

ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE

FIRST SESSION

LEGISLATIVE RESOLUTION 378

Introduced by Larson, 40.

WHEREAS, the town of Fordyce, Nebraska, located in Cedar County, is celebrating its 100th anniversary; and

WHEREAS, during the early 1900s when the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway was extended from Hartington to Crofton, a German settlement was started around the present town of Fordyce; and

WHEREAS, the founding homesteaders named the town after William F. Fordyce who was a dispatcher with the railroad for over 25 years; and

WHEREAS, the eighty acres on which Fordyce is located were purchased from the Gilman Land Company by Dr. J. M. Tolcott and D. A. Matthews. These two men were granted a charter by the state in 1907 to start the first bank in Fordyce; and

WHEREAS, in the spring of 1908, a delegation from the Fordyce area went to Omaha to secure permission to build a Catholic church. On February 18, 1909, Father Mueller of St. Helena blessed the new St. John the Baptist Catholic Church; and

WHEREAS, a two-room school was built in 1909 and a new parochial school was completed in 1920 and grades first through fifth are currently offered at West Catholic Elementary School; and

WHEREAS, by 1910 the town's businesses included a bank, saloon, hotel, hardware store, grocery store, meat market, clothing store,

blacksmith shop, post office, lumberyard, two grain elevators, and a pool hall; and

WHEREAS, the village of Fordyce, originally laid out in 1907, was incorporated as a village on August 4, 1913; and

WHEREAS, Fordyce is a thriving farm community and is home to Fordyce Co-op and Lumber Supply, Menford Electric, T & R Butcher Block, Chuck's Body Shop, Cedar Security Bank, Ruthies Day Care, DelMonico's Saloon, Gause Honey Company, Steven's Auto, Wiebelhaus Trucking, and Wiebelhaus Station; and

WHEREAS, Fordyce will culminate its centennial celebration on June 8, 2013.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRD LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA, FIRST SESSION:

1. That the Legislature recognizes Fordyce's community spirit and congratulates the community on its 100th anniversary.

2. That a copy of this resolution be sent to the Fordyce Village Board.