

leadership has also guided the development of the Lenora Rolla Heritage Center Museum, fulfilling a long-held vision to create a permanent home dedicated to Fort Worth's Black history and culture.

Ms. Sanders-Wise's tenure has been marked by passion, integrity, and an unwavering commitment to historical truth. Through her guidance, the Society has remained a vital institution, strengthening community pride and honoring the legacy of pioneers such as the late Honorable Frank Moss, whose vision continues to inspire this important work.

As the Tarrant County Black Historical and Genealogical Society gathers under the theme "A Legacy of Love—A Garden of Gratitude" to celebrate her retirement, it is fitting that we pause to reflect on the profound impact of Ms. Sanders-Wise's labor of love. Her leadership has not only enriched our understanding of the past but has also laid a strong foundation for future generations to learn, grow, and lead.

Today, we commend Ms. Brenda Sanders-Wise for her years of faithful service and extend our deepest gratitude for her enduring contributions to history, culture, and community. We wish her a joyful and fulfilling retirement, and we celebrate a legacy that will continue to bloom for generations to come.

RECOGNIZING ANDREW HEINEMAN  
AND HIS SERVICE TO THE  
UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2026*

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and thank Andrew Heineman for nearly seven years of outstanding service to the constituents of New York's 12th Congressional District and to the United States House of Representatives.

A native of California, Andrew attended California State University, Northridge, where he graduated cum laude with a degree in Political Science and International Relations. His early political work included opposing Proposition 8 in California and later serving as an organizer on the Obama for President campaign, where he was known for knocking on even the most difficult doors.

Andrew later moved to Washington, D.C., where he began his congressional career in the office of Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI. There, he worked his way from Staff Assistant to Legislative Correspondent to Legislative Assistant.

In 2019, I was fortunate to have Andrew join my Washington, D.C. office, working primarily on Transportation and Infrastructure issues, before becoming my Legislative Director in 2022. In this role, he oversaw my entire Legislative agenda, prepared bills, amendments, and statements, and provided thousands of vote recommendations.

As a key member of my senior staff, Andrew has been at the center of my legislative work. He was instrumental in helping pass my landmark legislation, the Respect for Marriage Act, which enshrined marriage equality into law. Andrew worked tirelessly to ensure its passage in both the House and the Senate, and it was a privilege to celebrate with him at the White House for the bill's signing into law.

He was also central to the passage of the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act, skillfully negotiating with stakeholders in Washington while simultaneously participating in a meeting with New York elected officials—demonstrating his knowledge and strong political acumen.

As the head of the legislative team, he has served as a mentor for countless Legislative Staffers.

Andrew has been a leader on transportation issues in my office, staffing me on the Committee and advancing critical infrastructure priorities such as the Cross Harbor Rail Project and the Gateway Tunnel, helping ensure that New York City remains the public transit capital of the world. He led our efforts to establish congestion pricing in Manhattan and fend off attacks by President Trump and Secretary Duffy.

During his tenure, Andrew held hundreds of meetings with stakeholder groups from across the district, serving as a trusted representative of my office. He consistently brought deep knowledge and a strong understanding of complex issues to every engagement.

He also led numerous New York Delegation letters and served as a valued resource for staff across the House. His extensive network of colleagues and friends on Capitol Hill is a testament to the respect he has earned throughout the institution.

Outside of his official duties, Andrew has remained deeply involved with the California State University, Northridge Semester in Washington Program, where he teaches and mentors students pursuing careers in public service. His commitment to these students reflects dedication to helping others.

I am glad that Andrew is remaining on the Hill and I am sure that I will see him around Rayburn. I look forward to seeing where his career will take him and thank him for his excellent service.

RECOGNIZING AARIV ARORA

**HON. BRITTANY PETTERSEN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2026*

Ms. PETTERSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Aariv Arora of Broomfield, Colorado, for earning the Rookie of the Year Award in the 2025 Congressional App Challenge.

Aariv built an interactive app called WayBuddy, a community safety app that allows students to report roadway hazards for fellow pedestrians and bicyclists on a shared map. This accomplishment is an example of Aariv's determination, hard work, and impressive knowledge base in the STEM field.

I congratulate Aariv Arora for his success in the Congressional App Challenge. I am certain he will continue to show the same dedication and strength of character in all his future endeavors. I am excited to see all he will accomplish.

HONORING THE LIFE OF FRANK O.  
GEHRY

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2026*

Mr. LIEU. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the remarkable life and legacy of the renowned architect Frank O. Gehry. He passed away on December 5, 2025, after a brief battle with a respiratory illness. Mr. Gehry was not only one of the most influential architects of our time, but also a visionary whose work reshaped skylines and inspired generations.

Frank Owen Goldberg was born in Toronto in 1929 and later emigrated with his family to the United States, settling in Los Angeles, where he was raised. Working as a delivery driver while he studied at Los Angeles City College. Frank was inspired by his love of museums and art to study architecture. He later graduated from the University of Southern California's School of Architecture in 1954. Around that time, fearing the negative impact of antisemitism on his architectural career, Frank was persuaded to change his last name to "Gehry." He moved with his family as he began his studies at Harvard University's Graduate School of Design but left the program before completion and returned to Los Angeles where his career in architecture began.

First working for Victor Gruen, the renowned Austrian American architect, and later the French architect, Andre Remonde, Frank quickly built his own unique design styles, and he returned to California. In 1967, he founded Frank Gehry and Associates in Los Angeles. His earliest designs included Santa Monica Place, the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, the California Aerospace Museum, the California Museum of Science and Industry, and the Norton House in Venice, California. His designs combined imagination with civic purpose, producing buildings that were as much works of art as they were places for community life.

Mr. Gehry's daring and modern approach would later culminate in globally celebrated landmarks such as the Guggenheim Museum Bilbao and the Walt Disney Concert Hall, cementing his reputation as one of the most influential architects of the modern era. Even in the later years of his life, he continued to devote his talents to projects in creative arts and fashion, including stores for Louis Vuitton and Bernard Arnault in Beverly Hills, California, and implementing the final touches on a 1,000-seat concert hall for the Colburn School of Music, right across the Walt Disney Concert Hall.

Through these achievements, he inspired residents, policymakers, and artists alike to see architecture as a force for imagination and renewal. His ability to blend bold vision with functionality was extraordinary, and his legacy will endure in the skylines and communities he transformed. Mr. Gehry received numerous honors, including the Pritzker Architecture Prize (1989), the National Medal of Arts, and the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

In addition to these iconic works, Mr. Gehry dedicated significant time to pro bono projects and public service. He was the founder of Turnaround Arts: California, a nonprofit organization that expands access to the arts in under-resourced public elementary and middle

schools across California. In 2014, he began work with the LA River Revitalization Corporation to develop the Los Angeles River Master Plan, a groundbreaking restoration of the Los Angeles River to create green space for the communities and wildlife that thrive along its path.

In 2015, Frank designed the Children's Institute in Watts, waiving his design fee to support families who had experienced violence and poverty. He also designed the Youth Orchestra Los Angeles (YOLA) center, completed in 2021, which provides free instruments, music training, and academic support to students from disadvantaged neighborhoods. These projects exemplify his belief that architecture could serve not only as art, but as a force for equity and opportunity.

In his passing, Mr. Gehry is survived by his wife, Berta, and three children. I am thankful for the cultural contributions he made in Los Angeles County and his global design landscape that has centered architectural design to serve people. May his memory be a blessing to all who knew him.

RECOGNIZING COLONEL DAVID  
"MOON" HALASI-KUN

**HON. RICHARD E. NEAL**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2026*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished service and extraordinary career of Colonel David L. "Moon" Halasi-Kun, who has honorably served our Nation for more than twenty-five years and most recently as the Wing Commander of the 104th Fighter Wing at Barnes Air National Guard Base in Westfield, Massachusetts.

Colonel Halasi-Kun's career is a testament to dedication, leadership, and excellence in service. Commissioned from the United States Air Force Academy in 1998, he went on to graduate from the Euro-NATO Joint Jet Pilot Training program in 2000. Over the course of his career, he has accumulated more than 3,150 flight hours in the F-15 Eagle and other aircraft, and has participated in combat and support missions in Operations SOUTHERN WATCH, ENDURING FREEDOM, and ATLANTIC RESOLVE.

After a decade of active duty, Colonel Halasi-Kun joined the Massachusetts Air National Guard in 2008, where he has served with distinction for the past fifteen years. Rising through the ranks, he has held numerous leadership positions, including Vice Commander of the 104th Fighter Wing, before assuming command in 2022. In this role, he was responsible for ensuring that more than 1,000 military and civilian personnel were mission-ready to defend our homeland and support expeditionary deployments around the globe. Most notably, Colonel Halasi-Kun has upheld the stellar reputation that has become associated with Barnes, positioning the base to be selected as the preferred location to host a new fleet of F-35A aircraft. This decision solidified Barnes' place in the western Massachusetts community for decades to come.

Colonel Halasi-Kun's service has been recognized with some of the military's highest honors, including the Legion of Merit, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Air Medal, and the

Aerial Achievement Medal. His professional achievements are matched by his academic accomplishments, having earned advanced degrees in Military Operational Art and Science as well as National Resource Strategy.

On September 30, 2025, Colonel Halasi-Kun completed his final flight in the F-15C Eagle, marking both the end of his own flying career and the conclusion of the F-15 mission at Barnes Air National Guard Base. In a fitting tribute, he led a four-ship formation on a two-hour mission over the Atlantic, a "Lunar Flight" named in honor of his call sign, "Moon." Upon his return, he was greeted by family, friends, and fellow airmen who celebrated his remarkable career and enduring legacy.

Mr. Speaker, Colonel Halasi-Kun embodies the very best of our armed forces: courage, professionalism, and an unwavering commitment to duty. His leadership has left an indelible mark on the 104th Fighter Wing, and his service has brought great pride to the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and to our Nation.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Colonel David "Moon" Halasi-Kun for his decades of service and sacrifice. We extend our deepest gratitude to him, his wife Gretchen, and his son Luke for their steadfast support throughout his career. His legacy will continue to inspire future generations of airmen as the 104th transitions to its next chapter with the arrival of the F-35s.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY  
OF DEACON ANDREW WASHINGTON

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, January 8, 2026*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my dear friend, brother in Christ, and fellow servant of the community, Deacon Andrew Washington, who departed this life on November 14, 2025. Andrew was a man whose presence, spirit, and service touched countless individuals across Chicago's West Side and far beyond.

Born on February 12, 1942, in Dublin, Mississippi, Andrew was raised in a family guided by faith, wisdom, and resilience. After the untimely passing of his mother, Ruthie Lee Washington, his father, Reverend Bernard Washington, remarried, and through perseverance and hope the family made their way to Chicago in 1955. That journey—rooted in survival and aspiration—shaped the character of a man who would come to embody strength, compassion, and unwavering commitment to others.

In Chicago, Andrew attended Crane High School before becoming a certified electrician through Coyne Electrical School. A multi-talented man, he studied music, beauty, welding, and much more, mastering skills that allowed him to support his family, build small businesses, and establish himself as someone who could fix, create, inspire, and lead.

Andrew accepted Christ at an early age and served faithfully as a deacon at Ruth Memorial M.B.C. and later at New Galilee Missionary Baptist Church. I had the privilege of serving alongside him, and I know firsthand that he

took his calling seriously—offering care, counsel, and comfort to God's people.

Mr. Speaker, Andrew Washington was known for many things—his impeccable dress, his sharp wit, his strong opinions, and his ability to make something out of nothing—but what stood out above all was his deep and unwavering commitment to helping others. And I want to highlight two stories that reflect the true measure of this remarkable man.

First, Andrew would not let a week pass without calling me—not for himself, but on behalf of someone else. He would say, "Danny, I've got somebody I need you to help." Never once did he call to ask for anything for himself. In all the years I knew him, he never sought favor for his own benefit. His thoughts were always on the needs of others—young people, families in crisis, neighbors struggling with illness, joblessness, or hardship. I can personally attest that he helped hundreds of people, and he did so with a quiet humility that never sought recognition.

Second, I recall vividly the time of President Barack Obama's first inauguration. Tickets were scarce—scarcer, I admit, than even a Member of Congress might like. Yet Andrew—resourceful as ever—managed to get tickets and drove his well-known pickup truck all the way from Chicago to Washington, D.C. At the very last minute, he called me: "Danny, I need a room. I've got my granddaughter with me—and some family and friends. We need a place to stay."

I thought it would be impossible to find accommodations so close to the inauguration date. But somehow, through God's grace and a bit of determination, we found a room big enough for them all. Andrew's joy in that moment reflected the pride so many of us felt witnessing history. And in true Andrew fashion, the trip wasn't about himself—it was about creating memories for his loved ones.

Mr. Speaker, Andrew Washington was a man of faith, family, community, and conviction. He raised children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren who loved him dearly. He worked hard his entire life, retiring from Ryerson Steel after decades of service. He built businesses, guided neighbors, supported churches, and anchored his community with generosity, wisdom, and love.

He was a storyteller, a counselor, and a living example of what it means to give more than you receive. He taught lessons using props, pictures, and humor. He brought people roses, and through them, messages of hope. He attended events across the city, spreading faith and fellowship wherever he went.

Mr. Speaker, Andrew Washington lived his life with purpose. He gave more than he took. He stood tall, spoke truth, walked boldly, and served faithfully. His legacy is one of service, compassion, resourcefulness, and unshakable faith.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Deacon Andrew Washington and in extending heartfelt condolences to his beloved wife, Leola Washington; his children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren; and the entire Washington family.

May they be comforted in knowing that this good and faithful servant has finished his course, kept the faith, and left a legacy that will continue to bless generations.