

Taking its name from a post office run out of the nearby home of Mr. and Mrs. George Phoenix, the city of Avon grew out of the 1879 expansion of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad. Prosperous agriculture in the western part of Bon Homme County led farmers and ranchers to seek expanded markets for their goods. Railroad officials, in turn, recognized the value of building a branch line from Napa to Platte to serve this need, and some 500 workers began the arduous task of laying the new line through the area. The start of work was closely followed by the opening of a saloon by Joe Sterba that would find its home in Avon's first permanent commercial building by 1900. Other businesses quickly joined the saloon, and Avon was soon a thriving community serving the agricultural region that surrounded it.

For most of its 125 years, the city of Avon has been served by the weekly newspaper, the Avon Clarion, which began publication in the winter of 1901. In an article that year, the paper boasted that Avon had, "without exception, the brightest and most encouraging future of any town along this line." In the 125 years since its founding, Avon has proven its ability to thrive and serve farmers and ranchers in the region. Currently, more than 550 people live in the city of Avon. It is with great honor that I advise my colleagues of the achievements made by this great community.●

HONORING THE TOWN OF BURKE

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Burke, SD. The town of Burke has enjoyed a proud past and looks forward to a bright future.

Founded in 1904, the town of Burke took its name from Charles Burke of Pierre, who served in the South Dakota legislature, U.S. Congress, and later as U.S. Commissioner of Indian Affairs. Burke was platted as a government townsite and surveyed by Sam Chilton. On August 4, homesteaders gathered in the center of the townsite and raced on foot, on horseback and with wagons to lay their claims to plots in the town. Though the town was born with the sound of the pistol that day, Burke did not experience the boom that many of the other towns in the area did. Burke's growth was slow and purposeful. Early settlers faced and overcame the hardships of South Dakota winters, tedious trips to the nearest railroad town for supplies, the devastation of tornadoes, and even terrorization from gamblers and thugs that had made their way into town. The citizens of Burke cleaned up the rough element and earned a reputation as one of the most peaceable and law-abiding towns in the county.

Since 1917, Burke has served as the county seat of Gregory County. The town lies about 30 miles west of the Missouri River in a region of fertile

farmland and gently rolling hills. Currently, more than 650 people live in Burke. The town celebrated its centennial birthday with festivities during the first week of August. Among the many events during the 5-day celebration were an alumni golf tournament, a centennial farm dance, a parade, an alumni banquet, a centennial coin auction, and a ballroom dance. It is with great honor that I advise my colleagues of the achievements made by this great community.●

HONORING THE TOWN OF TYNDALL

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I honor and publicly recognize the 125th anniversary of the founding of the town of Tyndall, SD. The town of Tyndall is a spirited and self-reliant county seat with a proud past and promising future.

In 1879, the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railway chose to enter Bon Homme County. Dan Currier built the first home and store along the railroad route in Tyndall, so-named for the English physicist John Tyndall who first explained what makes the sky blue. In 1884, Dan Currier opened the Grand Central Hotel, referred to as the greatest hotel this side of Chicago at the time. Mr. Currier remained active in the town's growth and became the first mayor in 1887. The first settlers in Tyndall were predominately German, Czech, and Irish. Their meeting halls were some of the first building in the town of Tyndall and many are preserved today.

A major attraction opened in Tyndall in 1989: the Soukup and Thomas Balloon Museum. The museum exhibits one of the best displays of ballooning history, including the first balloon basket to fly over the Soviet Union. The museum also houses a rare collection from the Hindenburg Airship as well as examples of balloon mail, lithographs, jewelry, trophies, and other collectibles. Tyndall hosted the 6th World Gas Balloon Championship and the 1st World Roziere Balloon Championship in 1990. The second annual International Balloon Rally was held in 1991 in Tyndall.

Though the railroad which gave birth to the town of Tyndall is no longer operational, the town continues to thrive, relying on friendly local business and aggressive agriculture. Currently 1,200 people reside in this progressive community. It is with great honor that I advise my colleagues of the achievements made by this great community.●

HONORING THE TOWN OF LAKE ANDES

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Lake Andes, SD. Lake Andes has experienced a proud century and looks forward to a promising future.

Founded in 1904, the town of Lake Andes sits on the southwest shore of its namesake. Measuring twelve miles in length and a mile and a half wide, Andes Lake is one of the most popular destinations for hunters and fishers in the State and sits at the center of one of the richest and most fertile sections of South Dakota.

Though it was platted in 1901, the town was not officially established until three years later, when town lots were sold on May 18, 1904. In 1911, the town welcomed the construction of a Carnegie Library, which still stands and has since been designated a historical structure for the State of South Dakota. Lake Andes became the county seat of Charles Mix County in 1916, prompting growth and prosperity that would lead to more than 80 years of stability in the town.

Currently, more than 800 people reside in the town of Lake Andes. In early June, Lake Andes held centennial festivities that coincided with the town's Fish Days celebration, an annual tradition that began in 1915, continued through 1969, and was reestablished in 1988. A parade, carnival, quilt show, and firemen's water fight were among the many celebratory events that weekend. It is with great honor that I advise my colleagues of the achievements made by this great community.●

HONORING THE TOWN OF HERRICK

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I honor and publicly recognize the 100th anniversary of the founding of the town of Herrick, SD. The town of Herrick has a strong sense of its past and anticipates a bright future.

Though it was originally named Willette, the town adopted the name of prestigious homestead lawyer Samuel Herrick soon after its 1904 founding. From 1906 to 1907, Herrick experienced a period of growth as it served as a stop along the railroad. Many of the original buildings in the town still stand, including the Town Hall built in 1913, which has been restored and is in use, and the old saloon, which has since become a family restaurant and bar. Two other structures find themselves on the National Register of Historic Places: the Herrick School House and Herrick Elevator.

Herrick's 105 proud residents and friends of the community celebrated the centennial at the end of July with festivities including an all-school reunion, the annual Squeal Meal celebration, and a hayride featuring buildings and homes that were built around the time of the founding. It is with great honor that I advise my colleagues of the achievements made by this great community.●

HONORING JEFFREY LEE NELSON

● Mr. JOHNSON. Mr. President, I congratulate Jeff Nelson of Madison, SD,

for recently celebrating 30 years of distinguished service at East River Electric.

Jeff Nelson understands the word dedication. Mr. Nelson was born and raised in Marion, SD, where he attended high school. After graduating from South Dakota State University in 1971 with a degree in electrical engineering, he entered the U.S. Army and was stationed in Germany. From 1971 to 1974, he served as an officer in the U.S. Army's Armored Division. After honorably serving, he and his wife, Trudi, relocated to Madison where he started working for East River Electric.

I know first hand that Jeff has done a great deal to improve the lives of countless South Dakotans. He is a tremendously talented man with a great deal of energy and ambition. He is not only a good friend, but a person who may staff and I deal with closely. As general manager of East River Electric since 1990, he has earned the respect and admiration of all those who have had the opportunity to work with him.

East River Electric is a power supply cooperative which serves wholesale electricity to 22 member systems, which in turn serve over 82,000 homes and businesses. The 36,000 square mile service area covers 41 counties in Eastern South Dakota and nine counties in western Minnesota.

Jeff's friendly demeanor and wealth of knowledge have helped him develop close relationships with his colleagues and with community leaders throughout our State. This friendly attitude has led to numerous elected posts and honors. He is currently the president of the Mid-West Electric Consumers Association board of directors, Upper Great Plains Region Affiliate of Western States Power Corporation board of directors, chairman of the Power and Water Resources Standing Committee of the National Rural Electric Cooperative Association, and vice president of the Western States Power Corporation board of directors. Among his many philanthropic efforts are the organizer of the Lake County Food Pantry, treasurer of the East Central South Dakota Habitat for Humanity, and he is on the board of directors for the Lake Area Improvement Corporation.

Through it all, Jeff's devotion to his family is his number one priority. Even as his responsibilities at East River Electric changed and grew, his commitment to his family never wavered. Jeff and Trudi have two children, Erik and Katie. Erik and his wife, Stacy, live in Sioux Falls, while Katie resides in nearby Marshall, Minnesota.

I congratulate Jeff Nelson for his 30 years of distinguished service. It is with great honor that I share his impressive accomplishments with my colleagues.●

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT

Messages from the President of the United States were communicated to

the Senate by Ms. Evans, one of his secretaries.

EXECUTIVE MESSAGES REFERRED

As in executive session the Presiding Officer laid before the Senate messages from the President of the United States submitting sundry nominations which were referred to the appropriate committees.

(The nominations received today are printed at the end of the Senate proceedings.)

MESSAGES FROM THE HOUSE DURING ADJOURNMENT

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the following enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the President pro tempore (Mr. STEVENS) on July 23, 2004:

H.R. 1572. An act to designate the United States Courthouse located at 100 North Palafox Street in Pensacola, Florida, as the "Winston E. Arnow United States Courthouse."

H.R. 1914. An act to provide for the issuance of a coin to commemorate the 400th anniversary of the Jamestown settlement.

H.R. 2768. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of Chief Justice John Marshall.

H.R. 3277. An act to require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 230th Anniversary of the United States Marine Corps, and to support construction of the Marine Corps Heritage Center.

H.R. 4380. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 4737 Mile Stretch Drive in Holiday, Florida, as the "Sergeant First Class Paul Ray Smith Post Office Building".

Under the authority of the order of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 26, 2004, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the House has passed the following bill, without amendment:

S. 2712. An act to preserve the ability of the Federal Housing Administration to insure mortgages under sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act.

Under authority of the order of the Senate of January 7, 2003, the Secretary of the Senate, on July 27, 2004, during the adjournment of the Senate, received a message from the House of Representatives announcing that the Speaker has signed the following enrolled bills:

S. 2712. An act to preserve the ability of the Federal Housing Administration to insure mortgages under sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act.

H.R. 2443. An act to authorize appropriations for the Coast Guard for fiscal year 2005, to amend various laws administered by the Coast Guard, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3340. An act to redesignate the facilities of the United States Postal Service located at 7715 and 7748 S. Cottage Grove Avenue in Chicago, Illinois, as the "James E. Worsham Post Office" and the "James E. Worsham Carrier Annex Building", respectively, and for other purposes.

H.R. 3463. An act to amend titles III and IV of the Social Security Act to improve the ad-

ministration of unemployment taxes and benefits.

H.R. 4222. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 550 Nebraska Avenue in Kansas City, Kansas, as the "Newell George Post Office Building".

H.R. 4226. An act to amend title 49, United States Code, to make certain conforming changes to provisions governing the registration of aircraft and the recordation of instruments in order to implement the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment and the Protocol to the Convention on International Interests in Mobile Equipment on Matters Specific to Aircraft Equipment, known as the "Cape Town Treaty".

H.R. 4327. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 7450 Natural Bridge Road in St. Louis, Missouri, as the "Vitalis 'Veto' Reid Post Office Building".

H.R. 4417. An act to modify certain deadlines pertaining to machine-readable, tamper-resistant entry and exit documents.

H.R. 4427. An act to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 73 South Euclid Avenue in Montauk, New York, as the "Perry B. Duryea, Jr. Post Office".

H.R. 4613. An act making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2005, and for other purposes.

H.R. 4842. An act to implement the United States-Morocco Free Trade Agreement.

H.R. 4916. An act to provide an extension of highway, highway safety, motor carrier safety, transit, and other programs funded out of the Highway Trust Fund pending enactment of a law reauthorizing the Transportation Equity Act for the 21st Century.

Under the authority of the order of July 22, 2004, the enrolled bills were subsequently signed by the Acting President pro tempore (Mr. WARNER) on July 27, 2004.

ENROLLED BILLS AND JOINT RESOLUTION PRESENTED DURING ADJOURNMENT

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 23, 2004, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bills and joint resolution:

S. 741. An act to amend the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act with regard to new animal drugs, and for other purposes.

S. 2264. An act to require a report on the conflict in Uganda, and for other purposes.

S.J. Res. 38. Joint resolution providing for the appointment of Eli Broad as a citizen regent of the Board of Regents of the Smithsonian Institution.

The Secretary of the Senate reported that on July 28, 2004, she had presented to the President of the United States the following enrolled bill:

S. 2712. An act to preserve the ability of the Federal Housing Administration to insure mortgages under sections 238 and 519 of the National Housing Act.

MESSAGE FROM THE HOUSE

At 1:19 p.m., a message from the House of Representatives, delivered by Ms. Niland, one of its reading clerks, announced that the House has passed the following bills, in which it requests the concurrence of the Senate: