

**THE CITY OF RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA
COMMUNITY WELCOME PACKET¹**

*Great Stories
Grow Here*

Red Cloud



¹ Updated on March 20, 2023

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WELCOME TO RED CLOUD!

The Red Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce and all of our friendly residents want to welcome you to our community! We have put together this COMMUNITY WELCOME PACKET to provide you with information about our community that can get you familiar a lot faster than having to find everything out by yourself. In addition, we hope that the information provided in this packet will encourage you to take the opportunity to patronize our local merchants, businesses, and organizations. Please get to know them and learn what kinds of goods, services, and activities are available right here in Red Cloud. If you can't find what you're looking for, be sure to ask. Shop Red Cloud first!

* * * * *

Red Cloud, named for the Ogallala Sioux Chief, was founded early in 1871 on homestead land filed upon by Silas Garber and company. When Webster County was later organized, Red Cloud was voted the county seat. The election was held in the dugout of Silas Garber, Nebraska's governor, 1875-79. The mainline of the Burlington and Missouri River Railway reached the town in 1879, accelerating immigration from the East and abroad, bringing together a colorful variety of cultural heritages.

During the 1880s Red Cloud served as a division center for the railroad. The architectural design of downtown was established during the prosperous time when many of the first frame and log structures were replaced by more elaborate two-story buildings of brick and stone. The historic brick streets remain in downtown Red Cloud as well as many of the original buildings, including the majestic and refurbished Opera House and the recently renovated Moon Block which is now the National Willa Cather Center and Archive. Several downtown buildings are currently undergoing renovation, including the Potter Block which will become a 28 room lodging facility called the Hotel Garber in 2024.

Red Cloud is the hometown of Nebraska's Pulitzer Prize winning author, Willa Cather. Here you can visit her childhood home, her beloved Opera House, and other historic buildings related to her life and writing. Located just east of Red Cloud, the Starke Round Barn is truly an architectural wonder. The massive structure measures 130 feet in diameter, and was built using a nail-free construction method. This eye-catching attraction is the largest in Nebraska and the largest "true" round barn in the world. The Webster County Museum is also housed in Red Cloud. The museum displays the rich heritage of early settlers of the plains of Webster County.

So "WELCOME TO RED CLOUD!" We sincerely hope you will enjoy living here in the Heartland of America as much as we do. If you have internet access, be sure to visit Red Cloud's website at www.visitredcloud.com for more information about our city. If you have any questions, need any additional information or help with anything at all, feel free to call, write, or email:

Red Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce
P.O. Box 327
Red Cloud, NE 68970
Email: redcloudchamber@hotmail.com * jmccartney@redcloudnebraska.com
(402) 746-4065
www.visitredcloud.com

RED CLOUD TOURISM AREA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BOARD

Kyle Klein, President
(402) 430-4600

Mark Van Beber, Vice President
(254) 718-9674

Adam Vetter, Treasurer
avetter@bankonheritage.com

Bridget Daehling, Secretary
bridgetd@gtainsures.com

The Red Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce is a non-profit organization that operates on membership dues and dollars generated from fundraising events. They work to help the community bring in new businesses, support existing business, and share the splendor of the community with others. RCAC meets every month on the first Thursday at 5:30pm in the Red Cloud Community Center.

A QUICK START GUIDE TO LIVING IN RED CLOUD

UTILITY INFORMATION

Electric, Sewer, Water	City of Red Cloud	402-746-2215
Electric (Rural Areas)	South Central Public Power District	800-557-5254
Trash	R&M Disposal	402-746-2302
Natural Gas	Black Hills Energy	888-890-5554
Telephone Service	Great Plains Communications	888-343-8014
Digital Television	Great Plains Communications Vyve Communications	888-343-8014 855-FOR-VYVE
Satellite Television	Direct TV Dish Network	800-217-9407 800-333-3474
Cellular Service	U.S. Cellular Verizon Viaero	888-944-9400 800-922-0204 877-484-2376
Internet	Great Plains Communications Vyve Communications Glenwood Communications	888-343-8014 855-FOR-VYVE 866-756-4746

MUNICIPAL INFORMATION

CITY OFFICIALS

Mayor	Todd Brown
City Council	South Ward: Kyle Bryan North Ward: Gene Horne (President) South Ward: Todd Mahin North Ward: Kevin Daehling
City Attorney	Kory McCracken

Note: The City of Red Cloud has a mayor-council form of government with all city officials elected to four year terms of office. City Council meetings are held at 7:00 pm on the 1st Tuesday of each month at the conference room of the Red Cloud Community Center. The public is welcome to attend.

CITY DEPARTMENTS

Administrative	Maddy Schmitz, City Clerk	402-746-2215
Maintenance	Dan Thies, Superintendent	402-746-2214

For information about City Ordinances, forms and permits, incentive programs, job listings or how to pay your utility bill online, visit our website at <https://www.visitredcloud.com/government/city-red-cloud>

COMMUNITY SERVICES

City of Red Cloud
540 North Webster Street
Red Cloud, NE 68970
402-746-2215

Auld Public Library	402-746-3352
City Clerk	402-746-2215
Cherry Corner Estates (Assisted Living)	402-746-2340
Disposal Plant	402-746-2723
Housing (Parkview Apartments)	402-746-2262
Light & Water	402-746-2215
Police Department (Non-Emergency)	402-746-3612
Power Plant	402-746-2212
Sheriff (Non-Emergency)	402-746-2722
Superintendent	402-746-2214
Swimming Pool	402-746-3399

WEBSITE/BUSINESS DIRECTORY

The Red Cloud website was updated in the Spring of 2017 and organized to appeal to visitors and locals alike. Red Cloud is quickly garnering a reputation for being a tourist community and many of the amenities and cultural venues that attract folks from all over the country make the quality of life in Red Cloud exceptional for local residents as well, especially for a town of our size. The website has listings for lodging, dining, and retail and a complete business inventory that we simply do not have the space to reproduce on this welcome packet. Please refer to the website or call Jarrod McCartney at 402-746-2653 for more information about local businesses. You will also find most of the information listed below in our community section of the website, where you can also pay your utility bill, read City Council minutes, and find community calendars, a full listing of major events, and news. Go to www.visitredcloud.com to learn more. Or find our directory here: <https://www.visitredcloud.com/community/business-and-community-directory>



WALK RED CLOUD

HISTORICAL WALKING TOUR

www.walkredcloud.com

WEBSTER COUNTY

**Webster County Courthouse
621 North Cedar Street
Red Cloud, NE 68970**

Assessor	402-746-2717
Attorney	402-746-2902
Clerk/County Court	402-746-2777
County Highway Engineer	402-746-3721
District Court Officers	402-746-2716
Extension Service	402-746-3417
Noxious Weed District	402-746-2890
Sheriff (Non-Emergency)	402-746-3612 or 402-746-2722
Treasurer	402-746-2877
Veteran's Service Officer	402-746-2493
Historical Museum	402-746-2444



RED CLOUD COMMUNITY FUND

Founded in 1995, RCCF has spent years investing in our hometown. As an affiliated fund of the Nebraska Community Foundation, the RCCF makes investments in community betterment projects from our prudently managed endowment funds. We help local organizations purchase equipment, boost the local tourism industry, fund historic preservation efforts, provide scholarships to high school and non-traditional students, improve infrastructure for youth recreation, care, and education and much more. During the last few years, RCCF has been integral in establishing the [Heritage Tourism Development Office](#) and [The Valley Child Development Center](#).

Our Mission

To make a positive impact on peoples' lives by growing endowments in order to promote the community's rich heritage, support its sustainability, and ignite community participation. Learn more at our website: <https://www.visitredcloud.com/community-organization/red-cloud-community-fund>

Jarrold McCartney, Chair
jmccartney@redcloudnebraska.com

Danny Bengel, Vice Chair
(402) 669-0272

Dennis Hansen, Treasurer
dhansen@gpcom.net

Stacie Heldt, Secretary
stacieheldt@silverlakemustangs.org

Members: Ashley Armstrong, Karla Burgess, Kim Ely, Miles McDole, Ashley Olson, Adam Vetter, John A (Jay) Yost

RED CLOUD HERITAGE TOURISM DEVELOPMENT & E3

Heritage Tourism Development is a collaboration between the Willa Cather Foundation, the Red Cloud Community Fund, the Nebraska Community Foundation, the City of Red Cloud, and the Red Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce. The purpose of Heritage Tourism is to develop the local economy by leveraging its historic and cultural assets.

E3 stands for “Energizing Entrepreneurial Ecosystems.” The program was launched in 2021 by the Nebraska Community Foundation (NCF). According to K.C. Belitz, CEO of NCF, the “project is connecting entrepreneurs and entrepreneurial communities to build local and statewide economic development frameworks that ‘grow our own’ business leaders.”

Jarrold McCartney, RCHTD Director & E3 Community Coordinator

413 N. Webster

Red Cloud, NE 68970

Located inside the Red Cloud Opera House in the National Willa Cather Center

402-746-2653

jmccartney@redcloudnebraska.com

Heritage Tourism Advisory Council Members

*Dennis Hansen, Chair (Red Cloud Community Fund) * Ashley Olson (Willa Cather Foundation)
Todd Mahin (City of Red Cloud) * Bridget Daehling (Red Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce) **

Liz Rasser (Local Tourism Attraction—Starke Round Barn) * *John A (Jay) Yost* (At Large)

“E3” Core Committee Members

Dennis Hansen (Red Cloud Community Fund) * *Ashley Olson* (Willa Cather Foundation) * *Danny Benge* (Hometown Market) * *Adam Vetter* (Heritage Bank, Red Cloud Area Chamber of Commerce) * *Brad Frey* (Abundant Life Honey, Red Cloud Legion) * *Kevin Daehling* (Red Cloud City Council, Red Cloud Community Schools)

RED CLOUD CREATIVE DISTRICT

The mission of the Red Cloud Creative District (RCCD) is to foster artistic and cultural creativity and advance economic vitality. ***We are free spirited*** - In the spirit of our own Willa Cather, we embrace the freedom of creativity and authentic self-expression. ***We are visionary*** - Red Cloud Creative District is a nurturing epicenter for arts innovators to share their dreams and receive community support to help bring them to life. ***We are natural beauty*** - For well over a century artists and innovators have been captivated by the local prairie. Our landscape is unique and rich with inspiration. ***We are welcoming*** - Great stories grow here...and no matter what your story is, you are wanted and welcome here. ***We are tenacious*** - We aren't afraid of hard work, and we know how to get things done. ***We are collaborative*** - We work together, creating a web of support for creatives. ***We go big*** - As home of the National Willa Cather Center, we connect artists, cultural leaders and changemakers locally, regionally, nationally, and internationally.

RCCD Committee: *Jarrold McCartney*, Coordinator; *Ashley Olson* (Willa Cather Foundation); *Rachel Olsen* (Willa Cather Foundation); *Christi Lewis* (Artist and Educator); *Mark Dahle* (Artist); *Amy Springer* (Artist, Physician); *Camrie Fangmeyer* (Student); *Louise Olsen McCartney* (Student); *Pam Livingston* (Artist); *Liz Rasser* (Starke Round Barn, Republican Valley Arts Council); *Brenda Knehans* (Republican Valley Arts Council); *Todd Mahin* (City Liaison); *Adam Vetter* (Red Cloud Chamber of Commerce Liaison); *Debbie Janzen* (Twisted Petal 2)

HISTORICAL SITE INFORMATION

Willa Cather Foundation/The National Willa Cather Center

Ashley Olson, Executive Director
413 N. Webster
Red Cloud, NE 68970
aolson@willacather.org

Tracy Tucker, Director of Collections & Curation
ttucker@willacather.org
www.willacather.org

Rachel Olsen, Director of Education
rolsen@willacather.org

Nick Powers, Visitor Services Coordinator
npowers@willacather.org
(402) 746-2653

Starke Round Barn

Liz Rasser, Owner
(402) 746-4165
lrasser@gmail.com

Webster County Historical Museum

Teresa Young, Director
721 W. 4th Ave.
(402) 746-2444
wchmdirector@gpcom.net

RED CLOUD COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Lincoln Elementary School 402-746-3413 or 402-746-2865
334 North Cherry Street *Superintendent: Brian Hof*
Red Cloud, NE 68970 *Principal: Amy Dallman*

Washington Jr.-Sr. High School 402-746-2818 or 402-746-3796
121 West 7th Avenue *Principal: Jason Heldt*
Red Cloud, NE 68970 *Superintendent: Brian Hof*

STATE OF NEBRASKA

NE State Patrol 308-385-6000
NE Dept. of Environmental Quality 877-253-2603
NE Dept. of Roads (Red Cloud Office) 402-746-2740
NE Drivers License Testing Station 308-385-5047
NE Game & Parks Commission 308-745-0230
NE Health & Human Services 308-385-3543

U.S. GOVERNMENT

Red Cloud Post Office 402-746-2800
USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA) 402-746-2204

MEDICAL

Landgren Dental 402-746-3131
Main Street Clinic 402-746-2282
Red Cloud Animal Health 402-746-2448
Red Cloud Chiropractic Clinic 402-746-3435
Village Pharmacy 402-746-3335
Webster County Clinic 402-746-5614
Webster County Community Hospital 402-746-5600

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

All Emergencies 911
Poison Control 800-955-9119
Fire (Non-Emergency) 402-746-3612
Police (Non-Emergency) 402-746-3612
Sheriff (Non-Emergency) 402-746-2722

THE VALLEY CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER



TVCDC opened in 2018 and provides high quality childcare from ages 0-12.

500 West “A” Ave.

Director: Beth Fischer

402-746-5110

facebook.com/TheValleyChildDevelopmentCenter_

FAITH-BASED ORGANIZATIONS

Red Cloud has a large number of faith-based organizations, many of which host community feasts and other activities in addition to regular church services. For a complete list, go to <https://www.visitredcloud.com/community> and select “Places to Worship” from the navigational menu.

COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS

Red Cloud has several non-profit, educational, military, and other community support organizations including American Legion and a local chapter of the Lions Club. For more information, go to <https://www.visitredcloud.com/community/community-organizations-0>

HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION

The Red Cloud Historic Preservation Commission awards mini-grants for historically appropriate repairs and/or restorations to the exteriors of properties listed on the Red Cloud Historic Register, listed as a contributing resource in one of the four National Historic Districts in Red Cloud, or listed individually on the National Register of Historic Places. Contact Dan Benedict at 402-746-2440 or redclouddhistoricpreservation@gmail.com for more information.

SOCIAL MEDIA

#weareRC #visitredcloud #redcloudproud #rcoh #nwcc #tvcdc

City of Red Cloud:	facebook.com/cityofredcloud
RC Athletic Assoc.	facebook.com/RCAAsummerball
Red Cloud Buy/Sell:	facebook.com/groups/126164927481638
Recreation & Health:	facebook.com/Red-Cloud-Recreation-Health-339872163018442/
Red Cloud Opera House:	facebook.com/RedCloudOperaHouse/
Red Cloud Schools:	facebook.com/RedCloudCommunitySchools/
Red Cloud Booster Club:	facebook.com/RedCloudBoosterClub/
RC Community Fund:	facebook.com/RedCloudCommunityFund/
Willa Cather Foundation:	facebook.com/WillaCatherFoundation/ twitter.com/willacatherfdn
RC Tourism & Commerce:	facebook.com/visitredcloud instagram.com/visitredcloud
Red Cloud E3:	facebook.com/groups/686409643066572
Heritage Tourism:	facebook.com/groups/519197223001414

ANNUAL EVENTS

- Farmers & Merchants Banquet (Jan/Feb)
- Easter Egg Hunt (Saturday before Easter)
- Red Cloud Alumni Weekend (Memorial Day Weekend)
- Willa Cather Foundation Spring Conference (1st weekend of June)
- Republican River Stock Tank Float (July)
- Webster County Fair (July in Bladen)
- Street Car Days (First Weekend in August)
- Trail of Treasures (First Weekend of October)
- Red Cloud Community Fund Annual Celebration (Saturday before Thanksgiving)
- Shopping Extravaganza (Tuesday before Thanksgiving)
- Opera House Shows Monthly!
- Red Cloud Golf Club Events Throughout the Summer

For a complete list of entertainment events go here:

<https://www.visitredcloud.com/community/events>

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

This calendar includes all of the events in Red Cloud that we're made aware of, including public meetings, school events, and church events:

<https://www.visitredcloud.com/community/community-calendar>