Laveen, Arizona. “Where rural is a way of life”. Laveen is a small town within the city of Phoenix. And it also happens to be where I was living before making my move to Dubuque, Iowa. Laveen is located southwest of Downtown Phoenix and is a part of the Maricopa County. This small town was once home to farmers and dairymen during the late 1800s. By the early 1900s, Laveen was finally given its first postmaster, Walter E. Laveen, and had a whopping population of 25 locals. During this time Laveen was home to two general stores, a barber shop, repair garage and the first school apart of the Laveen Elementary School District, Laveen Elementary School. Laveen was a close knit community that overtime began to grow with more farmers whom decided to open up cattle ranches in the local area. Locals in Laveen began a tradition in 1950 where the community would come together once a year for a community barbecue. The barbeque is still an annual tradition that goes on to this very day. Laveen will be celebrating its 70th annual this upcoming February. To kick off the weekend of the barbecue, as of the year 2000, a Laveen Community Parade is now held a parade that brings the community together to showcase the local schools, businesses, and organizations Laveen has to offer. As for businesses and food chains, these really didn’t come to light until about 2012ish. When arriving in Laveen in 2008, it was only home to 1 grocer, two fast food chains, and a small dental office.

 Today Laveen is home to multiple small businesses, 2 grocery stores (one on the way), barber shops, fast food restaurants, and even a couple of health facilities such as dental offices, urgent cares and a general hospital. Educationally, the Laveen Elementary School District is home to 8 schools, four of which that have been recognized as A+ Schools of Excellence. All schools differ in a way by offering programs such Dual Language Immersion, Performing Arts, and STEM. As for more infrastructure, construction began in 2016 on an expansion of the loop 202 freeway that will be cutting right through Laveen. The freeway not only looks to reduce traffic within the streets but it also looks to bring so much more jobs within the community. As by mid to late 2020 Laveen will be opening up its very own entertainment complex right off the new loop 202 freeway. This freeway is set to open later this year. Laveen has come a very long way from being a very small rural town full of farmers and cattle ranches to modernizing just a bit and gaining so many businesses that, economically, bring so much to the community. Though Laveen is gaining so much through its infrastructure, it finds its way to still be known as the small rural town just southwest of Downtown Phoenix.

Infrastructure within Laveen not beginning until 2012ish

Small fast food only no big time restaurants

Freeway opening late 2019 entertainment center by mid to late 2020

College Prep, Dual Language Immersion, STEM, Performing Arts Academy, Accelerated Academy

Vista Del Sur, M.C Cash, Rogers Ranch, Trailside Point

Feedback: Eye contact with audience, nice detail, introduction was short, great to be personal, delivery to fast. Great articulation. Reading from script try not to. Fidgeting a lot so keep at a low.