietnam War sparked his passion for social justice.

As a UC Berkeley student in 1971, he joined the Bay Area Council for Soviet Jewry