

The McNutts have three children, six grandchildren and one great-grandson including: Linda Joy Jones, a teacher and mother of two sons and grandmother to one grandson; Barbara Vickery, an RN and mother of one son and one daughter; and Jerry Lester McNutt, an audio engineer, and father of two sons.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in thanking Jerrell and Vera McNutt for their tireless service in the Lee County community.

HONORING DIANE COWAN

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. CARTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary work of Diane Cowan of Temple, TX. Diane is the latest recipient of the Cy Carpenter Award from Experience Works for her leadership, advocacy on behalf of older workers, and never-ending passion to help others succeed.

Diane retired in 2012 after a 36-year career with Experience Works, where she held progressively responsible positions including Texas state director and national customer service center director. Through her tireless efforts, she has helped Experience Works fulfill its noble mission to assist thousands of mature workers over age 55 with job placement, job training, and job counseling. Her leadership and advocacy, especially for older Americans in rural areas, makes her the ideal recipient of the prestigious Cy Carpenter Award.

Diane Cowan brings to life Gandhi's words that "The best way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others." Her commitment to advocacy and helping others reflects the best values of Central Texas. I applaud her work and wish her success as she continues to be a champion for older Americans.

HONORING THE PHILADELPHIA
OFFICE OF FORENSIC SCIENCE

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Philadelphia Office of Forensic Science. Forensic science is the application of a broad spectrum of sciences and technologies to investigate and establish facts of interest in relation to criminal or civil law. The word forensic comes from the Latin forensic, meaning "before the forum." In modern usage, the word defines a category of legal evidence that may be presented in a legal courtroom setting. Forensic science is a vital public service and access to quality forensic analysis dramatically improves the investigation of criminal activity leading to the exoneration of the innocent and the prosecution of the guilty. Forensic science plays a critical role in public outreach and crime prevention and that role is evolving within the criminal justice community. Crime scene investigators, forensic examiners and forensic scientists provide unbiased, accurate and reliable analyses of evidence recovered from scenes across the nation. In the United States there are more than 12,000 forensic scientists active in the field.

The dedicated and hardworking individuals that comprise the forensic science organizations are worthy of recognition for their commitment to proper scientific investigations to support the cause of justice. Through quality forensic services, accredited programs, validated scientific techniques and a commitment to scientific integrity, forensic scientists make a significant impact in our communities.

From August 10–16, 2014, professional organizations across the country acknowledged the value of modern forensic science and the role of forensic examiners by hosting events to observe National Forensic Science Week. Activities were presented to encourage a better understanding of forensic science and educate local, state and federal policy makers to the current capabilities and future challenges facing this field.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in expressing appreciation for the people, facilities, and technologies that make reliable forensic science possible for the betterment of our communities.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE WILDERNESS ACT

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, located in Harding Township, County of Morris, New Jersey, as it celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

On September 3, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed one of the most important and successful pieces of conservation legislation: The Wilderness Act. Over the past half-century, the Wilderness Act has led to the preservation of environmentally sensitive land in more than 750 Wilderness Areas in 44 states across America, encompassing 109 million acres.

Almost 7,800 acres of that total is found in the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge in Morris County, New Jersey. One of the most beautiful, peaceful, ecologically diverse and environmentally important areas of the Garden State, the Great Swamp is true wilderness, formed by the retreat of the Wisconsin Glacier. The Refuge remains today much as it has for millennia. But what took nature thousands of years to create was once almost destroyed in the blink of an eye.

In 1961, the Port of New York Authority (as it was then known) wanted to build another airport—the fourth—for the metropolitan area. The new airport would have been enormous: twice the size of Kennedy International Airport. If the Port Authority had its way, it would have paved over New Jersey's Great Swamp, which the PA maintained was the only practical site it could find.

Then, as now, the Port Authority was a powerful player in the region's politics. The Port Authority was used to getting what it wanted. Stopping it would not be easy. But in what would become one of the nation's first modern major environmental battles pitting progress against preservation, preservation and citizen action would win.

Among those who fought to save the Great Swamp was the area's representative in Congress, my father, Peter H.B. Frelinghuysen.

Described by the New York Times as "a leader of the opposition," my father headed the steering committee formed to oppose the Port Authority's plan. He helped mobilize the New Jersey Congressional delegation—both Republicans and Democrats—against the idea. He was joined by literally thousands of citizens in marshalling support and raising money to save what one writer described as "a natural masterpiece."

At countless hearings and public meetings, the public came out against the proposal. One of the most effective citizen leaders was Helen Fenske. Her efforts were recently recognized by naming the visitor's center at the Great Swamp in her honor. At one meeting called by the Department of Interior, more than 900 people crowded the room. Only one person spoke in favor of the proposed airport. He was not well received.

Yet despite the enormous outpouring of support for saving the Great Swamp, the Port Authority continued to press forward. But its efforts would never come to fruition. On May 29, 1964, 2,600 acres of the Great Swamp were designated a National Wildlife Refuge, the first such protected wilderness in the country. In recognition of the leadership and generosity of M. Hartley Dodge, who donated a considerable portion of the land for the new refuge, it carried his name.

Had the PA succeeded, the residents of New Jersey and New York would have been the primary losers. The Great Swamp helps regenerate and improves air quality for millions of people in New York City and northern New Jersey, protects water supplies, and provides homes to a wide variety of wildlife, including more than 200 species of birds—among them, our national emblem, the American Bald Eagle. But the nation would also have lost forever this unique natural treasure.

My father considered his effort to help preserve the Great Swamp as the proudest legacy of his service in the House of Representatives. During my own tenure in Congress, I have followed his lead. Over the years I have secured Federal funds to expand the Refuge.

Today, the tens of millions of people who visit the Great Swamp and the hundreds of other Wilderness Areas across the country can learn about and appreciate some of the most beautiful parts of America's precious natural heritage.

President Johnson called the Wilderness Act one of the "most far-reaching conservation measures that a farsighted nation" had ever enacted. As we mark its 50th Anniversary, my hope is that we will continue to build on its legacy for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act.

HONORING ARNOLD HARVEY

HON. JOHN K. DELANEY

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

Mr. DELANEY. Mr. Speaker, today, I pay special tribute to an outstanding citizen from the State of Maryland, Arnold Harvey.

One of the great strengths of this country is how the American people look out for one another. When our neighbor is suffering, we lend a hand.