



# Welcome to the City of Horton, KS



## New Resident & Visitors Guide



## Horton's History

Horton was founded in 1886 and named after Albert H. Horton, chief of justice of the Supreme Court. By 1887 Horton was incorporated as a third class city by the district judge.

Horton is an agricultural community located in northeast Kansas, on the south central edge of Brown County, at what is known as the "Junction" of the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad. Elevation is 1,134 feet above sea level. Population zoomed to approximately 4,000 shortly after the town was started, reached its peak in 1923 (5,012) and is now down to about 1,700 with the closing of the Rock Island Shops.

A poster that was issued in 1886 to advertise the town of Horton, soon after it was laid out and the first lots sold, was headed "The Prodigy of the West- the Wonder of Kansas". It contained a great deal of information about the "Magic City", as Horton was called. It exploited the town as the best place for capitalists to make money.

Pioneers who settled in this area before Horton was founded have infiltrated into the families of railroad workers who flocked to the "Magic City" to work for the Rock Island, leaving a heritage of ancestors of which we can be proud.

### Hotels:

At one point there were 900 employees at the Rock Island Shops and 13 hotels! The Hotel Windsor was the first commercial hotel built in town in 1887-1888. It stood just east of our current City Hall, and was a popular hotel for many of the shop workers to stay. The Hotel Grand was built in 1888-1889 at the corner of 10th and Central. It had a dining room and bar, and a grand ballroom with crystal chandeliers. It was at one time run by "Beefsteak" Jones who was known for serving the finest steaks in the country. Harry Waters operated a hotel and restaurant at the corner of 8th and 1st Avenue East. He was known for his roast beef and brown gravy meals. The Rock Island Hotel, a wood frame building at 615 Central, was a popular boarding and rooming house. Other hotels included the Cunningham Hotel on Central, the Harris House on 1st Avenue East, the Omaha Hotel on the corner of 4th and 1st Avenue East, the Ben Marshal "Joint" on 7th and 1st Avenue East, the Laclede Hotel on 7th Street, and the Hannah House on the corner of 9th and 2nd Avenue West.

### City Hall and the Library:

The original City Hall, located midway between Central and 1st Avenue East on 9th Street, was a clapboard two-story structure built when the town first started to provide a meeting place for the city council, a jail, and a "reading room" for the exchange of books and other educational material. In 1911, discussion was started about looking for a better site to build a more permanent and larger structure that would be less of a fire hazard. Since there was no urgency the project was tabled from time to time. In 1913, when J.F. Bailey was elected mayor, he tried pushing through an ordinance prohibiting playing baseball on Sunday. There were so many protesters at the city council meeting that the building had to be evacuated when parts of the support beams gave way! The protesters succeeded in reinstating baseball on Sunday, at the expense of putting plans for a new city hall on "rush order." The new city hall was built in 1914. The town bell, which was mounted on top of the building, was used for nearly 70 years to summon the town marshal, sound the fire alarms or weather alerts. It was removed from the roof and placed on a permanent mounting on the city hall lawn when the bell mountings were weakened by years of exposure to the elements. The "reading room" was soon too small to be used, and arrangements for a public library were being made by the Women's Federation of Clubs in 1925. In 1939, the current library was erected at a cost of \$25,000.

### The Railroad:

The history of Horton is vitally connected to the nation's development of transportation. The decade of the 1880's showed a marked increase in the laying of railroad tracks across the nation. On August 5th, 1886 a railroad meeting was held in Everest to consider the proposition from the C.R.I. & P road relative to locating a depot near Everest. The road asked for reasonable depot ground and a mile of right-of-way. The meeting agreed to tender the road \$500. This tender was refused and Everest lost the depot. The C.K. & N. built a depot two miles southeast, named it Pierce, and located its main shops and headquarters town on a cornfield seven miles west, naming the spot Horton. In October of 1886 the Horton Headlight read; the Chicago, Kansas, and Nebraska Railroad which is in reality an extension of the great Rock Island system west of the Missouri River, will soon be running its trains into Horton. In November 1886, the first train steamed into Horton. The last of the railroads in Horton were removed in 1985. The "Marsh Arch", was one of the very few remaining arches that the railroads installed as a guard rail on the overpass in the country.

### Entertainment:

There were several places in town for people to go for entertainment. Schrader's Candy Kitchen was the "in" place to take your date for an ice cream soda or to arrange a chance meeting with a crush! The display cases were filled with a wide assortment of homemade candies, handmade cigars and a soda fountain stocked with their own brand of ice cream and toppings. There was an old band shell that stood where the community building is now. Bud Nadeau organized a band to play there that was said to be one of the best bands in the area. With a dining room, bar and grand ballroom, the Hotel Grand was where the "elite" attended many social functions. The Liberty Theatre was a popular place to go, especially on bank night, when hundreds flocked to town to see if their ticket stub was the lucky winner of the set amount of money, once \$275.00. Thompson's Grove, one mile south of Kennekuk, and Bourke's Grove, on the south edge of Horton, were favorite spots for picnics and outings. Bourke's Grove had a ball diamond with a good sized grandstand, a movie screen that showed silent movies, carnivals, circuses, rodeos, aerial shows, a swimming pool, and a rink that was used for roller skating and dancing. Other leading social events were the formal balls, masquerade and charity, and the after the opera parties. The social leaders attended all the concerts, lectures, and performances at the opera house which included musical shows, plays, and minstrels. Other social functions reported were the art parties, cob-web parties, match hunts, candy socials, taffy pulls, church socials and dinners, box suppers, blackberry and ice cream socials. When television became a household item in the 1950's, there was less and less socializing and patronage to the local theatre declined. In recent years new trends emerge. Exercising groups, summer leagues, and choice entertainment, as well as "Tail-gating" has become popular.

The nice thing about Horton is the location. Luckily for Horton, there are plenty of towns and cities not far from home that have a good variety of lodging, dining, and entertainment.



## THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT HORTON

### Location

Distance in miles from:

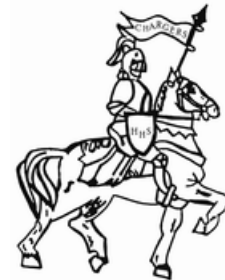
Kansas City, MO.....	90
Topeka.....	53
Atchison.....	24
Manhattan.....	90
Lawrence.....	62
St. Joseph, MO.....	58

**Population** (2014 Census)..... 1,732

### USD 430 School District

#### Horton Elementary School

The Horton Elementary School (grades K-4) was established in 1973, and in 1998 a new library and classrooms were added on. The Horton Elementary School is located at 300 East 16<sup>th</sup> Street. The phone number is 785-486-2616. The current principal at HES is Judy Dickman.



#### Everest Middle School

Everest Middle School building was built in 1954 with a new wing added in 1972-73. It is located 5 miles East of Horton, at 221 South 7<sup>th</sup> in Everest; the phone number is 785-548-7536. The Middle School houses grades 5-8. Activities and clubs the school offers are: football, volleyball, girls and boys basketball, track, knowledge bowl, cheerleading, student council, band and vocal music. The middle school also had an addition project in 1998. Current Principal is Travis Torkelson.

#### Horton High School

Horton High School was established in 1888 and the current building at 1120 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East was built in 1915. The high school had renovations completed in 1999. The phone number is 785-486-2151. Horton High School is a class 3-A School and is a member of the Northeast Kansas League. It offers football, volleyball, girls and boys basketball, golf, track, weight lifting, cheerleading, drill team, flags, band, vocal music, scholars bowl, and forensics. The clubs that students can be involved in are: FFA, KAY's, NASA, Drama Club, Powerlifting, FCCLA, and Skills USA. Current Principal is Fred Winter, Athletic Director Travis George.

#### USD 430 Board of Education

USD 430 Board of Education office is located at 522 Central Avenue; phone number is 785-486-2611. Superintendent is Jason Cline.

<http://www.usd430.org/>



## Important City Information

The City of Horton provides water, sewer, electric and trash services. Billing for all these services is done through City Hall. The city has a contract with Waste Management, Inc. for trash service. Trash service is mandatory and is \$15.00 a month for residential customers. Residential trash is picked up weekly, on Wednesdays, and needs to be set out by the curb by 5:00 a.m. Wednesday morning. Residents are allowed to set out either three 55 gallon sized bags or six 13 gallon bags per week, anything more will result in extra charges from the trash company.

**Utility deposit** amounts are determined by the average of the two highest bills for the last year at the residence. If no one has lived at the residence to determine an average, the deposit amount is \$150.00. The deposit amount will be credited back to the customer's account after one (1) year of good standing, or if the customer leaves prior to one year. A connection fee of \$10.00-\$20.00 is also required, depending on the services that are being connected.

**Utility payments** can be made:

- 1.) At City Hall- Come in to City Hall or drop payment off in drop box. Cash, checks, debit/credit cards accepted.
- 2.) Call City Hall at (785) 486-2681 Monday-Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5 p.m. to pay with card.
- 3.) Pay online- Debit/credit card payments are accepted for payments of \$5.00-\$300.00 at <https://www.paymentservicenet.com/Login.aspx?acc=RT17823>, with a convenience fee of \$2.99. Any debit/credit card payment of over \$300.00 will have to be made through City Hall.

The late fee **utility statement** and fee structure is as follows:

- Utility statements are mailed out on the last business day of the month. If you do not receive your statement, it is your responsibility to contact City Hall to get the amount of your bill. Late fees will not be waived.
- Utility bills are due by the 16<sup>th</sup> of each month by 5:00 p.m. If the 16<sup>th</sup> falls on a weekend, you will have until 5:00 p.m. the next business day to pay.
- If the full payment is not received by the 16<sup>th</sup> of the month, a 10% penalty will be assessed to any remaining balance.
- A Disconnect Notice will be mailed out around the 17<sup>th</sup> of each month to customers who have not paid their bill in full. The Disconnect Notice will show the past due amount, including the added penalty.
- If the amount shown on the Disconnect Notice is not paid by 10:00 a.m. on the due date shown and a request for a hearing is not made with the Utility Billing Clerk three (3) business days prior to the date for termination, YOUR SERVICES WILL BE DISCONNECTED.
- The total amount due must be paid, plus a \$105.00 reconnect fee, before services will be restored.

### **Dog tags**

- \$6.00 for yearly renewal December 1<sup>st</sup>- January 31<sup>st</sup>
- \$6.00 for new dog
- \$11.00 for yearly renewal February 1<sup>st</sup>- November 30<sup>th</sup>

Bring proof of rabies vaccine to the dispatch window at the Police Department to register your dog

Vin inspections, fishing/hunting licenses, fingerprinting, accident/offence reports, driver's license history requests, and background checks can be done at the Police Department.

Building permits, demolition permits, and UTV permits can be obtained through the City Hall office.

See more at our website <http://www.cityofhorton.com/main.html>.

Get up-to-date emergency information by liking our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/hortonkansas/> and sign up for Nixle text and email updates at <http://local.nixle.com/register/>

## Recreation



**Horton Mission Lake**- Featuring 177 acres of fishing, boating, skiing, camping, horseshoe pitching, sand-court volleyball, basketball, playgrounds, picnic areas, and shelter houses. **½ miles North of Hwy 73/K20, East edge of Horton**



**Mission Lake Country Club**- Featuring 9 hole Golf Course, Golf Supplies and Club House. **½ mile East and 1 mile North, NE corner of Horton Mission Lake; 785-486-3829**



**White Knuckle Strength & Fitness**- This fitness center that offers cardio equipment, selectorized (cable) machines, free weights and personal training. **836 Central Ave.; 785-741-1454**



**Horton Aquatic Park**- Featuring public swimming with a playground, tennis court, track, football, soccer and baseball fields nearby. **540 East 12<sup>th</sup> St; 785-487-2426**



**Horton Public Library**- Featuring a staff who can introduce you to the complete history of Horton and the surrounding area. **809 1<sup>st</sup> Ave. East; 785-486-3326**

**Email: [hortonlibrary@hortonlibrary.org](mailto:hortonlibrary@hortonlibrary.org)**



**Horton Pool Hall**- Features Pool Hall fun. **129 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street; 785-486-2442**



**Golden Eagle Casino**- Featuring gift items, snack bar, black jack, craps, video poker, and slot machines. **5 miles West of Horton on K20; 1-888-GO4LUCK**



**Sac & Fox Casino**- Featuring black jack, craps tables, video poker, slot machines, deli restaurant, gift shop and bar. **10 miles West of Horton on K20, then right on US-75 1 mile; 785-467-8000**

## Community Events



**Christmas Luminaries-** An event held the first Sunday in December; luminary lights and scenes of the life of Jesus are set up all around town. This event is sponsored by the local churches.



**Kickapoo Pow Wow-** Held on the third week of July, the Kickapoo Pow Wow attracts tribal members from around the country. Known as the "Intertribal Pow Wow", it gathers together many visiting tribes. The events last three days and offer a bountiful amount of authentic food, customs, dress and gifts.



**Memorial Day Weekend-** Horton Alumni Reunion & Banquet, Bus tours during the day, Alumni Golf tournament.



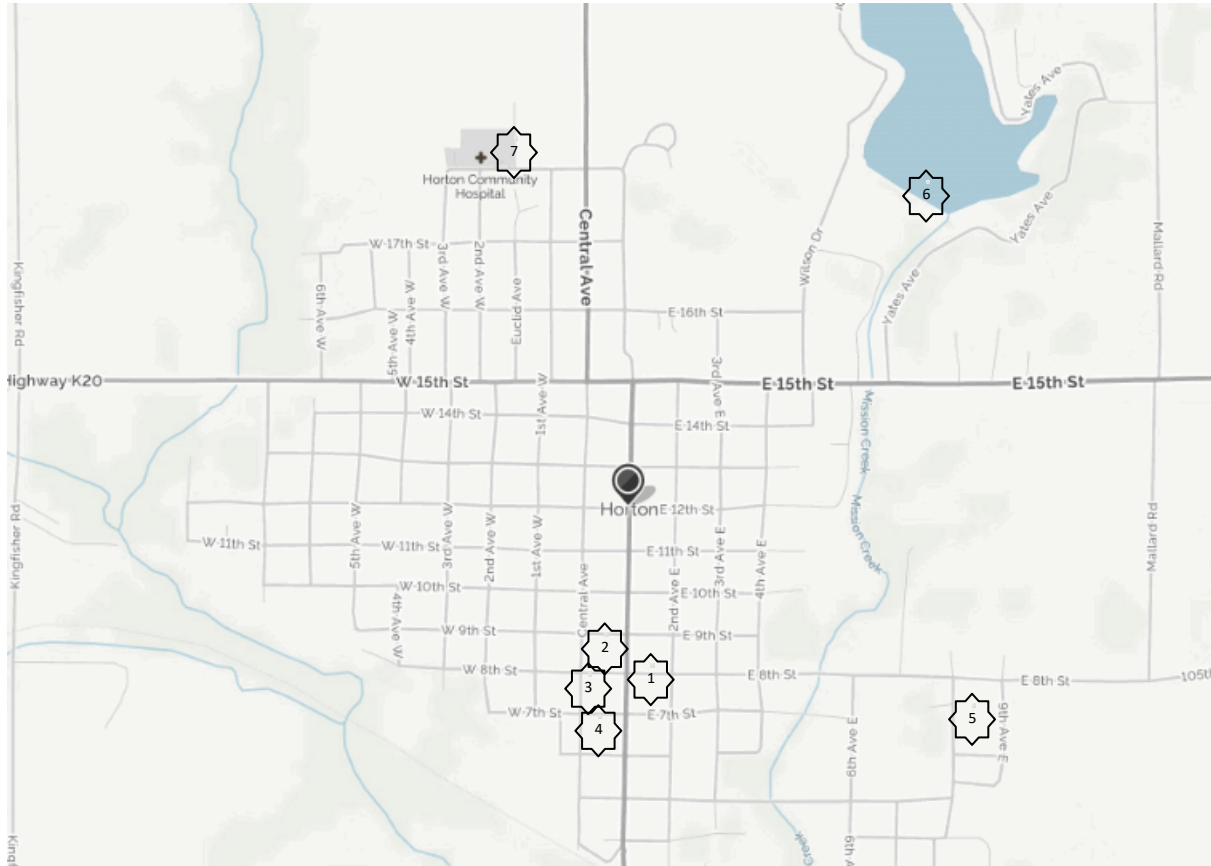
**July 4<sup>th</sup>-** Kids fishing derby, sponsored by the Horton Fish & Game Association, picnic areas, boating & fireworks at dusk.

**-Brown County 4-H Free Fair-**

**-Fall Arts & Craft Festival and Car Show-**

**-Veterans Day Parade-**

**-Night of Lights Christmas Kick-Off Celebration-**



1. City Hall/Police Department--- 205 East 8<sup>th</sup> Street
2. U.S. Post Office--- 825 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East
3. Horton Public Library--- 809 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East
4. Horton Fire Station--- 621 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue East
5. Horton City Cemetery--- South off 8<sup>th</sup> Street on 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue East
6. Mission Lake--- 1895 Wilson Drive
7. Horton Community Hospital, Rural Health Clinic & Kex RX Pharmacy--- 240 West 18<sup>th</sup> Street



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Area Code (785)

**ALL EMERGENCIES CALL..... 911**  
 Police..... 486-2694  
 Fire Department..... 486-2345  
 City Hall..... 486-2681  
 U.S. Post Office..... 486-3561

**UTILITIES**

Brown-Atchison Rural Electric Co-op..... 486-2117  
 CenturyLink..... (877) 942-2396  
 City Of Horton (Electric & Water)..... 486-2681  
 Kansas Gas Service..... (800) 794-4780  
 Rainbow Communications..... (800) 892-0163

**MEDICAL**

Farr Chiropractic Clinic..... 486-2171  
 Gary Hochstetler, DDS..... 486-2807  
 Horton Community Hospital..... 879-4357  
 Horton Rural Health Clinic..... 879-4325  
 Kex RX Pharmacy..... 486-3651  
 Kickapoo Nation Health Clinic..... 486-2154  
 Kidwell Chiropractic Clinic..... 486-3100  
 Mission Village Living Center..... 486-2697  
 Sunrice Chiropractic..... (913) 367-1665

**HOUSING**

Horton Housing Authority (Arbor Knoll)..... 486-3615  
 John Scott Apartments..... 486-3655  
 Lake Village Apartments..... 486-3375  
 Orchard Heights Apartments..... 486-3615  
 Villa Heights Apartments..... (913) 426-4017  
 Alfred Fete Apartments..... 764-3739

## BUSINESS DIRECTORY

**Accounting**

Molt Accounting & Tax Service,  
 18556 US Hwy 159..... 487-6658

**Automotive**

Al's Motor Service & Sporting, 936 Central..... 486-3728  
 Autos-4-U Car Sales, 1426 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-2302  
     Car Wash, 335 E 15<sup>th</sup>  
 Central Auto Parts, 905 Central..... 486-2524  
 Doug's Repair & Welding, 444 Central..... 486-2621  
 Horton Tire, 424 E 14<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2181  
 T & A Recovery & Transport LLC..... 741-4821

**Banks**

GNBank, 110 E 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2124  
 Pony Express Community Bank, 1505 Central..... 486-3822  
 Union State Bank, 301 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-3711





**Casino**

Golden Eagle Casino, 1121 Golden Eagle Rd..... 486-6601

**Churches**

Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, 1201 Central..... 486-3862

First Baptist Church, 400 E 16<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2286

First Christian Church, 1244 Central..... 486-3516

First United Methodist Church, 130 E 10<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2349

St. Leo's Catholic Church, 1340 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-3971

**Construction**

Gormley Brothers, 334 W 12<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2702

Kreider Construction, 10289 Anderson Rd..... 872-3434

Northeast Contractor/Handyman, 903 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W..... 741-5112

Watkins General Construction, LLC, 425 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 547-5181

**Consultants**

RCI, 140 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2882

**Convenience Store**

King's Super Store, 1450 Central..... 486-2988

Lentz Express, 729 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-0172

**Exterminators**

Ram Exterminators, 2251 Yates Ave..... 486-3377

**Farm Feed & Supply**

Harvest Fuel-Sweet Pro Feeds, 510 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2626

**Fitness Center**

White Knuckle Strength & Fitness, 836 Central..... 741-1454

**Funeral Home**

Dishon-Maple-Chaney Mortuary, 909 Central..... 486-3811

**Gift Stores & Retail**

Central Auto Parts, 905 Central..... 486-2524

Compton's Hardware, 326 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-3726

Dollar General, 401 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2591

Electric City Emporium, 140 E 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2257

English Leather Shop, 119 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 741-0128

Fiabesco, 841 Central..... 548-5768

Grandma's Depot Café & Gift Shop, 130 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-6606

Hospital Auxiliary Thrift Shop, 134 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2224

Lemon Tree, 826 Central..... 486-2584

R Bar B, 132 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 487-7272

**Government**

Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), 908 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-2161

Kansas Department of Transportation (KDOT),  
1686 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-2142

**Groceries**

King's Super Store, 1450 Central..... 486-2988

Lentz Express, 729 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-0172

Thriftway, 240 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2170

**Guest House**

Werner Guest House, 1705 Yates Ave..... 486-3758

**Gunsmithing**

Al's Motor Service & Sporting, 936 Central..... 486-3728

Lakeside Sports Shop, 1705 Wilson Drive..... 486-2539

**Hairdressers/Barbers**

Beauty Boutique, 1676 1<sup>st</sup> Ave W..... 486-3566

The Hair Den, 150 E 9<sup>th</sup>..... 486-3763



Lasting Creations, 119 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 487-0927  
 Susan's Hair Care, 119 W 8<sup>th</sup> ..... 991-0595  
 Ultimate Illusions, 200 E 14<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2543

**Insurance**

American Family, 836 Central..... 486-2878  
 Champ Insurance, 106 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 487-3600  
 Farm Bureau Financial Services, 721 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-9300  
 Maximum Insurance, 126 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2105

**Media**

Horton Headlight, 133 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2512  
 Horton Public Library, 809 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-3326  
 KNZA Radio, Hwy 36..... 547-3461

**Mortgage Company**

GNB Mortgage, 112 E 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-9354

**Motel**

Horton Guest House Motel, 226 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2928

**Photography**

Pat Toby Photography, 100 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... (888) 746-8122  
 Wisch Designs, 713 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 548-5735

**Plumbing & Heating**

R & S Plumbing, 202 W 14<sup>th</sup>..... 486-3889  
 Waser Plumbing, Heating & Cooling,  
 1720 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-9573

**Restaurants**

Blue Ribbon Diner, 115 W 7<sup>th</sup>..... 487-1765  
 Bredeaux Pizza, 110 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2602  
 Grandma's Depot Café & Gift Shop, 130 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-6606  
 La Apuesta Mexican Restaurant, 1445 4<sup>th</sup> Ave E..... 487-0142  
 Lentz Express, 729 1<sup>st</sup> Ave E..... 486-0172  
 OK Corral, 249 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-6650

**Retail Liquor**

North End Liquor, 1796 Central..... 486-2521

**Steel Fabrication & Machining**

Gaskell Machine & Metal, 505 W 7<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2674  
 Hammersmith Mfg. & Sales, 401 Central..... 486-2121  
 Horton Metal Products, 936 Central..... 486-2574

**Storage Facilities**

AB Properties..... (816) 646-6814

**Services**

JMJ Computers, 239 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-6643  
 Senior Citizen's Center, 116 W 8<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2341

**Specialty**

Werner Wagon Works, 1705 Yates Ave..... 486-3758

**Trucking Services**

Bill Stirton Dump Trucking, 422 E 12<sup>th</sup>..... 486-3636  
 Bryan Stirton Trucking..... 741-5530  
 Kevin Stirton Trucking..... 548-5227  
 S & S Truck & Equipment Sales, 501 E 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-2232  
 Stirton Bros Trucking, 1003 Longspur Rd..... 486-3367  
 Tom Stirton Trucking, 1086 Mallard..... 486-2777

**Woodworking**

Beach Woodcrafters, 602 W 15<sup>th</sup>..... 486-3566