

has its season and that it's time to allow the next generation of leaders to take the stage. Retirement from office won't give him much idle time. He'll fill his days at his law practice, start up an archery retail business, and spend time with his beloved wife Kathy and two children.

Mayor Alan McGraw has done what all public servants are elected to do: put the needs of the people first. He's led Round Rock to new heights and positioned my home town to continue its progress into a bright future. I salute his leadership, congratulate him on his retirement, and wish him nothing but the best for the years ahead.

HONORING WILLIAM PETITE ON HIS RETIREMENT AFTER MORE THAN 17 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. SCOTT PERRY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. PERRY. Mr. Speaker, today I offer my sincere congratulations to my constituent, William Petite, on his upcoming retirement after more than 11 years of federal civilian service and 6 years of military service.

Mr. Petite began his service to our Nation in 1969, when he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps to serve in the Vietnam War, during which he earned, among other decorations, the Purple Heart. He later enlisted in the U.S. Army and served as a Non-Commissioned Officer on armored vehicles until his discharge in 1981.

Mr. Petite later began working with tracked vehicles as a mechanic, supervisor, and in quality control with Boeing. He subsequently worked with Northrop-Grumman and Letterkenny Army Depot until 2009, when he accepted a position as a Quality Assurance Specialist with the Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) working out of BAE in York, Pennsylvania.

Mr. Petite's workload focused on the Bradley Fighting Vehicle ACAT-1 program; specifically, he aided in the initial development and updates to the Bradley program surveillance plan. His colleagues describe him as a dedicated, persistent, and outstanding leader who took great pride in supporting the customer, the Warfighter, and contributing to the defense of our Nation.

On behalf of Pennsylvania's Fourth Congressional District, I thank and congratulate William Petite on his service to our Nation and wish his family continued great success in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OPENING OF THE AMAZING WORLD OF DR. SEUSS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to include in the RECORD entitled "Oh, the places you'll go when visiting the new Seuss museum" that was published in

the Boston Globe on May 25, 2017. This article comes ahead of the grand opening of The Amazing World of Dr. Seuss in Springfield, Massachusetts this June. This impressive museum honors the legendary work of Springfield native Theodor Geisel, better known to the world as Dr. Seuss. Geisel inspired generations of children and adults with his stories that have become iconic in American folklore.

Mr. Speaker, I hope that everyone will have the chance to visit this exemplary place and enjoy the marvels that Dr. Seuss created.

[From the Boston Globe, May 25, 2017]

OH, THE PLACES YOU'LL GO WHEN VISTING THE NEW SEUSS MUSEUM

(By James Sullivan)

SPRINGFIELD.—Theodor Geisel loved his father, but he was a practical man. Not for him your fantastic tales of elephants and giraffes and a brass band, as the boy daydreams in Geisel's first children's book, "And To Think That I Saw It on Mulberry Street." The boy in the tale, inspired by Geisel's childhood, tells his father the truth: He'd seen a plain old horse and wagon.

Geisel—better known by his pen name, Dr. Seuss—may have had to leave this horse-and-wagon town, the place where he was born in 1904, to free the full potential of his extravagant imagination. Yet throughout his life the Springfield of his youth remained a touchstone.

Now, 15 years after the city unveiled its Dr. Seuss National Memorial Sculpture Garden at the Springfield Museums, crews are scrambling to put the finishing touches on the Amazing World of Dr. Seuss, the first museum dedicated to the life and work of the revered children's author and illustrator. Opening on the first weekend of June, it's not on the real Mulberry Street, but it's just a few blocks away.

"He left here at a certain age, but this was always his hometown, make no mistake," said Leagrey Dimond one of Geisel's two stepdaughters from Audrey Stone Dimond, his second wife. Dimond was in Springfield recently to help set up the museum displays, which include a recreation of Geisel's cozy living-room workspace in the family's hill-top home in La Jolla, Calif.

"This was our soapdish," Dimond said, holding up one artifact as she led a group of sneakpeekers through the galleries.

The Seuss museum will be housed in the William Pynchon Memorial Building, a two-story stone-block Georgian colonial located on the Springfield Museums quad, in the former home of the local history museum. Inside, the rooms feature expertly rendered murals from Seuss's books, painted by a team of UMass honors-college students under the direction of artist John Simpson. There are oversize figures from his books and a tribute to Geisel's childhood home in Springfield, and the second floor walls will be lined with one-of-a-kind Seuss artworks, many of them doodled specifically for his stepdaughters.

"You never knew when he'd come in and drop a little something on your bed," recalled Dimond, 59, who owns a small bookstore in San Francisco. Her sister, Lark Grey Dimond-Cates, is the sculptor who designed the memorial garden on the lawn in the quad, which includes bronze statues of the Lorax, Horton the Elephant, the Cat in the Hat, and other famous Seuss creations.

"People ask where he got his ideas from," said Dimond, who was 10 years old when her mother married her "step-pop." "Who knows? What matters is they were there."

Geisel, who had no biological children, had pet names for his stepdaughters. He called Dimond "Lee Groo," or "Snunny." (He dedi-

cated his book of tongue-twisters, "Oh Say Can You Say?," to "Lee Groo, the Enunciator.")

But for all of the wacky wordplay for which he was renowned, Geisel was also a voracious reader of books for grown-ups. He loved a good mystery, Dimond recalled, and "he could recite from memory entire pieces of Shakespeare."

She fully expects the museum to attract plenty of adults who are just as enthralled as the children.

"As you grow older, you love him in more and more ways," she said.

Simpson, the art director (who is married to the president of the Springfield Museums, Kay Simpson), said it's been a joy for him to bring the pages of Seuss's books to life on the walls of the museum. As a Springfield native whose favorite story growing up was "Yertle the Turtle," "it's been the greatest honor to lose myself in his lines and marks," he said.

Each room is a new immersion. The yellow walls of Geisel's home studio are the same yellow they were in La Jolla, said painting contractor Walt Reynolds, who was on his hands and knees on a drop cloth, finishing the trim. The ceiling in the basement, which will be a children's activity room, will be painted purple, he said. All the walls will be coated with polyurethane, for easy cleanup.

"My grandkids are dying to come in," said Reynolds. "Hopefully my grandkids' grandkids will see this."

Until now, Dimond has been reluctant to call attention to her place in Geisel's life. She did name her bookstore Thidwick, after the "Big-Hearted Moose" of the 1948 Dr. Seuss book. But it's one of his lesser-known works.

With the opening of the museum, it was time to ensure that the Dr. Seuss legacy will have its permanent home, she said: "I emptied out my house. I kept one lamp, a blue sheep, and a couple of pictures."

She's never felt the need to speak publicly about the private life of her step-pop. Anything you need to know about what he was like in person is contained in the books, she said.

"The kindness, the warmth, the wit, the sense of fun—it's all there. He can absolutely speak for himself."

NEIL ETSON

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Neil Eton, a World War II veteran, as well as a small business owner and entrepreneur in Southern Illinois for over 50 years. He is being honored by the Rotary Club of Richland County for his service during World War II, where he served honorably as a Staff Sergeant with the 766th Military Police Battalion.

After the War, Neil made a home for him and his family in Olney, IL, where he founded an energy company, Eton Oil Corporation. Eton Oil Corporation operated successfully for over 50 years and provided many jobs in his community. Neil has been very involved in the energy sector as a Board Member of the Canadian Oil Corporation, a Steering Committee Member for the American Association of Petroleum Geologists, and on the Committee on National Preservation Drake Well Museum in Titusville, Pennsylvania.

Neil has continued to serve his country, church, and community throughout his many years in Southern Illinois. He has been active on the Richland County Board, the City of Olney Zoning Board, and a member of the Richland County Development Corporation. He is also the author of two children's books.

Neil and his wife of 66 years, Frances, have three children and ten grandchildren. I would like to thank Neil for his service to his country and commend him on a lifetime of dedication to his community.

TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH CARVALHO

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an extraordinary man, Joseph John "Joe" Carvalho. Joseph passed away on May 22, 2017 at the age of 88. A resident of Hacienda Heights, California, he was a pillar of the community and will be deeply missed.

Joe was born on June 3, 1928, in Tiverton, Rhode Island and grew up in North Dighton, Massachusetts. He served in the Navy for two years and obtained the rank of Engineman Third Class while working in a POW camp in World War II. In 1951, he enrolled in the Massachusetts Maritime Academy where he received his degree in Marine Engineering. Upon graduation, he served with the Merchant Marines for two years.

Joe married the love of his life Audrey Enos on November 21, 1953. They moved to California and welcomed the birth of their children: Catherine, Cynthia, Barry, Pamela, and Janet. He worked for the Department of Water and Power for 33 years as an Electrical Engineer. At 55, Joe retired and worked for the 1984 Los Angeles Olympics Organizing Committee while also maintaining his own real estate business. He was a founding member of Saint John Vianney Parish and was a dedicated usher and volunteer. He was a dedicated Red Sox fan and was able to see his dreams realized with the 2004, 2007, and 2013 World Series Championships. Joe's greatest joy was his family. He became known as Poppi to his five grandchildren: Danielle, Tara, Nicole, Hope Willard, and Brennan Carvalho, and two great grandchildren: Emma and Quinn Massari.

On Friday, May 26, 2017, a memorial honoring Joe's extraordinary life will be held in Hacienda Heights, CA. Joe will always be remembered for his incredible work ethic, generosity, contributions to the community and love of family. His dedication to his family, work, and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Joe's family and friends. Although Joe may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

CHILD PROTECTION BILLS

HON. LISA BLUNT ROCHESTER

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1842, 1862 and 1761. While I support these bills, I do not support the mandatory minimum requirements in them.

As a mother I constantly worry about the wellbeing of my children, and as a legislator I am concerned about the wellbeing of all our nation's children. These bills are very well meaning and I thank my colleagues for all the hard work done on them. No one here wants to see a child sexually assaulted or abused. Violence against children can have long lasting physical and emotional effects on a child. These bills go a long way and making sure those who commit these heinous crimes are punished.

While these bills address important issues and help to further protect our children, the mandatory minimum provisions are concerning to me. These bills would expand the number of individuals subject to mandatory minimums. Mandatory minimums are an unfair one size fits all solution that often do not take into account circumstances of a crime. Drug related mandatory minimums have led to increased prison population. Many of these people were given harsh and overly punitive prison time. We should not be looking for ways to increase the use of mandatory minimums, but ways to return discretion to judges.

Congress should not be legislating sentencing. This discretion should be left in the hands of judges. Judges are able to adapt sentences to fit the individual circumstances of particular crimes and offenders. My hope is that we are able to work together to protect our nation's children and give our judges the judicial discretion they need when it comes to sentencing those convicted in a court of law.

HONORING THE TOURISM INDUSTRY

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mr. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an industry that is recognized nationwide during the first full week of May, but recognized locally in my district by the Bay County Chamber of Commerce during the entire month of May: travel and tourism.

If tourism is the body, then our visitors are the blood sustaining life. From our award-winning restaurants and warm and welcoming hospitality businesses, to our entertainment events featuring world-renowned artists and the alluring charms of small town life, each and every member of the tourism industry is critical to making our communities thrive. I commend you for your work and am thankful for your contributions to making our communities an incredible place to call home.

INTRODUCTION OF THE COMMISSION ON AMERICANS LIVING ABROAD ACT OF 2017

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, there are an estimated 8 million constituents scattered across the world who promote our culture and values while strengthening our nation's global influence as they live and work abroad. For years, I have worked to ensure that overseas Americans can fully exercise their rights as U.S. citizens by having their voices heard loud and clear by Congress. Eight years ago, I formed the Congressional Americans Abroad Caucus because I wanted to bring awareness and focus to the concerns of those residing abroad. U.S. citizens remain just that, citizens, regardless of where they choose to live and should not be ignored by virtue of residence.

Our constituents living and working abroad have consistently voiced concerns about the impact federal policies have on them like voting, immigration, access to financial institutions, and taxation. The time has come to comprehensively study and address the effects of federal policies on Americans living overseas.

That is why today I am reintroducing the Commission on Americans Living Abroad Act, which creates an Executive Commission with the main purpose of examining those concerns. The Commission creates a 10 member panel to examine the impact of federal policymaking on U.S. citizens abroad. The resulting study would then be used by Congress and the Executive Branch when considering the best steps we can take to engage the abroad community and ensure their voices are heard. This process will bring clearer awareness of the federal issues impacting Americans abroad and will open a path for coordination with those communities towards more robust representation.

Each of our constituents has a right to have their interests represented and to have a role in the political process. The Commission on Americans Living Abroad would establish a foundation from which we can work to better serve the needs of our global constituents. I welcome and urge my colleagues to lend their support to this bill.

IN HONOR OF MEMORIAL DAY

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 25, 2017

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, next week, on May 29, 2017, our nation will celebrate Memorial Day, a day of remembrance for those who have died in service of the United States.

We set aside this day to pay solemn tribute to the patriots who gave their last full measure of devotion for this country that we love.

Let us honor and remember our servicemen and women who answered America's call to service and paid the ultimate price to keep us here at home safe.

We honor their loved ones. Mothers. Fathers. Sisters. Brothers. Sons. Daughters.