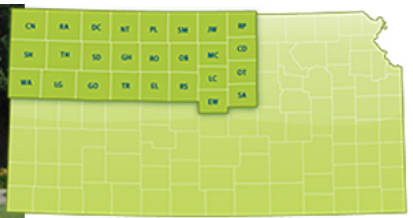


# First Impressions

## Grinnell, Kansas

K-State Research and Extension in Partnership  
with

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation



- Grinnell – Population 264 (2013)
- 19.6% college educated, 94.0% high school or GED
- Median age is 56.6 years
- Poverty rate is 11.5% (Gove Co.)
- Median household income is \$36,823 (KS \$50,972)

(Source: 2015 USA City-Facts and city-data.com)



## Web Presence:

- Found school website and individual businesses
- Did not mention website through Love Small Town America
- Did not mention the Grinnell KS Community Facebook Page



# The “Five-Minute” Impression

- Nice park with good sidewalks
- Looks clean!
- Downtown stores occupied



- Nice “Welcome to Grinnell” sign
- United With Pride sign – civic organizations, school mascot, community of excellence status
- Directional signage to business district



## Downtown Business Area

- Streets and buildings in good repair
- Everything looks clean
- Most buildings are occupied
- Great to have a grocery store



- People very friendly
- Observed a salon, accounting services, locker plant, bank, farm and home center, grocery store, credit union



- Signage on some businesses could be better



# Industrial Parks/Commercial Areas

- No well defined industrial or commercial area
- Ag facilities on the outer edges of town



- Strong Agricultural Community



# Housing

- Total housing units – 163
- Owner occupied housing units – 69.3%
- Renter occupied housing units – 16.0%
- Vacant housing units – 14.7%
- Median home value - \$55,052
- (Source – [www.homefacts.com](http://www.homefacts.com))



- Some remodeling occurring
- A few homes in need of TLC
- Nearly every home lived in
- Noticed one vacant house



- Several newer built homes
- Income based housing??
- Did not notice any “For Sale” signs



# Schools

- PreK – 3, Middle School
- Informative Website



- Evidence of school pride
- Athletic schedule found downtown
- School partners with community for fitness center



# Childcare

- They did not observe any childcare
- Website lists 3 childcare providers

Lori's Daycare

Tiny Town Tots

Erin Walz Daycare

# Faith/Religion

- Two churches were found
- Well maintained



# Civic

- Good listing on website
- Observed presence of PRIDE, 4-H, VFW, Cow Paddy Golf Club



- Heritage Center in the old town hall
- Senior Center – coffee was served



# Public Infrastructure

- Streets well maintained
- Many new sidewalks
- Downtown sidewalks only adequate



- City Office on south side of Fire Station
- City Clerk was not available
- No local police service



- Nice big park! Very clean!
- 3 play units
- Walking Trail
- Restrooms
- Frisbie Golf



- Good recognition of donors
- Nice show of respect for military
- Park could use more trees
- Nice memory bench



- Nice Library
- However it was not open
- Affiliated with Northwest Kansas Library System



# Infrastructure Concerns

- EMS???
- Few areas could use some clean-up



# Recreation/Tourism

- Cow Paddy Golf Course
- Grinnell/Angelus Heritage Center



# Are there other things to be capitalized on??

- Monument Rocks??
- Taxidermy shop



# Most Positive Observations!!

- Very Clean!
- Only a very few run-down houses and buildings
- Almost no junk vehicles or other items in evidence
- Nice yards and homes



## Biggest Obstacles/Challenges

- A gas station with convenience items would be nice from highway into town
- Self-promotion of community and area attractions
- Use of furniture store

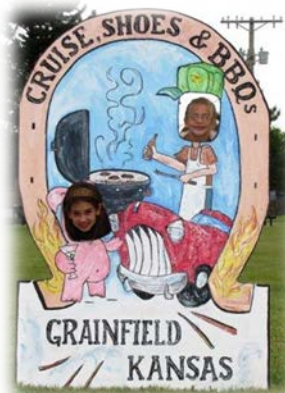


# What will you remember most in six months?

- That the community was so clean and well-kept!



# Kansas PRIDE is helping communities create the type of place they want to call “Home”



- The Dane G. Hansen Foundation wants to help communities in Northwest Kansas become the best they can be and take great PRIDE in who they are and what they can be.



- <http://danehansenfoundation.org/>