

Holt County

Treasure of Northwest Missouri

Visitors' Guide 2013

- Attractions
- Shopping
- Dining
- General Information
- MORE!



*Trumpeter Swans making
a pit stop at Squaw Creek
National Wildlife Refuge*

Published By:
Mound City
NEWS 

Mound City
NEWS



Published and Printed in
Mound City, Missouri

HOLT COUNTY TREASURE OF NORTHWEST MISSOURI

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Additional copies of this Visitors' Guide
can be picked up at many businesses
in Holt County and at Visitors' Centers
on I-29 at Rock Port and St. Joseph.
Also available at the *Mound City News*.

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Mound City Area Chamber of Commerce

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Holt County*

5 LARGEST TOWNS OF HOLT COUNTY

POPULATION/CITY HALL INFORMATION

Mound City, Missouri

Population: 1,159

City Hall: 205 E. 6th St., Mound City
660-442-3434

Oregon, Missouri

Population: 859

City Hall: 106 S. Main St., Oregon
660-446-3695

Maitland, Missouri

Population: 343

City Hall: 217 Main St., Maitland
660-935-2291

Forest City, Missouri

Population: 268

City Hall: 301 Grand Ave., Forest City
660-446-2346

Craig, Missouri

Population: 248

City Hall: 121 S. Main St., Craig
660-683-5412

*Other towns include Fortescue, Big Lake,
Bigelow, Corning, Forbes, and New Point*

Holt County Total Population:

4,912

Based on the 2010 Census

Treasures found in Holt County

A treasure is defined as an accumulation or cache of wealth in the form of valuables, or an item considered especially precious or valuable.

The first recorded settlers arrived in Holt County in 1838 by crossing the Nodaway River at Richville where a ledge of rock provided solid footing.

Those early settlers found treasure in a diverse landscape ranging from unique loess bluffs rolling into beautiful prairie and timber coated hills to rich, flat bottomland along the Missouri River.

Among the treasure of the land, today many other treasures can be found in Holt County.

Agriculture is the prominent business as Holt County is ranked in the top 10 counties in Missouri in corn

and soybean production. Cattle, sheep, hogs, goats and chickens are also part of the productive agriculture. An ethanol plant at Craig, Golden Triangle Energy Cooperative, produces fuel grade and industrial ethanol from corn.

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge brings thousands of visitors to the area to see migrating geese and ducks, nesting bald eagles, and other wildlife, including deer and many shorebirds. There are also numerous educational and volunteer activities available throughout the year to entice people of all ages.

The Village of Big Lake/Big Lake State Park serves as a regular summer retreat for many. It is a major draw for camping, fishing, boating and picnicking. Vacation and permanent homes surround the edge of the lake keeping the population diverse. Due to major flooding in recent years, the Big Lake State Park has been closed. Plans are to re-open some of the day use area and some of the campground in the Fall of 2013.

Eight State Conservation Areas, including two on the Missouri River, bring hunters, fishermen and hikers to a forest, wetland and prairie. One unique area, Little Tarkio Prairie Conservation area, is a remnant of untouched prairie, one of the last in the state.

Holt County citizens, themselves, are among the treasures. The unique menagerie of backgrounds provides a wide range of unique and successful businesses, arts and entertainment. Small town family values abound and continue to influence the community around them.



Mature and immature bald eagles -
Are examples of the majestic birds that can be seen at Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge throughout the year and in large numbers during spring and fall migrations.

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Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

*Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge is located in northwest Missouri near Mound City.
Take Interstate 29 to Exit 79 just south of Mound City, then travel south 2 ½ miles on U.S. Highway 159.*

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1935 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife. The refuge comprises 7,415 acres along the eastern edge of the Missouri River floodplain and is located in northwest Missouri, 30 miles northwest of St. Joseph, and 80 miles north of Kansas City, Missouri.

Wildlife

Squaw Creek is rich in wildlife diversity. Over 30 species of mammals, almost 40 species of reptiles and amphibians, and over 300 species of birds reside here. During peak migration, there has been over 1,000,000 snow geese and more than 100,000 other waterfowl that create an incredible sight! Early waterfowl migrants include pintail, gadwall, and teal, which are soon followed by mallards, snow geese, and Canada geese.

Observation Opportunities

There are excellent opportunities to see wildlife in its natural setting at Squaw Creek. Refuge roads and foot trails provide access to many wildlife observation areas. Viewing towers provide ideal vantage points to observe and photograph wildlife. From a point high on the Loess Bluff Trail, hikers can view the floodplain and much of the refuge. On a clear day, visitors can even see parts of Kansas and Nebraska.

Auto Tour

The auto tour route is open daily during daylight hours. This ten-mile, one-way auto tour loop allows visitors to view wildlife in a natural setting. Visitors have the option of using the Mallard Marsh auxiliary drive, which exits on Highway 118, or returning to the main loop to complete the auto tour route. The auto tour offers good viewing year-round, especially in the fall and winter when white-tailed deer, coyotes and other wildlife are active before dusk. Birds of prey, waterfowl, beaver and muskrat are often observed in the marshes and pools from the auto tour route. Roads may be closed during flooding, hazardous conditions or special events.



Bald Eagles

Bald eagles migrate to the refuge by late fall and early winter. As many as 300 immature and adult bald eagles and an occasional golden eagle may be seen during the migration peak, usually by the first of December. A record 476 bald eagles were counted during a 2001 survey. The first recorded successful bald eagle nest fledged three young eaglets in the summer of 1997. A few bald eagles may spend the winter and summer on the refuge. Migrating eagles leave the refuge in spring and summer returning to lakes and streams in the northern forests.



Large numbers of snow geese, sometimes in the millions, migrate through the refuge in the spring and fall.

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Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge

Refuge Trails

Many of Squaw Creek's roads, trails, dikes, and buildings were constructed by the Civilian Conservation Corps in 1935 and 1936. The CCC camp was located in Mound City.

Loess Bluff Trail: The half-mile trail is classified as moderately difficult due to the final ascent on the 200 stone steps that lead to the summit. The trail head starts at the visitor contact station and meanders onto the top of the loess hills, with a 200-foot rise in elevation. Hikers must retrace their steps to return to the trail head. A companion guide to the marked features along the trail is available upon request.

Mike Callow Memorial Trail: This out-and-back trail is dedicated to former Squaw Creek Refuge employee, James Michael "Mike" Callow, who died in an airplane accident in 1998 while conducting an aerial wildlife study on Oregon's Columbia River. The one-quarter-mile trail is paved, accessible, relatively flat and an easy walk that parallels Highway 159. It skirts the edge of the loess hill woodlands and extends to the foothills of the loess hill. The trail head starts at the visitor parking lot.

Eagle Days

Eagle Days make up a major event at the refuge and are held the first weekend in December each year. Visitors can view eagles on the refuge, and attend special programs at the headquarters.

Hunts

Muzzleloader hunts on the refuge help keep the white-tailed deer population from getting too large and destroying habitat. The January hunts are by special permit only. Fishing and mushroom hunting are allowed at certain times in designated areas.

Outdoor Classroom

An outdoor classroom provides a base for the Junior Naturalist program, which provides hands-on educational programs through the summer for elementary students.

The classroom, which is located in the center of restored prairie, is also used for other programs throughout the year and has its own parking.

Research

Students come from many areas of the country to do research on plants and animals found on the refuge, including the massasauga rattlesnake. Squaw Creek Refuge is home to the larger of only two populations of these snakes in Missouri.

Women in the Outdoors

A Women in the Outdoors event is now an annual event held at the refuge. Women come to learn various outdoor activities including firearms training, bow hunting, cooking, fishing and nature based arts and crafts.

For More Information

For more information about the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, call 660-442-3187, write to PO Box 158, Mound City, MO 64470, or visit http://www.fws.gov/refuge/squaw_creek/.



Refuge headquarters features displays, auditorium and nature shop.

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Holt County - A hunting and fishing haven

Hunting and fishing are popular outdoor sports in Northwest Missouri, and Mound City has long been known as one of the best duck and goose hunting spots in the country.

Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, Tom Watson, Ted Williams, Lamar Hunt, Sam Walton, Roger Maris, Mickey Mantle, George Brett, Hank Bauer, Frank White and Steve DeBerg are among the many notables who have hunted in the numerous waterfowl blinds surrounding the Squaw Creek marshes.

Private hunting clubs and individuals own much of the productive Missouri River bottomland near Mound City. Some of them rent duck blinds and goose pits by the season, and several commercial operations rent blinds and pits by the day, week or season. Local guide services are available.

Public hunting grounds include the nearby state-owned Bob Brown Wildlife Recreation Area and the Nodaway Valley Recreation Area. Deer, turkey, quail and pheasant hunting are popular, along with other small game.

Prime fishing spots include the Missouri River, which forms the western border of Holt County; the Nodaway and Tarkio rivers that run through the county; and Big Lake, where there's a public boat launch and plenty of bank fishing spots.

Public boat launching spots on the Missouri are at Thurnau Landing, west of Craig, MO, another state wildlife area; at Rulo, NE, just across the river; and Payne Landing in the southern end of Holt County. A state record 103-pound blue catfish was caught in the Missouri River in 1991 in Atchison County, located just north of Holt County.

The flat bottomland and gently rolling hills offer excellent biking and hiking. Big Lake State Park, Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge and the half-dozen state wildlife areas are perfect spots for bird watchers and wildlife photographers.



Hunting is allowed at Riverbreaks in southern Holt County as well as several other areas.



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Outdoor recreation big in Holt County

There are unlimited possibilities for exploring the outdoors in Holt County as it is home to eleven conservation areas and two river access areas operated by the Missouri Department of Conservation.

Bob Brown Wildlife Area

This 3,300+ acre area is on the Missouri River two and one-half miles west of Forest City on Old Highway 111. Managed waterfowl hunting, along with other types of hunting, is allowed. It has a primitive camping area and a handicap accessible waterfowl hunting blind.

The Kent D. Smith Memorial Boardwalk leads to the blind. There are several fishing areas on wing dikes along the river.

Wildlife viewing is encouraged. Public use is allowed throughout the year, but non-hunters are prohibited from the waterfowl shooting area during waterfowl hunting season, unless they are members of a hunting party authorized to use the area and remain with the group.

This area has been deemed an IBA, Important Bird Area, by Audubon Missouri.

Deroin Bend

The Conservation Department purchased this area along the Missouri River after the flood of 1993. The area was acquired to preserve unique wetland and fisheries habitats, and to restore 3.3 miles of the old Missouri River chute, and the 400-acre island. Hunting and fishing are available.

Take Hwy. 111 five miles northwest of Corning, turn west on Z for 2.5 miles, then go south on a gravel road.

Corning Area

Drive one mile northwest from Corning on Highway 111, then turn west (left) on Atchison/Holt county gravel road.

The west boundary of this area adjoins the Deroin Bend Conservation Area. The United States Army Corps of Engineers has purchased this area as part of the Missouri River Mitigation Project. The mitigation project has been designed to enhance fish and wildlife habitat along the Missouri River.

Maitland Access

The Maitland Access is east of Maitland off Route A. This area offers access to the Nodaway River.

There is no boat ramp on this area. Small boats can be loaded by hand into the river, but this is very difficult due to the steep river bank.

Payne Landing Access

Two and one-quarter miles west of Oregon on Highway 111, then 2.5 miles south on Route T, and 2.5 miles right on Omaha Road, this area offers access to the Missouri River.

Rush Bottoms

East 0.25 mile from Rulo, NE, on Highway 159, turn north on entry road which goes beneath RR bridge to parking lot.

This area is mostly open land and contains a mix of cropland, idle fields, grassland, and some small tracts of forest. This area has approximately 2.5 miles of Missouri River frontage and one fishing pond.

Wolf Creek Bend

Two and one-quarter miles west of Oregon on Highway 111; then 2.5 miles south on Route T; and 2.5 miles west on 310 and south on Memphis Road. Area is also accessible by foot from Payne Landing.

Wolf Creek Bend is a mix of cropland and idle cropland with some small tracts of timber along the Missouri River.

For more information about conservation areas in Holt County, contact the Missouri Department of Conservation at (816) 271-3100 or visit www.mdc.mo.gov



Managed waterfowl hunting and archery deer hunting are available at Bob Brown Wildlife Area located west of Forest City.



A boardwalk at Bob Brown Conservation Area.

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Outdoor recreation big in Holt County

Little Tarkio Prairie

From Mound City, take Highway 59 north four miles to Graystone Road (0.75 mile past Route C), turn north on Graystone Road and the area is 1.5 miles on the west side of the road.

The Conservation Department purchased this area in 1999 to protect its remaining prairie habitat. The area contains 15 acres of high quality prairie, one of the last remnants of this type of habitat in the Glaciated Plains of northwestern Missouri. The prairie, located in the southeastern corner of the conservation area, features a diverse prairie flora on loess soils. These soils were deposited here by wind during an arid period following the retreat of the glaciers.

Nodaway Valley

The Nodaway Valley Conservation Area is north of St. Joseph in Holt and Andrew counties. To reach the area, travel north from St. Joseph on I-29 to Highway 59 (Exit 67) and head west for 3.5 miles on Highway 59, then north nine miles on Route B.

The Conservation Department purchased the area in 1991 to restore a small portion of wetlands that once flourished along the Nodaway River floodplain. A four-mile stretch of the Nodaway River flows through the middle of the area and provides habitat for both migratory and resident wildlife species.

Riverbreaks

Two tracts: To reach the east tract, from I-29 North, take Highway 59 (to Oregon) to Route O, then go south 3.25 miles to the highway sign. To reach the west tract, continue south on Route O to Route T, then turn west and go 1.5 miles to the highway sign. This area is more than half forest with grassland, old fields, cropland, and prairie. Facilities/features: Primitive camping, three fishing ponds, single projectile firearms range, and three permanent streams (Whales Creek, Schlotz Branch, and Forbes Creek).

Riverbreaks Conservation Area is located in southern portion of Holt County. The area is in two adjacent tracts approximately four miles southeast of the town of Oregon, off of Route O and Route T. This 2,307-acre area is nestled among the loess hill river bluffs overlooking the Missouri River floodplain.

Thurnau Area

West of Craig four miles on Highway 111, and south 0.5 mile on Annapalis Road.

The Conservation Department purchased 366 acres in 1965 to preserve unique wetlands and habitats associated with the Missouri River and to provide public lands and recreational opportunities in northwest Missouri. The United States Army Corps of Engineers has purchased additional acres as part of the Missouri River Mitigation Project. The mitigation project has been designed to enhance fish and wildlife habitat along the Missouri River.

Jamerson C. McCormack Area

Take Highway 159 (exit 79) west from I-29, travel south on Highway 159, three miles to area. This conservation area was created in 1966 with a gift of 158 acres to The Nature Conservancy from Jamerson C. McCormack. The land was later leased to the Conservation Department. In 1977 Jamerson C. and Carson McCormack donated 67 acres to the department, increasing the area to its present 227 acres.

Monkey Mountain

Go north of St. Joseph on I-29 to the first Highway 59 exit (Exit 67). Travel west on Highway 59 for four miles, then south on Route U for 3.5 miles to the area's cantilever sign. Follow County Road 325 east for about one mile. This area has 800 acres of mostly forested bluffs above the Missouri River and 780 acres of Missouri River floodplain. This area also has stream frontage along the Missouri and Nodaway rivers.

For more information about conservation areas in Holt County, contact the Missouri Department of Conservation at (816) 271-3100 or visit www.mdc.mo.gov

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Village of Big Lake - Big Lake State Park



Big Lake State Park

Cool waters and abundant wildlife make Big Lake State Park a place to get away in northwest Missouri. Visitors can canoe and jet ski on the state's largest oxbow lake that adjoins the park or watch for smooth soft-shelled turtles lazing away the day in the park's marsh. Big Lake is a wetland that migrating birds use as a resting stop, affording bird watchers an unparalleled opportunity to see yellow-headed blackbirds, blue herons, soras and rails. Take advantage of the camping and lodging opportunities while you are there.

From mostateparks.com

Big Lake State Park is a family-oriented place with an abundance of activities.

People come from all over the United States for family reunions, since it's centrally located.

Waterfowl Stopover

The 407-acre park also includes a marsh, the largest in all of Missouri's parks. It's an ideal refuge for a variety of wetland birds and migratory waterfowl.

Flocks of American white pelicans, for example, are a familiar sight in the spring.

Due to damage from the 2011 Missouri River flooding, Big Lake State Park remains closed until further notice. As repairs are completed and areas reopened, updates will be provided.

See <http://www.mostateparks.com/park/big-lake-state-park> for more information.

The Village of Big Lake is home to many permanent residents as well as many vacation homes. Big Lake is Missouri's largest oxbow lake, and sits about 8 miles west of Mound City (and I-29).

The lake is a true oxbow of the Missouri River. When the Missouri River was free to roam as it pleased, it left rich deposits of alluvial soils behind. These deposits occasionally cut off a loop of the river leaving an oxbow lake, deriving its name from the bow in the yoke of an ox.

Camping, fishing, swimming, picnicking, boating, water sports and bird watching are activities visitors enjoy.

Food

- The **Prop In** is located on the east side of Big Lake on Hwy. 111. Offering daily lunch specials, Saturday night prime rib with soup and salad bar, and live weekend entertainment, the Prop In is a gathering place for everyone.

- The **Lakeshore Grill** is located on the east side of the lake on Hwy. 111. The Lakeshore Grill features daily homemade specials, homemade tenderloins, ice cream, convenience store items, bait and more.

- The **Sportsman's Lodge** is located in Bigelow, MO, just a few miles down Hwy. 118 east of the lake. This hunter's haven is an ideal place for families and large crowds to gather. An old schoolhouse has been renovated to be this one-of-a-kind restaurant's home. The lodge is open daily, September-March.

Picnicking

- An open picnic shelter with electricity is available for rent. In addition, people can picnic along the shoreline.

Fishing

- Fishermen will find mostly catfish and carp, bass, crappie and bluegill in Big Lake. A dual-lane, 32-foot wide boat ramp is handicapped accessible.

Events

The Big Lake Improvement Association sponsors fun events and works on projects such as maintaining a water pump for the lake and helping repair gates that control the amount of water from the Missouri River.

Activities include an annual Mooau in June with "lots of fun and good food". Fundraisers are also held for a fireworks' fund. The Big Lake Improvement Association's website is <http://crest340.magix.net/website>.



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High School - 708 Nebraska St. - 660-442-5429

CRAIG R-III

Superintendent - 402 Ward Street - 660-683-5351

Principal - 402 Ward Street - 660-683-5431

SOUTH HOLT R-I

Superintendent - 201 S. Barbour St. - 660-446-2282

Principal - 201 S. Barbour St. - 660-446-3454

Elementary - 201 S. Barbour St. - 660-446-2356

High School - 201 S. Barbour St. - 660-446-2288

NODAWAY-HOLT R-VII

Superintendent - 318 S. Taylor St., Graham, MO - 660-939-2137

Elementary - 409 Hickory St., Maitland, MO - 660-935-2514

High School - 318 S. Taylor St., Graham, MO - 660-939-2135

Holt County Local Government Information Public Service Information

Holt County Courthouse Information

Kathy Kunkel, Clerk - 660-446-3303

LaDonna Jones, Assessor - 660-446-3329

Gay Quick, Treasurer - 660-446-3397

Donna Cotton, Collector - 660-446-3384

Bob Shepherd, Prosecuting Attorney - 660-446-3326

Scott Wedlock, Sheriff - 660-446-3300

Vicki Book, Circuit Clerk Recorder - 660-446-3301

Ed Meng, Public Administrator - 660-446-2863

Susan Lentz, Coroner - 660-853-8870

Holt County Public Libraries

Mound City Public Library, 207 E. 6th St., Mound City - 660-442-5700

Oregon Public Library, 103 S. Washington St., Oregon - 660-446-3586

Holt County Commissioners

Mark Sitherwood, Presiding Commissioner - 660-442-3312

Bill Gordon, Commissioner (South) - 660-446-3420

David Carroll, Commissioner (North) - 660-935-2548

Police Departments

Holt County Sheriff's Office - 660-446-3300

Mound City Police Department - 660-442-3100

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Mound City is aptly named due to resting atop the unusual loess bluffs. This silt apparently left behind by glaciers is found in only a few places of the world. The loess hills in this area run from just south of town to about Sioux City, IA.

Mound City, population about 1,159, is located on I-29 in the center of the county. Flat bottom land stretches about 10 miles west to the Missouri River, and beautiful, rolling farmland lies to the east.

The area is known as a hunting mecca, as sportsmen from around the Midwest and other parts of the country have come to the area for duck and goose hunting for many years.

The nearby Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge, opened in the 1930s, encourages the stopover of migrating waterfowl. As many as two million snow geese can be seen filling the skies and wetlands at the refuge during migration. Visitors lucky enough to catch a glimpse of this migration will never forget it.

Agriculture has been a mainstay of the Mound City area (and the county) since its early days. Although the population declined as farming technology and practices changed and the number of farms dwindled, it still is an ag-centered town that includes businesses such as a farm implement dealer, grain elevator, and seed, chemical and fertilizer suppliers.

It is not all work and no play, however.

Recreation Complex

The city boasts a recreation complex not usually located in cities its size. Clustered on its north side are a nine-hole golf course, swimming pool, basketball and sand volleyball courts, city park, shelter house, community building and restaurant, The Klub; and community baseball fields, along with the Mound City School's athletic football field and track.

A private group, the Mound City Development Corporation, has spurred quite a bit of the development. Additionally, the Mound City Community Booster Club assists with community and school endeavors.

Swimming Pool

The swimming pool is open from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, weather permitting. The pool features a zero-entry, mushroom fountain and kids' slides in the shallow end. The 12-foot deep section includes slides and a diving board. Hours are 1:00-8:00 p.m. daily.

The pool is available to rent for parties or other private events. Contact Jill Asher, manager, at 660-442-3428.

Parks

Griffith Park, part of the recreation complex on the north side, includes a shelter house with picnic tables and barbecue pit, outdoor stage, and playground equipment (updated in 2013).

Chautauqua Park, located on the east side, is an older, quiet park. It is named for chautauquas, events featuring speakers and entertainment which were held there in the early years of the 20th Century. A shelter house and playground equipment are recent improvements.

There's also a park at City Hall, east one block from downtown.

Annual Events in Mound City

Memorial Day

City-Wide Garage Sale

Independence Day

4th of July Celebration on July 4 Every Year

First Saturday in July

Mound City Rural Firemen Annual Truck and Tractor Pull

Labor Day

Market Square Day in Downtown Mound City

First Weekend in October

Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation's Annual Wine Fest

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Golf and places to eat in Mound City

Golf 10

The Mound City Golf Course is a 9-hole public course with some of the best greens in northwest Missouri.

Tom Watson called it one of the most memorable courses he'd played before the old sand greens were converted to grass in the late '80s.

Tee times are not required and rental carts are available. The clubhouse phone number is 660-442-5780.

Dining

1 The Klub offers fine dining in a casual atmosphere. A wildlife theme highlights the area's rich hunting heritage. Waterfowlers Hall of Fame displays focus on longtime Holt County hunters and their adventures. The restaurant is located in the McRae Community Center, which recently went through an extensive remodeling process. Many community and private events are held in the building.

2 Shakers offers ice cream, sandwiches, baskets and much more. Enjoy a treat while sitting outside on a nice summer day.

3 Quackers Bar & Grill is a cozy place, also with a hunting theme. Steaks, pork chops, chicken and fish, plus sandwiches and appetizers, are among menu items. Lunch and weekend specials are featured. The friendly staff is sure to make you feel right at home.

4 A Subway sandwich shop adjoins Kwik Zone/Finish Line gas/convenience station.

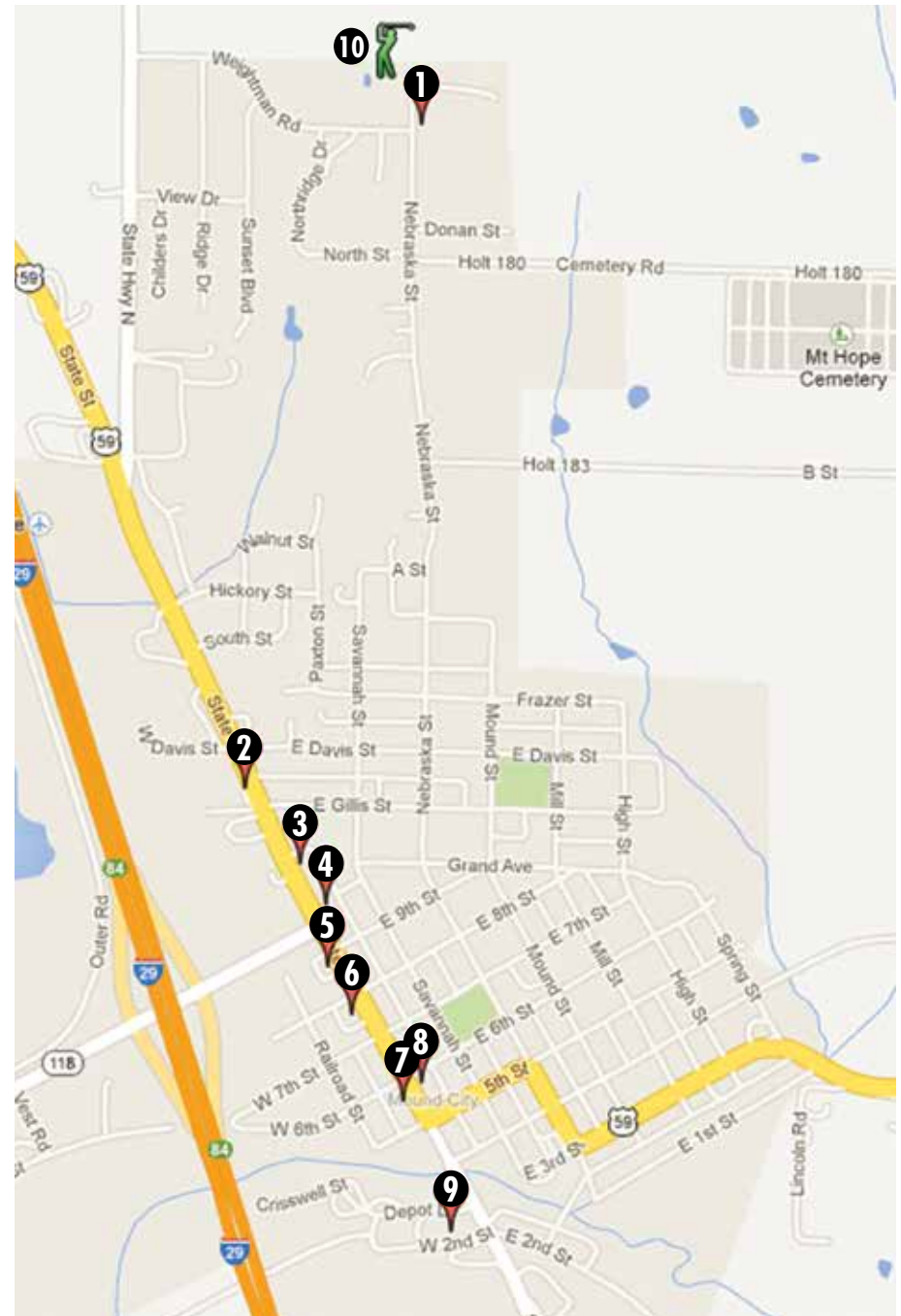
5 McDonald's has the full range of McDonald's items, from Big Macs to salads. The walls include historic photos of local hunting groups and local decor making this McDonald's one-of-a-kind.

6 George's Total offers Hunt's Brothers Pizza and other Hunt's Brothers products. Locally owned, George's is a gathering place every morning.

7 White Rose Restaurant & Gifts features daily lunch specials and a unique dining experience. Recently expanded, the downtown restaurant keeps travelers and locals coming back for more. A lot of thought went into building and decorating this surely unique restaurant.

8 Terri's Place, a downtown bar, offers daily homemade lunch specials along with hamburgers and other sandwiches along with a pool table and jukebox.

9 John Boy's Restaurant, offers breakfast and lunch, with daily "home-cooking" specials. John Boy's is located on the south side of Mound City by the old depot, which is now the Mound City Museum.



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Mound City

NEWS



This Publication Was Published & Printed In Mound City, MO

Mound City

Besides ag-related businesses, there are health-related and elderly care facilities. Tiffany Care Centers is the largest employer; and Northwest Health Services has a dental and health clinic in Mound City. A physical rehab center, car dealerships handling GM and Chrysler vehicles, three banks, a jewelry store, and a building center are among other businesses.

Government agencies, including the Farm Service Agency and Natural Resources Conservation Services, have offices in Mound City.

Antiques

On 59 North behind Audrey's Motel, Good Time Antiques has "a little bit of everything" to keep visitors looking for a long time. It's owned by Joyce Rasnic.

Grocery Store

Mound City Thriftway, the town's only grocery store, is in the historic Shellenberger building, erected in the late 1800s. With its wooden floors, it is reminiscent of early day general stores. It also stocks plants and flowers in season, making it a real hometown grocery store.

Shops

Rose Petals is a flower shop, but it also offers a variety of specialty gifts, candles, greeting cards, balloons, antiques and home decor items.

A **Dollar General** store downtown draws customers from throughout the region.



Market Square Day offers bargains on Labor Day

If you want a bargain, something good to eat, and a fun day, Market Square Day is the place to be every Labor Day, in September. The big flea market, going on for more than 35 years, is sponsored by the local chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, a women's group, as a fund-raiser for community projects.

Downtown is transformed as State Street and side streets are lined with booths, selling everything from baked goods and crafts, collectibles, tools, socks and T-shirts to jewelry, jam, books and much more.

Local clubs, churches and organizations have food booths as fundraisers, and more.

Annual Hunting Events in Mound City

First Saturday in March

Goose Guru Memorial Goose Fest Banquet

October

Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation
Big Muddy Duck Hunt for Youth

First Saturday in November

Ducks Unlimited Banquet

Second Saturday in November

Waterfowlers Hall of Fame
Induction Ceremony and Dinner



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Mound City Celebrates

4th OF JULY

The annual 4th of July celebration held in Mound City generally starts July 3 with the crowning of a senior king and queen and war veterans' recognition followed by the judging and crowning of the celebration's queen.

July 4 starts with a Red Rock Fun Run at 8:00 a.m. The challenging 5k run travels through town and up and down the bluff. A parade follows at 10:00 a.m. The Lions Club hosts a barbeque at Griffith Park and after everyone has had their fill, the Community Band performs a concert in the park at 1:00 p.m.

Children's games and activities follow throughout the afternoon.

A fireworks' display, provided by community donations throughout the year, begins at dusk to end the day, although in 2013, the fireworks will be shot off on Friday evening, July 5, due to scheduling conflicts with the pyrotechnicians.

As part of the festivities, the Mound City Museum opens during the day.

Mound City Rural Firemen Annual Truck & Tractor Pull

The annual Mound City Rural Firemen "Rumble by the Refuge" Truck and Tractor Pull is sure to provide exciting entertainment. The July event, which begins at 7 p.m., is held at the rodeo grounds, one mile west of Mound City on Hwy. 118. The event is the the first Saturday every July. The 2013 pull will be Saturday July 6, 2013, and the 2014 event will be held Saturday, July 5, 2014.

The 2012 Truck & Tractor Pull brought 3,000 spectators and 75 pullers to Mound City for the event. The total purse was around \$20,000.

Concessions are offered and gates open for spectators at 5 p.m.



Mound City resident & puller, Mitchell Corbin, driving the Jolly Green Giant, pulled at the 2012 Rumble on the Refuge on Saturday, July 7, 2012, at the 2nd Annual Mound City Truck and Tractor Pull.

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Local vineyard producing grapes on loess bluff soil

2012 grape production was over 9.5 tons

Loess bluffs border I-29 through parts of Holt County. The soil creating these large mounds is unique and thought to be a result of glacier and wind deposits. These bluffs, on which Mound City is located, could hold a wealth in grapes for the future of Holt County.

The Mound City Development Corporation started a vineyard in 2005

with the hopes that it would produce a good quantity of grapes and bring future business opportunities. With no records as how the loess soil would produce, the experiment started with 200 vines and the wait began as it can take up to seven years to see a mature harvest. More vines were added in 2006, when the first seemed to thrive.

It turned out the loess soil was productive and, in 2007, the first crop was harvested and sold to Schillingbridge Winery. The Rock Island red wine produced by the winery that year contained 25% Mound City-grown grapes.

The vines already appeared to be doing exceptionally well and, with good prospects on the horizon, an additional 1,000 Chambourcins were planted and 500 were put into a nursery in 2008.

The project has had increased community involvement every year with planting, pruning and harvest completed primarily with local volunteer labor.

Currently, the Development Corporation has ap-

proximately 1,300 Chambourcin, 600 Frontenac, 300 Cynthiana and 100 Vignole vines either in production or for future production. The Chambourcins and Cynthianas were the first to reach maturity and are producing well. After the first three initial growing years, the corporation harvested a crop of six and a half tons from both varieties. This harvest was sold to Schillingbridge and some grapes also went to Sugar Clay Winery in Thurman, IA. Mound City grapes are also used in wines produced by Windy Wine Company, Osborn, MO; Riverwood Winery, Rushville, MO; and a new winery in Lawrence, KS.

In 2009, the first vines held over in the nursery were offered for sale. These rootstock were original cut-

tings from the corporation's own plants that were successfully started, showing that the vines do thrive in Holt County. Each of the varieties are in full production and used for jelly, juice or wine.

Grape growing is not new to the county. The 1882 History of Holt County says growers near Oregon successfully produced Concord wine. The vineyards were destroyed with the advent of Prohibition and, other than a few backyard growers, have not been seen since.

The Mound City Development Corporation's vineyard is located near Griffith Park in Mound City.

For more information contact Mason McIntire, 660-442-6153, or Joe Laukemper, 660-442-9942.



Mound City grapes, right before harvest.

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Bigelow - Just down the road from Mound City

Four miles down the road in Bigelow, MO, just west of Mound City, sits the 1915 Bigelow School, which now houses the **Sportsman's Lodge**. The original Sportsman's Lodge opened in 1960 after George and Georgia Stone purchased the schoolhouse. They turned it into a hunting lodge, complete with dormitory-

style rooms and a bar. The area became a popular hunting destination, and Sportsman's Lodge became a favorite for the likes of Mickey Mantle, Roger Maris, Ted Williams, Hank Bauer, Jimmy Doolittle, and Tom Watson. The lodge closed its doors in 1999, ending that era.

The lodge was once more the home of hunters when it was fully renovated in 2010 and reopened. Much of the building's unique history was preserved, including original school slate boards with messages from the students still visible.

The upper floor boasts a banquet room, which is ideal for reunions, family gatherings and business meetings. The main floor includes a bar, restaurant,

and a pro shop. The restaurant is open for lunch and dinner throughout hunting season with a diverse menu featuring KC style barbeque and steaks.

A 2,400 square foot deck invites diners and hunters to enjoy the quiet

country atmosphere where they can eat, drink, and lie. Cabin rentals that accommodate up to 8 individuals, along with customized hunting packages, draw hunters from throughout the United States to Holt County.



The front view of the Sportsman's Lodge, which used to be the Bigelow School.

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Peaceful setting at Paradise Park

You can find paradise in Holt County.

You can find paradise in Holt County.

Roderick Dryden and his mom, Twila, through hard work and inspiration, have transformed part of their farm east of Oregon into a unique attraction.

It's a place for weddings, family reunions, graduations, parties, picnics, or to simply enjoy nature. The Timber's Edge Chapel and reception hall provide a spot for meetings and gatherings.

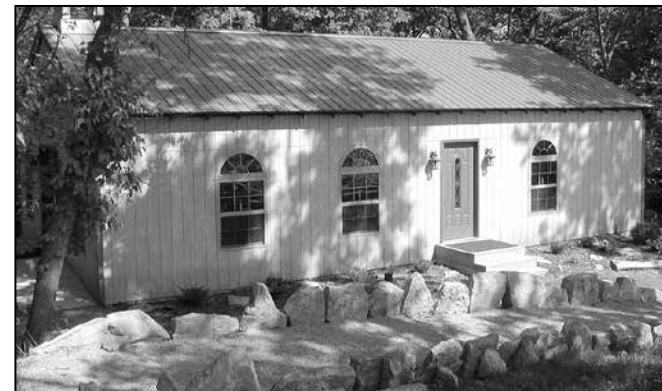
The chapel gives visitors year-round options for weddings and several are held there throughout the year. Large windows give the feeling of standing in the "enchanted forest" as Dryden calls it. The reception hall features walls painted in garden scenes, and



there's a complete kitchen for catering. A big patio and outdoor fire pit provide other entertainment options.

A 1910 barn, with many of its original features, has room for dining and dancing, and features artwork, memorabilia and an indoor pond. The 10-acre park grounds provide a wonderland of flowers and plants, antique farm implements, fountains, arbors and gazebos. Footbridges cross a picturesque creek that's lined with natural stone and shade-loving plants, and places to stop and sit.

For information, call (660) 446-2407 or visit www.visitparadisepark.com. Paradise Park is located on a gravel road at 29875 Hwy. 59, east of Oregon, 1 1/2 miles west of I-29 (exit 67).



Timber's Edge Chapel, which seats approximately 115 people, serves as a meeting hall, wedding chapel and a place for family and organizational gatherings. The downstairs reception hall is complete with kitchen, serving area, outdoor patio and seating for 70.

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Craig - A Railroad Town

Craig, a town of about 300, lies in the Missouri River bottom land a short distance off I-29 in the northern part of the county. Its early growth was fostered by a rail line placed at about the same time the city was founded in 1869. It developed into a thriving hub for area grain shippers, and the downtown boasted numerous retail businesses such as general stores, blacksmith shops, harness shop, hotels and more.

As farming and transportation changed, the town declined in population, but the railroad still proved to be a factor in present growth. One reason the town was selected as the site for an ethanol plant was the ability to hook up to the Burlington Northern Santa Fe line with a rail spur.

Ethanol Plant

Golden Triangle Energy Cooperative began operating an ethanol plant at Craig in 2001. It now produces roughly 20 million gallons of denatured alcohol into ethanol per year from corn. Both fuel grade and industrial grade alcohol are produced.

Unique Buildings

Evidence of the old days of railroading remain. The old depot was moved from beside the railroad tracks in the 1980s to line up with other businesses along Main Street and was eventually refurbished. It houses most City Hall operations.

An icon of downtown was the Schooler's General Store. It had been a fixture on Main Street for 71 years until it closed in 1999. Little had changed inside over the years, and it was the subject of newspaper and magazine articles.

An old brick building that used to be a theater also is among downtown buildings still standing.

Food

The **Craig Country Store** on 59 Highway, at the eastern edge of town, has snacks, sandwiches, daily specials and pizza. It's a gas station and convenience store, with an adjacent car wash.

The **Hornets Nest Cafe**, located at 119 S. Main St., is the newest business in town offering daily lunch specials. The Hornets Nest is open daily for breakfast and lunch and is also available for carry-out and private parties.



The old depot was moved from beside the railroad tracks and refurbished for use as City Hall.

Of Interest

- Craig School, including grades K-12, is the biggest employer at about 40 people, with the ethanol plant next.

Other main businesses are Craig Grain and Supply, a fertilizer and grain operation; Citizens Bank and Trust; and Clifton Insurance. French's Tractor Repair is downtown, where the work also includes restoring antique tractors, tractor salvage and the buying and selling of tractors.

- About 10-15 other businesses operate in the area, ranging from soil contracting (moving dirt), to auctioneering and welding.

CraigFest

The Craig Community Committee holds the CraigFest every year in September. The 2013 dates are September 20-21.

The two-day event includes carnival rides, games, live entertainment, raffles, food, fun and much more!

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Annual events in Oregon

Holt County Autumn Festival

An annual festival held on the courthouse square happens during the first week of September. It is a big event that draws people from all over and brings former residents back home to enjoy the fun and see old friends.

An outdoor stage provides a venue for entertainment during the evening.

Serving as Holt County's fair, numerous items are submitted for judging and awards.

The 'Big Tent' contains vendors, organizational displays and the agricultural exhibits. Other displays and exhibits are located in churches as well as the T.J. Hall building. Entries are judged and ribbons and money are awarded.

A carnival sets up on the west side of the square providing rides and games.

The fair opens officially at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday. A baby show is generally held earlier in the afternoon. Queen contests are held on Wednesday and Thursday for every age group.



A frog jumping contest is among several fun events that take place during the Holt County Autumn Festival.

Exhibits are to be in place Thursday morning and judging commences. A watermelon eating contest is held and the local fire department sponsors a water fight.

A children's parade is held on Friday followed by field events for the youth in the street. A frog jumping contest has become a highlight of the day, but other entertainment is also provided in the evening.

Saturday wraps up the celebration. A garden tractor pull and dog and cat show occupy the morning, as well as a 5k Run, with a general parade that brings entries from all over the area following. A Saturday barbecue starts at 5:00 p.m. and leads into the evening entertainment.

A large amount of sponsorships help this event to succeed each year and it remains well attended.

It's CHRISTMAS Around The Square

Christmas Around the Square in Oregon, MO, is a traditional celebration that happens around the first week of December each year. A full day of Christmas fun is planned for everyone, which sometimes even includes a Homes' Tour. Other annual activities range from free sweets, treats and coffee to a Holiday Haberdashery Craft Fair. One of the highlights of the celebration each year is a Cookie Walk. Christmas caroling fills the air during the event that also greets the jolly old elf himself, Santa, who brings surprises for the children. Surrey rides are part of the evening's fun along with fundraising meals, snacks and shopping galore!

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Oregon is the Holt County seat

The county seat is in Oregon, a well-kept, pretty town in the southern part of Holt County.

Located well off the interstate, two exits from I-29 service this southern Holt County town.

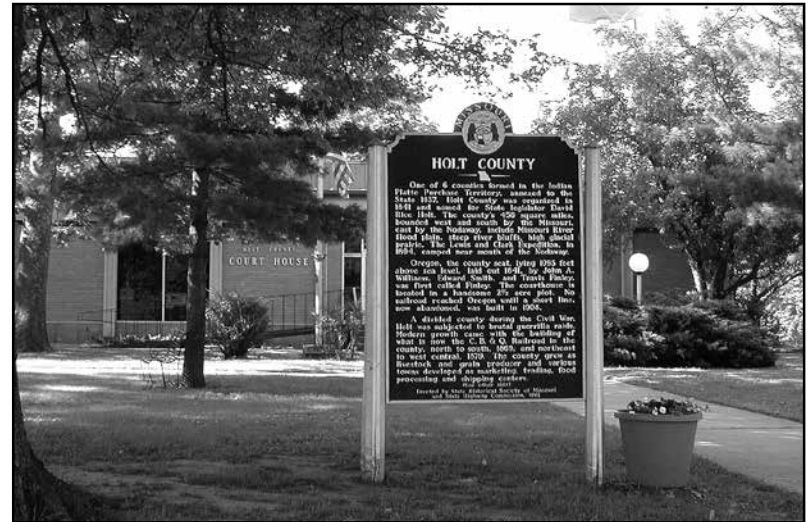
The courthouse is the hub of the town, with businesses clustering around it on three sides.

The courthouse is a modern structure built in 1966 after a historic courthouse burned. It's open weekdays except for holidays, but visitors can stop anytime

to read the historic marker on the north lawn, which tells about the county's founding in the Oregon area in the 1840s.

The first permanent settlers of record in Holt County were Peter and Blank Stephenson and Blank's wife, who came from Indiana to an area southeast of Oregon in 1838.

The original part of the Presbyterian Church on the east side of the courthouse is over 150 years old. It was built in 1853.



A historic marker on the courthouse square tells the history of Holt County.

Dining

275 Grill just east of downtown on 59 Highway offers barbecue meats daily; homemade tenderloins; French fries; and pie and ice cream.

Antique and decorative items create a cozy, country atmosphere.

The King and Proud Roadhouse is a sports bar that features pizza, pasta, sandwiches, full bar and a theater seating room with a big screen T.V. An adjoining room can be rented for special occasions. It's in the historic King and Proud building on the courthouse square.

Country Corner One-Stop is located on the corner of Hwy. 59 and Hwy. 111. The convenience store offers gas, snacks and food and is open from 6 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.

Of Interest

- **Paradise Park** is a 10-acre park off Highway 59 east of Oregon, created by Roderick Dryden and his mother, Twila. It's available for weddings, receptions, reunions and picnics.

- Among businesses is **Dungan's B&B Meats**, a butchering and meat processing shop that ships its products all over the country.

- Although the town's population is less than 1,000, there are more than 50 businesses in the Oregon area, ranging from one-person operations to the Oregon Care Center, a nursing home and rehabilitation center that employs about 20 people. The South Holt School District is the biggest employer, with about 60 people, and county government is next with about 40 employees.

Park, Community Building

A big public park with a shelter and playground equipment, Welty Park, is at the east edge of town next to the South Holt School. A community building, the T.J. Hall Building on the square, bustles with activity much of the time and can be rented for events.

Swimming

The South Holt swimming pool on the east side of town opens Memorial Day weekend. The pool is available for rent for private parties and features an adjacent sand volleyball court. The phone number is 660-446-3780.



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Forest City was once a river town

Forest City once was a steamboat stop on the Missouri River, a busy place with goods shipping in and out, and the town had high expectations of becoming a major port city. The river changed all that, however, moving its course almost overnight, leaving Forest City "high and dry". During the town's heyday, many retail businesses and seven big hotels were located along its main street. Those are gone, but the town of about 340 people remains a center for agriculture-related businesses and contains many historic buildings.

St. Patrick's Church

St. Patrick's Catholic Church, built in 1907, is the only Catholic church in Holt County. Although small, it has an impressive interior. Major restoration work completed in 1999 includes a big, ornate oak altar, a replica of the original, made by a local craftsman. Paintings of angels were added to the walls.

It has one of two pipe organs in the county, a Möller, which organist Peggy Edwards describes as a "very, very fine instrument".

Tours of the church are available by calling Edwards at 660-446-2003.

Park

A big city park tucked behind the main street includes a shelter house, playground equipment, ball fields and a paved track. There is also a building housing restrooms and a concession stand.

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Historic City Hall

Historic City Hall, constructed at about the same time as St. Patrick's by the same builder, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

It looks much the same as when it was built. However, a kitchen and bathroom were added and the city office was updated.

A stage with a sound system and new stage curtains are used for community activities. Years ago, vaudeville troupes were impressed with the stage that included a trap door and footlights. They "just praised it," said Edwards.

A St. Joseph newspaper wrote that the building was "the first municipally owned theater in the world".

Tours are available by calling Edwards.

Drug Store Museum

An 1859 Drug Store Museum features a working old-fashioned fountain, a gift shop, a library and frequently changing museum displays. The Drug Store is open Sundays, June through August, from 1:00-4:00 p.m. The museum is available to rent for meetings, tours or social events by calling 660-446-2003.



Soda Fountain at the Drug Store Museum

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Forest City was once a river town

Lions Building

The Forest City Lions Club dedicated a new building in 2003 that is available for use by the community. With a covered porch and railing, it has an Old West look.

Hope House

Hope House helps people in need throughout the county. It distributes food through America's Second Harvest, operates a thrift shop and provides other services. For information, call 660-446-2223.

Independence Day

An Independence Day Celebration is always the Sunday before the 4th of July at the City Park. It is sponsored by the Forest City Lions Club, with support from local businesses.

Dining

- Home-cooked meals, daily specials, homemade pies and other desserts are featured at the **Forest City Diner**. Popular with hunters and other visitors, it has been written up in area and national publications.

- One of the former retail businesses that was a bank is now a restaurant and bar called **The Dawghouse Bar and Grill**. Architectural reminders remain, including a big vault behind the bar. It's open every day. Music is featured on some weekends.



Downtown Forest City in early years. Although it says Main Street on the photo, it is Grand Street. The Atlantic Hotel is at left. The present Forest City Diner building is the small building next to the big brick building at right.

Missouri River deserts a thriving town

In the 11 years from its founding in 1857 to 1868, Forest City had become a thriving town with a big port on the Missouri River.

"Warehouses were loaded with all kinds of merchandise, ready to be shipped out on steamboats," said Peggy Edwards, Forest City mayor, historian and chairman of the 2007 Sesquicentennial Committee. It had seven hotels, some considered the "finest on the Missouri River".

Steamboat captains were "always happy to deal here" because merchants paid in gold, rather than paper money (which at that time might not have the same value in other places), Edwards said.

On Aug. 10, 1868, however, things suddenly changed. Almost overnight, the river changed course, with little indication it was going to

happen.

The last steamboat to leave the Forest City port was the Carrie P. Kuntz (or Kountz; the spelling isn't certain, Edwards said).

Other boats that were docked there when the river left "had to be pulled by mule train to the new channel".

One of the store owners, John Brittain, went on to operate a dry goods store in St. Joseph, MO, that became one of the biggest in the Midwest, if not the United States. It was in the building that now houses Boudreaux's restaurant, and his name still can be seen on the building.

"Every time I look at it, I think about it being built with Forest City money," Edwards said.

Brittain served as Forest City treasurer in 1868.

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Maitland once known for bluegrass

Nestled in the middle of rich, rolling farmland, Maitland is a town of about 340 people with quiet streets and big trees lying next to the Nodaway River.

History

Founded in the early 1880s, Maitland once had a bustling downtown filled with retail businesses, and vestiges of impressive architecture from that era remain.

It was once known as one of the world's leading bluegrass centers. According to Maitland histories, it had the largest bluegrass yards in the world in 1936 and 1937.

Until 1940, there were four passenger trains and two freight trains daily stopping in Maitland.

A reminder of that era is the old depot, now housing a museum. It has no regular hours, but anyone who would like to see it may contact Lois Derr at 660-935-2332 or Ramona Shields at 660-935-2383.

Park

A city park has playground equipment, picnic tables and barbecue grills.



The Maitland Depot Museum sits on 2nd Street, which also features Farmers State Bank.

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Fishing

The Missouri Department of Conservation has constructed a parking area adjacent to the Nodaway River bridge for public access.

Poor Boys Kwik Stop

A convenience store located on State Hwy. A provides fuel, snacks, homemade pizza, sandwiches, daily specials, beer and liquor.

Nutrition Site

The downtown Tri-City Friendship Center serves a hot noon meal Monday through Friday for residents in the Maitland-Graham-Skidmore area.

Nodaho Bow Hunters

An archery club encompassing both Holt and Nodaway counties features an indoor shooting range located on Maple Street. Regular competition begins in November and tournaments are held through February. The club is open to all ages of archers.

School

A K-6 elementary school is a focus of the town. The Nodaway-Holt School District constructed a \$1.2 million addition to the former middle school in 2000.

Business

American Broadband, Gage's Fertilizer and Grain, Farmers State Bank and Shippo Lawn Care are some businesses which serve Maitland and the surrounding area.

Maitland is at the eastern edge of Holt County, about 14 miles from I-29 (northeast from Mound City), and about 10 miles west of Highway 71.

For more information about Maitland and updates go to www.maitlandmo.com.

St. John's Lutheran Church

A historic church steeped in German heritage located in Corning

Few residents remain in the former booming railroad town of Corning, MO, yet this German settlement just off of I-29 holds a historical and cultural treasure.

The tall spire of St. John's Lutheran Church stretches high above the town as a reminder of generations past, and a beacon to future generations.

During the mid-1800's, settlers began to spread along the Missouri River in north-west Missouri. The United States was seeing as many immigrants from Germany as anywhere else and whole towns were being established with strong German cultures.

In 1839, over 600 Lutheran settlers came to Missouri for greater religious liberty and better economical opportunities. By 1840, settlers from the kingdom of Hanover in Germany had come to the Corning area.

Since religious freedom was so important, early settlers met in homes for services to refresh their spirits. As the numbers began to grow, the need arose for a stable meeting place - a church building.

The year 1860 saw the organization of The Evangelical Lutheran St. John Church and a building was built for \$1,500 near the Missouri River in the timber. It was consequently called, "the church in the timber".

The Missouri River, never predictable, began changing course again in the later 1800's and forced the movement of the original building by rolling it on poles to a new location. The original site of the church passed through the river and is now located either on the Nebraska side or in the river itself.

Meanwhile, the town of Corning was laid out in 1868 and began to grow substantially, especially with the addition of a railroad line, and the church was moved onto a lot in Corning.

In 1888, Rev. J.A. Proft came to Corning to minister to the church. He was known for building churches and when the need was felt for a church, he was active in designing it. In 1893, a building built of locally kiln brick and mortar was dedicated.

The German heritage of Proft and the church members of that time is easily seen and felt within the Gothic style church, built in traditional European Latin-Cross design.

Proft designed the altar-pulpit and baptismal font found in the front of the church and his style and design are evident on the choir/organ loft in the back of the church.

Sometime in the 1930's, the German writing was removed from the front of the church due to unrest in Europe and sentiments toward Germans declining. Yet, in

1943, stained glass windows were added with a vast array of symbolic figures capturing the heart of the German-Lutheran religion.

The church has had very few changes structurally, other than a 1953 addition of a kitchen, auditorium and eventually classrooms.

Some families attending had witnessed four generations married within the church walls. The outstanding efforts of church members to preserve this structure give strength to its significance in Holt County.

Surviving four major floods and the decline of the town and membership, it continued to hold services every few weeks in conjunction with the other Lutheran churches in the county until 2011. After the flood of 2011, the church combined with the 2 other Lutheran churches in the county to hold services in Mound City. St. John's Lutheran Church was officially closed as a congregation in January, 2013, when Holy Trinity Lutheran church was formed.



*St. John's
Lutheran Church
and
Paraschial School
were listed
in the
National Register
of
Historical Places
on
January 4, 2008.*



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Associate Circuit Judge**

**William S.
Richards**

It all started with a stage stop



Mound City, before the streets were paved (sometime before 1914).

Mound City's roots were planted along Davis Creek, where Thomas Ferguson built a double log cabin in 1840 to accommodate travelers passing along "an old Indian trail" along the bluffs.

Ferguson later sold his property to Andrew P. Jackson, and it became a stage stop for an overland line that ran from St. Joseph to Cainsville (now Council Bluffs). Located in an area south of Davis Creek, it became known as Jackson's Point — which became the location of the first post office.

The post office later was named North Point, when Galen Crow — the town's first merchant — moved it north of Davis Creek to a building he had erected. It remained North Point until 1857, when Mound City was laid out and incorporated.

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Sherlyn Sipes, FNP

Mound City Medical Clinic



Samantha Hindupur, DDS

Mound City Dental Clinic



Katie (Gilmore) Lane, FNP

Oregon Clinic

Old State Theater given new life

The State Theater in downtown Mound City brings top quality acts to the rural community.

The State Theater in Mound City is a restored movie theater that is a historical and cultural treasure.

Operated by the non-profit State Theater Arts Council, the theater in downtown Mound City offers programs ranging from classical, bluegrass, jazz, barber shop, big band and swing to community plays, talent shows, art shows, children's programs and Christmas concerts.

The theater enjoys broad local support, and also receives funding from the Missouri Arts Council. It draws quality performers from around Missouri and the Midwest region, who are part of Missouri Arts Council and other arts' group rosters.

Built as a movie theater, the State Theater was used in that capacity for many years. Just days before opening in October 1938, the contractor received telegrams from Hollywood icons, Edward Robinson, Pat O'Brien and Bette Davis, congratulating the owners.

The theater was standing empty and falling into disrepair when the State Theater Arts Council was

formed in the fall of 1988 with the goal of restoring the theater and bringing quality entertainment to the community. With huge amounts of volunteer labor and substantial financial donations, the dream came true, and the theater held a grand re-opening in October, 1989.

The old movie screen was removed, and front row seats were taken out in order to build a stage big enough for performances. Roofing work, new carpeting and paint, and adding light and sound equipment were among other jobs.

Other than the stage, the theater looks much like it did in its early years. The concession stand, lobby, seats and decorative woodwork are the same. After a fund drive, an addition to house dressing areas, costume storage and set construction was completed in 1997. In 2012, the bathrooms were remodeled.

Today, the theater continues to bring entertainment to the community, much as it did in the past.



State Theater in Mound City is home to community plays, musical performances and various other seasonal entertainment.

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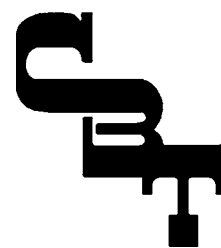
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Mound City Museum

The Mound City Museum is a former railroad depot. It was built in 1921 to replace the original 1880 depot. The Burlington Northern Railroad donated it to the Mound City Museum Association December 31, 1976, and it was listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1978.



A visit to the Mound City Museum will give visitors a glimpse into the lives of early residents. It is chock-full of historical treasures donated or loaned by area families. The building's structural integrity has been preserved and it looks just as it did when it was a depot.

Collections reveal what it was like to cook, do laundry, farm, shop at a general store, and go to school or to the doctor in earlier years. Military memorabilia and turn-of-the-century women's clothing collections are also impressive.

The museum is open for holidays, other special events and for tours. Contact Wava Duncan, board president, at 660-442-3374.



A display of old-fashioned kitchen furnishings and utensils is part of the exhibits in the Mound City Museum.



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Recent updates to McRae Community Center & Waterfowlers Hall of Fame area

The 2012 hunting season saw some extraordinary developments at the Waterfowlers Hall of Fame's (WHOF's) new permanent home in the McRae Community Center in Mound City, MO. A total renovation, modernization and identification for the new home has occurred. There is new signage outside and new displays inside honoring hunters and hunting traditions which allows the new home to offer some insight in the sport, as well as preserving some interesting artifacts.

In addition to the many interesting displays, The Klub restaurant and dining area offers an opportunity for fine dining and camaraderie when in this northwest Missouri location.

The WHOF recognizes that other areas enjoy the waterfowl resource and the value of wetlands as well. It is not a goal to create a competition for other areas to follow and a "who is best and/or who is better philosophy". To truly enjoy nature, a monument does not need to be built. Surprisingly, it is the hunters who have the greatest interest in preserving the resource. The entertainment resource provided by waterfowling activities is not defined by brick and mortar, but rather getting out into the outdoor seasons and enjoying family traditions of not only hunting, and bird watching, but generally communing with nature.

WATERFOWLERS HALL OF FAME MOUND CITY, MO



Along with memorial cabinets, inductees to the Waterfowlers Hall of Fame (WHOF) may also be honored with a bronze plaque displayed in the WHOF area inside the McRae Community Center.

The deep hunting tradition of the region can definitely be soaked up as one walks through the display area.

Waterfowlers Hall Of Fame

The Waterfowlers Hall of Fame (WHOF) was established and copyrighted in 1990. The organization has met with great favor among the many hunters who frequent the area around Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge and the Bob Brown Wildlife Area.

Each November, a small class of honorees are inducted into the hall of fame at the "Welcome Hunters" banquet. This event takes place at The Klub, in the McRae Community Center in Mound City, which is now the permanent home of the Waterfowlers' Hall of Fame. While the entertainment and activities at the dinner may vary from year to year, it is the stories that the inductees tell or others tell about them, that leave a memory and a legacy of the waterfowl resources from this unparalleled area.

The Hall of Fame area within the McRae Community Center is host to personalized display cases recognizing past inductees. These individual displays exhibit waterfowl memorabilia, decoys, calls, pictures, and other personal histories of the honored waterfowlers.

Waterfowlers Hall of Fame is a 501(c) (3) organization. Donations and/or membership to this not for profit organization may be directed to Waterfowlers Hall of Fame, PO Box 68, Mound City, MO 64470, or contact Joe Laukemper at 660-442-3229.

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Holt County is agriculture based

Holt County is home to around 400 farms of various types and approximately 200,000 acres in cropland producing corn, soybeans and other grain crops.

It is one of the top corn and soybean producing counties in Missouri. In 2012, Holt County farmers produced over 3.8 million bushels of soybeans and over 11 million bushels of corn, according to the USDA's National

Agricultural Statistics Service.

In addition to cropland, Holt County is host to livestock farms including beef cattle, hogs, chicken and sheep. Different hay crops are grown and organic farms produce crops and vegetables for sale.

Most businesses located in Holt County are agriculturally based or are directly affected by agriculture, making it a focal point of the community.



Farms have become larger calling for more efficient equipment in planting and harvesting the crops.



Corn grown and sold in Holt County is destined for many products including livestock feed, grocery products and fuel.



Soybeans make up a large percentage of crops grown in Holt County.

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Holt County Historical Society

Preserving the past

A 19th Century farmstead, a 1906 brick schoolhouse, and a 111 year-old church are part of Holt County's past that the Holt County Historical Society (HCHS) owns and is working to preserve. The society was formed in 1972 to preserve the heritage of the county for future generations. Member-



Hinkle Homestead, located south of Fortescue, MO, was the home of John C. Hinkle. His daughter, Alpha Hinkle Ball, lived there her entire life and after her death, the property was given to the society by her grandson and wife, Mark and Cynthia Roupe of Topeka, KS. An 1869 Gothic brick home and a late 1890s four room frame house along with outbuildings and barns provide a historic rural setting.

ships are \$75 lifetime; \$15 annual; and Youth 18 and under \$5 annual.

The two story brick **Fortescue School**, built in 1907 with bricks fired on the site, sits on a spacious five acre site. The property was acquired from Craig R-III School in 1972.

The **Methodist Church** in Fortescue originally was in Craig. After a fire destroyed the Methodist Church in Fortescue, the Craig building was moved there in 1953. Built in 1896, it features beautiful stained glass windows, with room for

programs and activities. It was presented to the HCHS in 1997 when the congregation merged with the Mound City United Methodist Church.

Genealogy materials are located at 612 State St in Mound City, with volunteers there each Wednesday, 9 a.m. until 3 p.m., to assist with research. Obituaries, family histories, photographs, school and military records, along with old newspapers, all offer valuable historical information. For those unable to do their own research, the information will be compiled for a \$15 fee plus cost of copies and postage.

Places of Worship

CRAIG

Craig Presbyterian Church
210 S. West St., Craig, MO

Sharp's Grove United Methodist Church
4.5 miles north of Craig on Hwy. 59

Craig Community Church of the Nazarene
105 S. Ensworth St., Craig, MO

Church of God
205 E. 5th St., Craig, MO

MOUND CITY

Community of Christ
1410 Nebraska St., Mound City, MO

Christian Fellowship
18080 Hwy. 59, Mound City, MO

Holt Trinity Lutheran Church
1413 Nebraska St., Mound City, MO

First Christian Church
402 E. 5th St., Mound City, MO

Mound City Baptist Church
1308 Savannah St., Mound City, MO

Mound City United Methodist Church
312 E. 7th St., Mound City, MO

New Liberty and Big Lake Baptist Churches
County Road 140, Mound City, MO

New Life Apostolic Assembly
307 E. 6th St., Mound City, MO

Benton Church
1/2 mile south of Squaw Creek Truck Plaza

GRAHAM

Graham Union Church
113 E. Jackson St., Graham, MO

Graham United Methodist Church
Intersection of Hwy. A & Taylor St.

MAITLAND

First Christian Church
200 South 4th St., Maitland, MO

Maitland United Methodist Church
217 S. Maple Ave., Maitland, MO

SKIDMORE

St. Oswald's-in-th-Fields Episcopal Church
30996 X Avenue, Skidmore, MO

FILLMORE

The Lighthouse
Exit 65 on I-29, Fillmore, MO

REGIONAL

River of Hope Fellowship
I-29 & Hwy. 159, Mound City, MO

OREGON

St. Patrick's Catholic Church
303 Grand St., Forest City, MO

Oregon Church of the Nazarene
207 W. George St., Oregon, MO

New Point Christian Church
24135 Stone Hill Rd., Oregon, MO

Holt County Historical Society Genealogy Center

612 STATE STREET • PO Box 55 • Mound City, MO
E-mail: holtcountyhs@yahoo.com
For additional information call, 660-442-5949 or email lizb@embarqmail.com or daly@stjoelive.com

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