

Diana's accomplishments are not limited to the field of art. Diana, age 18, is a recent graduate of Berea High School in Berea, Ohio where she was a member of the National Honor Society, RSVP, and the Big Sibs program. She earned a varsity letter in her senior year for girls' golf, and is an accomplished figure skater as well. For the past two years, she has also attended Cuyahoga Community College. In the fall, Diana will attend Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, where she plans to continue her ceramics and figure skating. Diana's involvement in her school, her community, athletics, and the arts are a testament to her commitment to better herself and the world around her.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring Diana Marie Falat for her many various achievements, and especially on her reception of the Gold Key award at the National Scholastic Art Exhibition at the Kennedy Center.

KOREAN SUMMITT

HON. TONY P. HALL

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. HALL of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise to mark the historic occasion of the summit between President Kim Dae Jung of the Republic of Korea, and Chairman Kim Jong Il of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

Much has been written about this unprecedented meeting between the leaders of the two Koreas; what has happened has encouraged not only Korean people, but those of us who are concerned about human rights and humanitarian matters as well. And I hope the course these leaders chart in the months ahead will be a model for other former adversaries to follow.

A reconciliation like the one that has now begun in Pyongyang holds great promise for expanding freedom and prosperity for Korean people on both sides of their border. That is something that Koreans have longed for; it is also something that many Americans are eager to see—especially the hundreds of thousands of Korean-Americans who have enriched the communities of our Nation, and the tens of thousands of active-duty military men and women, and their families.

I first met President Kim when he was living in exile in the United States. Together with many of our colleagues and former colleagues, I tried to help him with the work he was doing to promote human rights for his people. While I have not met Chairman Kim, I have worked with his people on the humanitarian projects that have been an important focus for the DPRK in recent years. So I have a special appreciation for Koreans' and Korean-Americans' sense that this moment is a moving one.

Still, I don't think any outsider can understand how Korean people feel this week. It's hard to imagine how much those in the north and the south have suffered—from food shortages in the north, human-rights concerns in the south, and for both the pain of being torn from their families and their countrymen.

I hope that President Kim will be generous in providing the tangible necessities— food, fertilizer, medicines—that will help so many people in the north. I hope that Chairman Kim

will continue to demonstrate courage and confidence in helping separated families reunite. As an American, I also hope that Chairman Kim will take the military steps needed to reassure Koreans living in the south, and U.S. troops stationed along the border, that the years ahead will be peaceful ones.

As important as the specific steps that have come out of this summit are, though, the most important long-term result will be this first step toward healing this divided nation.

Mr. Speaker, the United States has an important role to play in supporting this extraordinary peace initiative. I strongly believe we should lift economic sanctions against North Korea, as President Clinton promised to do nine months ago. I think we should accept Koreans' leadership in the decisions we make together as long-time allies. And I hope the United States will continue to respond generously to the United Nations' relief efforts, and that we will expand our relationship with North Korea's people in other ways.

I have visited many places where people are hurting. One thing I have learned is that—no matter where they live—people who survive terrible hardships have one thing in common: they remember who helped them through their difficulties, and they cannot forget who found excuses to let their friends and families die.

I have been especially proud of our country in refusing to let the political differences we have with North Korea prevent us from upholding our humanitarian tradition of responding generously to the people in need there. Now, with this summit, Koreans in the south have demonstrated to their brothers that they are not going to stand by and let them suffer. I hope the past three days will create the goodwill the leaders of these nations need to improve the lives of their people over time—and to ease the serious suffering of Koreans in the north immediately.

Both North Korea and South Korea have made tremendous progress in a very short time. It is easy to forget the economic strides South Korea has made in the past 30 years, and the diplomatic achievements North Korea has made as it re-orient its economy away from its longstanding alliances and toward a future that is marked by better relations with other nations.

The work ahead will not be easy, but Koreans I know are some of the toughest, hardest-working people I have ever met. I am confident that, if they set themselves to this work, they will accomplish it. And I hope that our country will contribute to their success.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REAUTHORIZE THE STATE CRIMINAL ALIEN ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today for the purpose of introducing legislation to reauthorize the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program. This program is a valuable one that has done much to address the costs incurred by states and localities in incarcerating illegal criminal aliens since its creation in 1994 under

the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act.

The proposal I offer today is a simple one. This bill reaffirms our belief in the value of this program and strengthens our commitment to it by increasing significantly the authorized funding level over the next four years. The authorized level for this program has increased each year since 1995, when it was set at \$130 million. This year, \$340 million was authorized.

I propose today to increase the funding level for this program to \$850 million a year. This increase, I believe, acknowledges the importance of supporting programs which have proven to be successful. More importantly, I believe it aids us in meeting our responsibility at the federal level to assist states and localities in the effort to keep our communities safe. I encourage all of my colleagues to join me in supporting this initiative.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF COLONEL CARROLL F. POLLETT

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a great United States Army officer and soldier, Colonel Carroll F. Pollett, and to thank him for his contributions to the Army and the country. On Friday, June 23, 2000 Colonel Pollett will relinquish command of the Army's 3rd Signal Brigade which is stationed at Fort Hood, Texas in my district for assignment to the Joint Chiefs of Staff in Washington, DC.

Colonel Pollett began his military career in the enlisted ranks attending basic training and earning his credentials in the Signal Corps from the bottom up with such jobs as Radio Operator, Team Chief, Operations Sergeant and Platoon Sergeant. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant in the Signal Corps following his graduation from Officer Candidate School and has commanded troops as a Signal Platoon Leader, Company Commander, and Battalion Commander before taking command of the 3rd Signal Brigade. Carroll has served in staff positions from company level to the Department of the Army and along the way found time to earn a bachelor's degree and two master's degrees. He has served at numerous posts both in the United States and Europe during times of peace and war.

Carroll is a consummate professional whose performance personifies those traits of courage, competency and commitment that our nation has come to expect from its Army officers. We are saddened that he will be leaving, but we will wish him Godspeed and good luck in his new assignment.

Let me also say that every accolade to Carroll must also be considered a tribute to his family, his wife Dayna and their two sons, Derek and Brian. As a wife and mother, Dayna has been a true partner in all of his accomplishments.

Carroll's career has reflected his deep commitment to our nation, and has been characterized by dedicated selfless service, love for

soldiers and their families and a commitment to excellence. I ask Members to join me in offering our heartfelt appreciation for a job well done and best wishes for continued success to a great soldier and friend—Colonel Carroll F. Pollett.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO GRANT FEDERAL CONSENT
TO THE KANSAS AND MISSOURI
METROPOLITAN CULTURE DISTRICT COMPACT

HON. KAREN MCCARTHY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Ms. MCCARTHY of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, today I announce my intention to introduce legislation to grant the consent of the Congress to the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact, a successful project I have worked on for over a decade.

In 1987 I sponsored enabling legislation in the Missouri House of Representatives to establish a bi-state cultural district for the Kansas City metropolitan area of five counties in Western Missouri and Eastern Kansas. This unique effort in our nation provides a secure source of local funding for metropolitan cooperation across state lines to restore historic structures and cultural facilities. Through the next seven years I worked closely with my counterparts in the Kansas State Legislature, the Mid-America Regional Council, KC Consensus, and civic leaders and elected officials to secure State and Federal approval. When the Bi-State Metropolitan Cultural District Compact was finally sent to the U.S. Congress for authorization in 1994, I appeared in Washington, D.C. in support of passage of this Compact, along with my co-sponsor, Missouri State Senator Harry Wiggins.

I am proud to seek approval of the continuation of the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact. Approval of new State and Federal legislation to extend the Compact is necessary for three reasons. First, the existing Bi-state Contract sunsets at the end of the 2001 which means the local revenue stream will end unless new legislation extends the authority. Second, the new Contract expands the cultural definition to include sports facilities important to the region. Finally, with the consolidation of the governments of the City of Kansas City, Kansas and Wyandotte County into the unified government, the Kansas representation on the Bi-State Board was decreased by two Board Members. Consequently, Missouri currently has an advance of two votes. The new law corrects this inequity so that membership on the Board is balanced with half of the Members from each state.

Over the past four years the Greater Kansas City area has seen the successes of the original Compact. It has made possible the restoration of Union Station which is one of the Midwest's greatest historic landmarks and the largest preservation project currently underway in the United States. The restoration project has been a unique example of a bi-state, private-public, local-federal partnership. Continuation of the Compact will allow the metropolitan area to further this productive alignment for successful arts and cultural ini-

tiatives in the region, and I expect more will be done in Kansas using the revenue in the next phase of the Compact.

Mr. Speaker, I am requesting the House join me in supporting this worthwhile and successful effort in our districts by granting federal consent of the Kansas and Missouri Metropolitan Culture District Compact.

CONGRATULATING FRESNO
COMPACT

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. RADANOVICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fresno Compact for being awarded a "1999 Distinguished Performance Award," by the National Alliance of Business (NAB). This award designates Fresno Compact as the number one local business-education coalition in the United States for 1999.

Fresno Compact is a broad-based coalition of leaders from business and education, whose focuses are to improve student achievement and to bring business leaders and educators together. The Compact helps coordinate such programs as the high school "employment Competency Certification" and the Chamber of Commerce's business partnership programs. It also participates in school-to-career activities of the State Center Consortium and works with the Business Education Committee.

Fresno Compact began its alliance more than ten years ago. It focuses on influencing educators to provide teaching that better prepares students for the workforce. According to NAB President Robert Jones, Fresno Compact is a "catalyst that focuses the attention of Central California business, education and political leaders on long-term, cooperative programs that are designed to raise student achievement levels and provide skills needed by local employers."

Mr. Speaker, I want to congratulate Fresno Compact for being awarded the "Local Coalition of the Year" award. I urge my colleagues to join me in wishing Fresno Compact many more years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JULIE
WILLIAMSON

HON. DAVID D. PHELPS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. PHELPS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize one my district's finest teachers, Ms. Julie Williamson. A first grade teacher at the Pioneer School in Neoga, IL, Ms. Williamson recently received the award for "Illinois Ag in the Classroom Teacher of the Year" by the Illinois Farm Bureau. She was chosen as the recipient from a group of more than 1000 Illinois teachers.

Ms. Williamson's method of teaching allows students to learn about and appreciate the benefits of agriculture. She teaches her students where the products come from and how the products reach them in their everyday

lives. She wants children to understand the connection between the farm and the table. Ms. Williamson believes that people need to understand where their food originates in order to be more appreciative of the people who supply it. Some of the activities that she brings into her classroom are: bread making, field trips to local farms and orchards, and honey-making with live bees. Ms. Williamson's next step will be to attend the U.S. Department of Agriculture National Ag in the Classroom Conference in Salt Lake City.

It is with this, Mr. Speaker, that I say congratulations to Ms. Julie Williamson on her excellent accomplishment. Due to her dedication to her students and community, it is clear that Ms. Williamson is an asset to Illinois and the educational system.

HONORING PROFESSOR MARGARET
MURNANE

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, today I honor one of my constituents, Margaret Murnane, who is a physicist at the University of Colorado at Boulder. This week Professor Murnane received a "genius" award from the MacArthur Foundation for her work in optical physics. She is one of just twenty-five Americans named as MacArthur fellows this year.

Professor Murnane has developed a camera-like laser that emits pulses of red light. Applications of this laser technology range from laser surgery to monitoring water content in cooking. Additionally, this laser can aid scientists visualize processes that are too fast for the human eye to detect, such as chlorophyll harvesting sunlight, which is a process in plant growth.

When she was a child, her father used to give her math puzzles to solve. Without a doubt, this practice contributed to her passion for science. This shows what a little parental involvement can do to further the development of a child's mind.

Professor Murnane's contributions to science, education and technology will have a large impact on our society for years to come. I am pleased to honor her today for her accomplishments.

COMMEMORATION OF THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF THE START
OF THE KOREAN WAR—A SPECIAL
TRIBUTE TO THE 503D
FIELD ARTILLERY BATTALION
OF THE 2D INFANTRY DIVISION

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 15, 2000

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the courageous Americans who fought and died in defense of freedom in the Korean War. On June 25th, we will commemorate the 50th anniversary of the start of that conflict—the so-called "Forgotten War"—which claimed more than 35,000 American lives.

On behalf of President Clinton, I will co-chair, with Veterans Administration Secretary