



Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation

Newsletter

106 S. Dodge | Suite 210 | Algona, IA 50511 | kcedc@kossuthia.com

Phone 515.295.7979 | Fax 515.295.8873

VOLUME 24 | NUMBER 2 | JULY-DECEMBER 2021

Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Impact Snapshot Report Released

The Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation is pleased to announce the completion of the 2021 Economic Impact Snapshot for Kossuth and Palo Alto counties, which was in the prime of COVID-19. The generation of this report was a collaborative effort. Partners in the project included Mid-American Energy, Iowa Workforce Development, and K/PACEDC's CEO Steering Committee, which is made up of CEOs and individuals in leadership roles in both counties.

Data for the report was taken from the 2021 Kossuth County and Palo Alto County Business Surveys. A total of 183 businesses participated in the surveys this year. Additional Information was gathered from company visits with major employers, hospitals, Iowa Lakes Community College, Wild Rose Casino, USDA and ag-based businesses. Data was collected using



Counties, such as average wages, mean commute time, workforce, healthcare statistics, and renewable fuels data. The report also features a section on agriculture's economic impact in Kossuth and Palo Alto counties.

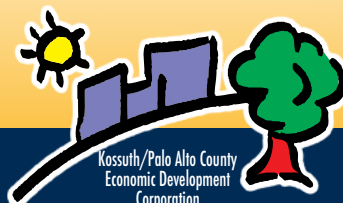
The report will be used to:
Identify growth in local companies
Forecast economic investment
Generate facts to support business attraction marketing initiatives
Provide accurate and up-to-date information for prospects, utility partners, state and county officials, and area businesses that request data.

The Existing Industry Report will be utilized as a marketing tool to target specific industries nationwide and demonstrate why Kossuth and Palo Alto counties would be a perfect fit for their businesses and serve as a testament to the strength of our local economy. For your copy you may e-mail K/PACEDC at kcedc@kossuthia.com.

Economic Modeling Specialists International, a CareerBuilder Company.

The Economic Impact Snapshot highlights information about Kossuth and Palo Alto

www.kossuth-edc.com



www.paloaltoiowa.com

University of Iowa College of Public Health Recognizes Maureen Elbert for Dedicated Service

Maureen Elbert, Executive Director of Kossuth/Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation, recently concluded 7 years of dedicated service as a member of the Steering Committee for the University of Iowa College of Public Health's Business Leadership Network (BLN).

The BLN engages Iowa business and community leaders in Iowa communities with the training, service, and research opportunities

offered by the College of Public Health. The network provides participants with opportunities to connect with other business and industry leaders throughout Iowa around public health priorities, and to share ideas and best practices for community health and wellness.

"We are forever grateful to Maureen for her expertise and commitment to the important work of engaging Iowans in creating safer and healthier communities," says Dr. Edith

Parker, dean of the University of Iowa College of Public Health. "Maureen's perspective as a business leader in north central Iowa reflected the experiences of individuals, families, and businesses in the region and was instrumental in the growth and development of the BLN."

Elbert served on the steering committee from 2014-2021.



IOWA

College of Public Health Business Leadership Network

MaxYield Cooperative's Members Approve Merger with NEW Cooperative, Inc.

(WEST BEND, IA) – The members of MaxYield Cooperative, headquartered in West Bend, Iowa, approved a merger proposal with Fort Dodge, Iowa based NEW Cooperative, Inc this summer. The merger became effective August 1, 2021.

"We are pleased to report the MaxYield membership has voted in favor of this merger," stated then MaxYield board chairman Howard Haas. "Thank you to our members for taking time to attend meetings, looking over materials and evaluating the merger proposal. We look forward to being a part of NEW Cooperative and look forward to the opportunities that it will bring."

MaxYield's membership vote met Iowa's state voting requirement for a successful co-



operative merger. To approve a merger, Iowa law requires at least 50 percent (plus one) of MaxYield's Class A membership to vote, with at least two-thirds of those casting ballots voting in favor of the merger. The ballot counting committee consisted of two MaxYield board members, two MaxYield Class A voting members and two representatives of the auditing firm Meriwether Wilson & Co PLLC.

"We welcome the members and employees of MaxYield to NEW Cooperative," stated Dan

Dix, General Manager of NEW Cooperative, who resides near Humboldt. "We thank the MaxYield membership for the support and confidence placed in NEW Cooperative by voting in favor of this merger and we also thank the staff of MaxYield for all of the work done during the merger study. I look forward to leveraging the value that this merger brings to the combined memberships and employees of both organizations."

NEW's board of directors expanded to a total of 15, with the addition of three directors appointed by the MaxYield board of directors.

More information about NEW Cooperative can be found at www.newcoop.com.

Governor Reynolds & Rep. Jones

Meet with Local Leaders in Ruthven

Governor Kim Reynolds visited Ruthven on Friday, June 18 as part of her 99 county tour. She met with local leaders in order to learn about ongoing projects in Ruthven and listen to concerns from the community. While in Ruthven, Governor Reynolds toured the city and viewed the homes that received funding from the CDBG grant in order to make needed repairs and updates.

Mayor David Kirk and Council Member Jay Schoning spoke about the programs and shared both the positive and negatives of the funding process and policies. One of the negatives of the CDBG grant housing program is that if mandatory repairs to a home exceed the \$24,999 cap, applicants receive no funding. The program does not allow local sources to contribute past the cap. This results in homes in desperate need of repair not receiving the funding required to fix issues with the homes (leaking roof, siding, or windows) that continue to destroy the home over time.

The Mayor suggested to Governor Reynolds and State Representative Megan Jones, also in attendance, if the cap is reached, either allow funding from other sources or fund the repairs that are needed to stop further damage to the home. Both Governor Reynolds and State Representative Jones agreed the program needed to be reviewed and a solution found.

Members of the Palo Alto County Economic Development Corporation, Maureen Elbert, Executive Director, and Ivan Dalen, Board President were in attendance to discuss ongoing economic development programs and issues that hindered economic growth. During the Governor's tour she got to see the improvements made to the Ruthven/Ayrshire School District Athletic complex. School Superintendent Marshall Lewis discussed the project and shared the success of the improvements.



Governor Reynolds and State Representative Megan Jones were in Ruthven Friday for about an hour where they met with local leaders in order to learn about ongoing projects in Ruthven and listen to concerns from the community. While in Ruthven, Governor Reynolds toured the city and viewed the homes that received funding from the CDBG grant in order to make needed repairs and updates. She got to visit with one of the homeowners, Mr. Mike Borkovich, who said the process went very well. The Mayor talked to them about the issues involved with the grant that has a cap of \$24,999 - which allows no funding if the homeowner exceeds that cap. Both Governor Reynolds and Representative Jones agreed the program needed to be reviewed and a solution found. Enjoying the shade and the relaxing trickling of a waterfall at the Borkovich home are L-R Governor Reynolds, Mike Borkovich, Mayor David Kirk and Representative Megan Jones. (photo and story by Jay Schoning, Ruthven)

Other topics discussed during the Governor's visit were improvements to rural broadband services, changes to mental health funding, and telehealth. Governor Reynolds said the bill she signed into law this past week that shifts funding for mental health services to the state level was truly monumental. She says it's a major part of a major tax overhaul proposal.

"We were the only state in the country that still funded mental health through property tax levies and it's a service that should be funded by the state. And that equates to over about a \$100 million tax savings for taxpayers statewide, so that was, I was really proud to be able to sign that. And, in addition to that, it was kind of a third piece of the puzzle. We did comprehensive adult mental health reform;

we created a first ever children's mental health system; and then the final piece was stable funding going forward and we were able to do that with the tax bill."

The Governor and Representative Megan Jones were in town for about an hour which included a session at City Hall and a tour of the three homes renovated this year by the CDBG grant. She got to visit with one of the homeowners, Mr. Mike Borkovich, who said the process went very well. She also noted and heard about the expansion of Lakeland EZ Stop, the new Dollar General Store, the Ruthven Meat Processing locker plant which continues to expand its services, and the new Titan Sports Complex and how two small school districts are working together to retain their own schools.

(Article courtesy of Ruthven)



FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

IN KOSSUTH & PALO ALTO COUNTIES



Charles Kennedy, James R. Kennedy and Teresa Kennedy.



Tilton Savings Bank is now **NSB Bank**.



Farmers & Traders Savings Bank will be sold to **Fidelity Bank & Trust**.



Laurens State Bank is now **Community State Bank**. Pictured is Clark Cunningham, CEO and Tony Brugman.



Terry Rich keynotes countywide breakfast

Leaders from Kossuth and Palo Alto counties gathered in Whittemore to listen to one of Iowa's best-known public officials and personalities. Terry Rich, a former director of the Iowa Lottery, author and entrepreneur, spoke at this year's countywide breakfast hosted by the Kossuth/Palo County Economic Development Corporation. The event was held at the St. Michael's Parish Center in Whittemore.

Rich presented a program on the largest lottery fraud in U.S. history, his role in how it played out and how not to get burned. In his words, it was on "How a lotto ticket, two hot dogs, and Bigfoot helped solve the largest lottery fraud in U.S. history." He encouraged people to be proactive and said, "Failure is the first step to success," and it is "better to have tried and failed than to succeed at doing nothing."

Maureen Elbert, Executive Director of the K/PACEDC was the host. She thanked supporters of the development organization, the boards of directors for both counties' groups, city clerks, county boards and other elected officials and her staff among others for helping development efforts in the region.

Brad Hicks photos

Kemna Auto Center continues expansion, adding Ford and Chrysler brands

ALGONA- Kemna Auto Center opened its doors to the public in 1956. Joe and Lawrence Kemna started the business in Bancroft, only selling Chevrolets. Ken Kemna, now the owner of the dealership, joined the family business in 1975. In 1988, Kemna purchased a dealership in Algona hoping to expand the business.

Throughout the years, Kemna Auto Center has acquired other dealerships in Algona. Most recently, the business purchased the Motor Inn Auto Group Algona Location to serve a broader market and to offer car brands like Ford and Chrysler. The business is in the process of adding on to its company, including a 10,000-square-foot Ford and Chrysler exclusive showroom and installing a state-of-the-art quick lube center. The quick lube center will be open in September to the public. Once inside the center, customers will stay in their cars while employees change their oil. The whole process will take 15 to 20 minutes with no appointment needed. The center will be able to offer more than 70 oil changes a day. The company is also adding an electric vehicle charging station that will be located outside the business.

"We decided we would support the community and do the right things. That's why we added the Ford and Chrysler store," said Ken Kemna.

The business offers new and used vehicle sales. They also have a full-line body shop and frame department. Kemna's offers full line detailing for internal and external customers and a custom car wash package.

"We decided to do a Kemna Prime program. So, for 300 bucks a year you can have unlimited car washes 24 hours a day seven days a week, plus a lot of other benefits," said Kemna. "You can come out whenever, pay once, and not worry about it."

Every department is well educated and set up for success so the employees can succeed. The com-

pany works hard to become a leadership-driven company and to help its associates thrive. There are two World Class technicians in the state of Iowa, with one of them part of the Algona operation. Employees have been loyal to the company, with tenure exceeding 35 years.

"We have high professionalism. Very nice, very well-trained and high-performing individuals who are well compensated and earn everything that they do. Our specialty is helping to grow our team, grow our people and make a difference in the community," said Kemna. "Whenever we onboard anybody, our mantra is we are going to help you be the best you can be."



KEMNA AUTO CENTER

Kemna's employees help the business to stand out from others. They focus on their employees so their employees can take care of the customers. The employee's training, culture, leadership and support help to make a difference in the clients' life.

"We get a lot of employee reviews. We have been a best place to work in Iowa for the last five years in a row, top 150 companies in the state of Iowa. We have also been in the top 100 car



Kemna Auto Center, Algona employees:

Front row L to R: Stacey Carlson, Jimmy Syharath, Melissa Berte, Sherry Rahm, Lanelda Bollinger, Kim Poepppe, Denise Schreiber, Lynne Hoover, Dwayne Wickman, Jacob Haag, Tom Kemna. Back rows L to R: Corey Roberts, Chris Heyes, Doug Thilges, Daniel Griep, Jeremy Bleich, Anna Merryman, David Hatch, Dan Elbert, Carson Halsrud, Seth Schlenger, Andrew Elbert, Randy Vaske, Randy Bollinger, Sean Phillips, Jed Akridge, Dennis Kirsch, Jamie Altman, Scott Yates. Not pictured: Eve Carr, Hannah Lawson, Kevin Shaw. Photo by Anne Tiili

dealerships in the country," said Kemna. "It shows our commitment to our people. If our people are happy, then they make our customers happy."

The pandemic has caused a rise in car sales. At the beginning of the COVID outbreak, the business adapted quickly to the situation, following social distancing guidelines. The company made sure to let the employees know that their jobs were secure. However, the pandemic has caused the inventory of cars, motorcycles and off-road units to decrease because of the lack of manufacturing.

Every year growth is seen in employees, departments and the other companies. The organization has 21 companies including car dealerships, used car dealerships, hotels, rental cars and leasing and finance companies. Kemna also has Indian Motorcycles, Polaris Off-road and rangers in its Okoboji location.

"These companies all came because of community needs, and we just grew to fill those needs," said Kemna.

Kemna Auto Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. On Saturday they are open from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. If you would like to learn more call 515-295-2406 or visit them online at <https://www.kemnagm.com/>.

(Article by Elyse Gabor, Kossuth County Advance)



Community Showcase A Big Success

The Community Showcase filled the great rooms and spilled into the hallways at The Shores in Emmetsburg last Wednesday, Sept. 8. Over 60 businesses, industry and organizations had display areas, according to Gretchen Reichter, Emmetsburg Marketing and Retail Coordinator.

"Thank you to all the businesses, clubs, non-profit organizations, churches, and community members who attended our first Community Showcase," Reichter said. "The Emmetsburg Community School District and City of Emmetsburg, in partnership with the Emmetsburg Chamber of Commerce and ISU Extension and Outreach Palo Alto County, organized this community event to showcase all that Emmetsburg has to offer."

The rooms were filled with activities, clubs, services, charities, churches, businesses, local products and more.

"We were so pleased with the turnout and enjoyed watching new residents, lifelong residents, youth, community leaders and more connect with the community," said Reichter. "Right now, the plan is to have the Community Showcase again next year at the beginning of the school year. Our initial thought was to have this at the beginning of the school year so we could invite new teachers and new families to the school district, so they could get to know the community early on. I think we'll time it similarly next year, late August or early September."

Looking to next year, Reichter sees a similar format, with everybody invited to attend and exhibit their business and community organization.

"It will be interesting to see how many people we can actually squeeze

into the building again or if we'll have to get a bigger venue," she said. "We definitely want to do it again."

There were many good comments about the Community Showcase last week.

"I've heard clubs talking about new members and some had volunteers sign up," Reichter commented. "It's really nice hearing all of these different experiences, whether it was a new resident that somebody got to meet and the new resident that now knows about something they didn't know before, or a resident who has lived here forever and just chit-chatting and now they know something that they had no idea was going on."

Over 60 local groups and businesses participated in the showcase, and about 300 meals were served to community members and participants.

"We heard great comments about the event, from clubs gaining new members and volunteers and businesses creating new connections," she said. "We're looking forward to planning another Community Showcase next year."

The Community Showcase provided an opportunity for new and long-time residents to connect with the community. It was also a means to retain residents and employees and to create community bonds. Throughout the evening, guests wandered through the building, viewed the displays and visited with new and long time friends as they [re]discovered what the community has to offer.

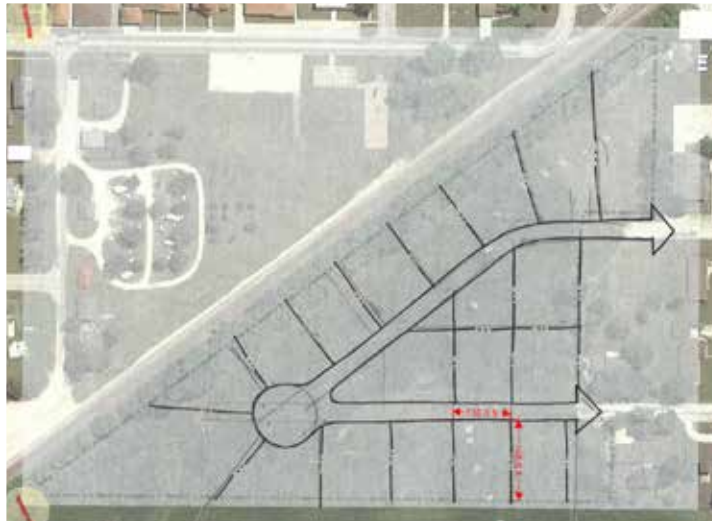
At the conclusion of the evening, there was live music by Rod Johnson on the veranda at The Shores. The outdoor concert was sponsored by Emmetsburg Chamber of Commerce.



WEST BEND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

working on several projects

The West Bend Economic Development Corporation (WBEDC) is working on several projects at this time and would like to share what is happening. The mission of the WBEDC is to "Coordinate business development, job retention, housing, value added initiative to help improve the quality of life for all residents of West Bend". WBEDC is a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization that is a local organization who will accept your tax-deductible contributions and use those funds in a way to fulfil our mission statement. From time to time, WBEDC receives donations along with a request to use the funds for specific community betterment projects. If you have a heart for one of the current projects or one of the future projects, please consider donating to this organization!



WBEDC has several in-fill lots available for sale around town. In-fill lots are lots that are in West Bend that once had a house on it that has since been demolished. Economic Development has

purchased these lots for new housing development. WBEDC plans to list these lots in the journal and on their website later this fall. The prices for these lots range between \$12,000 and \$24,000 for someone wishing to build a home.

A new housing development is coming soon to West Bend. WBEDC has entered into an agreement to purchase the land north of the Family Practice Clinic for a housing development which will have 14-17 lots available for new homes. WBEDC will be working with the city to re-plant the land and finalize the street plans before next spring and hope to install the street as soon as funds are available. See photo on this page for a concept of the housing development layout.



WEST BEND

Economic Development has also entered into an agreement to purchase additional land from Ervin and Gayle Thilges to expand the Industrial Park on the east side of town. This was needed as several of the existing lots are being purchased by Country Maid.

WBEDC and the City of West Bend are also partnering to work with qualifying building owners on

main street. This program is called a CDBG Downtown Revitalization project, with the intent of helping repair and restore the beauty and history of our main street. The program allows for improvements to the front 18" of a building and they will get a face lift if they qualify and the owners wish to participate. This will take 2-3 years to complete if we are awarded this grant. The city has applied for a \$500,000 Grant which will be divided among the building owners who qualify and wish to participate. This project has received pledges from private donors totaling over \$275,000 who have a heart to see our little town and its businesses stay strong. The engineer's estimates for this project for the 18 qualifying buildings total almost \$1.3M and the building owners will be expected to contribute 15% of the costs. WBEDC is looking for more donations to help with this project and the city will also contribute some available funds to help make this project move forward if awarded the grant. WBEDC would like to find an additional \$200,000 of private donations to help with this project. If you would like to pledge funds for this project, contact any of the WBEDC board members!

Some have asked WBEDC "what else is in your

future plans?" In a small town, there usually is no shortage of dreams and plans, just a shortage of capital to implement them! Another project that has been discussed that would be a nice addition to our community would be to build a walking trail. WBEDC reached out to NWIPDC in Spencer to gather information and resources to determine how to pull a project like this together, but until the active projects are completed to see what funds remain, WBEDC is reluctant to start this one immediately. The most significant challenge with this project is getting the land and/or building the walking trail.

WBEDC president Darin Massner thanks the local landowners on behalf of the entire WBEDC board (Lisa Schmidt, Jeff Montag, Gary Schneider and Rich Frieders) who agreed to help them acquire the land necessary for the housing development and industrial park expansion. Community Lumber, Martin & Doris Zaugg and Ervin & Gayle Thilges were wonderful to work with to help WBEDC move these projects forward!

(Article by Darin Massner, West Bend Journal)



Al Lauck Receives Iowa Broadcaster of the Year 2021



Al began his broadcast career on April 1, 1971 at KLGA-FM in Algona, Iowa. However, his love for radio began much earlier. Al was 4 years old when KLGA-FM was put on the air. He toured the station with his parents during the station's grand opening, and he knew at that tender age he was going to work there someday.

Before he graduated college, Al began his careers with KLGA-FM as a part-time announcer. And since then, he has held almost every position that radio offers. He currently serves as the morning announcer, an account executive, chief operating officer, and farm director.

Al has broadcast from countless events in his nearly 50-year career. When local businesses plan a remote broadcast, they specifically request Al be the one who does it. From fundraisers to celebrations, Al has been there lending his voice and broadcasting skills. He

has reported from the annual "Stuff the Trailer" food drive, various service organizations' fundraisers, and so many more events. When there is an event going on in our area, Al's voice is there, enticing you to celebrate with your community members. When he reports from the county fair, he makes the 9-year-old girl showing her goats feel just as important as the presidential candidate on the campaign trail.

Al has received countless awards for his service to many local and statewide organizations. He's in the Iowa 4-H Hall of Fame and has received the Distinguished Service to Agriculture Award from the Kossuth County Farm Bureau. Most recently, the local FFA chapter awarded Al the "Forever Blue, Blue and Gold Award" for his support of FFA over the years.

We appreciate you!



K/PACEDC appreciates our RSVP Volunteers for their continued commitment and support by providing them with goodie bags and pumpkins every fall.

Thank you to all of our Volunteers!

TAKING FLIGHT

The sky above Algona was filled with students, acrobats in training and pilots attending Rotary's annual fly-in breakfast



With another pilot flying alongside, Aaron McCartan flies during a training run. Submitted photos

ALGONA—Aaron McCartan spent the week of September 13 training with other pilots from Florida, Georgia, Minnesota and Iowa to refine their skills in preparation for the U.S. National Aerobatics Championship taking place in Salina, Kansas this week. McCartan and the other pilots belong to a group named the

International Aerobatics Club. The training exercises took place in Algona with a professional stunt pilot from Kansas City. There are five different levels to compete in from Beginner to unlimited. McCartan is competing for a spot on the unlimited team in hopes of representing the U.S. at the World championship.

McCartan has been stunt flying since he was 17 years old. Both his parents are pilots and encouraged him in pursuit of the extreme sport.

There are 14 pilots vying for the U.S. team which will consist of only eight pilots. McCartan will find out Thursday, September 23, if he made the team.

(Courtesy of Kossuth County Advance)



A total of 92 airplanes were squeezed into the hangar in Salina, Kan., for the U.S. National Championship competition.



Volunteers and pilots: Jerry Thatcher, Jean Kramer, Tara Brandt, Pete Waltz, Aaron McCartan, Alan Kramer, Gary Recker, Kevin Walker, Jim Kohlhaas, Austin Franck, Tim Bush, Andrew Tran, Beth McCartan, Ryan Merrill, Gary McCartan and Janet Brandt. Not pictured: Drew Chase. Submitted photo



Posing are Molly Peterson, Isabella Waechter, Zeb Besch and Brooke Ludwig. Submitted photo

Algona, Garrigan students participate in flight program

ALGONA—Ninety-six students from Algona and Bishop Garrigan's eighth and ninth grades enjoyed their first flight experience this year through the Young Eagles program at the Algona Municipal Airport on Sept. 11.

Eight pilots and 12 volunteers assisted with the program.

Students will be listed in the "World's Biggest Logbook"

among more than 2.3 million youth who have taken their first airplane ride through the EAA Young Eagles program.

This is the 14th year that the Algona Pilot's Association has hosted Young Eagle flights in collaboration with both the Algona Community School District and Bishop Garrigan School.

(Submitted by Tara Brandt)



Graettinger Trail

Photos from glow run/walk fundraisers that were held in 2020 and 2021. Graettinger keeps the progress rolling with fund raisers so they can complete additional sections of the trails through grants, donations and other fund raising efforts. This is a great new development for Graettinger and the community has received positive responses from their residents.



Leadership Training

Participants listen to Brenda Clark-Hamilton as she presents information on the importance of creating tools for coaching team members to success. The four part leadership series covers team building, communication skills, customer service, building better relationships, and careers. K/PACEDC hold the Leadership Training sessions during the months of August, Sept, Oct, and November annually.



DID YOU KNOW...

If each Kossuth & Palo Alto County resident spends an **extra \$100** each year in locally owned businesses, it will put an **extra \$2.35 million** into our area's economy **EVERY SINGLE YEAR?!**

Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg Visits J & J Custom Meats in Whittemore, IA

Lt. Gov. Adam Gregg made a stop in Whittemore on Wednesday, August 11 at 12:45 to take a tour of J & J Custom Meats as part of the 99 county visits.

Gov. Reynolds and Lt. Gov. Gregg travel the 99 counties in Iowa every year. Some of those county visits take different form. Sometimes its a school or town hall. Today, he was visiting a number of businesses, starting in Forest City at Winnebago. After stopping in Algona for a quick lunch, he stopped at J & J's Custom Meats in Whittemore.

Owners Joe & Joann Harren were looking for a business opportunity when the old locker in Whittemore closed. There was a huge demand for a new one and so after some thought (a lot of thought), they decided to try their hand at opening a new locker in 2019. "Its been great," both Joe and Joann say. "We opened around the time the pandemic hit and we haven't slowed down since."

After completing the tour here is what Lt. Gov. Gregg had to say, "I'm really impressed. What a great couple. It's always great to this see this type of entrepreneurship in rural Iowa. The opportunity that it creates, not only for them and their family but for their employees and the rest of the town to have more traffic coming in and utilizing the services here."

The 99 county tour is one of the most important things that Gov. Reynolds & Lt. Gov. Gregg do. It presents an opportunity to get a better understanding of what businesses exists in the state but also gives them the chance to have conversations about what's working from a policy and regulatory perspective and/or what could they do better or differently?

One of the things that Lt. Gov. Gregg was please to learn was that J & J Custom Meats was able to gain a grant for meat processing, which Gov. Reynolds provided through Cares Act Allocations as part of pandemic relief. "We knew that we had some meat processing challenges in our state and that there was more capacity for meat processing and we wanted to help other businesses be able to make investments or get off the ground so I was glad to hear they were a recipient of that and that they put it to good use and it made them that much more efficient and able to process more meat



on a regular basis," stated Gregg.

One of the tasks Gov. Reynold provided to Lt. Gov. Gregg was to lead Governors Empower Rural Iowa which is about making sure there is opportunity and prosperity in the rural communities of Iowa. Not just big cities and suburbs but small towns as well. A key part of that is supporting entrepreneurs in the state. "I come away encouraged. I think a key aspect of that is people being willing to create their own jobs by starting their own businesses, stepping up and meeting the services that were available. So I am really encouraged to hear we have that entrepreneurial experience in Joe & Joanne Harren of J & J Custom Meats, but also that they had help with the local community, K/PACED (Kossuth/Palo Alto County Ecomonic Development) and SBDC (Small Business Development Center being involved, commented Gregg.

After leaving Whittemore the Lt. Gov. was headed to Estherville and Milford before returning to Des Moines.

(Courtesy of the West Bend Journal)



Kossuth County



We BACK THE BLUE



Palo Alto County



KOSSUTH / PALO ALTO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Making a Difference through Volunteerism



Career Intern Committee



Ag Committee



K/PACEDC Summer Interns



City Clerks



HR Committee



KCEDC Board of Directors gather at their monthly meeting

