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2022/2023 COMMUNITY GUIDE

WEBSTER COUNTY

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114 North 25th Street - Fort Dodge, Iowa

WELCOME TO Webster County IOWA

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Directory



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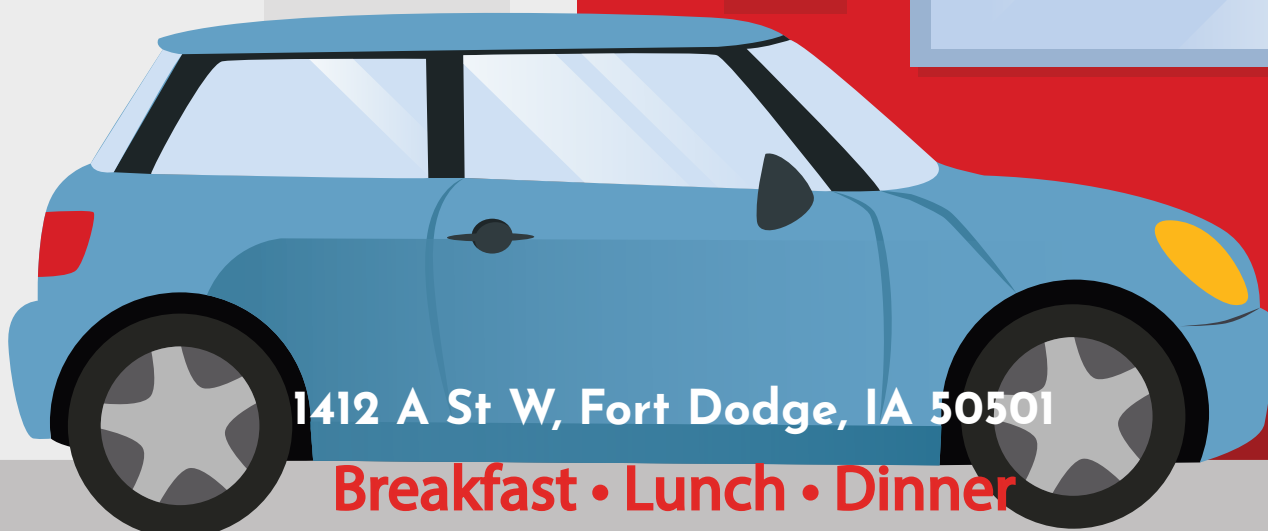
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Drive
— IN —

HAMBURGERS



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Breakfast • Lunch • Dinner



At a glance WEBSTER County IOWA

WEBSTER COUNTY 36,797

Fort Dodge	24,594
Gowrie	990
Dayton	803
Stratford	720
Coalville	610
Badger	547
Otho	520
Lehigh	397
Duncombe	392
Callender	363
Harcourt	293

www.city-data.com/city/Iowa.html
worldpopulationreview.com/us-counties/ia

Webster County is located on the Edwards Plateau in the U.S. state of Texas. As of the 2020 census, its population was 27,352. The county seat is Fredericksburg. It is located in the heart of the Texas Hill Country. Gillespie is named for Robert Addison Gillespie, a soldier in the Mexican–American War.

Education

In 2020, universities in Webster County, IA awarded 1,019 degrees. The student population of Webster County, IA is skewed towards women, with 2,287 male students and 2,439 female students.

Most students graduating from Universities in Webster County, IA are White (723 and 73.9%), followed by Black or African American (96 and 9.82%), Hispanic or Latino (83 and 8.49%), and Unknown (41 and 4.19%).

WEBSTER COUNTY, IA

2020 POPULATION

36,348

0.539% 1-YEAR DECLINE

US SENATOR

 **Chuck
Grassley**
REPUBLICAN PARTY

US SENATOR

 **Joni
Ernst**
REPUBLICAN PARTY

2020 MEDIAN AGE

39.3

0.769% 1-YEAR INCREASE

2020 POVERTY RATE

14.3%

4.18% 1-YEAR INCREASE

2020 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME

\$51,909

9.36% 1-YEAR GROWTH

2020 MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD VALUE

\$107,900

8.88% 1-YEAR GROWTH

2020 EMPLOYED POPULATION

17,032

1.55% 1-YEAR GROWTH

Health

94.3% of the population of Webster County, IA has health coverage, with 47.2% on employee plans, 19.4% on Medicaid, 13.6% on Medicare, 12.6% on non-group plans, and 1.43% on military or VA plans.

Primary care physicians in Webster County, IA see 1649 patients per year on average, which represents a 14.4% decrease from the previous year (1927 patients). Compare this to dentists who see 1330 patients per year, and mental health providers who see 378 patients per year.

Housing & Living

The median property value in Webster County, IA was \$107,900 in 2020, which is 0.47 times smaller than the national average

of \$229,800. Between 2019 and 2020 the median property value increased from \$99,100 to \$107,900, a 8.88% increase. The homeownership rate in Webster County, IA is 68.3%, which is higher than the national average of 64.4%. People in Webster County, IA have an average commute time of 17.4 minutes, and they drove alone to work. Car ownership in Webster County, IA is approximately the same as the national average, with an average of 2 cars per household.

<https://datausa.io/profile/geo/webster-county-ia>

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BLANDEN Art Museum

920 3rd Ave South / Fort Dodge Iowa
www.blanden.org

Free Admission

Open : Tue-Sat / 11:00am- 5:00pm
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Places to visit *and things to do*

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412 Main St
Duncombe, IA
United States, Iowa

Kennedy Park

1415 Nelson Ave
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 576-4258

Community Orchard

2237 160th St
Fort Dodge, IA 50501-8547
515-573-8212

Dolliver Memorial State Park

2757 Dolliver Park Ave
Otho, IA 50569
(515) 359-2539

**Rosedale Rapids
Aquatic Center**

1111 N 32nd St
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 955-4284

Soldier Creek Winery

1584 Paragon Ave
Fort Dodge, IA 50501-8532
515-216-0987

**Brushy Creek State
Recreation Area**

Lehigh, IA 50557
(515) 543-8298

First National Bank Building

629 Central Ave
Fort Dodge, IA 50501

Shiny Top Brewing

520 Central Ave
Fort Dodge, IA 50501-3810
515-302-8055

Gypsum City OHV Park

2390 Mill Rd
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 576-4258

**Woodman Hollow
State Preserve**

2501 Woodman's Hollow Rd
Otho, IA 50569

Studio Fusion

21 S 12th St
Fort Dodge, IA 50501-4831
515-570-4442

**The Fort Museum and
Frontier Village**

1 Museum Rd
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 573-4231

Webster County Museum

515 School Street
Otho, IA 50569

Fort Frenzy

3232 1st Ave S
Fort Dodge, IA 50501-6424
515-576-2226

**Blanden Memorial
Art Museum**

920 3rd Ave S
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
(515) 573-2316

Fort Dodge Public Library

424 Central Ave.
Fort Dodge, IA 50501
515-573-8167



P & J Bargain Outlet

IOWA *Webster County*



Create memories in Fort Dodge and Webster County. Unique visitor opportunities include wandering through history at the Fort Museum, enjoying the arts at the Blanden Art Museum, tantalizing your taste buds at Tea Thyme, Community Orchards, River Hops Brewing, Shiny Top Brewing, and Soldier Creek Winery, shopping at the small specialty stores downtown or attending community festivals and concerts. Have fun with family and friends at Fort Frenzy Entertainment Center and Rosedale Rapids Aquatic Center.



Outdoor Recreation & Exciting Eateries

Find adventure at multiple parks dedicated to providing trails for many uses: off-highway vehicle trails at Gypsum City OHV Park, various skill level soft trails at the Lizard Creek Mountain Bike Trails, horseback riding at Brushy Creek State Recreational Area or scenic hiking trails at Dolliver State Park. The area's two state-designated water trails, Lizard Creek and the Des Moines River Water Trail wind through the area and are perfect for paddling or tubing. Grab a delicious meal at local favorites like Sneakers Eatery & Pub or Buford's. Then finish the day off right with a sweet treat from Dariette or Bloomers on Central.

www.tripadvisor.com



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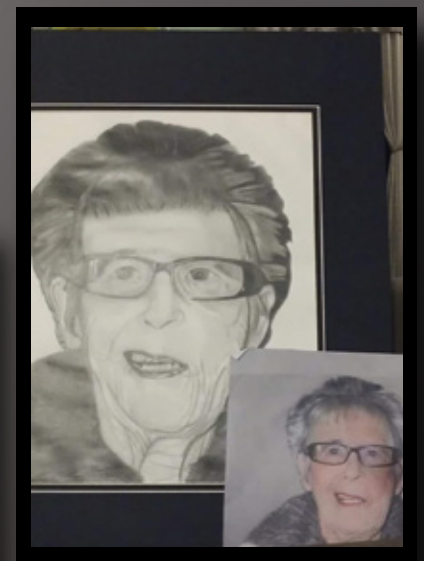
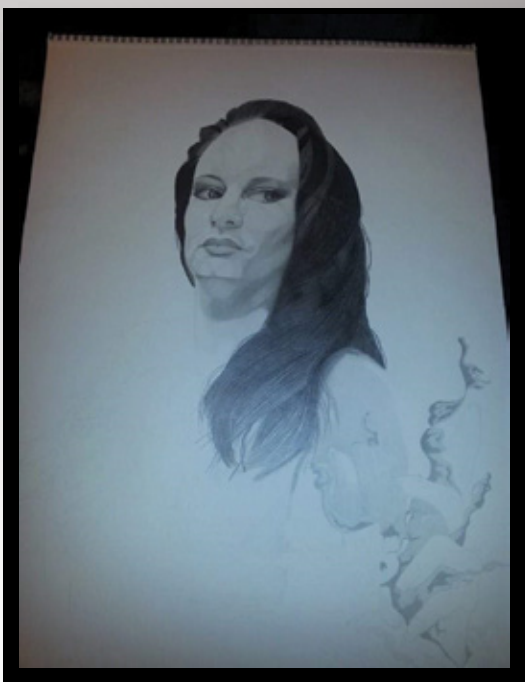
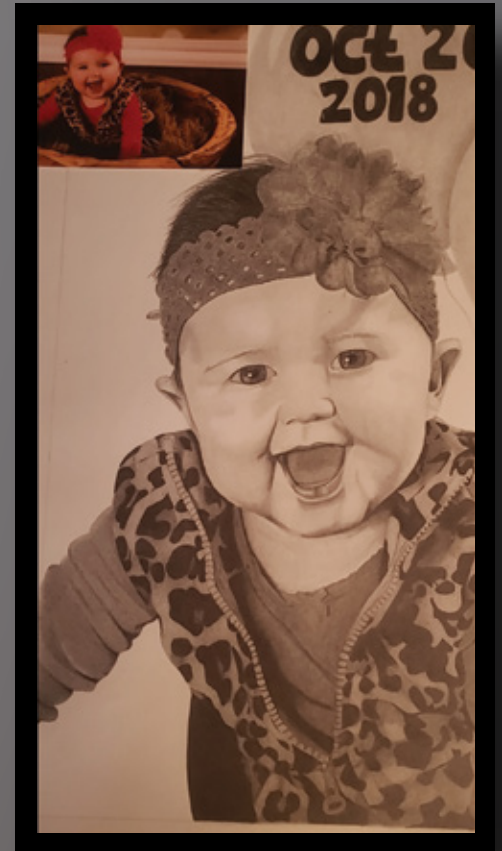


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FORT DODGE

The area where Fort Dodge would be built had long been called home to the Sioux, Winnebago, and Sac and Fox tribes before Iowa became a part of the Louisiana Purchase in 1803. Up until the time that Lewis and Clark came through in 1805, the region was only known to the American Indian tribes and French fur traders. Following the Lewis and Clark expedition, however, many others would begin to come upon the land in search of settlement, to establish relations with the Indian tribes, and to survey the lands for the U.S. Government.

One of the first in-depth explorations of what would become the Fort Dodge area was made in 1835 by three companies of the 1st U.S. Dragoons led by Lieutenant Colonel Stephen Kearny. With the objective of identifying future sites for military posts, the men traveled up the Des Moines River, through southern Minnesota before heading south to the Fort Dodge area. When they came upon Lizard Creek, they noted how the site would be suitable for a potential fort along the Des Moines River.

Fifteen years later this same route was followed by another body of United States soldiers under the command of Brevet Major Lewis Armistead with orders to establish a fort at the mouth of the Lizard Creek. The purpose of building the post was at this location was primarily due to the annoyance which the Indians had caused the early settlers and the fear that they might do worse.

A few years more and a stage line would follow the same path the soldiers had taken, which would become known among the early settlers as the “Dragoons’ Trail.” Armistead, who had scouted the area earlier, chose the very site that was recommended by the Dragoons 15 years earlier. Overlooking the junction of the Des Moines River and Lizard Creek, the site offered good water, timber, and stone for building. Armistead led in the construction of the post and brought in a steam

sawmill to speed up the work. Armistead’s soldiers were soon joined by more troops dispatched from Fort Snelling, Minnesota to help with the building of the military post. By hiring additional civilian laborers, 12 buildings were completed by November 1850. The post was first named Fort Clarke in honor of the commanding officer of the 6th Infantry. However, they soon found out there was another fort in Texas with the same name, so the next spring it was renamed Fort Dodge in honor of Colonel Henry Dodge, the U.S. Senator of Wisconsin Territory (which included Iowa at the time) and the founder of the Dragoons.

Also that next spring, nine more buildings were constructed. The population at the post consisted of three commissioned officers, 10 non-commissioned officers, about 75 enlisted men, and 40 civilians, many of whom were family members of the soldiers.

During the life of the fort, day to day life for the soldiers was fairly routine and never involved any combat. In fact, when they weren’t drilling or tending to the post, they were primarily involved in keeping trespassers off the Sioux lands, finding bootleggers and pursuing military deserters. At that time, deserters from the post were frequent as the lure of the California Gold Rush was strong. For entertainment, the soldiers primarily spent their time hunting, drinking, and gambling.



For more information please visit: www.fortdodgeia.org

IOWA

Webster County

Just three years after it was established the post was decommissioned and the soldiers were ordered to Minnesota to establish Fort Ridgley. The next year, William Williams, the post's sutler, acquired the buildings and the military post and soon would plat the City of Fort Dodge. However, it would be years before the "town" was officially established.

The post was originally located on 1st Avenue North. Today, the reconstructed Fort Museum and Frontier Village are located on the southwest edge of Fort Dodge. It is a full-scale recreation of a military outpost on the prairie from the 19th century and also features a reconstructed village from the same time period.

Buildings and corresponding collections include a family cabin, church, one-room schoolhouse, cabinet shop, land office, general store, drug store, jail, print shop, blacksmith shop, livery stable, pottery building, and tinsmith shop. Other collections included are prehistoric, military, Native American, Civil War, period furniture and early Fort Dodge artifacts.

The only remaining cabin from the fort which established Fort Dodge is dedicated to Lewis A. Armistead, a confederate general killed at Pickett's Charge during the Battle of Gettysburg. Prior to joining the confederacy, Armistead served as Quartermaster at Fort Dodge. Another special exhibit building tells the story of the Cardiff Giant, one of the most famous hoaxes from the 19th century which was carved from gypsum mined near Fort Dodge.

A "Frontier Days" event is held annually on the Fort Museum grounds. It features a parade, beauty pageant, historical reenactments, a buck skinner camp, and live entertainment.



www.legendsofamerica.com/ia-fortdodge/

DIRECTORY

Assessor

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Human Resources

(515)-573-1148

County Attorney

(515)-573-1452

Human Resources

(515) 955-8343

Clerk of Court

(515)-574-3762

Planning and Zoning

(515)-574-3761

Community Services

(515)-573-1476

MIS

(515)-574-3733

Conservation

(515)-576-4258

Recorder

(515)-574-3722

Court Administration

(515)-574-3751

Secondary Roads

(515)-571-6249

Emergency Management

(515)-573-1403

Small Claims

(515)-576-2453

Engineer/ Roads

(515)-576-3281

Treasurer

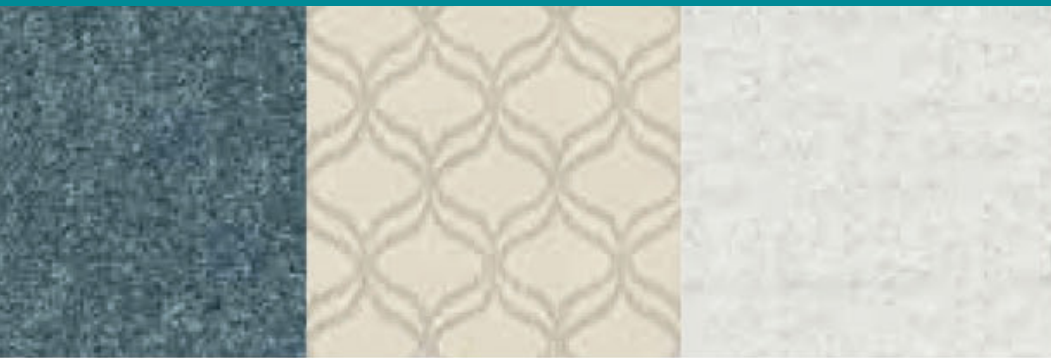
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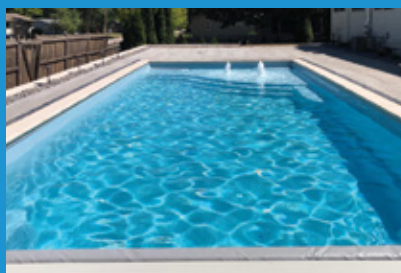
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