

advocated by Christianity since the Holy Family's journey in ancient Egypt, and the strong message of sharing carried forward by Islam fourteen centuries ago, have both endowed our society with a deep sense of civil responsibility. Today, as a result of falling boundaries all over the world, a global agenda for social development is being put forward. Our voluntary sector must be involved in the setting of such agenda and in playing an active part in its implementation.

Our success in redirecting our economy and reviving our civil institutions is real. It is tangible and we build on it. But what is the value of success if it is not based on human dignity? Indeed, can there be any success if the human being is neglected?

The only long term guarantee of sustainable development, the main source of value and competitiveness, is investment in human capital. Egypt's history and ancient civilization taught us this reality. For thousands of years, investment in human capital was the cornerstone of every success. It allowed pyramids to be built, rivers to be tamed, innovations to be discovered, and art to flourish.

Our investment in human capital has been in all fields. It covers education, health and basic services. It aims at preserving the environment, encouraging creative thinking and maintaining family values. It is conscious and respectful of human rights in the most comprehensive sense. Human rights which include every individual's right to freedom of speech, of expression and intellectual fulfillment, the right to a happy childhood, to a productive life and a peaceful retirement, to a decent environment, basic services, shelter, and food. Moreover, it aims at building cultural bridges with people throughout the world.

But beyond this, the key to our basic development is the status and role of women in our society. For this we have used every means to improve women's share in education, in health services, in job opportunities, and in leading a fulfilling life as members of a family, a community and a country.

But the true essence of Egypt's endurance and prosperity over the centuries, is the sense of belonging to one community. One nation founded on equal worth and equal rights for every individual. Throughout the centuries, Egypt sheltered people from every origin, background, creed and race. Their traditions and cultures, their habits and customs have melted to form one people. This is a country where all are equal in law, in practice and in spirit, men and women, peasants and urban dwellers, rich and poor, regardless of their creed or beliefs.

Since the dawn of time, Egypt's position in the world, its natural resources and cultural diversity have allowed her to be at the crossroads of civilization. The same is true today. We have built a country of the twenty-first century that has bridged millennia of history with a boundless future, the traditions of old and the energy of youth. We have blended economic reform and social balance,

western progress and eastern values. A haven between a prosperous North and a South full of promise. We seek to modernize by embracing change and not defying it, centered around human nature selfless and self-interested, cooperative and competitive all at once.

We are a country that has found its balance. We will share it in friendship with all.

In this place of learning, in this place of excellence, you foster sharing, understanding, and tolerance. You bring forth the future like we do in reform. And in the end we must join hands, for the many lives we change, will one day, shape the century to come in the image of our dreams.

Thank you very much.

SWOYERSVILLE ANNIVERSARY

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the Centennial Anniversary of Swoyersville Borough in Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Borough will celebrate at a banquet on July 3. I am pleased and proud to have been asked to participate in this event.

Originally part of Kingston Township, Swoyersville first sought incorporation as a borough in 1888, but the action was challenged in court. Eleven years later, the Superior Court of Pennsylvania sustained the incorporation and the Borough was officially born.

Named for coal baron John Henry Swoyer, mining was the major industry in the Borough at the time. Swoyersville was broken up into sections, such as Shomemaker's Patch and Maltby, with several smaller sub-divisions within the sections. The patches were groups of company homes owned by the coal companies. Today, coal mining is just a part of Swoyersville's history, as are the garment and clothing factories which replaced that industry.

In 1972, when Tropical Storm Agnes caused the Susquehanna River to overflow her banks, eighty percent of the town was inundated. Like all residents of the Wyoming Valley, the townspeople pulled together during the summer of 1972, shoveled mud out of their homes, and began to rebuild. Today, Swoyersville flourishes as a beautiful residential area.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to join with the community in recognizing this milestone anniversary of the Borough Charter. I send my sincere best wishes to the people of Swoyersville as they gather for their Centennial Celebration.

VERMILLION COUNTY'S 175TH BIRTHDAY

HON. STEPHEN E. BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 30, 1999

Mr. BUYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 175th birthday of Vermillion County, Indiana. Nearly two centuries of proud history and tradition encompass an area only seven miles wide and 37 miles long. The county's unusual shape was formed in order to better govern and patrol the area when it was still a frontier on the Wabash River.

Vermillion County gained its name from a French translation of a Miami Indian word meaning "red earth," or clay. For years, clay provided a major business for this county. Now businesses such as Eli Lilly, Inland Container, Public Service Indiana, Peabody Coal, and the Newport Army Ammunition Depot are the major employers that exist in this "red earth" county.

Even though Vermillion County is small in size, many notable figures have called it home. Henry Washburn, a Newport lawyer, was appointed Lieutenant Colonel of the 18th Indiana Volunteer Infantry Regiment during the Civil War. Washburn and his regiment served heroically in several battles such as Pea Ridge, Ulysses S. Grant's Vicksburg campaign, and Sheridan's Shenandoah Valley campaign. After the Civil War, Washburn was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives where he contributed to the creation of Yellowstone National Park.

Born on a farm near Dana was yet another historic figure, the famous World War II correspondent Ernie Pyle. Pyle accompanied American servicemen in both the European and Pacific theaters. Pyle's work portrayed the grim aspects of war and also the lighter moments between the chaos. His writing was, and still is, seen as some of the best journalism of the twentieth century.

Besides historical figures, Vermillion County has also been home to entertainment personalities as well. The actor Ken Kercheval was born in Wolcottville. One of his most notable acting jobs was on the hit television series "Dallas." Kercheval has even had a guest appearance on "ER." Another Vermillion native is Jill Marie Landis. Landis is a nationally best-selling author. She has written 13 award winning books. Landis claims that her childhood in Clinton, Indiana, helped to inspire her stories.

I congratulate all of the residents of Vermillion County who are taking part in the 175th birthday celebrations.