

classes in advanced and college level math, students and teachers alike have marveled at his ability to break down the curriculum and translate it into something tangible that his pupils can comprehend. His exceptional ability to connect with the students furthers their understanding of this advanced subject matter and propels them towards academic success.

In addition to being named Teacher of the Year for Santa Rosa County, Mr. Holland is also a designated Master Teacher. Both titles highlight his outstanding teaching capabilities and emphasize his engaging personality. Mr. Holland is liked and respected by students and teachers, yet his involvement in the school is not limited to Mathematics. Mr. Holland is also the voice of Pace High School's Red, White, and Blue Band.

The title of Teacher of the Year is an immense honor and is evidence of the greatness Mr. Holland has achieved. Beyond the title lies Mr. Holland's dedication and devotion, to not only his students but to the entire community. His teaching skills and affable personality have influenced many and pushed countless students to a higher level of academic achievement. Mr. Holland's outstanding accomplishments have distinguished him as one of the greater teachers in Northwest Florida, and Santa Rosa School District is honored to have him as one of their own.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am proud to recognize Kevin Holland on this outstanding achievement for his exemplary service in the Santa Rosa County School District.

NICOLE MARSALA, BROWARD COUNTY, FL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

### HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished member of our community in Broward County, Florida. I would like to recognize and congratulate Ms. Nicole Marsala as Broward County's Teacher of the Year for 2009. Ms. Marsala has taught her students the true meaning of civic duty, not only through her creative teaching style, but also by example, having served Coral Springs for over eight years.

Her innovative approach to teaching traditional topics in social sciences provides her students with a new perspective on some of the most important chapters in our country's history. She believes that teaching involves more than just following lesson plans in textbooks, and that it is critical to step outside the classroom from time to time and learn through hands-on experience.

I believe that there is no lesson more significant and appropriate for our students than how this country was founded, and how we can continue to improve our community. As caring as she is competent, Ms. Marsala has shown faithful dedication to the education of her students by inspiring creativity and encouraging parents to take an active role in fostering a passion for history and civic responsibility.

Madam Speaker, Coral Springs is privileged to have Ms. Marsala as a teacher, and our en-

tire community is grateful for her leadership. Her lessons have truly gone beyond the classroom, and her contributions to our community will certainly last for generations to come.

### HONORING MARGARET GREGG

### HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor the great contributions of Margaret Gregg and would like to recognize her exceptional and tireless service to the homeless in Santa Clara County.

Ms. Gregg, who was named Woman of the Year for the 23rd Assembly District of California, is formally retiring after seeing 8 years as Santa Clara County's Homeless Concerns Coordinator.

In 1992, Ms. Gregg was hired to become the Executive Director of the San Jose Family Shelter. She remained in that position until November 1999. In February 2000, Margaret Gregg became the Homeless Concerns Coordinator for the County.

Ms. Gregg has been responsible for facilitating the County's McKinney-Vento Grant, that brings about \$8 million each year to more than 30 different homeless serving organizations. In 2006, she convinced the County to conduct a census of the homeless and followed that effort with a Task Force to create a 10-Year Plan to End Homelessness. Ms. Gregg also coordinates the Collaborative on Affordable Housing and Homelessness, an organization of 250 local non-profits and government agencies.

Ms. Gregg's contributions to the community are clearly demonstrated in her compassion for and understanding of the homeless. With her Catholic background and 30 years of teaching elementary and high school students and special education students, Ms. Gregg is a strong believer in the unifying powers of faith, tolerance and understanding.

I commend Ms. Gregg for her valuable service to our community and wish her the best in her future endeavors. We are very fortunate to have benefited from her compassion, expertise and commitment. She has left her mark in Santa Clara County.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my votes for Rollcall Nos. 29–31.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 29—Yes—Commending the Houston Dynamo soccer team for winning the 2007 Major League Soccer Cup;

Rollcall No. 30—Yes—Recognizing the significance of Black History Month; and

Rollcall No. 31—Yes—Remembering the space shuttle *Challenger* disaster and honoring its crew members, who lost their lives on January 28, 1986.

EXPRESSING APPRECIATION TO THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA AND TO KOREAN AMERICANS

### HON. JOHN BOOZMAN

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. BOOZMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lee Myung-Bak on his election as President of the Republic of Korea and to express appreciation for the many contributions of the Republic of Korea and Korean Americans towards strengthening and enlarging the U.S.-Korea alliance partnership.

On January 13, 1903 the first Korean immigrants arrived in the United States. On that day each year, now known as Korean American Day, we recognize and honor the economic, social, cultural and political contributions Korean-Americans have made to the United States over the last century. Korean-Americans have thrived in this country because of a shared belief in the importance of family life, individual responsibility, hard work and education.

Over the past 50 years we have seen the Republic of Korea emerge from colonial rule and the ravages of war to stand alongside the United States as a beacon of democracy, peace and security; prospering under a free market economy whilst upholding the rule of law. Over these 50 years the Republic of Korea has been a loyal and indispensable ally to the United States as we have worked at close quarters to combat those who would threaten these shared values.

In recent times we have seen this commitment through South Korean peacekeeping troops in Lebanon and Afghanistan, and the 650 South Korean military personnel serving alongside our soldiers in Iraq today, now the third largest partner in the coalition with \$460 million pledged to the reconstruction effort. At the end of December last year, South Korea's National Assembly voted to extend the time of its commitment to provide troops for the War in Iraq. While some of our friends scale down their operations in Iraq, our South Korean friends have remained steadfast in the War on Terror, for which we are truly grateful.

In his farewell address to the Congress in 1951, one of Arkansas' greatest sons, General Douglas MacArthur, said this of the Republic of Korea: "Of the nations of the world, Korea alone, up to now, is the sole one which has risked its all against communism. The magnificence of the courage and fortitude of the Korean people defies description."

Madam Speaker, I would like to congratulate the new President-Elect of the Republic of Korea, Lee Myung-Bak, and wish him well as he takes on the responsibility of working with the United States to tackle the challenges of the East Asian region, particularly the ongoing efforts to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula. I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing and honoring the U.S.-Korea Alliance and the contribution of our South Korean friends to the global war on terror as we work towards ensuring the safety of our citizens.

We look forward to fostering our historic relationship under the new leadership of President Lee Myung-Bak.

IN HONOR OF THE SINAI SCHOOLS  
AND ITS STRONG COMMUNITY  
OF PUBLIC SERVANTS

**HON. SCOTT GARRETT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the SINAI Schools, which provide a fulfilling environment for meeting the unique educational needs of children and young adults with learning and developmental disabilities.

Since 1982, the SINAI Schools have provided both Judaic and secular studies for individuals with a wide variety of special needs. Their elementary schools, high schools, and adult programs have earned praise from local leaders, parents, educators, and students alike. They are the only Jewish day school accredited by the Middle States Association of Colleges and Schools. The SINAI Schools tend to more than just the education of their students, they also care for their psychological and emotional well-being.

SINAI Schools depends on a tremendous cadre of active community leaders to maintain the unparalleled excellence of their programs. This weekend, at their annual benefit dinner, they will honor eight of these supporters who have dedicated so much of their time and energy to ensuring that all people receive the quality education that they deserve: Moshe and Arianne Weinberger, Teaneck, New Jersey; Mendy and Nomi Schwartz, Teaneck, New Jersey; Jason and Chani Teigman, Englewood, New Jersey; and Peter and Carol Weissman, Fair Lawn, New Jersey.

All of these individuals have demonstrated not only a strong commitment to education, but as active participants in their congregations and community groups like their local little leagues and volunteer ambulance corps they have also demonstrated real dedication to their heritage and their community as well. Such commitment is the backbone of our society, and I join the families of the SINAI Schools in commending these individuals this weekend.

COMMEMORATING THE HERITAGE  
OF DENTON, TEXAS

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the dedication of Paula Blincoe Collins' mural titled "Historic Quakertown." This dedication will celebrate Black History in the City of Denton.

The artwork is the first commissioned public art project for The City of Denton's Public Art Committee and will be dedicated on February 11, 2008.

Artist Paula Collins consulted with the descendants of the original Quakertown to select a wide assortment of images that represented life in this community. Collins then depicted these images on the brick mural.

Paula Collins is well known for her skills in brick sculpture. Among her many creations are two previously completed projects for City fa-

cilities, the "Woman of Justice" installed in 1994 and two entrance monuments erected in Denton at the Pecan Creek Waste Management facility in 2000.

I am honored to serve a talented individual like Paula Blincoe Collins in the 26th district of Texas and I know that her artwork will both beautify the community and highlight the history of Denton for years to come.

CONGRATULATING THE 2007 WEST  
VIRGINIA GIRLS SOCCER STATE  
CHAMPIONS

**HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mrs. CAPITO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2007 West Virginia Girls Soccer State Champions, the Jefferson County Lady Cougars, who hail from West Virginia's second congressional district.

The 2007 West Virginia State Tournament took place in Beckley on November 3, 2007. The Lady Cougars played defending champion, Parkersburg High School in the final game of the tournament.

Coach Harold "Dunnie" Bach led the ladies to victory winning overall 18-1-3 season. The Lady Cougars made Jefferson County history, as the first soccer team in the county to win a state championship.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pride to acknowledge the Lady Cougars as the 2007 West Virginia Girls Soccer State Champions. Again, congratulations to these talented young women.

HONORING THE UNI-CAPITOL  
WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PRO-  
GRAM

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, for decades the United States has looked towards Australia as one of our closest of cultural, economic and security partners. This is true not just between the two governments but among Americans and Australians who have crossed the Pacific to visit with or work with each other. I am pleased to rise today to recognize the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program, which annually delivers some of Australia's best and brightest university students to a bipartisan and bicameral array of congressional offices for two-month internships.

This is the first year that I have been privileged to participate in the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program. A student emissary to my office, Anthony Bremner, has added first-hand value to our understanding of global issues and perspectives as seen from Australia. Anthony, who visits us from the University of Queensland, is a text-book example of the high caliber of this program. Over the past two months, he has applied his volunteer experiences from the constituency office of Australia's newly elected Prime Minister, Kevin Rudd, to my office. During this time, Anthony has attended committee briefings, drafted con-

stituent correspondence, and assisted my staff with research. His Australian accent frequently sparked conversations with my constituents interested to learn where he was from and to share their international experiences with him. This international exchange has demonstrated that through sharing our American and eastern Connecticut values and experiences we foster greater understanding and appreciation of the United States.

Anthony is not alone in this effort. This year, a record 13 students from all across Australia were matched with as many congressional offices. They were drawn from seven Australian universities in four different states and the Australian Capital Territory. Far from a solely academic exercise, the Uni-Capitol program is a practical investment in our global community, given the diverse array of congressional participants and an equally diverse array of student interests ranging from law to commerce, from the environment to communications, from international affairs to American studies.

Including this current group, 81 Australian students will have interned in Washington since the program's inception nine years ago. For launching and directing this effort here in Washington, much credit is due to its founder Eric Federer. Eric is a former senior House and Senate Congressional staffer who has worked to bridge the wide geographic distance between the U.S. and Australia through his efforts at the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Program.

Madam Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to seek connections with members of our global community. Similarly, I would encourage American university students to seek established and creative ways to connect with their counterparts around the globe. On this note, I ask my colleagues to join with me in recognizing the contributions of the Uni-Capitol Internship Program and, again, thank Anthony Bremner for his participation and hard work.

HONORING THE PRINCESS POCA-  
HONTAS PAGEANT AND BALL  
FESTIVAL

**HON. HENRY CUELLAR**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 7, 2008*

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the history behind the Princess Pocahontas Pageant and Ball festival during the 111th Washington Birthday Celebration in Laredo, Texas.

The iconic figure of Princess Pocahontas holds a special place in the heart of the festivities, and made its first appearance in the first Washington Birthday Celebration, which was hosted by the Improved Order of Red Men. In 1897, this fraternal organization created a celebration around the birth of George Washington, and part of the initial festivities centered around an Indian ambush, but with a twist. Princess Pocahontas rode into town and rescued the city, as much as she did for Captain John Smith. This story represents the important link between Laredo and its connection to the Native American community during the Washington Birthday Celebration festivities.

Today, Princess Pocahontas is chosen from the annual beauty festival, which introduces