

News from FULTON COUNTY HISTORICAL SOCIETY, INC.
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Redbud Trail Rendezvous April 25-26, 2026

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 25-26 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, 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 Western Fur Trade, making this a pre-1840 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-1840 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 and Pork Rinds at the blacksmith shop.

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 River Valley Colonials Fife & Drum Corp. and The ClockWorks Clown- Emerald Kelley. On **Sunday only** Kim Hoover of Hoots & Howls with birds of prey. Mark Gropp with bagpipes will play both days.

Mark Blosser., Robert Wolfe, Tim Pearson and others will demonstrate iron working in the blacksmith shop.

Traditional crafts include Steve Kirkpatrick, Edwardsburg, Mich – wood carving; Merle Miller, Laporte – Pewter Casting; Bruce Eltzroth & Dana Farmer, Wabash – Children's Games & Toys; and others.

Redbud Trail Rendezvous Schedule Apr. 25-26, 2026
In Living History Village by the Round Barn – Sat. & Sun.
Schedule for both days unless otherwise stated: Subject to change.

Programs - Saturday Only

10:00- Opening Cremony – Mark Gropp -playing by General Store (green bldg)
11:00 – 11:30 – Mark Gropp – playing by General Store (green bldg)
11:30-12:00
12:00-1:00 Lunch Break
1:00 – 1:30 Mark Gropp – bagpipes – by General Store (green bldg)
2:00- 2:30 River Valley Colonials Fife & Drum Corp - marching

Programs - Sunday Only

10:00 – Opening Ceremony – Mark Gropp playing by General Store (green bldg)
11:00-11:30 River Valley Colonials Fire & Drum Corp. – marching
11:30-12:00 Mark Gropp – bagpipes by General Store (green bldg)
12:00-1:00 Lunch Break
1:00-2:00 Kim Hoover – Birds of Prey by picnic tables
2:00- 2:30 Mark Gropp – bagpipes by General Store (green bldg)

CLOCKWORKS CLOWN – VARIOUS TIMES ALL DAY BOTH DAYS

Traditional Crafts demonstrated and sold by:

Mark Blosser, Tim Pearson & various blacksmiths in Blacksmith shop – red building
Merle Miller, Laporte – Pewter casting
Steve Kirkpatrick – wood carving
Bruce Eltzroth & Dana Farmer, Wabash – Children's Games & Toys;

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
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!



FULTON CO HIST POWER SHOW JUN 19-20, 2026
TRAIL OF COURAGE LIVING HISTORY FESTIVAL SEPT. 19-20, 2026
FCHS PRESENTS: FORREST OF FEARZ (HAUNTED WOODS) Oct. 16-17, 23-24, Oct. 30-31