INTRODUCTION

America’s Main Street, the Lincoln Highway was the first coast to coast highway, spanning 3,380 miles through 13 states, connecting New York to San Francisco and all towns between.

The brainchild of Carl Fisher, Indiana automotive pioneer, the Lincoln Highway was designed to promote economic development and tourism across America. Two other automotive industrialists played major roles in the highway’s progression. Henry B. Joy, was the first president of the Packard Motor Company and “spark plug” of the original Lincoln Highway Association.

Frank Sieberling, president of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, was also a major contributor.

In 1913, the Lincoln Highway was a bold, innovative plan, mapped across the U.S., yet years from being fully paved. There were sections of dirt, sand and even pasture marked only by posts, poles and handwritten signs; travel was a monumental undertaking. But once the idea of traveling independently became a reality, there was no holding America back.

TO THE PRESENT

Twin tours will commence from both coasts on June 22, 2013. Beginning at Lincoln Park in San Francisco, California and Times Square in New York City. A parade will lead the tours into Kearney’s main street for celebrations. The Lincoln Highway Association will hold its annual conference following the celebration.

2013 CENTENNIAL AUTO TOUR
Bob Lichty and Rosemary Rubin
Centennial Co-chairs
330-456-7869 | rubin@neo.rr.com

lincolnhighwayassoc.org
visitkearney.org/2013lincolnhighwaycelebration

WHY KEARNEY? Kearney is known for the 1733 Ranch, located 1733 miles from Frisco and 1733 miles from Boston, and 50 miles from the 100th Meridian. Razed in the 1930’s, the 1733 Ranch’s barn at one time was the world’s largest, a block long and 3-stories tall.

In the 1920’s and 30’s J.A. Baldwin pioneered the use of automotive engine oil filters, a development that would have a major impact on the auto industry. In 1953, he moved his company from Wisconsin to Kearney. Today Baldwin Filters, still headquartered in Kearney, is one of the top filtration companies in the world.

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The Archway, a world-class attraction about routes that opened the West in the United States, features the Lincoln Highway. The Archway will be the location of the Lincoln Highway official centennial ceremony and more on July 1, 2013.

CELEBRATION DAYS

Kearney, NE

SUNDAY, JUNE 30

Kearney’s historic brick main street sets the perfect stage for the downtown celebration, while enjoying shopping or visiting many of the eateries and local pubs.

12pm—5pm

• East and West Coast Centennial Auto Tours converge onto Kearney’s Main Street from the Lincoln Highway, arriving from Times Square in New York and San Francisco Park, California.
• Regional and national car club show & shine with cars from 1913-1950’s
• Five blocks of main street come to life by decade, from 1913-1950’s, with historical characters, music, food
• Old-fashioned loose meat sandwiches and corn on the cob served by Nebraska’s largest volunteer fire dept, highlighting Nebraska’s beef and corn industries
• Silent and vintage talkie movies at the World Theatre
• Downtown shopping
• Food & craft vendors

Evening

• Sing along with “On the Road Again” at the Merryman Performing Arts Center

MONDAY, JULY 1

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LINCOLN HIGHWAY

1pm—Official Centennial Ceremony

• The Great Platte River Road Archway will be open 9am-6pm, guests will arrive by shuttle
9am-4pm

• 1920’s Tourist Camp, the first if its kind since the Lincoln Highway era
• Lincoln Highway Education Camp
• Food & craft vendors
• 12:45 Parade of Packards led by Henry B. Joy IV, descendant of Henry B. Joy, President of the Packard Motor Company, and driving force behind the Lincoln Highway Association
• 1pm centennial program with national speakers
• Woody Guthrie and Will Rogers Humanities presenters
• East and West Coast auto tour cars, Model T’s, Model A’s, and much more on exhibit
• Other related activities in Kearney throughout the day

7pm-10pm

• Lincoln Highway Centennial Gala, featuring the Bobby Layne Orchestra (Presented by the Lincoln Highway Nebraska Scenic & Historic Byway)

21st Annual Lincoln Highway Association Conference
July 2-5, 2013

Monday, July 1

• 2:00 pm registration at Headquarter Hotel: Holiday Inn
110 2nd Ave
855-4-YOUNES

Tuesday, July 2

• Welcome Breakfast
• East Bus Tour (group picture)—Grand Island Seedling Mile, Duncan Bridge
• Lunch at Dusters, Former Model T Dealership
• Speedway Motors—Lincoln, NE

Wednesday, July 3

• Speaker topics—Blair Bridge, Colorado Loop, history of the new Lincoln Highway Association and more.
• Awards Banquet
• Kearney’s 3rd of July spectacular Fireworks Celebration

Thursday, July 4

Explore Kearney and Nebraska on your own by visiting the many area attractions and 4th of July celebrations. www.visitkearney.org
• Optional North Platte Tour—Union Pacific Bailey Rail Yard, Lincoln County Museum, and Buffalo Bill’s Scout Rest Ranch

Friday, July 5

• Membership Breakfast
• Optional West Car Tour—Kearney’s Seedling Mile and Covered Wagon, Overton Bridge, Cozad—Center of the LH in 1914, Gothenburg Berm