

As the premier hospital serving the Northern Virginia community, Inova Fairfax Hospital includes the Inova Heart and Vascular Institute and the Inova Fairfax Hospital for Children, both of which are internationally recognized facilities, and the Inova Fairfax Hospital for Women.

Since its opening, Inova Fairfax Hospital has served as a teaching institution for future health professionals. Currently it partners with the medical schools of Georgetown, George Washington, the University of Virginia and Howard University as well as the Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences. It also serves as the Northern Virginia campus for the medical school of Virginia Commonwealth University. In addition it is affiliated with numerous nursing, pharmacy and other allied health profession programs and with numerous institutions of higher learning, including George Mason University. Inova Fairfax Hospital continues to expand with construction underway for a new 11-story tower to provide better access and flexibility to meet patient needs.

Among its many accolades, Inova Fairfax Hospital has been designated as the Level 1 Trauma Center for Northern Virginia by the Commonwealth of Virginia, awarded Magnet Recognition in Nursing Excellence, and consistently named among the 50 Best Hospitals in the United States by both U.S. News & World Report and HealthGrades. Inova Fairfax and Inova Health System are ranked among the nation's top 100 Military Friendly Employers, Top 100 Companies for Working Mothers, Best Employers for Workers Over 50, and are commonly named among the nation's 100 Most Wired hospitals and health systems.

While serving the health needs of an extensive community, Inova Fairfax also is actively involved in the community, partnering with community based programs and Fairfax County Public Schools. Inova also provides more than \$200 million in charity care within a single year. I was proud to represent Inova Fairfax Hospital during my 14 years as the chairman of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and I am pleased to continue that partnership today.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 50th Anniversary of Inova Fairfax Hospital, which the community will mark in a May 11 celebration. For 50 years, Inova Fairfax Hospital has carried out its mission as engraved on its dedication plaque that it is "dedicated to the relief of human suffering and to the protection and preservation of the health of all who enter its doors." I extend my congratulations to the entire Inova Fairfax Hospital family and to Inova Health System and thank them for their continued commitment to our community.

THE REPUBLIC OF TEXAS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, as I walked onto the battlefield in the hot Texas sun, I journeyed through a sea of buckskin uniforms, Bowie knives and long muskets. I felt like I had died and gone to Heaven.

The men who portrayed Sam's Boys had a certain swagger, a certain something that

made them real members of the Texas Army. I even got my picture taken with Captain Juan Seguin, who led the Tejanos, Mexicans loyal for independence. So as not to confuse these Tejanos with Santa Anna's army, General Sam had Seguin put a playing card in the head band of each Tejano so they could easily be recognized.

Seguin and his men were roaming around the battlefield. Cannons, battle cries and the sound of hooves surrounded me. I was like a little boy again.

Thousands of people came from far and wide to celebrate 175 years of Texas independence at the San Jacinto Day Festival and Battle Reenactment. Children and senior citizens alike all gathered to travel back in time and see the reenactment of one of the most decisive battles in all history—and certainly the most decisive battle in Texas history.

Folks lined the battlefield with lawn chairs, umbrellas and water bottles to watch the reenactment of events that led to the Texas victory over the larger Mexican Army on April 21, 1836. I was reminded of how good it feels to be an American—particularly a Texan-American. As the wind blew, history unfolded right in front of our eyes. I felt like I stepped back in time to 1836.

It was 175 years ago that Texas became an independent nation. Like many folks, sometimes I wish that we still were. General Sam and his boys took on Santa Anna and an army of about 1,600 along the marshy banks of the San Jacinto River in the battle that resulted in one of the largest land transfers in world history and gave way to a new independent nation—the Republic of Texas.

After Mexican dictator Santa Anna stormed the walls of the Alamo, and ordered the massacre at Goliad, he felt the Texans had all but been defeated, and he set his sights on finishing the war with the Texans heading south-east in the "Runaway Scrape."

During this time, panic spread across Texas and doubt loomed that General Sam Houston could stop the Mexican Army. But, General Sam was not the quitting type and he would not give up his fight for freedom so easily.

The battle for Texas took place on the marshes of the San Jacinto River. On the afternoon of April 21, General Sam's battle plan called for a charge the next day at dawn, but after discussions with his troops he decided not to wait any longer.

Scout Deaf Smith was ordered to burn the only bridge and trapped both armies between the river and the marshes. In broad daylight, General Sam and the boys, 700 Texas freedom fighters, marched double-time in a single line to independence—taking on a professional army more than twice their size.

The Texans charged yelling, "Remember the Alamo! Remember Goliad!" They carried a flag of partially nude Miss Liberty, and the fife played a bawdy house song called "Come to the Bower." Santa Anna's army, caught napping, was routed.

Tradition says Santa Anna was having a rendezvous in his tent with a lady that turned out to be a spy for Texas, Emily Morgan, who is sometimes referred to as the "Yellow Rose of Texas." Most of the enemy was killed or wounded; the rest were captured or disappeared. The victory was stunning. The rest, as they say, is Texas history.

General Santa Anna's life was spared to the dismay of many that had lost loved ones at

the Alamo and Goliad. But General Sam, noting that Texas was now a free and independent nation, held Santa Anna as a prisoner of war until negotiations between the two countries could be made.

While Texas had declared her independence from Mexico a month earlier on March 2, it was at this moment that she actually became a Republic all unto herself and remained so for nine glorious years.

Texas claimed land as far north as the Canadian border and as far west as Colorado. These historic battlegrounds remain an important part of Texas history, and in 1936, the state of Texas honored the Texas War of Independence and General Sam's victory by erecting a monument modeled after the Washington Monument, but naturally bigger.

I am proud to be a Texan-American. And that weekend, as I saw thousands of people celebrating the 175th anniversary of Texas Independence, I was reminded of how proudly we Texans hail. Because of men like Sam Houston, Texas is the great state that it is today. We must always remember that Texas was once a nation. Texas forever!

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING THE CHINA OCEAN SHIPPING COMPANY ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Mr. ROTHMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the China Ocean Shipping Company (COSCO) on its 50th anniversary.

Throughout the past fifty years, China Ocean Shipping Company has evolved from a small coastal carrier to a global maritime leader and a diversified multinational "Fortune Global 500" company that is the 2nd largest shipping company worldwide. My congratulations go to all the employees of COSCO. This company, with its American headquarters located in Secaucus, New Jersey, continues to be a leader in maritime commerce between the U.S. and China; providing jobs and economic growth here at home, and supporting safety, environmental and security efforts.

International maritime trade is vital to New Jersey and has helped support U.S. consumers, companies and products. COSCO Americas Inc. was recognized for promoting office social responsibility and received the 2010 New Jersey Department of Transportation New Jersey Smart Workplaces (NJSW) gold award. This award recognizes the efforts of COSCO to help reduce traffic congestion and improve air quality by providing commuter benefits to their employees in New Jersey. These important contributions to our state deserve the highest recognition.

Mr. Speaker, today I would like to congratulate COSCO on its 50th anniversary and honor its employees for their role in COSCO's continued global business success and conscientious work in the State of New Jersey.