

HONORING MASTER FOLTA
HON. TOM DAVIS OF VIRGINIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Monday, November 17, 2003

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Master Nestor Folta on his 50th birthday and 20 years of successful Uechi-Ryu Karate study.

Master Folta is a civil engineer with the U.S. Department of Energy. He resides in Oakton with his wife and two children. For years, he has dedicated notable time and energy to the study and teaching of Uechi-Ryu Karate. Uechi-Ryu is traditional Okinawan Karate, developed by Master Kanbun Uechi and his son Kanei Uechi. Uechi-Ryu has its origin in the ancient Chinese tradition of martial arts. Today, it is the only form of Okinawan Karate that remains in its original Soke, handed down from father to son from generation to generation. Master Folta is a seven-time world champion of Uechi-Ryu and an inductee in the martial arts hall of fame. He has demonstrated a strong aptitude for and commitment to the study of karate.

The Academy of World Champion Nestor Folta (AWCNF.com), located in Fairfax County, carries on the Uechi-Ryu tradition. Through the study of Uechi-Ryu Karate, over 100 AWCNF students learn self-defense, self-discipline, and self-respect. Uechi-Ryu encourages the formation of high personal standards and respect for fellow men and women. The AWCNF's mission is to use Uechi-Ryu to help students become positive, successful, respected, contributing members of society. Each year, AWCNF tuition raises an estimated \$25,000 for Fairfax County. In addition, the AWCNF has raised over \$20,000 for 9/11 victims.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I would like to recognize Master Folta's efforts to better himself, his students, and his community through the practice of Uechi-Ryu. I wish him a happy birthday, commend 20 years of success, and extend him all of my best for the years to come. I call upon all my colleagues to join me in applauding Master Folta.