

the editor of The Northeast Georgian in 2019. His love of writing and commitment to objectivity earned him respect, not only from his peers but from his local readers. Matthew won numerous State and regional awards for his outstanding work, and through it all, he never lost his passion for covering sports.

Matthew is more than a talented reporter and editor. He was also a devoted husband to his wife, Samantha, a family man, and father to their three boys, Hunter, Cal, and Ollie.

Mr. Speaker, may God continue to comfort Samantha and her sons, as well as Matthew's peers and loved ones, during this difficult time.

Georgia's Ninth District will always remember the profound impact that Matthew Osborne had on his readers and on our community as a whole.

HONORING TYLER G. BROWN ON BECOMING A PUBLISHED AUTHOR

(Ms. SALINAS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. SALINAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Tyler G. Brown, an author and constituent from Dallas, Oregon.

Not only is Tyler an author, but he is also a corporal with the Grande Ronde Tribal Police Department.

Late last year, Tyler published his first book, "Tribal Honor." His story is an inspiring one. This is actually the third novel he has written, as the first two did not make it into print. However, the setback did not stop him from realizing his dream of becoming a published author.

In his debut novel, Tyler blends his experience as a law enforcement officer with his passion for thrillers, mystery, and action-packed fiction novels. Unsurprisingly, his first novel quickly climbed the crime action fiction charts.

Every year, the Readers' Favorite International Book Award contest announces the top books in a variety of categories, and this year they had a record amount of entries. The contest showcases thousands of authors from around the world, and "Tribal Honor" won the gold medal in the action-fiction category.

As the daughter of a police officer, I know firsthand the challenges that come with being in law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I want to let Tyler know how grateful I am for his dedication to keeping the Grande Ronde Tribe safe and how pleased I am to see his novel get the recognition it deserves. I thank him for inspiring people and showing them that they should always chase their dreams. I extend my heartfelt congratulations to him and his family. He has made Oregon's Sixth District immensely proud.

HONORING JUDGE JULIE KOCUREK FOR HER BRAVERY

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

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to honor Judge Julie Kocurek, who is the 390th State District judge in Austin, Texas.

In 2015, the judge survived an assassination attempt by a criminal defendant seeking revenge for a decision she made in his case. Judge Kocurek and her family were stalked for a month before the individual attacked her, shooting her four times. Judge Kocurek miraculously survived and bravely returned to the bench to ensure that justice prevails over violence.

Mr. Speaker, this is happening on an increased basis all across this country. I am proud to be a cosponsor of H.R. 8093, the Countering Threats and Attacks on Our Judges Act, introduced in this House by Chairman MICHAEL MCCAUL and the late Sheila Jackson Lee and in the Senate by Senator CORNYN and Senator COONS.

The bill would help judges by creating a State judicial threat intelligence and resource center to provide guidance and best practices for State judges. It informs law enforcement.

Mr. Speaker, I know firsthand the threats judges face because my father served as chief justice of the Western District of Texas in San Antonio at a time when one of his colleagues, the Honorable John H. Wood, Jr., was shot in the back by a criminal and killed.

I think that we need to pay attention to crime and criminals better in this country, especially where they aim themselves at judges and our judicial system.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ERNEST "ERNIE" WILLIAM MEASE

(Ms. KAPTUR asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable life and legacy of an American hero and gentleman, Ernest "Ernie" William Mease, who recently passed away at the strong age of 99.

A proud Navy veteran, Ernie served our Nation with distinction from 1943 to 1946 during World War II, including at the Battle of Leyte Gulf, the largest naval battle of the war.

For his bravery, he was decorated with the Philippine Liberation Medal.

After his honorable service, Ernie, a man of his word, built a life of dedication to our Toledo community in northwest Ohio as a real estate developer and a tireless advocate of American Legion Toledo Post 335. The post marked its 100th anniversary with a ceremony at the Toledo Club earlier this year, and I had the great privilege of presenting Ernie with a U.S. flag

flown over the U.S. Capitol in the post's honor.

Ernie was more than a veteran and businessman. He was a devoted husband and father, a friend of hundreds, and a treasured community builder in our community intergenerationally.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my heartfelt condolences to his wife, Joyce; their children, Melissa and David; his brother, Norman; and all who loved him.

Today, we honor in America's CONGRESSIONAL RECORD his memory and his contributions to liberty as one member of the most unselfish generation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to include in the RECORD an article from The Blade.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

[From THE BLADE, Sept. 17, 2024]

ERNEST WILLIAM MEASE: RETIRED REAL ESTATE DEVELOPER FOUGHT IN THE NAVY IN WORLD WAR II

(By Mike Sigov)

Ernest W. "Ernie" Mease, a retired real estate developer and Navy veteran of World War II, died Wednesday at Hospice of Northwest Ohio on South Detroit Avenue. He was 99.

He died of aspiration pneumonia, his wife of 54 years, Joyce Mease, said, noting that he lived 46 years after suffering a massive heart attack at age 53.

Mr. Mease was a machinist's mate on a Navy tank-landing ship during the October, 1944, Battle of Leyte Gulf in the Philippines, the largest naval battle of World War II, and was proud of his military service, Mrs. Mease said.

Decorated with the Philippine Liberation Medal for his part in the battle, he was a longtime member of American Legion Toledo Post 335, including years as the post commander, the position he held in retirement until 2023.

In May, the past commander received an American flag from U.S. Rep. MARCY KAPTUR (D., Toledo) during the post's centennial celebration at the Toledo Club downtown. Prior to the event, the flag Ms. KAPTUR presented had flown over the U.S. Capitol at her request.

"I am very proud, very proud, and surprised," he told The Blade after the award ceremony.

The retired real estate developer served in the Navy from 1943 until 1946, when he was honorably discharged with the rank of petty officer 2nd class.

He retired in 1990 after at least 30 years as an independent real estate developer. He built, renovated, and leased out apartments and houses in Toledo and Bowling Green.

"He was a fair and honest landlord and he had a great reputation," Mrs. Mease said. "He was admired for being smart, reliable, and articulate."

Born May 1, 1925, in Washington to Eva and Ralph Mease, he graduated from high school before joining the Navy.

Following his honorable discharge, he used the GI Bill to attend Lehigh University, where he graduated with a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering before getting hired by Toledo's former Houghton Elevator Co. to supervise elevator installations in Philadelphia.

Mr. Mease was later transferred to Toledo, where he continued as a mechanics' supervisor for the company until going into the real estate business.

In his free time, he enjoyed boating. He also worked out daily.

"He was a terrific guy," Mrs. Mease said. "He enjoyed life and life enjoyed him."

Along with American Legion Toledo Post 335, he was a member of Swanton American Legion Murbach-Siefert Post 479.

He was preceded in death by a twin sister. Along with his wife, Joyce Mease, he is survived by his daughter, Melissa Mease; a son, David Mease; and brother, Norman Mease.

Services will begin at noon Tuesday in Toledo Memorial Park, immediately followed by military honors.

Arrangements are by Walter Funeral Home.

CONGRATULATING OLYMPIANS AND PARALYMPIANS FROM COLORADO'S FOURTH DISTRICT

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

Mr. LOPEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Olympians and Paralympians from Colorado's Fourth Congressional District.

To compete in the Olympic and Paralympic Games is one of the highest honors an athlete can achieve. It takes years of hard work, grit, and determination, and I am honored to stand here today to celebrate their achievements in Paris.

Anna Hall, Jessica Thoennes, Sophia Smith, Mallory Swanson, and Derrick White have all dedicated their lives to advancing their sports, and to them, I say congratulations.

Each one of them has reached the top of their personal Everest. I hope that they feel incredibly proud when they reflect on their time in Paris and take a moment to celebrate their amazing accomplishments.

Each of them has had to persevere through injuries, defeats, and personal setbacks. The example they have set serves as an inspiration for future generations of athletes and is something they should be deeply proud of.

Mr. Speaker, Colorado's Fourth Congressional District was lucky to have such high-caliber athletes representing them this summer. They have made us proud, and I look forward to watching each of their careers grow.

SOCIAL SECURITY BENEFITS PAID TO THOSE WHO DESERVE IT

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

Mr. LANDSMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about our retired teachers, police officers, firefighters, letter carriers, and nurses, and the fact that, for decades, Congress has kept or stolen the Social Security benefits that they paid for and earned but have yet to receive.

The Social Security Fairness Act will fix this. Millions of retired public servants will get their benefits each and every month moving forward.

This bipartisan effort is the most co-sponsored bill in this 118th Congress. Yesterday, we hit a major milestone with 218 signatures on a discharge petition, forcing a vote on the Social Security Fairness Act.

Mr. Speaker, I am ready to vote "yes" when this bill comes to the floor. Let's get it done.

CELEBRATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SONES DE MEXICO ENSEMBLE

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

Mr. GARCÍA of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 30th anniversary of Sones de Mexico Ensemble, a nonprofit organization founded in the community of Pilsen. They are focused on promoting a greater appreciation of Mexican folk and traditional music and culture.

Sones de Mexico Ensemble has been nominated twice for a Grammy award because of their world-class performances and their contributions to the recording industry. The group has also collaborated with Irish, blues, classical, jazz, country and western, and rock artists, helping expand the reach and understanding of Mexican music.

In 2014, with the objective of giving back to the community, Sones de Mexico Ensemble opened a Mexican Music School with an impressive Spanish language curriculum for children and adults that has now expanded to serve over 150 sites all over Chicagoland.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have such talented artists in my district, and I cannot wait to hear and see where they go next.

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PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION IN THE MILITARY

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

Ms. JACOBS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind this body of the incredible damage inflicted by the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy.

For 17 years, it was the official Federal policy to discriminate against LGBTQ+ servicemembers and prevent them from living authentically or risk being discharged.

This policy wasn't only hateful and isolating, it weakened our military and failed to live up to our values.

Today marks 13 years since we repealed this hateful policy, and we won't go back. We won't go back to Don't Ask, Don't Tell or the possibility of a trans service ban with the stroke of a pen or a tweet.

Countless queer people serve our country bravely, they serve our country proudly, they serve our country honorably, and they should serve our country authentically, too.

That is why we need to pass my Ensuring Military Readiness Not Dis-

crimination Act to prohibit discrimination in the military and protect trans servicemembers.

Our servicemembers sacrifice so much for us. They shouldn't have to sacrifice who they are.

HONORING DR. HUGH AUCHINCLOSS

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

Mr. RASKIN. Mr. Speaker, today I am rising to thank and congratulate Dr. Hugh Auchincloss who is retiring this month as the longtime principal deputy director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, NIAID, at NIH, and its former acting director.

Among other extraordinary accomplishments, Dr. Auchincloss' leadership at NIAID put U.S. scientists and researchers in a position to develop the COVID-19 vaccine, the fastest vaccine program in world history, a stunning and successful response to this staggering centennial emergency.

For decades, Dr. Auchincloss has served his patients and our Nation with a ferocious work ethic, unshakable integrity, and disarming humility and humor.

It is no exaggeration but rather a plain statement of fact to say that all of humanity has benefited from Dr. Auchincloss' devotion to the public's health, and I am very proud to be his Congressman.

I am wishing him, his wife, Dr. Mary McCain, and his children, Kalah, Hugh, and my always inspiring colleague, Congressman JAKE AUCHINCLOSS, the very best during this next chapter of his career and his life.

TRADE ADJUSTMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

(Ms. DELAURO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. DELAURO. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Trade Adjustment Assistance program, or TAA, which provides a lifeline to workers who have lost their jobs due to outsourcing or other trade-related business decisions.

TAA provides up to 2 years of robust job training benefits, and according to the U.S. Census, recipients increase their earnings by an average of over \$50,000 over a 10-year period.

This is not just an economically sound thing to do, it is the right thing to do. We cannot realize the full benefits of trade if we are leaving our friends and our neighbors behind.

In my home State of Connecticut alone, over a thousand people have been helped by this program to find new jobs and to improve their skills, according to the Department of Labor.

Unfortunately, the program expired 2 years ago, and Congress has failed to