



LIVING ALGONA

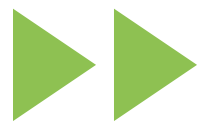
2023/2024 GUIDE TO ALL THINGS ALGONA

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MUSEUMS AND HISTORY



CALL PARK CABIN

KOSSUTH COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

122 S. Dodge St.
515-320-0834

Three buildings located on the corner of Dodge and Nebraska Streets. The main building was built in 1867 and served as the first schoolhouse. By 1885 it had become the GAR Hall for the Grand Army of the Republic. In 1919 it became the home for the American Legion. It also served as the public library prior to 1904 when the Carnegie Library was built. The Historical Society acquired the build in 1967 and turned it into a museum. Two doors down is the last prairie front building to survive in Algona. The bottom floor holds artifacts and the top floor serves as the library for the Historical Society. Call for a tour at 515-320-0834 and check them out on Facebook.



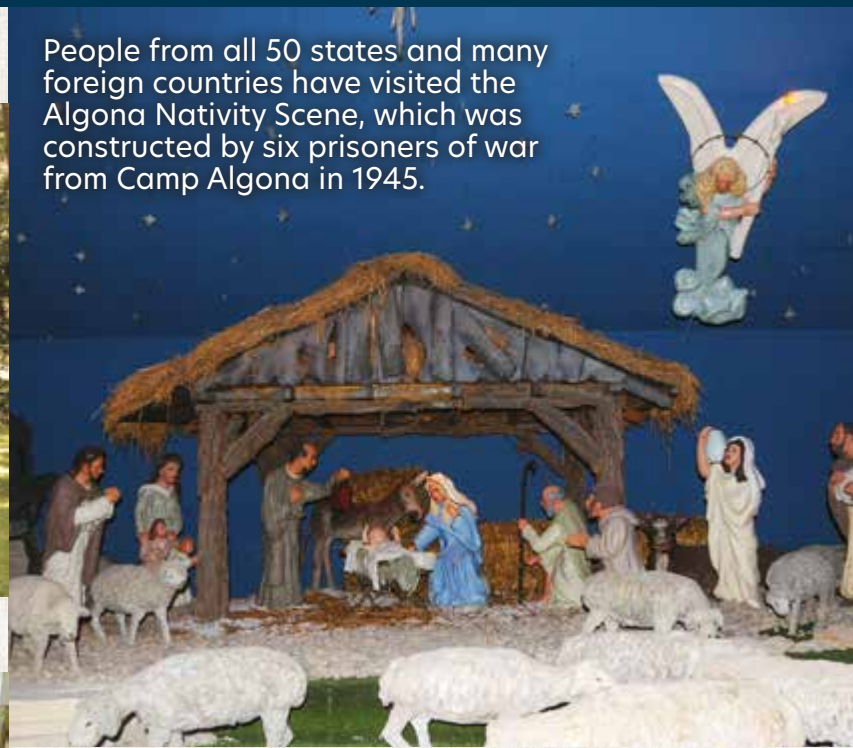
HISTORICAL MUSEUM

KOSSUTH COUNTY AG AND MOTORSPORTS MUSEUM

800 E. Fair St.
515-395-1200
www.kossuthmuseum.com

The Kossuth County Agriculture and Motorsports Museum honors the rich heritage and history of farming and motorsports. It is located at the Kossuth County Fairgrounds at 800 E. Fair St., Hwy. 169 South. It is also home to the Benschoter Train Station, a lifetime collection from Arlen Benschoter which takes up it's own room. Also paintings and sculptures by local artisans. More information can be found at www.kossuthmuseum.com or call 515-320-0332. Open Sat. and Sun., 1-4 p.m.

People from all 50 states and many foreign countries have visited the Algona Nativity Scene, which was constructed by six prisoners of war from Camp Algona in 1945.



ALGONA NATIVITY SCENE

206 N. Roan St.
515-295-7519
www.pwcampalgona.org
algonanativityscene.omeka.net

The POWs were missing home and the church festivities of Christmas, so they made 65 half-life-sized figures to connect them to their families and customs in Germany.

The people of Algona were impressed with the figures and viewing the scene became a tradition. The one-of-a-kind nativity is set up as a permanent exhibit each Christmas.

Members of a committee through the Algona First United Methodist Church oversees the operations of the scene and have been the caretakers since 1958.

The scene is located at the Kossuth County Fairgrounds and is open for viewing every day in December and by special appointment the rest of the year.

The Nativity Scene was the inspiration for the movie "Silent Night in Algona".

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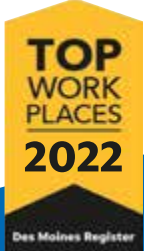


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**MUSEUMS
AND HISTORY**



POW HISTORICAL LANDMARK

CAMP ALGONA POW MUSEUM

114 S. Thorington St.
515-395-2267
515-295-3719

www.pwcampalgona.org

During World War II, Algona was the site of the Prisoner of War Camp. The camp held a total of 10,000 German prisoners between April of 1944 to February 1946. The POW Museum located at 114 S. Thorington St. strives to inform and educate visitors about this significant time in history. Released in the fall of 2022, the movie "Silent Night in Algona" tells the story of the important role that the Algona community played.

More information can be found at www.pwcampalgona.org or call 515-295-2267. Open Sat. and Sun., 1-4 p.m.

Kossuth County Historical Society's Cemetery Walk was in St. Benedict this year, featuring some of the town's first settlers. The Historical Society features a different cemetery each year.



The historical Louis Sullivan building is home to the Algona Area Chamber of Commerce. *Don Nettleton photo*



The Carnegie Library is currently being renovated to the Carnegie Centre for the Arts. *Don Nettleton photo*

A plaque and stone sits outside the Kossuth County Courthouse to commemorate the previous courthouse torn down in 1955.



CENTRAL PARK

East State and South Phillips Street

Central Park offers a variety of activities, including a ball diamond, batting cages, open shelter house, and playground equipment. Lots of new items are coming soon to this park. A new skatepark was completed in the summer of 2023; perimeter walking loops and additional amenities are currently under construction.



TIETZ PARK

Finn Drive and East State Street

Tietz Park is located on the Algona Recreational Trail and near the Algona Family YMCA. It offers a variety of playground equipment and a new shelter house with restrooms.



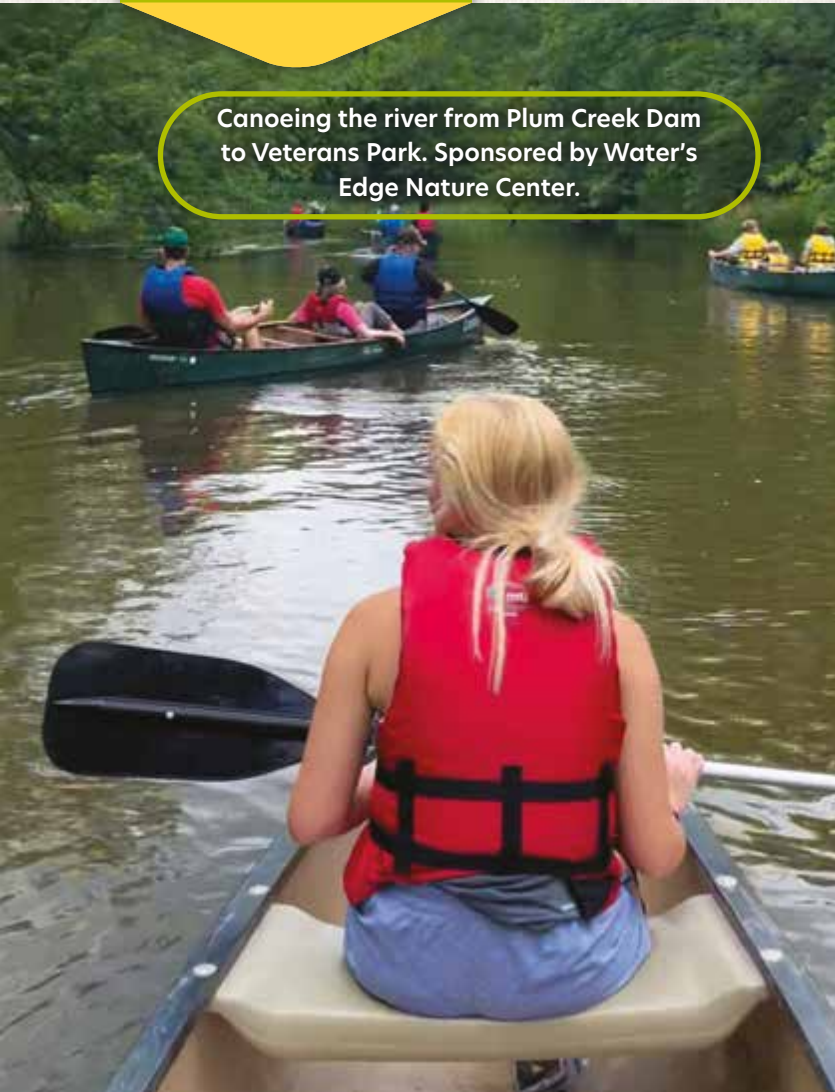
CALL CITY PARK

100 W. North St.

Home of the elephant slide, this petite park is a perfect picnic spot for small groups in the open shelter house. Playground equipment provides fun activities for all.

**PARKS
AND NATURE**

Canoeing the river from Plum Creek Dam to Veterans Park. Sponsored by Water's Edge Nature Center.



VETERANS PARK

Highway 169 and North Park Drive

This 20-acre park includes many options for outdoor activity. One main feature is the shelter house with both open and enclosed areas and restrooms. The enclosed area can be rented for events. To reserve a date, call Algona City Hall at 515-295-2411 or visit www.ci.algona.ia.us.

Other features include multiple ball diamonds, playground equipment, basketball court, sand volleyball courts, a rugby field, open picnic shelters, enclosed dog park and a radio control race car track. Keith's Landing at Veterans Park is a popular place to fish and access the river.



People of all ages compete on the Radio Controlled Race Car Track at Veterans Park

SOUTH PARK

106 W. Overmeyer Dr.

South Park, located near the Algona Aquatic Center, offers a great variety of activities. Playground equipment and an open shelter house with restrooms are available, as well as four tennis/pickleball courts with lights.

MAPLE PARK

West McGregor and North Blackford Street

Play basketball day or night on this lighted outdoor court or enjoy the playground equipment at this park.



HERMAN WISE MASONIC MEMORIAL PARK

East Maple and North McCoy Street

This half acre park offers a basketball court, open shelter house and playground equipment.

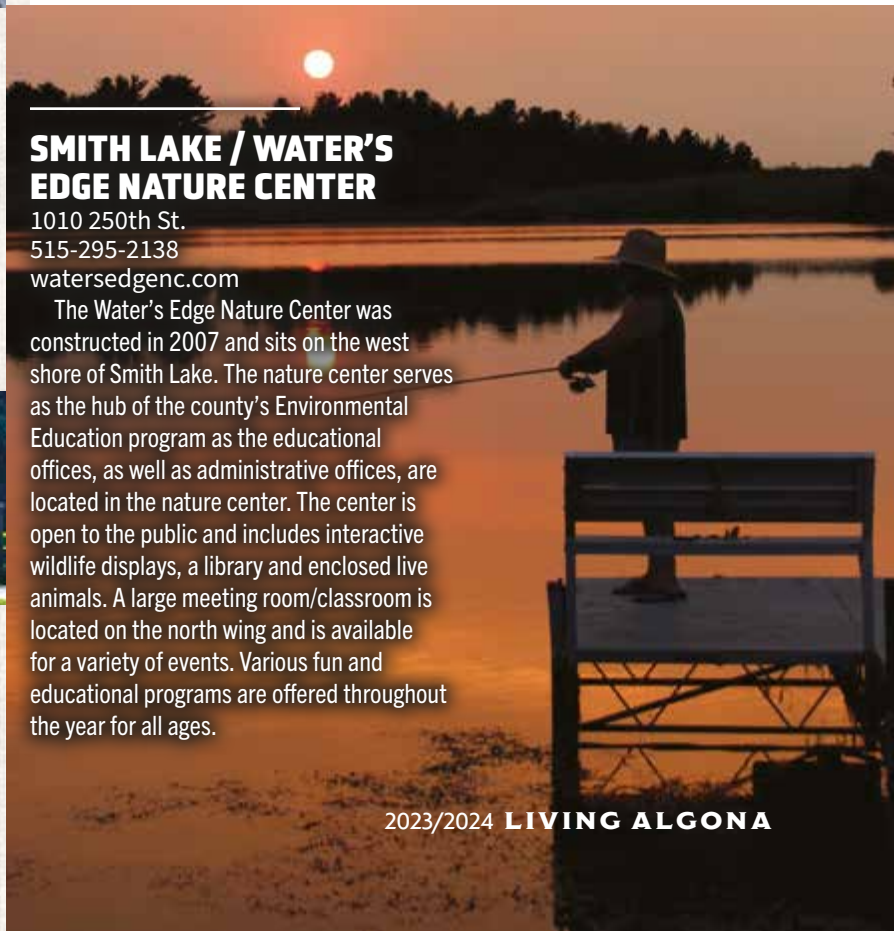
**SMITH LAKE / WATER'S
EDGE NATURE CENTER**

1010 250th St.

515-295-2138

watersedgenc.com

The Water's Edge Nature Center was constructed in 2007 and sits on the west shore of Smith Lake. The nature center serves as the hub of the county's Environmental Education program as the educational offices, as well as administrative offices, are located in the nature center. The center is open to the public and includes interactive wildlife displays, a library and enclosed live animals. A large meeting room/classroom is located on the north wing and is available for a variety of events. Various fun and educational programs are offered throughout the year for all ages.



AMBROSE CALL STATE PARK

2007 Call Park Dr.

641-581-4835

aa_call@dnr.iowa.gov

As early settlers in the area, Ambrose Call and his brother Asa carved their names into a walnut tree when spending their first night in Kossuth County on July 9, 1854. The next day, while Asa went for his wife and supplies, Ambrose and a traveling companion, William Smith, began work on a cabin in what is now the state park.

The park offers activities such as bird watching, picnicking, hiking and disc golf. It is home to a log cabin-style enclosed lodge used mainly for wedding receptions, family reunions and other get-togethers. For information, contact the park ranger at Pilot Knob State Park 641-581-4835.

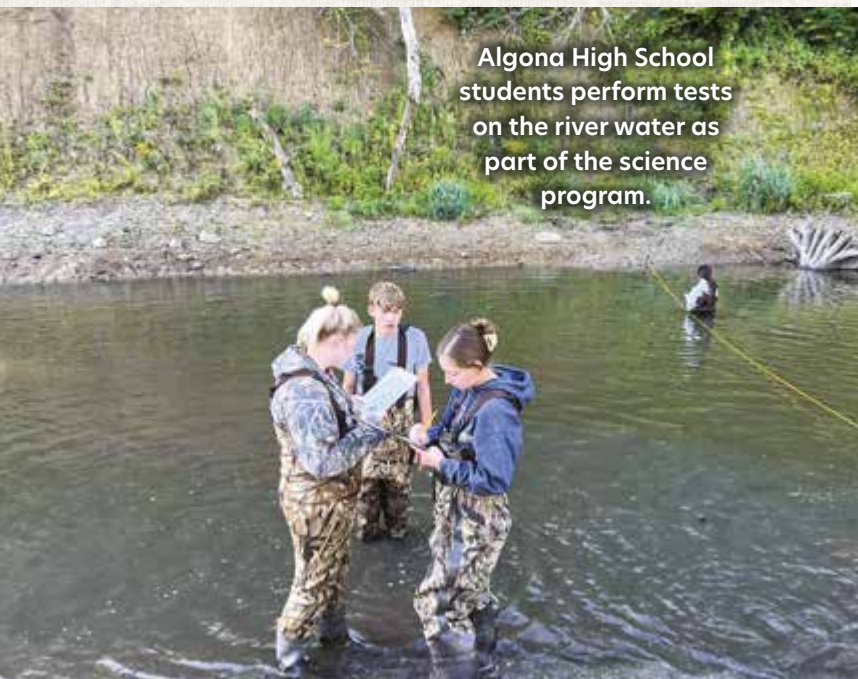
Camping is another feature of the park with 13 of the 16 campsites including electrical hookups. The campground includes pit toilets and restrooms. Permits to camp are acquired through self-registration.



There are three trails totaling 1.6 miles at Call State Park.



Algona High School students perform tests on the river water as part of the science program.



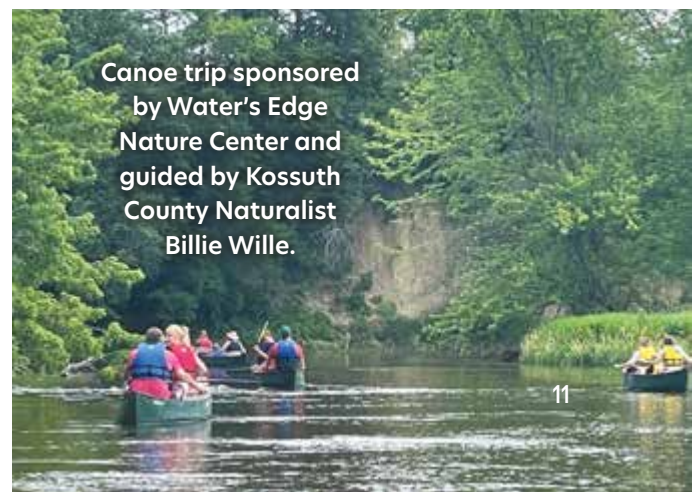
BOLDRIDGE ROSE GARDEN

North Harlan and East North Street

www.ci.algona.ia.us

Take time to stop and smell the roses! This location is home to a large rose garden and a gazebo for the public to enjoy. There is no fee to come and view the roses anytime throughout the growing season.

Canoe trip sponsored by Water's Edge Nature Center and guided by Kossuth County Naturalist Billie Wille.



**ARTS • EVENTS
AND CULTURE**



**STINSON
PRAIRIE ARTS
COUNCIL**

820 S. Minnesota St.
515-341-0390
info@algonarts.org
algonarts.org

SPAC President Anne Kohlhaas introduces local artist Deb Arndorfer during an art exhibit. SPAC has monthly events to showcase and support cultural endeavors.



STATE FIVE THEATRE

315 E. State St.
515-395-3712
[www.fridleytheaters.com/
location/7433/State-5-Showtimes](http://www.fridleytheaters.com/location/7433/State-5-Showtimes)
The State 5 Theatre is a Fridley Theatre
with five screens with 3D capability.
Don Nettleton photo



**ALGONA PUBLIC
LIBRARY**

210 N. Phillips St.
515-295-5476
www.ci.algona.ia.us/library

People can find information, support, entertainment, relaxation and a chance to connect with others at the library.

New items are added to collections weekly. Each library program and activity offered is designed to enhance literacy, provide entertainment, and offer an opportunity to interact with others.



PARTY IN THE PARK



People gather on the lawn of the Carnegie Arts Center for Party in the Park, a monthly event during the summer with a different theme each month, a free event with music, food and other activities. Sponsored by the Algona Arewa Chamber of Commerce.



KOSSUTH COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS & SPEEDWAY

kossuthcountyspeedway.com
kossuthcountyfair.com

Kossuth County Fairgrounds has events year-round, but one of the main attractions is the Kossuth County Fair. The fair is usually held one week before the Iowa State Fair and is home to many activities such as 4-H exhibits, the demolition derby and the FFA petting zoo.

The other main attraction is the races. Every Thursday night during the spring and summer seasons, two-person cruisers, sport compacts, hobby stocks, stock cars, sport mods and modifieds compete at the Kossuth County Speedway. Gates open at 5 p.m., the pit meeting is at 6:30 p.m., hot laps follow, and races start at 7 p.m.



A young boy experiences Goat Yoga at the Kossuth County Fair





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The cast of "Once Upon A Mattress" pose for their fans.

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The State 5 Theatre is a Fridley Theatre with five screens with 3D capability.

ALGONA PUBLIC LIBRARY

210 N. Phillips St. /
515-295-5476
www.ci.algona.ia.us/library
People can find information, support, entertainment, relaxation and a chance to



A variety of events and performances are held at the the Wilcox Performing Arts Center, located at 715 S. Sample Street.



FOUNDERS' DAY



Antique classic cars, trucks, cycles and tractors plus rock wall climbing are just some of the activities you'll find at the annual Founders' Day weekend held the second weekend in July. The celebration is a joint venture between the City of Algona and the Algona Area Chamber of Commerce.

BAND DAY

Algona is home to the annual Band Day Festival the first weekend in October. An average of 15-20 schools participate in a parade and field competition.



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West Bend, IA 50597
(515) 887-2221

412 Broad Street
Whittemore, IA 50598
(515) 884-2293

www.fsbiowa.com



**STAY
ACTIVE**



The YMCA indoor aquatic center is open year-round, offering swim lessons, water exercise classes and is home to the Wahoo Swim Team.

ALGONA FAMILY YMCA

2101 E. McGregor St.
515-295-7701

www.algonaymca.org

Advocating for youth development, healthy living and social responsibility, the Algona Family YMCA serves as a community center for families by providing fun and fitness, as well as a safe haven for children.

Fitness is easily accessible with an elevated running track, indoor aquatic center, racquetball and basketball courts, fitness classes and exercise equipment.

Children have great opportunities, too. The YMCA has youth programs and sports, along with childcare and a Y-Pal program.

ALGONA COUNTRY CLUB

400 Country Club Road
515-295-7308



RIVER ROAD GOLF CLUB

2316 River Road
515-295-7351

Built in 1974, River Road is Algona's only public golf course, and it consists of nine holes. The club is home to men, women and senior leagues, along with events throughout the year.

CADDYSHACK MINIATURE GOLF COURSE

203 W. Overmeyer Dr.
515-295-4653

Caddyshack Miniature Golf is 18 holes of fun for the whole family! Open during the summer season, golfing is inexpensive and season passes are available. The course includes several obstacles to overcome.



ALGONA RECREATION TRAIL

Starts at Williams Park

This paved trail takes walkers, runners, bikers and others through Algona neighborhoods and fields. Phase 1 of the trail is 1.3 miles, and starts at Williams Park/YMCA, then heads east along State Street to Tietz Park. From there trail users may utilize the sidewalks along E. State Street and Richardson Court to get to where the trail restarts. Individuals then will head north until they reach the bull ditch area, where the trail connects with Phase 2. The trail turns west along the ditch, crossing Finn Drive and then ending at Clarke Street. The trail is signed and marked.

Phase 2 is a .8 mile stretch that includes a beautiful bridge that spans the bull ditch and continues north on Finn Drive and then west on Poplar Street. It turns north and runs along the east edge of the Bishop Garrigan High School athletic fields.

A trail head and concrete parking lot are located at Tietz Park. A rock parking area is also available near the AMU substation on Finn Drive.



ALGONA AQUATIC CENTER

106 W. Overmeyer

515-295-9103

www.ci.algona.ia.us

The Algona Aquatic Center is an outdoor facility that is open from late May through August. It is more than just a pool. With slides, diving boards, lounge chairs and so much more, the aquatic center is a great spot for all ages.

Adults and children 42 inches or taller can race down the yellow and blue flume slides, and those who pass the swim test can demonstrate their flips and tricks on the diving boards.

The shallow area has a variety of water features for the little ones, including the small alligator slide and water umbrellas.

Those who want to catch some rays can take advantage of the colorful chaise lounge chairs, and those who choose the shade can relax under one of the large umbrellas or other shade structures around the facility.

When it's time to cool off and refuel, the concession stand has a selection of treats such as ice cream sandwiches and corn dogs that can be enjoyed in the shaded eating area. Carry-in food or beverages are not allowed.

Lockers are available, and patrons are encouraged to take their own padlocks to secure their items. Locks can be rented at the admission counter.



Friends gather to play a game of pickleball on the new courts near the Algona Aquatic Center. The game has become popular for all ages.



PICKLEBALL COURTS



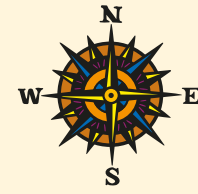
A variety of activities take place throughout the year at the Algona Senior Center

ALGONA SENIOR CENTER

1306 N. Main St.

515-295-7956

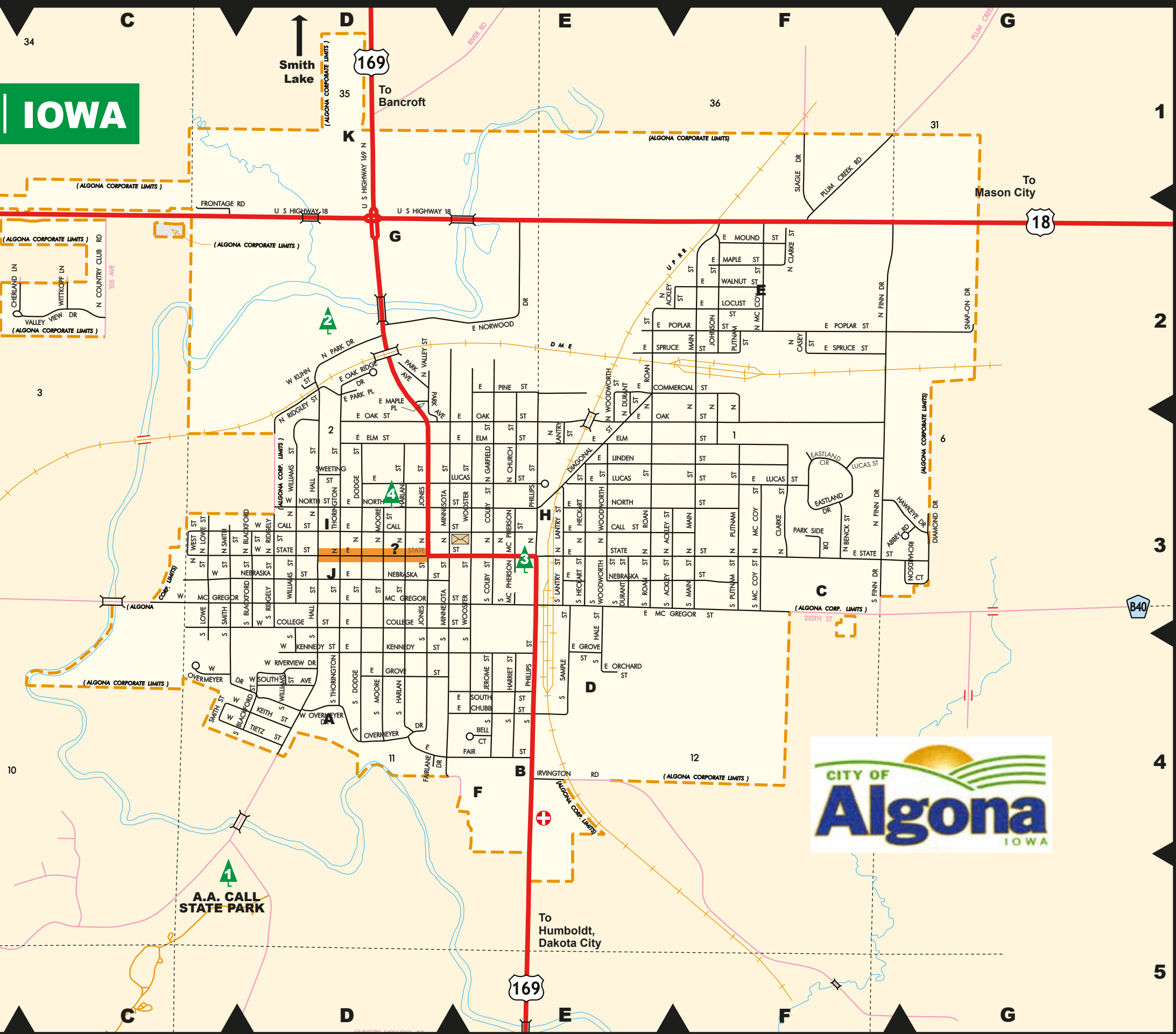
Seniors can participate not only in bingo and stretch exercises, but also monthly birthday parties and nutrition talks, crafts and holiday parties as well. The senior center offers home-cooked lunches, both in-house and home delivery. Users can find the Algona Senior Center on Facebook.



Algona | IOWA

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	Benck St.....F3	Irvington Rd.....E4	Park Place.....D2
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3	Central Park
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	Kossuth Regional Health Center
	Post Office
	Downtown
A	Aquatic Center & Park
B	Kossuth Co. Fairgrounds and Agricultural Museum
C	YMCA
D	Algona High School
E	Bishop Garrigan High School
F	Nativity Scene
G	Algona Plaza & Mall
H	Public Library
I	City Hall/Courthouse
J	Camp Algona POW Museum
K	Iowa Lakes Community College
?	Algona Area Chamber of Commerce



Iowa's county conservation program

Iowa's County Conservation program was established in 1955 when the General Assembly passed a law allowing individual counties to set up their own County Conservation Board. Kossuth County came on board in 1962 when five individuals were appointed by the board of supervisors. This was the beginning of a very successful county conservation program.

The first land acquisition for the Kossuth County Conservation Board (KCCB) came in 1965 when the land was purchased for the development of Smith Lake Park. The lake was constructed in the fall of 1965 and began filling in 1966. Over the last 50 plus years, numerous amenities and features have been added to the original park to make it a premier outdoor recreational destination in the county. Smith Lake is located three miles north of Algona on U.S. Highway 169.

Currently, the KCCB manages over 2,200 acres in the county encompassing 28 different areas. Activities at the various parks and wildlife areas include camping, picnicking, hiking, fishing, hunting, bird watching, kayaking, canoeing and many more. Many of the park areas have open and enclosed shelters available for the public to enjoy. The Water's Edge Nature Center is located on the northwest corner of Smith Lake and is the hub for the Environmental Education program. The nature center, which was completed in 2007, features a large meeting room, wildlife displays, library, storm shelter room and staff offices. A variety of nature programs for all ages are held in this facility throughout the year. Two of the most popular events include the Halloween Hike which will be held Saturday, October 21 and the Christmas bird feeder building program which will be held the last week of December.

CAMPSITES

The KCCB manages campgrounds at three different parks including Smith Lake, Siems Park and Burt Lake Park. The three park areas all offer their own unique camping experience. The campgrounds are open April 15 to October 31 depending on weather conditions. Reservations are taken for Siems Park and Smith Lake south campgrounds on half of the available sites. The remaining sites are walk-in only and are available on a first come-first served basis.

The 15 sites located at the north campground at Smith Lake are all full hookup sites including electrical, water and sewer. They can be rented on a seasonal, daily or monthly basis. Other amenities nearby include a modern restroom with a shower, open shelter, boat ramp, fishing jetty, swimming beach, playground equipment and a hiking trail.



The Water's Edge Nature Center is located on the northwest corner of Smith Lake and is the hub for the Environmental Education program.

The south campground at Smith Lake has 49 sites with electric/water at each site. A tent camping area is also available and is located near the shelter. Other amenities in this campground include modern restroom and showers, an enclosed shelter, playground equipment, volleyball and basketball courts, swimming beach, walking trail, horseshoe pits, and a dump station

Siems Park (located two miles southeast of Whittemore) has 30 electrical sites located in two separate areas of the park. Several tent camping areas are also present. The camping areas are located adjacent to five connected gravel pits which offer water based recreation including swimming, boating and fishing. Other amenities at this park include two shelters, water hydrants, playground equipment, modern restrooms with showers, a disc golf course and a dump station.

The smallest campground the KCCB manages is Burt Lake Park. It is located four miles west and 8.5 miles north of Swea City on the Minnesota border. Twelve electrical sites are available as well as tent camping areas. Other features at this park include a water hydrant, primitive restrooms, open shelter, hiking trail and lake recreation including swimming, fishing and boating.

**SMITH LAKE
CAMPGROUNDS**
are open
April 15
to October 31

photos by Don Nettleton

SMITH LAKE CAMPGROUNDS



PUTTING FAITH IN OUR FUTURE



Prayer

Prayer before and after activities, all-school masses, weekly adoration



Affordable

Extensive tuition scholarship program reduces tuition costs for every student



450 Students

Enrollment for the 2023-2024 school year is 450 students and growing



School Activities

99% of students are involved in at least two school activities



Post-Secondary Education

97% of graduates pursue post-secondary education



College Level Classes

We offer college level classes, many taught by our teachers for dual credit



Excellence

Continued academic, athletic, & activity excellence at the local, state and national levels



All Faiths Welcome

Bishop Garrigan welcomes families of all faiths.



Bear Care

Bear Care program helps meet the needs of our community



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Seton
Pre K - 2 Campus
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Algona, IA 50511
515-295-3509

Bishop Garrigan
Development Office
1224 N McCoy St
Algona, IA 50511
515-395-3525

Bear Care
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Algona, IA 50511
515-295-3509

Christy Peterson, President – petersonc@bishopparrigan.org
 Kristie Hough, 3-12 Principal – houghk@bishopparrigan.org
 John Kesselring, Student Services, Grades K-2 – kesselringj@bishopparrigan.org
 Wendi Meister, Seton Early Childhood Director – wmeister@bishopparrigan.org
 Sara Casey, Bear Care Co-Director – caseys@bishopparrigan.org
 Nellie Fowler, Bear Care Co-Director – fowlern@bishopparrigan.org
 Alison Rosenmeyer, Development Director – rosenmeyera@bishopparrigan.org
 Lisa Muller, Associate Development Director – mullerl@bishopparrigan.org

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 WED. • DEC. 6 • 2023
 2:30 PM
 7:00 PM

Kiss Me Once
 MON. • FEB 12 • 2024
 2:30 PM
 7:00 PM

Homegrown Harmonies
 SUN. • MARCH 10 • 2024
 2:30 PM
 7:00 PM

ABBA Fab
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Season tickets include 7 local concerts plus reciprocal area concerts at Clear Lake and Osage.

 **Kossuth Concert Series** Thanks to Haggard-Twoood Charitable Trust for its generous support.



help is available for homeowners

Algona offers loans and programs for housing costs

A COMMUNITY TO CALL HOME

If you are new to the Algona community, or looking to purchase a home, help is available. The City of Algona offers a range of programs to encourage people to make their home here, improve a home or build a new house.

HELP FOR HOME IMPROVEMENTS

The Residential Urban Revitalization program is designed to encourage new residential construction and significant improvements to existing homes by providing exemption from property tax on the value added to a property by qualifying improvements. Under the program, an owner may choose property tax exemption on the value added to the property at a rate of either 100% for five years or a sliding scale (80%-20%) over 10 years.

Algona's Housing Rehabilitation Revolving Loan Fund is also available to provide an affordable source of loan monies to very low- and moderate-income households to rehabilitate and make livability improvements to their owner-occupied, single-family dwelling. The maximum loan amount available to any one borrower/home is \$15,000. The minimum loan amount is \$1,000. Maximum term of the loan repayment is 10 years. Interest rates range from 1% to 3% based on income.

Loaned funds may only be used to finance property improvements which substantially protect or improve the basic livability or utility of the property. Use of improvement funds include but are not limited to plumbing, furnace work, siding or external painting, roof repair, insulation, window replacement/repair, electrical work, water drainage, foundation repair and floor coverings due to repair.

DOWNPAYMENT ASSISTANCE

The City of Algona encourages home ownership and, for households earning at or below 120% of the Kossuth County Low-to-Moderate Income rate, offers the Housing Down Payment Assistance Revolving Loan Fund. Applicants meeting program requirements may receive up to \$7,500 or 10% of the purchase price (whichever is less) toward the down payment and eligible closing costs to purchase a home in Algona. The home must be owner-occupied. Interest rates vary from 1% to 3% based on income.

To learn more contact the City of Algona at 515-295-2411 or visit www.algonaiowa.gov.

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- Submit an application between September 1 and October 15.
Awards announced in January.
- Visit www.kossuthccf.org for the list of projects funded for the
last two years, grant guidelines, and grant application.

Contribute to a new or existing Foundation
fund to make a lasting legacy donation!



\$245,349

Grants Awarded
in 2022

**\$2.9
Million**

Total Grants Awarded
Since 2005

**\$7.4
Million**

Total Net Assets
Year End 2022

Kossuth County Community Foundation Committee Members

Laurie Harms, Co-chair	Cynthia Arndorfer
Julie Murphy, Co-chair	Derald Goetz
Caleb Anderson	Deb Kenne
Brad Arndorfer	Brian Kollasch

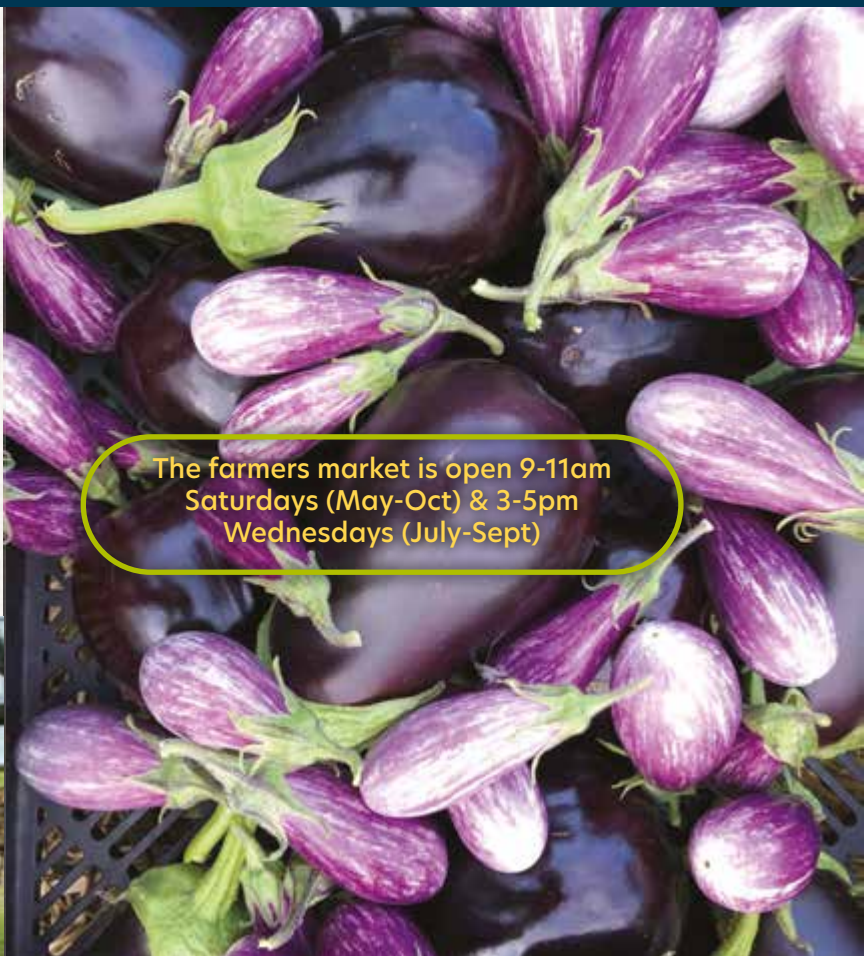
Volunteer with us! Contact: 319-243-1357.

farmers market

The Kossuth County Farmers Market is the best place to find fresh, locally-sourced products ranging from fresh vegetables and baked goods to crafts and jams.

The market is held on the Carnegie Lawn by the Dairy Queen, on the corners of Nebraska and Dodge streets. The farmers market is open 9 to 11 a.m. on Saturdays from May through mid-October and on Wednesdays from 3 to 5 p.m. from July to mid-September.

You can be a winner at the Kossuth County Farmers Market. It conducts a weekly drawing for \$5 in farmers market coupons. Look for the registration box at the market each week and enter as often as you like. Winners will be announced in a weekly column in the Kossuth County Advance.



The farmers market is open 9-11am Saturdays (May-Oct) & 3-5pm Wednesdays (July-Sept)

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Director



Charissa Mueller
Emergency
Management Director



Joshua Waechter Supervisor
Jack Plathe Supervisor
Roger Tjarks Supervisor
Carter Nath Supervisor
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Tammy Eden Auditor



Phil Albers
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Aaron Montag
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Derek Olson
IT Director



Karen Benschoter
Recorder



Roger Fisher
Sheriff



Nick Rahm
Treasurer



Daniel Green
Veteran's Affairs
Director

Getting down to **business**

Algona offers many organizations that are available to assist in your development endeavor whether that be starting a new business, relocating, or expanding an existing business. In addition to programs through the **City of Algona**, **KCEDC** and **AMU**, the **Algona Area Economic Development Corporation**, **Algona Area Chamber of Commerce** and **Tietz Entrepreneurial Center** are also available for support.



Mandy Arthur, owner of Cultivate Family Shop, utilized the city's small business revolving loan fund to help with start-up costs for her new business.



SMALL BUSINESS REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Available through the City of Algona, the Small Business Revolving Loan Fund provides low-interest loans to new and expanding businesses located in Algona.



COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL REVOLVING LOAN FUND

This fund provides financial assistance to encourage new business start-ups, expansion of existing businesses, and the relocation of out-of-state businesses to Algona.



URBAN REVITALIZATION TAX EXEMPTION

The City of Algona's Urban Revitalization ordinance provides for the exemption of property tax on all or a portion of the value added to a property as a result of new development or renovations of commercial and industrial properties.



TAX INCREMENTAL FINANCING

TIF enables the city to capture the increase in property tax dollars generated from new private development to pay for certain public improvements and business incentives.



AMU REVOLVING LOAN FUND

Algona Municipal Utilities (AMU) seeks to improve the quality of life by contributing to the long-term improvement in the economy, including job creation and retention, diversification of the economy, improving workforce skills, and upgrading infrastructure.



KOSSUTH COUNTY REVOLVING LOAN FUND

The Kossuth County Economic Development Corporation (KCEDC) Revolving Loan Fund supports the growth of community industrial parks and entices business and industry to expand in Kossuth County. To learn more, visit the KCEDC website at www.kossuth-edc.com or call their office at 515-295-7979.



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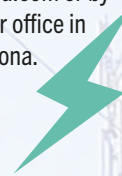
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Putting the **go** in **algona**



Don Nettleton photo

The Algona Area Chamber of Commerce was chartered in 1936 with the mission of promoting the business community of Algona. This mission has remained constant throughout the years.

The chamber is the first point of contact for many people – whether planning a day trip or considering a move to Algona, people expect the chamber to have the answers. We take that very seriously. If we don't have the answer, we have the resources available to get the answer.

The chamber is supported through membership investments from area businesses, in addition to revenue from our events. We have been fortunate to have our membership base remain steady throughout the years due to a very supportive business community. The more support we receive from the business community through membership investment, the more we are able to do to support our businesses and promote our community.

We put the "GO" in Algona through our many events throughout the year.



Frostbite Olympics, legislative forums, Women Networking Together Event, Party in the Park, Last Call Before Fall (formerly known as Taste of Algona), Band Day Festival, Autumnfest Craft Show, holiday activities, concert at Wilcox Performing Arts Center are all events that we sponsor that bring people in to Algona. Our annual summer celebration – Founders' Day – is held the second weekend in July and is done in conjunction with the City of Algona. Many class reunions and family reunions are planned around this event.

If you are looking for a way to become involved in the community and meet more people, we have ways for you to get involved. We are a resource center no matter what questions you may have.

The chamber is located in the historic Louis Sullivan building at 123 East State Street. The building has been restored to Sullivan's original vision, including the stained glass windows. It is on the National Register of Historic Places.

For more information on the Algona Area Chamber of Commerce call 515.295.7201 or visit www.algona.org or email info@algona.org



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fun facts

46.6
MEDIAN AGE
OF ALGONA RESIDENTS

1854
YEAR ALGONA FOUNDED
NAMED AFTER THE
ALGONQUIAN WORD FOR
"ALGONQUIN WATERS".

59.1%
IN LABOR FORCE
AGED 16 AND OLDER

5,487
POPULATION
2020 CENSUS

4.5
SQUARE MILES
AREA OF ALGONA

1,238.9
PEOPLE PER SQUARE MILE
POPULATION DENSITY

3,609
HOUSEHOLDS
IN ALGONA

WHAT IS ALGONA IOWA KNOWN FOR?

Learn about the World War II POW camp that housed more than 8,000 Germans and Italians. Relax with a variety of recreational opportunities such as golfing, fishing, and camping, or take in a theater production or concert. Annual celebrations include Founders' Day and the annual Band Day Festival.

26.9%
ALGONA RESIDENTS
AGED 65 OR OLDER

76.5%
HOUSEHOLDS
W/BROADBAND INTERNET

\$49,313
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD
INCOME

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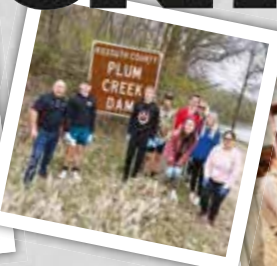


• **PK-12 school district serving 1400 students** from Kossuth, Palo Alto, Humboldt & Hancock counties.

• **Regional hub offering a comprehensive PK-12** educational curriculum, including the areas of special education, talented and gifted, title reading and alternative education.

• **A curriculum of over 120 core and elective course offerings** at Algona High School. AHS offers college credit to public and nonpublic students each year totaling 1,527 hours that transfer to colleges.

• **Algona High School offers 44 vocational courses** in the fields of Industrial Technology, Agricultural Education, Family and Consumer Science, Business. This includes our Career Academy college credit offerings in Construction Trades, TV & Radio Broadcasting and Publication, Health Occupations, Automotive Technology.



• **Every student K-12** has a computer issued to them for school purposes.

• **The Algona Middle School** offers a wide variety of STEM classes. All 6th grade students take Computer Sciences for Innovators and Makers. Students in 7th grade can take Robotics or Applications Creator and Survivor Economics. 8th grade students are offered Advanced Robotics, Medical Detectives (BioMedical Sciences), Marine Biology, and Computer Sciences.



• **Third largest employer** in Algona with 268 employees.

• **Modern facilities** consisting of three elementary buildings and a combined middle school/high school campus.

• **State of the art 863 seat Wilcox Performing Arts Center**, connected to the middle school/high school campus, opened in January of 2017.



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Algona Community School District

• **Annually, Algona High School graduates receive over \$1,000,000** in local scholarship money. A majority of our students receive additional scholarship money from the college they attend.

• **The Algona Community School Foundation** has given over \$3.75 million dollars in scholarships since its beginning. In addition, the Foundation have given over \$800,000 in grants for classroom projects that impact and enhance student learning.

Website:

www.algona.k12.ia.us





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