

The opioid crisis is the worst drug epidemic our country has ever experienced. Around two and a half million people are now addicted to opioids, and 91 of them die from overdoses each day.

Drug and veteran courts are proven approaches in this fight. Instead of incarcerating those with drug addiction and mental illness, these courts provide treatment based accountability. This strategy has saved over one and a half million lives, billions in taxpayer dollars, and has proven one of the most effective means to reduce recidivism and drug use.

May is National Drug Court Month, so there is no better time for my colleagues to stand and join me in support of drug and veteran courts in the Fiscal Year 2018 appropriations process. Thank you.

SPENCER REITZ EARNS EAGLE  
SCOUT AND BRONZE PALM AWARD

**HON. PETE OLSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Spencer Reitz of Sugar Land, TX, for earning both his Boy Scout Eagle Rank Award and the Bronze Palm.

Eagle Rank is one of the highest achievements a Boy Scout can earn, and a Bronze Palm goes one step beyond that. To earn Eagle Rank, Spencer had to earn 21 merit badges, and develop and provide leadership to others in a service project. He earned the Bronze Palm by remaining active in his troop for an additional three months and earning five additional merit badges. For his service project, Spencer enhanced an existing playground at the Children's Center for Autism at the Texana Center. He is a part of Troop 1631.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Spencer Reitz for earning his Boy Scout Eagle Rank Award and Bronze Palm. We are so proud and confident of his continued success in future endeavors.

FLUORSPAR MINER'S MEMORIAL  
REVEAL

**HON. JOHN SHIMKUS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the Fluorspar Miner's Memorial of Hardin County in my home state of Illinois.

In 1971 a tragic accident occurred at the Barnett mining facility ending the lives of seven miners: Gale Bates, Randal "Jock" Belford, Orval Holbrook, Jerry Jenkins, James R. Lane, William "Bill" and Wayne Long. These men gave their lives to a lifestyle that has impacted so many families in the region.

The Ohio River Scenic Byway, the City of Rosiclare, and many local partners decided to dedicate a memorial to these fallen miners as well as all Fluorspar miners and their families. The memorial displays a life size bronze statue of a Fluorspar miner and his wife—a black granite memorial honoring the seven fallen

miners, interpretive panels to tell the story of Fluorspar mining in the area, landscaping and a separate memorial garden wall commemorating area families and businesses.

The memorial will provide travelers and younger generations with information on this tragic accident and the importance of the fluorspar industry and its importance to Southern Illinois and the nation. The Miner's Memorial celebrates the strong past of the City of Rosiclare due to the mining of fluorspar.

I ask that we all join in that celebration as we pay tribute to the history and the people who made the Fluorspar Miner's Memorial, and I salute the completion of the Fluorspar Miner's Memorial.

HONORING COLLEGE OF SOUTHERN  
MARYLAND PRESIDENT DR.  
BRADLEY GOTTFRIED

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, next month the College of Southern Maryland in my district will bid farewell to Dr. Bradley Gottfried, who will step down as its president. Dr. Gottfried has led the College for the past eleven years with great care and dedication to its mission of expanding higher educational opportunities to those living in Charles, Calvert, and St. Mary's Counties and throughout the region.

The College of Southern Maryland began as a public community college serving Charles County residents in 1958 and has since grown into one of our state's most highly respected institutions of higher education serving commuter and remote learning students. Offering associates degrees in the arts, sciences, and teaching, the College served a total of more than 11,000 credit students at four campus locations last year and an additional 20,000 students online. It hosts six women's and six men's intercollegiate NCJAA Division III athletic teams and nurtures a strong school pride among its students and alumni. The College also trains many students who are serving in the military or who have been recently discharged as veterans. Many of its graduates transfer to four-year colleges to pursue bachelor degrees.

During Dr. Gottfried's tenure as President, the College has expanded to launch its Regional Hughesville Campus and its Center for Trades and Energy Training, which provides direct access to specialized training in career fields that have substantial growth potential, such as HVAC, electrical, construction, and plumbing. The College has also partnered with Southern Maryland businesses to create college-to-career pipelines that help students learn in-demand skills in cybersecurity, robotics, and digital media, among others. He has been praised both for his sound management of the College's finances and for his long-term vision for the College and how it can best serve its students. I've been proud to work closely with Dr. Gottfried to secure funding for the College of Southern Maryland's STEM Workforce Initiative, to enable the College to add to its nursing and health care resources and technology, and to expand courses supporting those training for careers in construction and transportation in our region.

Dr. Gottfried is someone who believes strongly in the importance of community colleges, as I do, to impact lives positively and add to the range of higher education options available for Maryland students. He came to the College of Southern Maryland with a long and experienced career as an academic and community college administrator. Having earned a Ph.D. in Zoology from Miami University, Dr. Gottfried taught for many years and then became President of Sussex County Community College in New Jersey in 2000. He has also become a noted and accomplished historian of the Civil War and has written extensively on the Battle of Gettysburg. The entire College of Southern Maryland community and its partners across the region have been very fortunate to have Dr. Gottfried leading the school these past eleven years, and he will be greatly missed.

I join in congratulating Dr. Gottfried on his retirement and wishing him and his wife Linda all the best in the future. I also wish to congratulate incoming President Dr. Maureen Murphy, currently at Brookdale Community College in New Jersey, on her selection to take the reins from Dr. Gottfried and continue the work of making the College of Southern Maryland one of the premier community colleges in the country.

IN RECOGNITION OF INFORUM FOR  
ITS SUCCESS IN PROVIDING  
MENTORSHIP AND PROFESSIONAL  
OPPORTUNITIES TO  
WOMEN

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, May 25, 2017*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Inforum for its work on behalf of women. Since its founding 55 years ago, Inforum has provided effective mentorship and education opportunities for women throughout Michigan.

Originally founded in 1962 as the Women's Economic Club, the organization has grown and evolved over the years to meet its mission of empowering women to lead and succeed. Inforum hosts a variety of high-performing women leaders for lunches and roundtables to exchange ideas and foster leadership skills. Additionally, Inforum sponsors the Inforum Center for Leadership, an educational initiative that provides professional development through its training programs for mid-career women leaders. These include its Executive Leadership professional development program, a four-month program that combines individual instruction, group exercises, and personalized feedback to provide women with the skills to assume more senior and influential roles in their careers. Collectively, over 1,100 women have graduated from this program since its launch in 2003.

Inforum has provided countless women with critical skills and training to succeed in the 21st century workforce. Its talent initiatives and programs provide targeted professional development to women of all backgrounds, including veterans and early-career women. As a result of its success, Inforum has expanded throughout Michigan to better serve its members. Today, the organization hosts additional