

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY J. WALZ

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. WALZ. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from Roll Call No. 205 (on the final passage of H.R. 2). Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 216.

CONGRATULATING A GROUP OF
OUTSTANDING STUDENTS FROM
AUBURN, MASSACHUSETTS**HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate a group of outstanding students from Auburn, Massachusetts.

Students from Auburn High School's AP United States Government & Politics class traveled here to Washington, D.C. last month to take part in the "We The People" national finals competition. Hosted by the Center for Civic Education, this program teaches kids from across America about the importance of our founding principles. Now more than ever, we must teach our students about the value of public service. Through discussion and simulated Congressional hearings, the students got a firsthand look at the historical and contemporary debates that drive our nation's political discourse.

Auburn High School has taken part in "We The People" since 2011, and this is already their third time to Washington. This year, the class participated in a daylong state competition before moving on to nationals, and raised over \$50,000 to help cover the cost of their trip.

The most important title in our democracy is that of citizen. We are obligated by our history to pass along to future generations the hard-fought rights and responsibilities of that citizenship. Through their hard work, these students learned that our democracy is not just an achievement, but an unending call to build a more perfect union for all. They discovered the importance of civility, compromise, and community in our politics. And they left knowing that their voices really do matter here in Washington.

Mr. Speaker, I am so proud of the hard work and determination of Samantha Barrell, Brendan Benevento, Zachary Billings, Matthew Bregman, Kayrin Brower, Jessica Chenard, Hannah Cherry, Olivia Copson, Lucas Daly, Enaira DaSilva, Marisa Day, Sydney Dinsdale,

Amanda Doherty, Kathryn Dudko, Emily Frost, Jacob Landry, Brianna Leon, Savannah Louis Charles, Morgan Maher, Haydn McPherson, Tiffany Moen, Katelyn Norwood, Renee Ordway, Ana Pietrewicz, Kyle Powers, Brian Sarkisian, Jacob Stokes, Bridget White, and William Wright. Each of them represented Massachusetts with distinction and dedication, and I wish them only success in all their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO BETA SIGMA PHI

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Beta Sigma Phi. This organization was presented with the Spirit of Christmas Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Beta Sigma Phi is an international women's sorority that began working with the Salvation Army in 1989. Every year, the Salvation Army provides toys for the women inmates at a nearby prison to select as Christmas presents for their children. Beta Sigma Phi then wraps and packs the gift for shipping, so that the children have presents at Christmas.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Beta Sigma Phi for receiving this outstanding award and for their continued commitment to making their community better. I am proud to represent them, and Iowans like them, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating this group of women and in wishing them nothing but continued success.

HONORING THE LIFE OF HARRY
ARCHER BUZZETT**HON. NEAL P. DUNN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harry Archer Buzzett who passed away peacefully at the age of 94 on April 7, 2018.

Harry Buzzett is a decorated war veteran, devout Catholic, and dedicated family man.

Harry graduated from West Point on June 6, 1944. On this date, Harry would also learn that his brother Julian Rexall Buzzett ("Rex") was killed in action during the D-Day invasion. Harry fought in WWII, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War at the ranks of 2nd Lieutenant and later Full Colonel. During his 30 years of service, Harry received the Bronze Star (Valor), the Army Air Medal (Valor), and in 2014, Harry was awarded the French Legion of Honor.

Harry Buzzett not only embodied a lifestyle of service while fighting for our country, but also back home (in the states) through dedication to his family and church.

Harry married Catherine Neil Austin and together, the two of them would go on to raise six children. The Buzzett family lived in Massachusetts for several years, before moving back to their hometown in Franklin County, FL in 1985.

Mr. Buzzett will be missed by many. May his service to our country always be remembered and venerated and may he rest in peace.

WHEN THE WELDERS CAME TO
CAPITOL HILL**HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, last year, I welcomed three welders—Christopher Donahue, Andrew Labeck and Moises Fernandez—into my Washington, D.C. office. They were smart, articulate, and passionate about their work.

These welders had access to job training and critical tools to give them a chance to earn and thrive. And our nation needs more of them. Sixty percent of Americans do not attend college. We need more post-secondary school education, such as apprenticeship programs and vocational schools for the next generation that chooses not to attend college but is willing to work hard to have the skills to live the American Dream.

The collective story of Christopher, Andrew and Moises tells us a great deal about what can work in the American economy. Their story also shines a bright light on how to build an economy that gives everyone a chance to earn a share of the American Dream.

Christopher, Andrew and Moises' story inspired me to write in the Wall Street Journal about their success and about how to put people to work in America.

Therefore, I include in the RECORD, those words, that inspiration.

[The Wall Street Journal, May 14, 2017]

WHEN THE WELDERS CAME TO CAPITOL HILL

(By Tom Suozzi)

I'm sitting in my Capitol Hill office a few weeks ago, meeting with three well-dressed, well-spoken young men who earn salaries in the high five and low six figures. You see the type a lot in Washington, but these guys are different. They're not lobbyists. They don't represent Wall Street or any Fortune 500 companies. They're welders.

America needs more of them and what they represent: good jobs at good wages. Last month I held a roundtable with suppliers in the aeronautic and defense industries, who told me they cannot find enough computer machinists. It sounds like an intimidating job, but according to these companies, trade schools and community colleges teach the specific skills needed.

Census data show that in 2015 there were 105 million full-time jobs in the U.S., about 59 million of which paid less than \$50,000 a year. That's not enough to raise a family and achieve the American dream. Most people who work these jobs responded to President Trump's message of antiglobalization and "America First." Many workers without college degrees have played by the rules but still feel left behind. Globalization and technology rendered their stable, good-paying jobs obsolete.

Policy experts, economists and politicians (including me) have pushed college education as the solution. We've argued the more you learn, the more you earn. Yet minting more college graduates in the STEM subjects—science, technology, engineering and math—is only half the story. The other half ought to be creating jobs that can be filled by graduates of high schools, trade schools, community colleges and union apprenticeships.

The welders in my office seemed almost sheepish when I asked how they came to the trade. The common theme was that they didn't do well in school. I'll tell you what I told them: They're amazing. At 22, 29 and 32 they are making more than many graduates of college or even law school. They take the work that's offered, even if it means leaving home at 4:30 a.m. and driving an hour and half. They like their jobs and are good at them.

The policy debates in Washington—over the corporate tax, the income tax, regulatory reform, infrastructure spending—should be centered on creating positions like these. Republicans and Democrats should pledge to work together to create and fill, by 2020, five million new jobs that pay at least \$80,000 a year.

Americans don't need corporate-tax reform simply because companies need more money to buy back stock or increase dividends. They don't need income-tax "simplification" only because the wealthy want bigger paychecks. They don't need regulatory reform because workers and consumers have too many protections. And they don't need a massive infrastructure plan only because America's roads, bridges, sewers, water lines and mass transit systems are in disrepair.

Americans need these things because they will create jobs at home and rebuild the middle class. My welder buddies are losing faith. So are those computer machinists, and millions more like them. You can meet them at any church, bar or ball field. They have a lot to teach Washington, if only it will listen.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JASON SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 216.

TRIBUTE TO SAM ALLGEIER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Sam Allgeier. He was presented with the Excellence in Leadership Award from the Salvation Army at their annual dinner on May 9, 2018.

Mr. Allgeier has coached in the Youth Basketball Program since 1986 and was instrumental in rebooting the program in 2002. He currently is the lead referee and spends many hours recruiting coaches and referees for the program.

Mr. Speaker, I commend Sam Allgeier for receiving this outstanding award and for his continued commitment to making his community better. I am proud to represent him, and Iowans like him, in the United States Congress. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Sam Allgeier and in wishing him nothing but continued success.

TO DESIGNATE THE FACILITY AT THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE LOCATED AT 1355 NORTH MERIDIAN DRIVE IN HARRISTOWN, ILLINOIS, AS THE "LOGAN S. PALMER POST OFFICE"

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, on August 21, 2017, the USS *John McCain* collided with a merchant ship off the coast of Singapore, in an accident that ultimately killed 10 sailors, including a constituent of mine, Petty Officer Logan S. Palmer of Harristown, Illinois.

This was an absolutely terrible tragedy that became a huge story due to many mistakes that were made leading up to it. After the accident, I spent a lot of time talking with Logan Palmer's family, helping them navigate the uncharted waters of dealing with such a tragedy and consoling them.

Palmer survived the initial collision of the USS *McCain*, but kept himself in harm's way in order to help his fellow shipmates. At age 23, he went far too early. His flag-draped casket was carried into the church on the day of his funeral by a Naval honor guard in dress uniform. Navy officers and sailors saluted the casket, which was surrounded by flowers of red, white and blue. The sailors were followed by troops of Boy Scouts who also saluted Palmer's casket, marking the loss of one of their own; Petty Officer Palmer had achieved the rank of Eagle Scout.

After the experience, we decided it would be appropriate to introduce legislation in Petty Officer Palmer's honor, naming the Post Office in his hometown after him. The bill would designate the post office located at 1355 North Meridian Road in Harristown, Illinois as the "Logan S. Palmer Post Office." I have built a special bond with the Palmer family and feel that it's only appropriate that we honor the Petty Officer in this unique way that will allow those of us in Illinois to always remember Logan as the hero he was.

A NATION'S TEARS IN HONOR OF THE LOST LOVED ONES OF SANTA FE HIGH

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in memory of the eight students and two teachers who were horrifically massacred during the Santa Fe High School shooting. Our prayers go out to them and their families, and the wounded. I include in the RECORD this poem penned in their memory by Albert Carey Caswell.

A NATION'S TEARS
(By Albert Carey Caswell)

A Nation's tears
So lie here
For all those lost loved ones so dear
And their heartbroken families gathered here.

A Nation's tears
As now appear
All in the darkest here
In a parent's worst fears
In what evil has reared
In the darkest of all hearts which appeared.
Young beautiful children with such great futures near

With so many moments up ahead of happiness in the coming years,

Now disappear.

Our children are but the very hope of the world so very clear,

To hold in our arms and hearts to endear
And those teachers so here,
Whose whole life was dedicated to teaching the ones we hold dear.

Now, with all the families left in tears,
With the kind of pain only Heaven can heal.
When, united once again as Angels in arms they feel

As we will remember their beautiful faces,
to warm our hearts in all those cold places
And remember their smiles and try not to cry for a while

And may all the wounded bind up their wounds,

and for their fellow lost students and teachers ever shoot for the moon.

A Nation's tears

Trying somehow to make sense of all this here,

As one things stands clear,

There is darkness

And there is light

All in this battle from the beginning in sight,

Of Good versus Evil,

Of Dark versus Light,

In hearts let us remember the darkness is no match for the light,

The kind which in those lost students and teacher which burned bright.

Let us find peace

Let us find rest

By keeping them in our hearts,

and by leading the lives of the best.

To make a difference with our light in the time we have left,

And now we lay them down to rest.

We pray our Lord their souls to bless,

And their loved one's pain ease no less.

But, take heart for these,

live now as Angel's in the Army of our Lord in peace

And they will watch over you day and night, and in your sleep

And when there comes a gentle,

their tears shall wash down you to ease your pain

Until, up in Heaven you meet again and you won't have to cry no more.

CONGRATULATING THE TOWN OF HOPE ON ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 23, 2018

Ms. STEFANIK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the 200th anniversary of the Town of Hope.

While formally founded in 1818, the Town of Hope traces its roots back to the 1700s. The Town of Hope was originally part of the Town of Wells, which formed from a 1772 purchase of land in the central Adirondack region from a Native American tribe. It was not until 1818 that Hope seceded from the Town of Wells and formally became a town. Hope quickly grew into a booming center for agriculture and the lumber market.