



Perry County

TENNESSEE

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2025-2026
Edition

Linden's 17th Annual Blooming Arts Festival Set for March 21-22

Mark your calendars for one of Tennessee's most anticipated spring events! The 17th Annual Blooming Arts Festival returns to downtown Linden on Friday, March 21, and Saturday, March 22, 2025, bringing a weekend filled with art, music, food, and community spirit.

Each year, the Blooming Arts Festival draws thousands of visitors to experience an impressive showcase of creativity, and this year is set to be the biggest yet! With over 250 vendors confirmed, festival goers can expect a diverse selection of handcrafted art, unique goods, and specialty items from artisans across the region.

"Blooming Arts is more than just a festival—it's a tradition that brings our community together," said Hayley Byrd, Festival Organizer. "With

incredible artists, talented musicians, and delicious food all in one place, it's the perfect way to celebrate the arrival of spring."

What to Expect at the 2025 Blooming Arts Festival:

- Over 250 artisan vendors showcasing handmade pottery, woodworking, jewelry, textiles, fine art, and more—vendor spaces are fully booked!
- Live music and entertainment throughout the weekend, featuring a mix of genres and talented performers.
- Delicious festival food and local eats with a variety of flavors, from classic fair favorites to homemade southern specialties.
- The Annual Quilt Show by the Blooming Arts Quilters, where visitors can admire stunning handcraft-

ed quilts and enter a drawing for this year's featured quilt, "Trip Around the World."

- Family-friendly fun, including interactive art stations, street performers, and engaging activities for all ages.
- Historic downtown charm, with opportunities to explore local shops, cafés, and the beautifully restored Commodore Hotel.

The Blooming Arts Festival is free to attend, making it an ideal spring getaway for families, art lovers, and travelers looking for an authentic Tennessee experience.

For festival details, entertainment schedules, and other updates, visit www.bloomingartsfestival.com or contact Bloomingartsfestival@gmail.com.

Join us in Linden, TN, on March 21-



22, 2025, for a weekend full of creativity, community, and celebration!



Blooming Arts 2025 Music Line-Up

Friday, March 21

Noon to 12:30 Opening Ceremony
12:45 to 1:45 Jesse & Noah Bellamy
1:45 to 2:45 Jess & J.D. of the U.S. 66 Band
2:45 to 3:45 Keifer Wiley
4:00 to 5:30 The Midnight Revival



Saturday, March 22

11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Jeff Quillen Band
1:00 to 2:00 Andi Jane
2:00 to 3:00 Les Kerr with The Grinder's Switch Ensemble
3:00 to 4:00 Lindsay Jordan



Quilt Show at the Azbill Community Center

“Trip Around the World Flower Bouquet” quilt is ready for this week’s festivities. The Perry County Quilters will have this quilt available and there will be many others on display during the Blooming Arts Festival and their Annual Quilt Show.

The two-day event will be at the Azbill Community Center on Friday, March 21 from noon until 4:00 p.m. and Saturday, March 22 from 9:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. If you would like the opportunity to be the new owner of “Trip Around the World” please inquire at the quilt show.

WELCOME TO PERRY COUNTY

Your Invitation: Explore Our Beautiful County

ALLYSON DICKEY

*Executive Director,
Chamber of Commerce & Tourism*

On behalf of the Blooming Arts Committee, our county and city governments, and the Perry County Chamber of Commerce and Tourism, I am thrilled to welcome you to the 17th annual Blooming Arts Festival.

Located in the heart of Nashville’s Big Backyard, Perry County has plenty for nature lovers, history buffs, and those who simply love to shop, eat, and soak up local flavor.

We certainly want you to take a look at everything our artisans and vendors offer, but while you’re here, we also invite you to explore our shops and restaurants. You’re sure to find a variety of gift and boutique items with a southern small-town twist in our many retail shops, and our Downtown Arts District features handmade treasures from jewelry, to original paintings, to reclaimed furniture, and beyond. Our retailers and artisans invite you to stop in and visit, learn more about their art and/or merchandise, and hear their stories.

Beyond Blooming Arts, Perry County has plenty to do throughout the year.

Did you know Perry County is home to a Tennessee State Park? Mousetail Landing State Park is located approximately 12 miles west of Linden, with primitive camping and camper sites. Enjoy 11 miles of scenic hiking trails, relax at the swim beach, play on the playgrounds and courts, and so much more. Be sure to check with the camp office to see what programs and activities are scheduled during your stay.

If you yearn for a simpler way of life, take a drive to the Russell Creek and Cane Creek Mennonite communities. Visit one of several produce

stands, enjoy a fabulous sandwich, specialty products and bulk supplies at Cane Creek Market, or visit Martin’s Greenhouse for supplemental garden- ing and landscaping.

If history is your thing, be sure to stop by the Perry County Chamber of Commerce and Welcome Center at 215 East

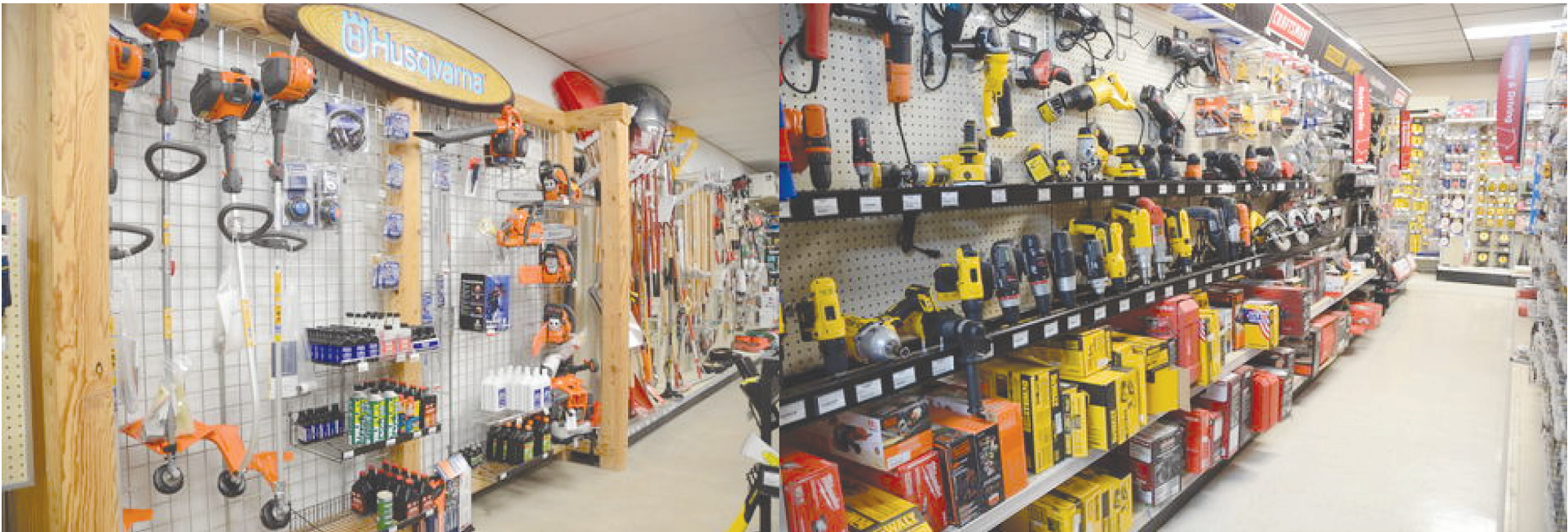
Main Street to pick up a Historical Driving Tour map. These maps highlight the historic sites of Perry County, including the Cedar Grove Iron Furnace and Pinckney’s Tomb.

The crown jewel of Perry County is the Buffalo River. Whether you enjoy canoeing, kayaking, or fishing, the Buffalo is the place for recreation and relaxation for everyone. Be sure to check out Buffalo River Resort in Lobelville for canoeing, kayaking, tubing, and plenty of concerts, events, and fun during the summer months. We are also home to the Tennessee River on our western border, which provides ample opportunities for catching catfish and bass, and pleasurable boating.

Again, it is a pure pleasure to invite you to explore our beautiful county. We promise you won’t leave disappointed. If you have a chance, stop by the Chamber and Welcome Center and say hello.



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TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS**

- 2024 - RAIN OUT - some games/no champion crowned
- 2023 - RAIN OUT - some games/no champion crowned
- 2022 - TIPTON-ROSEMARK ACADEMY LADY REBELS
- 2021 - RAIN OUT - some games/no champion crowned
- 2020 - PANDEMIC - no games/no champion
- 2019 - DECATUR COUNTY-RIVERSIDE HIGH PANTHERS
- 2018 - SCOTTS HILL HIGH LADY LIONS
- 2017 - RAIN OUT - no games/no champion
- 2016 - RIPLEY HIGH TIGERS
- 2015 - RIPLEY HIGH TIGERS
- 2014 - WAYNE COUNTY HIGH LADY CATS
- 2013 - MONTGOMERY CENTRAL HIGH INDIANS
- 2012 - DECATUR COUNTY-RIVERSIDE HIGH PANTHERS
- 2011 - RAIN OUT - no games/no champion
- 2010 - LEWIS COUNTY HIGH LADY PANTHERS
- 2009 - PERRY COUNTY HIGH LADY VIKINGS



Hardin Co. High School

TOURNAMENT SCHEDULE ON PAGE 8

Schedule of Games

FRIDAY, MARCH 21, 2025

PERRY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL FIELD-LINDEN

3:00 pm EAST HICKMAN HIGH v. BRUCETON HIGH
5:00 pm RIVERSIDE HIGH v. HARDIN COUNTY HIGH
7:00 pm HARDIN COUNTY HIGH v. EAST HICKMAN HIGH
9:00 pm BRUCETON HIGH v. RIVERSIDE HIGH

LOBELVILLE CITY PARK

3:00 pm PERRY COUNTY HIGH v. HALLS HIGH
5:00 pm MILAN HIGH v. RICHLAND HIGH
7:00 pm RICHLAND HIGH v. PERRY COUNTY HIGH
9:00 pm HALLS HIGH v. MILAN HIGH

SATURDAY, MARCH 22, 2025

PERRY COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL SOFTBALL FIELD-LINDEN

9:00 am PERRY COUNTY HIGH v. MILAN HIGH
11:00 am RICHLAND HIGH v. HALLS HIGH

ELIMINATION ROUND (Winners Advance to Semi-Finals)

1:00 pm #1 SEED v. #4 SEED
3:00 pm #2 SEED v. #3 SEED

LOBELVILLE CITY PARK

9:00 am EAST HICKMAN HIGH v. RIVERSIDE HIGH
11:00 am HARDIN COUNTY HIGH v. BRUCETON HIGH

ELIMINATION ROUND (Winners Advance to Semi-Finals)

1:00 pm #1 SEED v. #4 SEED
3:00 pm #2 SEED v. #3 SEED

SEMI-FINALS

5:00 pm Two winners from Lobelville (ELIMINATION ROUND)
7:00 pm Two winners from Linden (ELIMINATION ROUND)

9:00 pm **CHAMPIONSHIP GAME**
(Two Semi-Final Winners)



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MOUSETAIL LANDING STATE PARK

Located on the banks of the Tennessee River in western Perry County, Mousetail Landing is a gem in the state's park system. The park covers 1,249 acres of forest, flowing streams, scenic limestone bluffs, and boasts more than two miles of river shoreline. To get there, go west from Linden on Highway 412 for 13 miles, turn right on Highway 438. The park entrance will be on your left about two miles north. Visit the Park Visitor's Center & Museum to learn more about the name.

Photos by Pat Vanden Bosche.



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MAY 12TH, 1863 BURNING OF PERRY COUNTY COURTHOUSE

One of the most defining moments in Perry County's history took place on May 12, 1863, when Union forces captured and burned the county courthouse in Linden. This event was part of the broader conflict that engulfed Middle Tennessee during the Civil War, leaving a lasting impact on the region and its people.

The Battle in Linden

Before dawn on May 12, 1863, a Union flotilla commanded by Lt. Cmdr. Ledyard Phelps landed elements of the 6th Tennessee Cavalry Regiment on the Tennessee River, about 12 miles west of Linden. The small force of 55 men, led by Lt. Col. William Breckenridge, marched into Linden at daybreak.

They encountered Confederate forces under Lt. Col. William Frierson, who were preparing to leave Linden to join General Van Dorn's troops at Spring Hill. Caught by surprise, the Confederates, numbering around 100 men, were quickly overwhelmed. After a brief skirmish, Union forces captured Lt. Col. Frierson and 46 Confederate soldiers. Three Confederate soldiers were killed before reinforcements could arrive, while the only Union casualty was a single horse.

During the battle, the county courthouse, occupied by Confederate troops, was set on fire, destroying many early Perry County records. The Union troops then withdrew, escorting their prisoners back to the Tennessee River, where they were transported to Cairo, Missouri.

The intelligence gathered from this operation provided Union leaders with valuable insights into Confederate movements in Middle Tennessee, including plans to re-capture Fort Henry and attack Union forces under General Rosecrans. The engagement was even covered on the front page of The New York Times on May 17, 1863.

Lt. Col. Breckenridge later died of disease on October 15, 1863, and was buried at Shiloh National Cemetery.

Re-Enactment of the Capture and Burning of the Courthouse

For years, Perry County has honored this historic event through a unique re-enactment that takes place on the original site of the battle, complete with live-fire demonstrations on the courthouse square.

While the 2025 re-enactment is on hold, plans are being considered to bring it back in 2026. The event, which was last held on May 11, 2024, featured a full day of Civil War-era activities, including:



- Victorian Ladies' Tea
- A period concert by the 5th Alabama Regimental Band
- A re-enactment of the Battle of Beardstown
- A parade of troops
- The Capture and Burning of the Courthouse re-enactment
- A Grand Military Ball for re-enactors

The event has drawn history enthusiasts, re-enactors, and visitors eager to experience the only known courthouse battle re-enactment held at the original site.

For more info, contact:

Regina Sharp – jimnreginasharp@gmail.com
931-628-8621

The event is presented by the Town of Linden and Perry County Government.

For more updates, follow *Buffalo River Review* and local tourism announcements.



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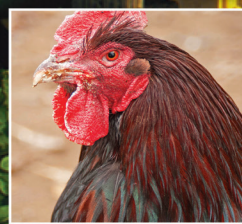
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Visitors: Welcome To Perry County, And We Hope You Plan To Stay A While

Welcome, visitors. We are happy to have you with us in beautiful Perry County. Your adventure here may be peaceful and calming, but it will never be boring.

With so many activities and attractions that allow you to experience the best of a scenic rural community, you'll find much to make your visit to Perry County memorable. But while we have much to offer, our greatest tourism asset is our friendly folks.

"It's Just Our Nature" to be welcoming, so if you have questions or need directions, don't hesitate to ask for information. We want you to have an outstanding time.

From arts and agriculture to outdoor activities and unique shops, or whatever you're in the mood for, you'll find it. Here are a few suggestions to get you started right off the bat. So, take your time and plan to stay a while.

Hike Lady's Bluff Trail, a National Recreation Trail, to the precipice overlooking the Tennessee River as it passes through "The Narrows." In spring and summer, you'll enjoy spectacular wildflower displays; fall brings vibrant colors, while winter offers far-reaching views.

Immerse yourself in history. Grab a brochure at the Welcome Center and head out to explore Perry County's Civil War history. Discover Cedar Grove Iron Furnace, the only remaining double stack charcoal furnace within the Western Highland Rim region of Middle Tennessee.

Or head out to Pinckney's Tomb, an eccentric folk structure thought to be the largest grave house in Tennessee.

If you're interested in Native American artifacts, poke your head into Linden's City Hall to view the archaeological display in the lobby.

Spend a sunny day on the river. Local outfitters can set you up for a fun day on various sections of the scenic Buffalo River. Perhaps you would rather be fishing? The Buffalo River is renowned for its world class smallmouth fishing and the Tennessee is famed for bass, catfish, sauger, and stripers.

Mosey around our two downtowns. Check out the beautiful murals on downtown Lobelville and Linden buildings. Pop into unique shops or savor numerous dining opportunities.



From top: Lady's Bluff Natural Area, Cedar Grove Iron Furnace, Pinckney's Tomb.

...And While You're Here, Suggestions On What You Can See & Experience

Lend your ear to "Music on Main Street" for some hot rhythms. Linden and Lobelville alternate weekends hosting this free perennial concert series on five summer Saturday evenings in May and June. Bring a lawn chair and set up for some good listening.

Visit the local Mennonite community and find handmade crafts by local artisans, locally produced honey and baked goods, bulk spices, and at local farm stands on Cane Creek and Russell Creek, fresh produce and more.

Have a bite to eat. There is a plate full of choices from one end of Perry County to the other. Chow down on real southern barbecue or scarf down some delicious Tennessee River catfish. How about hand-tossed pizza or southern-fried chicken?

In Linden, find one-of-a-kind creations at the Buffalo River Artisans Cooperative gallery on Main Street, and also on the main thoroughfare, stop by Main Street Marketplace, an emporium of small business owner specialty shops offering gifts and goodies you'll find nowhere else.

Practice your long drive or just putt around Buffalo River Country Club in Lobelville. This nine-hole public course covers 3,185 yards with a par of 36.

Motorcyclists can rumble down Tennessee State Route 13, one of the top motorcycle roads in the country. Make a beautiful scenic loop without a lot of traffic from Linden, turn down Marsh Creek Road, then onto Cedar Creek Road. Continue to Highway 128 to circle back to Linden on 13. Motorcycleroads.com calls this route a "great 5 star road with everything from winding, hilly, to curving. Just what every biker wants."

Find out how Mousetail Landing State Park got its name. Located on the banks of the Tennessee River, this 1,247-acre treasure offers something for everyone to enjoy. Camping, boating, day hikes, backpacking, swimming, and picnicking are just a few activities to try in this scenic wonderland.

For more ideas, stop by the Perry County Welcome Center at 215 East Main Street in Linden, or call 931-589-2453. Or ask any of our residents or merchants.



From top: Mennonite Community, Buffalo River Country Club, "Tennessee 13."



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Remembering World War II

September 26-27



Back in 2011, a conversation between two friends led to the first “Remembering World War II” living history event. Founder Anthony Courter’s wanted veteran Richard Corburn’s story to be shared with others at a public gathering to remember the sacrifices made for freedom in the 1940s USA.

After a hiatus because of growing pains and a need to re-focus, RWWII returned in 2024 and is scheduled again for Sept. 26-27, 2025.

“RWWII is a hands-on, living history event specifically built around honoring our vets, while we strive to cultivate a love for historical context which is part of every one of our lives. Spectators, as well as our re-enactors, will experience two live WWII re-enactments, both Allied and Axis army

encampments, live big band music, a 1940s canteen, vintage vehicles, a swap meet, and more.

“Most importantly, we will meet veterans as they share their stories, experiences, and memories. This is a rare opportunity to meet the men who fought and the families of those who helped preserve the freedoms we enjoy today.

“Join us for an unforgettable day of honoring our heroes, connecting personally with the past, and experiencing a taste of life in the 1940s.”

If you would like to volunteer or donate to RWWII, please email anthony@rememberingwwii.com.

All historic photos from the 2024 RWWII, taken by Sharon McKnight, *Buffalo River Review*.





Remembering World War II





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Local youth hunting clubs provide important life skills, foster family connections, and encourage community participation...

Engaging with nature is not just about appreciating its beauty. It is also about understanding its complexities. Hunting provides children with firsthand experiences of the natural world and allows them to witness ecosystems in action. This connection helps cultivate a deep

respect for wildlife, plants, and the delicate eco system that sustains life. Getting involved in nature-related activities can be an avenue for bonding, as families and community come together to teach and share knowledge about local terrain and wildlife. These connections

can create lasting memories and provide children with a sense of belonging and encouragement. Youth hunt clubs play a role in strengthening community bonds. They serve as a platform for youth to connect with one another, as well as with experi-

enced hunters and mentors. At the heart of any local hunt club is a dedicated group of volunteers and sponsors who invest their time and resources. By doing so, they are more importantly investing in a future generation that respects and cherishes the great outdoors.



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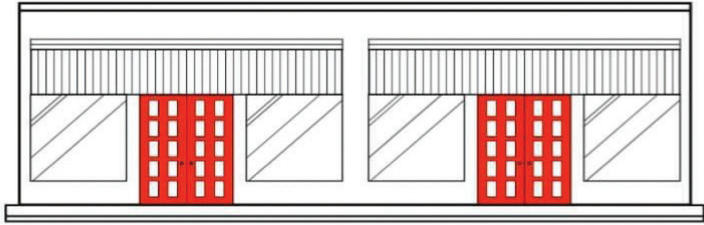
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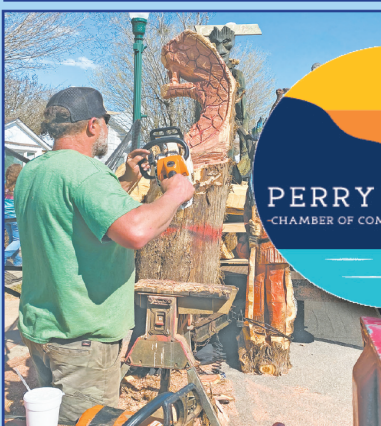
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FFA event offers fun for kids & adults

Mark your calendar for the 16th annual FFA Tractor & Truck Pull.

This year, the event will be held on Saturday, October 18, 2025, 8:00 a.m., at the FFA Blue & Gold Park, Highway 13 South of Linden (former saddle club).

All proceeds benefit the Perry County High School FFA Program.

Part old time country fair, the event has offered fun for all age groups, including Corn Hole Tournament, Skillet Throw, Tractor Rides, Kiddy Pull, Kids Power Wheel Derby, live music, and an auction.

The Tractor & Truck Pull features weight classes from 3,500 to 14,500 pounds, street stock and modified trucks in two-wheel drive and 4x4, gas and diesel, turbo and non-turbo. Vehicles compete on a 450+ foot track.

Concessions are available throughout the day—including breakfast. Plenty of parking.

More info closer to the date in the *Buffalo River Review*.

All photos on this page are from the Buffalo River Review.



**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 18, 2025
BLUE & GOLD PARK
LINDEN**

Heritage Day

At Mousetail Landing State Park

Heritage Day at Mousetail Landing State Park has become an annual celebration of history, tradition, and community, drawing visitors to experience the region's rich cultural heritage. While the date for the 2025 event has not yet been determined as of this publication, Heritage Day typically takes place in October.

Organized by the Friends of Mousetail Landing State Park, past Heritage Day events have featured a variety of hands-on activities and demonstrations. Visitors have enjoyed pioneer crafts, a bouncy house for children, face painting, and a car show. Heritage demonstrations have included blacksmithing, hide tanning, beekeeping, butter-making, lye soap-making, cane pole fishing, looms and spinning wheels, as well as gunsmithing and muskets.

Displays have showcased period quilts and Native American artifacts, while at-

tendees have browsed arts and crafts vendors and enjoyed a chili and bake sale. Live music performances, including tributes to historical Tennessee musicians, have also been a highlight of the event.

The annual Car Show, held at the park's swim beach, has welcomed cars and trucks of all makes and models. Trophies have been awarded in categories such as Best of Show, Ranger's Choice, Most Unique, and Best Classic.

Heritage Day is presented by Friends of Mousetail Landing State Park. Those interested in attending in 2025 can follow updates on the Friends of Mousetail Landing State Park Facebook page or check the Buffalo River Review newspaper for the latest event information.

Mousetail Landing State Park is located at 3 Campground Road, Linden.



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