

First Impressions

Arlington, Kansas

K-State Research and Extension in Partnership

with

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation







Arlington

- 2010 Census Population 473 (UP 3.1% since 2000)
- 2015 Estimate

524 (UP 14.2% since 2000)

$$(KS=7.6\%)$$

- 11% college educated, 87% high school or GED
 - KS 31% college education, 90.2% HS or equivalency
- 72.1% family households, 27.9% non-family
- Poverty rate is 21.6% (KS=13.6%)
- Median Age is 43.6 years (36)
- Median household income is \$37,313 (\$52,205)





Web Presence:

No City Website

FaceBook Page:

https://www.facebook.com/arlingtonks/



Arlington

Web Presence:

Arlington, KS - Arlington, Kansas Map & Directions - MapQuest

https://www.mapguest.com/us/ks/arlington-282023183

Get directions, maps, and traffic for Arlington, KS. Check flight prices and hotel availability for your visit.

Arlington, Kansas - Wikipedia 📀

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Arlington, Kansas

Arlington is a city in Reno County, Kansas, United States. As of the 2010 census, the city population was 473. Contents. [hide]. 1 History; 2 Geography ... View article on Wikipedia »

Love Small Town America | Arlington, Kansas | Home ②

http://www.lovesmalltownamerica.com/arlingtonks.php

One visit to Arlington, Kansas in Reno County will be forever etched into your memory.

City of Arlington, KS - Home | Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/arlingtonks/

City of Arlington, KS. 80 likes 6 talking about this 4 were here. This is the official Facebook page for the City of Arlington, KS. Updates about...

Things to do in Arlington, Kansas | Facebook

https://www.facebook.com/places/Things-to-do-in-Arlington-Kansas/108125979215957/

Discover Arlington, Kansas with the help of your friends. Search for restaurants, hotels, museums and more.

Arlington Community Center - Home | Facebook 📀

https://www.facebook.com/arlingtoncommunitycenter/

Arlington Community Center, Arlington, KS. 209 likes · 8 talking about this · 50 were here. A public use facility serving Arlington and western Reno County.

Arlington, Kansas (KS 67514) profile: population, maps, real estate ... 📀

http://www.city-data.com/city/Arlington-Kansas.html

of Trekell's 4-month-old son, Jayson, at their home in Arlington on Christmas Eve 1987. Evidence showed Bigby also was accused but not tried for killing two ...

Arlington 2017: Best of Arlington, KS Tourism - TripAdvisor

https://www.tripadvisor.com/Tourism-g29408-Arlington Kansas-Vacations.html

Arlington Tourism: TripAdvisor has 11 reviews of Arlington Hotels, Attractions, and Restaurants making it your best Arlington resource.

Carolyn's Essenhaus - Home

http://www.carolynsessenhaus.com/

104 E. Main, Arlington, KS 67514 P.O. Box 24 • 620-538-4711. BUSINESS HOURS: Monday - Friday: 6:00 a.m. - 8:30 p.m., Saturday: 6:00 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.





The "Five-Minute" Impression

- Detour brought us past a crumbling school.
- Almost everyone was doing their part to keep their property clean.
- Because of detour, we didn't see the city sign board on entry.







The "Five-Minute" Impression

- Entrances (as of January 30)
- No signage to City Hall









The "Five-Minute" Impression

- Downtown was clean and the sidewalks were in great shape.
- Empty stores were tidy and maintained.
- The open businesses looked inviting.
- Nice mural on the side of saloon.









Downtown Business Area

- All the buildings were in good shape.
- Startled when a dog barked from a building we thought was a business, but is now a home.
- Two restaurants. We ate at both.
- People were friendly and the food was spectacular.



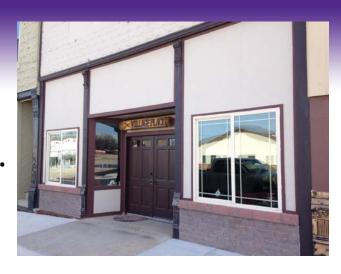






Downtown Business Area

- Good signage on active businesses.
- Those that weren't used, seemed neat and organized inside.



- 2 beauty shops, 1 not open. The other was gorgeous and the owner was inviting and gracious.
- Antique store that we would have loved to go into, but we didn't call them to ask them to open it.









Downtown Business Area

- Cabinetmaker stopped what he was doing and showed us the showroom. He does amazing work.
- Greeted with a smile at all four businesses.







Downtown Business Area (Public Amenities)

- Visitor's didn't notice any public restrooms or benches, drinking fountains or trash cans.
- Photos show benches in front of Carolyn's.







Other Retail Shopping Areas

- There was a small store in the old hotel. We were told you can get ice, bread and pop there.
- Eula's: Very attractive business front in a residential neighborhood.







Industrial Parks/Commercial Areas

We did not see an area dedicated for Industrial parks

Observation:

- "Entrepreneurs who choose to start their small businesses are responsible for 63 percent of net new jobs created in the United States every year." It would be better to think about how to help them in your downtown spaces than to worry about industrial.
- The same UPS truck who competed with your downtown can help your entrepreneur serve the world.





Health Care Services

- No health care in Arlington, except EMT
- A Counseling Office on Main Street
- Health Care Services are readily available in Hutchinson,
 Sterling, Kingman and Wichita hospitals.
- There is no long-term care in Arlington. Senior services are inhome or foot care at the Senior Center.











Housing

There are 264 housing units (2015)

241 are occupied (91.3%) (KS= 89.5%)

• 23 are vacant (8.7%) (KS= 10.5%)

• Owner Occupied: 180 (75%) (KS=66.7%)

Renter Occupied: 61 (25%) (KS= 33.3%)





(Source: www.Factfinder.census.gov)



Housing

- We were impressed by the nice houses for sale.
- Clearly a sense of pride in their homes and property.









Housing

- I saw one rental house and the income-qualified housing.
- None of the visitors spoke about asking at the City office for a list of rentals— Would they have found a list there?







Housing observations









Knowledge forLife



Need for clean-up/demolition of older properties

Only a few blighted areas.









Schools

- Children go to school in Fairfield.
- Elementary School is well-utilized as the City Office,
 Community Gym, Library.
- Second school is falling in and an eyesore.

Information about the schools is readily found

online.







Childcare

- There are no licensed child care providers, but there are some providers.
- An afterschool program operates at the Fairfield Elementary School.





Faith/Religion

There are two churches: United Methodist and

Presbyterian







Civic

- The visitors didn't think there were any civic groups in town.
- Photos caught Lions Club activity.
- Leadership team told us of 4-H and Daisy Girl Scouts.









Civic

• We saw a Senior Center on Main Street.



Knowledge forLife



Public Infrastructure

- Side streets unpaved, but well maintained.
- Not many sidewalks on side streets.
- Not the time of the year for landscaping or streetscapes, so no comment.
- Sidewalk and curbing on Main Street looked new & nice!
- Even accessible for strollers & wheelchairs.

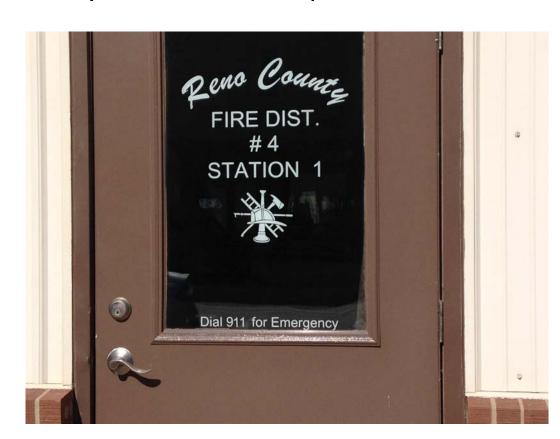






City Hall, Fire, EMS and Police Services

- Very friendly City Clerk.
- EMT only. Visitors saw the EMT go out while they were there.
- EMT is professionally staffed by Hutchinson hospital.







Library

- Has 5 computers, very friendly librarian
- Liked the display of the former class.
- Library has limited hours.
- Another "tiny library" in the park across from church.









City Parks

Visitors commented on 2 parks— at the city building

and off the highway.













City Parks

 An additional park is across from the United Methodist Church.







Recreation/Tourism

- The baseball fields and tennis court/basketball court are not publicly maintained, but used.
- Your team told me there is a walking trail by the Coop, but visitors didn't notice it.





Recreation/Tourism

We saw your golf course. You are lucky to have one!











Events:

 Visitors said they asked about events and were told that there are none. The FB Page shows events and there is a flyer outside the Library.

Your Leadership team named:

- Craft Show in March
- Hwy 61 Garage Sale/Flea Market
- Gingerbread House
- Faith Weavers: Two church cooperative
- 4th of July
- Farmer's Market
- Community sign shows upcoming events.







Other

• The Coop had a pay at the pump.









Visitor's Center/City Hall

- City Hall is the obvious visitor's center, but it wasn't obvious to a visitor. We needed way-finding signs.
- All the local businesses made us feel welcome and answered our questions.







What would bring you back?

- The Village Place hair salon.
- The food at both restaurants.
- I'd like to see what's inside the antique store.
- If I need cabinets, I'll check with Bontrager's first.











Most Positive Observations

- Sense of community pride.
 - We saw it in the way they kept their homes, businesses, sidewalks, streets and parks.
- Friendly People.
- Nice to have a Post Office still in town.







Knowledge ^{for}Life



Biggest Obstacles/Challenges

- Need a bit more signage:
 - City Hall, the motel with the little sundry shop & Parks
- The old school house needs to come down and the junkie wholesalers need to clean up their mess.





What will you remember 6 months from now?

- Welcoming community with great restaurant.
- 3 Dome houses and Eula Henderson.
- Friendly people.







K-STATE Research and Extension

Next Steps

"There is no power for change greater than a community discovering what it cares about." - Margaret J. Wheatley

Thank you to our leadership team:

- Dedria Ashworth
- Kelsi Depew
- Jan Steen
- Betsy Trembley

Set next steps!

- Which group will lead the discussion?
- Contact me if you need resources or help:
 - Nancy Daniels
 - Community Vitality Specialist, K-State Research and Extension
 - 785.410.6352
 - nkdaniels@ksu.edu

