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**(Neb.)-City Of Alliance Prepares For Quasquicentennial**

By: Chris Fankhauser Posted at: 01/29/2013 07:50 AM

ALLIANCE, Neb. (AP) - The Nebraska Panhandle city of Alliance is getting ready to celebrate its 125th birthday this year.

The celebration got off to a good start last weekend when the BNSF railroad donated \$10,000 to the city.

Railroad spokesman Andy Williams says BNSF has deep ties to Alliance, and BNSF is glad to support the celebration.

The kick-off event for the birthday celebration ended with a ceremonial train whistle at midnight to mark when the railroad reached Alliance on Jan. 27, 1888.

Alliance officials are planning events throughout the year to mark the city's birthday.

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