Holyoke will officially celebrate its 125th (quasquicentennial) April 24, 2013 at Holyoke High School where Phillips County Players will perform a melodrama outlining certain historic events happening in Holyoke throughout the years.

A 125th committee has been formed, and planning for a bigger event is in the works. The community will come together Friday-Saturday, June 14-15 at Phillips County Courthouse lawn to celebrate Holyoke's 125th birthday. The event is being held in conjunction with the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce's Dandelion Daze.

Friday night, June 14, a pie and ice cream social will be held on the courthouse lawn. Special music will be provided by Prairie Band of Otis and numerous mementos will be available.

Saturday, June 15, many events are planned.

A pancake breakfast provided by the Holyoke Volunteer Fire Department will be held from 7-9 a.m. at the Vets Hall to get the day rolling.

In addition to the usual Dandelion Daze events, mementos, kids' games, scavenger hunt, horse and carriage rides, vintage photos and beard and vintage clothing contests will be offered.

There will also be a Vintage Era parade. Anyone interested is welcome to enter a float in the parade. Normally during Dandelion Daze, a parade of the vehicles entered in the car show drive up and down Interocean Avenue. This year, the cars will be lined up by decade among floats by those wishing to enter.

The winners of the beard and clothing contests will serve as the parade grand marshals.

Following the parade, a meal will be held followed by an old-time barn dance. The meal will be

held at the courthouse lawn while the dance will be held at Vieselmeyer's Pioneer Seed shed south of town on Highway 385. Providing the entertainment will be Frenchman Creek Ramblers.

The committee is currently seeking hay bales to be used for the barn dance. Also, anyone interested in helping sponsor or run a game or booth during the Saturday event is welcome to get involved.

Also available throughout the events will be calendars by the Enterprise and coloring books by the Chamber.

The committee is open to suggestions for additional activities and changes to the current schedule.

For more information or to get involved with the planning, email holyokec@pctelcom.coop.

Holyoke Enterprise December 27, 2012