

Colonel Fellingner was born in Cincinnati, Ohio. As part of a military family, he moved often during his childhood. Commissioned into the infantry from Xavier University in 1990, his first duty assignment was as platoon leader and company executive officer in the 3rd Battalion (Mechanized), 15th Infantry at Fort Stewart, Georgia. During his next operational assignment he served as a company commander and assistant operations officer in 2nd Battalion, 325th Airborne Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, North Carolina. During command, he deployed the company to Haiti in support of the United States Support Group—Haiti.

He later returned to the 82nd Airborne Division, where he served as a battalion operations officer and executive officer during Operation Iraqi Freedom I. He then served in the newly formed Asymmetric Warfare Group as a Troop Commander deploying in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. He later assumed command of 1st Squadron (Airborne), 91st Cavalry, Schweinfurt, Germany, and deployed the unit to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in extending our most sincere gratitude for Colonel Fellingner's service to our Nation. The United States is a more secure and fruitful place as a consequence of his efforts. I want to wish Colonel Fellingner all the best as he transitions from active duty to a new career, in what will surely be an active and fruitful retirement.

SUPPORTING THE GOAL OF ENSURING ALL HOLOCAUST VICTIMS LIVE WITH DIGNITY, COMFORT, AND SECURITY

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 129, which passed the House of Representatives earlier this month. This resolution urges the Federal Republic of Germany to reaffirm itself to its goal of guaranteeing that all Holocaust victims live with dignity, comfort, and security throughout the rest of their lives. The tragedies and hardships that Holocaust survivors have endured in their lifetime are undeniable and we should do everything in our power to ensure they should face no such hardships again. But, despite this, many survivors throughout the country and world are living in poverty and require assistance and specific services that they cannot afford on their own.

There are approximately 500,000 remaining Holocaust survivors today, and more than 60,000 of them are in need of home care services. The Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany (Claims Conference) has devoted itself to negotiating with the German Government to provide payments to assist these survivors. Since its first agreement in 1952, \$70 billion has been distributed to more than 800,000 Holocaust survivors and the 60,000 survivors still in need of care today means these efforts must continue. That is why I support the work of the Claims Conference, why I co-sponsored and voted in favor of H. Con. Res. 129, and why I will con-

tinue to support such efforts to ensure survivors have the support and financial assistance to live out their lives with dignity, comfort, and security.

SYLVIE LAMONTAGNE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sylvie Lamontagne for her fourth place finish at the 2016 Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Sylvie Lamontagne is an 8th grader at Creighton Middle School in Lakewood, Colorado. She is the first back-to-back winner of the Colorado State Spelling Bee in decades—a tremendous feat. Last year, she finished ninth place at the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee and returned this year by spending countless hours preparing for the competition.

The dedication demonstrated by Sylvie Lamontagne is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. Sylvie is a role model for other students to strive to make the most of their education and develop a strong work ethic.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sylvie Lamontagne for her fourth place finish at the Scripps National Spelling Bee and for proudly representing the great State of Colorado on a national level. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO CAROL FULTON YEATES

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Carol Fulton Yeates, a remarkable woman in California to whom we all owe a deep gratitude for her leadership in protecting California's wildlife.

Because of her tireless work, California sea otters and mountain lions are protected.

With wildlife advocates, like the late Margaret Owings and my late father, California Senator Fred Farr, Carol helped launch "Friends of the Sea Otter."

Carol became the executive director of Friends of the Sea Otter in 1981, a role she would lead with distinction and accomplishment until 1989.

During that period, sea otter population went from near extinction to numbers in the thousands.

Because of Carol's passionate management it has become a great success with global attention.

Soon after the sea otter effort, Carol turned her attention to protecting the California mountain lion.

Like her work on protecting sea otters, Carol achieved success in safeguarding mountain lions.

Carol is one of the brightest, most creative and charming activists to grace California. She

won over elected officials on both sides of the aisle and from across all levels of government, and often was the only woman in the room.

Her voice remains heard above others because of her extraordinary ability to build consensus and her ability to drive a compelling narrative based on facts.

During her work, she met my friend, Bill Yeates of Sacramento State Capitol fame.

It was said by all their many friends on both sides of the wedding aisle, that their marriage was made in heaven by all God's creatures who they both worked so hard to save.

Carol and Bill raised their son Zachary to follow in their footsteps into political advocacy for animals. He is now heavily engaged in local politics in Sacramento.

Carol's legacy is grounded in empowering women to speak out for the humane treatment of wildlife and pioneering advocacy strategies.

She supported women like Margaret Owings in carrying out her dreams.

And Carol incorporated women into organizations like Defenders of Wildlife, the Humane Society of the United States and the ASPCA.

While her work has helped wildlife and communities throughout California, a major part of her legacy is in Big Sur, protecting wildlife on the wild coast.

The Sea Otter, the California Condors, the mountain lions—the wonders of the wilderness.

I know the whole House joins me in saluting the great work of a great woman in a great state to protect and preserve the wonders of land and sea.

Our thoughts and prayers are with Carol Fulton Yeates and her family during this challenging time.

HONORING COMMUNITY CHAMPION J. GARY DECOMO

HON. MIKE KELLY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 16, 2016

Mr. KELLY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize one of my constituents from Western Pennsylvania, Mr. J. Gary DeComo. Since 1994, Gary has honorably served as Magisterial District Judge for the 33rd District in Armstrong County. However, his dedication to the community goes far beyond the judicial system.

Also in 1994, after seeing and sentencing countless drug offenders, Judge DeComo began his crusade against drug use and established the Drugs Kill Dreams program, in order to educate and distribute his drug prevention messages. The mission of the Drugs Kill Dreams program is to make our youth and community aware of the dangers and destruction of drug usage.

Driven by the belief that if we increase prevention we will decrease addiction and crime, Judge DeComo strives to reach as many individuals as possible. Remarkably, the Drugs Kill Dreams program has become a collective effort throughout the entire community. This success can be attributed to Judge DeComo's dedication to creating partnerships that promote the Drugs Kill Dreams mission and contribute to its overall success. Drugs Kill Dreams has flourished due to collaborations