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Towns to celebrate 150 years of history

Doniphan, the northeastern-most county in Kansas, offers rugged landscapes, spectacular views and a rich history.

Highland and Wathena will be celebrating 150 years. There will be celebrations held Friday-Monday, May 25-28, in Highland, and Friday-Sunday, Aug. 31-Sept. 2, in Wathena.

Towns are Elwood, on the Missouri River, and Wathena. To the north is Highland, home to Highland Community College. At White Cloud, on the Missouri River, there is a Lewis and Clark Pavilion, and a lookout point from which four states can be seen. White Cloud also has the Ma Hush Kah Museum.

SPECIAL SITES

On the courthouse lawn in Troy is a 35-foot Indian, carved by sculptor Peter Toth from a burr oak log.

The Wilbur Chapman monument on Main Street in White Cloud was erected by the American Leprosy Society.

In Highland is Irvin Hall, the oldest educational building in Kansas, dating to 1858, on the campus of Highland Community College.

Three miles outside Highland is the Iowa, Sac and Fox Mission State Historic Site, established in 1837 to serve Indians being relocated to Kansas from their ancestral homes.

Doniphan County is known as the Barn Capitol of Kansas with more than 15 historical barns. Eight barns are featured in the "Historic Barn Tour" brochure. These barns were nominated to the National Register of Historic Places for their architectural integrity.

The K-7 Scenic Byway in Doniphan County starts at the Atchison County line heading north, passing along the Missouri River and bluffs until it reaches the Nebraska border.

MUSEUMS

There are three museums — Native American Heritage Museum at Highland (785) 442-3304, the Ma Hush Kah Museum in White Cloud and the Yost Art Gallery at Highland Community College.

PONY EXPRESS

The Pony Express originated in St. Joseph, Mo., just across the river from Doniphan County. Riders will strike out from St. Joseph in June this year on a 10-day re-enactment of the original historic mail run. The riders cut cross country through Doniphan County, going west one year and east the next to complete their 1,966 mile journey. This year's ride originates in St. Joseph on June 11 and arrives in Sacramento on June 21. Information is available at www.xphomestation.com.

FLEA MARKETS

One of the largest flea markets around is staged each year by Sparks Antiques and Collectibles. Held in both the spring and the fall, it offers 400 booths and 350 antique dealers.

In May, there are 85 booths manned by antique dealers. Check the website at www.sparksfleamarket.com. The White Cloud Flea Market will be held on the first weekend in May and the first weekend in September. This is the 75th and 76th consecutive years. The fall market will be Aug. 31-Sept. 2. Dick Tracy, (785) 595-3381, is the contact person.

FOURTH OF JULY

Independence Day is big in Doniphan County.

Highland has activities through the day and fireworks in the evening.

The Troy Lions Club sponsors a Fourth of July celebration with activities during the day and fireworks in the evening.

The 18th approach Chief White Cloud Bodge.

The 18th annual Chief White Cloud Rodeo will be held July 2-4 at the Iowa Tribal Complex seven miles northwest of White Cloud, with fireworks after the rodeo.

The July 4 Independence celebration in Wathena will be in Community Park, (785) 989-4730.



LOOKOUT POINT IN WHITE CLOUD draws visitors from all over.



THE WHITE CLOUD FLEA MARKET is a popular spring and fall activity.

Treasures await buyers at U.S. 36 yard sale

Yard sales come in all sizes and a big one is being planned along U.S. 36 this fall.

The second annual Great U.S. Highway 36 Treasure Hunt will give buyers and sellers a chance to get together from the Missouri state line to the Colorado border and beyond.

The event, basically a 400-plus-mile-long garage sale along U.S. 36, is planned for Friday through Sunday, Sept. 14-16.

Last year dozens of vendors lined up along the highway and many others had signs on the road showing how to get to their homes or businesses.

Chambers of Commerce work with the U.S. 36 Association to get maps and signs out and, while last year the event was free to all vendors, organizers say they may ask for a small fee this year to cover the expense of signage.

Jim Erickson, Scandia, a U.S. 36 Association director, proposed the idea more than a year ago and with one success under his belt, is working to make the second treasure hunt better than the first

While the sale does not officially extend into Colorado several people in the Centennial State have said they would like to put up booths.



BARGAIN HUNTERS looked for bargains last year during the first U.S. 36 treasure hunt.