Knox Community Hospital is a community-owned, 99-bed, not-for-profit hospital located in Mount Vernon, Ohio (approximately 40 miles north east of Columbus). Knox Community Hospital is accredited by The Joint Commission.
Anyone who has traveled through Mohican Country on Wally Road amidst swirling dust and gravel pinging off the floorboards is in for a surprise, and a much smoother ride, on their next visit.

Wally Road in Knox County finally received an asphalt surface in 2017, decades after the vision of locals opened the area’s natural beauty to camping, canoeing, horse-back riding and other outdoor activities. The road’s resurfacing has done away with a long-standing complaint of visitors, who had to deal with the dust and mud of a gravel road while en route to their favorite Mohican destinations.

Bill Conrad, a Wally Road resident, proponent of development of the Mohican area and member of the Wally Road Scenic Byway Association, said that the road's old gravel surface was a turn off to visitors for years.

“The road was always a deterrent, no one would send (tourists) down Wally Road because of the gravel and dust,” Conrad said. This was harmful to the county in terms of lost tourism revenues, Conrad said, and to the businesses that line the road.

Conrad said the businesses along the road were developed by individuals “with vision.” Their vision has led to Wally Road being the largest outdoor recreational complex in Ohio, Conrad said. In addition to camping, water craft recreation and equestrian opportunities, Conrad said Wally Road has seen restoration of historic properties and hosts several festivals a year.

Wally Road is a designated scenic byway, running parallel to the Mohican River. The byway and the many campgrounds and canoe livers that line it have been hailed as Ohio's largest outdoor recreational complex. The area is home to the annual Great Mohican Pow-Wow and Mohican Bluegrass Festival.

Wally Road passes through the 4,525-acre Mohican State Memorial Forest and 1,110-acre Mohican State Park. The area was sculpted 12,000 years ago by glacial activity, and has been appreciated for its natural beauty for generations. The Walhonding Valley Railroad once ran through the area, and passengers appreciated the scenery as the trains wound through the hills. There are several restored structures and other points of historic interest along the byway and in the Mohican parks.

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For more information call 1-800-837-5282 • visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org • info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
Welcome to Knox County

Explore, Engage, and Enjoy Knox County and all our wonder. Nestled in the Heart of Ohio you will find many an activity for all to enjoy. Knox County offers everything from hiking, biking, water trails, theater, arts, camping, luxury hotels and B&Bs to history, adventure, and more. There isn’t anything you are looking for that can’t be found if you look in the right place. In this 23rd edition of the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau’s KnoxWays Experience Guide, with nearly 1.6 million copies distributed since 1996, you will find information for every attraction, destination and community in the county.

The Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau is debuting several projects in 2018 that include the use of icons to aide travelers as they search for things to do in Knox county. There are currently eleven icons that include biking, restaurants, information, lodging, parking, picnic areas, restrooms, trails, hiking, waterways, and wheelchair access. The traveler will see these icons used throughout the KnoxWays Experience Guide and other printed materials that could include maps or brochures, a way finding signage program that will be released in the spring of 2018 throughout Knox County, and a new website that will be released in the first quarter of 2018. These icons will aid the traveler with a visual resource to quickly find what they are looking for.

For further visitor information and up-to-date event schedules, please visit our website at www.VisitKnoxOhio.org, or call 740 392-6102 or toll-free at 1-800-837-5282 and let the Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau help you plan your next get away, meeting, convention, or social event. Like us on Facebook at Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau to stay up to date on Knox County events and news. If you are in the area and need visitor information, stop by our Visitor Information Center located in the Harvest@TheWoodward, the local foods store at 105 S. Main St., in downtown Mount Vernon, open weekdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., and Saturdays 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Thank you for your interest in Knox County. We look forward to your visit!

Pat Crow
Executive Director

Sandy Crow
Tour Coordinator

Justin Bauer
Marketing Director

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Wolf Run Regional Park is a lush, wild Knox County park, consisting of 288 acres of land, and many different ecosystems, including forests, trails, fields, wetlands and more. Both locals and tourists are invited to enjoy a relaxing picnic, hike through 10 miles of trails, or go fishing in Wolf Run Pond or the Kokosing River. Bird watching and photography are also encouraged while exploring the trails or Marshall Meadow, a large prairie area that is home to countless purple coneflowers and Black-eyed Susans.

Within Wolf Run Park, near the parking lot located at 17621 Yauger Road, is a Bark Park, where dogs can roam leash-free and socialize in a gated space of nearly two acres. Inside the Bark Park is a structure known as Jade’s Place which is a dog-agility course where four-legged friends can climb ramps, jump through hoops and tunnel through tubes.

According to Lori Totman, Knox County Parks District Director, the Bark Park has recently installed designated areas for dogs of different sizes to play in: One for small dogs, weighing 30 pounds and under; and one for large dogs, 30 pounds or more.

No eating or drinking is allowed in any area of the Bark Park; children under 12 are not permitted to enter without adult supervision and every dog must be cleaned up after by its owner.

During white-tailed deer bow hunting season, ranging from late September into early February, members of the community may participate in bow hunting on the park’s grounds. Individuals must have proper permits and receive permission from the Knox County Parks District before bow hunting at Wolf Run.

For more information about Wolf Run Regional Park, visit www.knoxcountyparks.org/parks/wolf-run-regional-park/.

The Knox County Park District maintains multiple access points to the Kokosing and Mohican Rivers.

Recreational users of water trails can put in watercraft, swim or fish at 12 access points. The Mohican water trail’s 27.5 miles can be accessed at the Greer Landing, on Brinkhaven Road, and at the Bridge of Dreams, off Hunter Road.

The Kokosing can be accessed at 10 points in Knox County; beginning in Riverside Park off Greenwood Avenue in Mount Vernon; Memorial Park in Mount Vernon off Mount Vernon Avenue; Lower Gambier Road Access off Ohio 229; Laymon Road/Gambier Road in Gambier; Big Run Road next to the Old Big Run Road bridge; Pipesville Road south of Howard; U.S. 62 near Howard Road/Township Road 88; Riley Chapel Road; Newcastle Township Road 366/423 bridge at the confluence of the Mohican and Kokosing; and Zuck Road, near Howard.

A class 3 rapids is located between Howard Road/Township Road 88 and Riley Chapel Road.

A float down both rivers offers scenic views of woodlands and sandstone cliff formations. The Kokosing is well-known for bass fishing.

Safety notices, as well as additional information on access points, can be found on the Knox County Park District website, knoxcountyparks.org.

Greer, Lower Gambier Road, Lehman Road and Big Run Road provide easy access to the river, with parking areas that allow vehicles to back up to the river for launching watercraft.

Optimal conditions for the Kokosing and Mohican Water Trails is a flow rate of 300 cubic feet per second. That gives the best depth and speed for watercraft. The flow rate can be found by clicking on the Ohio map, then selecting flow table, at the USGS’s water watch page online, waterwatch.usgs.gov.

More information about Kokosing and Mohican water trails can be found at knoxways.info and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources’ website, watercraft.ohiodnr.gov/watertrails.

For more information call 1-800-837-5282 • visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org • info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
Higher education and private investment have driven revitalization of Main Street in downtown Mount Vernon.

The unique combination, which has seen old retail stores become classrooms and offices, has resulted in $37 million in investment since 2010 in downtown, said Jeff Harris, president of the Area Development Foundation of Knox County. Outside of the Woodward Opera House project, which is eligible for historic preservation tax credits, there have been no local or state incentives offered for the development projects, Harris said.

“There have been virtually no incentives other than a desire to support downtown Mount Vernon,” Harris said. “Any one of these groups could have chosen to go with a greenfield site and build new. These are deliberate decisions to reinvest back into downtown.”

The investment has mostly been along a three-block area of South Main Street, which represents about half of the city’s historic downtown area. Retail establishments and restaurants still operate from the old storefronts, but have as neighbors the Knox Campus of Central Ohio Technical College, Mount Vernon Nazarene University’s Buchwald Center and Hunter Hall, and Knox Community Hospital’s three-story offices in the old Hull building.

Many of the renovated buildings were moving toward, or where in, a state of disrepair. The Buckeye Candy building, long a landmark in Mount Vernon, is preserved with its brick arches intact as the Kenyon College Wright Center. After sitting empty on the south end of town for years, it now houses Kenyon’s film studies program and is home to the SPI Spot, a discovery center for children where science and play intersect.

Partnerships are behind a lot of the new development. Local non-profits and organizations have a hand in several of the renovation projects. The Wright Center is a good example; it was funded through the Ariel Foundation, Community Foundation of Mount Vernon & Knox County and Kenyon College, and gave the SPI Spot a new home in fully updated, modern facilities.

MVNU has a long history with development in downtown, starting with the renovation at the Uhlman’s Department Store buildings. The Grand Hotel was built by MVNU on the corner of Public Square and South Main, the site of the former Curtis Inn.

MVNU announced plans to renovate the former J.C. Penny building in 2017, after the building’s last tenant, an antique mall, shut down. It will house MVNU’s engineering program, as well as a maker’s space. The maker’s space will feature a workshop and tools, including a 3-D printer, available to the community for a small monthly membership fee.

The Hull building was renovated by Knox Community Hospital as the Hull Business Center. It too had fallen into disrepair and needed extensive renovation. KCH worked old features of the building into the design where possible, using exposed brick walls and old woodwork. Old newspapers and bottles discovered on-site are displayed throughout the building.

The old buildings have the advantage of already being connected to utilities. However, the builder must also work within the confines of the existing structure and public streets.

The stresses inherent with a building that has stood for more than a century also must be addressed.

The J.C. Penny building lends itself well to renovation. It is of cement block construction reinforced with rebar. Other buildings, like the Buckeye Candy building, needed more extensive renovations.

A visit to Mount Vernon is not complete without taking in these buildings. They represent the commitment of a community to its historic downtown.
Kick off the Christmas season and enjoy a great afternoon in downtown Mount Vernon on Sunday, Nov. 25, with the annual Main Street Mount Vernon Christmas Walk and Parade.

Starting officially at 1 p.m., residents and visitors will head for the area along Main Street from Public Square to the Kokosing River. People will shop at locally-owned stores and enjoy many family-friendly activities along the way. The activities are free, offered through the generosity of local contributors.

Children can enjoy pony rides and the Christmas Train. There may be animals to visit, roasted chestnuts to try, merchants will be offering special deals and sale prices along with festival snacks and drinks to keep their customers filled with spirit and good cheer, making your afternoon even more enjoyable.

Between downtown merchants and The Jingle Bell Marketplace, guests may even get their Christmas shopping done early and be free to enjoy the rest of the season.

At 2:30 p.m., the highlight of the afternoon gets underway as attention turns from the party on Main Street to the annual Christmas Parade, organized by the Mount Vernon News, makes its way through the crowd and up main street to the square. With floats, bands and creative entries depicting the year's special theme, the parade provides a fun escort for Santa Claus to greet the season at his house on Public Square.

The day is capped at 5 p.m. with “Caroling for Christ” on the square and featuring lively tunes by the Walhonding Rube Band. This leads up to the official lighting of the city’s Christmas tree and decorations as night falls, bringing light to the square and the season.

The Christmas Walk is sponsored by Main Street Mount Vernon. For more information about the Christmas Walk and Parade and Main Street Mount Vernon, go to www.VisitDowntownMountVernon.com.
Consisting of 250 acres of repurposed land and structures, Ariel Foundation Park, 10 Pittsburgh Ave., Mount Vernon, is a center of attractions for many event planners, cyclists, anglers, bird-watchers, photographers and nature lovers in Knox County.

“It’s a passer’s park; there’s no play equipment out there,” David Carpenter, Superintendent of the Knox County Parks District, said. “It’s a place for people to go to walk or just enjoy quiet time.”

The grounds, much of which were formerly occupied by the Pittsburgh Plate Glass factory, consist of flourishing woodlands, meadows, bike trails, walking paths, terraces, three lakes created from old gravel quarries, and several buildings created from recycled PPG remains, known as The Ruins.

Also created from utilized PPG remnants are the Rastin Observation Tower (which overlooks the entire park) the Community Foundation Pavilion, the Urton Clock House and the Schnormeier Event Center.

According to Carrie Haver, executive director of the Foundation Park Conservancy, Ariel-Foundation Park has “five rentable venues for class reunions, family picnics, wedding receptions and other occasions.”

The Schnormeier Event Center, the biggest rentable building, is an open structure that hosts many large events, such as weddings, parties, reunions and concerts throughout the year.

Popular events on the schedule for 2018, Haver said are:
• July 4th fireworks and the Chicao cover-band, Beginnings, among other activities.
• A McGuffy Lane concert, tentatively scheduled for July 20. The 2017 concert attracted a crowd of 3,000 people.
• Cumberland Run concert on Aug. 4;
• Gospel Day;
• Children’s’ Concert with the Knox County Symphony; and
• Rastin Challenge August 2018.

For more information about Ariel-Foundation Park, scheduled events, park features or to rent a building for an event, log on to www.arielfoundationpark.org.
When the Cleveland, Akron and Columbus Depot opened in 1907, passengers lined up to buy tickets, freight and mail were shipped in and out of town.

Today, where trains once pulled up to the station, bicyclists pause, having ridden north on the Heart of Ohio Trail or south on the Kokosing Gap Trail. There are restrooms, water, local travel and tourism information and a place to simply take a little break.

Because of its convenient location, it’s also being used as a staging area for bicyclists, where they can park and head either direction on the trails. Eventually, a loop going underneath the Viaduct will provide a final link between the Kokosing Gap and Heart of Ohio trails and relieving bicyclists of the need to cross Ohio 13/South Main Street at a traffic light.

Space at the depot is also available to rent for meetings or receptions.

A path that loops down by the Kokosing River links the depot to the Lakes area of Ariel-Foundation Park.

An electronic message board has been installed near the depot where it can be seen by traffic on South Main Street, which advertises upcoming events at Ariel-Foundation Park.

Also on the depot grounds is the replica of the home Daniel Decatur Emmett lived in the last years of his life. The site was formerly occupied by a home that was thought to be the birthplace of Emmett, but when that structure was gutted by fire, additional research indicated it was not old enough to have been his birthplace, so it was decided to reproduce his last home, of which pictures are available.
Knox County has two officially designated Scenic Byways that will carry you through some of the prettiest country around. But don’t confine yourself to those roads, or you’ll miss much of what the county has to offer.

Starting at Utica, the two official Byways carry you east and north into Amish Country and into Mohican Country.

Ohio 62 from Utica to Brinkhaven is known as the Gateway to Amish Country. It will carry you through Martinsburg, Millwood and Danville, before coming to Brinkhaven on the verge of entering Holmes County. It is there you will find the Bridge of Dreams, the longest covered trail bridge in Ohio.

U.S. 62 passes through scenic open farmland, with picturesque Amish farms intermixed with modern farming operations.

Along the way as you approach the heart of Amish country in Holmes County, the traveler will find attractions, including Amish bakeries, furniture stores and fruit and vegetable stands.

At Millwood, a stop at Honey Run Highlands Park is well worth the time. A unique waterfall and geological formations with an interesting plant population provide the setting for a pleasant walk along a creek flowing to the Kokosing River.

The Honey Run Highlands portion of the park features areas that were once farmed and fields that are maintained as open prairie, providing homes to plants and wildlife common to that habitat.

At Danville, you can take Ohio 514, which is also part of the Gateway to Amish Country. Take that until you get to the vicinity of Greer and look for Wally Road, which follows the Mohican River north to Loudonville.

For many years, much of Wally Road in Knox County was gravel, but it was paved in 2017.

Danville is also a convenient place to unpack your bicycles. The Kokosing Gap Trail winds south and west through Gambier and into Mount Vernon to meet the Heart of Ohio Trail, which will carry you on to Centerburg. Or, the Mohican Valley Trail will carry you across the Bridge of Dreams into Holmes County.
Knox County is rich in local performing arts and theater productions.

**Chautauqua**

Chautauqua events, presented year-round at the newly-remodeled historic Woodward Opera House Theater, provide the Knox County community with rich, educational and entertaining presentations about the lives of numerous historical figures.

Talented local performers bring history to life with their portrayals of celebrities, war heroes, musicians, writers, Founding Fathers and more. Each performance is about 45 minutes long and is followed by a question-and-answer period with the audience.

**MTVarts**

For nearly 13 years, MTVarts volunteers have been producing musicals, plays and dinner theater productions using the talents of community members and individuals in surrounding counties.

The Alcove Dinner Theater, run by executive producer and artistic director Bruce Jacklin, is a partner of MTVarts. In addition to comedian acts and cabarets, the theater performs four large dinner-theater productions each year.

For more information, visit www.mtvarts.com/

**Mount Vernon Players**

The oldest community theater organization in Knox County is The Mount Vernon Players, formed in 1964. It has created more than 180 productions, using local talent of all ages and experience levels, from big-name musicals to locally-written plays.

**Orange Barrel**

Orange Barrel Production Co. is a Mount Vernon youth theater that provides children and adults with educational and cultural experiences through theater. Many OBPC productions are performed at the Mount Vernon Development Center and the Knox County Memorial Theater.

For information, visit www.ohiodrama.com.

**Right Brain Productions**

Community members can participate in many forms of artistic performance, including plays, music ensembles and mime performances, all activities that stimulate creativity and imagination.

For information about 2018 productions, visit www.rightbrainarts.com.

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Gambier is a hub of recreation and education. The small town is well known as the home of Kenyon College, a private, liberal arts school. However, public opportunities to learn and explore nature abound in Gambier.

The Brown Family Education Center offers programs focusing on nature and the environment. These family-friendly activities run year-round with special events in summer, fall and winter.

The BFEC is surrounded by a 480-acre nature preserve with nine miles of trail that is open to the public.

The Knox County Park District maintains an access point to the Kokosing River near the BFEC.

Where the 14-mile Kokosing Gap Trail winds through Gambier sits Engine 63, a retired 1940 American Locomotive Company locomotive. The engine and its coal car sit on a short length of track, coupled to a flatcar and a red 1924 Chesapeake & Ohio caboose. The conductor’s area is accessible to the public, displays some of the original equipment, while there be sure to ring the locomotive’s bell.

The Kokosing Gap Trail runs west to Mount Vernon and north-east to Danville. The Trail connects to Gambier’s Community Center Park through a path to Meadow Lane. The park features a playground, baseball fields and picnic area.

A dog park, established in 2007 at Community Center Park, features an enclosed area where dogs can romp off-leash.

South Park is centered by “Understorms,” a sculpture by a Kenyon art instructor and village resident.

Downtown itself is pedestrian-friendly. Middle Path runs right through the business district. The small town features

---

**Brown Family Environmental Center**

at Kenyon College

Connecting people with nature. Conserving natural diversity.

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* Nature trails
* Native plant garden
* Programs for adults & children

9781 Laymon Road | 740-427-5050 | bfec.kenyon.edu

Follow S.R. 229 four miles east of Mt. Vernon, turn right on Laymon Road

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shops and several restaurants. Gambier retains the feel of a small-town from days gone by in its gas station and post office. However, Kenyon College is renovating or rebuilding many buildings along Middle Path.

In addition to the Kenyon campus, notable architecture in the village includes the 1862 Quarry Chapel, which is made from local sandstone and features stained-glass windows. The 19th century Finn House is an exceptional survival of the building style known as Steamboat Gothic. It still displays the gingerbread molding distinctive to the gothic style.

For more information, visit www.villageofgambier.org

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“A place where you will always be a welcomed friend”

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Games, puzzles, toys, chocolate, greeting cards, art supplies and, of course, books.

**The Kenyon College Bookstore**

106 Gaskin Ave • Gambier

Kenyon College welcomes visitors to Knox County. Come tour our historic campus, often called one of the nation’s most beautiful. Visit us on the web at [www.kenyon.edu](http://www.kenyon.edu) and check the calendar for concerts, lectures, plays, sporting events, and other happenings on campus—most of them free and open to the public.
The Alcove Restaurant, located at 116 S. Main St., is the oldest restaurant in Mount Vernon. When it opened as an ice cream shop in 1911, it was the first of its kind in the area to stay open year-round.

Today, the restaurant entertains guests with a refined menu and a dinner theater that showcases plays both classic and contemporary. Having finished a major remodeling in 2017, the restaurant is as elegant as ever.

The Alcove is open from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. on Monday through Thursday, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. and from 5 p.m. to 10 p.m. on Friday, and from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. on Saturdays. For more information, call 740-3292-3076, or visit www.alcoverestaurant.com.

Indian Bear Winery, located at 3483 McCament Road in Walhonding, is now open on Fridays from 3 p.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturdays from 12 p.m. to 10 p.m. With a full food menu added to the winery last year, and craft beer recently added as well, guests can now enjoy dinner and a beer before indulging in one of the various wine selections offered.

The winery has its own vineyard for its estate-bottled Ohio variety wines that come in both red and white selections, and they also serve sweet and semi-sweet fruit wines.

Reservations can be made by calling 740-507-3322, and for more information, visit www.indianbearlodge.com.

The Kenyon Inn & Restaurant, located at 100 W. Wiggin St. in Gambier, is the perfect place for an elegant meal and cocktails, which start at 4 p.m. every day. Sunday brunch is served from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. and offers choices such as eggs benedict and pumpkin french toast.

With beautiful scenery, an historic atmosphere, and with delicious meals served at breakfast, lunch, and dinner, the Kenyon Inn is sure to impress. And don’t forget to order one of the in-house prepared desserts. For more information, call 740-427-2202 or visit www.kenyoninn.com to check out their menu and events.

Parkside Restaurant and Tavern, located at 108 Mount Vernon Ave., Mount Vernon, brings a diverse set of tastes to Mount Vernon with its mix of classic meals and Southeast Asia-inspired dishes. Owners Kate Aryanata and Anak Agung Aryanata work well to manage both the business and kitchen sides of the restaurant, providing quality service and delicious food to customers.

With menu offerings such as a classic burger, fries and beer to more adventurous offerings such as Basil Fried Rice or Fat Yogi Stir Fry, there is something to suit everyone’s tastes. Hours are Monday to Thursday, 11 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Friday to Saturday from 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, call 740-326-6626 or visit www.theparksiderestaurant.com.

Pizza Dock, located at 92 S Main St. in Fredericktown,
serves award-winning pizza and is locally owned and operated. They boast a 15-mile delivery radius, with deliveries within 3 miles free, and they have designated pick-up locations for anyone outside of their 15-mile delivery radius as well.

Pizza Dock also has garlic bread, baked spaghetti, stromboli, and other delicious foods on their menu to choose from. They are open 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday; 11 a.m. to 12:30 a.m., Friday; 4 p.m. to 12:30 a.m., Saturdays; 4 p.m. to 11 p.m., Sundays; and they are closed Mondays. For more information or to order, call 740-694-1555.

Southside Diner, located at 620 S. Main St., Mount Vernon, is sure to entertain and delight with its blast-from-the-past decor. Highlighting the 1950s and 60s, the restaurant features records and record covers, old movie posters, signs, games and toys from previous decades.

The menu has a wide variety to choose from, including the classic burger and fries — and even treats like Frost Top Root Beer. There are also daily lunch and dinner specials. The restaurant is well-known locally for its desserts and home-baked cookies. Hours are Monday through Saturday, 5:45 a.m. to 8 p.m., and Sunday, 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. For more information, call 740-392-1282.

The Village Inn, located at 102 Gaskin Ave. in Gambier, offers over 20 different sandwich and burger options, multiple flavors of quesadillas, and even soups, salads, pasta and wings. Starters and snacks such as portobello fries, fried calamari, or spinach artichoke dip add something extra to your main dish as well. The Village Inn also has a bar with draft beers, bottled beers, wine and more.

Kitchen hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. For more information, call 740-427-2112 or visit www.villageinn gambier.com.

Watts Restaurant, located at 77 S. Main St. in Utica, is a century-old establishment that provides quality, home-cooked meals and desserts. Originally opened in 1912 by Herbert Watts and his mother, Mary Ellen, the restaurant changed ownership in 2015 to Roger McCoy and Myron Coblentz — who also own Southside Diner and Athens Greek Restaurant.

The menu offers good-for-the-soul comfort food such as roast beef, lasagna, and spaghetti with meatballs, as well as shrimp and other seafood. And choose from a large selection of pies, cakes, and ice cream to finish off your meal.

Outside of Knox County

Ye Olde Mill, located at 11324 Mount Vernon Road (Ohio 13) in Utica, makes a great stop for the entire family. With dozens of Velvet Ice-cream flavors and a casual dining menu, the Mill offers a fantastic stop for families on the go. In addiction, there are 20 acres of picturesque landscape to enjoy. Ye Olde Mill also gives free public tours (April-November) and is the site of the Utica Sertoma Ice Cream Festival each Memorial Day weekend. There is also a museum of milling on the premises, as well as picnic areas, a playground, and fishing ponds — so make sure to plan for a full day of fun.

Ye Olde Mill is open seasonally from April to October. For more information, call 1-800-589-5000 or 740-892-3921.

Athens Greek Restaurant, located at 41 N. Main St., Mansfield, brings the taste of the Mediterranean to downtown Mansfield with award-winning Greek cuisine. Each gyro is made to order with the finest ingredients and a family recipe tzatziki sauce. The menu also features homemade soups and their take on a traditional Greek Salad. Athens Greek Restaurant is open Monday through Saturday, 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. For more information, call 419-524-5620 or visit www.athensgreekrestaurants.com.
If you’re visiting Knox County, you have plenty of options about where to stay. Conventional motels, country inns, bed and breakfasts and lodges wait to be enjoyed.

The newest lodging, the Mount Vernon Grand Hotel on Public Square, which opened in February of 2016, is also steeped in history, as the four-story hotel occupies the site of the historic Curtis Inn and was built to resemble the old hotel. Owned and operated by Mount Vernon Nazarene University, it has 46 rooms, including seven suites, a ball room or meeting space that seats 120, and a small conference room that seats 12.

Events can be catered by local restaurants, the hotel has become a regular meeting site for local community and service organizations.

The decor is “modern Victorian,” with a workout facility open from 6 a.m. to 11 p.m. and a 24-hour snack service.

For information, visit www.mountvernongrand.com or call 1-844-700-1717.

As you enter downtown Mount Vernon from the south, one of the local conventional motels, the moderately-priced Comfort Inn, under new management, is located at 150 Howard St., on the banks of the Kokosing River and conveniently close to art galleries, shops and restaurants, as well as the Kokosing Gap and Heart of Ohio bike trails, and Ariel-Foundation and Memorial parks.

Pets are welcome for a surcharge, amenities include high speed Internet access, indoor swimming pool, sauna, free television and cable service. Breakfasts are free, there are laundry facilities, handicapped accessible rooms and ample parking. Call 740-392-6886 for more information or to make reservations.

Just west of downtown, at 601 W. High St., The Mount Vernon Inn is located on a main thoroughfare but provides an amazing courtyard view for every guest. Rooms offer either two double beds or a queen or king-sized bed. A master suite and a guest house are also available.

A full breakfast is included for your stay, as well as complimentary passes to the YMCA. For corporate travelers, apartments and houses are available for extended visits.

For more information, call 740-392-9881 or visit www.themountvernoninn.com.

The historic Russell-Cooper House Bed and Breakfast Inn is located just east of downtown Mount Vernon at 115 E. Gambier St.

The exquisitely restored Victorian-era home is a chance to visit local history, its style and elegance provide a perfect setting for reunions, social gatherings and intimate weddings.

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Mount Vernon Comfort Inn

Superior hotel amenities and features include:

- All Rooms Newly Renovated
- Free Hot Breakfast Buffet
- Heated Indoor Pool with Hot Tub and Sauna
- Kitchenettes, Hot Tub Rooms with Balcony
- Extensive Parking Available
- Pet Friendly

150 Howard Street, Mount Vernon, Ohio, 43050
Phone 740-392-6886  Fax 740-392-3194
choicehotels.com/hotel/oh323

Walk back in time with us at The Mount Vernon Grand Hotel. The newly constructed 46 room hotel will take your breath away with its Victorian décor, beautiful parlor, and Grand staircase.

Whether your visit is for business or pleasure (or a bit of both) you will always find a welcoming, relaxing atmosphere at the Grand.

- Complimentary Breakfast
- Business Center
- Free Parking
- Fitness Center
- Free Wi-Fi throughout the property

The Mount Vernon Grand Hotel
12 Public Square, Mount Vernon, OH 43050  mountvernongrand.com

For more information call 1-800-837-5282  visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org  info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
Six bedrooms are each uniquely decorated in Victorian fashion, including one with an Oriental theme featuring items collected in Thailand and Japan. Each bedroom has a private bath, there are large and small dining rooms for special events.

Innkeeper Tom Dvorak is the husband of the fifth generation which has owned the house since the 1850s, when Dr. John Russell moved a cabin from High Street to add on to an 1829 house, then built the large front section to house his family and clinic.

Russell's daughter later married Col. William Cooper, who served in the U.S. Congress.

The house is also noted for its painted ceilings, intricate woodwork, a cabinet with a display of Dr. Russell's medical instruments, and gourmet meals.

For more information, call 740-397-8638 or visit www.russell-cooper.com.

Far out in southeastern Knox County, in one of its most scenic areas, is the Indian Bear Lodge and Winery. It’s a perfect destination for the family that wants to reconnect or the couple who wants to focus on each other. Cabins are available for anywhere from two to 12 people, and the two lodges can accommodate up to 35 people.

Located on 200 acres at 3483 McCament Road, Walhonding, the lodge offers a restaurant, hiking trails, canoeing and paddle boating, as guests explore nature at their own pace and enjoy beautiful sunrises and sunsets in the rolling hills.

The restaurant and winery on site feature a cozy tasting room, lounge and incredible views of the property.

Reservations may be made by calling 740-668-2100 or visiting www.indianbearlodge.com.

The Gambier House Bed and Breakfast, 107 E. Wiggin St., Gambier, provides a place to rest with a feel of the past. The 1845 home was built by one of Kenyon College’s master carpenters and has been restored and decorated for modern times. It has a formal parlor, hidden staircases, a family room, five bedrooms and an attached suite. A gourmet breakfast is provided, with specialties including country fritata, buttermilk pancakes and French toast. The Gambier House prides itself on using local ingredients.
Nearby, at 100 Wiggin St., The Kenyon Inn and Restaurant offers lodging and dining for a comfortable and delightful stay. The Inn offers free Wi-Fi and cable television, use of the Kenyon College Athletic Center and is close to the Kokosing Gap Trail.

Kenyon College is across the street and Amish County, parks and other entertainment are only short drives away. The four-star restaurant is available for breakfast, lunch, dinner, cocktails and offers a wide variety of entrees. A conference room is available.

For more information, visit www.kenyoninn.com or call 740-427-2202.

Another rural destination is the White Oak Inn, located on Ohio 715 outside of Danville, which offers a quiet country getaway. Guests are welcome in the main house, the guest house and luxury log cabin cottages are available for people wanting more privacy. Candlelight dinners, whirlpool tubs and fireplaces all add to the ambiance, an on-site massage therapist can really help you relax. Special events such as weddings, vow renewals and girls’ nights out are even more special at the inn, scheduled weekend events include murder mystery weekends.

Companion pets are welcome in specific rooms. Call 877-908-5923 or visit www.whiteoakinn.com for more information.
The Chaney Manor
7864 Newark Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-2304
www.thechaneymanorbb.com

The Cider House Inn
13143 Vincent Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-398-9607
www.theciderhouseohio.com

Comfort Inn
150 Howard Street
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-6886
www.comfortinn.com

Danville Outdoors Lodging
7 West Ross Street
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-6122

Felicia’s Guest House
11001 Banning Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-2279
www.feliciasguesthouse.com

Galerie Suite
218 South Main Street
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-501-0308
www.galeriesuite.tumblr.com

The Gambier House
107 East Wiggin Street
Gambier, OH 43022
740-427-2668
www.gambierhouse.com

The Gambier Loft
20971 Hopewell Road
Gambier, OH 43022
614-578-5997
www.gambierloft.com

Harcourt Motel
400 Harcourt Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-0490

Holiday Inn Express
1155 Upper Gilchrist Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-1900
www.ihg.com/holidayinnexpress

The Hoot Owl Cabin
18451 Waterford Road
Fredericktown, OH 43019
740-627-1551

Indian Bear Lodge
3483 McCament Road
Walhonding, OH 43843
740-668-2100
www.indianbearlodge.com

The Kenyon Inn
100 West Wiggin Street
Gambier, OH 43022
740-427-2202
www.kenyoninn.com

Kokosing River Outfitters
12569 Carey Lane
Howard, OH 43028
740-398-2948
www.kokosingriver-outfitters.com

Log Cabin on Jacobs Road
7638 Jacobs Road
Gambier, OH 43022
740-358-3151
www.thelogcabinonjacobs-road.com

The Mohicans
22650 Vess Road
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-9030
www.themohicans.net

Mohican Pines
20317 Earnest Road
Butler, OH 44822
614-570-0833
www.mohicanpines.com

Mohican Reservation
23270 Wally Road
Loudonville, OH 44842
740-599-6631
www.mohicanreservation.com

Mohican Wilderness
22462 Wally Road
Glenmont, OH 44628
740-599-6741
www.mohicanwilderness.com

Morrow Lodge – Camp McPherson
21880 Shadley Valley Road
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-7110
www.campmcpherson.org

The Mount Vernon Grand Hotel
6 Public Square
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
844-700-1717
www.mountvernongrand.com

The Mount Vernon Inn
601 West High Street
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-392-9881
www.themountvernoninn.com

Russell-Cooper House
115 East Gambier Street
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-8638
www.russell-cooper.com

For more information call 1-800-837-5282 • visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org • info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
Lodging Guide

**Rustic Knolls Campground**
8664 Keys Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-9318
www.rusticknollscampground.com

**The Sanctuary at Wild Rose Acres**
5420 Morgan Center Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-507-7718
www.sanctuaryatwildrose.com

**Scenic Ridge Guest House**
21233 Koppert Road
Butler, OH 44822
419-564-4226
www.scenicridgeguesthouse.com

**Stahl’s Farm Vacation Rentals**
29186 Jug Run Road
Frazesburg, OH 43822
740-668-7075
www.stahlsfarmvacations.com

**Sunset Ridge Log Cabins**
11772 Shoemaker Road
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-2981
www.sunsetridgelogcabins.com

**Super 8 Motel**
1000 Coshocton Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-397-8885
www.super8.com

**Warwick Farm**
16620 Wells Road
Mount Vernon, OH 43050
740-507-6663
www.theruralsocietyatwarwickfarm.com

**Weyrich Woods Lodge**
28091 McKee Road
Frazesburg, OH 43822
740-398-2586
www.weyrichwoodsloge.com

**White Oak Inn**
29683 Walhonding Road
Danville, OH 43014
740-599-6107
www.whiteoakinn.com

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**PUBLIC LIBRARY OF MOUNT VERNON AND KNOX COUNTY**
201 N. MULBERRY STREET
740-392-BOOK (2665)

- Public Computers & Wi-Fi Access
- Programs for Audits, Young Adults & Children
- Books, Periodicals & Audiobooks
- Music CD’s, DVDs & Videogames
- Online Resources & Classes
- Reference & Database Services
- OutReach Services

**Branch Locations**

- **FREDERICKTOWN COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
  1 BURGETT DRIVE
  740-694-BOOK

- **DANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY**
  512 S. MARKET STREET
  740-599-BOOK

- **GAMBIER COMMUNITY LIBRARY**
  115 MEADOW LANE
  740-427-BOOK

For more information call 1-800-837-5282 • visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org • info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
Centerburg is a nice place to stop for a bite or a breather while you’re traveling the roadways — or trails — through the heart of Ohio.

The geographic center of Ohio, Centerburg’s downtown offers dining and shopping opportunities. Many of the shops and restaurants have been a part of Centerburg’s business community for decades.

Centerburg Community Memorial Park is a nice place to relax or play with its shade trees, picnic pavilions, playground and ballfields.

You’ll want to plan on a visit Centerburg at least twice this year. The USA Days Festival, held June 27-30, features local and nationally-known musical acts, a fireworks display, rides, food and crafters. Past musical groups have included Confederate Railroad, The Hollies, The Marcels and Shades of Blue. To learn more, visit www.heartofohiousa.com

The second annual festival celebrates agricultural heritage. The Oldtime Farming Festival, held Sept. 15-17, showcases the machinery from the history of farming in the antique tractor and machinery show. Vegetables and plants — including weeds — are brought in for judging at the horticulture show, demonstrations include such past and modern rural crafts as apple cider making, quilting and wood-working. Contests and games such as watermelon seed spitting, straw bale toss, arm wrestling, apple peeling and a cake walk add to the fun. To learn more, visit www.oldtimefarmingfestival.org

Both festivals feature a parade.

While in Centerburg, visit the village’s 19th century town hall. The town hall is home to the library and Local History Center.

Ohio to Erie Trail enthusiasts can pick up on the Heart of Ohio Trail in Centerburg, which runs north to Mount Vernon.

About 20 to 25 people, supplemented by passing bicycle riders, gathered at the Heart of Ohio Trail bridge over U.S. 36 to celebrate the first anniversary of the bridge opening in September of 2017.

Centerburg Mayor Dave Beck, who is also vice president of the trail group, said he thinks the trail, especially when the connection to Delaware County is completed, will be a great asset for Centerburg, bringing people to the bed and breakfasts and restaurants.
Mount Vernon Farmers Market

The Mount Vernon Farmers Market has been meeting on Public Square in Mount Vernon for over 15 years. It runs from May to October every year, with hours from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m., with numerous different products available for purchase. Depending on the growing season, 40 to 50 vendors set up stands around the Square every week to sell their products.

Everything at the market is grown or created within 25 miles of the Square, so shoppers can be assured everything is local. Along with the typical produce like fresh fruits and vegetables, you can find meats, cheeses, eggs, plants, some health and beauty products such as homemade soaps, lotions and essential oils.

New to the Market in 2016 was the acceptance of WIC and EBT/SNAP. Dan Britton, the current manager, said that the goal of the Farmers Market is to meet the nutritional needs of the community. Those on such programs aren’t usually as able to access fresh local foods like what the market offers. The new acceptance of these programs is the market’s way of taking a step towards remedying that.

The market also gives out senior vouchers that can be used to purchase items at the market. Every year the market hosts a Family Day with taste-testing, games for children, and a coloring contest.

To stay up-to-date with the market, you can find them on Facebook at Mount Vernon Farmer’s Market.

See LOCAL FOODS INITIATIVE on Page 32
Located at 100 Sychar Road in Mount Vernon, Hiawatha Water Park has been a staple of summer fun for families in and around Mount Vernon since 2007.

The water park has two pool areas with eight swimming lanes and two 1-meter diving boards, as well as a toddler pool for smaller children to enjoy. Also included in the park is a water playground area and raindrop fountain for children of all ages.

Take a ride on one (or both) of the park’s two water slides while you’re there. One is a 30-foot body slide that is half-tunnel, and the other is a tube slide that takes you in a spiral loop all the way down to the pool.

There is plenty of green space around the pools to place blankets, towels, and chairs, the park also provides its own large umbrellas, lounge chairs, and patron lockers for personal item storage. Also inside the park is a concession stand with food and drinks available for purchase.

Several different membership passes are available for purchase anytime before or during the park season, swimming lessons are available for members to sign-up at the beginning of the season.

“Come out and see us,” said Jerry Clinger, manager of the water park. “The environment is great.”
Knox County is full of interesting history from famous actors to a thriving business industry, the Knox County Historical Society Museum contains it all.

The Museum is located at 875 Harcourt Road in Mount Vernon and is open for the months of March through November, on Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., and Thursday through Saturday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

The setup of the Museum takes visitors on a tour that makes you feel as though you’re walking through time. Starting with old children’s toys and household artifacts in the entrance room, visitors next see a timeline of Knox County.

Of particular interest are the old telephones, dating as far back as 1889; memorabilia of Paul Lynde (a Mount Vernon-born comedian and actor most famous for his roles in “Bye Bye Birdie” and “Charlotte’s Web”) including his yellow 1964 Ford Thunderbird; the Cooper-Bessemer industrial artifacts, including old steam tractors; and an 1884 stained-glass church window.

The Museum also includes exhibits on historic advertising, religion, military, and schools — among so many others. Another part of the Museum, but spread out over Knox County, are 10 historic markers. They are located at historical spots of interest around Knox County and provide information about the location’s historical significance. A list of the markers and where to find them can be located on the Museum’s website, knoxhistory.com.
Utica is a pleasant village of 2,100 residents located on the border of Licking and Knox counties on the banks of the North Fork of the Licking River at the intersection of Ohio 13 and U.S. 62, halfway between Newark and Mount Vernon. Most of the village lies in Licking County.

Turn east on 62 and you’ll head up to Amish Country; turn west and the road will take you to the Columbus metropolitan area.

Utica was once the home of five window glass factories in the early 1900s, but today is best known as the home of Velvet Ice Cream, located south of Utica at Ye Old Mill, which also features a picnic area, ice cream parlor, restaurant, gift shop, museum and natural area next to the factory, where you can see ice cream being made. The business and Utica Sertoma host the Utica Ice Cream Festival and Parade each Memorial Day weekend.

Downtown has been revived by local entrepreneurs and you’ll find a carpet shop, chiropractor, veterinarian, photographer, beauty salon, automotive repair shop, a pharmacy and other businesses, including a distillery.

A local restaurant, Watts, has been serving lunch and dinner on Main Street since 1912.

Roger McCoy and Myron Coblentz have led the way in revitalizing the Main Street business district by purchasing and refurbishing vacant retail businesses and filling them with a new barber shop, gift shop and antique store.

Two orchards, Branstool to the east and Legend Hills to the west, are located just outside of town.

Numerous churches of various denominations are found in the village, there’s also a public library, post office, historical society, and various service organizations, including Sertoma/LaSertoma, Utica Merchants Association, Utica Area Foundation, V.F.W., American Legion and a Masonic Lodge.
So much to explore...

ARIEL FOUNDATION PARK
10 Pittsburgh Avenue, Mount Vernon
arielfoundationpark.org
740-501-9293

Free summer concerts, five beautiful rentable venues, community events, physical activities like yoga and dance, and bike trails... all in addition to 250 stunning acres repurposed as a jewel of Knox County.

Plan your visit today!
Continued from Page 23

Harvest @The Woodward

The Harvest @The Woodward has been open since 2012, providing fresh, locally grown and produced foods to the Mount Vernon community for over five years. Everything in the store is from Ohio-based farmers with an emphasis on products from Knox County.

Located in the Woodward Opera House complex on the corner of Vine and Main Streets in downtown Mount Vernon, the renovation and revitalization of the property, expected to be fully complete in 2018, is certain to bring changes and updates to the market.

With meats from grass-fed animals, non-homogenized milk and cheeses, and produce that is all-organic, it’s no surprise the store is a popular place for those who are health-conscious or those who want to support local businesses.

If you have a local business and want to have your products in the store, Harvest @The Woodward is always looking for new vendors. The application can be filled out through the store’s website harvest.thewoodward.org.

For social media lovers who wish to stay up-to-date on the store’s news, it can be found on Facebook (Harvest @The Woodward), Twitter (harvest_mtv), and now Instagram (local.harvest2012) as well.

They are open all year-round on Monday to Friday from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.; closed Sundays.
Community Festivals

Summer and early fall are festival season in Knox County. The county is home to five festivals each year, which focus on music, agricultural heritage and community.

Named for the author of 'Dixie,' the Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival, held Aug. 9 - 12 in downtown Mount Vernon, has music at its heart. In fact, there is live music going for most of the Festival at several venues, including small acts performing on the town square and nightly headliner acts on the main stage. Local talent competes in the Knox Idol competition’s adult and youth categories. The Festival also holds instrumental music competitions, and features displays from local artists. A car and motorcycle show, quilt show and food vendors helps to round out the fun. For more information, visit www.danemmettfestival.org

The geographical center of Ohio, Centerburg hosts two festivals each year. The USA Days Festival, held June 27-30, draws in classic, nationally famous pop/rock music acts every year. Nostalgic, yet contemporary in their ability to put on a show that young and old can enjoy. The Festival also features a fireworks display, rides, food and crafters. To learn more, visit www.heartofohiousa.com

Centerburg’s The Oldtime Farming Festival, held Sept. 15-16, celebrates central Ohio’s agricultural heritage. Old farm crafts working in cloth, wood and food preparation are featured for demonstration. Tractor and implement displays bring back the machinery that powered the farms of yester-
Community festivals

year. For more information, visit www.oldtimefarmingfestival.org

The Fredericktown Tomato Show, held Sept. 5-8, is just about the most fun you can have in Ohio with tomatoes. The annual tomato toss features two-member teams trying to catch the most tomatoes in a limited time. One person launches a tomato and the other has to catch it in a basket. Known as the show’s ‘messiest event,’ rain ponchos are available to contestants. There is also judging for tomatoes and homemade, canned tomato products, as well as vegetable and baked goods. There’s also food, music, bathtub races, the Little Miss Tomato contest, parades and more. Fredericktown’s Free Press Museum is open regularly throughout the show for tours. For more information, visit tomato.show.com.

The Mohican Bluegrass Festival brings nationally-known bluegrass talents to the custom-built log stage for four days of great music, food and friends. Hosted by Mohican Wilderness, guests can stay at the campgrounds or come in to hear each day’s lineup. The 2018 festival will take place Sept. 13-16.

The Mohican Indian Pow Wow brings American Indian heritage to life during July 13-15 and Sept. 14-16 at Mohican Reservation. The events feature story telling, dancing, music and authentic foods.

Veterans

You may qualify for:

- Free Medical Care • Free Prescriptions
- Disability Pension

We also provide:

- Temporary financial assistance
- Transportation to and from VA clinics
- Fuel reimbursement for your trips to VA Appointments
- Fully equipped veteran work room

Stop in and meet our staff!

We are located at:
411 Pittsburg Ave. • Mount Vernon, Ohio
(740) 393-6742
Knox Co. Veterans Service Office

Website: www.kcvso.com • E-mail: vso@co.knox.oh.us
Check us out on Facebook!

For more information call 1-800-837-5282 • visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org • info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
The great outdoors is right in Knox County’s backyard. Campgrounds in the Knox County area offer visitors a chance to embrace the outdoors each year as the snow melts and the sun begins to shine.

Rustic Knolls Campground at 8664 Keys Road in Mount Vernon offers events and camping, April through October. Now in its 50th year of operation, Rustic Knolls has swimming, fishing, volleyball and basketball, horseshoe pits and cornhole pads, a game room and a playground along with amenities including Wi-Fi, propane exchange, modern restrooms, firewood and laundry to make visits simple and fun for the whole family.

For more information on rates of camping sites and cabin accommodations, visit rusticknollscampground.com or call 740-397-9318.

Beyond camping, Kokosing Valley Camp & Canoe on 25860 Coshocton Road, Howard, offers canoeing, kayaking and tubing along the Kokosing River. Kokosing Valley also offers swimming in the heated swimming pool (open Memorial Day through Labor Day), putt-putt golf for little golfers, a driving range for older golfers, two volleyball nets and a basketball court.

Those looking to buy or sell their home-away-from-home need look no further. Kokosing Valley buys and sells campers which can be found on a lot just past the main entrance.

For rates on camping, canoeing, kayaking and tubing visit kokosingvalley.com, send an e-mail to Craig@KokosingValley.com or call 740-599-7056.

The Mohican Reservation Campgrounds & Canoeing, best known as the “Home of the Mohican Indian Pow-Wow,” is open April through October for camping, canoeing, rafting.

See CAMPING on Page 36

Golf

A hidden gem awaits golfers of all abilities at Apple Valley Golf Course.

The course at 433 Clubhouse Drive, Howard, in the Apple Valley Resort, is consistently ranked one of the top golf courses in Central Ohio.

Could it be the wide open, accommodating fairways? Could it be the well-manicured, but fast greens? Could it be the friendly staff in the pro shop? Or the full-service restaurant, stocked full of your favorite foods and beverages? How about all of the above?

See GOLF on Page 41
The Mohican River offers fishing and boating. On land, the area has miles of hiking trails, picnic areas, and a mountain bike trial. Naturalist programs are offered throughout the summer.

Whether you explore Mohican Country on water, on foot, by bike or through the air — every view is breathtaking and connected to nature.

Tree Frog Canopy Tours offers exhilarating 2.5 hour tours of the area on dual-cable zipline bring guests through seven ziplines, two sky bridges and two rapel areas. A true “must” for thrill-seekers, the fastest clocked speed is 51 miles per hour.

Tree Frog Canopy Tours is located at 21899 Wall Road.

No visit to Mohican Country would be complete without a stay in an authentic treehouse. The Mohicans offers six treehouses — four of which were designed by treehouse designer Pete Nelson of “Treehouse Masters” on the Discovery Channel.

Treehouses sleep two to four guests but larger groups can stay in one of four cabins that will house eight to 15 guests.

The Mohicans is a favorite venue for brides as well as corporate retreats. Owners Laura and Kevin Mooney take pride in their approach to sustainability with use of solar power, reuse and repurposing of building materials and local sourcing of fresh foods, when available.

The Wally Road Scenic Byway is located off Ohio 3 south of Loudonville, or off Ohio 514 north of Danville from the Knox County Amish Gateway.
Apple Valley is a private community nestled around the 511-acre lake it gets its name from. As a property owner, residents are given access to the lake and its three beaches; a Clubhouse with a new outdoor pool, a fitness center available for membership purchase; Floral Valley Community Center which offers an indoor pool and three pickleball courts. The Clubhouse and Floral Valley are available to rent for anything from school reunions to weddings.

While these privileges are given to property owners, residents may purchase passes for their immediate relatives that live outside of Apple Valley. Long-term passes are available for 30, 60, and 90 days. There are also smaller passes of 3 and 7 days available for purchase. These passes work for most of the members-only facilities in Apple Valley. This includes the beach, the marina, activities in the Clubhouse, and activities in the Floral Valley Community Center.

Also inside Apple Valley is Bennett Park/Pond. Here, residents and their guests can enjoy recreational fishing at the large pond, and children can enjoy the playground that is equipped with slides, swings, and climbing bars. There is also a picnic shelter that gives you a comfortable place to sit in the shade and eat lunch on your day out.

Apple Valley also has several clubs for property owners to enjoy, such as a Girl Scout Troop, a Boy Scout Troop, the Card Club, the Apple Valley Singers, the Garden Club, and even tennis and pickleball clubs.

For more information, or to learn more about what is offered, you can visit Apple Valley's website, applevalleypoa.com.
The village of Danville prides itself on being the “Gateway to Amish Country.”

But, as you travel to Holmes County and the Amish stores, there are plenty of reasons to stop in Danville and enjoy its down-home atmosphere.

There are several Amish stores, including Don Leo’s Market on the corner of South Market and Main Streets. The bulk foods store also sells produce and deli items that would make for nice snacks as you travel throughout Amish country.

Weaver’s Farm and Furniture offers something for everyone in the family. From furniture created with superior craftsmanship to a deli and a petting zoo, the 1850’s barn is a destination on its own.

Kokosing Valley Produce and Berries, as well as Custom Home Furnishings, are just south of the village on U.S. 62. Visitors can pick up plenty of items at Kokosing Valley and even get a new table or chairs at Custom Home Furnishings.

While in Danville, there are plenty of places to pick up a delicious bite to eat.

The Hang Out, McFadden’s Hot Spot, Route 62 and The Bender will all serve up a delicious meal to fill you up on your journey.

Visitors can also pick up a cold beverage at the Horseshoe Drive-Thru, or a hot one at the Blonde Robin coffeehouse. The Blonde Robin is also a boutique and home decor store, while The Nest, which is part of the same home, is an event/banquet hall.

For those needing a place to rest or even a spot for a picnic lunch, Danville Memorial Park is the perfect place. There are two shelters, a water fountain, and even basketball courts, making the park a great spot for a family get-together.

Danville is also at the trailhead of two area biking/walking trails. The Kokosing Gap Trail, which runs through Mount Vernon to Centerburg, and the Mohican Valley Trail, which runs through Brinkhaven both begin in Danville. Traveling west, the trails lead to the Holmes County Trail. Danville is also very close to camping and canoeing in Mohican Country and Wally Road, as well as Honey Run Waterfall.

The village also hosts one of the more unique events in Ohio — the Lions’ Club Raccoon Dinner. The event began 75 years ago and draws in visitors from around the state. More than 600 pounds of raccoon is served each year with a guest speaker to entertain following the dinner.

Whether your interests are camping, hiking and biking or sightseeing on your way to Amish Country, Danville has much to offer.

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Knox County is home to a growing number of Amish families, a drive through the countryside around Amity, Danville, Martinsburg, Nunda Road and Waterford will take visitors past well-tended homesteads, gardens and farms. You will almost certainly encounter a horse-drawn buggy or a wagon or two, so be sure to be on the lookout for slow-moving vehicles.

In spring planting time or during autumn harvest time, you can observe farm work being done the way it was done in our great-grandfather’s time, slowly and surely with machinery powered by horses or by men wielding hand scythes and corn husking utensils.

The picturesque vistas will tempt any amateur photographer, but please be aware that most of the Amish do not pose for pictures, and would prefer it if prior permission to capture their image is obtained. However, few object when someone snaps a photo of a horse and buggy trotting down a country lane.

Visitors to Knox County have a wonderful opportunity to take advantage of the many small, independent businesses owned and operated by Amish proprietors. A word of caution, though: If you see a sign that says “Amish Bakery,” for example, it probably is not really an Amish store. They might have authentic Amish-baked goods, but it is not owned by the Amish.

The Amish businesses are known for quality products and careful workmanship, and the Knox County area is rife with window shops, woodworking shops, sawmills, cabinetry shops, bakeries, craft outlets and more. Roadside stands, farmers’ markets and two major sales venues — Owl Creek Produce Auction and Danville Livestock Auction — provide visitors with ample opportunities to purchase Amish wares.

Among themselves, the Amish speak what is commonly called Pennsylvania Dutch, but business owners and others also converse in English when talking with non-Amish people.

The Danville Livestock Auction, 15780 Body Road, Danville, takes place the first and third Saturdays of each month. The sale starts off at 9 a.m. with miscellaneous items and baked goods, moves to hay, straw and firewood to cattle, goats, horses and finishes up with poultry, rabbits and waterfowl.

Owl Creek Produce Auction, 7385 Waterford Road, Fredericktown, features farm fresh fruits and vegetables in season, from onions and potatoes to squash, and all sorts of berries. Owl Creek is in session at 10 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday and Friday from June through September. Winter hours begin at 10 a.m., November through April. Customers can find hay, straw, baked goods, winter produce and firewood. The goods are sold in both large lots and small quantities.
Peace, harmony and serenity surround visitors to the Schnormeier Gardens, located at 8701 Laymon Road, Gambier, the spectacular scenery is a must see. Each year the Asian-inspired vistas get better and better as the plantings and gardens mature to full growth.

The Chinese Cup Garden features a Chinese pavilion and a dragon; the Serenity Garden includes a Japanese garden house; four ponds, a zigzag bridge, sculptures are found in the Meadow Garden; and the Quarry Garden simulates an abandoned quarry that has waterfalls accented by rare conifers. A Chinese bridge arches through the Waterfalls Garden; rare conifers and bronze sculptures abound in the Stream Garden; and the Hosta Garden includes rocking chairs for guests to rest and enjoy the shade. Returning guests will notice a new lower woodland trail and bridge in the Woodland Garden.

An eclectic collection of more than 50 sculptures is scattered throughout the grounds, and are often found when least expected.

A gallery in the former 12-car garage of the Schnormeier's Frank Lloyd Wright-style residence, officially opened in 2017, features art work.

A small army of volunteers greets guests at the Welcome Center, and helps the event run smoothly. They have been trained and educated about the history and current state of the nine different gardens scattered throughout the estate and are happy to answer questions.

The 2018 Schnormeier Gardens open house will be held Thursday, June 7 through Sunday, June 10, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. There is no admission fee per individual, but there is a charge per vehicle.

Note: The Gardens are not wheelchair accessible, and the uneven, hilly terrain can be difficult for visitors with mobility problems. Restrooms are available in the Welcome Center and also near the Hosta Garden.
Learning is fun at SPI — Where Science and Play Intersect. Located in the Kenyon College Wright Center at 400 S. Main St. Mount Vernon, SPI is filled with opportunities for kids of all ages to explore their world in different ways and learn about science in the process.

An enchanted forest, baby space and an imagination playground are perfect for the youngest visitors, older guests will also like the augmented reality sandbox, circuit bench, take-apart table and the variety of scientific tools that foster their curiosity and increase their understanding of the natural world.

An awesome climber gives kids a bird-eye-view of SPI, and a new video microscope lets them see things up close. Magnets, measuring devices, Legos, air rockets, an ozobot and ever-changing discovery tables and craft projects help make the visit memorable as well as educational.

Programs and special events are planned throughout the year offering a combination of entertainment and education. For example, every second Friday, SPI will host Story Time that combines reading and “science exploration.” Summer camps mix in-house science lessons with activities at Brown Family Environmental Center in nearby Gambier.

SPI’s hours are Monday and Tuesday from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., closed on Wednesday, Thursday from 9:30 a.m. to 8 p.m., Friday from 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

For more information call 740-501-7616 or email spiconnection@gmail.com.

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**GOLF**

Continued from Page 35

“We continue to show pride in our product. We try to keep the course as nice as possible. That’s why people come out here,” said Mark Mickley, director of golf at Apple Valley.

The full-service restaurant gives golfers a chance to sit down to a nice, hot breakfast prior to their round, or even get some grub and a beverage to discuss it following play.

Once on the course, golfers will enjoy a gorgeous view and some of the best greens around. Apple Valley recently added a number of new tees, giving golfers five sets of tees from which to choose. That enables golfers of all abilities and experience to enjoy their round, Mickley said.

The course has been home to many amateur and school-age tournaments over the years. Every fall, it hosts the Division I high school central district tournament, and will once again be the site of the May Ohio Publinx Mid-Amateur championships.

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The Knox County Agricultural Museum, located at 125 Fairgrounds Road in Mount Vernon, has been a favorite attraction at the Knox County Fair since 1984. The two years preceding its first building being built and dedicated to the fair in 1986, guests brought agricultural items to the fair to display in nothing more than a tent.

Since then, there have been multiple expansions, including the 2-floor Loom Room and the 2-floor West Wing. In 2016, there was also a facility built specifically for housing inventory. This new building allows the Museum to be able to accept new donations, which enables them to rotate their display items to keep the Museum engaging.

Inside the Museum, you can find artifacts documenting nearly 200 years of Knox County history with an emphasis on agriculture.

Some items of interest include old tools such as alligator wrenches and corn jobbers, a corn dryer, a 150-year-old hollow spring log, and maps showing the changes to Knox County over several decades.

Also a part of the Museum, but sometimes missed because they are outside of the main structure, are a log house, a one-room schoolhouse, a spring house and well, a smoke house, an outhouse, and the Hiawatha building. Each structure showcases historic life in the form of pictures and artifacts.

The Museum is open for the week of the Knox County Fair (July 21-28) and throughout the summer by appointment. If you want to visit the Loom Room, it is usually open in the summer on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., while loomers are working. To schedule a tour, or for more information, call 740-599-6416 or send email to info@theagmuseum.org.
Communing with nature while staying in shape has never been easier in Knox County. An amazing system of bike trails makes it simple for visitors to experience the forests, wetlands, agriculture, flora fauna and villages of Knox County at a pace suited to individual tastes.

The multi-use trails are suitable for bicyclists, roller bladers and hikers as well as those out for a leisurely stroll. Motorized wheelchairs and electric assistive mobility devices are welcome on all the trails, while other motorized vehicles are prohibited.

The Heart of Ohio Trail starts at the Knox/Licking county line and runs through Centerburg, Mount Liberty and Bangs and ends in Mount Vernon. The main access point is at Centerburg’s Memorial Park with a small gravel parking lot in Mount Liberty, along with a trailside shelter and playground.

In Mount Vernon, the Heart of Ohio Trail connects with the 14-mile Kokosing Gap Trail, a scenic trek with end points in Mount Vernon at Memorial Park and Danville. The trail, open 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, has park benches about every 1/2 mile along its length and various amenities.

Water fountains and restrooms are available on the trail in Mount Vernon, Gambier and Howard. In Danville, facilities are in Memorial Park, where water is turned off and restrooms closed mid-November to mid-April. The Howard restroom is open year-round. A public phone is available at the shelter in Gambier, which also is the site of a classic train locomotive, caboose and playground equipment. Parking and access points can also be found near the Brown Family Environmental Center on Laymon Road and off Zion Road.

In Danville, trekkers can connect with The Mohican Valley Trail a 4.5 mile rail-to-trail through the spectacular Mohican River Valley. The trail links the Kokosing Gap Trail with the Holmes County Trail. Visit the 370-foot long “Bridge of Dreams” while traveling on this trail. The parking lot for the Bridge of Dreams is located at 16606 Hunter Road. While horses are not permitted on Heart of Ohio or Kokosing Gap trails, equestrians are welcome on the Mohican Valley Trail. Users with horse trail-ers can park at 402 East Street or 27825 Buckeye Road in Danville, 15700 Tiger Valley Road or below the Bridge of Dreams at 16606 Hunter Road.

People wanting a shorter, but still picturesque, route should try out the bike path in Fredericktown. North-end access to the 1.53-mile long path is at Fredericktown Community Park and the southern-most end is at Dana Park.

For a map of the bicycle trail locations and mailing addresses for inputting into your phone or GPS unit, call the Knox County Park District 740-392-7275 or email knoxcountyparks.org to request a map.
Indian Bear Lodge was created in 2001 by the Sherri and Tom Lechner. By 2011, the business had expanded, leading the Lechners to look for some help from friends Coralea and Brad.

In 2013, the partners purchased an additional property, which they quickly converted into a working vineyard and restaurant. Using only the shell of a simple barn structure, Tom and Brad built the new winery, utilizing many repurposed items which they salvaged from former 100-year-old structures on the property.

“The beams that you see are the original barn beams that (Tom) saved when they took down the barn that was on this property,” Coralea said. “The slate on the tables are from the roof on the barn. A lot of the pipe around the bar is the actual pipe that was in the ground.”

“We’ve got good growing pains,” Sherri added. “We thought it was going to be a small little country winery and now we ended up getting a restaurant (and) a full food license.”

The restaurant currently serves burgers, steaks, ribs, appetizers, sandwiches, salads, and of course lots of different types of wine.

Across from the restaurant, thrives a 2-acre vineyard; inside the vineyard, seyval, vidal and concord grapes are grown, harvested, and then converted into wines, such as cabernet sauvignon, merlot, reisling, chardonnay, seyval blanc, and more, right on the property.

“We have 18 different kinds of wine,” Sherri said. “For some of our wines, due to the temperature and climate, we can’t grow certain things, so, we ship juice in from other areas, but we do make everything here on site.”

Indian Bear Lodge and Winery is located at 3483 McCamet Road, Walhonding.
The Village of Fredericktown, located in the northwestern part of Knox County, abounds with community spirit and pride, and offers visitors an amazing array of activities.

Recreation is on top of the list, as the village has a vibrant and constantly growing park system. Outdoor recreation possibilities in the village's 130 acres of community parks are available almost the whole year through.

Across the North Branch of the Kokosing River, off Mill Street, there are two miles of trails on at the 57-acre Education and Nature Center which has abundant wildlife and natural vistas.

A 1.8-mile bike/walking trail runs from Memorial Park to the village limits at the south side of the village.

The Kokosing River offers fishing, boating, canoeing and camping. Knox Lake, a short drive from the village, is well known as a fisherman’s paradise and the Kokosing Reservoir is just a five minute drive from Fredericktown on Waterford Road. It offers boating, fishing and camping facilities.

Each September Fredericktown holds the Tomato Show. The four-day event includes a 5-mile race, food, contests, games, including a bathtub race and tomato toss. It also features entertainment by some of the top bands in the area.

The annual Christmas Walk, which raises money for Food For the Hungry, takes place on the first weekend in December.

Although small, Fredericktown offers shoppers a variety of opportunities, from crafts and gifts to flowers, jewelry and bulk foods. There are a bowling alley, tattoo parlor, gun shop, antique store and martial arts studio.

History buffs might like to visit the Fredericktown Historical Society Museum, which is in 1828 United Methodist Church building and is full of memorabilia about the village's past.
Amity United Methodist Church
16649 Wooster Road
Mount Vernon
740-397-0106
Sunday School 10:00am
Sunday Morning Worship 11:00am

Ankenytown Grace Brethern Church
20601 Old Mansfield Road
Bellville
740-694-6936
Sunday School 9:30am
Sunday Worship 10:30am
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30pm

Apostolic Christian Church
1635 West 229
Mount Vernon
www.vernonchurch.org
740-393-1676
Sunday Morning Service 10:00am
Sunday Evening Service 6:00pm
Wednesday Service 7:30pm

Central Christian Church
17833 Gambier Road (229 East)
Mount Vernon
www.ccmv.com
740-397-1840
Blended Contemporary Worship 8:45am & 10:15am
Sunday Youth Group 6:00pm
Wednesday Family Bible Study 6:30pm

Covenant Church
13360 New Delaware Road
Mount Vernon
www.covenanthristiancog.com
740-392-3152
Sunday School 9:30am
Morning Worship/Children’s Church 10:45am
Sunday Evening Service (2nd Sundays) 6:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm

Eastside Church of Christ
1120 Yauger Road
Mount Vernon
740-397-3804
Sunday Bible Class 9:30am
Sunday Morning Worship 10:30am
Sunday Evening Worship - Winter 12:45pm
Sunday Evening Worship 5:00pm
Wednesday Bible Study 6:30pm

Faith Lutheran Church
170 Mansfield Avenue
Mount Vernon
Email: faithlutheran@midohio.twcbc.com
www.faith-lutheran-online.org
740-393-3666
Sunday Worship 8:00am & 10:30am
Sunday School 9:15am

First Congregational United Church of Christ
200 North Main Street
Mount Vernon
www.mvucc.org
740-393-1736
Sunday Worship 9:30am
Church School 11:00am
Welcoming & Honoring God’s Rainbow Spectrum of People

Fredericktown Church of Christ
1883 Pinkley Road
Fredericktown
ftown.churchofchrist@yahoo.com
Sunday - Bible Study 9:30am
Worship 10:30am & 6:00pm
Wednesday - Bible Study 7:00pm

Fredericktown First Baptist Church
22 East Sandusky Street
Fredericktown
www.fredibc.org
740-694-2856
Adult Bible Study - 9:15am
Sunday Worship - 10:15am

Gay Street United Methodist Church
18 North Gay Street
Mount Vernon
www.gaystreetumc.org
740-392-6626
Sunday Worship
8:30am & 10:45am
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Church Name</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Phone</th>
<th>Website</th>
<th>Sunday School</th>
<th>Worship Times</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Green Valley Southern Baptist Church</td>
<td>1680 Old Delaware Road Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-393-3922</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday School 9:45am</td>
<td>11:00am, 6:00pm</td>
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<td>Grove Church of Christ</td>
<td>7740 Grove Church Road Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-427-2839</td>
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<td>Sunday School 9:30-10:15am</td>
<td>11:00am, 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Harcourt Parish Episcopal Church</td>
<td>Church of the Holy Spirit 100 College-Park St. at Wiggin St. Gambier</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-427-2187</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday Eucharist with Choir 10:30am</td>
<td>5:00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grove Church of Christ</td>
<td>7740 Grove Church Road Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-427-2839</td>
<td></td>
<td>Sunday School 9:30-10:15am</td>
<td>11:00am, 6:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Howard United Methodist Church</td>
<td>23212 Coshocton Road Howard</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-393-3922</td>
<td><a href="http://www.howardunitedmethodistchurch.com">www.howardunitedmethodistchurch.com</a></td>
<td>Sunday School 9:30am</td>
<td>10:30am, 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Millwood Church of Christ</td>
<td>11961 Bridge Street Howard</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-599-7099</td>
<td><a href="http://www.millwoodchurchofchrist.com">www.millwoodchurchofchrist.com</a></td>
<td>Sunday School 9:30am</td>
<td>10:30am, 7:00pm</td>
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<td>Mulberry Street United Methodist Church</td>
<td>205 N. Mulberry Street Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-393-2576</td>
<td><a href="http://www.mulberryumc.org">www.mulberryumc.org</a></td>
<td>Sundays - 8:30am Early Service</td>
<td>9:30am Sunday School 10:15am Fellowship 1:45pm Blended Worship</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mount Vernon Hill Seventh-Day Adventist Church</td>
<td>535 Wooster Road Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-397-3531</td>
<td><a href="http://www.welcometothehill.org">www.welcometothehill.org</a> <a href="mailto:mountvernonhillchurch@gmail.com">mountvernonhillchurch@gmail.com</a></td>
<td>Saturday Worship Service 11:15am</td>
<td>Sabbath School 10:00am, Wednesday Bible Study 7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>St. Luke Catholic Church</td>
<td>307 South Market Street Danville</td>
<td>Danville</td>
<td>740-599-6362</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stlukedanvilleoh.org">www.stlukedanvilleoh.org</a></td>
<td>Saturday at 5:00pm</td>
<td>10:00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>St. Vincent dePaul Catholic Church</td>
<td>201 East High Street Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-392-4711</td>
<td><a href="http://www.stvincentmountvernon.org">www.stvincentmountvernon.org</a></td>
<td>Saturday Evening Service 4:30pm</td>
<td>8:00am, 10:00am and 11:30am 4th Sunday - Spanish Mass 11:30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Church On the Rise</td>
<td>7512 Newark Road Mount Vernon</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-694-9862</td>
<td>facebook.com/WaterfordUMC</td>
<td>Sunday 9:30am</td>
<td>7:00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterford United Methodist Church</td>
<td>20595 Waterford Road Fredericstown</td>
<td>Mount Vernon</td>
<td>740-599-6584</td>
<td><a href="http://www.waterfordumc.org">www.waterfordumc.org</a></td>
<td>Sunday Church Service 10:00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church</td>
<td>18975 Chapel Road Danville</td>
<td>Danville</td>
<td>740-599-6362</td>
<td><a href="http://www.wesleychapelumc.com">www.wesleychapelumc.com</a></td>
<td>Sunday Church Service 10:00am</td>
<td>9:00am</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Originally built in 1851 under the futuristic thinking of Dr. Ebenezer Woodward, we look back to his vision as we reopen the Opera House in 2018. Dr. Woodward was a forward-thinking business man and knew the Opera House could not sustain the cost of the building if it were merely a theater so he created tenant spaces on the first and second floors to supplement the income. As we reopen the Opera House, we are using this same forward-thinking process he had in the 19th century. The Opera House will be a 500-seat theater, but it will also have many other features that some may not be aware of.

The seats in the main floor (third floor) of the Opera House will be portable thus allowing the Opera House to have a flat floor and hold over 350 people for a seated dinner, conference or event. Additional rentable spaces in the Opera House and attached Annex location are a Black Box theater that can seat up to 120 people, a recital hall that can seat up to 100 people, a board room that can seat up to 30 people as well as many other spaces that include the promenades and dressing rooms. The Opera House and Annex boast over 20,000 square feet of full service conference, event, and meeting space.

The Woodward will also be the home to Stein Brewing Company, the first brewery to be housed in Knox County since the 1870’s. Stein’s will feature eight locally crafted beers and 16 additional Ohio made beers on tap. The Tap Room located on the Vine Street side of The Woodward will seat up to 58 people and will be accessible from either Vine Street or the first-floor promenade entrance off Main Street. The restaurant will be located in the first floor Annex portion of the project and will seat up to 108 people.

The Woodward also features the area’s first Commercial Community Kitchen. This kitchen will be used by local farmers and producers to package, process and preserve local foods from around Ohio. This kitchen will support the growth of the Local Sustainable Foods Program that started with TheHarvest@TheWoodward five years ago. In addition to TheHarvest@TheWoodward, TheCafe@TheWoodward is set to open as well. The Cafe@TheWoodward will feature farm-to-table cuisine that carries through this healthy sustainable theme.

On the second and third floors of The Opera House and Annex, you can find tenant office space that can be used by many types of business. Future tenants include local law firm Zelkowitz, Barry, & Cullers and The Knox County Convention & Visitors Bureau in addition to the offices of the support staff of the project.

The Woodward Opera House is America’s oldest authentic 19th century theater and will be Ohio’s newest full service state of the art event venue. For more information about the Woodward or for information on how to book an event please contact KCVB@TheWoodward.Org or call 740-392-6102.

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For more information call 1-800-837-5282  •  visit www.VisitKnoxOhio.org  •  info@VisitKnoxOhio.org
Richland County, Knox County’s northern neighbor, encompasses several Ohio cities, such as Mansfield, Ashland, Bellville, Butler, Lucas and Shelby, and is packed with history, culture and fun family activities.

Spend the weekend soaking up works of art at the Mansfield Art Center, 700 Marion Ave., Mansfield. For those even more artistically inclined, classes for painting, pottery, film-making, jewelry-making and much more are offered at the center as well. For more information, log on to www.mansfieldartcenter.org.

For nature lovers, the Kingwood Center Gardens offers 47 acres of woodland gardens, herb gardens, seasonal gardens, historic gardens, greenhouses and a large mansion for visitors to roam, shop and learn about local history. The Ohio Bird Sanctuary, which houses 60 native Ohio birds and continually rehabilitates other injured birds for life back in the wild, is also a site you won’t want to miss.

Also residing in Richland County is the Richland Carrousel Park, a whimsical park and gift shop that is home to a large Victorian-style, year-round carrousel ride. Opened in 1991, the carrousel features 52 different animals rides, including horses, a hippo, zebras, giraffes, lions, rabbits, and more. Plan your visit at www.richlandcarrousel.com.

For adventurous tourists, a visit to the Ohio State Reformatory, a historic, Romanesque-style prison, is sure to raise the hairs on the back of your neck and provide visitors with a spooky trip through the penitentiary’s past. Famous for its looming stature and unique architectural style, the Ohio State Reformatory has been used as the filming site for numerous movies and music videos, most notably, The Shawshank Redemption. For more information, log on to www.mrps.org.

The village of Bellville boasts a weekend filled with family entertainment during the Bellville Street Festival in September and a wintertime skating rink in the center of town. Many restaurants and quaint shops make the little village a great destination when visiting the area.
Main Street Mount Vernon First Friday
First Friday of each month May - October

Great Mohican Pow-Wow
July 13-15 & September 14-16

Knox County Fair
July 21-28

Dan Emmett Music & Arts Festival
August 9-12

Fredericktown Tomato Show
September 5-8

Mohican Bluegrass Festival
September 13-16

Ohiolina Music Festival
September 14-15

Centerburg Oldtime Farming Festival
September 15-16

Heart of Ohio Tour
October 6-7

Main Street Mount Vernon Christmas Parade & Walk
November 25
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