

Elk Point's colorful history begins with the Lewis & Clark expedition of 1804 when the explorers camped in this area in 1804 and again in 1806. Eli Wixson built a cabin in 1859, becoming the first citizen of Elk Point.

Today, Elk Point's location makes it an ideal location for a variety of businesses with two Interstate 29 exits, a railway hub with service in three directions, and close proximity to the Missouri River for both economic and entertainment purposes. This thriving town is the county seat of Union County, the ninth fastest growing county in the United States in terms of family income.

Elk Point exemplifies a traditional South Dakota community with its close-knit community with a high quality of life. The citizens are independent and welcoming, and the educational system is advanced with modern technology and advanced placement classes.

The citizens of Elk Point will be celebrating their rich heritage June 26–28, 2009 with an All-Class Reunion, Amy's Race for breast cancer research, and various games and entertainment. I congratulate the citizens of Elk Point on their accomplishments over the last 150 years and look forward to seeing their future endeavors.●

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF IMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF CANOVA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I recognize Immanuel Lutheran Church of Canova, SD, on reaching the 125th anniversary of its founding. This historic church has been a cornerstone of both the community and the Synod. Immanuel Lutheran Church has seen its share of struggles, but has always grown stronger from them. Today, I pay tribute to both the anniversary of the church and to the members who have kept its traditions of service and faith alive for 150 years.

The church was founded in 1884 with Rev. J. Reyhout as its pastor. The members, mainly German immigrants, joined the Ohio Synod and built the first church in 1891. The current church was completed in 1914. Known as the "German Church" or "German Lutheran", the congregation's welcome spirit for recent immigrants led to services being held in German. In 1940, they transitioned to every other week in English and German. In 1952, German services were discontinued. Immanuel joined the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in 1988 on its founding.

Although changes have been coming to this community since its founding, Immanuel Lutheran Church has held steady to the core values that it was founded on. With outreach to the prison, food shelters, and the community, these members have maintained the initial ideals of service and devotion. I congratulate this congregation on reaching this monumental anniversary,

and look forward to the future as they continue their traditions.●

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF LEBANON, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I recognize the community of Lebanon, SD, on reaching the 125th anniversary of its founding. This historic anniversary gives the community the chance to reflect on their strong history as well as their optimistic future.

Lebanon was founded by farmers in 1883. Small businesses quickly sprung up in the town and continued to grow for 50 years. In 1926, they built an outdoor swimming pool, which is the oldest of its type today. Lebanon was given two cedar trees by the government of the Country of Lebanon, one of which still lives today.

To celebrate the town's achievement, there will be a weekend of festivities from June 20–21, 2009, with a parade, tractor pull, and various entertainers. While the population of Lebanon has declined, the spirit of the town maintains their strong work ethic and united spirit. Small towns like Lebanon are the backbone of South Dakota, and the people of this community make me proud to represent them.●

#### 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF McLAUGHLIN, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I rise in order to pay tribute to the community of McLaughlin on reaching its 100th year. This strong town was founded as a railroad community for refueling and replenishment, as well as a center for Indian trade. In celebration of their centennial, there will be a tractor pull, parade, and entertainment throughout the weekend of June 18–21, 2009.

The citizens created a thriving business community soon after it was settled. Large cattle operations were run through the area and McLaughlin became a center for many activities, including trade with residents, both Indian and non-Indian. In 1889, the Standing Rock Reservation was formed, with McLaughlin at the center of the reservation on the South Dakota side. The town was named after MAJ James McLaughlin, a superintendent of Standing Rock, and the town was officially incorporated October 7, 1909. This community now has a grain elevator complex as well as a livestock auction market in town and continues as a traditional hub for its residents. The home of the Mighty Midgets has long been successful, both in the classroom and athletics.

As they reach this monumental anniversary, McLaughlin will have the opportunity to reflect on its diverse and enriched past as well as the opportunities for its future. This community has been noted for its shared history and I congratulate them on reaching their centennial.●

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF REVILLO, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I recognize the community of Revillo, SD, on reaching the 125th anniversary of its founding. Revillo is a warm community, filled with historical beauty and a strong sense of hospitality.

The town of Revillo was founded on the homestead of John Hillstrom in 1884 when the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway entered the area. The Revillo flour mill was built in 1904, where farmers would bring their wheat crop to have it made into Monogram flour to meet their annual needs. In the years before World War I, Revillo was booming with businesses, including two implement dealers, a drug store, two banks, three elevators, and an Opera House.

Today, Revillo is maintaining its history with four churches in town, many members having a lineal connection to those who first established the churches. This thriving community is also looking forward with a modern school and lighted athletic field, the Revillo Farmers Co-op elevator, and a maintainer for the Grant County highway department.

The people of Revillo are celebrating their heritage and their accomplishments June 20–21, 2009. One hundred and twenty-five years after its founding, Revillo holds its history close while continually looking to the future, demonstrating what is great about South Dakota, and why I am proud to call this great State home.●

#### 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF SENECA, SOUTH DAKOTA

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to the 125th anniversary of the founding of the community of Seneca, South Dakota. After 125 years, this agrarian community will have the chance to reflect on both its industrious history as well as the potential of its future.

Beginning with a sod shanty that served as a stopping post as well as the local post office, Seneca began to thrive after the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad pushed west and created the town in 1886. After drawing the name Seneca from a hat, the town immediately began to boom with local businesses being brought in from the surrounding towns. Seneca transitioned from a cattle range to a farming community, with progressive modern conveniences including a notable water system.

This strong town has bound together throughout the years to accomplish whatever came their way. From sending engraved gold rings with their soldiers to World War I in 1917, to building a community center for one thousand dollars in 1937, the citizens of Seneca support their town and its people. This spirit of unity has sustained Seneca through one hundred and twenty-five years of changes and will support them