

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