

TRIBUTE TO GLORIA McJILTON

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Gloria McJilton, recipient of the 2008 Dundalk Optimist Club Citizen of the Year Award, the community's highest honor.

Gloria grew up in Dundalk, and has been active in the community ever since high school. Her husband, Richard McJilton, was honored with the same award in 1984 by the original Dundalk Chamber of Commerce. Gloria and Richard work together at a Nationwide Insurance office in Dundalk, and support each other in their various community endeavors.

Playing an integral role in a web of community organizations has let Gloria touch the lives of many in her community. She is currently the president of the Women's Club of Dundalk, which she feels is the most rewarding community work she does. Her work through the Women's Club has a direct impact on the community, through awarding scholarships and supporting local organizations.

In addition to her local community activities, Gloria has been involved in county and state activities as well. Baltimore County Councilman John Olszewski, Sr., appointed Gloria to serve on the Baltimore County Landmarks Preservation Commission. She was chosen by Governors Parris Glendening and Robert Ehrlich to serve on the Maryland Judicial Nominating Commission, on which she sat for 12 years.

Gloria is a founding member and treasurer of the Greater Dundalk Alliance. She also served as elected chairperson on the Baltimore County Commission of Arts and Sciences, and has been a member of the Dundalk Concert Association for 32 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Gloria McJilton on being named the 2008 Dundalk Optimist Club Citizen of the Year. Her legacy as an active resident of Dundalk will be forever remembered through the impact her work has had on her community. It is with great pride that I congratulate Gloria McJilton on her exemplary service to the Dundalk community.

HONORING THE CHARITABLE SERVICE OF LILIAM MACHADO AND HER WORK WITH THE AMERICAN CANCER SOCIETY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor one of south Florida's great citizens, Liliam Machado. Liliam was born in Matanzas, Cuba, and came to this country at age 18, while fleeing Fidel Castro's communist regime. Since then, she, as well as her husband Gus Machado, have become tremendous civic leaders and examples for all south Floridians. Liliam has shown extraordinary

dedication to her work with the American Cancer Society during her two decades of involvement with the organization. She has been on the executive board of the Society's Miami-Dade unit for the past 6 years and is currently its President.

She has helped organize many charitable events in our community for the American Cancer Society and her proudest achievement was to bring the Relay for Life to the city of Miami. In doing so, she helped create the first cancer relay specifically targeted at the Hispanic community. Her efforts helped raise awareness and aided in the successful prevention and early detection of cancer within the Hispanic community in south Florida.

Liliam's life has been one devoted to helping others and the passion she has brought to her work has enriched our community. I am proud to call her a friend and I am honored to share with you all her achievements.

HONORING CAPTAIN CURTIS FITZGERALD

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I rise to recognize Captain Curtis Fitzgerald for his distinguished military service and service to Texas veterans.

In 1969, Captain Fitzgerald began what has become a life-long service to his nation. Just thirty days after completing flight school, Captain Fitzgerald went to Vietnam with the 189th Assault Helicopter Company to fly Huey Helicopters. Captain Fitzgerald fought in major battles such as the Battle of Hamburger Hill, where he flew multiple re-supply missions and was shot down for the first time, but certainly not the last time.

During the Siege of Ben Het, Captain Fitzgerald's aircraft received 103 bullet holes during another re-supply mission. Despite the damage, he managed to complete the mission without a single casualty. In the 1600 hours he flew during combat, Captain Fitzgerald was shot down a total of six times.

In addition to serving as a Flight Leader, Captain Fitzgerald served as the Air Mission Commander for the initial invasion of Cambodia. It was during the on-going Long-Range Reconnaissance Patrols into Cambodia and Laos that Captain Fitzgerald was shot down again, this time while helping to identify enemy positions. He managed to not only identify their position, but return the damaged aircraft back to safety.

Captain Fitzgerald went above and beyond his call to duty when he volunteered to extend his deployment for six more months to ensure the incoming units had adequate experience. Considering all this, it is no wonder Captain Fitzgerald received a Silver Star medal, three Distinguished Flying Cross medals, three Bronze Star medals, nineteen Air medals, and one Purple Heart for his tour in Vietnam.

After completing his degree at the University of Houston, Captain Fitzgerald returned to Palestine, but his dedication to the military did not end. He has continued to work closely with the

Veterans Administration, various Veterans Service Organizations, and has worked extensively with Palestine-area Post Traumatic Stress Disorder support groups. Fellow men and women in uniform tout Captain Fitzgerald's dedication to ensuring that those returning from war receive assistance.

In addition to his service-related activities, Captain Fitzgerald started a real estate firm specializing in farm and ranch sales, served on the Parks and Recreation Board, the YMCA Board, and founded the Anderson County Soccer Association.

He is a husband to his wife of twenty-eight years, Karen, and a grandfather to two grandsons.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the Fifth District of Texas, I am humbled and privileged to recognize Captain Curtis Fitzgerald. As Calvin Coolidge once said, "The nation which forgets its defenders will itself be forgotten." I for one am committed to ensuring this nation never forgets.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. ROSS. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, May 14, 2008. I was not present for the rollcall vote 320.

Had I been present for rollcall 320, the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 4040, the Consumer Product Safety Commission Reform Act, I would have voted "yea."

HONORING CARMELAU MONESTIME

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Carmelau Monestime and the 30th anniversary of the founding of the first created Haitian radio program in Creole language. The radio program, Express Publicite, has been led for three decades by the founder Mr. Monestime, who is the first radio personality of Haitian descent in South Florida. Mr. Monestime can be considered a communicator by nature.

Born in Gonaives, Haiti Mr. Monestime, began his education at the Institut Brothers of the Christian Instruction. He continued his studies at the Lycee Fabres Geffrard College of the City. In 1957, he earned the position as head of the files section of the Department of Agriculture, in Haiti's natural resources and rural department. In 1964, he immigrated to New York and relocated to Miami, Florida in 1978.

Upon his arrival in Miami, Mr. Monestime immediately became dedicated to the Haitian-American community, and soon after opened Panoram Express Driving School, a Haitian driving school. In 1997, he joined co-founders Ferdinand Forte and Pierre Mendez to create Express Publicite.