

SUMMER 2011  
50TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF CANOEING  
IN OHIO  
SPECIAL EDITION



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Canoeing on the Mohican River  
Photo courtesy of Times-Gazette

### READ ALL ABOUT OUR 50TH, ON-LINE

Read about the 50th anniversary of canoeing in Ohio on our web page. The site includes 50th articles, historic photos, copies of proclamations, canoe livery information, River Report, places to stay and things to do.

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

1-877-266-4422

# The Loudonville Paddler

The Official Newsletter of the Mohican-Loudonville Visitors Bureau

## CANOEING HAS BROUGHT VISITORS TO MOHICAN AREA FOR 50 YEARS

by Jim Brewer  
Ashland Times-Gazette  
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Published in May 2011

Fifty years ago, Mansfield entrepreneur Dick Frey launched a new business, a commercial canoe livery, on the banks of the Pine Run where it runs into the Clear Fork. Just recently the Ohio Division of Watercraft formally declared that the Mohican area was indeed the Canoe Capital of Ohio, based on the number of canoes, kayaks and other watercraft registered in the area. This declaration, made in the form of a resolution, was one of the last acts of former Ohio Department of Natural Resources Division of Watercraft Chief Pamela Dillon, made at the PaddlePalooza Watercraft and Outdoors Convention in Columbus last month (April) as part of statewide Earth Day activities.

With six operating canoe liveries serving the Mohican River and its tributaries, the Clear, Black and Lake Forks, the area has the capacity to rent out literally thousands of canoes, along with both one- and two-person kayaks, to run down the beautiful stream valleys.

Operating liveries include Loudonville Canoe Livery in downtown Loudonville; the Mohican Adventures Canoe and Fun Center and Mohican Valley Canoe Livery on Ohio 3 on the south side of Loudonville; the Lake Fork Canoe Livery five miles northeast of Loudonville on Ohio 3; the River Run Canoe Livery on the Wally Road just south of Loudonville; and the Mohican Wilderness Canoe Livery, about eight miles south of Loudonville, again on the Wally Road.

The area also is well known as a venue for camping, with five area privately operated campgrounds, Arrow Point, Mohican

Reservation, Wally World, Camp Toodik and Smith's Pleasant Valley Campground offering shuttle service to local canoe liveries.

Throughout the summer, people flock to the area for canoeing and other attractions, including camping, swimming, hiking, picnicking, mountain biking and taking advantage of Ohio's newest zip-line operation, Tree Frog Canopy Tours about 8 miles south of Loudonville.

Another focal point of area activity is Mohican State Park and Mohican-Memorial State Forest, a 5,700 acre recreational and forestry resources complex 5 miles southwest of Loudonville off Ohio 3 and Ohio 97. Park activities include hiking, mountain biking, horseback riding, picnicking, camping, and enjoy deluxe lodging at Mohican State Park Lodge.



In its infancy, Loudonville area canoe liveries offered canoe trips clear to New Orleans, or at least Marietta, but as the industry streamlined, it concentrates on shorter trips. Longest trip offered, for instance, by the Mohican Adventures canoe livery, the area's largest and the descendant of Frey's original Mohican Canoe Livery, is a two-day trip, with canoes put in upstream on the Black Fork north of Perrysville, an overnight campout at the Adventures Campground in Loudonville, and canoeing down to Frey's Landing below the Wally Camp Site the second day, a total of about 18 river miles. Loudonville Canoe Livery still offers a 7-day trip, ending in Marietta, where the Muskingum runs in to the Ohio.

Industry Founder Frey reportedly offered adventurers the opportunity to canoe clear to New Orleans, with the understanding they sell the canoe when they arrived there and use the sales proceeds to buy airfare back to Ohio.

Canoe info available  
[WWW.DiscoverMohican.com](http://WWW.DiscoverMohican.com)  
1-877-266-4422



## Mohican-Loudonville Visitors Bureau



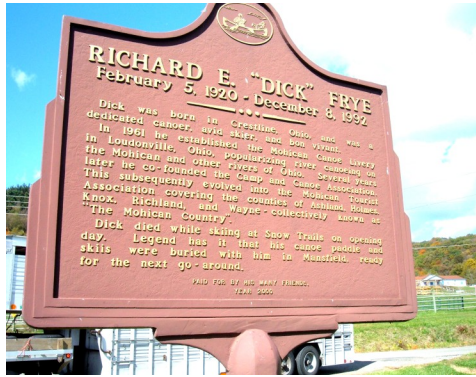
### LOUDONVILLE - CANOE CAPITAL OF OHIO

In tribute to Loudonville unique contribution to the Mohican area's economy and beginning commercial canoeing in Ohio 50 years ago, we are proud to accept the recognition of State and local government.

**Ohio Department of Natural Resources**  
On April 22, 2011 in Columbus the ODNR Division of Watercraft honored the entire area by officially designating Loudonville—Canoe Capital of Ohio. The designation was determined based on the “certified number of canoe and other hand-powered boat registrations and combined concentration of paddling activities.”

**Ohio Senate**  
The Ohio Senate also recognized the area and the Mohican-Loudonville Visitors Bureau. In the proclamation Senator Tom Nei-

haus, Ohio Senate President and Senator Kris Jordan, 19th Senatorial District acknowledged the Visitor Bureau's “efforts to



promote local tourist activities, including canoeing, and support the economy, and its accomplishments are a justifiable source of

pride...” They also indicated the 50th anniversary milestone as “...an outstanding reflection not only on the organization itself but also on its hard-working staff and volunteers and on the community.”

**Ashland County Commissioners**  
In honor of Ohio Tourism Month, the three Ashland County Commissioners, Michael Welch, Kim Edwards, and Barb Queer also acknowledged Loudonville's 50th anniversary of canoeing. They also recognized the contribution made by tourism to the local economy.

*The full text of these proclamations and other 50th anniversary info are available on our web page*

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

### A GREAT PLACE TO SPEND THE NIGHT

Loudonville - a great place to visit! So why not spend the night? There are many options to “rest your head” after a day exploring the area. We have everything from rustic to royal.

Let's start with **CAMPING**.  
Rough it in a tent or bring the RV. Some campgrounds have river sites. Choose from campgrounds such as **Charles Mills Lake Park, Long Lake Park, Mohican Adventures, or Mohican Valley Camp** or stay at the always popular **Mohican State Park**. The area has 2600 camp sites!



*A getaway to Loudonville is close by and most affordable.*

How about a cozy **BED N BREAKFAST**? **Blackfork Inn** is a splendid Victorian lovingly restored to the grandeur of ages past. It's just three blocks from downtown.

**HOTEL** The locally owned **Mohican Little Brown Inn** provides the amenities guests expect at reasonable rates. The 20-room motel is on S. Market, State Route 3, and is near the canoe liveries, Mohican State Park & the Tree Frog Canopy Tours.

**CABINS** From basic to deluxe screen tv's, whirlpools, with flat screen tv's, whirlpools, some with river or water



**Mohican State Park Resort**  
Photo by David Fitzsimmons

water views, decks and more, sleeping from 6 to 16. Cabins available at **Black-Fork Cabins (new), Kandlelight, Long Lake Park, Mohican Adventures, Mohican State Park, and Mohican Valley Camp & Cabins.**

**COTTAGES** Former family residences fixed up for guests to spend a fun weekend, week, even a month. They include **Honeycreek Hideaway** north of town and **Red Brush Cottage**, on the south side of town.

**STATE PARK LODGE** Nestled in the scenic river valley surrounded by 6,000 acres of pristine forest, **Mohican State Park Lodge** treats guests to deluxe accommodations and Award Winning Service. The **Lodge** features 96 luxury rooms, full-service restaurant and cocktail lounge, two heated swimming pools, conference center and more. Guests enjoy great views of Pleasant Hill Lake.

For a royal getaway consider **Landoll's Mohican Castle**. On 1,100 secluded acres of forest, the Castle boast 16 rooms truly fit for royalty. Each is unique filled with antiques and imported building materials. Guests can enjoy great dining in the Stepping Stone Restaurant. The Event Center is very popular for weddings.

For info go to [DiscoverMohican.com](http://DiscoverMohican.com) or call 877-266-4422



## Mohican-Loudonville Visitors Bureau



### 6 CANOE LIVERIES FOR GREAT FAMILY FUN

With six canoe liveries, Loudonville has no shortage of places for great family fun. All these liveries also offer camping and some even have cabins to make it a weekend. Here's a list of what has made Loudonville - Canoe Capital of Ohio for 50 years!  
**Most liveries are open until October 30 so you still have 2 months to enjoy a trip down the River with your family.**

#### Lake Fork Canoe Livery

On State Route 3 northeast of town, Lake Fork is the only livery on this branch of the Mohican River. *Season:* May—September; *Hours:* 9 am to 4 pm; *Trip Length:* 2 to 4 hours. Call 877-885-7866 and on-line at [www.CampToodik.com](http://www.CampToodik.com).

**Loudonville Canoe Livery** The downtown livery on the Black Fork branch. *Season:* April—October; *Hours:* 9 am to 6 pm; *Trip Length:* 45 min to 3 days. Call 888-226-6356 and on-line at

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

#### Mohican Adventures Canoe

Fifty years old this year! Located on S. Market, State Route 3 just south of



50 years later Mohican Adventures today

downtown. *Season:* April—October; *Hours:* 9 am to 5 pm; *Trip Length:* 2 hours to 2 days. Call 800-662-2663 and at [www.MohicanAdventures.com](http://www.MohicanAdventures.com).

#### Mohican Valley Canoe Livery

Also south of downtown, on S. Market, State Route 3. *Season:* May—October; *Hours:* 9 am to 5 pm; *Trip Length:* 1 1/2

hours to 4 hours. Call 800-682-2663 and on-line at [www.MohicanValley.com](http://www.MohicanValley.com).

#### Mohican Wilderness

Located on historic and scenic Wally Road south of downtown off State Route 3. *Season:* May—October; *Hours:* 9 am to 5 pm; *Trip Length:* 1 to 5 hours. Call 740-599-6741 and on-line at [www.MohicanWilderness.com](http://www.MohicanWilderness.com).

#### River Run Canoe Livery

Also located on Wally Road just off State Route 3 south of town. *Season:* May-October; *Hours:* 9 am to 5 pm; *Trip Length:* 1 to 4 hours. Call 219-994-1116 and on-line at [www.RiverRunFamilyCampground.com](http://www.RiverRunFamilyCampground.com).

For this and more canoeing info check out the River Report on our home page  
**www.DiscoverMohican.com**  
1-877-2MOHICAN toll free

#### 2011 Area Calendar of Events

- Sept 9-11 NASA Championships, Mansfield
- Sept 10 Apple Festival, Appleseed Center
- Sept 10-11 Colonial Soldiers Weekend, Grist Mill
- Sept 15-17 Bluegrass Festival, Mohican Reservation
- Sept 16-17 Log Cabin Days, Hochstetler Mill
- Sept 16-18 Great Mohican Pow-Wow
- Sept 17 & 24 Fall Festival, Scenic Ridge Farm
- Sept 19-25 158th Ashland County Fair, Ashland
- Sept 24-25 35th Ohio Heritage Days Festival
- Oct 1 OctoberFest, Grist Mill
- Oct 1 Fall Festival, Scenic Ridge Farm
- Oct 1-2 & 8-9 Prairie Peddler Festival, Butler
- Oct 5-9 123rd Loudonville Free Street Fair
- Oct 7-9 Louie Historical Drama, Malabar
- Oct 8 Fall Color Walk Malabar Farm Park
- Oct 14-16 Fall Foliage Drive-It-Yourself Tour
- Oct 7-9 Louie Historical Drama, Malabar
- Oct 16 Mohican 5K Fun Run
- Nov 25 Black Friday Sales
- Dec 2-4 Holiday Shop Hop (Dec 3 Parade)

#### Check Out River Report On Line

Is the river opened or closed today? Updated daily, the Mohican River Report is available on-line at our website.

#### WEB PAGE UPDATED, EASIER TO USE

We are always updating our web page. The home page now has a cleaner, more appealing look. A series of scrolling photos are a great way to get some incredible views of what the area has to offer. A **What's New** section highlights new or little known attractions & events. The **Calendar of Events** is updated annually & revised as new events are developed.

Need more info or a Visitors Guide, planning a banquet or family reunion, sign-up to receive our free e-newsletter: Email to: [Info@DiscoverMohican.com](mailto:Info@DiscoverMohican.com) or call toll-free 877-266-4422

#### Mohican-Loudonville & Visitors Bureau

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