

# First Impressions

# Jewell, Kansas

K-State Research and Extension in Partnership with

The Dane G. Hansen Foundation







### Demographics:

Population: 432

Graduation rates: High School- 91.6%

College – 16.9%

Median age: 50.4 years

Poverty rate: 12.0%

Median household income: \$37,500 (KS \$50,972)

(Source: factfinder.census.gov)







#### Web Presence:

- Not much information online
- No city website
- Several Facebook pages related to Jewell









# The "Five-Minute" Impression

- Beautiful welcome sign!
- Small town with a lot of pride in keeping it clean and up to date.





- Great park/town square!
- Lack directional signage
- Old lumberyard and equipment was distracting









 None of the teams mentioned the east entrance. It's a beautiful drive in.

• Could one of the old Jewell signs be placed on the east

entrance?









#### Downtown Business Area

Nicely kept downtown

Newly constructed building on one block – community center,

library, 4 hotel rooms, preschool

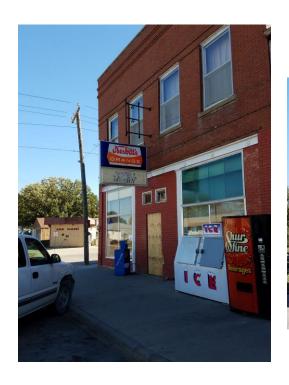








- Good service at the grocery store with a daily lunch special
- The Scoop hours are irregular however
- Car Wash









- The Guaranty Bank
- The Hair Den??
- Other retail opportunities very limited







 Very attractive streetscaping with planters, benches, covered trash cans, and street banners











- A few empty building
- A few with clean-up needs









# Other Retail Shopping Areas

- Doesn't appear to be any retail other than downtown
- Curiosity what are these buildings or services?









# Industrial Parks/Commercial Areas

Jewell Implement Case IH









#### Bohnert Welding, LLC









- Other ag services
- Gas Station









Electronics recycling at old high school

Bourbon Trailers??









 Several old commercial areas could use some clean-up to improve appearance of community from the highway









## Housing

- Total housing units 267
- Owner occupied housing units 73.1%
- Renter occupied housing units 26.9%
- Vacant housing units 17.1%
- Median home value \$\$35,000
- (Source factfinder.census.gov)







- Only noticed one house for sale
- Only noticed one house for rent
- Wide variety of housing types









Knowledge for Life



- Noted two apartment complexes
- One appeared to be income based









 As in all communities, a few homes and yards which could use some TLC.









#### **Schools**

- High School has been repurposed
- What about the grade school?
- Sign on highway?











Love the sign on the highway





#### Childcare

- Wish the preschool/childcare could have been successful
- Sign advertising in home childcare at the grocery store







# Faith/Religion

 Active churches are well maintained. The following churches were noted – Christian, Calvary Bible Evangelical Free, Assembly of God and Trinity United Methodist





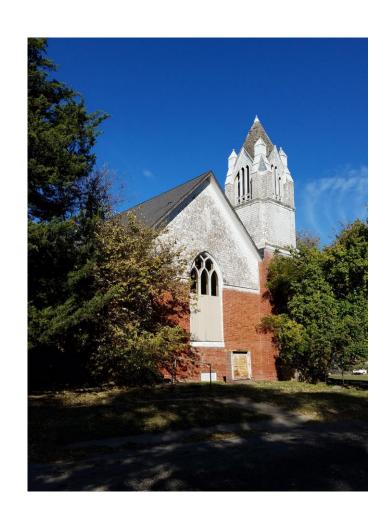


 Sign was noted for the Calvary Bible Evangelical Free Church from the highway but the building was hard to see





 Wonderful old church building that is crumbling . . . It is always hard to see because we love old buildings





#### Civic

- FB page for Jewell Community Youth Group
- American Legion
- Chamber of Commerce
- Garden Club and Lions Club







**Sunflower Foundation** 

Maag Memorial





#### **Public Infrastructure**

- Streets well maintained
- New curb and guttering
- Overall very clean!











- City Office well marked and staff was very helpful
- Nice fire station
- No evidence of police







- Very nice library
- Provide community programming
- Friendly staff





- Town Square/Park- a dream most every community would like to have
- Well planned and very inviting









Knowledge for Life



- Camper hook-ups
- Signage for Emerson Lake and Walking Trail











# Recreation/Tourism

- Annual Jewell Corn Show
- Slogan What Happens in Jewell Stays in Jewell
- Fort Jewell Memorial in the park









- Emerson Lake and Walking Trail
- Directional signage greatly needed









Knowledge for Life



- Jewell Inn
- The Loft Apartments











 Country Corner RV Park – advertised from all entries but still difficult to find









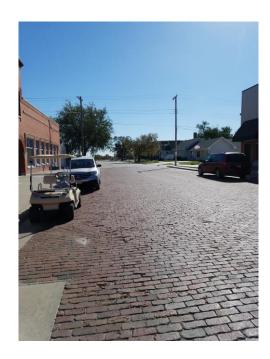
• What is the status of the museum?

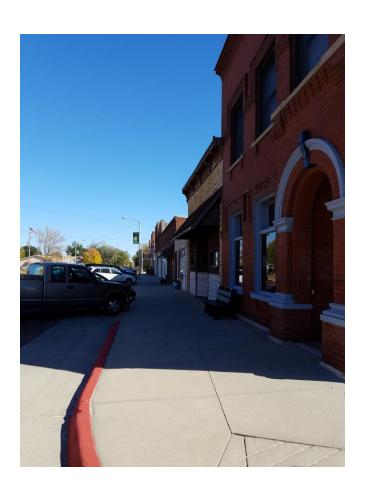




#### **Most Positive Observations!!**

- Very clean community with friendly people!
- Town square/park
- Emerson Lake and Jewell Trails
- Community Building







# Biggest Obstacles/Challenges

- Lack of medical and emergency services
- Being rural and no school with an elderly population
- Business attraction
- Broaden the economic base
- Pulling folks to the downtown area
- Website and community promotion
- Signage





## What will you remember most in six months?

- Friendly people with warm personalities
- The wonderful town square with foresight to have hot water and showers.
- Emerson Lake and Jewell Trails
- A very clean and prideful community!
- The Community Building
- Kevin's chili!







#### Recommendations:

- Community website
- Directional signage
- Moving one of the old Jewell signs to the east side of town
- Clean-up of several buildings around the square
- Promoting The Loft Apartments and the Jewell Inn
- Tree trimming and planting to go along with Tree City USA





# 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/