

Holyoke gets into the holiday spirit

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

Those who made their way downtown for Monday night's Dec. 2 Country Christmas and Parade of Lights were treated to an unseasonably comfortable evening for December. Wind was at a minimum, and temperatures reached the 50s as action began to take place around 6 p.m.

Close to 60 children took advantage of the free movie at the Peerless Theatre before hitting the town for the night's festivities.

Dozens of shy and excited children plopped down on Santa's and Mrs. Claus' laps at Santa's Village for pictures at the Vets Hall where the Holyoke Volunteer Fire Department was also serving a soup dinner. Sixty-seven families had photos taken, and approximately 315 dinners were served.



Mrs. Claus and Santa (Penny Dockins and Stan Fisher) ride atop an old fire truck through downtown as the kids in the crowd cheered with joy.☐☐

—Enterprise photo

Holyoke gets into the holiday spirit

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

While at the supper, a candy guessing game was put on by the Jolly Dozen FCE Club. Riley Ferguson had the closest guess in the youth category and Elon Nelson had the top guess in the adult division.

Once again, to the enjoyment of many, Kyle and Holly Hendrix of Wray returned to Holyoke with their two reindeer in tow. The animals were a hit with kids and adults alike who gathered at the northwest corner of the Phillips County Courthouse lawn to catch a glimpse of the festive creatures. The crowd grew with anticipation as they patiently waited for Santa and the Parade of Lights to make their way down Interocean Avenue.

Before the parade, Santa first made a stop at the mini park at the southeast corner of the stoplight in Holyoke. There he was assisted by Rylan Eastin and Cody and Macie Maloney with flipping the switch and lighting up the Holyoke streets with Christmas lights and decorations.



Marching down Interocean Avenue, young Holyoke Girl Scouts, pictured from left, Emali Torres, Eva Kramer and LorenJo Oberle, lead the way for the Girl Scout float, which took top honors in the Parade of Lights.

Holyoke gets into the holiday spirit

Written by Kyle Arnoldy

—Enterprise photo

After the stage had been set, the 16th annual Parade of Lights hit the road as crowds spilled into the street. Holyoke Girl Scout troop took home first-place honors followed by Bank of the West/Colorado BW Insurance in second and Evan's Lawn Service in third.

Also entering floats were Honor Guard, Highline (co-sponsor), junior high school band, Regent Park Nursing and Rehab, Raising Ranchers 4-H Club, Phillips County CSU Extension, Grainland Co-op, Dale and Lorraine Rouse, H&B Home Service—Howard Hunter, First Pioneer National Bank, Wolf Auto, 21st Century, PC Telcom (co-sponsor) and Santa Claus.

Several local businesses remained open after hours, offering treats and hot beverages to those taking in the holiday spirit downtown. Approximately 55 people visited the museum and 130 people made their way to the Art Center.

Holyoke Enterprise December 5, 2013