

HONORING MOTT MIDDLE
COLLEGE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, on May 12th Mott Middle College in Flint Michigan will celebrate its 20th year of preparing at-risk high school students for further education and the workforce. Through collaboration between Genesee Intermediate School District and Mott Community College, students from 21 school districts and 10 public academies in Genesee County are able to integrate high school, community college and the world of work as part of their educational experience.

Mott Middle College opened in 1991 funded by a grant from The Charles Stewart Mott Foundation, to specialize in dropout prevention. Working with students that may not succeed in a traditional high school setting, Mott Middle College offers students the opportunity to earn college credits and a high school diploma simultaneously. The student body currently averages 400 students, and over its 20 year history the school has graduated over 650 students.

The teachers are trained to function as focus group leaders to small groups of students. The teachers and support staff work very hard to develop an education system that meets the needs of all learning styles and foster one-on-one relationships with students. The school also utilizes community resources to assist students with their academic, career and personal development. In 2002 the school began to shift from a middle college to an early college to increase the emphasis on student dual enrollment. During the 2009–2010 school year, 375 students earned 1,562 college credits.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the administrators, educators, staff, graduates, and community partners for working diligently to help accomplish the educational goals of students; and for creating a program that has gained a national reputation for excellence. As a role model for other middle and early colleges, Mott Middle College has set the bar very high for success and I wish them the best in the coming years.

HONORING DR. GEORGE DAVISON
TENNISON

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Dr. George Davison Tennison born on July 5, 1918.

Dr. George Tennison was known as “Dr. George” to everyone in Silsbee, Texas. Dr. George, a veteran of World War II served his country proudly as a U.S. Navy physician in the war. He served as part of the Navy Medical Corp on board a troop transport. He received an honorable discharge from the Navy in 1946. After leaving the Navy, he returned to Silsbee where he practiced medicine for 52 years. It is widely speculated that Dr. George

delivered over 5,000 babies over his distinguished career.

Dr. George was a rare breed of rural physician who traveled country dirt roads in the evenings after office hours to provide care for patients who had no transportation into town.

In 1940, Dr. George married Elise Nelson of Zachary, Louisiana, and they had five children over 70 years of marriage.

Dr. George was long active in the community. He was a former school board President and member of the Kiwanis Club, bank board, and the hospital board.

Dr. George was known around Silsbee for his love of duck hunting. He loved hunting so much that he frequently got up at 3 A.M. to go out on the duck marshes before daylight. After a couple hours of hunting, he returned to his clinic for a full day of treating patients.

He was also known for his award winning roses. For as long as he was able, he grew hundreds of rose bushes in his yard and won many rose competitions.

Dr. George was instrumental in starting the first Episcopal Church in Hardin County, St. John’s, where he served on the church vestry.

Dr. George is survived by his loving wife of 70 years, Elise Nelson Tennison.

HONORING MISS ABBY KEENE

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss Abby Keene.

She is freshman at Southern Wayne High School in Dudley, NC. Abby is currently an active member of the Southern Wayne High School FFA and is currently working with training a goat for the goat exhibition and show. She is preparing for a land judging contest in which she will be a judge. Prior to her diagnosis she was a cheerleader, softball player and dancer.

In the fall of 2009 after a routine exam by their family doctor, Abby was found to have an enlarged spleen. Further test revealed that she suffers from a rare liver disease named Primary Sclerosing Cholangitis (PSC). PSC is a liver disease of the bile ducts and is very rare in children and even more rare to be diagnosed in a female. The only known treatment is a transplant and she is currently on a waiting list for a transplant at Children’s Hospital in Pittsburgh, PA.

Abby’s mother Deon has teamed up with COTA (Children’s Organ Transplant Association) along with friends, neighbors, local churches, fire department/rescue units, Grant-ham Grange, Southern Wayne High School FFA, and other local civic groups to raise \$50,000 for Abby to receive a transplant. On May 14, 2011, Eureka Christian Church is hosting a BBQ lunch and dinner, followed by an auction of donated items. Abby is hoping to return to her active roles upon completion of her liver transplant.

Mr. Speaker, today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Miss Abby Keene and wish her the best in her upcoming future.

RECOGNIZING TEACHER
APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize National Teacher Appreciation week and the extraordinary work done by America’s teachers to provide students with the knowledge and skills they will need to compete and thrive in the 21st century.

Every day, hard working men and women go into the classroom to prepare our children for a successful future. For this, they deserve not just our utmost gratitude and respect but fair and adequate compensation. Instead, teachers and other public workers across the nation are under attack. Earlier this year, I went to Wisconsin to lend support for teachers and other state workers who are not only fighting cutbacks in salaries and benefits but the loss of long-standing collective bargaining rights. Fortunately, in Wisconsin and other states, people are turning out in large numbers to show opposition to those attacks and demonstrate support for teachers and public employees.

Rather than demonize teachers, it is imperative that we recognize the essential role they play in our society not only this week but throughout the year. President Obama has spoken at length about America’s need to “Win the Future.” As our nation looks to achieve that objective, we must not lose sight of the fact that nothing has a more direct impact on student achievement than having a great teacher in the classroom.

As a former elementary school teacher, I know just the teaching profession is both rewarding and challenging. I encourage every American to take a moment this week to thank a teacher for the incredible work they are doing to make our nation a better place.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF INOVA FAIRFAX HOSPITAL

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 10, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Inova Fairfax Hospital, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary this year.

Fairfax Hospital was first proposed by a group of concerned citizens who embraced the concept of a not-for-profit hospital. With the strong support of the community, Fairfax County and the federal government, The Fairfax Hospital was built and opened its doors on February 6th, 1961. With a visionary and dedicated group of physicians, nurses, allied health care professionals, management, board members and auxiliaries, The Fairfax Hospital has become a premier health care institution in the Washington, D.C. area.

During the past 50 years, Fairfax Hospital, renamed Inova Fairfax Hospital in 1997, has significantly expanded to 833 acute-care beds and is now the busiest hospital in the Commonwealth of Virginia. It serves as the flagship facility of Inova Health System, which now includes hospitals in Alexandria, Mount Vernon, Fair Oaks, and Loudoun.

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.