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# Holt County

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2015-16 VISITOR GUIDE

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Mound City  
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JUNE, 2015 ©

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# Welcome to Holt County, Missouri

*You will quickly find that Holt County, Missouri, has a lot to offer.  
Whether you are traveling through, looking to start a business or move to the area,  
this guide will get you where you need to be.  
Use this page to help navigate through this guide of everything our area has to offer.*

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*Big Lake State Park is a regular summer retreat for many.  
It's a major draw for camping, fishing, boating and picnicking.  
Vacation and permanent homes surround the edge of the lake,  
keeping the population diverse.*

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Mound City

NEWS



*Published and Printed in  
Mound City, Missouri*

## HOLT COUNTY TREASURE OF NORTHWEST MISSOURI

is a 2015 Special Section to the *Mound City News*  
Published at 511 State St., Mound City, MO 64470  
By Holt County Publishing, Inc.

511 State Street, PO Box 175 • Mound City, MO 64470  
(660) 442-5423 • Fax (660) 442-5423

E-mail: [moundcitynews@socket.net](mailto:moundcitynews@socket.net) [www.moundcitynews.com](http://www.moundcitynews.com)



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be picked up at many businesses  
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## So, how did Holt County form?

One of six counties formed in the Indian Platte Purchase Territory, annexed to the state in 1837, Holt County was organized in 1841 and named for State Legislator David Rice Holt. The county's 456 square miles, bounded on the west and south by the Missouri and east by the Nodaway, include Missouri River floodplain, steep river bluffs and high glacial prairie. The Lewis and Clark Expedition, in 1804, camped near the mouth of the Nodaway.

Oregon, the county seat, lying 1,093 feet above sea level, laid out in 1841 by John A. Williams, Edward Smith and Travis Finley, was first called Finley. The courthouse is located in a handsome 2.5 acre plot. No railroad reached Oregon until a short line, now abandoned, was built in 1908.

A divided county during the Civil War, Holt was subjected to brutal guerrilla raids. Modern growth came with the building of the C. B. & Q. Railroad (now the Burlington Northern/Santa Fe {BNSF}) in the county, north to south, in 1869; and northeast to west central in 1879. The county grew as livestock and grain producers and various towns developed in marketing, trading, food processing and shipping centers.

Holt County's first settlers were Peter and Blank Stephenson, 1838. Pioneers were from Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee and Indiana; and a large number of Germans located near Craig and Corning in 1839-41. In the 1840's, Whig Valley, near Maitland, was settled and Jackson's Point (for A.P. Jackson), near Mound City, was a stage stop on the St. Joseph to Council Bluffs route. Mormons, immigrants, and gold seekers of '49 trekked through the county.

Towns platted in 1857 were Mound City, the largest town in the county; and Forest City, once a noted Missouri River port. Bigelow, Corning and Craig were laid out in 1868; New Point and Forbes in 1869; Maitland in 1880; and Fortescue in 1890.

Holt County State Representative John W. Kelly (1800-58) introduced the resolution leading to the 1853 School Law providing the first state tax money for public schools. He was one of the authors of the law often called the Kelly Act. Inventor of the Split-Log Road Drag, David Ward King (1857-1920), lived in Holt County. Charles C. Moore, a native, served as Lt. Governor of Idaho, 1919-1922, and Governor from 1923-1926. In the county are Big Lake State Park and Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge.



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# A glimpse of Holt County's Civil War history...

## The Battle of Blair Hill

(Notes for this article were taken from *The History of Holt County, 1882 & 1917*; and various newspaper articles.)

Blair Lane was a short stretch of road along the bluffs about four miles south of Mound City, in Benton Township. Here the bluff road crossed a bridge in a skirt of timber between the residences of James and Uriah Blair. The road forked here, one prong running south toward Oregon and the other winding south towards Napier and Forest City.

It was early September, 1861. A company of Confederate (Missouri State Guard) soldiers under Captain Hooker from Andrew County and Calvin Calvert of Holt County was in Mound City and the surrounding vicinity. Union soldiers were in Oregon and that vicinity. Holt County residents Daniel Kunkel, Jacob Markt and James Watson joined the Union soldiers near the Gibson farm. Late in the day, both armies advanced toward each other. When the Confederates received word that the Federals were on their way toward them, they halted, and held a council of war. Dismounting, they secured their horses in the brush along the hills, and deployed themselves along the fences at the crossroads, ready to give the Federals a warm reception no matter which road they came down.

The Union army, under the direction of Captain James Swarthout Hart, had mostly gone north by the overland route and had not expected to encounter the Rebels so soon; but the Confederates were ready and waiting and, when the blue coats put in their appearance, began to open fire. The Federals immediately righted about face and formed a line of battle. By that time the Confederates had fired off nearly all their guns and only accomplished showing the Federals where to shoot. The Federals opened fire; and the Confederates made a break for their horses. They ran for miles down across the bottomlands and scattered in every direction. The Federals pursued until it was too dark to give further chase. In spite of the 700-1,000 shots that were fired in the scrap, the only casualty reported was one horse.

While historians may never know the exact regiment or persons involved in the Battle of Blair Hill, it is possible that some of them belonged to the Six Months Missouri Militia or Kimball's Regiment.

### Location of the Battle of Blair Hill:

Benton Township, Range 38, Section 20

From the Atlas of Holt County, Missouri, 1898



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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.



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



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## 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. Migrating eagles leave the refuge in spring and summer returning to lakes and streams in the northern forests.



# 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.

## 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

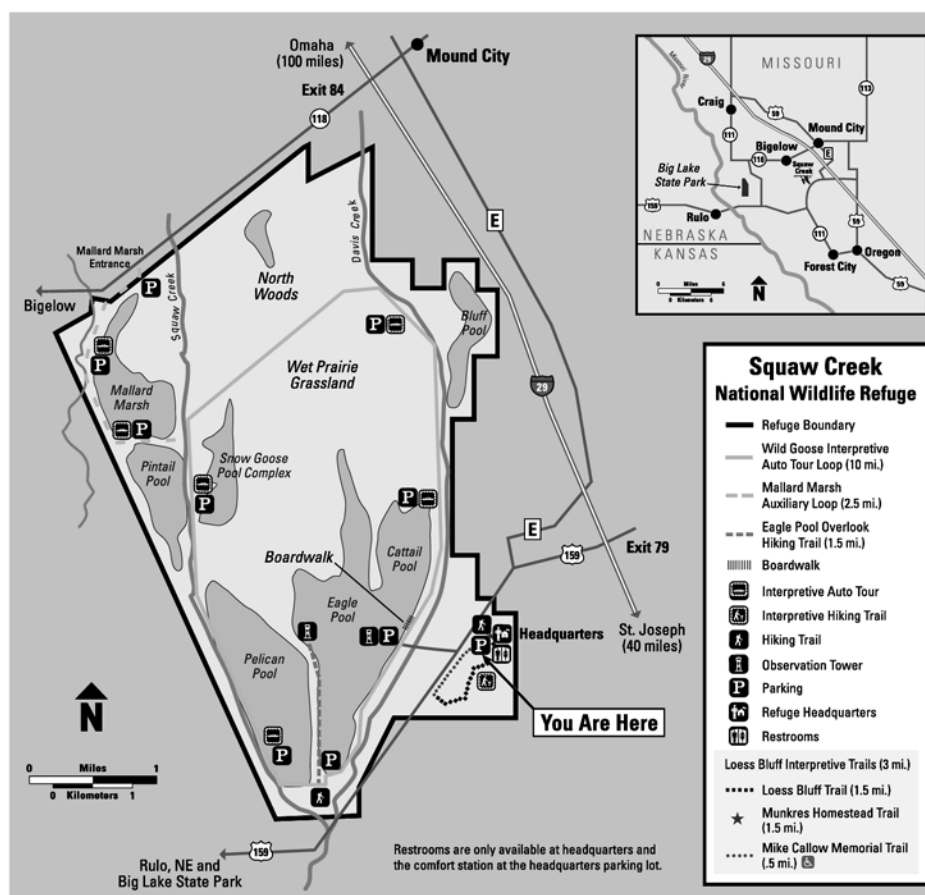
Students come from many areas of the country to do research on plants and animals found on the refuge, including the massasauga rattlesnake. Squaw Creek Refuge is home to the larger of only two populations of these snakes in Missouri.

## 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/](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/squaw_creek/).



## 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.

## **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](http://www.mdc.mo.gov)**



*A boardwalk at Bob Brown Conservation Area.*

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

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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 the 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 Annapolis 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.

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## ***Parks & Pools in Holt County***

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*- Mound City Pool -*

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#### **Griffith Park**

Weightman Rd. and Nebraska St., Mound City, MO

#### **City Hall Park**

205 E. 6th St., Mound City, MO



*- Big Lake Pool -*

### **BIG LAKE**

#### **Big Lake State Park Swimming Pool**

204 Lake Shore Drive, Big Lake (Craig), MO

#### **Big Lake State Park**

204 Lake Shore Drive, Big Lake (Craig), MO



*- South Holt Pool -*

### **OREGON**

#### **South Holt Swimming Pool**

305 E. Spruce St., Oregon, MO

#### **Welty Park**

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*- Paradise Park -*

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## Village of Big Lake - Big Lake State Park



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 Bar & Grill** is located on the east side of Big Lake on Hwy. 111. Offering daily specials and live entertainment, the Prop In is a gathering place for everyone. Open all year.

- The **Lakeshore Grill** is located on the east side of the lake on Hwy. 111. The Lakeshore Grill features daily homemade specials, convenience store items, beer, propane and more. Open April-September.

### 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 LakeFest in June with "lots of fun and good food". A Homes' Tour has also been added to the annual events recently. The Big Lake Improvement Association's website is <http://www.biglakeimprove.com>.

### 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.

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# THERE IS PLENTY TO DO IN HOLT COUNTY

## ANNUAL EVENTS

### FEBRUARY-APRIL

Spring Goose Season - **February-April (Varies)**

### MAY

City-Wide Garage Sales in Mound City  
**Memorial Day Weekend**

### JUNE

City-Wide Garage Sales in Oregon  
**Second Saturday in June**

Mound City Rural Firemen Truck & Tractor Pull  
Western Missouri Summer Nationals  
**Last Weekend in June (Friday & Saturday)**

Big Lake Improvement Association  
**LakeFest**

Forest City Independence Day Celebration  
**Last Sunday in June**

### JULY

Mound City 4th of July Celebration  
**July 4th**

### SEPTEMBER

Market Square Day Flea Market in Mound City  
**Labor Day**

### SEPTEMBER

Holt County Autumn Festival in Oregon  
**Early September**

Missouri's Great Northwest Winefest in Mound City  
**Mid September**

### OCTOBER

Duck Season - **Late October-December (Varies)**

### NOVEMBER

Ducks Unlimited Annual Dinner & Banquet  
**First Saturday in November**

Waterfowlers Hall of Fame Annual Dinner & Banquet  
**Second Saturday in November**

### DECEMBER

Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge Eagle Days  
**First Weekend in December**

Christmas Around the Square in Oregon  
**First Thursday & Friday in December**

Christmas on State Street in Mound City  
**Mid December**



## Holt County Local Government Information Public Service Information

### Holt County Courthouse Information

Kathy Holstine, 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

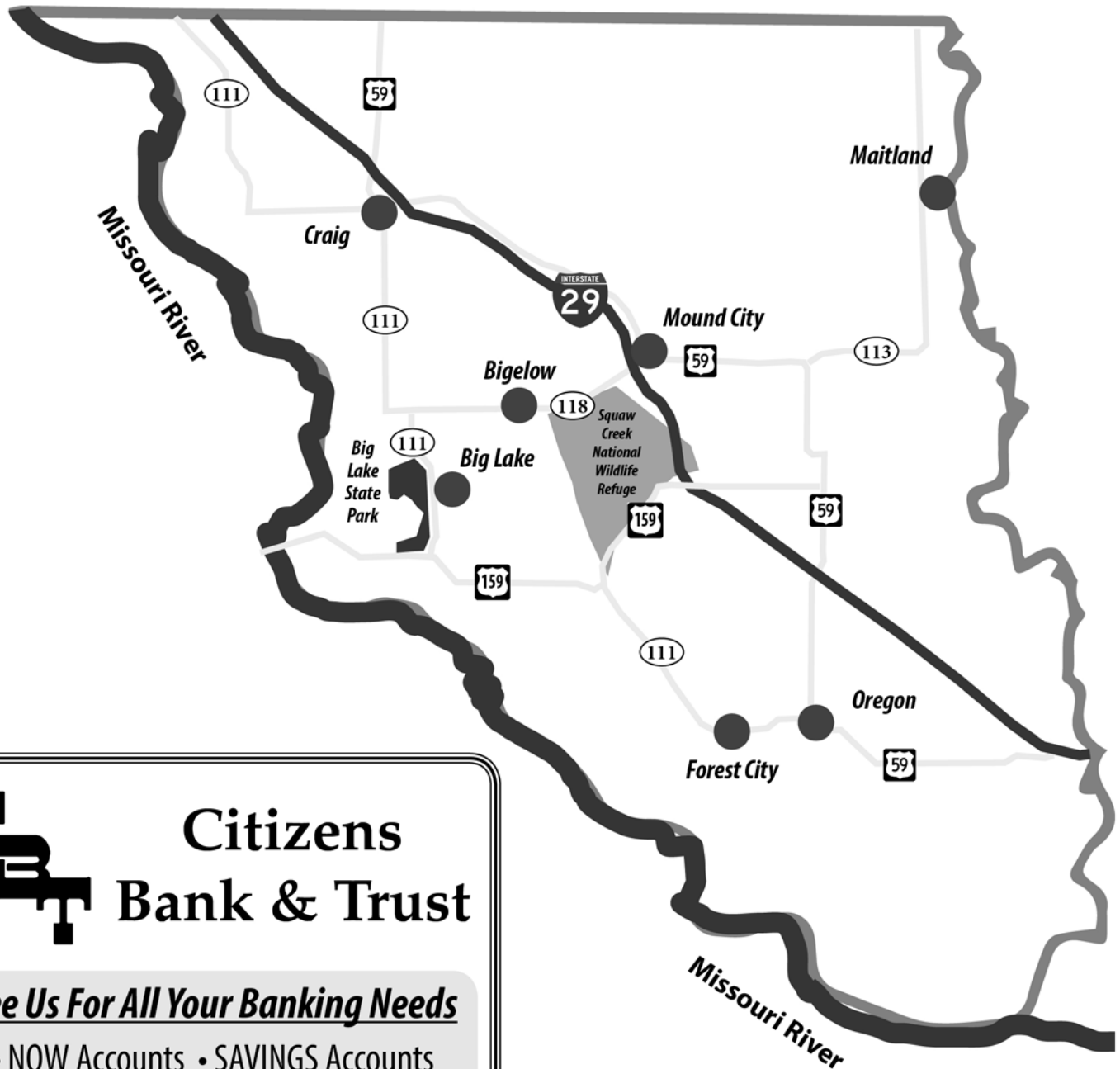
### Holt County Commissioners

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  
Oregon Police Department - 660-446-3668  
Missouri State Highway Patrol (Troop H) - 816-387-2345

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Mound City, MO  
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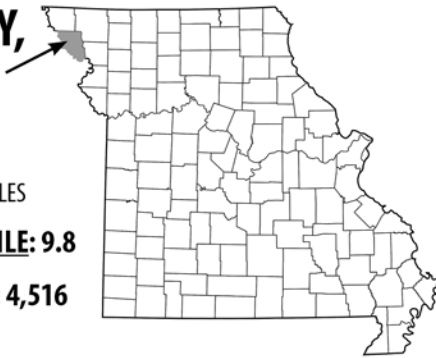
## HOLT COUNTY, MISSOURI

### LAND AREA:

462.69 SQUARE MILES

PERSONS/SQUARE MILE: 9.8

TOTAL POPULATION: 4,516



## 5 LARGEST TOWNS OF HOLT COUNTY

### POPULATION/CITY HALL INFORMATION

#### Mound City, Missouri

Population: 1,068

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

#### Oregon, Missouri

Population: 781

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

#### Maitland, Missouri

Population: 311

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

#### Forest City, Missouri

Population: 254

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

#### Craig, Missouri

Population: 230

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

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

*Based on annual population estimate - 2014*

## DEMOGRAPHICS

TOTAL POPULATION.....	4,516
HOUSEHOLDS.....	2,218
PERSONS PER HOUSEHOLD.....	2.1
POPULATION UNDER 18 YEARS OLD.....	19.9%
POPULATION OVER 65 YEARS OLD.....	22.5%
FEMALE POPULATION.....	51.1%
MEDIAN HOUSEHOLD INCOME.....	\$42,979
PERSONS BELOW POVERTY LEVEL.....	12.3%
PERCENT OF POPULATION WITH HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMA.....	89.7%
PERCENT OF POPULATION WITH BACHELOR'S DEGREE.....	16.2%

*Based on US Census Bureau 2014 estimates.*

## AGRICULTURE INFORMATION

NUMBER OF FARMS.....	408
TOTAL FARMLAND.....	200,337 ACRES
NUMBER OF FARMS 1-9 ACRES.....	13
NUMBER OF FARMS 10-49 ACRES.....	70
NUMBER OF FARMS 50-179 ACRES.....	117
NUMBER OF FARMS 180-499 ACRES.....	99
NUMBER OF FARMS 500-999 ACRES.....	55
NUMBER OF FARMS 1,000+ ACRES.....	54
CROPLAND IN CORN (2012 AG CENSUS).....	68,943 ACRES
CROPLAND IN SOYBEANS (2012 AG CENSUS).....	78,343 ACRES

*Based on 2012 Agriculture Census information found on [www.agcensus.usda.gov](http://www.agcensus.usda.gov)*

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# Mound City

## Know Your Way Around

### 10 Golf

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. 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. The restaurant space was unoccupied as of the date of this publication, however, re-opening was expected soon.

**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 Breadeaux Pizza** recently changed ownership. The restaurant offers pizza, sandwiches, and a pizza and salad buffet on a schedule. The space has been remodeled and offers a nice dining area.

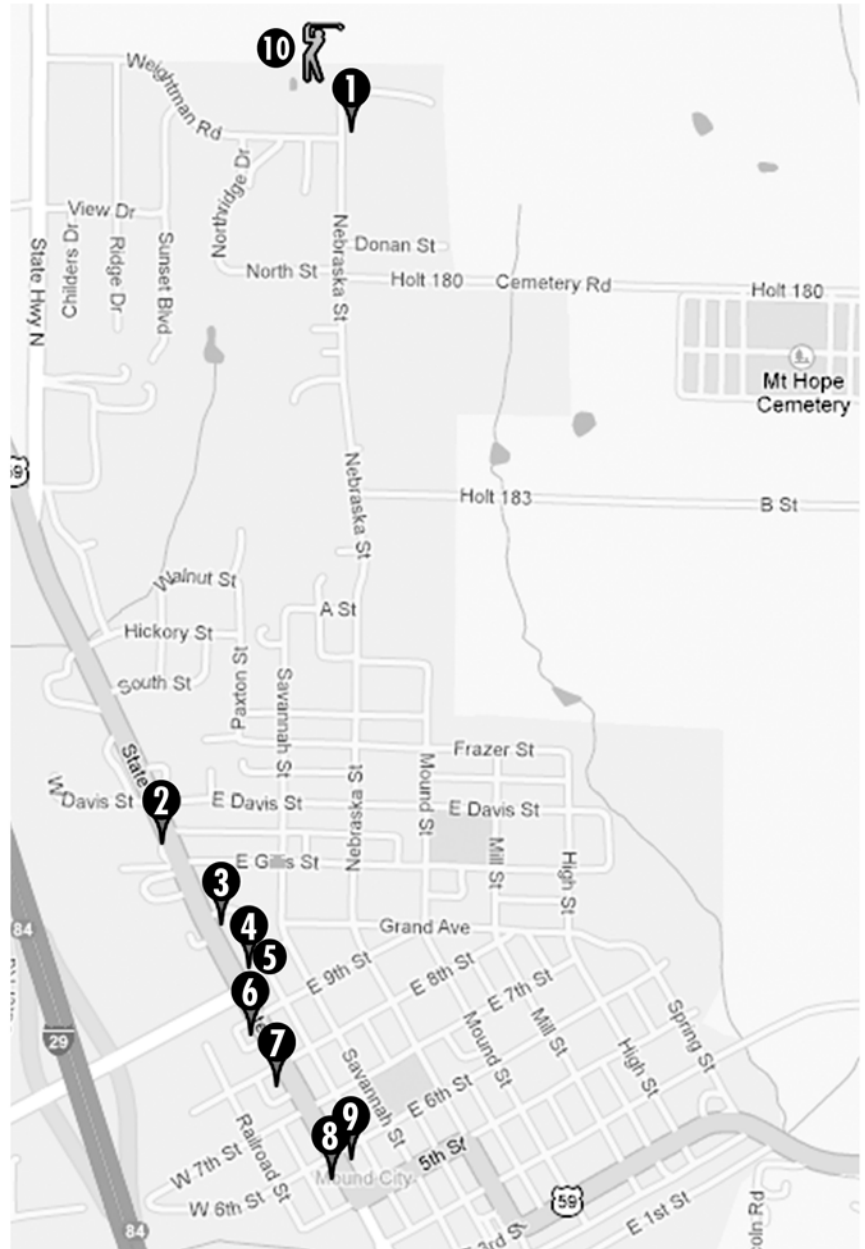
**5 A Subway** sandwich shop adjoins Kwik Zone/Finish Line gas/convenience station.

**6 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.

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

**8 White Rose Restaurant & Gifts** features 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.

**9 Terri's Place**, a downtown bar, offers daily homemade lunch specials along with hamburgers and other sandwiches with a pool table and jukebox. A hometown favorite.



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## *A variety of food and fun all year*

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 1,068, 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 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, public restrooms 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, one block east from downtown.

# *Mound City*

## **Annual Events in Mound City**

### **Memorial Day Weekend**

Mound City Alumni Banquet • City-Wide Garage Sale

### **Last Weekend in June**

Mound City Rural Firemen Annual Truck and Tractor Pull

### **Independence Day**

4th of July Celebration on July 4 Every Year

### **Labor Day**

Market Square Day in Downtown Mound City

### **End of September**

Northwest Missouri Enterprise Facilitation's Annual Wine Fest

### **November**

Ducks Unlimited Annual Banquet (First Saturday)

Waterfowlers' Hall of Fame Annual Banquet (Second Saturday)

### **December**

State Theater's Annual Christmas on State Street

## **Randy Patterson**

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MOUND CITY, MO 64470  
PHONE: 660-442-3814

## More Information

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.

### 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, antiques and home decor items.

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

**Northwest Graphix** offers custom designed apparel, signage and personalized gift items at this corner shop.

**KWIK Zone** is more than a convenience store! Gift items for all occasions and souvenirs are waiting to be purchased here.

**Greg's Jewelry** provides quality items including unique jewelry designs, personalized engraving and custom framing and so much more.

**Hiawatha Implement** is not just an implement store! Stop here for apparel, children's items and specialized home décor.

**Prim & Proper** is a one-of-a-kind primitive shop that offers antiques, primitives, furniture, décor, candles and handmade items.

**Mound City Lumber** not only offers home improvement and construction materials, but one can also purchase outerwear, boots, sporting equipment and outdoor living items.

# Mound City

## Annual Hunting Events in Mound City

### 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

### Research Center

The **Holt County Historical Society Genealogy & Research Center** is located at 612 State Street. Visitors from throughout the United States contact and visit the center to research family history with Holt County roots. For information call 660-442-5949 or email [hchs1972@gmail.com](mailto:hchs1972@gmail.com).

### Nutrition Site

The downtown **Mound City Nutrition Site** serves a hot noon meal Monday through Friday for residents in the Holt County area.



## 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 fundraiser 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.

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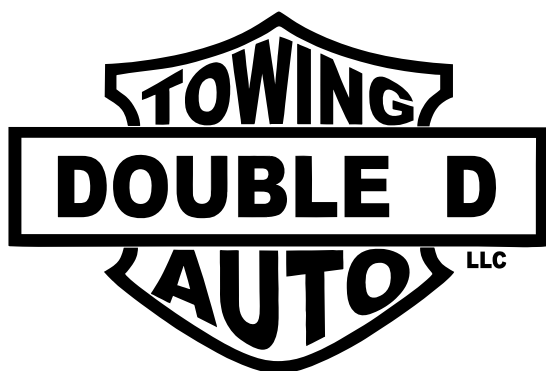
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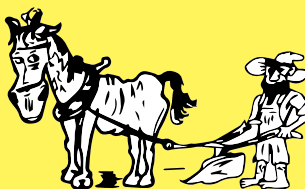
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# 4th OF JULY

## ***Mound City celebrates Independence Day with fun for the whole family***

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.

A fireworks' display, provided by community donations throughout the year, begins at dusk on July 3. Scheduling conflicts with the pyrotechnicians have pushed the show forward to the evening before Independence Day.

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.

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



***2014 4th Blast Fireworks Display • Mound City, MO***

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Mitchell Corbin and Chris Waegle's "Jolly Green Giant" - Pulls the sled down the track on Saturday, June 28, 2014, at the Mound City Rural Firemen's 4th Annual "Rumble by the Refuge" Truck & Tractor Pull.

## Rumble by the Refuge

The annual Mound City Rural Firemen "Rumble by the Refuge" Truck and Tractor Pull is sure to provide exciting entertainment. The June event, which begins at 6:30 p.m. both evenings, is held at the rodeo grounds, one mile west of Mound City on Hwy. 118. The event was held June 26-27, 2015, and in 2016 plans are to hold the event the same weekend. Exact dates change from year to year. Look for local advertising closer to the event.

The 2014 Truck & Tractor Pull, a two-day event, brought over 7,000 spectators over both nights.

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



**Annual**

# MARKET SQUARE DAY

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

## 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 and restaurant. 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 drink, eat and sleep. Cabin rentals that accommodate up to 8 individuals, along with customized hunting packages, draw hunters from throughout the United States to Holt County.

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## A Railroad Town

# Craig

### Of Interest

- Golden Triangle Energy, an ethanol plant, is the biggest employer at about 39 people, with the Craig School, including grades K-12, coming in second employing 28 people.

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.



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

Craig, a town of about 228, 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 is located on Missouri River bottom ground in Northwest Missouri...corn country. The state-of-the art distillation facility operates full scale production of grain neutral spirits. The distillation is believed to be among the elite grain neutral spirits production facilities in the world serving the personal care, food and beverage industry.

### 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.

**Paula's Cafe**, located at 119 S. Main St., is the newest business in town offering daily lunch specials. The cafe is open Monday-Friday for daily lunch specials and is also available for carry-out, private parties and catering.

### Park

Across the street from city hall is a park with playground equipment and picnic tables.



*St. John's Lutheran Church and Parochial School in Corning, MO, was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on January 4, 2008.*



# Oregon

## Annual Events

### Holt County Autumn Festival



*A parade is among several fun events that take place during the Holt County Autumn Festival.*

A festival held on the courthouse square happens the week of Labor Day each year. 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 evenings.

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.

Exhibits are to be in place Thursday morning and judging commences. A watermelon eating contest is held on Friday 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, antique car and tractor show 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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**660-446-2244**

## More Information

### Dining

**275 Grill** just east of downtown on 59 Highway offers daily specials; 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.

### 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.

# Oregon

### Of Interest

- The Carroll Stagecoach Inn, now known as the Costello Farm east of Oregon, was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1983.

- Hurst's Service is the last full service gas station left in the county.

It's located west of the square in Oregon.

- Although the town's population is 793, 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 65 people. The South Holt School District is the second biggest employer, with about 51 people, and county government is next with about 48 employees.

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# Forest City

## History

### *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 258 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

#### 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.

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## Once a river town



*Soda Fountain at the Drug Store Museum*

### Drug Store Museum

Riverbend Extension Company owns and operates the Forest City Drug Store Museum and Soda Fountain located on Commercial Street. This 1859 historic structure reveals the past through classic shelving, apothecary drawers, leaded glass and the original soda fountain. This vintage soda fountain is in working condition and enjoyed by nearly 1,000 visitors each summer. Monthly museum displays and the soda fountain are open to the public each Sunday, noon to 4 p.m., June through August. Private bookings or tours may be arranged by calling 660-446-2003 or 660-446-2873.

### 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.

### Hope House

Hope House is a non-profit organization which operates a thrift shop. For information, call 660-446-2223.

### 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's a busy spot over the lunch hour.

## Forest City



*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, 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.

## Forest City Diner



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Open Tuesday-Sunday  
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# Maitland

Nestled in the middle of rich, rolling farmland, Maitland is a town of about 311 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.

## Fishing

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

## Once known for bluegrass



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

## 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. The Junior High/High School building is in nearby Graham, MO, which is across the Nodaway River in Nodaway County.

## Business

American Broadband, GFG AgriProducts, 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](http://www.maitlandmo.com).



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## Preserving the Past

## Holt County Museum & Research Center

The Holt County Museum and Research Center (HC-MRC) was organized in the spring of 2014. The historic brick First Presbyterian Church in Oregon, built in 1853, was closing due to declining attendance and the building was offered to house the museum in the spring of 2014 and then deeded to the museum in January of 2015.

The museum and research center is located at 102 South Main in Oregon and is located across the street from the Holt County Courthouse. Volunteers are there Sunday afternoon, 1 p.m. until 4 p.m., and Thursday from 10 a.m. until 4 p.m. and by appointment for group tours. It is also open during community events such as City-Wide Garage Sale in June, Holt County Autumn Festival in September and Christmas Around the Square in December. The museum is next door to the T.J. Hall Community Center and can be open for tours for family reunions being held there or in the area.

The museum has many interesting and unique displays about Holt County history and more items are being added weekly. The research area includes old newspapers and photographs, obituaries, historical Holt County publications, school yearbooks, and other research sources.

There are 3 levels of yearly memberships and donations are welcome. The purpose of the Museum and Research Center is to discover, collect, display, preserve, and make historically significant artifacts and records pertaining to Holt County available to the public.

The phone number is 660-446-2903, the email is hcmuseum@ofmlive.net and the mailing address is PO Box 44, Oregon, MO 64473.



*The Historic First Presbyterian Church in Oregon, MO, houses the Holt County Museum & Research Center*



## County seat of Holt County is Oregon

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.

### **HOLT COUNTY MUSEUM & RESEARCH CENTER**

*~ Organized 2014 ~*

**102 South Main • PO Box 44 • Oregon, MO 64473**

**E-mail • hcmuseum@ofmlive.net**

**Phone • 660-446-2903**

**Open: Sunday, 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.**

**& Thursday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.**

## **Holt County Historical Society** *Preserving the Past - Established in 1972*

The Holt County Historical Society was established in 1972 and continues to preserve the history of Holt County. HCHS owns three properties and maintains a genealogy and research center in Mound City. In addition to assisting local residents in the research of their family heritage, the center works with individuals from throughout the United States and Canada. The historic properties owned by the Holt County Historical Society include the Fortescue School, the Fortescue Methodist Church Museum and the John C. Hinkle home at the Ball-Roupe Farmstead.

Genealogy materials are located at 612 State St. in Mound City, with volunteers there each Wednesday, late spring through early fall, to assist with research. Obituaries, family histories, photographs, school and military records, along with old newspapers, all offer valuable historical information.

Memberships are \$75 lifetime; \$15 annual; and youth 18 and under \$5 annual.



**Fortescue Methodist  
Church Museum**

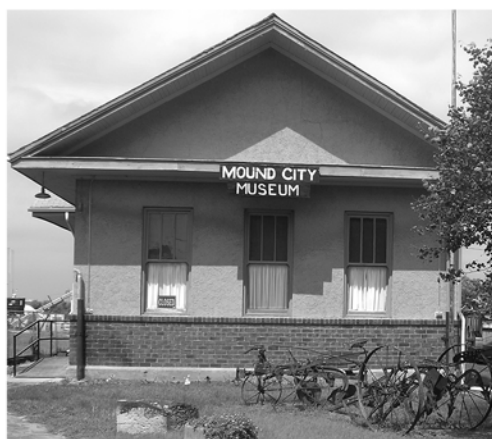


**Ball-Roupe Farmstead  
John C. Hinkle Home**



**Fortescue  
School**

## **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 Cunningham, board president, at 816-387-4009.

### **Holt County Historical Society**

*~ Established 1972 ~*

#### **Genealogy Center**

612 STATE STREET • PO BOX 55 • Mound City, MO  
For additional information, call 660-442-5949 or  
e-mail [hchs1972@gmail.com](mailto:hchs1972@gmail.com)

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# Entertainment continues at State Theater

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



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

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

Visit [www.mcstatetheater.com](http://www.mcstatetheater.com) for information on upcoming shows and events.

### TICKET INFORMATION

#### Individual tickets:

\$15 for adults

\$5 for children 18 years old and under

#### Season Tickets:

\$75 each

(\$15 dollar savings for all 6 shows)

Tickets may be purchased by calling 660-442-5909.

Tickets may also be purchased at the door the day of the performance.

### Support the State Theater

Thanks to the generous support of this community, as well as the neighboring communities, the State Theater Arts Council is able to continually bring quality shows to the State Theater. Not only is this support vital to the success of the programming, but also to the operations and upkeep of this beautiful, historical theater.

Recent projects we have been able to complete thanks to generous donations include remodeling the bathrooms, updating the sound booth and replacing the stage floor.

We ask you to consider giving a gift to secure another 25 years of bringing quality arts and entertainment to our community.

Your continued support is greatly appreciated.

Please consider a gift at one of the following levels:

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**Patron • \$250-\$499**

**Angel • \$500 or above**

Remember, all contributions are tax deductible.

### Contact Information

State Theater Arts Council

PO Box 11, Mound City, MO 64470

660-442-5909

[www.mcstatetheater.com](http://www.mcstatetheater.com)



# WATERFOWLERS HALL OF FAME



Dr. J. Bruce McRae was born in Galt, Ontario, Canada, in 1918. In 1937 he came to Kirksville, MO, to study medicine and graduated from the Kirksville Osteopathic School of Medicine in 1942. After a tour of duty in the Royal Canadian Navy, McRae came to Craig, MO, to take over the practice of Dr. White.

In the fall of 1942, Ben Duggan (the druggist) invited McRae to hunt geese at the north edge of the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge near Bigelow, MO. From that point on he was hooked! Over the next 50 plus years, "Doc" enjoyed goose and duck hunting with a wide variety of both local and visiting hunters.

In addition to his practice of medicine and hunting, "Doc" was involved in a myriad of civic projects which he hoped added to the development, growth, and enjoyment of living in a small farming community.

Some of McRae's projects directly connected to hunting included the annual production of the Welcome Hunters banquet and the

formation of the Waterfowlers Hall of Fame. (WHOF)

"Doc" McRae was very proud to be inducted into the Waterfowlers Hall of Fame in 1995. His death in 1997 prohibited him from seeing the completion of his vision of having the WHOF become a national organization with a museum and offices located in Holt County.

The Waterfowlers Hall of Fame, established in 1990, proudly honors those individuals who have actively displayed sportsmanship and supported or participated in the sport of waterfowl hunting and conservation, in and around the Squaw Creek National Wildlife Refuge.

Millions of waterfowl annually migrate through the Mound City and Squaw Creek area during the fall and spring. Hunters, bird-watchers and conservationists from all walks of life, and from throughout the world, come to Mound City, MO, each year to partake of this treasure. Over the years Mound City has been a "second home" to countless waterfowl

hunters, including professional athletes, national sport show hosts and world champion duck callers. Many of these individuals have been inducted into the Waterfowlers Hall of Fame.

The Waterfowlers Hall of Fame was conceived by "Doc" J. Bruce McRae. Today his legacy, and his dream, is being carried forward by those individuals who share his love and passion for waterfowl, sportsmanship, conservation and everlasting friendship.

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 2014, Holt County farmers produced over 4.8 million bushels of soybeans and over 19 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 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.



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



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

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## *Local vineyard producing grapes on loess bluff soil*

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. Harvest time provides a fun fundraising opportunity.

Currently, the Development Corporation has approximately 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; and Riverwood Winery, Rushville, MO.

In 2009, the first vines held over in the nursery were offered for sale. These rootstock were original cuttings 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, wine or home vintners.

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 Joe Laukemper, 660-491-5439. Current production is sold to Windy Wine Co., where an exclusive "Blushing Mallard" is available from Mound City's local grapes.

# Mound City Development Corporation

**ESTABLISHED 1954**

- Commercial and Residential Development
- Agricultural Management
- Vineyard - Norton, Chambourcin, Frontenac

**PO Box 68, Mound City, MO 64470**  
**mcadc1954@gmail.com**



*Mound City grapes,  
right before harvest.*

# Medical Services



**Community Hospital-Fairfax:** 26136 Hwy. 59, Fairfax, MO • 660-686-2211

**Mound City Family Medicine:** 514 State Street, Mound City, MO • 660-442-3181

**Northwest Health Services:** 1303 State Street, Mound City, MO • 660-442-5464 (Medical) or 660-442-5507 (Dental)

**Tiffany Heights Care Center** (Nursing Home): 1531 Nebraska Street, Mound City, MO • 660-442-3146

**Oregon Care Center** (Nursing Home): 501 South Monroe Street, Oregon, MO • 660-446-3355

**Rogers Pharmacy:** 607 State Street, Mound City, MO • 660-442-3355

**Mound City Chiropractic:** 105 West 6th Street, Mound City, MO • 660-442-3105

**EMERGENCY? DIAL 911**



## Places of Worship



### **MOUND CITY**

**Christian Fellowship**

18080 Hwy. 59, Mound City, MO

**Holy 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 Baptist Church**

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

### **CRAIG**

**Craig Presbyterian Church**

210 S. West St., Craig, MO

**Craig Community Church of the Nazarene**

105 S. Ensworth St., Craig, MO

**Church of God**

205 E. 5th St., Craig, MO

### **BIG LAKE**

**Big Lake Baptist Church**

213 Lake Shore Dr., Big Lake, MO

### **OREGON**

**Oregon United Methodist Church**

100 E. Missouri St., Oregon, MO

**Christian Church**

204 S. Washington St., Oregon, MO

**Woodville Presbyterian Church**

28532 Hwy. B, Oregon, MO

**New Point Christian Church**

24135 Stone Hill Rd., Oregon, MO

### **FOREST CITY**

**St. Patrick's Catholic Church**

303 Grand St., Forest City, MO

**Christian Church**

401 Grand Ave., Forest City, MO

**United Methodist Church**

103 N. Walnut St., Forest City, MO

### **MAITLAND**

**First Christian Church**

200 South 4th St., Maitland, MO

**Maitland United Methodist Church**

217 S. Maple Ave., Maitland, MO

### **REGIONAL**

**River of Hope Fellowship**

I-29 & Hwy. 159, Mound City, MO

## Libraries in Holt County

### Mound City Public Library

207 E. 6th Street, Mound City, MO 64470  
660-442-5700

### Oregon Public Library

103 S. Washington St., Oregon, MO 64473  
660-446-3586

## Schools in Holt County

### 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

#### District Information (2013-14)

District Square Miles.....169.81  
Total Enrollment (K-12).....253  
Total Number of Employees.....51  
Total Annual Payroll.....\$1,491,336  
Annual Education Cost Per Student.....\$12,005  
Assessed Valuation.....\$31,347,399  
Tax Levy.....\$3.7494/\$100 in assessed valuation

### MOUND CITY R-II

Superintendent - 708 Nebraska St. - 660-442-3737  
Elementary - 708 Nebraska St. - 660-442-5420  
High School - 708 Nebraska St. - 660-442-5429

#### District Information (2013-14)

District Square Miles.....121.49  
Total Enrollment (K-12).....280  
Total Number of Employees.....47  
Total Annual Payroll.....\$1,598,200  
Annual Education Cost Per Student.....\$10,404  
Assessed Valuation.....\$29,879,961  
Tax Levy.....\$4.1652/\$100 in assessed valuation

### 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

#### District Information (2013-14)

District Square Miles.....203.76  
Total Enrollment (K-12).....230  
Total Number of Employees.....43  
Total Annual Payroll.....\$1,910,591  
Annual Education Cost Per Student.....\$10,622  
Assessed Valuation.....\$26,070,780  
Tax Levy.....\$4.4182/\$100 in assessed valuation

### CRAIG R-III

Superintendent - 402 Ward Street - 660-683-5351  
Principal - 402 Ward Street - 660-683-5431

#### District Information (2013-14)

District Square Miles.....121.28  
Total Enrollment (K-12).....66  
Total Number of Employees.....28  
Total Annual Payroll.....\$1,059,958  
Annual Education Cost Per Student.....\$21,811  
Assessed Valuation.....\$24,591,512  
Tax Levy.....\$4.7300/\$100 in assessed valuation

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EVERYTHING  
We do... We bring the  
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(Only 7% of hospitals rated received 5 stars)



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(660) 686-2211 | [www.FairfaxMed.com](http://www.FairfaxMed.com)

**Community Hospital**  
Fairfax



**POLE BARN HOMES**

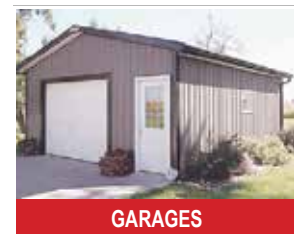


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108 W. 7th St. | Mound City, MO | (660) 442-5416

**MOUND CITY**  
LUMBER



*WHOF Inductees may be honored with cabinets filled with hunting memorabilia or with bronze plaques on the wall of the Hall of Fame area.*

**North End of Nebraska Street in Mound City, MO**  
**<http://www.waterfowlershalloffame.com>**

**Waterfowlers Hall of Fame Annual Induction Banquet and Dinner**  
**Second Saturday in November**  
**The McRae Community Center/Waterfowlers Hall of Fame building**  
**North End of Nebraska St., Mound City, MO**