Staff Sergeant E-Quantay Mason of the 60th Air Mobility Wing for receiving the Distinguished Flying Cross and extend my sincere gratitude for his sacrifice and contributions to the defense of this great country.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF CARL CANNON

HON. DARIN LaHOOD

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Mr. LAHOOD. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Carl Cannon for his two decades of public service with the Peoria Park District and his continued efforts with ELITE Community Outreach. Carl founded ELITE Community Outreach in 2005 with the goal of keeping local kids out of the criminal justice system. Since that time, ELITE Community Outreach has mentored more than 1,600 children and expanded services including elementary, job training, and mentoring programs.

Carl is known throughout central Illinois as one of Peoria's tremendous mentors and educators. Under his leadership, ELITE programs have resulted in a 63 percent reduction in disciplinary referrals and a 67 percent improvement in GPA among students in the ELITE program. The Re-entry program is responsible for providing job skills to more than 120+ previously incarcerated individuals.

I am grateful for Carl's dedication to the Peoria community and his tireless efforts towards improving the lives of students and children across the city. The lessons taught by Carl will continue to spread hope, empowerment, and positivity in the Peoria community. I appreciate our friendship and, I wish Carl continued success in all his future endeavors.

HONORING CLARICE COOPER

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a descendant of Bahamians, to recognize Clarice Cooper for her contribution to the City of Miami's designation of the Little Bahamas of Coconut Grove on July 19, 2022.

Since the 19th century, Bahamians played an integral role in the founding of the City of Miami, representing one-third of the registered signatories on the July 28, 1896, date of the city's incorporation. Much like Miami's original Bahamian signatories, Clarice Cooper's commitment to preserving the rich Bahamian culture and history of Miami has helped to ensure the designation of the Little Bahamas of Coconut Grove.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Clarice Cooper for her contributions to the community and her role in the historic designation of the Little Bahamas of Coconut Grove.

RECOGNIZING DIANA MEREDITH FOR HER SERVICE TO THE HOUSE BUDGET COMMITTEE

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Diana Meredith, staff director of the House Budget Committee. Diana is retiring after more than 25 years of dedicated service to Congress and the Executive branch, including 20 years on the House Budget Committee.

A native of Washington state, Diana worked as a newspaper reporter in Seattle and the Napa Valley for several years. In 1997, she came to Washington, D.C. to work for the Senate Budget Committee, led at the time by U.S. Senator Edmund Muskie of Maine. In 1998, Diana moved to the White House Office of Management and Budget (0MB) to serve as a program examiner for Social Security and fiscal issues, analyzing Social Security reform proposals and negotiating and resolving policy disagreements among agencies and White House offices.

After five years at 0MB, Diana joined the Democratic Staff of the House Budget Committee in 2003, under Rep. John Spratt, Jr. of South Carolina. Diana went on to serve as a budget analyst on the House Budget Committee for 14 years. She advised House leadership and committees on budget-related matters—developing recommendations, messaging guidance, and overall strategy for key Congressional legislative deliberations. Diana played a particularly important role in the development and passage of the historic Affordable Care Act (ACA) and in pushing back against harmful proposals to restructure Medicare and other crucial social programs.

In 2017, Diana became Deputy Staff Director of the House Budget Committee, where she assisted in the negotiation and passage of a number of highly consequential pieces of legislation. Her legacy includes the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2019, which ended the threat of annual discretionary sequesters from the Budget Control Act, the 2021 concurrent budget resolution that paved the way for the American Rescue Plan, and the historic American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, which helped our nation rapidly recover from the COVID pandemic, with record-breaking job creation and broad-based economic growth.

Diana became Budget Staff Director in 2021, an enormously consequential year for President Biden, Congressional Democrats, and the American people. Diana led the Committee in enacting the framework for what would become the Inflation Reduction Act—landmark reconciliation legislation that has lowered the cost of prescription drugs for millions of seniors, expanded health insurance subsidies to help families access affordable, high-quality care, and provided the largest investment in U.S. history to combat climate.

Diana is a deeply caring public servant. She is uniquely adept at navigating complex budgetary issues and negotiations, while never losing sight of the reason we do this work: to help the American people. And Diana never missed an opportunity to reflect on and celebrate her staff's victories, big or small. The Budget Committee and our entire country has benefited from Diana's expertise, her extensive knowledge of the budget process, her mentorship of staff, and her unwavering dedication to America's working families.

I want to thank Diana for her advice, dedication, and leadership. I wish her all the best in her much deserved retirement.

RECOGNIZING LAPEER COUNTY SEARCH AND RESCUE

HON. LISA C. McCLAIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Mrs. MCCLAIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lapeer County Search and Rescue, a team of dedicated and extensively trained volunteers.

Lapeer County Search and Rescue, known as LCSAR is a non-profit sub-division of the Lapeer County Sheriff's Department. The group of dedicated and highly skilled volunteers train and plan year-round to execute searches to locate lost or missing persons, both in urban and wilderness environments. The division uses a wide variety of technical skills to meet the needs of each unique and time critical scenario. The team has expertise in ground searchers, mounted resources, trackers, ATV's, radio communications, and certified K9 teams.

This team of selfless volunteers is a beacon of community strength. They give families hope in the toughest times, and answers when they are needed most. I commend the Lapeer County Search and Rescue Team for their heroism and constant preparation to keep our community safe.

HONORING DJAINA DERVIL

HON. FREDERICA S. WILSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 12, 2022

Ms. WILSON of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Djaina Dervil on her accomplishments and to congratulate her on receiving the United States Department of State Gilman Scholarship.

Djaina "Nina" Dervil is a rising senior at Florida State University pursuing a major in Behavioral Neuroscience and a minor in Chemistry. She was born and raised North Miami Beach, where she still calls home.

Her Gilman Scholarship enabled her to develop her grant-writing abilities and expand her STEM exploration. She worked with Seed Science on grant writing in the areas of environmental awareness and STEM education. Using the Gilman Scholarship, Djaina travelled and conducted research within the United States. She credits the Gilman Scholarship with contributing to her drive to conduct further research and to continue in academia.

She wants to acknowledge her mother, Sonnie Noel Dervil, and her father, Jules Dervil, for their sacrifices and efforts to fuel her education. She also wants to thank her brothers, Jodson Noel and Nikson Noel, for their support, assistance, and guidance. It's because of her family and support system that she was able to excel and secure this scholarship.