

News from FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.  
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## Redbud Trail Rendezvous April 29-30, 2023

Forget the rain and snow flurries that stalled spring in Indiana this year. The Redbud Trail Rendezvous will bring frontier fun right on schedule April 29-30 at the Fulton County Historical Society. The location is four miles north of Rochester on U.S. 31 and 375 N. Tents will be set up south of the barn and Living History Village.

Saturday hours are 10-5 and Sunday hours are 10-4. Admission is \$3 for adults, and free for children age 11 and under. For more information, contact FCHS at 574-223-4436 or [fchs@rtcol.com](mailto:fchs@rtcol.com), [www.fultoncountyhistory.org](http://www.fultoncountyhistory.org). **Rain or Shine the festival will go on.**

Since 1991, the Redbud Trail Rendezvous has brought fun history to northern Indiana. Often the first living history event of the spring, it portrays Indiana history from the Revolutionary War to the Civil War, making this a pre-1865 event. Tents will be set up and lived in for the weekend by re-enactors and traditional craftsmen who will demonstrate and talk to the public about frontier history and camping.

People dressed in authentic pre-1865 outfits demonstrate many traditional crafts. Crafts include flint knapping, beadwork, spinning and weaving, leather, watercolor painting, pewter casting, wood carving, blacksmith, scrimshaw, fingerweaving, and much more.

Foods cooked over wood fires will include ham and beans, vegetable stew, buffalo burgers, sassafras tea, and breakfast of biscuits and sausage gravy - Fulton County Historical Society booth. Fudge by Mark Gropp in General Store.

Because activities at the museum Sat. morning, the north gate to the rendezvous will be by the round barn. The Fulton County Museum, Round Barn Museum and some buildings in the Living History Village will be open for people to view.

Volunteers can earn free admission to the Redbud Trail Rendezvous by working half a day. To volunteer, call the museum at 574-223-4436. Free parking is provided on FCHS grounds. The grounds are handicapped accessible.

Again this year is a program tent with benches for the music and history presentations. On the schedule for **Saturday only** Mark and Liza Woolever with music and sing-along, Jennifer Laffoon – period music and River Valley Colonials Fife & Drum Corp. On **Sunday only** Paul Mitchell with music on Melodeon, and Kim Hoover of Hoots & Howls with birds of prey. Mark Gropp with bagpipes will play both days.

Robin Ozenbaugh and Garry Kelser will demonstrate loading and firing a muzzleloader, using powder but no lead, at their camp. During the Trail of Courage they use the shooting range but the Redbud Trail Rendezvous stays at the north end of the 35 acre FCHS grounds.

Fred Oden, Tim Pearson, Lakeville, and others will demonstrate iron working in the blacksmith shop.

Traditional crafts include Darrell French, Morgantown – Tin Smith; Steve Kirkpatrick, Edwardsburg, Mich – wood carving; Merle Miller, Laporte – Pewter Casting; Andrew & Cathy Rausch, Rochester – Corn husk Dolls; Steven Kirkpatrick, Edwardsburg – hand carved wood; and Mark Thomas – MT Forge blacksmithing.

**Redbud Trail Rendezvous Schedule Apr. 29-30, 2023**  
**In Living History Village by the Round Barn – Sat. & Sun.**  
**Schedule for both days unless otherwise stated: Subject to change.**

**Programs in Program Tent by picnic tables: - Saturday Only**

**11:00 – 11:30** Mark & Liza Woolever – Music  
**11:30-12:00** Jennifer Laffoon – music  
**12:00-12:30** Lunch Break  
**12:30 – 1:00** Mark Gropp – bagpipes  
**1:00 – 1:30** Jennifer Laffoon, music  
**2:00- 2:30** River Valley Colonials Fife & Drum Corp  
**2:30-3:00**  
**Mark & Liza Woolever , Plymouth – strolling musicians**

**Programs in Program Tent by picnic tables: - Sunday Only**

**11:00-11:30** Paul Mitchell – music on Melodeon  
**11:30-12:00** Mark Gropp – bagpipes  
**12:00-12:30** Lunch Break  
**12:30-1:30** Kim Hoover – Birds of Prey  
**1:30 – 2:00** Paul Mitchell – music on Melodeon

**Traditional Crafts demonstrated and sold by:**

Fred Oden & various blacksmiths in Blacksmith shop – red building  
Merle Miller, Laporte – Pewter casting  
Darrell French – Tinsmith  
Mark Thomas – blacksmith  
Andrew & Cathy Rausch – Corn Husk dolls  
Steen Kirkpatrick – wood carving

**Foods cooked over wood fires**  
**in the Living History Village south of Round Barn.**

**Fulton Co. Hist. Soc. – buffalo burgers, ham & beans, cornbread, vegetable stew, lemonade, coffee, sassafras tea.**

**Breakfast: biscuits and sausage gravy or Sausage and scrambled eggs.**

**If not in booth this will be inside the museum.**

**Mark Gropp – fudge in General Store (green house)**

**Funding from this event helps to keep the museum open and preserve history. Have a great day at the Redbud!**

**SUBJECT TO CHANGE.**