

bachelor's degree and master's degree. His love for the Bulldog family persisted even after graduation, as he went on to endow a scholarship for a Monroe county student each year.

Soap's patriotism became evident when he volunteered for World War II as a freshman in college. He bravely served as a First Lieutenant in the United States Army Air Corps as a Navigator on 35 missions from England over Germany. His crew's plane was crippled by blasts on Christmas Day of 1944 during Battle of the Bulge, but he safely returned home while still maintaining lasting friendships with his crew members.

After his time in the Army, Soap opened Francis Insurance in 1954 and later, Francis Realty after marrying his wife, Mary Lib. Soap served on the boards of the Mississippi Mutual Insurance Association and the National Bank of Commerce, and continued to run his businesses until the 1990's.

In his community, Soap was known as an active member of First Baptist Church, where he was a Deacon, Sunday School teacher, department superintendent, and usher with a pocketful of peppermints and a smile for everyone. Soap was also a dedicated Rotarian, touting an impressive 60 years of perfect attendance at club meetings across the globe. In his years of membership, he served as President of the Amory Club, endowed numerous fellowships dedicated toward eradicating polio, hosted an exchange student from Australia, and was affectionately named the "Ultimate Rotarian."

In his free time, Soap loved to play tennis or take a long bike ride down the Natchez Trace. He loved to travel both internationally and domestically, meeting new friends along his journeys. He was an avid musical theatre fan and original "foodie."

Soap was preceded in death by his son, Jack Francis, and is survived by his wife, Mary Lib Francis; daughters Beth and Patti Francis; and his grandchildren Mary Paige Hyland, Madison Francis, Ruby Ross, Violet Ross, Lulu Ross, Barrett Griffin, and Amory Griffin.

Jack Clifford "Soap" Francis' life was one of service, grace, and love for his family, community, and country. He will be greatly missed by all whom he encountered.

RECOGNIZING ANITA BEVACQUA
MCBRIDE ON BEING KNIGHTED
WITH HONOR OF "CAVALIERE"
OF THE ORDER OF MERIT OF
THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor Anita Bevacqua McBride, the Vice Chair of Cultural Affairs of the National Italian American Foundation (NIAF), on receiving the Italian honor of "Cavaliere" of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic, the highest-ranking honor of the Italian Republic. On October 7, Ambassador Armando Varricchio of Italy presented this high honor to Ms. McBride, a testament to her lifetime of extraordinary accomplishment in service of the humanities, culture, philanthropy, and diplomacy.

The daughter of Italian immigrants, Ms. McBride was born and raised in Bridgeport,

Connecticut. She received a degree in International Studies from the University of Connecticut and studied international relations and three languages at American University in Washington, D.C. and the University of Florence in Italy.

Ms. McBride currently serves as executive-in-residence at the Center for Congressional and Presidential Studies in the School of Public Affairs at American University, where she directs the First Ladies Initiative, a project highlighting the legacies of America's first ladies and their historical influence on politics and policy.

Ms. McBride's White House service spans two decades and three administrations. From 1987 through 1992, Ms. McBride was Director of White House Personnel under Presidents Ronald Reagan and George H.W. Bush. She later served as Senior Advisor to the Secretary of the U.S. Department of State and White House Liaison from 2001 through 2003 under President George W. Bush.

From 2005 through 2009, Ms. McBride served as Assistant to President George W. Bush and Chief of Staff to First Lady Laura Bush, directing the staff's work on the wide variety of domestic and global initiatives including the First Lady's efforts to support U.S. foreign policy objectives in human rights, women's empowerment, global health and human freedom.

Ms. McBride has added to her distinguished career with several accomplishments in service of philanthropy and global leadership. Ms. McBride is a member of the U.S.-Afghan Women's Council, a historic public-private partnership to help Afghanistan's women rebuild their country and reclaim their place at the center of post-Taliban society. Ms. McBride served as a member of the U.S. delegations to the U.N. Commission on the Status of Women in 2002, the U.N. Commission on Human Rights in 2003, and the U.N. Special Session on HIV/ AIDS in 2006.

Additionally, Ms. McBride is the recipient of several honors and awards including the U.S. Department of State's Meritorious Service Award, the United States National Guard and Reserve's Patriot Award, the University of Connecticut's President's Award of Distinction, American University's Alice Paul Award, and The Ellis Island Foundation Medal of Honor.

Ms. McBride is a role model for Italian Americans, for women, and for anyone aspiring to make a positive difference in the world. I am proud to rise today in recognition of her receiving the more than well-deserved honor of "Cavaliere" of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic.

THANKING CAL FUNG FOR HIS
SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY DURING
WORLD WAR II

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize Cal Fung for his courageous service to our country during World War II.

Cal Fung is a Chinese-American veteran who bravely accepted the call to protect and serve his nation. During World War II, Fung

was a staff sergeant and general clerk. He served in five European battles and campaigns. Fung is a recipient of the World War II Victory Medal and European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal. He was also awarded the Good Conduct Medal.

For far too long, our veterans of color, including Chinese-American veterans, did not receive the proper recognition they deserved for their service. Although we will never be able to thank him enough for his service to our nation, we remain grateful to Cal and the many veterans who have so selflessly answered the call to service.

Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration that I honor Cal Fung and all Chinese-American veterans for their distinguished service to our country during World War II.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE
HONORABLE JOHN A. KELLEY

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Honorable John A. Kelley for his service as a veteran of the U.S. Army, distinguished Federal Service Career of about 31 years, and to the Commonwealth of Virginia. He was a Director of the Northern Neck Soil and Water Conservation District (NNSWCD) representing the County of Northumberland Virginia for 2 terms of 4 years each helping provide oversight through leadership, education, and technical assistance for all resource users. Additionally, he served as the Chair of the Operations Committee for the NNSWCD during these 8 years that brought many improvements to the operation of the District.

He also served on the Potomac Watershed Roundtable, a Regional government-citizen forum that promotes collaboration and co-operation among local governments and stakeholder interest groups promoting conservation.

He was Chair of the Potomac Council for several years. It serves as a collaborative body promoting and facilitating water quality management practices necessary to achieve nonpoint source pollution reductions in the Potomac River Watershed.

He served almost 7.5 years on the Commonwealth Board for Waste Management Facility Operators, the last 3 as Chair. His outstanding leadership brought significant improvements and efficiencies to the functioning of the Board and operations.

Mr. Kelley served on the Board of Trustees of the Alexandria Symphony Orchestra for many years. He was the Operations Committee head during this time, and helped improve operations of the organization.

At the Federal level, he served as the Director of Administration for the United States Commission of the Bicentennial of the U.S. Constitution. His efforts helped make the 200th anniversary of our constitution a magnificent success.

He was also the Executive Director of the U.S. Office of Special Council, improving the management processes and case tracking systems.

While working for the U.S. Army Assistant Secretary for Installations and Environment,

he worked on the housing privatization programs to provide soldiers globally with better base housing. He also worked on the reorganization of the Headquarters of the U.S. Army.

His management capabilities are evident throughout his career. Mr. Kelley is a patriot of the First Congressional District, the Commonwealth of Virginia, and the United States. Without the full support of his loving wife, Hélène, it would be impossible for him to achieve his accomplishments. For his service to the nation, Madam Speaker, today it is my honor to recognize the Honorable John A. Kelley.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE GALLAGHER

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. GALLAGHER. Madam Speaker, due to a matter outside of my control, I was unable to participate in roll call number 218. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 218.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CONGRESS COMMISSION ACT

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. HASTINGS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to discuss the importance of establishing a Congressional Commission to Strengthen Representative Democracy. My legislation, the Congress Commission Act, would establish such a commission to analyze the current size of the House of Representatives, examine alternatives to the current method by which Members are elected, and study the harmful effects gerrymandering continues to have on our democracy.

Today, a Member of Congress represents an average of over 740,000 constituents, well over 10 times the number of constituents envisioned by the First Congress. The United States presents itself as the world's leading representative democracy. And yet, the House's weighty representative ratio makes the United States an outlier among the 35 nations in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, most of them highly developed, democratic states.

It has been nearly 110 years since the House of Representatives has increased its ranks even though the United States' population has more than tripled in size. It is time we examine how this institution is constructed, so we can make the necessary changes for a more equitable tomorrow. It is not only within the power of Congress to improve itself, but it has a responsibility to do so. Such an effort as embodied in my proposed Congressional Commission to Strengthen Representative Democracy will result in a Congress that better reflects the constituencies, states, and nation we serve.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this critically important legislation, so that we can better serve the American people.

HONORING THE LIFE OF CHRISTEL DEHAAN

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Hoosier philanthropist, businesswoman and education advocate Christel DeHaan. After building the successful Resort Condominium International business, DeHaan spent the remainder of her years dedicated to philanthropy and education of children around the world. The City of Indianapolis, the State of Indiana and the philanthropy world recently lost a brilliant and generous woman on June 6, 2020.

Christel was born in Nordlingen Germany in 1942 to Anna and Adolf Stark. Her father, a German soldier, was killed during World War II. She left home at age 16 to become a governess in the United Kingdom. Four years later, she immigrated to the United States and eventually settled in Indiana. In 1974, she co-founded Resort Condominium International (RCI), a pioneering timeshare company, which became a leading company in the multi-billion-dollar industry. She co-led the business until 1987 when she bought 100 percent of RCI for \$67.5 million. She then expanded the business to over 4,000 employees until it was sold in 1996 for \$625 million.

DeHaan then began devoting her life to philanthropy and education by founding Christel House International in 1998. As founder and board chair, her mission was to better the lives of impoverished children through education, healthcare and other initiatives. Today, Christel House serves nearly 6,000 students and graduates worldwide through schools in India, Jamaica, Mexico, South Africa and the United States.

Her vision and dedication to improving the lives of children is a testament to the kind heart that she had. The philosophy that drives Christel House International is "giving kids a hand-up, not a hand-out." Throughout her lifetime, she generously donated more than \$220 million of her own money to various charities. She was a generous advocate for the fine arts in Central Indiana, leading to the fine arts center at the University of Indianapolis being named "The Christel DeHaan Fine Arts Center."

DeHaan was featured on Forbes' list of America's Self-Made Women for the past five years, most recently with a net worth estimated at \$950 million. She was a shining example for girls all over the world of a "self-made woman." For this and many reasons, she was honored with three honorary doctorate degrees from Marian University, the University of Indianapolis and the University of Nottingham in England.

Christel DeHaan was a leader, a philanthropist and an inspiration for so many, including me. Her generosity, commitment and focus was rare and she will be deeply missed by all who knew her. I extend my deepest sympathy to those who survive including her older sister, three children, numerous grandchildren, great grandchildren, nieces and nephews. Though Christel is gone, I know that her legacy will live on for generations through Christel House International and will continue to change lives around the world.

THANKING WILLIAM "BILL" CHIN FOR HIS SERVICE TO OUR COUNTRY DURING WORLD WAR II

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor and recognize William Chin for his courageous service to our country during World War II.

William Chin is a Chinese-American veteran who bravely accepted the call to protect and serve his country. He joined the U.S. Army in December of 1943 and served in the 93rd Cavalry Reconnaissance Squadron in the European theater. In recognition of Chin's service, he received the European-African-Middle Eastern Campaign Medal and the Good Conduct Medal.

For far too long, our veterans of color, including Chinese-American veterans, did not receive the proper recognition they deserved for their service. Although we will never be able to thank him enough for his service to our nation, we remain grateful to Bill and the many veterans who have so selflessly answered the call to service.

Madam Speaker, it is with great admiration that I honor William Chin and all Chinese-American veterans for their distinguished service to our country during World War II.

IN HONOR OF DR. RANDALL SPINDLE'S RETIREMENT FROM SOUTHERN NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 16, 2020

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a dear friend and classmate, Dr. Randall Spindle, in honor of his upcoming retirement from Southern Nazarene University (SNU) in Bethany, Oklahoma.

Long before he became a professor of history and business, I met Dr. Spindle as a fellow freshman classmate in the fall of 1969 at SNU. Little did I know at that time what a remarkable friend I had just made. His love and dedication for our alma mater has spanned decades and generations of students. He will be greatly missed when he leaves campus for the last time as a member of the faculty, but I imagine he will still be actively involved in SNU in his retirement.

Dr. Spindle's career touched on so many different facets of life on campus, much more than an ordinary professor. He viewed the school through many different perspectives, with each one allowing him to be a better leader on campus and for the thousands of students he helped educate.

His association with the school started long before I knew him. As a young teenager he earned his first paycheck digging trenches for the construction of Snowbarger Hall. Years later after his graduation from SNU, he returned to campus in 1976 and served as the Resident Director of Snowbarger Hall for three years, literally serving at a building he helped construct. During his time as Resident Director, he earned his master's degree, the first of