



By Shopping Locally, You Help Strengthen Your Community!

# Maumee Uptown Business Spotlight



Some accessories from Encore Furniture @ 306 come from local design studios.



Kiely White (left), her sister Rachel White (right) and their good friend Robin Reed Metz own and operate Encore Furniture @ 306. Last October, the consignment shop moved from South Toledo to uptown Maumee.

## Encore Furniture @ 306 Features Upscale Furniture And Accessories

BY NANCY GAGNET  
MIRROR REPORTER

High-end furniture doesn't have to be expensive, especially if you don't mind if it's second hand.

Encore Furniture @ 306, a consignment shop in uptown Maumee, offers an eclectic mix of lamps, mirrors, artwork, glassware, chairs, stools, couches, desks, dressers, floral arrangements and more.

Sisters Rachel and Kiely White, along with their family friend Robin Reed Metz, own and operate the store.

Last October, they moved the business from South Toledo to Maumee.

"We love it here," said Kiely. "We have more exposure and it's a better area."

All of the ladies have a background in design, so staging the items that come in is especially enjoyable, said Kiely.

"Every day is different. We get to use our creative juices and we love that part," she said.

With over 250 consigners bringing items into the store, there is always something

new to discover. And while trends may change, sometimes there's no rhyme or reason in regard to the items that are bought and sold.

"In the winter couches seem to sell more and in the fall people tend to buy dressers," Rachel said. "But other than that, it's hard to say. It's different every day and you never know what treasure someone will find."

Unique vintage finds and mid-century pieces with sharp edges and clean lines are especially valued. And since the shop doesn't carry any torn or damaged pieces or items made with particle-board, the growing business seems to indicate a return to appreciating the value of solid, hardwood, well-made goods.

"Our general rule of thumb is that we only carry items that we would have in our home," said Robin.

Some things derive from downsizing, moving or decluttering spaces. Other items come from estate sales that Rachel, Kiely and Robin love to peruse. One of their clients owns a full-service interior design studio, so items such as designer lamps, fabric and accessories are sold practically brand new at discounted prices.

The owners divide their time between running the shop and other work. Kiely is a realtor, Rachel is a graphic designer and real estate investor and Robin previously worked for an interior design business before semi-retiring. Rachel and Kiely's mother Diane Mennitt-



The store features many unique items including this Noah's Ark, made of hand-carved wood.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF ELISABETH PAIGE PHOTOGRAPHY

White started the business in 2011 with a consignment booth that eventually grew to a storefront on South Detroit Avenue. She has since passed away, but the sisters and their friend Robin are happy to carry on the work that Dianne helped cultivate.

"We have so many great memories of my mom with this business, so for us, this is a great way to stay connected to her," Rachel said.

*Encore Furniture @ 306 is located at 306 Conant St. in uptown Maumee.*

*Store hours are Tuesday through Friday, 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.*

*For more information, you may call the store at (419) 465-7253 or visit online: [www.encorefurniture306.com](http://www.encorefurniture306.com).*

### Uptown Update

THE LATEST NEWS IN UPTOWN MAUMEE

#### MUBA Hosts Monthly Membership Meetings

Maumee Uptown Business Association (MUBA) membership meetings are open to all MUBA members. The meetings take place on the first Tuesday of each month from 8:00 to 9:00 a.m.

In March, the meeting will take place at In Bloom Flowers and Gifts, located at 203 Conant St., Maumee.

#### Uptown Maumee To Host Acoustics For Autism

Acoustics for Autism will take place on Sunday, March 6 at the Village Idiot, Buster Brown's Lounge and in the West Mews parking lot, all in uptown Maumee. The ninth annual event takes place from noon to 2:00 a.m. and features live music, prizes and a silent auction.

#### Easter "Egg"stravaganza Offers "Egg"cellent Time

The second annual Easter "Egg"stravaganza will be held in uptown Maumee on Saturday, March 19 from 10:00 a.m. to noon. Like trick-or-treating, children ages 3-12 may visit local businesses to collect plastic Easter eggs filled with candy. Children can also visit with the Easter Bunny and make special crafts.



This chaise in bold flower print is one of many items that are practically brand new.