First Impressions

Compiled Report Form

**Community Visited: Marquette Date(s) Visited:** A- May 2, 2017 (Tues)

B- May 2, 2017 (Tues)

C- May 2, 2017 (Tues)

D- May 1, 2017 (Mon)

E- May 1, 2017 (Mon)

F- April 30, 2017 (Sun)

**Pre-visit web search: How easy was it to get information on the community you were visiting? Did it accurately reflect what you saw? Did you have difficulties obtaining information on the community through a web search?**

1. I thought they had an excellent website and was able to get a lot of useful information from it. The website accurately described what I encountered in town.
2. Finding their town’s webpage was very easy and there was a lot of useful information. It gave addresses and phone numbers for different community areas, it also gave detailed information for utilities and whom to contact.
3. N/A
4. The website was for the most part accurate. It could be updated to really push what is in Marquette.
5. Pretty easy, there is a website (<http://www.marquettekansas.com/index.html>) however the info is out of date. There is info listed for JR’s restaurant and that is no longer in operation. They also have a Facebook page that is up to date. I think the website doesn’t do the town justice. The info was mostly correct, I didn’t double check the hours of operation listed online to that of the businesses when in town. An address added to the businesses or link to their Facebook/website would be helpful if they have one.
6. It was very easy to get information on Marquette. The information did reflect what we saw. They advertised free building lots for housing & we did see the housing addition where these are located. They also are close to Kanopolis Lake which we didn’t know.
7. **The “Five-Minute” Impression: After taking a five-minute drive through the community without stopping, the following reactions were noted. The following observations were noted when entering the community from major entrances (signs, streetscapes, buildings, etc.)**
	1. We took about 20 minutes driving through town. Other than a few homes that needed some repair and mowing, we were impressed with the overall look of the town. The area with the new homes was very nice, but the streets in that area need to be finished. The Marquette signs located on highway 4 and after turning towards town were nice.
	2. We noticed that majority of the residents seemed to be older. We didn’t notice many homes with children’s toys or play sets. The yards were well maintained. Downtown area was well maintained and it was nice to see the historical buildings kept up so well. I got a bigger town feel but knew it was a rural area. The new construction areas were beautiful. Dilapidated homes were some of the first things we encountered. Welcome signs need some attention. You can tell that Main Street was an area of focus. Their fire station needs some improvement.
	3. Clean, just a couple of places not mowed. Large city sign on highway, one more coming into town.
	4. Signs at the edge of town were crafted with care. I found them intriguing-may interest drivers and get someone off the highway. The main street is nice looking with beautiful trees. Most lawns were attractive- the town looks clean. Businesses appeared busy-good sign of activity in town. The buildings also showed signs of people caring.
	5. Cute, well-kept town! Friendly, people driving waved, people out in their yards waved, etc. There are multiple signs directing to the town from HWY 4. I came in from Falun and there was not a sign saying to head west at the Falun Rd & Hwy 4 intersection. I knew to go west because I could see the grain elevators. 95% of the houses were in good shape, even if the house was not, the lawn was mowed. The streets were in good condition. I didn’t notice a lot of dead end signs, I would turn down a street and there was a dead end so I would make a U turn and head back.
	6. There were plenty of signs as you came into town. There was a welcome sign, one for the motorcycle museum, city museum & all signs were colorful. The buildings were in good repair & interesting.

2. **Downtown Business Area**

**Describe the buildings, signs, infrastructure, etc. Explain what type of businesses you observed and give a description of the variety and quality of merchandise displayed. Describe the customer service received when you entered those retail businesses. (Were you greeted? Did you have to ask for assistance?)**

1. The downtown area was very impressive with all the old buildings having the photos in the windows and murals on the sides of buildings. There were benches with shade on corners. The old buildings looked to be preserved very well. I was most impressed with the downtown business area. It is something to be proud of. I liked the brick sidewalks. We went into Piper’s Fine Foods, Marquette Lumber & hardware, City Sundries, City Hall, The Ranch House Bar & Grill, The Kansas Motorcycle Museum, the Range School Museum and the Railroad Museum. There was nice window displays in the Rusty tin business which was not open. I also enjoyed the art displays. I noticed a lot of nice items in the Washington Street Emporium, but we did not go in since it was closed. In every location, we were greeted and treated very nicely. We never had to speak first. The owner of the grocery store even offered to go open her store across the street if we wanted to see it.
2. Their buildings’ appearance seems to be important to their community. It appears they were nicely painted and the pictures in the windows were a wonderful addition. We visited the museums, city hall, the bar and grill, grocery store and sundries. The items being sold seemed to be reasonably priced and excellent quality. I was somewhat surprised that I didn’t see more hand-crafted items in the Sundries but also like that they sold items I could purchase in a larger town. We were welcomed nicely. Everyone was delightful. The customer service was good. Those at the motorcycle museum were very knowledgeable and they were very helpful.
3. Clean, well cared for and painted up nicely.
4. Buildings looked very nice. I did not notice any that looked shabby-especially on main street. Businesses were clearly marked-along with hours of operation. I visited the grocery store- they were well stocked and the variety was appropriate for the grocery store size. The selection was actually more than I expected to find. In the sundries store, there was a great selection of food items for meal time as well as treats. The store has a wide variety of items it sells. There was a dining area on the main floor as well as one up a few stairs. The items for sale on the main floor were well rounded to suit a variety of needs. They also do screen printing there, which can be very useful to the community. The motorcycle museum was clean and well-displayed trophies and bikes. They sell some items which relate to the museum. People who enjoy taking a piece of their visit with them have the opportunity to do so with these items. The art space Art Galley sells pieces and used to hold art classes. If I had enough money to buy one of these pieces, I certainly would have! A great variety of works and fresh stop out of the ordinary! The Washington St. Emporium is the old bank turned into antiques/collectibles. Excellent condition for such an old building. Neatly displayed items for sale as well as pieces that serve as museum like décor. Historical pieces which relate to the building and the business history of the building make this business very interesting. We managed to peek into a few other places- the library on main street looks really nice. A wide variety of books could be seen just from the windows. The workout center is also a nice touch. They turned an old junky basement of a museum into a fitness center. Healthy living is necessary and this is a move in the right direction. Customer service was top notch in this town. Everyone seemed to have time to visit. The woman running Sundries was rather busy (it was lunch hour after all). She was friendly and met all of our needs. The woman in the grocery store is very proud of her town and went above and beyond to make sure we didn’t miss anything. Volunteer (Denny) was very informed at the motorcycle museum which is nice because you can see how much they care for their community. The owner of Artspace took time to share some of his collection. I took this to heart because artists are so passionate about their work.
5. Historic buildings that look to be in good shape, unique paint jobs, sidewalks were nice. Most of the buildings had signs saying what the business was (one that I noticed didn’t was what I think was the newspaper) Boutique- collectibles, art, photography, a photography studio, kids gifts, handmade items, jewelry City Sundries- food, ice cream, drinks, adorable and quality gifts, home décor, shirt made to order, Rusty Tin- vintage, antique, repurposed, home décor, gift items, clothing Grocery Store- Everything a typical grocery store has, even local (Little River) cookies Hardware store- typical hardware store Art Space- Wasn’t open and wasn’t 100% sure what they offer, do they sell art or is it a “cork & Canvas” place, or artist retreat?? City Hall is where the locals say is the best place to get visitor info. Wasn’t open when I was there. Even though I was there during open hours. But I didn’t read the little yellow sticky note that I just now noticed when typing this ☺ maybe that was an explanation. Very nice, asked for help, asked if I was looking for anything, asked what brought me to town. Once I told them why I was in town they wanted to hear more about 1st Impressions, what I thought of the town, etc.
6. Buildings looked well kept. They also looked to be all occupied with business. I loved the way they were painted & painted & all the murals. They highlighted the old architecture with the paint. Hardware/lumber, Bank, Art Gallery, Grocery Store, Restaurant, Museums, Library, City Hall, Antique Shops, Sundries Store. Went on a Sunday – did not stop in anywhere

**What public amenities were available (drinking fountains, benches, public restrooms, etc.) Comment on appealing landscaping and streetscaping. Did you have difficulty finding parking? Could you access multiple services from where you parked?**

1. There were public restrooms available at the motorcycle museum. I observed a drinking fountain that was not in working order. The benches and shrubbery was very appealing. I loved that there was a swimming pool and the park looked beautiful. The playground area was nice. We arrived in town on a Tuesday around 10 am. There was no difficulty finding parking. We could walk to all the downtown areas.
2. I noticed one drinking fountain but it wasn’t working. The seating on Main Street was very nice with shade trees. There were public restrooms also. We did not visit them but they were centralized and useful. We parked in one spot in front of the Motorcycle Museum from there we could walk basically to anywhere we would have liked to visit. The parking was very easy to access. I don’t recall many handicap areas. The brick sidewalks were nice, I could really appreciate those.
3. Swimming Pool
4. I did not see any fountains or public restrooms. (Which is fine because they are hard to keep sanitary) The sundries store has a restroom we found to be perfectly suitable. Benches throughout main street area looked fine and useful for someone needing to sit and rest. Land and street scaping were well done. I would say that even throughout the whole town the yards look well maintained and clean. Parking was not a problem. Very central to the entire main business district.
5. Drinking fountain, public restrooms that are very clean, benches, etc. I think this sign in the waiting area at the public restroom is potential for listing more events in the community Everything was neat and trimmed, no trouble finding parking. I parked on main and left my vehicle parked for the day and walked. Most everything is on main street.
6. Benches around town, Restrooms at the park, Swimming pool at the park - Plenty of parking – all things were within walking distance of where you parked downtown. Nice landscaping and street-scaping.

1. **Other Retail Shopping Areas**

**Describe other retail shopping areas. Were the areas attractive and easy to access?**

1. Other than the downtown businesses, I did not see any other retail shopping areas.
2. Everything is centralized within two main blocks of the main street. The Sundries had a wonderful set up. It felt very homey and comfortable. I enjoyed the art and how they were presented on the main street.
3. Had a very nice and well-stocked grocery store.
4. The hairdresser, bank, post office, bar, liquor store, hardware store, etc. – all clearly marked and I found them very attractive and easily accessible.
5. I didn’t see other retail shopping areas, except the elevator/coop north of town
6. Store fronts were all well-kept & interesting. The windows of the sundries store/antique stores looked like they were done in keeping with the old style.

4. **Industrial Parks/Commercial Areas**

**Is there a defined area where manufacturing industries could easily locate/expand? If so, describe.**

1. I was not aware of the commercial areas or industrial park areas except possibly when your first come into town where the Coop is located.
2. I honestly don’t recall seeing many.
3. Yes, lots are free.
4. N/A
5. There was a sign saying they had an industrial park, but didn’t see anything “industrial”
6. There was a sign advertising an industrial park.

5. **Health Care Services**

**Comment on the availability and apparent quality of hospitals and emergency medical services.**

1. There was a local EMS building, but no hospital. After talking to the EMS responder, it seemed as if there was quite a large area for one ambulance to cover and my concern would be on response times outside of city limits.
2. I don’t recall seeing a hospital however, their assisted living facility was nice from the outside. It looked very kept and busy. I do feel concerned for the Emergency Care if the EMT department is all that is available in that area. I believe those whom live close get the appropriate care but those in the rural areas may have a longer response time as they are the only EMS in the area.
3. EMS
4. I found a nursing home facility, which was very nice and well adapted to the people of the area. It was mentioned that there are small homes near the nursing home for those not quite needing full assistance. I did find that there is a volunteer fire department and I believe the gentleman I spoke with said they also have emergency services which is very helpful in a rural area. (Reduces wait time-critical for saving lives)!
5. No services available
6. Did not see any

**Comment on the availability and condition of facilities for physicians, dentists, optometrists, public health and other healthcare providers.**

1. I did not see any of those facilities.
2. I do not recall seeing any type of physician’s office dentist or anything.
3. N/A
4. N/A- I did not see any of these types. Could have looked over them.
5. Did not see any
6. Did not see any

**What long-term care services, assisted living or nursing facilities exist in the community?**

1. Riverview Estates seemed like a nice facility from the outside. We did not go in.
2. N/A
3. Many services exist in town.
4. Mentioned above. There were also villas which looked very nice- near the nursing home.
5. There was a nursing home and assisted living south of town, looked nice
6. Nice looking long-term care facility – also had a senior citizen housing/assisted living facility. It was very nice looking too.

6. **Housing**

**Give a brief description of the existing mix of housing stock. Does the local market have housing that would appeal to all income wages? What challenges do you see in regard to finding acceptable housing? (Neighborhoods, size, properties for sale, etc.)**

1. We saw apartments available through the Marquette Housing Authority and Marquette Cottages. Riverview Villas looked as if they offer housing based on income, which is nice to have in the community. We drove past Pioneer Mobile Home Park, which seemed okay. The Westridge Addition had beautiful homes with available space for more. I felt the city offered many types of housing. I only saw one house for sale with a sign but there could have been more that we didn’t go past.
2. As far as the housing Marquette seemed to have had very few vacant homes. There were a lot of options also. There were multiple areas to rent apartments. You could build a new home and receive free land to build on.
3. N/A
4. I found the housing to be a nice mix for income wages of variety. Plenty of property for sale to build new. The new homes that were visible look very nice-may attract new builders. I think this would be a great place for a family to start out if they wished to build. Perhaps they work in the bigger towns nearby but wish to live in a smaller community-this would be great. Many of the yards were well manicured-I only found a few older homes that are not being cared for. Not sure if they are abandoned or just neglected. Overall though I was impressed with the home selection and the curb appeal.
5. I didn’t see many for sale signs, in fact counted only 2. There were a variety of sizes of houses. I saw a few duplexes and a trailer park. When asking locals about housing they said there were very few rentals in town, but they do have some.
6. There was a new housing development area with lots available. Did not see any houses for sale. Most houses looked nice & well maintained. Seldom saw houses in desperate need of repairs.

**What kind of rental properties did you observe for persons interested in building or simply living in the community prior to buying housing?**

1. There were plenty of free lots available to those who would want to build a home.
2. There were apartments (cottages) and low income housing available.
3. N/A
4. I came across the trailer park, which is probably more for those wishing to rent. Looked fine- this may appeal to someone living on their own before starting a family and building a home. The town was larger than I expected and I suppose there are more homes for rent then what I found. I think this would be a fun place to start out-again either if you work there or at least nearby the small community is attractive.
5. I saw a few duplexes and a trailer park. When asking locals about housing they said there were very few rentals in town, but they do have some. There is a new housing development area with open lots for building. Marquette was giving away land for people to build, not sure what the status is on that promo.
6. The only sign for rental was for the senior citizen housing.

7. **Schools**

**Do the following schools appear to be adequate in size or do you see the use of temporary classrooms? Are the buildings and grounds well-maintained?**

1. The school was closed. From the information we received, the building was given to the city and is used for recreation and the library is open one day per week by a volunteer. It sounds as if there wasn’t equal district representation on the school board.
2. Sadly, the school is closed. Seems to be a very questionable situation concerning their school.
3. No School.
4. Sadly, it was mentioned that the school has been closed and the children attend in nearby towns with existing schools. The elementary building still looks great and they are using it as a library for the students. It is also the drop for students when they return from their other school. The playground also looks fine. This was good to see they did not abandon ship completely!
5. No schools in operation. There was a school and it was still in good condition and the grounds were up kept.
6. It looked like there was an elementary school. It was very nice looking & well kept.

**Were you able to find online information in the community that helped assess the quality of the educational system?**

1. We saw online there is a pre-school at the Methodist Church, but did not visit. We found education information for the Lindsborg School online but not in print.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. No- the school closed 3 years ago.
6. No
7. **Childcare**

**Were you able to determine if childcare was affordable and available?**

1. I didn’t see any childcare facility in person, but there is one listed on the Marquette website.
2. I do not remember seeing any day cares. There is also no information online.
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. I didn’t see advertisement or promotion for childcare, but asked a friend and they said that there are a few people who have in-home day care.
6. Don’t know
7. **Faith/Religion**

**Comment on the number of denominations and the physical appearances of the churches represented in the community. Did you observe any evidence of church-sponsored community services?**

1. We saw three churches in town. Valley Community Church, Methodist Church and Elim Lutheran Church. I don’t remember seeing any evidence of church sponsored community services, but may have missed something.
2. We did notice three churches. There were all different denominations, there was a Methodist church, the Elim Lutheran church and then there was a community church. I did not notice any church sponsored events however. The appearance of each church was wonderful.
3. 3 churches were available.
4. I found a few signs showing the churches of the town welcome visitors. The churches themselves looked fine (could use some more life around them-maybe more perennials).
5. There are 3 churches in town, the locals say they sponsor/involved in events and host community meals and other events. The churches look nice.
6. There were at least 3 churches. They were all in good repair & well landscaped.
7. **Civic**

**Tell about the variety of nonprofit organizations and clubs within the community.**

1. I saw the American legion post 253 building, the senior center and I saw a sign for the Lions Club. There was a Smokey Valley Saddle Club and arena, but it looked a little grown up and I was not sure if it was active or just too early in the year. I did find on the website that there is an annual rodeo there in August.
2. There was a location dedicated for the American Legion. We did notice signs for the Lions Club. We also noticed an arena for the Smokey Valley Saddle Club however, it seemed to be a little over grown.
3. N/A
4. There were a few businesses on main street which serve as clubs-did not witness their activities, however, they seem to be useful to the community.
5. 4-H, MWL (Marquette Women League), Starlight Women’s literary club, Lions, chamber of commerce organization, The Fine Arts Center, City Rec Department (maybe not nonprofit) I didn’t observe any evidence, but the locals told me about how the organizations/clubs were involved in the community. Cookie sales in December by Starlight, The Melodrama in November by the Fine Arts Center, Lions club activities, etc.
6. Saw a sign for the Lion’s Club & American Legion building downtown.
7. **Public Infrastructure**

**Comment in general on the streets, street signage, sidewalks, parking, lighting, restrooms, landscaping, and streetscapes in areas other than downtown.**

1. We did not visit any public restrooms. The streets were all paved, with exception of the new development area, but looked like they could use some work. There were many streets that were rough. We were there in the morning so there was no lighting. The landscaping for the public parks was all very nice.
2. We visited during the day so noticing much lighting wasn’t an issue. I also did not notice much as far as the sidewalks. The main thing I did notice was that their park area looked nice with the shrubbery surrounding it. It looked inviting for those with young families.
3. N/A
4. The town was clean and they had plenty of signed streets rather than unmarked intersections. I noticed a couple of places where there is a drain issue for water near the arena. New roads were in fine condition- paved streets are great! I liked the landscaping overall- again lots of residents take care of their yards and this is beneficial to the community.
5. All seemed in good condition
6. There was some need for street repair but all were paved. Plenty of signs, everything else looked very nice. Majority of residential properties were nicely kept.

**Comment on city/town hall (How were you received? Was there information about the town available?)**

1. We were greeted politely and professionally at City Hall. There was information available about the city.
2. City Hall was very welcoming and eager to assist with any questions we may have had. She has only been employed for a brief time and she was very approachable. I would suggest the city take the time and train an assistant for her in the event of her absence.
3. Well received.
4. N/A
5. Not open
6. Went on Sunday – was not open.

**Police/fire protection:**

1. We spoke to the Fire Chief. I felt that there could be much improvement to their fire station and felt they were not adequately equipped.
2. There was a part time police officer, she worked approximately 10 hours a week. Their fire district seemed to be large compared to their facility. However, their new fire chief/director was very friendly and knowledgeable.
3. Part time police and fire district.
4. Yes- Especially the volunteer department.
5. Didn’t see, not sure how I missed it!
6. There was a fire station & an EMS office.

**Library:**

1. We walked past and looked into the library. It looked like a nice facility.
2. We did notice a nice library on the main street and were informed that the old-school library was opened one day a week after school so that the children could visit.
3. Had a library but did not go in.
4. Two libraries in town. The school one is more for children and the town one is for all ages. I was told it was once a bank and they have since utilized it as a library. This is cool to adapt the buildings and maintain character from previous times.
5. Great library in a beautiful building (old bank) the Librarian gave me a tour and told me about the history.
6. There was a city library & a library at the school that advertised being open in the evening.

**City parks (walking tracks, ballparks, playgrounds, sportsplex)**

1. The tennis court area looked a little run down. There was a nice walking trail and sports facility for track and soccer. That facility looked very nice and I hope it still gets used even though the school is closed.
2. We were able to notice a nice track and sports complex. We noticed a walking trail. It was also nice to see a pool. Most small towns are unable to afford the upkeep for those amenities.
3. Clean with a swimming pool.
4. Beautiful park near the pool-also observed a new park at the edge of town near a trail. There is also a disc golf course, which doubles as a trail for hikers. The trails seem appropriate for a variety of activities.
5. There is Pioneer trail (walking trail) on the north side of town when you come in, rodeo grounds and park are near each other. Didn’t see outdoor sports complex, but I probably overlooked it. I am sure they have one if they had a school. It was probably next to rodeo ground and I was more focused on that.
6. There was a nice-looking city park with a swimming pool. Small skate park, Fairgrounds – ballpark
7. **Recreation/Tourism**

**Is the community well-known for any particular attraction or event? Do they have a community slogan that capitalizes on that asset?**

1. As far as I could tell, the community is known for the Kansas Motorcycle Museum. I do not recall of the town having a slogan.
2. The community seems to focus mostly on their Motorcycle Museum (which was fantastic) and even holds events celebrating motorcycles.
3. Motorcycle Museum
4. The motorcycle museum is probably the focal point for this one- especially advertised and well attended during May for the motorcycle rally.
5. “Beautiful Downtown Marquette” Is what you see or hear. AND they DO have a beautiful downtown. They are known for the Motorcycle museum. After being there, and I had heard about their motorcycle rally. Rusty Tin has an upcoming “Vintage in the Valley.” They have an amazing Melodrama, but I wouldn’t have found this out other than I have gone in the past.
6. Don’t know

**Did you see any indication of significant events taking place in the community that would be of interest to both visitors and residents?**

1. We were told about the motorcycle rally being held at the end of May. I didn’t notice any signs about the event. There may have been some at the museum.
2. Mostly we found out about a bike rally at the end of May by word of mouth. I did not see anywhere promoting of that event.
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. I would say most of the events (those listed above) would be of interest to visitors and residents
6. Don’t know

**Elaborate on any significant natural or manmade features that have the potential of drawing people to the community.**

1. The Kansas Motorcycle Museum seems to me to be the biggest thing to draw people to the community. The Range School Museum and Falun Railroad Museum are very nice and it is wonderful that the city has preserved these historical places.
2. The walking trail is nice and the pond with the fountains are nice.
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. There is a lake nearby and people in the community said that sometimes people stop in town (probably especially in the grocery store) before going to the lake. However, I am not sure if this is close enough of significant enough to bring people. I did see a a brochure talking about the Prairie Trail Scenic Byway, this should be something to tap into.
6. They have a motorcycle museum, city museum & an art gallery

**Is there an obvious visitor’s center, chamber of commerce office, main street office, or other facility that serves the needs of visitors? Comment on the staff, facilities, signage, visibility, etc.**

1. I saw a Chamber of Commerce listed on the website, but did not see a facility.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. The city office is the chamber office is what I was told.
6. N/A

**Are there any restaurants, specialty shops or attractions that would bring you back to this community in the near future?**

1. I would come back to visit the City Sundries, Stone house Bar & Grill, the Kansas Motorcycle Museum and the Washington Street Emporium.
2. N/A
3. N/A
4. N/A
5. All of them! Especially City Sundries and Rusty Tin, I would like to come on a Saturday to see the Emporium. I think the motorcycle museum is awesome and would recommend to others but not something I personally would need to see again.
6. City Hall, Restaurant, Specialty shops
7. **Wrap-up**

**What are the most positive things you observed about the community?**

1. I felt the most positive thing was the downtown area. I could tell that there is a lot of pride about the area by the donation of the murals and photos in all the downtown windows.
2. They have a man that enjoys doing various things for his community and it is noticeable how proud everyone is of him and the things he does. His work on the pond and fountain area is remarkable. His portraits of famous actors are also a very nice touch on the nostalgia for the town. I really enjoyed it.
3. Clean and painted buildings downtown and living services for the elderly.
4. Overall appearance clean and inviting. Several businesses seemed bustling-good sign of activity in town. Calming atmosphere-downtown is busy but not crazy.
5. Hospitality and friendly people! The downtown is beautiful and in great condition, with not many vacant stores
6. Main Street was attractive with a number of things to do within walking of where you parked. It is close to Lindsborg so it might draw people looking for small town living.

**What are the biggest obstacles/challenges facing this community?**

1. I feel that the biggest challenge to Marquette will be enticing new residents to come to town since there is no school. We asked several times about visiting a maintenance building or with maintenance personnel. I asked the city clerk if she had a backup person for the office and found out that she is the only clerk but can call upon a past clerk for assistance when necessary. I used to be the only clerk in the office but found it a great asset to have another person fully trained and able to step in at any time. In my opinion, in the event of a personal emergency, or unfortunate illness, the clerk should have a second person to be able to step right in.
2. Not having a school could be detrimental to this town at some point. It’s a beautiful community and something I would be proud of. Sadly, it may not draw the new residents that may have been possibly had they had an active school.
3. No school
4. Being just off the highway. Darn! I would suggest signage showing more of what is available in town to get people off the highway and through their town. Being very close to Lindsborg probably takes people away as they are more apt to stop in a slightly bigger town. I think Marquette is a great quiet stop off the beaten path.
5. I didn’t see a gas station, only pump I saw were at MKC and I assumed that you had to be a member of the coop to get gas there or in off hours have a card to get gas. I heard numerous times that the local don’t support the business as much as visitors do, or that it is just a core group of people that support, not everyone. I think to keep a downtown going and GROWING you have to have everyone shop and support the businesses and the events that the businesses host. Otherwise they will wake up and one day they won’t have those stores.
6. It’s a small community & probably runs into the same problems as we all do.

**What will you remember most about this community six months from now (positive or negative)?**

1. I will remember the downtown area for years to come and have talked about it to many people just since I visited two days ago.
2. I will remember their pride in their community and how friendly and talkative they are when it comes to their community.
3. Positive- motorcycle museum and other museums that preserve the town’s history.
4. The friendly people- who are proud of their community and what they have to offer. My kids will probably remember the story of the bank robbery told by the woman who was so kind to share her time with us!
5. People being welcoming to me, and the fun and unique stores either because of their product or their building (i.e. the library)
6. Main Street was definitely a positive. Didn’t really see much negative.

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