

and UNH. We cannot afford to cut investments in programs that prepare our students for the 21st century economy, like those at Nashua Community College. We cannot afford to cut investments in critical defense systems produced by companies like BAE, that protect our troops and create good jobs.

The only way to protect these priorities while avoiding the sequester is for both parties to pass a balanced, bipartisan plan that will responsibly reduce the deficit, grow our economy, and protect middle class families. Now is the time for Congress to step up and do its job.

CONGRATULATING THE STEPHENVILLE YELLOW JACKETS

(Mr. WILLIAMS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. WILLIAMS. I rise to salute the mighty Stephenville Yellow Jackets for winning their fifth State championship in football.

Texas football has been written about in TV shows, movies, and books, but Hollywood's version isn't nearly as exciting as the real thing. During the 2012 high school football season, Stephenville lost only one game as it prepared to enter the playoffs. In the championship game, quarterback Tyler Jones threw for five touchdowns and 422 yards and rushed for another 126.

What makes this team so remarkable is not only that it won, but that it was worthy of winning. These are good kids who do credit to their school and their town. Stephenville, Texas, is the cowboy capital of the world. The 17,000 Texans who live there are patriotic, passionate people who take care of business and take care of their neighbors; and, like their high school team, they are winners at everything they do.

I am proud to represent Stephenville, Texas, in the United States Congress, and I am proud to salute the Yellow Jackets on their fifth State title. I look forward to congratulating them next year on another championship.

INVESTING IN OUR INFRASTRUCTURE

(Mr. PETERS of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PETERS of California. Mr. Speaker, many will be hurt by the sequester, but San Diego will be hurt in particular. Today, I'm here to urge Congress to work together to find a bipartisan solution to sequestration.

The Port of San Diego is our window to national and international commerce, as well as a main driver of our economy. The Port of San Diego is the fourth largest port in California, and one of 17 commercial strategic ports in America, overseeing two maritime cargo terminals, two cruise ship terminals, and hundreds of maritime leases to small businesses.

Since 2001, the port has received almost \$22 million in Federal funding for critical infrastructure projects, which has allowed the port to hire more San Diegans and boost San Diego's economy. The American Society of Engineers found that with an additional investment of \$15.8 billion between now and 2020, our national system of ports could provide \$270 billion in U.S. exports and \$697 billion in GDP.

Now is not the time to be cutting critical investments in our infrastructure. Let's work together to find a solution.

HONORING MR. JAMES E. WALKER

(Mr. PALAZZO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a great American, Mr. James E. Walker.

Mr. Walker was born on April 12, 1924, in Gulfport, Mississippi. He grew up in a close-knit family of seven children. After graduating from Woolmarket High School, he joined the United States Marine Corps and served in World War II from 1942 to 1945. Upon returning home, he earned a degree in engineering and became the engineering supervisor at the VA in Biloxi, retiring after 35 years.

Mr. Walker was also the loving husband of Helen Peterson Walker. They wed on February 21, 1946, exactly 67 years to the date of his recent passing.

Mr. Walker was known for his love of trout fishing, his hometown of Gulfport, Mississippi, and most importantly, his family. I stand before you today and declare without a shadow of a doubt that he was the epitome of what we consider a member of the Greatest Generation.

Mr. Walker, you will be missed, not only by your family, but also by the country you so faithfully served in the Marine Corps. *Semper fidelis*.

SEQUESTER AND THE CHILDREN

(Ms. JACKSON LEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Because they have no voting rights, a group that we don't hear a lot about is children. On Friday, March 1, our children will be in the eye of the storm. The sequester that will occur will impact children, particularly Head Start.

So many of my Head Start organizations have cried out for relief and Title I funding, so I want to say to them that we are going to come together. It may not be on Friday, but we know that we're going to look forward to overturn what has been a process that was put in place because President Obama and the Democrats were ready to make sure the government was going to run and others were not.

Now we have a crisis, but that crisis will not last long because we Demo-

crats will put children first and find a solution to ensure that the American people have the resources that are necessary to provide services to ensure the quality of life that their tax dollars pay for. We must have revenue and, yes, we must have spending responsibility, but we cannot undermine the American people.

SEQUESTRATION

(Mr. SWALWELL of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong disappointment in the House Republican leadership in committing such legislative malpractice by failing to do anything about automatic spending cuts that will happen this Friday.

Here we are on the brink of another economic disaster manufactured by Washington, and, just as before, this crisis will have real consequences to real people. In my district alone, schools will lose \$11 million in Federal funding. California will be losing \$87.6 million in funding for primary and secondary schools. Fewer students will be learning and more teachers will be out of work.

There's a rational way to approach balancing the people's budget, and this is not it. We can cut foolish spending without foolishly cutting spending.

H.R. 699, of which I'm a cosponsor, would replace this meat-cleaver method of budgeting with a balanced approach. It would include additional revenue from multimillionaires and smart cuts for unnecessary spending.

We might not agree on what the right way to cut spending is, but we also should agree that using broad, indiscriminate cuts is the wrong way to cut spending. Let's come together to pass legislation to avert these cuts.

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RECOGNIZING DR. IRVING FRADKIN

(Mr. KENNEDY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. KENNEDY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Irving Fradkin of Fall River, Massachusetts, a finalist for the national "Citizen Service Before Self" award.

The son of Russian immigrants, Dr. Fradkin's story of service began in the late 1950s. As an optometrist opening his new practice in a struggling former mill city, he was immediately struck by how few of his young patients had plans to go to college. When he asked why, the response was always a simple answer: My parents can't afford it.

At the time, the average cost of tuition was a couple hundred dollars a year. Dr. Fradkin did the math. He figured that if each of Fall River's 30,000