

is a historic day as well. Today, in an effort to commemorate this momentous occasion, my 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." Go Browns!

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF JOHN KUSMITCH

HON. JACK BERGMAN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. BERGMAN. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the life and service of John Kusmitch of Kingsford, Michigan. Through his extreme courage and selflessness, John has become an indispensable part of the state of Michigan.

John enlisted in the United States Army in August of 1949 at just 18. During the Korean War, he served in the 25th Infantry Division as a motor transport operator, and was responsible for supervising and operating vehicles to transport personnel and cargo. The vital work of motor transport operators like John were the backbone of our military operations during this conflict—providing advanced mobility both on and off the battlefield. In April of 1951, John was captured by hostile forces and endured 27 months of harsh conditions as a Prisoner of War.

Observed annually on the third Friday of September, National POW/MIA Recognition Day honors those who were Prisoners of War and those who are still Missing in Action in service to their nation. We owe the men and women in uniform who were captured, missing, or unaccounted for a debt which can never be repaid. By coming together to honor those who stood up to defend and to serve, the people of Michigan's First District can ensure that the service and sacrifice of those in uniform is never forgotten.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the service of John Kusmitch. Michiganders can take immense pride in knowing that the First District is home to such a selfless individual. On behalf of my constituents, I wish John all the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I was not present for the following roll call votes. Had I been present for them, I would have voted as follows:

Roll Call 183: H.R. 4894—Congressional Budget Justification Transparency Act of

2020—On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill—YEA, and

Roll Call 184: S. 2193—Charge Act—On the Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill—YEA.

FLORIDA INVENTORS HALL OF FAME 2020 INDUCTEES

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the eight inventors who have been recognized as the 2020 Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame. To be named as an Inductee, these inventors were nominated by their peers nationwide and have undergone the scrutiny of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame Selection Committee. As a result, their innovations have been identified as significantly impacting the quality of life, economic development, and welfare of their communities, the residents of Florida, and the United States.

The Florida Inventors Hall of Fame was founded in 2013 at the University of South Florida. It was recognized by the Florida Senate with Senate Resolution 1756, adopted on April 30, 2014. Its mission is to encourage individuals of all backgrounds to strive toward the betterment of Florida and society through continuous, groundbreaking innovation by celebrating the incredible scientific work that has been or is being accomplished in Florida and by its citizens.

Nomination to the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame is open to all Florida inventors (living or dead) who are or have been residents of Florida. The nominee must be a named inventor on a patent issued by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. The impact of the inventor and his or her invention should be significant to society, and the invention should have been commercialized, utilized, or led to important innovations.

The 2020 Inductees of the Florida Inventors Hall of Fame are:

Christopher Batch: University of Florida Professor of materials science and engineering and biomedical engineering, who developed groundbreaking treatments in patient care, most notably the anti-bacterial surface treatment material, Bioguard, which is used as the standard of care for advanced wound dressing and bacterial barriers in hospitals and healthcare facilities.

Nicholas Bodor: Founder and CEO of Bodor Laboratories, University of Florida Professor Emeritus and prolific inventor whose innovations in drug discovery established the field of retrometabolic drug design and led him to develop a portfolio of novel drugs to treat numerous inflammatory disease processes.

Harvey Firestone (1868–1938): Founder of Firestone Tire and Rubber Company whose pioneering innovations revolutionized the commercial rubber industry, and who advanced scientific research in Florida and co-founded the Edison Botanic Research Corporation to develop a domestic source of natural rubber.

Leslie Kramer: Vice President of Engineering and Manufacturing at Tailor Made Prosthetics; scientist, engineer and entrepreneur whose long career in industry led to

groundbreaking innovations in composite materials, military defense applications and most notably an advanced carbon-fiber composite prosthetic foot that has improved the lives of amputees.

Israel Morejon: Founder and President of Integrated Engineering Technology whose inventions have provided innovative solutions across multiple industries, most notably state-of-the-art LED lighting technologies, Nano projectors, wireless modem technology, optical tomography for cancer detection systems, and cutting-edge HVAC Load Reduction technology.

Joshua Rokach: Florida Institute of Technology Professor who was the first to synthesize major inflammatory triggers responsible for asthma, allergies, and inflammatory bowel disease, which revolutionized medical research in allergy and inflammation and led him to develop a number of groundbreaking drug discoveries, including Singulair and Flexeril.

Jean-François Rossignol: Co-Founder and Chief Medical & Scientific Officer of Romark Laboratories and University of South Florida Affiliate Professor of Medicine whose breakthroughs in treatments for parasitic diseases led to his discovery of thiazolidines, a new class of antiparasitic agents, later discovered as a new class of broad-spectrum antiviral drugs also used in the fight against novel infectious diseases.

Christine Schmidt: University of Florida Professor and Chair of the J. Crayton Pruitt Family Department of Biomedical Engineering whose pioneering research in biomaterials science led to her development of decellularization techniques used in Avance Nerve Graft, a biochemically processed nerve graft that benefits patients with peripheral nerve damage.

Innovation and invention are the building blocks of our nation. I applaud these highly accomplished individuals and the organizations that support them in their quest to change the world in ways that truly benefit humanity. It is because of the perseverance of these inventors that future generations are encouraged to reach beyond their limits and push the boundaries of innovation.

HONORING THE BRAVE SERVICE OF CHARLES E. COOPER OF TENNESSEE

HON. MARK E. GREEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 17, 2020

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Army Private First Class Charles E. Cooper for his distinguished service to this nation.

PFC Cooper served honorably in the United States Army during World War II, beginning in 1942 at the age of 25. He was sent to Company K, 3rd Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment of the 4th Infantry Division, participating in rigorous training exercises that included amphibious assaults that would later be employed for the D-Day assault. On that fateful day, June 6, 1944, the 4th Infantry Division crossed the English Channel to the front lines of the War, assaulting a German-held beach under heavy enemy fire.

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 in 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.

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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