

with Senators permitted to speak therein for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MUNCIE, INDIANA 150TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. DONNELLY. Mr. President, I wish to honor the city of Muncie on its 150th anniversary and to recognize the many contributions of Muncie's citizens to the great State of Indiana and to our country.

Muncie's history dates to the 1790s when the Lenape Native Americans settled the area and named it Wapicamikunk. As early European settlers moved into the area, it was named Munsee Town after the dialect of the Lenape Native Americans, who spoke Munsee. When it was incorporated in 1865, Munsee Town became the city of Muncie.

The gas boom helped establish the city of Muncie as an important manufacturing center for the Nation. In 1880, the Ball brothers founded Ball Corporation where they specialized in manufacturing glass bottles. The company was moved from Buffalo, NY to Muncie in 1887 to take advantage of the ample amounts of available natural gas. The Ball Corporation provided jobs, local business funding, and philanthropy that propelled Muncie into a thriving city.

As business boomed for the Ball Corporation, new businesses opened and Muncie grew. In the early 1900s, manufacturing and industrial companies including Delco Battery, New Venture Gear, BorgWarner, and General Motors opened factories and businesses in Muncie. Muncie is also home to one of the famous early 20th century "Middle-town" studies, which helped to measure social trends in the U.S.; Muncie is considered one of most studied communities in the country. Over the years, the city continued to grow and innovate with the addition of railroads, higher education institutions, and health care facilities.

Today, Muncie is one of the 10 largest cities in Indiana with a population of more than 70,000 citizens. Top attractions in the Muncie area include the north Walnut Street Fieldhouse, Emens Auditorium, historic downtown Muncie, the National Model Aviation Museum, the Cardinal Greenway trail system, Minnetrista Cultural Center, and Ball State University.

Ball State opened in 1899 as a small, private teacher training school. The university was founded in 1918. Ball State attracts students from around the Nation and 43 different countries, and is currently one of the top employers in the city of Muncie. Ball State is home to about 21,000 current students in undergraduate and graduate programs, and it recently experienced the largest 5-year increase in on-time graduation rates of any Indiana public institution of higher education. A report released by the Indiana Commission for

Higher Education found that between 2009-2014, Ball State's 4-year graduation rates increased by 12.1 percentage points. Distinguished Ball State graduates include David Letterman, former host of CBS's Late Show and Jim Davis, creator of the iconic comic strip Garfield—recognized as the world's most widely-syndicated comic strip. With the addition of Ivy Technology Community College and Harrison College, Muncie has shown a continued commitment to higher education.

The city of Muncie reflects our Hoosier values, and its citizens serve as an example of how hard work and dedication lead to success, opportunity, and prosperity. It is a great honor to represent the city of Muncie in the Senate. On behalf of the State of Indiana, I congratulate each and every citizen of Muncie on the city's 150th anniversary and wish you continued success and prosperity in the future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

ORFORD, NEW HAMPSHIRE 250TH ANNIVERSARY

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I pay tribute to Orford, NH—a town in Grafton County celebrating the 250th anniversary of its founding. I am proud to join citizens across the Granite State in recognizing this historic occasion.

Orford village is the town's main population center and is situated along the Connecticut River. The town lies in the shadow of Sunday Mountain, Cottonstone Mountain, and Mount Cube—Orford's highest peak. The Appalachian Trail runs through the summit of Mount Cube, greatly contributing to the town's natural and scenic treasures.

The town of Orford is named for Robert Walpole, first earl of Orford, and England's first Prime Minister. It was originally chartered by Colonial Governor Benning Wentworth in 1761 and later settled in 1765.

The rich agricultural history of Orford is exemplified by the success of the Mt. Cube Sugar Farm. For over 60 years, the Thomson family has been producing its award-winning maple syrup from the groves located on the farm's namesake mountain.

Orford also boasts an impressive industrial past, including soapstone quarries, sawmills, a tannery, grist mill, and factories that manufactured starch, chairs, doors, boots and shoes. The town is known for its historic "ridge" homes and is credited with having one of the finest collections of federal-style houses in the Nation.

As innovators, statesmen and soldiers, Orford residents have been known throughout history for their commitment and sacrifice in the service of our great Nation. Early steamship pioneer Samuel Morey, U.S. Congressman Jeduthun Wilcox, Senators Gilman Marston and Leonard Wilcox,

and most notably, New Hampshire's 73rd Governor Meldrim Thomson, Jr., all share ties to Orford.

On behalf of all Granite Staters, I am pleased to offer my congratulations to the citizens of Orford on reaching this special milestone, and I thank them for their many contributions to the life and spirit of New Hampshire.●

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD LAPOINT

• Ms. AYOTTE. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize the exceptional public service of my good friend, Pittsburg Police Chief Richard "Dick" Lapoint. Chief Lapoint has worked as a Pittsburg, NH law enforcement officer for more than 40 years. He is retiring on August 16, 2015, the day after Pittsburg's 175th Old Home Day celebration.

Chief Lapoint is a 1968 graduate of Pittsburg High School, and first began his law enforcement career as a part-time officer in August 1975. After working part-time for 11 years, he became a sergeant, and was later promoted to the department's full-time chief on January 16, 1987. Having held the position for more than 28 years, Chief Lapoint is one of the longest serving police chiefs in the Granite State.

Throughout his career, Chief Lapoint has established a reputation not only as a knowledgeable, respected, and compassionate public safety professional, but also as an engaged community member. Chief Lapoint knows that in a small town, public safety means wearing many hats. He was a member of the fire department for 36 years and an emergency medical technician for over 20 years. Known for his advocacy of cooperative North Country policing, he was a leader in uniting local, county, State, and Federal agencies to share information, train, and work together. He also served as the president of the Coos County Chiefs Association, and has built strong partnerships with colleagues throughout the public safety community.

During my time as New Hampshire's attorney general, it was my privilege to work directly with Chief Lapoint on many important law enforcement initiatives. He earned the respect and admiration of his peers across the State, and has been a thoughtful and effective leader in efforts to improve the criminal justice system throughout New Hampshire. Additionally, Chief Lapoint served on the executive board of the New Hampshire Association of Chiefs of Police, and has represented Coos County with professionalism and integrity throughout his entire membership. Making frequent trips to Concord and southern New Hampshire, he ensured that our Great Northern Woods had an important voice on public safety issues.

As Chief Lapoint celebrates his retirement, I want to commend him on a job well done, and ask my colleagues to join me in thanking him for his outstanding service and in wishing him the best in all his future endeavors.●