

Welcome

Welcome to the City of Streator, a "Quiet Surprise on the Prairie" in the great state of Illinois. Known for our rich history and exciting town events, we invite you to explore and interact with our beautiful and welcoming community. The City of Streator has a variety of activities from spring to winter available for everyone to come, participate, and enjoy themselves during their stay.

We offer a historical society museum, live theater, and music for entertainment fulfillment. With several local and nearby parks, a theater that hosts year round plays, mountain bicycle and hiking trails, and golf courses.

ACCOMMODATIONS

AMERICINN HOTEL & SUITES

1705 N Bloomington St, Streator, IL 61364
815-672-0080

STARVED ROCK INN

2110 N Bloomington St, Streator, IL 61364
815-672-8400

BALDWIN HOUSE

204 East Kent St, Streator, IL 61364
815-510-0658

CHEF TOM'S GUEST HOUSE

205 W Wilson St, Streator, IL 61364
815-257-1025

ATTRACTIONS

FOURTH OF JULY

The City of Streator hosts an abundance of activities throughout the week of the Fourth of July. Streator hosts live musical performances, Run for Glory 5K Race, carnival, Red White Blue & You Talent Competition, Ms. Sparkler & Mr. Firecracker, fireworks display, and a 4th of July parade.

streators4th.org

CRUISE NIGHT

Held in downtown Streator on Main Street each Labor Day weekend, this family event brings over 500 restored antique cars and features its namesake a 1917 Roamer automobile. The largest automotive event in downstate Illinois attracts spectators numbering between 15,000-20,000. It's a time of nostalgia, camaraderie, and good old-fashioned fun.

WEBER HOUSE & GARDENS

The Weber House is a storybook Tudor cottage which sits in an English garden of meandering paths, foxglove, hollyhocks, and old oaks. Inside, cozy candlelit rooms reflect the 18th century. The tour begins in an almost red hidden gate shrouded in greenery. Inside, a gravel path passes through the grounds past the children's play house, ponds, fountains, statues, and hundreds of shrubs and flowers, ending at Luther Hall and the Historic Weber House.

weberhouseandgarden.com

ENGLE LANE COMMUNITY PLAYERS

Established in 1960, this well equipped theater seats 247 individuals and hosts six plays annually. The theater puts on plays of a variety of genres including comedies, dramas, and musicals. The theater's success over the years has been attributed to the hundreds of volunteers in make up, set designs, costumes, staff, performers, lighting, behind the scenes, and much more.

englelane.org

STREATORLAND HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

Although the museum was established in 1975, it didn't open until 1986. It houses memorabilia from some of Streator's most famous citizens including Clyde Tombaugh, Burton Baskin, Edward Plumb, Clarence Mulford, and George "Honey Boy" Evans. The museum is also home to other items representing industry and memories of Streator's rich history.

streatorlandmuseum.com

PLUTO FEST/ FOOD TRUCK FEST

Pluto Fest is held in the City Park and features a variety of food trucks, music, Big Bang Homebrew, Farmers Market, Craft & Food Vendors, Raffle Items, and fun for all to enjoy!

RECREATION

SPRING LAKE NATURE PARK

Streator is the proud home of Spring Lake Nature Park. The scenic park houses 37.2 acres of natural land owned by the City of Streator. Activities available include hiking, bird watching, fishing, horseback riding, dog walking, photography, and much more.

MARILLA PARK

Marilla Park offers disc golf course, picnic and playground space, as well as mountain bicycle and hiking trails for families and individuals to enjoy.

GOLF

The City of Streator has 2 golf courses available including Anderson Fields, and Eastwood.

HOPALONG CASSIDY RIVER TRAIL & CANOE LAUNCH

Visitors can follow this trail through an urban forest of mulberry, hackberry, oak, and maple. Fish, hike, or canoe from the state funded canoe launch area on the beautiful Vermilion River.

STARVED ROCK STATE PARK

Located 20 miles from the #1 Voted Attraction in the State. Starved Rock State Park features amazing waterfalls, canyons, and hiking trails.

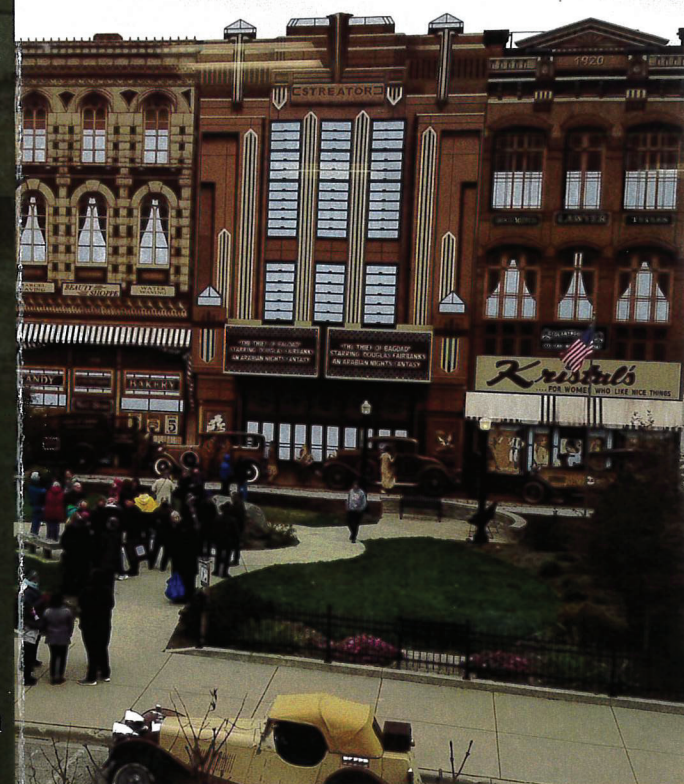
STREATOR CITY PARK

The city park has memorials to veterans of all U.S. Wars, Col. Ralph Plumb, founder of Streator; and Reuben Soderstrom, labor leader. Other features include two historic fountains, Plumb Pavilion, children's splash pad and programmable up-lighting in the majestic oak trees.

WALDOGS MURALS

In 2018, the Streator Walldogs Festival became home to 260 International artists for 5 days! 18 murals were painted featuring Streator's incredible history. Streator City Hall has free Mural Guides available for self-guided tours.

Welcome to STREATOR



A Quiet Surprise on the Prairie STREATOR Tourism

815.672.2055 | WWW.STREATOR.ORG

A Brief History of Streator

The influence of the Native Americans, the explorers, and the settlers has unfolded in LaSalle County since the seventeenth century. In an area near Starved Rock, approximately 20 miles from Streator, was the largest Indian village in the early United States with a population of 10,000-20,000. This was a confederation of several migrating tribes including the Illini and the Pottawatomie, the latter of which was said to have a winter campground in an area that was to become Streator.

Explorers such as Father Jaques Marquette, together with the Indians, established a mission on the north side of the Illinois River near Starved Rock in 1675. Others such as LaSalle and Tonti established Fort St. Louis at Starved Rock in 1682-83. This area and its river system was a bastion of the early French empire in North America until the English took possession after the Treaty of Paris in 1763.

The first settlers in the Streator area were farmers and merchants who came in the 1820's possibly in response to Father Marquette's seventeenth century description of the prairies around Streator. "We have seen nothing like this river for the fertility of the land, its prairie, woods, wild cattle, stag, deer, wild cats, swans, ducks, parrots, and even beaver." These

frontiersmen manufactured their own clothing and most of their farming implements.

In 1866, Colonel Ralph Plumb (sponsored by Dr. Worthy Streator) who would become the most influential person in Streator's development, arrived to purchase land and develop newly found coal deposits. He built the first railroad to link the coal fields to the main line of the Illinois Central Railroad, plotted the city and was the first Mayor. Colonel Plumb also built a high school and donated it to the city, erected an opera house, and established the Streator National Bank. In 1884, he was elected to Congress and was re-elected in 1886.

In 1880, a glass manufacturing plant was established. When this enterprise demonstrated

that glass could be produced profitably, a glass bottle company was organized in 1881. Streator's glass industry grew rapidly due to the abundant supply of coal and silica sand in the area with Streator becoming known as the "Glass Capital of the World."

The twentieth century saw the further development of manufacturing in Streator. Brick, clay tile, automobiles, numerous metal fabricators, and food service industries were next developed in Streator. Manufacturing and agriculture remain the backbone of Streator's economy.

"A Quiet Surprise on the Prairie"

FAMOUS STREATORITES



CLYDE TOMBAUGH

spent his youth searching the heavens near Streator and later discovered the planet Pluto in 1930. The only American to discover a planet.



CLARENCE MULFORD

grew up in Streator playing cowboys and Indians along the Vermilion River. He later penned the famous "Hopalong Cassidy" series of books based on his youthful experience.



BURTON BASKIN

a Streator native and store owner, got together with his brother-in-law, Irvine Robbins, to open an ice cream shop. Today it is known as the "Baskin-Robbins" ice cream empire.



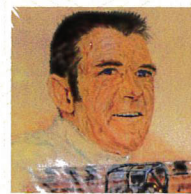
GEORGE "HONEY BOY" EVANS

blazed a musical trail with hits like "In the Good Ole Summertime" at the turn of the century.



EDWARD PLUMB

became musical director for Walt Disney for much of its glory years. He wrote music for "Fantasia" and "Bambi."



BOB TATTERSLL

King of Midget Car Racing in the United States and Australia during the 50s & 60s, was a Streator Native.

INTERESTING PAST



STREATOR MOTOR CAR COMPANY

was formed in 1904. Most of the parts were purchased and 300-400 employees of the company assembled them and did the upholstering

and painting of the cars. Early test drivers included Eddie Rickenbacker and the Fisher Brothers. In 1916, C.C. Barley purchased the company and added a new, custom-made model "Roamer" patterned after Rolls-Royce and featuring wire wheels and a German silver radiator. It was custom painted to the customer's choice. Roamers raced at Indianapolis and at Daytona Beach where they set five world speed records, clocking in at 105 mph in the measured mile.



STREATOR ZOUAVES

organized in 1897 as a social and athletic club. In 1898, the "Zoos" turned professional, joining the vaudeville company which performed in Chicago, Boston, Philadelphia and New

York. The "Zoos" were a great attraction, rivaling in audience appeal such stars as Will Rodgers, Houdini, and W.C. Fields. They toured England, Germany, Russia and South Africa.



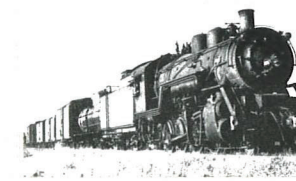
THE STREATOR CANTEEN

commemorates the many men and women who helped serve our nation's military personnel during WWII. The Canteen, located at the Streator Railroad Depot, provided free meals for over two million soldiers traveling via train through Streator during WWII.



THE GOLDEN GLOVE AWARD

was created by Streatorite Elmer Blasco while working for Rawlings Corporation in 1957.



STREATOR RAILROADS

the first of seven distinct rail lines in Streator, was formed in 1870 to move coal from the Streator area. Streator had an unusual number of railroads for its size and soon became the state only by Chicago and Peoria.

the rail center surpassed in