

the Travis and Vacaville Unified School Districts. Canine Officer Murph is a favorite among the students and these visits have allowed him to connect with hundreds of children.

On Wednesday, January 15, 2025, Canine Officer Murph assisted the Vacaville Police Department with the service of a high-risk arrest warrant. During this operation, the suspect, a suicidal individual who had attempted on many occasions to harm uninvolved members of the public, was confronted in front of his residence. The suspect was armed with a rifle, and Canine Officer Murph was deployed in a heroic effort to resolve the engagement without using lethal force.

Tragically, the suspect fired upon Canine Officer Murph and struck him in his left paw, causing a serious injury that ultimately resulted in the amputation of his leg. Despite his injury, Canine Officer Murph was able to successfully detain the suspect and prevent further harm to the public. During this incident, Canine Officer Murph displayed exemplary bravery and demonstrated the importance of his specialized training. Canine Officer Murph is currently recovering at home under the care of his partner Officer Hudson. On the day of his return home, K-9 teams across the region lined the streets to honor his service.

Mr. Speaker, Canine Officer Murph has displayed courage and valor in all aspects of his work. His selfless dedication and unfaltering bravery exemplify the highest levels of public service. Canine Officer Murph is truly deserving of this honor, and we wish him a speedy recovery and many dog treats in his future.

HONORING RUFUS “BUD” MYERS.
JR.

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2025

Mr. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rufus Myers, Jr., a cherished Indianapolis native whose legacy as a dedicated public servant continues to resonate throughout our community. His life's work embodied the values of service, justice, and equity—values that will endure for generations to come.

Bud's unwavering commitment to housing equity, social justice, and community advocacy transformed Indianapolis, leaving a lasting imprint on our city. As the Executive Director of the Indianapolis Housing Agency (IHA) from 2001 until his passing, he led efforts to provide affordable housing to thousands of families. Under his stewardship, IHA managed 13 public housing communities and administered nearly 7,400 Housing Choice Vouchers. His tireless dedication ensured that vulnerable families in Indianapolis had access to a place they could call home, setting a gold standard for public service.

His influence extended far beyond his work with IHA. His impactful role at the Chicago Housing Authority, where he played a pivotal part in advancing the Quality Housing and Work Responsibility Act of 1998, brought about nationwide improvements in tenant opportunities. His legacy also includes over three decades of service in the U.S. Congress, where he served as Chief of Staff to my mentor, Andy Jacobs, and other representatives

like Barbara Jordan, and Mickey Leland. Through these roles, Bud contributed to shaping policies that impacted our city and the Nation.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Bud was deeply embedded in the fabric of our local community. He served on the boards of Keep Indianapolis Beautiful and the Indianapolis Housing Trust Fund and was actively involved with organizations like 100 Black Men of Indianapolis and the Indianapolis Concerned Clergy. His leadership uplifted countless individuals and organizations, ensuring that the spirit of service and compassion remained at the heart of our community.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the extraordinary life and legacy of Rufus “Bud” Myers, Jr. His commitment to social justice, public service, and the well-being of others will continue to inspire us all.

RECOGNIZING BRIAN DILLON

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2025

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the exceptional dedication and hard work of one of my outstanding constituents, Brian Dillon.

Brian has recently completed an internship in the Office of the Clerk for the House of Representatives, where he has been an invaluable asset, assisting with a wide range of matters that have come before him. This opportunity came after Brian made the remarkable decision to graduate from high school early, demonstrating not only his drive but his commitment to public service. With a deep sense of purpose, he traveled all the way from Florida to Washington, D.C., to contribute to the work of our government and lend a helping hand to the people of Florida and the United States.

Throughout his time here, Brian has played a role in supporting the office with various tasks, including assisting staff with vacant offices, processing administrative paperwork, and assisting with other legislative duties. His dedication and tireless work ethic have not gone unnoticed, and he has made an impact during his time with the House.

As Brian's internship draws to a close, he plans to return to Florida, where he will embark on a new chapter of his career as an electrician apprentice. I have no doubt that his future is bright, and I wish him the very best of luck as he takes this important step toward a successful career.

It is young individuals like Brian who inspire all of us with their initiative, hard work, and commitment to their communities. I am proud to have him represent the great state of Florida, and I look forward to seeing the great things he will undoubtedly achieve in the years to come.

HONORING OFC. ELIJAH K. SHABAZZ AS A DISTINGUISHED LEADER IN CENTRAL FLORIDA FOR BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. DARREN SOTO

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2025

Mr. SOTO. Mr. Speaker, Ofc. Elijah K. Shabazz was born in Albany, Georgia, and his mother and father are from Valdosta, Georgia. Ofc. Shabazz has two brothers and one sister. He is the youngest of his siblings. His family moved to Orlando in the early 70s when he was very young. However, he spent a lot of his childhood in Georgia with his great-grandmother and great-aunts and uncles, which were some of his fondest memories in his formative years.

Ofc. Shabazz's mother was a physical therapist for the Orange County School Board working with special needs children, and his father worked in Central Florida for the Tri-County Transit Authority, which is now Lynx Transport.

Ofc. Shabazz has always had a special place in his heart to serve. When he was young, he was in the Boy Scouts of America, learning values and discipline to become productive in the community. He was also in the ARMY JROTC while in high school. Ofc. Shabazz would spend time with his mother in the historic town of Eatonville, Florida, volunteering at festivals and community events.

As time went on, after getting married and having children of his own, he decided to pursue his dreams of going into law enforcement. Ofc. Shabazz attended the Seminole State College School for Public Safety, where he earned his Florida Law Enforcement Certification. Ofc. Shabazz obtained his degree in the Science of Criminal Justice Administration from Columbia College and became a police officer in Eatonville, Florida, where he served for eight years. While there, he also became a school resource officer at Hungerford Elementary School and resurrected the school safety patrol to give students a sense of meaning, purpose, and integrity, as well as assisting families living in poverty in the community.

Ofc. Shabazz also received a letter of commendation before joining the Belle Isle Police Department. Besides conducting his duties as an officer, he assists in new officer field training and as the police department's mental health liaison and senior citizen public relations officer. Ofc. Shabazz received a life-saving award and a Distinguished Officer of the Year award for 2024 from the Belle Isle Police Department. Ofc. Shabazz continues to serve with pride and self-agency.

HONORING SERGEANT ERIK OLSON

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 21, 2025

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Erik Olson of the Napa County Sheriff's Office. I have named Sergeant Olson as the California 4th District's Public Safety Hero of the Year for