

are indeed a hallmark of development of our Nation's health care delivery system.

I am pleased that I can stand and be a part of promoting the awareness that they exist and the accomplishments which they have achieved.

Mr. MATHESON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my strong support for House Resolution 646, legislation expressing the sense of the House that a week in August should be set aside to promote public awareness of the many health services provided by community, migrant, public housing, and homeless health centers.

Every day our Nation's health centers provide high quality, affordable primary care and preventive health services to people who might not otherwise have access to health care. Through their cost-effective, community-based approach, health centers serve a very important role in our efforts to ensure that all Americans have access to health care.

I am very pleased with the work of Utah's community-based health centers. In 2002, Utah's Health Centers provided comprehensive health care services for over 93,000 Utahns, and they are working to expand their services to meet the needs of Utah's working poor, homeless, elderly, minority, and rural populations. I have long supported the community health center program and am proud of the efforts of Utah's Community Health Centers to increase access to health care and preventive health services in a community-oriented fashion.

I believe it is very fitting that we recognize the commitment of our Nation's health centers with National Community Health Center Week and I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important resolution.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I certainly urge all Members to support House Resolution 646. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TERRY). The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 646.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING DAVID S. TIDMARSH, 2004 SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE CHAMPION

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 684) honoring David Scott Tidmarsh, the 2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 684

Whereas Mr. David Scott Tidmarsh was a student at Edison Intermediate Center located in South Bend, Indiana;

Whereas Mr. Tidmarsh earned his right to compete for the national spelling bee title by

winning the City of South Bend, Indiana spelling bee;

Whereas the 77th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee was held in Washington, D.C. June 1 through 3, 2004;

Whereas 265 spellers from across the United States, American Samoa, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, and the United States Virgin Islands all competed for the title;

Whereas Mr. Tidmarsh, competitor number 76, competed in the bee and survived 15 rounds of competition; and

Whereas Mr. Tidmarsh's achievement brings an immense sense of pride to Edison Intermediate Center, his hometown of South Bend, and the state of Indiana: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the United States House of Representatives—

(1) congratulates David Scott Tidmarsh on his mastery of the English language, culminating in his correctly spelling "autochthonous" in Round 15, and becoming the 77th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee champion;

(2) recognizes the dedication and achievement of Mr. Tidmarsh;

(3) wishes Mr. Tidmarsh much success in achieving his life goals; and

(4) directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make available enrolled copies of this resolution to Edison Intermediate Center, located in South Bend, Indiana, for appropriate display and to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to David Scott Tidmarsh and his family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

#### GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, the House acknowledges the accomplishments and the contributions of many deserving Americans during the course of every year. But today during the consideration of House Resolution 684, we congratulate one of our youngest honorees, and certainly one of the most impressive as well. Thanks to the work of the distinguished gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CHOCOLA), today the House of Representatives salutes the winner of the 77th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee. This is a 14-year-old boy named David Scott Tidmarsh. He lives in South Bend, Indiana.

David won the South Bend city spelling bee to earn a trip to the Scripps National contest here in Washington, D.C. from June 1 through June 3. And during the championship, David survived 15 nail-biting rounds against a couple of hundred of the most gifted

spellers from across the Nation; and he clinched the championship on the word, and I hope I can even pronounce the word, "autochthonous." I believe it is pronounced. It was very impressive, I would say. For those who are scoring at home, let me spell it for them. That is a-u-t-o-c-h-t-h-o-n-o-u-s.

While it is not surprising, due to his very clear mastery of the English language, it is important to note that David is a straight-A student who loves to read. Reportedly David's favorite books are mysteries and science fiction. And I also understand he enjoys learning about politics; so I would certainly urge both the national political parties to think about recruiting this young fellow very early on. David obviously has a very bright future ahead of him no matter what he decides to do.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the whole House, we wish David Scott Tidmarsh the very best in his continued schooling and in the future. Again, I want to thank the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CHOCOLA) for recognizing David's incredible accomplishment, of which David should be very proud.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I am pleased to join with the gentlewoman from Michigan in consideration of this resolution honoring David Scott Tidmarsh, the 2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee Champion.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a very special student for possessing a great skill. This year David Scott Tidmarsh survived 15 challenging rounds to win the 77th Annual Scripps National Spelling Bee by spelling a very challenging word. As a matter of fact, I was saying to myself that had not it been for the fact that Mrs. Beadie King taught us to read phonetically, that is, to break words apart and separate them, I probably never would be able to enunciate this word. But it is "autochthonous," and I thank Mrs. Beadie for the phonetic way in which she taught us to read. That helps me.

But the National Spelling Bee is a wonderful competition that celebrates a child's intellect and thirst for learning. Each year, students compete within their schools, then within their region, and then, if successful, at the national competition in Washington, D.C.

David Scott Tidmarsh advanced to the national competition by winning the Edison Intermediate Center competition in South Bend, Indiana, and then by winning the citywide competition.

At the National Spelling Bee, Tidmarsh was pitted against 265 other talented spellers from all over the U.S., as well as American Samoa, the Bahamas, Jamaica, Puerto Rico, Saudi Arabia, and the United States Virgin Islands. Using concentration and determination, Mr. Tidmarsh persevered to become national champion.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate David Scott Tidmarsh. His

willingness to study hard and to work toward a difficult goal is an example from which all Americans can learn. He is indeed a rare and talented young person. Again, I extend to him my congratulations.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. CHOCOLA).

Mr. CHOCOLA. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding me time.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H. Res. 684, a resolution honoring David Scott Tidmarsh, the 2004 Scripps National Spelling Bee champion. I want to thank my colleague, the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. DAVIS), the chairman of the Committee on Government Reform, for moving this resolution so quickly through his committee.

Mr. Speaker, 14-year-old David Tidmarsh is truly a remarkable young man. Having had the opportunity to meet him and witness his accomplishments, I think I can say that with great confidence.

This soon-to-be freshman at Adams High School in South Bend, Indiana, is no stranger to the national spelling bee contest. He finished tied for 16th place in last year's spelling bee, but this year he knew he could do better, and he set out on a plan to achieve that goal.

David Tidmarsh has four dictionaries that he calls his own in his personal collection, including one that is so well worn that, if you shook it, it would probably fall apart. He has read through that one cover to cover twice. In fact, he compiled a list of words he thought might be included in the contest and typed them into his family's home computer. He also studied word lists from prior competitions.

Mr. Speaker, I think it is safe to say this is a very determined young man.

I was surprised to learn that in the 77-year history of the Scripps National Spelling Bee there has never been a winner from Indiana until this young man correctly spelled "autochthonous," which is hard enough to say, very hard to spell, in the 15th round.

Mr. Speaker, I know that people from all over the country were holding their breath, watching David spell that final word on ESPN. I also know that his school and his hometown of South Bend, Indiana, was overwhelmed with excitement when he claimed the championship.

In fact, he has had quite a whirlwind tour since winning. He won the trophy on Thursday, June 3. That very night, he and his family traveled to New York City, and the next morning he appeared on the CBS Early Show, ABC's Good Morning America, NBC's Today Show, and, after that, he appeared on Fox News and CNN as well.

After that, he came back here to Washington, D.C., to deliver the speech at the bee's banquet that evening; and then he finally went back home to South Bend, Indiana, on Saturday.

On Monday, he attended a rally in his honor at his school, Edison Inter-

mediate Center, hosted by the City of South Bend and the South Bend Community School Corporation. At the celebration, he was praised by Indiana's Governor, Joe Kernan, for the way he handled his victory. In fact, Governor Kernan was so impressed that he awarded David the State of Indiana's highest honor, the Sagamore of the Wabash Award.

But that was only the beginning of the accolades. South Bend Mayor Steve Luecke presented David with the key to the city and declared June 7, 2004, David Scott Tidmarsh Day. In St. Joseph County, Commissioner Cindy Bodle presented David with a key to the county.

Since that time in early June, David has thrown out his first pitch at a South Bend Silverhawks game, and I might say it was a strike, I was there to witness it, and he has appeared in numerous local parades and even had the opportunity to visit with the President of the United States in the Oval Office.

Everyone, including his very proud parents, his classmates, his extended Hoosier family, the Indiana Congressional Delegation and myself, are all extremely proud of David's accomplishments.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support House Resolution 684, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 684.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### HONORING FORMER PRESIDENT GERALD R. FORD ON HIS 91ST BIRTHDAY

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 702) honoring former President Gerald R. Ford on the occasion of his 91st birthday and extending the best wishes of the House of Representatives to former President Ford and his family.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 702

Whereas Gerald Rudolph Ford was born on July 14, 1913;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford is the only person from the State of Michigan to have served as President of the United States;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford graduated from the University of Michigan where he was a star center on the football team and later turned down offers to play in the National Football League;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford attended Yale University Law School and graduated in the top 25 percent of his class while also working as a football coach;

Whereas in 1942, Gerald R. Ford joined the United States Navy Reserves and served valiantly on the U.S.S. Monterey in the Philippines during World War II, surviving a heavy storm during which he came within inches of being swept overboard;

Whereas the U.S.S. Monterey earned 10 battle stars, awarded for participation in battle, while Gerald R. Ford served on the ship;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford was released to inactive duty in 1946 with the rank of Lieutenant Commander;

Whereas in 1948, Gerald R. Ford was elected to the House of Representatives where he served with integrity for 25 years;

Whereas in 1963, President Lyndon Johnson appointed Gerald R. Ford to the Warren Commission investigating the assassination of President John F. Kennedy;

Whereas from 1965 to 1973, Gerald R. Ford served as minority leader of the House of Representatives;

Whereas from 1974 to 1976, Gerald R. Ford served as the 38th President of the United States, taking office at a dark hour in the history of the United States and restoring the faith of the people of the United States in the Presidency through his wisdom, courage, and integrity;

Whereas in 1975, the United States signed the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, commonly known as the "Helsinki Agreement", which ratified post-World War II European borders and supported human rights;

Whereas since leaving the Presidency, Gerald R. Ford has been an international ambassador of American goodwill, a noted scholar and lecturer, and a strong supporter of the Gerald R. Ford School of Public Policy at the University of Michigan, which was named for the former President in 1999;

Whereas Gerald R. Ford was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal in 1999; and

Whereas on July 14, 2004, Gerald R. Ford will celebrate his 91st birthday: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives honors former President Gerald R. Ford on the occasion of his 91st birthday and extends its congratulations and best wishes to former President Ford and his family.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER) and the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. DAVIS) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Michigan (Mrs. MILLER).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from Michigan?

There was no objection.

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

It is certainly a true pleasure today to rise in support of House Resolution 702. This is a resolution that wishes former President Gerald R. Ford a wonderfully happy 91st birthday on behalf