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LELAND

LEGEND

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- Museum
- Police Station
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- Post Office
- Park/Playground
- Railroad
- School
- Shelter House
- Skate Park
- Tennis Court

OTHER LELAND BUSINESSES OUTSIDE OF MAP AREA
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 WEST PRAIRIE LUTHERAN CHURCH
 WESTSIDE RADIATOR & SAW

Map Labels:
 Leland Maintenance Shed
 Mitchell's Bar & Grill
 Farmers Coop Association
 VFW
 Finer Cabinetry
 Radical Barrels
 City Hall Community Center
 Leland Woodworks
 K&C Electrical Plumbing HVAC Inc.
 C R's Crafts
 Our Saviors Lutheran Church
 Farmer's Co-op

Streets: 2nd Ave, 4th Ave, 5th Ave, 6th Ave, W Broadway, E Broadway, Buren Ave, Arrow St, Walnut St, A St, B St, C St, D St, River Rd

Highways: 69, 9

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Leland



Located in Winnebago County, Iowa, Leland's story began with the settlement of John D. Leland, an attorney who moved to the area from Illinois in 1878 and purchased a considerable amount of land. Then, the railroad came to town in 1879, bringing plenty of people and new businesses with it. As a result, a hotel was built for the railroad workers in 1880, which was quickly followed by blacksmith shops, lumber yards, hardware stores, general stores, a creamery, banks, and taverns. The towns namesake Mr. Leland also joined the flourish of business by establishing his own threshing machine factory, which later became a cement factory. Then, in 1932, another big change came to the community with the building of U.S. Highway 69 through the center of town. More businesses began to



appear along the highway to capitalize on the traffic and the community of Leland became even more established. But the history doesn't end there. From Highway 69, on the south end of town, a white cross can be seen on a grassy hill. Many passing through Leland gaze at it as they drive by, wondering what its story is. In 1905, R.W. Branstad stayed with a friend on the farmstead that used to occupy this same hill. Mesmerized by the landscape, Branstad never forgot about this place of beauty and said, "It could very well be called Calvary." In 1948, he purchased the farm and, when his son was about to enter military service in 1950, Branstad was inspired to dedicate the hill to his faith. Originally, he planned on spelling out the words GOD and SON with rocks,



which were collected and piled atop the hill. However, the message was often disturbed by vandals who changed the biblical words to inappropriate ones. Filled with frustration, Branstad finally gave up on his project and buried the rocks. But, in 1974, as he neared the age of 79, he decided to complete his life-long project by building the cross and placing it atop the hill where it could be seen by all.

Faith also inspired another man to put up a cross on the northern side of Leland, also along Highway 69. Wayne Wubben built the 25-foot cross and placed it along his fence line to remind people of their faith as they pass by. He completed the project with Our Savior's Lutheran Church in Leland as well as an organization focused on placing crosses in each state of the U.S. and in every country in the world. The cross is located near one of Wubben's field entrances, which he keeps clean in case anyone feels so inclined to visit the cross for prayer.



Though Leland remains a small town, its history and faith have attracted a few memorable residents and visitors. Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad, Iowa's longest serving governor, lived in Leland as he attended nearby Forest City High School before moving on to attend the University of Iowa and Drake University Law School. He then returned to the area to practice law in neighboring Lake Mills. His career took off after serving in the Iowa House of Representatives from 1972-1978. Then he was elected as Lt. Governor from 1978-1982 and Governor from 1983-1999, being re-elected to the office in 2011. In December of 2016, Governor Branstad was named Ambassador to China by the newly elected Trump administration.



Alongside such an important politician, actor Kevin Costner and his band Modern West also visited Leland in 2009. The group recorded a song titled "Leland, Iowa," which was written by one of the band members who has relatives in the Leland area. At the request of local residents, the band came to town to perform this song before the community in the 'Ambrosen Barn.' However, the event attracted fans from all over the state and the town swelled with people hoping to meet the group. After their performance, Costner and the band went to the local café to do another performance for those who were unable to fit into the barn. Both performances marked a day that the community of Leland will never forget.



CITY OF LELAND
316 Walnut street
641-567-3330
Mon., Wed., Thurs. 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

UNITED STATES POST OFFICE
212 West Broadway
641-567-3580
Monday through Friday 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
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LELAND COMMUNITY CENTER
316 Walnut Street
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Conference Room available for rent for parties, celebrations and organized meetings. Contact the City of Leland for rates and information.

FOREST CITY COMMUNITY SCHOOL
145 S Clark Street
PO Box 270
Forest City, IA 50436
641-585-2323

ORGANIZATIONS & UTILITIES

VFW	Tina Perry	641-567-3106
Fire Department	Forest City	641-585-4121
Ambulance Service	Forest City	641-585-4634
Water/Sewer	City of Leland	641-567-3330
Garbage/Recycling	Waste Management	800-222-6214
Electricity	Alliant Entergy	800-255-4268
Gas	Black Hills Energy	888-890-5554
Phone/Internet/Cable	Mediacom	866-550-8636
Phone/Internet/Cable	WCTA	641-592-6105

HUNTING
AMBROSON RECREATION AREA
3035 Highway 69, located 1 mile south of Leland. 119 acres of land includes hunting, fishing, boating, picnic shelter, and a playground. Access to the Winnebago River Water Trail.

C.A. BLOCK WILDLIFE AREA
North of Leland, at 18405 420th Street. 389 acres of wetlands, uplands, popular waterfowl hunting.

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2 miles north of Leland, at 19260 420th Street. The area features 225 acres; The county's first hunting & fishing area for youth ages 15 and under. A free permit is required to hunt. Call WCCB at 641-565-3390 to obtain a permit.

RAUK-RASSMUSSEN TRACT
37780 Highway 69, Leland offers uplands and wetlands available for hunting.

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LELAND BUSINESS LISTINGS

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