

its size. The father of Edinburg was a Norwegian by the name of Christian Buck. He became the first postmaster of Edinburg when the post office was established in 1882. The town of Edinburg was named in honor of the university where Mr. Buck obtained his college education. The first establishments in Edinburg included a blacksmith shop and a drug store.

Despite a significant fire that destroyed nearly all of the town's businesses in 1900, Edinburg has grown and flourished since its beginning. Known as the Bird Capital of North Dakota, Edinburg offers many opportunities for bird enthusiasts to observe nature at its finest. A city park offers the chance for family gatherings and picnics. The Edinburg Fire Department is boasted as one of the best in the area.

The town of Edinburg is a beautiful place for people to live and visitors to visit. To celebrate its 125th anniversary, the town will hold an all school reunion, a street dance, a parade and fireworks.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Edinburg, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Edinburg and all other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Edinburg that have helped shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Edinburg has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF HOPE, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased to recognize a community in North Dakota that will be celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 5-8, the residents of Hope will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Founded in 1882, Hope is a small town in Steele County located in eastern North Dakota. The post office was established in 1881, and it became a city in 1904. The community was named in honor of Hope A. Hubbard Steele, wife of E.H. Steele, for whom the county was named.

The residents of Hope describe their town as an active and close-knit community. When a function or task needs to be completed, the residents work together to accomplish it. Many of the recreational facilities, such as the outdoor swimming pool and the nine hole golf course, are supported by local organizations and the community. The local Sportsmen's Club purchased a building from the community for one dollar and converted it into a 24-hour youth recreational facility. A further investment into the community was made by residents when they purchased La Rinascente Pasta, a New Jersey based pasta company, that was relocated to Hope.

The residents are excited to commemorate their upcoming anniversary with a weekend celebration that will include a parade, a Texas Hold 'em Tournament, a tractor pull, and many other activities. In addition, there will be a Veterans Memorial dedication that will feature a cannon from the Civil War.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Hope, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and in wishing them well in the future. By honoring Hope and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Hope that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Hope has a proud past and a bright future.●

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF LIGNITE, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, I am pleased today to honor a community in North Dakota that is celebrating its 100th anniversary. On July 6-8, the residents of Lignite will celebrate their community's history and founding.

Lignite is a vibrant community located in northwestern North Dakota. It was founded in April 1907 as a coal town. The first post office followed within the same month. Today the name Lignite pays tribute to the coal veins located in and around the town. Lignite is also the first town in North Dakota to drill an oil well within the city limits.

Today, Lignite remains a small but thriving town with a strong sense of community. Many different local organizations are proud to call Lignite home. These include local chapters of 4-H, FFA, American Legion, and the Boy and Girl Scouts of America.

There are also many recreational opportunities for the citizens of Lignite, from quilting to hunting, camping to golf, softball to ice fishing. The town also boasts a large public park for residents and campers alike. For its centennial celebration, Lignite has planned a four-day-long festival that includes softball and golf tournaments, a day-long street festival, and a local fashion show.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join me in congratulating Lignite, ND, and its residents on their first 100 years and in wishing them well in the next century. By honoring Lignite and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great tradition of the pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Lignite that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Lignite has a proud past and a bright future.●

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF PETERSBURG, NORTH DAKOTA

● Mr. CONRAD. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a community in North Dakota that will be celebrating its 125th anniversary. On July 13-15, the residents of Petersburg will gather to celebrate their community's history and founding.

Petersburg is a vibrant community in the northeastern part of North Dakota, not far from Grand Forks Air Force Base. Petersburg holds an important place in North Dakota's history. Founded by Levi Peterson and Martin N. Johnson, the name of the community was determined by a coin toss. Peterson won the coin toss and declared the city name Petersburg in honor of his birthplace in Petersburg, Norway.

Today, Petersburg is a farming community with an assortment of clubs. Some of these organizations like the Sons of Norway, Red River Valley Scandinavian Singers Association, and the Norwegian Singers and Association of America are keeping the region's Scandinavian culture alive. Petersburg also takes much pride in its curling club.

For those who call Petersburg home, it is a comfortable place to live, work, and play. The community has planned an exciting 125th anniversary weekend. There will be a parade, food, bands, dancing, a craft show, flea market, magicians, games, an all school reunion, and much more.

I ask the U.S. Senate to join in me congratulating Petersburg, ND, and its residents on their first 125 years and wishing them well in the future. By honoring Petersburg and all the other historic small towns of North Dakota, we keep the great pioneering frontier spirit alive for future generations. It is places such as Petersburg that have helped to shape this country into what it is today, which is why this fine community is deserving of our recognition.

Petersburg has a proud past and a bright future.●

COMMENDING THE EFFORTS OF DAVID JOSEPH LYNCH

● Mr. CRAPO. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to a very special Idahoan who has undertaken a very important and challenging mission. Many people are moved by a cause; few are inspired to take action and leadership in support of such cause. David Joseph Lynch is one of the few. In 2004, Mr. Lynch was moved by the plight of Israeli schoolchildren—Jewish, Muslim, Druze, Bedouin, Baha'i and Christian—who do not have ready access to English language books because of limited financial resources and demands on the Israeli government in its ongoing war against terrorism. He read an article about the Jade Bar-Shalom Books for Israel Project and knew immediately that this was his calling. This grandfather of three and great grandfather of four who will be 89 next