

# First Impressions

## Miltonvale, Kansas

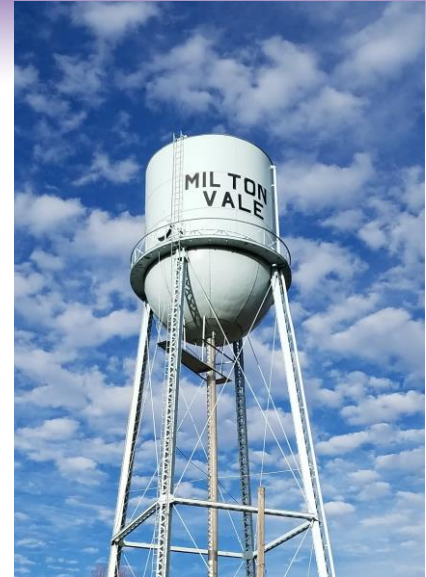
K-State Research and Extension in Partnership with  
The Dane G. Hansen Foundation



## Demographics:

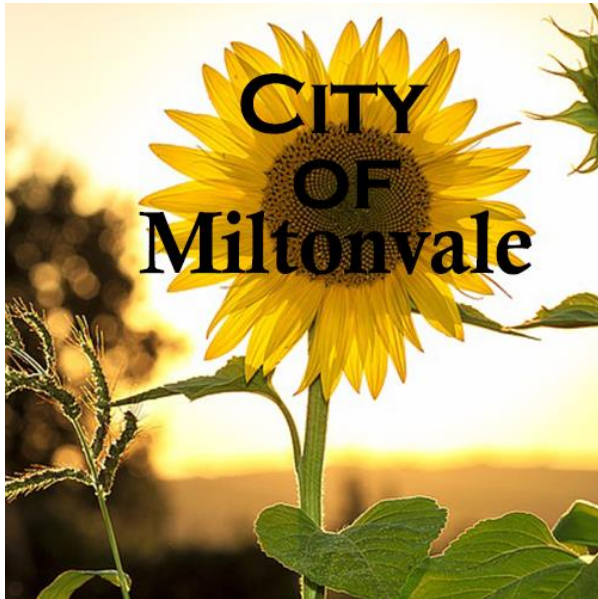
- Population: 539
- Graduation rates: High School- 90.1%  
College – 11.4%
- Median age: 45.0 years
- Poverty rate: 12.0%
- Median household income: \$33,250 (KS \$50,972)

(Source: [factfinder.census.gov](https://factfinder.census.gov))



## Web Presence:

- Hard to find online presence
- City website under construction
- Could find a few things through Facebook



# The “Five-Minute” Impression

- Community layout was a little confusing
- Lack of signage, however they really liked the street signs





- Several signs along the Highway 24
- Very attractive park greeted you on the east side
- Welcome to Miltonvale Lions Club sign was difficult to read



- Some of the properties could use some work
- West entrance from Highway 24 took you past the Catholic Church
- No signage to direct you to the business district



## Downtown Business Area

- Overall downtown was very nice
- Store fronts appealing
- Could not identify what some businesses were





- Various businesses available: restaurants, cabinet store, post office, salon, gas station



- The Purple Door looked nice but wasn't open
- Many businesses did not have hours posted
- Some unique businesses such as the bicycle repair

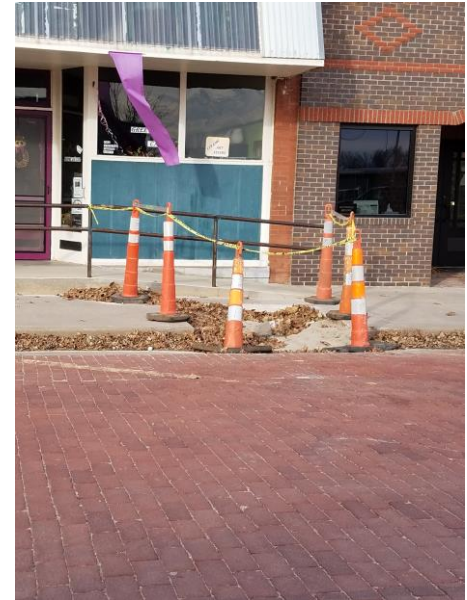




- Kountry Kafe had great food and service however visitors were unsure if it was open
- Miltonvale Lumber has a big presence in the community



- A few empty building
- Curb and gutter improvement needed





- Some benches downtown
- Some tree and shrub plantings
- Nice little mini park



## 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

- Farmway Coop
- Central Valley Ag
- Twin Valley Telephone





- Some old commercial areas which could use some clean-up
- Or attracting a new business for an existing facility



# Health Care Services

- Medical clinic with services available once a week
- Senior Center located in the community building
- No other health services available



# Housing

- Total housing units – 285
- Owner occupied housing units – 75.6%
- Renter occupied housing units – 24.4%
- Vacant housing units – 23.8% (68 units)
- Median home value - \$\$40,900
- (Source – [factfinder.census.gov](https://factfinder.census.gov))





- A mix of housing is available for income levels and family size
- More than 55% were built in 1939 and earlier



- There were a few houses for sale or rent as posted in the Kountry Kafe
- City Office is also able to help people find rentals.
- There is one apartment complex





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





- Several no trespassing signs
- Guard dogs on premises



# Schools

- Elementary and Jr/Sr High Buildings





- Unclear where they are located
- Directional signage poor
- Nice football field but no directional signage



- Difficult to tell which buildings are in use





- Nice school website
- Calendar of events, staff, menu, athletics and extra curricular activities
- Current and updated for the most part



# Childcare

- Visiting team did not see any child care services



# Faith/Religion

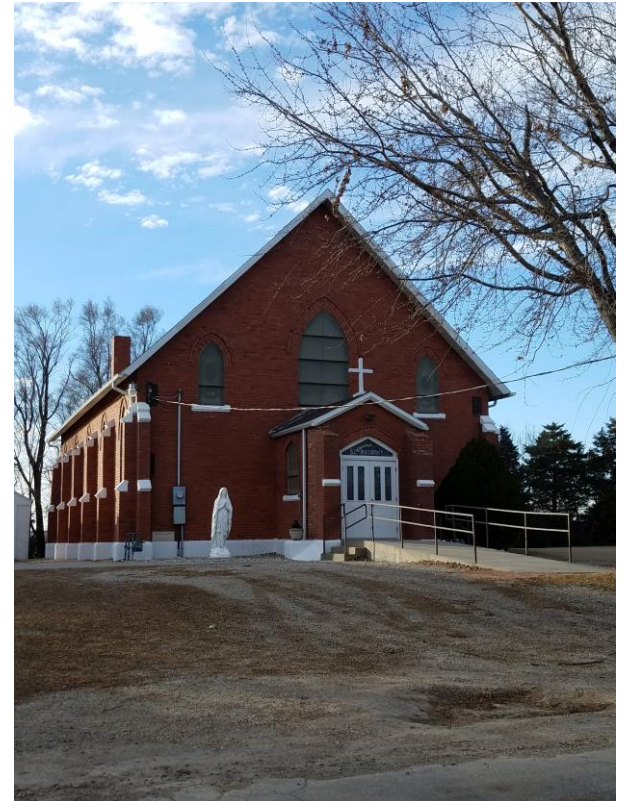
- Signs on HWY 24 for St. Anthony's Catholic Church and Miltonvale Wesleyan Church





- Five active churches in the community
- Overall the churches we saw were very attractive
- United Presbyterian Church didn't have hours posted







## Civic

- Lions Club is very active in the community, especially around the ball field







- Businesses active in beautifying the community
- Without access to the website could not find information on organizations and clubs within the community





- Miltonvale Community Garden





# Public Infrastructure

- Overall streets were nice
- In need of new curb and guttering in some areas



- New street signs in some areas
- Older signs in other
- Some signage made you feel uncomfortable





- No evidence of land use planning
- Farm animals within city limits





- Nice city building and were well received
- Info available on bulletin boards and around community
- No library in the community

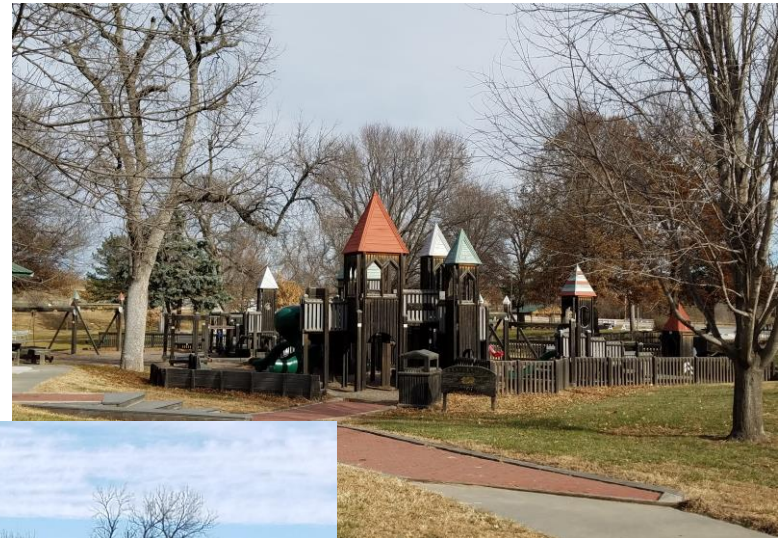


- Nice Fire and EMS Building
- Water Improvement Grant Project





- City park is exceptional for the size of the community
- Great entrance to the community from the east side
- Wonderful community support





- Park and stage a special area for a small town
- Love that the WPA era stone was maintained



- Something for all ages – frisbie golf, baseball field, football field, shelters, volleyball, basketball





- Swimming pool
- RV & Camper Hook-ups



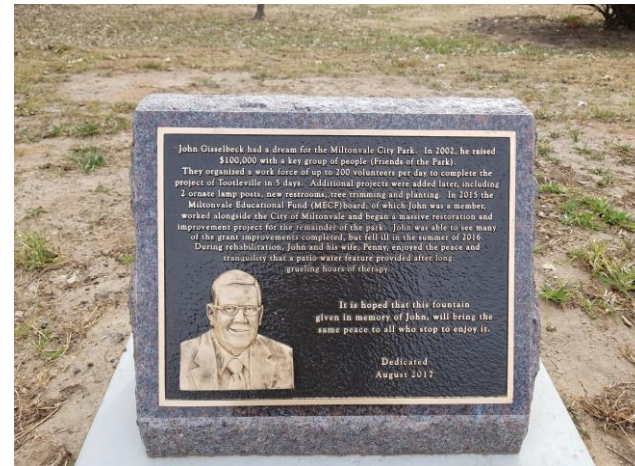


# Recreation/Tourism

- Tootleville could be a big attraction
- Tootlefest per Facebook ( and car show)
- Could use better signage for such a great asset



- Fountain and stage are great features to draw people in
- Veterans Memorial is truly special





- The red phone station was unique and special
- The brick hop scotch is something other communities should include in their parks





- Is there any way to restore pieces of the college?



# Restaurants, Specialty Shops or attractions that would bring you back:

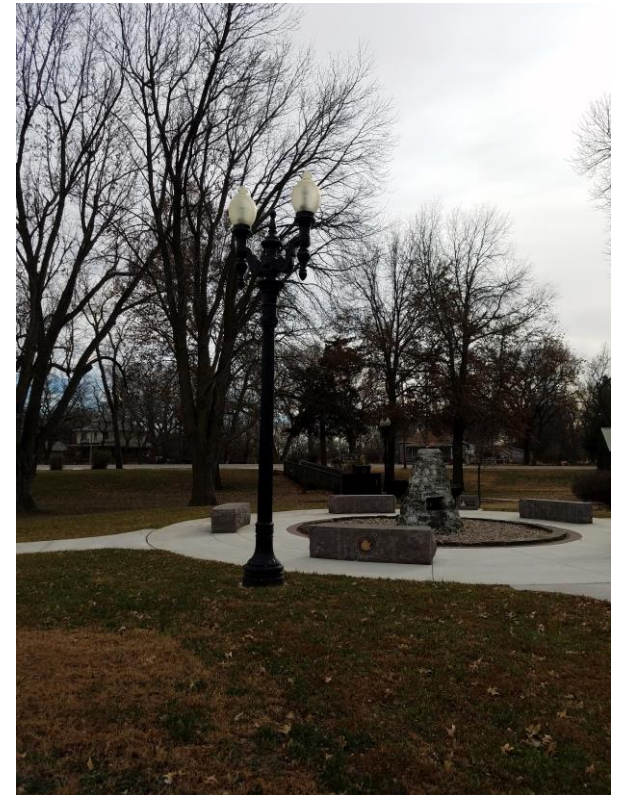
- Warkentin Cabinets
- The Purple Door was closed but looked like it would be a nice shop
- Grassland Gardens
- Community members mentioned the paintings at the Catholic Church – how does one go about seeing them?





# Most Positive Observations!!

- Park/Tootleville
- Street Signs
- Friendly people
- Community Center & City Office Staff
- Lots of pretty fall trees





## Biggest Obstacles/Challenges

- Lack of signage
- Unkempt housing and yards
- The need to advertise their assets
- Pulling folks off of HWY 24 into the community
- Elderly services
- The lack of a grocery store

# What will you remember most in six months?

- Tootleville & Park Area & Fountain
- Kountry Kafe – nice staff and good food
- Insurance Office was very nice inside & out with friendly people



## Recommendations:

- Community website
- Directional signage downtown & promotional signage on HWY 24
- Clean-up of properties
- Livestock within city limits??



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/>