

greater protection for children. Children are most at risk of suffering from the toxicity of lead paint. Lead is a dangerous substance, especially so for children under the age of six, who are only beginning the process of developing their bodies and brains. Lead paint can cause nervous system damage, loss of hearing, stunted growth, severe kidney damage, and can even disrupt the development of the brain and the faculty of cognition.

Lead-contaminated household dust, resulting from lead paint is the primary cause of lead poisoning in children throughout the United States. Though the number of children in the United States with dangerous levels of lead has dropped from 13.5 million in 1978, roughly 300,000 children still have unsafe blood lead levels that are in excess of 10 micrograms per deciliter. 300 thousand, a number equaling half of the population of Texas District 18, are currently at a distinct risk of suffering from lead poisoning. Indeed, this is a major problem.

Of the \$43.4 billion spent in the United States annually on pediatric environmental disease, a great majority goes to combating and treating childhood lead poisoning. It is because of this that we must act now in putting forth more stringent testing requirements to combat the grave danger posed by lead paint.

Upon enactment of the act, the HUD will have 90 days to comply with the new environmental intervention blood lead level of at or above 10 micrograms of per deciliter, the point at which the CDC has found cause for concern. This bill will save countless children from suffering from the myriad ailments that come hand in hand with lead paint.

The tragedies of these children and others have exposed the fundamental problem which this bill addresses. For too long there has been no clear federally mandated standard to indicate excess blood lead levels in households, or to require action. This bill will go far to ensure that the children of our Nation are able to enjoy good health, by making certain that all houses become lead safe.

Recently I amended H.R. 2352, the "School Safety Enhancement Act of 2007", which sought to enhance the safety of our elementary schools, secondary schools, and institutions of higher learning, by increasing the amount of money available for school safety. It is critical especially that we make funds available for poor communities, and specifically to require the creation of a tip hotline for school officials, parents, and students, to report the existence of hazards and chemicals. I also provided amendments that would require institutions to create a safety plan, dealing with potential terror, chemical, or otherwise hazardous situations. These concerns for the safety of children in schools are similar to those concerns that I have for the wellbeing of children in their homes. In both situations, I believe children should be free from the dangers presented by hazardous materials and situations, including the threat of lead paint.

As the safety of children should be critical to all Americans, I urge my colleagues to support this act to protect our Nation's children and our Nation's future from harm's way.

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE UNITED NATIONS AFRICAN UNION MISSION IN DARFUR (UNAMID)

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 30, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1351. This resolution expresses the support for the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur. It also calls upon United Nation Member States and the international community to contribute the resources necessary to ensure the success of the mission.

On July 8, 2008, seven U.N. peacekeepers were killed and an additional 22 were wounded while serving on the mission to bring peace and stability to the Darfur region of Sudan. This is only the latest in series of attacks on the peacekeepers. The severe lack of troops, police officers, and air transport limits the mission's effectiveness.

Despite the deployment of 26,000 peacekeepers, their efforts are constantly thwarted by the Sudanese government and rebels. Clearly, the success of the mission depends on additional contributions of U.N. Member Nations and the international community. Therefore, I ask Congress to condemn the attacks on the U.N. peacekeepers in Darfur and I ask that the Sudanese government ensure that those responsible are brought to justice.

We express our full commitment to the people of Darfur and call on all members of the international community to contribute the resources necessary to ensure the success of the United Nations African Union Mission in Darfur. We cannot in good conscience turn away from this troubled region. It deserves our full support and attention to bring a halt to the atrocities committed in this area of the world.

TRIBUTE TO NICK DONOFRIO

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay special tribute to Connecticut resident Mr. Nick Donofrio who is retiring after more than 40 years in various leadership capacities at the IBM Corporation.

Nick joined IBM in 1967 and spent the early part of his career in integrated circuit and chip development, as a designer of logic and memory chips. He held numerous technical management positions and, later, executive positions in several of IBM's product divisions. He has led many of IBM's major development and manufacturing teams—from semiconductor and storage technologies, to microprocessors and personal computers, to IBM's entire family of servers.

Nick has always been a champion for innovation across IBM and its global ecosystem. He has been the leader of IBM's global technology strategy. In addition to his strategic business mission, Nick has led the development and retention of IBM's technical population and strives to enrich that community with a diversity of culture and thought.

Nick has been focused sharply on advancing education, employment and career opportunities for underrepresented minorities and women—all issues of great importance to me as well.

He served for many years on the Board of Directors for the National Action Council for Minorities in Engineering (NACME). He has served on the Board of Directors for INROADS, a non-profit organization focused on the training and development of talented minority youth for professional careers in business and industry, and he is co-chair of the New York Hall of Science. A fellow Italian-American, Nick was awarded the prestigious 2007 National Education and Leadership Award from the Sons of Italy Foundation.

He is the holder of seven technology patents and is a member of numerous technical and science honor societies. In 2002, Nick was recognized by Europe's Institution of Electrical Engineers with the Mensforth International Gold Medal for outstanding contributions to the advancement of manufacturing engineering. In 2003, he was named Industry Week magazine's Technology Leader of the Year, the University of Arizona's Technical Executive of the Year, and was presented with the Rodney D. Chipp Memorial Award by the Society of Women Engineers for his outstanding contributions to the advancement of women in the engineering field. In 2005, Nick was elected a member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, he was presented with Syracuse University's highest alumni honor—the George Arents Pioneer Medal, and he was honored by CNBC with its Overall Technology Leadership Award.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating Nick Donofrio as he begins a new, exciting chapter in his life.

TELL CITY SESQUICENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, 2008 marks the 150th anniversary of the founding of Tell City, in Perry County, Indiana. Nestled on the Ohio River and surrounded by the natural beauty of the Hoosier National Forest, the city's 7,500 citizens personify a warm and welcoming demeanor and help define the term "Hoosier Hospitality."

The Town's ceremonial observance of this anniversary will be held beginning Saturday, August 2nd continuing through August 9th, 2008. Organized to coincide with the city's annual Schweizerfest, itself a Hoosier treasure developed in 1959 after the city's centennial celebration, a number of celebratory events have been planned including musical performances, historical tours, steamboat river cruises, a city picnic, as well as a parade and trolley tours. I look forward to celebrating Tell City's Sesquicentennial with its residents and attending some of these events during the festival.

The history of Tell City is richly accentuated by the story of European immigrants that came to our country during the 19th Century. The story begins not in Indiana but in neighboring Cincinnati, Ohio. Cincinnati was a

major departure point for German immigrants hoping to settle further west, and in 1856 a group of investors paid \$15.00 per share to found the Swiss Colonization Society. Their desire was to locate and purchase land for a new community—and their search was exhaustive. The search included potential sites as far west as the Nebraska and Kansas prairie. The members of the Swiss Colonization Society finally agreed upon a 4,100 acre site between the Town of Troy and the City of Cannelton in Perry County, Indiana.

They created the new city from scratch, laying out more than 7,300 lots along wide streets named after leaders in science, education and the arts. The first 620 settlers arrived in May 1858 and within weeks more than eighty homes were either constructed or being built.

The first name proposed for the city was "Helvetia" after the early Latin name for Switzerland. However, out of a desire to fit the new country they had come to settle, they reconsidered and instead chose to honor their Swiss heritage by naming the city after William Tell, the legendary 14th century Swiss freedom fighter well-known for sparking the rebellion against the Hapsburg Emperors that led to the formation of the Swiss Confederation, a precursor to the modern day Switzerland.

The immigrants that settled in Tell City desired a community founded on the principles of free enterprise, hard work, and freedom. The community's founding mothers and fathers spoke mostly German and were born in Swiss cantons or the yet-to-be-unified Germany.

These settlers left behind political tensions and the economic perils of Europe for the promise offered in America.

Quickly developing sources of trade and commerce, these industrious men and women offered their fellow citizens the staples of the day through the milling of grain, brick making, and the production of clothing, food and beer. One of the earliest trades established in Tell City was that of woodworking and furniture building. That tradition continues today through businesses such as Tell City Chair, William Tell Woodworkers/Swiss Plywood, and Castlewood Corporation.

As Tell City grew, other industries and services also came to the emerging community, including attorneys, the first postmaster and a fire-fighting company. The first school was constructed in 1859 in a small, two story school house. While the lower level was used for teaching, the upstairs room was used as living space for the school's teacher.

Faith also played an important role in the growing community and remains a key component. The first church was a catholic church, built in the 1000 block of Main Street. While the original structure has long since been razed, St. Paul's Catholic Church continues that legacy and has been joined by ten other denominations throughout the city.

The Swiss Colonization Society continued to direct the city's development through its early years and functioned in large part as a municipal government until the new city could function independently. Over the course of its last several years, the Society deeded the remaining land not settled to the city and the community schools and on April 17, 1879 disbanded.

It wasn't until 1886, however, that the town elected August Schreiber as its first mayor. A native of Prussia, Schreiber came to America

in 1855 and entered the pharmacy business, founding Schreiber's Drug Store in Tell City. His term as Mayor lasted only two years. It wasn't until 1892 when Albert Fenn was elected to the position that a native born in Tell City became mayor. Fenn held many other public offices, including that of county auditor, city clerk, and city councilman. Fenn also played an important role in politics outside of Tell City, serving as a delegate in 1896 and as a sergeant-at-arms from 1900–1912 at the Democratic national conventions.

One of Albert Fenn's greatest legacies to Tell City is the City Hall. Conceived in 1895 by Fenn and others to lure the county seat to Tell City from neighboring Cannelton, the original intent was to construct the structure and then donate it to the County. This action set off a competition with the residents of Cannelton, who also began work to raise funds and construct a new structure for the county.

Cannelton completed its project first and provided the structure to the county without cost or the legal process of relocating the county seat. Tell City retained its building as the city hall, using the extra space in the structure for a myriad of civic and community functions, including use as school space. In what is perhaps the most ironic and controversial footnote to the story, Perry County did relocate its county seat to Tell City in 1994 to a new structure located on Payne Street.

Tell City played an important role for shipping during the 1880's. Early commerce and travel was easier along the Ohio River than via the rough roads that connected the city with other communities such as Paoli and Jasper, Indiana. As a result, Tell City developed one of the largest ports between Louisville, KY and Evansville, IN and in 1889, the Louisville and Evansville Mail line named a new boat Tell City in honor of the city's importance on the route. Comprising nearly 38 acres, the Tell City River Port continues the city's river heritage, specializing in the handling of bulk materials such as pig iron, coke, coal and woodchips for area manufacturers.

The river has also served to challenge the community. A victim of the 1937 Ohio River Flood, much of the community had to be restored or rebuilt. Ohio River Flood Markers are painted on the William Tell Woodcrafters Office Building on Seventh Street depicting the actual levels of the water during this and other floods. As with other communities following that historic flood, the Army Corps of Engineers constructed a flood wall to protect the citizenry from future flooding.

Tell City stands as Perry County's largest community and serves as the largest economic district in the county. To that end, the City recently completed a renovation of its downtown district with new landscaping, street lights, and bike racks. Bike lanes were also added throughout the four-block district.

An extensive network of recreational facilities has also been developed in the community to provide assorted athletic opportunities to the residents of the community. New walking trails and further developments of these facilities demonstrate the pride and dedication enjoyed by this community.

Above all else, the real treasure of Tell City is its citizens. Despite any challenges they may face, they continue to display a collective confidence and ingenuity that overcomes any problem and has allowed the city to flourish.

It is an honor and privilege to represent this community in Congress. I want to congratulate

Tell City on its Sesquicentennial, and look forward to seeing how this unique and wonderful city thrives for decades to come.

TRIBUTE TO LEADERS OF THE ENERGY EFFICIENCY CAUCUS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the leaders of the Energy Efficiency Caucus, Representatives MARK UDALL and ZACH WAMP, for spearheading the Congressional Renewable Energy and Energy Efficiency Expo. More than 50 businesses from around the country will demonstrate their sustainable energy technologies.

Energy efficiency must be the cornerstone of our energy policy because it affords our country the ability to decrease demand for oil and other energy sources, thus reducing our overall energy consumption and increasing our national security. Congress must enact incentives to make sure that these technologies flourish.

As I travel across Connecticut's Second Congressional District, I have seen first-hand the innovation that businesses, school districts and families are employing to reduce their energy costs and reduce energy emissions.

Earlier this week, I attended a House field hearing in Hartford, Connecticut, at which the leaders of General Electric and United Technologies Corporation, both headquartered in Connecticut, discussed their energy efficient technologies. These two companies, like the ones exhibiting at the EXPO, have developed a variety of products for all sectors of the economy. At the same time, these companies are also seeing their own energy consumption and costs lowered as they embrace energy efficient technologies internally.

I encourage my colleagues to stop by the EXPO in the Cannon Caucus Room on Thursday anytime between 9 a.m.–5 p.m. It is an opportunity to see innovation first-hand.

IN HONOR OF RICHLAND TOWNSHIP'S 175TH ANNIVERSARY AND THE FIRST ANNUAL RICHLAND COMMUNITY DAYS

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 31, 2008

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Richland Township in Cambria County, Pennsylvania, as it celebrates its 175th Anniversary and to commend the township on its first annual Richland Community Days.

Madam Speaker, Richland's history dates back to the second half of the 18th Century when the area was still part of Bedford County. Some of the area's earliest settlers were the Adams family, which included Samuel, Rachel, and Solomon. Their legacy lives on through the various landmarks in the area that were named after the members of the family. Richland Township was officially formed in