

Rompieron nuestra puerta, violaron nuestro templo (They kicked down our door, they violated our temple)

Y el mundo está consciente (And the world is aware)

De que el Movimiento San Isidro continúa puesto (The San Isidro Movement continues firm)

Seguimos en las mismas, la seguridad metiendo prisma (We are in the same situation, state security watching)

Esas cosas a mí como me indignan, se acabó el enigma (These things outrage me; the enigma is over)

Ya sa' tu revolución maligna, soy Funky style, aquí tienes mi firma (Enough of your evil revolution, I am Funky style, here is my signature)

Ya ustedes están sobrando, ya no le queda nada, ya se van bajando (You all are useless, you have nothing left, you're in decline)

El pueblo se cansó de estar aguantando (The people are tired of enduring)

Un nuevo amanecer estamos esperando (We are awaiting a new dawn)

Se acabó, tu cinco nueve, yo doble dos (It's over, your five nine, me, double-twos)

Ya se acabó, sesenta años trancado el dominó, mira (It's over, sixty years of a domino stalemate, watch)

Se acabó, tu cinco nueve, yo, doble dos (It's over, your five nine, me, double-twos)

Ya se acabó, sesenta años trancando el dominó (It's over, sixty years of a domino stalemate)

Patria y vida (Homeland and life)

Patria y vida (Homeland and life)

Patria y vida (Homeland and life)

Sesenta años trancado el dominó (Sixty years of a domino stalemate)

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KAZAKHSTAN

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mrs. WALORSKI. Madam Speaker, this month marks the 30th anniversary of the Republic of Kazakhstan, which celebrates its Independence Day on December 16 each year. The United States was the first nation to formally recognize Kazakhstan's independence in 1991, and the U.S.-Kazakh relationship has only improved and strengthened over the past three decades.

In 30 years, Kazakhstan has undergone significant changes—largely overseen by Kazakhstan's first President, Nursultan Nazarbayev. Early on, President Nazarbayev decided to close the Semipalatinsk nuclear test site and commit Kazakhstan to nuclear nonproliferation by dismantling the Soviet-era nuclear program. Despite pressure from other regional actors, one of the Republic's first policy decisions was to stand with the United States and commit itself to a nuclear free future. Kazakhstan remains as committed today—30 years later—to the issue of nuclear nonproliferation and continues to champion this cause globally.

Additionally, former President Nazarbayev took steps early in Kazakhstan's existence to align the nation with the West on economic issues—he was committed to creating a free market economy in Kazakhstan. From the start of the Republic, he understood the importance of U.S. investment" to not just the Re-

public, but also to the region. Thirty years later, Kazakhstan is a member of the World Trade Organization and has diligently worked to establish a hospitable business and investment climate for foreign investors. Kazakhstan became a member of the World Bank's International Center for Settlement of Investment Disputes (ICSID) in 1992, and the nation's commitment to the rule of law has never been stronger. Today, U.S. companies are the largest source of direct foreign investment in Kazakhstan.

That's why I support Permanent Normal Trade Relations for Kazakhstan and have joined in a bipartisan effort to pass legislation this Congress to ensure that Kazakhstan is lifted from the Jackson-Vanik amendment—a law meant to target the Soviet Union, a country that no longer exists—and certainly shouldn't impact fellow WTO members. And I can think of no better time, as Kazakhstan celebrates its 30th birthday, to push for such a milestone. I encourage the House of Representatives to pass this legislation as soon as possible.

While I acknowledge that there is still much work to be done in Kazakhstan, I recognize that current President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has been highly focused on pursuing a series of internal reforms focused across almost all sectors of public life in Kazakhstan—from political and parliamentary reforms to updates to existing statutes intended to increase the openness of civil society. Despite external pressures from influential neighbors, Kazakhstan has remained a peaceful and stabilizing force in Central Asia for 30 years—this is a testament to the nation's commitment to democracy and to Western ideals. As the people of Kazakhstan celebrate this great milestone, I applaud this nation on its 30 years of independence and look forward to continuing to strengthen the U.S.—Kazakh bilateral relationship in the coming years.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL RANDALL P. MANTOOTH

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. PALAZZO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the outstanding military service of Lieutenant Colonel Randall P. Mantooth.

LTC Mantooth honorably served in various positions of increasing responsibility throughout his unprecedented military career spanning over thirty-three years, in which he displayed remarkable service to his community, State, and Nation. LTC Mantooth has proven to be an invaluable leader within the Mississippi Army National Guard, consistently demonstrating professionalism, positive leadership, and responsibility to always consider the wellbeing of his soldiers, state employees and contractors.

LTC Mantooth obtained his Bachelor of Science degree from William Carey University, is a graduate of Air Assault School, Quartermaster Officer Basic & Advance Courses, Combined Arms and Services Staff School, the Support Operations Course, Theater Sustainment Course, and Command and General Staff College. LTC Mantooth is married to Lana Mantooth, and they have 5 children, Chandler, Lacy, Joseph, Hannah, and Katharine.

LTC Mantooth's military assignments include company, battalion, and joint assignments. At company level he served as Housing officer and commander under garrison command. At battalion level he served as logistics officer and supply officer. Assignments at regiment and brigade level include Division Chief and Chief of Integrations. He currently serves as The Deputy Installation Commander at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center.

LTC Mantooth distinguished himself through exceptional meritorious service as the Deputy Installation Commander, Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center. He is responsible for Master Cooperative Agreement, Integrated Training Area Management Program, Range and Training Land Program, and the Facility Management Program to include long/short range planning, scheduling, maintenance, repair, rehabilitation, and construction of real property for the largest National Guard training installation in the nation and First Army's mobilization force generation installation. Camp Shelby serves as a training installation for all branches of the military to include National Guard and Active DOD service components.

LTC Mantooth is a true American patriot who chose to answer the call to serve our country. It is an honor to recognize his unwavering dedication to our country and to call him my friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BYRON DONALDS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. DONALDS. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed yesterday's vote. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 402.

CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF ELLEN BALIS

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Ellen Balis, staff director of the House Budget Committee, who recently retired after 37 years of exceptional service to the Congress and the Executive branch.

Ellen began her career in Federal service at the White House Office of Management and Budget in 1984. She spent more than 20 years at OMB participating in the annual development of the President's Budget and advising senior administration officials on budget policy. In 2007, Ellen joined the Democratic staff of the House Budget Committee to serve as the senior budget analyst in charge of all the "numbers." In that role, she led development of the estimates for Democratic budget resolutions and advised Members and staff on budget policy, concepts, and scoring. She quickly demonstrated her invaluable expertise and became a go-to person for analysis and advice. In 2017, when I became the Ranking Member of the Budget Committee, I asked her to serve

as our Staff Director. Her knowledge, temperament, strategic acumen, and drive for thorough and accurate analysis made her the obvious choice.

Ellen is one of the most respected budget experts in Washington. And during her tenure as staff director, she was instrumental in the development and passage of several key pieces of legislation, including the 2021 concurrent budget resolution and the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021. In fact, she delayed her planned retirement for several months to help shepherd these two critically important bills through final passage. She knew we had the chance to implement transformative change for our country, and she stayed so we could benefit from her expertise and experience. This selfless dedication to the work of the Congress and service to the American people are emblematic of Ellen's character and entire career. It is impossible to overstate what an asset Ellen was to the Budget Committee and House Leadership overall. To make public policy that does what it is intended to do, that truly delivers for the American people, everything must, quite literally, add up. And when it comes to budget tables and congressional calculations, there were numbers, and then there were Ellen's numbers. Hers were the gold standard. Always reliable, always dependable—like Ellen herself.

Over the years, Ellen impacted scores of Capitol Hill staffers who worked for and with her. From interns to senior analysts, her kind and steady leadership has left an indelible mark on all of those who learned from her and the example she set as an effective and dedicated public servant. I want to thank Ellen for her candid advice, thoughtful analysis and most importantly, her friendship. I wish her nothing but the best in her hard-earned and well-deserved retirement.

WELCOME, HUNTER TAYLOR
WILSON, JR.

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, happiest congratulations to my daughter-in-law and son, Dr. Julianne and Hunter Wilson on the birth of their new baby boy. Hunter Taylor Wilson, Jr., who was born at 2:00 a.m., on Wednesday, December 8, 2021, weighing 7 pounds and 14 ounces, measuring 17 inches long at Palmetto Health Richland Memorial Prisma Hospital in Columbia, South Carolina.

Additionally, congratulations to grateful Hunter's grandparents Norma Jett and John Jett of West Columbia, South Carolina, and my wife, Roxanne Wilson of Springdale, South Carolina. We are so grateful for this new addition to the Wilson family.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF CONNECTED NATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Connected Nation. Beginning in 2001 at Western Kentucky University in Bowling Green, Kentucky, Connected Nation has grown and evolved to the national non-profit it is today.

For the past 20 years, the people behind Connected Nation have devoted their efforts to expanding access to and the adoption of broadband and related technologies. The non-profit's work includes job skills training, research, mapping, and free connectivity and devices to at-risk youth.

The non-profit's mission statement reads in part, "Everyone belongs in a Connected Nation." Closing the digital divide is critical for Kentuckians and Americans across the country. Federal and private partnerships are key as we work to expand broadband access. Congratulations to Connected Nation on more than 20 years serving communities across the country.

CONGRATULATING LARRY J.
MILLER

HON. LLOYD SMUCKER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Mr. SMUCKER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Larry J. Miller on his retirement after fifty years of service to PeoplesBank, which is headquartered in York County, Pennsylvania and operates branches throughout Pennsylvania's Eleventh District. In 1971, Larry started his career at PeoplesBank as a management trainee and just a decade later, he became the bank's president, making him the youngest person in Pennsylvania to hold such a position. Larry's hard work and dedication brought him further success as he took on the role of Chief Executive Officer for both PeoplesBank and its parent company, Codorus Valley Bancorp, serving in each of those positions for thirty-five years.

Under Larry's leadership, PeoplesBank opened twenty-five new branches, created mortgage and trust divisions, and grew to hold more than \$2 billion in assets. Larry has similarly taken on leadership and community service roles, including positions as Chairman of the Board of Directors for several nonprofits, such as the United Way of York County and the Cultural Alliance of York County.

We thank Larry for all that he has done for the people of Pennsylvania's Eleventh District and wish him a restful and well-deserved retirement.

IN RECOGNITION OF MAJOR
AARON GADBOIS

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2021

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major Aaron Gadbois, who will be leaving my office after a year of distinguished service to the people of Texas Congressional District 12.

Aaron joined my office in January 2021 through the Department of Defense (DOD) Legislative Fellowship Program. This highly selective program assigns servicemembers to congressional offices for one year, allowing them the opportunity to gain valuable legislative experience and contribute to the work of Congress. Demand for DOD Fellows always outstrips supply, so offices must compete to be assigned one. I was lucky to be assigned a Fellow of Aaron's caliber.

Aaron has a tremendous record of service. At 17, he enlisted in the Air National Guard and was assigned to the 114th Fighter Wing, South Dakota Air National Guard, before later joining the "Capital Guardians" of the 113th Wing, District of Columbia Air National Guard, where he earned his commission. In recent years, he served in missions to the Korean Peninsula, the Philippine Islands and Poland, and after completing his service in my office, Aaron will return to the 113th Wing, where he will continue his service to our Nation.

Aaron is one of six children of Barb and Larry Gadbois—in a family that epitomizes the Air National Guard's citizen service member ideal. Remarkably, all six Gadbois siblings served, or are currently serving, in the Air National Guard. A proud South Dakotan, Aaron loves the outdoors. His passion for hunting and fishing is clear to anyone who has taken a virtual meeting with him and noticed the trophies that adorn his home office.

With a Bachelor of Science degree from South Dakota State University and a Master of Business Administration degree from Southwest Minnesota State University, he has earned impressive civilian qualifications that have served him well from the private sector to his service as a full-time, active duty member of the Air National Guard.

The Appropriations Committee can be a daunting environment for a Fellow to enter, but Aaron took to his work methodically and enthusiastically, relishing the opportunity to expand his knowledge and contribute to the legislative process. Aaron had a leg up in his wife Stephanie, a veteran Committee staff member. I suspect she may be partially responsible for his quick learning curve in the intricacies of the appropriations process. Additionally, Texas's 12th District is home to numerous DOD priorities including the F-35 program, Naval Air Station Joint Reserve Base Fort Worth, and thousands of Active, Guard, and Reserve servicemembers. Aaron quickly built a relationship with these entities, mastered their issues, and was essential in helping me fight for them.

Aaron made a great impact on his fellow staff members. He brought to my office a level head, hard-earned wisdom, and a genuine desire to mentor and learn from his coworkers. He integrated seamlessly into the team, joining us for our staff retreat and getting to know