

Mr. Speaker, the status quo is simply unacceptable. I urge my colleagues to support statehood for Puerto Rico.

HONORING THE LIFE OF REBY CARY

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

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a Black icon in the Fort Worth community, Reby Cary.

Reby lived a monumental life, and as the former Fort Worth Star-Telegram columnist Bobby Ray Sanders expressed: "He was an activist from the heart, and he was not afraid."

He was among the first African Americans to graduate from the U.S. Coast Guard radioman school in New Jersey and the first African American to be elected to the Fort Worth Independent School District. He shared many of the successes of Black pioneers in the community, many of whom didn't receive the accolades they deserved in what was then a segregated society.

After serving multiple tours in World War II, Mr. Cary came back to Tarrant County, where he started teaching history at Dunbar High School when it was a new high school.

He later became the first Black instructor at Tarrant County Junior College. He went on to serve three terms in the Texas House of Representatives, continuing to serve his Carver Heights community and all of Fort Worth.

Mr. Cary was a proud member of The New Rising Star Missionary Baptist Church in Fort Worth. He credited God for the many blessings that came his way and his mother for keeping him on what he called "the straight and narrow."

He wanted to tell Black Fort Worth's story, and he wanted to ensure that the history of the African American community was documented and remembered for generations to come. He became a Black historian and authored 20 books about the history of African Americans in north Texas.

My condolences go out to his family and friends. His presence will be missed but never forgotten.

I also want to let all of his friends know in Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, his church, and all of the organizations that he volunteered for in Fort Worth just how important that legacy was for him.

RECOGNIZING MELVIN PHILLIPS

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

Ms. TENNEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize my dear friend Melvin Phillips, a full-blooded Oneida Indian, who is facing eviction from his ancestral land by the illegitimate CEO of the Oneida Indian Nation, Ray Halbritter.

Mr. Phillips currently resides on ancestral land in Vernon, New York, which his family has possessed for centuries, long prior to the last treaty signed by the State of New York in 1842, of which all of his ancestors signed all of the treaties with the State and were codified into State law thereafter.

Melvin Phillips is an 82-year-old leader of the Orchard Party Band of Oneidas. Virtually all the elected officials in my region, including the Governor of New York, my 2018 opponent, and all of my predecessors who held this seat, overtly or tacitly, wrongly support the eviction of this genuine Native American and his family from their ancestral lands, in spite of all the laws in place to protect Mr. Phillips.

I have represented Mr. Phillips and his family pro bono because of his amazing story. He is the epitome of the American hero, albeit the Native American hero.

Mr. Phillips refuses to compromise his integrity. He is a fighter for the truth. He will not cash in to this corrupt casino leader or anyone else to protect his land or his culture.

Regardless of any official position I hold, I will not stop fighting for Mr. Phillips and his family no matter how many millions are spent to defeat me at the ballot box by Mr. Halbritter and his skills or how difficult the odds may be for this great American.

For more information, please go to www.melvinphillipsstory.com.

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HONORING THE LIFE OF CAPTAIN STEPHEN GRACE

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

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Captain Stephen Grace, a young, beloved father, husband, son, brother, and U.S. airman who died unexpectedly before his time.

Stephen grew up in my hometown of Cincinnati. From an early age, he dreamed of being an Air Force pilot. He had a competitive spirit, a calling to service, and a love for life. It all came too easily for Stephen.

He excelled in the swimming pool, a gifted swimmer who emphasized self-improvement and self-accountability. He helped lead my alma mater, St. Xavier High School, to the high school State swimming titles.

St. Xavier has a motto: "Be Men for Others." Stephen lived that motto in his time with us, and it was no surprise to those who knew him when he was accepted and attended the U.S. Air Force Academy in Colorado.

He went on to pilot the F-16 and recently became an F-35 instructor, a remarkable feat that stands as a testament to his leadership and his ability.

Stephen Grace represented everything you want an American to be:

hardworking and selfless. Stephen was well-loved and looked up to. He lived his dream. He served his country. He embodied a higher ideal, one of service above self.

While he is gone far too soon, few can claim the extraordinary legacy he leaves behind for all of us. We pray for the family of Captain Stephen Grace; for his daughter, Georgia; his wife, Kelsey; for his parents, Robert and Christina; and for his sisters, Shannon and Kathleen.

Stephen, a grateful Nation salutes you.

CONGRATULATING EDUCATOR JENNIFER ALBERT

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

Mr. RUTHERFORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Jennifer Albert from Fernandina Beach, Florida, for winning the Milken Educator Award.

This award recognizes innovative teachers, principals, and education specialists around the country who have made exceptional contributions to their profession.

Ms. Albert teaches science and math to fifth graders at Emma Love Hardee Elementary School in Nassau County, and was the only teacher in the State of Florida chosen for this prestigious award.

Our educators are tasked with the awesome responsibility of teaching the next generation of Americans, and Ms. Albert has inspired all of us with her creativity and commitment to student achievement.

Her use of small groups, project-based learning, and games even, has elevated her class to 81 percent proficiency in science, and 79 percent proficiency in math. These are impressive numbers to speak to the success of her positive and innovative techniques.

On behalf of the Fourth District of Florida and the students and parents of Emma Love Hardee Elementary School, I want to thank Ms. Albert for her lifelong dedication to excellence in the classroom, and congratulations on receiving the recognition she so well deserves.

RONALD V. DELLUMS MEMORIAL FELLOWSHIP

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

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight my new bill, the Ronald V. Dellums Memorial Fellowship for Women of Color in STEAM and National Security Act.

I am thrilled to introduce this forward-looking bill which will create a pipeline for women of color working in the STEAM fields through new national security fellowships.

This bill is named after a great statesman and former chair of the