

## TAKE A WALK DOWN MAPLE STREET

Maple Street is in our up and coming, newly renovated uptown. Many of our historical sites are located within walking distance on Maple Street. While passing through, check out the newest murals painted on various building walls.

### RESTORED DEPOT

The Restored Depot was crested as the main train station during railroad development. As Creston was the headquarters of various railroad operations, many carpenters met here to keep up on the latest news on track expansion. Today, the deopt is still in use and holds city offices and an art gallery.

### IOWANA

With Creston being the main destination for people traveling by train many years ago, this six story hotel came to life. There was high travel in and out of the Iowana, making it a very popular hotel.

### FORMER U.S. POST OFFICE AND COURTHOUSE

When the Former U.S. Post Office and Courthouse first came about, you would be able to find a post office on the first floor and a federal courthouse on the second. Today, you can find the local trophy shop located on the first floor.



## HIGHWAY 34

Highway 34 is a main highway that runs along the south side of Creston. Located right along Highway 34 on the western edge of town, lies two popular places of interest. These two places sit side by side, making for a perfect afternoon visit. Here, you can find a shelter house with a few picnic tables.

This makes for the perfect area for a family picnic while soaking in a bit of our history.

### FREEDOM ROCK

699 US-34, Creston

Located in all 99 counties in Iowa are Freedom Rocks painted by Ray "Bubba" Sorensen. Each rock represents a piece of a puzzle, helping to share various stories of our country's history. Here, you can stop by and check out the story that the rock shares. You can spend the afternoon learning about a piece of America's history.



### PHILLIPS VISITOR CENTER

699 US-34, Creston

A farm boy from Union County decided to open up a gas station after years of working as a barber. If interested in the history of the Phillips family here is the place to go. Along with this, you can learn about all that Union County has to entail.

This building has been restored over the years, keeping its true colors and materials up to date.



# **McKINLEY PARK**

600 McKinley St. Creston

McKinley Park is the most well known park in Union County. Here you can find playgrounds, a skate park, picnic areas for small and large groups, a disc golf course, bandshell for entertainment, a basketball and racquet ball court, and an outdoor aquatic center. Expanded on the west side of the park is McKinley Lake. Take a drive around the lake, feed the fish and geese, or find a place to relax and enjoy the view. On the east and south side of the park, you can find pieces of history that helped create our county. Take a day and explore all that McKinley Park has to offer.

## **MT. PISGAH**

This monument represents the meeting place for numerous people following along on the Mormon Trail. Over 2000 people made Union County home on their way through. At the monument you will be able to find more information about the history of the first winter on the trail, the people who were involved, and the impact on Union County.

## **HISTORICAL VILLAGE**

This village brings a piece of the 1800s to life. Here you can find multiple buildings such as a church, log cabin, schoolhouse, printing shop, and many more. Everything is from the 1800s, including farm machinery and clothing. Sign up for a tour or explore the area on your own.

# FESTIVALS

## 4TH OF JULY

July

To kick off the day, the 4th of July parade is held in uptown Creston. Sit back and watch all of the various floats drive by, throwing out candy and treats. Stop by the Depot for a funnel cake and kettle corn. Once the parade is over, head out to McKinley Park to watch the annual talent show while checking out the various food vendors. In the evening, gather around McKinley lake for one of the best firework shows in the area.



## BALLOON DAYS

September

Balloon Days is a well known festival that reaches all around Union County. Here, there are 40 balloons soaring through the air each year. Following the morning flights is the parade located in uptown Creston. Around town you can find food vendors and flea markets. In the evening, the airport holds the night glow for all the balloons.

## CHRISTMAS



December

The Christmas season is filled with lots of joy! During the evening of the Christmas holiday, there is a parade that travels through uptown Creston. If you are interested in dance, stop by Leslie's Dance Studio to watch the "Window Walk".

# UNION COUNTY FAIR

211 South Grace St. Afton

Stop by the Union County Fair for a fun filled day! Here, you can watch livestock shows and check out projects that 4H and FFA members have created. On Sunday, attend the County Fair Queen coronation ceremony and Queen's parade around the square in Afton. In the evenings, stop by the Grandstand to watch the truck and tractor pull, rodeo, and demo derby. Make sure to check out the concession stand for a funnel cake, cheeseburger, and lemonade shake up.

"The Union County Fair Board is dedicated to promoting youth development and respect for cultural diversity. The mission of the Union County Fair is to provide the best county fair possible for all residents of Union County. It provides a gathering place for all communities to showcase their products and skills. It creates educational, social, cultural and economic opportunities to preserve and promote agricultural and traditions of the entire county. The Union County Fair provides the most valuable, educational, and entertaining experience that resources will allow. We support 4-H and FFA Youth of Union County to showcase project work and livestock to the general public."

-Union County Fair Mission Statement

## Events Outside of The Fair

- Running on Tradition 5K and Mud Run
- Open livestock shows
- Drive Through December Light Show

Fair Date:  
July 22 - 27, 2021



# FALL TIME

## Activities

### **HARVEST FEST**

September in Cromwell

This two day event is perfect for the whole family, located in Cromwell. Activities for the kids include the pedal pull, fishing tournament, bike race, an archery booth, and Halloween events. Check out what's cooking during the BBQ contest, watch the truck and tractor pull, and join in on the vendor show and street dance.

### **TRUNK OR TREAT**

October, All Around Union County

During Halloween, there are various "Trunk or Treat" events. Kids are able to go walk through various booths and car trunks to pick out candy and goodies.

### **BRIGHT EYES IN THE PARK**

October, Creston, McKinley Park

Take a walk around McKinley park, dressed up in Halloween costumes. Stop by various business and organization booths to pick up candy and snacks.



# *The* CHICKEN INN



The Chicken Inn, southwest of Creston, was once a very popular restaurant. They were known for selling their special chicken dinners. They raised their own chickens behind the building, having farm fresh meals. The building then held various, popular Rock and Roll bands, where people gathered around to listen to their favorite music.

This historic building was entered into the Iowa Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Today, the building is used to hold events throughout the year. Live bands are welcome to play, including anyone from the community who wants to dance and sing along.

Be sure to keep up with the current events held at the Chicken Inn. Stop out for a country or rock and roll dance.





# A DAY PLANNED FOR YOU

## **GET YOUR CUP OF JOE**

Stop in at **Adams Street Espresso** to get your morning cup of coffee and a breakfast burrito.

## **START YOUR MORNING ADVENTURE**

Take a walk down **Maple Street** to check out all of the historical buildings.

## **READY FOR LUNCH?**

Stop by **A & G Steakhouse and Lounge** for pizza and wings or just a drink from the bar.

## **TALK A WALK IN THE PARK**

Spend your afternoon and evening exploring **McKinley Park**. Walk through the **Historical Center**, **Mt. Pisgah**, and play around at the park.

## **TIME FOR DINNER**

Head into **Marios Sports Bar & Grill** to watch the latest sports and enjoy a cheeseburger and fries.

For more information and details, check out  
[unioncountyiowa.com](http://unioncountyiowa.com)