

CHEROKEE, IA

Cherokee sits in the beautiful Little Sioux River Valley in Northwest Iowa. The Little Sioux River winds through town and provides an excellent recreational source for fishing and canoeing as well as a backdrop to a beautiful park system. The town of 5,369 is located at the junction of U.S. Hwy 59 and State Hwy. 3, 60 miles northeast of Sioux City, IA.

Many buildings on Main Street are listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The City of Cherokee was awarded one of the first **Cultural Districts** by the State of Iowa in 2004. We have unique shops and great restaurants in Cherokee.

The **Sanford Museum** is the oldest accredited museum in Iowa, this facility boasts rotating displays as well as a permanent collection. The planetarium is truly a visit to the stars. Monthly Planetarium programs are open to the public. Cherokee has an acclaimed **Symphony Orchestra**. This 60-member orchestra provides the community with the highest quality of musical entertainment while giving musicians in the area a semi-professional outlet for their talents.

As the Railroad was the key reason for growth of Cherokee, the depot and entire railroad complex are listed in the National register of Historic Places. The **Depot Renovation** works to preserve the Illinois Central Railroad Depot located in Cherokee. The depot includes an HO scale model railroad and Northwest Iowa Railroad Museum.

The Lily of the Valley #5 One Room School and Living History Center. This one room schoolhouse located in Cherokee is operated seasonally by the Cherokee County retired school teachers. Their goal is to create a living history center for children and adults to preserve and promote Iowa's rich educational heritage.

The **Cherokee Mental Health Institute** has been an icon in our community for over 100 years. A museum located on the MHI campus captures the 100 years of treatments and historic artifacts from the facility. A walking trail and disc golf course are located on the MHI campus and are open to the public for their enjoyment

The **Bacon Aquatic Center** opened in June, 2007 and boasts slides, fountains, diving boards and a sand pit. **Gillette Park** has playground equipment suitable for children of all ages, with picnic facilities close by.

The **Inkpaduta Canoe Trail** follows the meandering **Little Sioux River** through six northwest Iowa counties, including Cherokee. The Little Sioux offers the canoeist excellent fishing and scenic opportunities. Canoes are available for rent from the Cherokee County Conservation Society. Canoe access is available at **Wescott Park** in Cherokee.

The Cherokee Chamber of Commerce strives to make Cherokee a positive place to live, visit and do business. Whether you are looking for something entertaining to do this weekend, or a new community to call home, a good place to shop or a place to open a new business, the Cherokee Chamber can help.

Mayor is Mark Murphy and City Administrator is Don Eikmeier. City Council members include Jim Peck, Wayne Pingel, Chad Brown, Mick Mallory, and Dan Morrow. Their goal is to see an increase in new construction in the coming years.

A year ago the City Council appointed a committee to look at potential improvements to the Spring Lake Park and Yacht Club. The previous Yacht Club had been destroyed due to flooding and other aspects of the park were in great need of improvements. The committee raised over \$400,000 in private donations and has worked to secure grant funding for improvements to the park. The new Spring Lake Yacht Club is set to open this summer. The facility will be available year round for family and community gatherings. Spring Lake Park's improvements in the coming year include new outdoor shelters, new playground equipment, new handicapped accessible fishing pier, new maintenance building, resurfacing and widening of the trail and a trail extension project. The Spring Lake Park Project is a wonderful example of bringing the

public and private sector together to accomplish a goal.

The Cherokee Industrial Corporation completed a railroad spur project on the south end of town. The spur is primarily being used to transport ethanol. Last summer a Housing Study was conducted to identify needs in our community. As a result, a committee has been formed to address housing needs in the Cherokee Community. Within the next few weeks, there will be some major announcements regarding providing needed new housing units in the City of Cherokee.

Thanks to wonderful volunteers, many events are possible.

Events scheduled for this year:

- May 9 - Hot Dog Days - Annual Customer Appreciation event and Little League Parade downtown
- May 30 - June 1 - 47th Annual Cherokee Chamber PRCA Rodeo
- June 1 - Rodeo Parade
- June 15-16 - Sioux Valley Golf Tournament
- July 4 - 4th of July Fireworks
- July 18-21 - Cherokee County Fair
- July 18-20 - Crazy Days
- July 27 - Veterans Appreciation Day
- Aug. 2-3 - Creek Fest
- Sept. 28 - Fall Family Festival at the Depot
- Oct. 5 - All Girls Getaway
- Oct. 26 - Children's Trick or Treat Parade through Downtown Cherokee
- Nov. 23 & 24 - Holiday Open House
- Dec. 5 - Lighted Christmas Parade
- Jan. 17-18, 2014 - Cherokee Jazz and Blues Festival



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The Cherokee Area Economic Development Corporation

Our mission is to retain and attract business, agriculture and residents.



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712-225-5161

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SANFORD MUSEUM & PLANETARIUM

<p>MARCH:</p> <p>East Gallery Art Wall: Acrylic paintings by Ann Reisdorf</p> <p>March 3 @ 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Country Jammin'</p> <p>March 9 @ 7:30 p.m. Connie Mutel presents "Iowa's Changing Land, Water, and Climate: The Ongoing Story"</p> <p>March 24 @ 2:00 p.m. Public Planetarium Program</p>	<p>APRIL:</p> <p>West Gallery Exhibit: Then and Now: The Changing Arctic Landscape</p> <p>East Gallery Art Wall: Artwork by Donna Duncan</p> <p>April 7 @ 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Country Jammin'</p> <p>April 13 @ 7:30 p.m. Ice Age Exhibit Opening with Dr. Chris Widga</p> <p>April 28 @ 2:00 p.m. Public Planetarium Program</p>
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ALL PROGRAMS ARE FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC!

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