

PFC Cooper's regiment was one of the first surface-borne Allied units to hit the beaches at Normandy, providing much-needed relief to the 82nd Airborne Division. The division's advancements took the Cotentin peninsula and resulted in the capture of Cherbourg. They also slowed the German Seventh Army's march toward Avranches, ultimately leading to the liberation of the Paris.

The 4th Division later crossed into Belgium and broke through the Siegfried Line, slowly progressing through the heart of Germany. On November 6, 1944, a severe, month-long battle broke out at the fortified Hurtgen Forrest, resulting in PFC Cooper being mortally wounded by enemy fire. He died of his wounds on November 19, 1944, at the age of 27.

PFC Cooper will forever be memorialized as an American hero. We remember him for his exemplary service and courageous spirit as he modelled for servicemembers everywhere what it means to sacrifice. As a monument of gratitude to his service, Wayne County in Tennessee has chosen to dedicate a bridge in his honor. On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to pay tribute to this American hero who made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation's hour of need.

RECOGNIZING USHER SYNDROME AWARENESS DAY

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Usher syndrome and, in particular, to recognize the Usher Syndrome Coalition, a nonprofit organization based in Massachusetts that is building and connecting the global Usher syndrome community to help speed the search for a cure. This Saturday, September 19, 2020, is Usher Syndrome Awareness Day.

Usher syndrome is a rare genetic disease that affects at least 25,000 people in the United States. It causes deafness or hearing loss from birth, and retinal disease that slowly and progressively leads to blindness. Currently, there are no treatments or cure for Usher syndrome—but that can change with awareness and support. Finding a cure has never been more urgent or more achievable.

Some of the world's most innovative researchers are leading efforts to develop treatments for Usher syndrome at institutions across the country including in my home state of Massachusetts. Scientists at Massachusetts Eye and Ear, Harvard Medical School and Boston Children's Hospital are pursuing promising paths to treatment, including a stem cell therapy trial and gene therapy strategies to treat the vision loss and hearing loss caused by Usher syndrome.

As a nation, we need to do more to find a cure. Usher syndrome not only impacts our families but our communities, our health care system, our educational system, and our economy. For the past six years, federal spending on Usher syndrome has remained flat. This must change if there is to be any real progress toward finding a cure.

Targeted research supported by sufficient funding and serious agency attention are crit-

ical components to finding a cure. The COVID-19 pandemic and the daily challenges facing the Usher syndrome community could not be more pressing and finding a cure more paramount.

I am proud to recognize the work of the Usher Syndrome Coalition, and the commitment to finding a cure for Usher syndrome. I stand with those who suffer from Usher syndrome and hope with the dedicated efforts of the Usher Syndrome Coalition, there will soon be a cure.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH SEASON OF THE NATIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUE (NFL)

HON. BOB GIBBS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. GIBBS. Madam Speaker, I rise today, with my fellow Representative Tim Ryan (OH-13) to wish the National Football League a happy 100th birthday. One hundred years ago today, 15 people met in an automobile showroom in Canton, Ohio to form what would become the National Football League. From these humble beginnings, the NFL has grown into a preeminent American sports league, comprised of 32 teams from 22 states across the country.

Over its first 100 years, the NFL has become a fixture in American life. The league is an American institution that brings together individuals of all ages, races, and backgrounds through a common enthusiasm for and appreciation for the game of football. Through good times and bad, the NFL has consistently reflected the spirit of the American people, displaying resilience, optimism, and resolve through periods of war, economic distress, natural disasters, and the current pandemic. Last season, the NFL concluded the celebration of its 100th season with a thrilling Super Bowl championship that was viewed by over 100 million Americans.

Although the league celebrated its 100th season in 2019, the League's 100th birthday is a historic day as well. Today, in an effort to commemorate this momentous occasion, the Cleveland Browns will host the Cincinnati Bengals in a classic rivalry game, known as the "Battle of Ohio". The game will highlight the formation of the league and its humble roots in Canton, honor the more than 25,000 players who have played in the league, and showcase the work the NFL is doing to ensure its second century is just as successful as the first.

We, therefore, recognize the National Football League on its 100th birthday, and wish the league all the best as it embarks into its second century as the foremost steward of "America's Game."

IN RECOGNITION OF SOUTHERN CRESCENT WOMEN IN BUSINESS INC.

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. DAVID SCOTT of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ariel Shaw and Southern Crescent Women In Business Inc.

Southern Crescent Women In Business Inc. is a conglomerate of women-owned businesses and women in business who are working to change the economic landscape in the Southern Crescent. This organization seeks to level the economic playing field in assisting women-owned businesses, using its platform to help strengthen and build key relationships.

According to the U.S. Department of Labor Statistics, the fastest growing market of entrepreneurs are women, and women have contributed more than \$40 billion dollars in revenue over the last ten years. With this increase, Southern Crescent Women In Business Inc. work to provide the foundational support that is needed for women-owned businesses and women in business in the Southern Crescent area and beyond and will help build upon important relationships with the key stakeholders, and community and business leaders to provide access of information and funding to women-owned businesses.

Understanding the challenges that women entrepreneurs face, Southern Crescent Women In Business Inc. has developed key partnerships with the banking and finance industry to help open access to capital. This organization continues to bring influential leaders in economic development, finance, and entrepreneurship in order to strengthen communities, reach economic advancement and open opportunities for other dynamic women.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Ariel Shaw and Southern Crescent Women In Business Inc. for their outstanding service in the Southern Crescent.

HONORING THE FALLEN CLEVELAND CITY POLICE OFFICERS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, it is with terrible sadness and grief that I rise today, for in my district the Cleveland community is laying to rest two Cleveland City Police Officers, whose fates were met far too early.

Detective James Skernivitz, 53, was working an undercover drug operation when he and his informant, Scott Dingess, 50, were ambushed and killed, a tragic incident marking Detective Skernivitz as the first on-duty officer to be fatally shot in Cleveland in more than a decade. Officer Skernivitz was a devoted husband to his wife Kristen, and father to Matthew, Bayleigh and Peyton. Officer Skernivitz was a brother, a son, and a friend to many.

We are also mourning the terrible loss of Cleveland Police Officer Nick Sabo, 39, who was found dead as a result of a tragic and sudden suicide. Officer Sabo will be remembered as a devoted husband to his wife