

Join us as we celebrate
our nation's 250th anniversary of the
signing of the
Declaration of Independence!
Activities offered by the
REMUS-MECOSTA AREA
AMERICA250MI
COMMITTEE



REMUS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
REMUS MUSEUM
324 S. SHERIDAN, P. O.
Box 71,
REMUS, MI 49340
Online: www.Remus.org
"OUR PAST, YOUR FUTURE"

The purpose of the **Remus Area Historical Society, Inc. (RAHS)** an educational charitable nonprofit organization is to celebrate the heritage, and preserve cultural and historical resources, especially in the Townships of Wheatland, Broomfield, Rolland, Millbrook, Colfax, Morton, Martiny, Austin, Hinton, Sheridan, and surrounding area.

UPCOMING 2026 DATES:

- April 8, 15, 22, and 29 Wednesdays from 10-noon for **How to Build Your Family Tree**— Four-Part Genealogy Workshop Series being held at Morton Township Library in Mecosta, \$20 fee. Registration Deadline March 20th, Register by emailing instructor Mary Ann Stickler -maryannstickler@hotmail.com (See page 3).
- April 15, Wed. Remus Museum open 11-3 p.m., 4:30 Board Meeting.
- April 21, Tues. 6:30 p.m., **Trivia Night fundraiser** with Margo Miller for Remus Museum at Remus Tavern, \$10 per person, teams of 2-6. Local, State and National history! (See page 2).
- April 24th, Fri. 6 p.m. **Family/Kids Time with Revolutionary Drummer and Betsy Ross Program**, Morton Township Library, 110 South James St. in Mecosta.
- May 18-22, **School days** for Mecosta and St. Michaels third graders at Little River Schoolhouse. (See page 2).
- May 20, Wed. Remus Museum open 11-3 p.m., 4:30 p.m. Board meeting.
- May 20, Wed. 7:00 p.m. Morton Township Library **"Circling Lake Michigan: 1100 Miles of History, Arts & Culture"** with Dianna Higgs Stampfler.
- May 25, Mon. VFW Post 2335—9 a.m. **Remus Parade**, 10 a.m. **Memorial Program** at St. Michaels Catholic Church, 11 a.m. **Mecosta Parade**, 11:30 **Memorial** at Mount Hope Cemetery in Mecosta; 12 noon Free **Hotdog lunch** at VFW Post, 1050 W Main, Mecosta.
- June 13th, Sat. 5-8 p.m. **America250MI Colonial Social Gathering** at New Hope GMC Church, 7296 Nine Mile Rd. Mecosta, Michigan. **Tickets are free but limited; Email Remusmuseum@gmail.com to request or reserve your free tickets.** (See page 2).
- June 17th, Wed. Remus Museum open 11-3 p.m., 4:30 Board Meeting, 6 p.m.
- June 23, Tues. 7:00 p.m. Morton Township Library, Mecosta **"Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom"** by Kevin Wood.
- July 3, Fri. 2 p.m., **Patriotic Children's Scavenger Hunt** at VFW Post 2335 booth in Mecosta
- July 3, Fri. 6 p.m., **Patriotic Elvis concert** at Bromley Park, Mecosta.
- July 4, Sat.
 - 11 a.m. **Parade**— Village of Mecosta;
 - 12 p.m.—6 p.m. **Car Show** by VFW Post 2335, in Mecosta.
 - all day **Book Walk** for children, by Morton Township Library at Bromley Park, in Mecosta.
 - 12 p.m. **Children's Colonial Games and Music**, with Optimists, Bromley Park, in Mecosta.
 - **Fireworks** at dusk by Village of Mecosta.
- July 8, **Celebration of Declaration of Independence** at Wheatland Township Library, 207 Michigan Avenue, Remus.
- July 11, 18 and 25th from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Docent led tours of 1905 **Little River Schoolhouse (LRS)**, at School Section Lake Veteran's Park, 9003 90th Avenue, Mecosta, MI 49332.
- July 14, Tues. 7 p.m. Morton Township Library, Mecosta, Ben Traverse, **"Sea Shanty Sing-a-long."**
- July 15, Wed. Remus Museum open 11-3 p.m., 4:30 Board Meeting.
- July 18, Sat. 1 p.m. Remus Museum Open House during Remus Heritage Days - Presenter author Dana Kenneth Johnson **"History of Mecosta County."** August 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 from 11 to 2 p.m. Docent led tours of 1905 **Little River Schoolhouse (LRS)**, at School Section Lake Veteran's Park, 9003 90th Avenue, Mecosta, MI 49332.
- Aug. 19, Wed. Remus Museum open 11-3 p.m., 4:30 Board Meeting.
- Sept. 5, Sat. 11 a.m. **Voyageurs & the American Fur Trade Company** at Little Bear Artisan & Maker's Fair downtown Mecosta.
- Sept. 16th, Wed. Remus Museum open 11-3 p.m., 4:30 Board Meeting
- Open House at School Section Park celebrating Little River Schoolhouse renovation.

See www.Remus.org for news about other upcoming events.

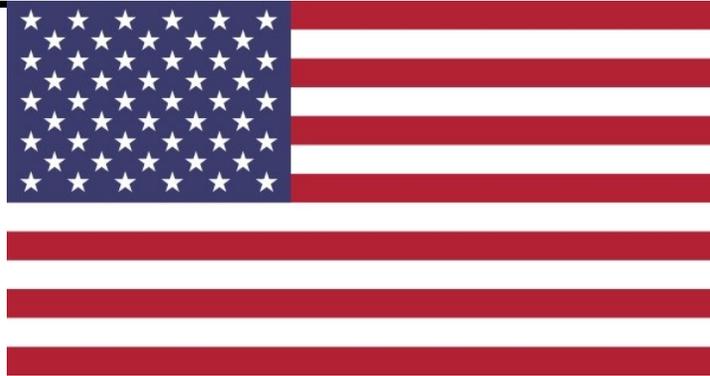
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Volunteers are needed to help us manage the Remus Museum grounds, create and label displays, greet museum visitors, especially Memorial Day through Labor Day. Help identify people and places in photos. Collect area obituaries. Build shelves/organize out buildings and collections. Assemble scrapbooks. Join the Board! Choose your area of interest!

Remus Museum is open every Wednesday April - October, 11 a.m.—3 p.m.

The Declaration of Independence, the founding document of the United States, was signed July 4, 1776. The 250th anniversary of American independence is this summer July 4, 2026!

Remus Area Historical Society (RAHS) is leading a collaboration called the **REMUS-MECOSTA AREA AMERICA250MI COMMITTEE** in partnership with America250MI -the statewide commemoration of the nation's 250th anniversary in celebrating Michigan's past, present, and future.



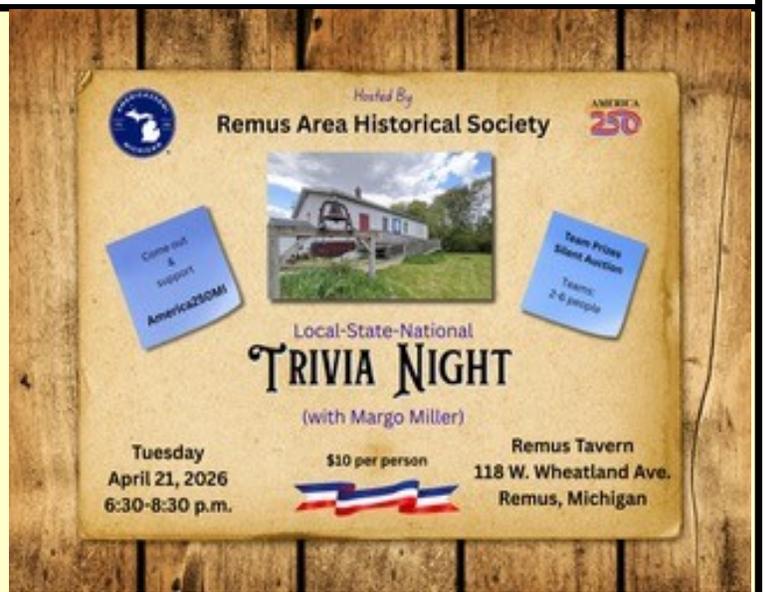
<https://www.america250mi.org/>

Starting in April, the partners will offer a range of activities (**See schedule on page 1**) that explore, preserve and disseminate the unique rich history of our naturally integrated community and its impact on Michigan. Activities are planned for children and adults that celebrate freedom, democracy, equity and teach our melting pot story - a unique model of community members supporting one another. These take place at the Remus Museum, libraries, area parks and other local locations. Among these activities:

- Preserving/restoring the 1905 **Little River Schoolhouse**, a Michigan historic site, by replacing windows located on its original site now part of School Section Lake Veteran's Park, 9003 90th Avenue, Mecosta, MI 49332. From May 18-22nd, 150 third grade students will visit the one room Little River School house for a day of fun and learning, wear old-time clothing provided and have their pictures taken, read from McGuffey readers, practice cursive skills writing with quill pens, do basic math skills using slates and slate pencils, enjoy traditional games and receive a packet of information printed compliments of Ferris State University. Little River Schoolhouse volunteers will lead tours for families on Saturdays during July and August.
- June 13th, Sat. 5-8 p.m. **America250MI Colonial Social Gathering** at New Hope GMC Church, 7296 Nine Mile Rd. Mecosta. This community event will allow participants (adults and youth 13+) to experience a 1776 style formal social affair (guests are encouraged to wear period correct attire). Guests will enjoy: an outdoor tent encampment, re-enactor entertainment [reader's theater about Women of the Revolution, John Adams & Benjamin Franklin], colonial & military music, door prizes and mementos, colonial food & drinks, formal 'high teas', a tea proprietor, authentic dances, and a separate silent auction. **Tickets are free but limited; Email remusmuseum@gmail.com to request or reserve your free tickets.**

AMERICA250MI Partners include:

- | | |
|--|---|
| ◆ Remus Area Historical Society | ◆ General Federation of Women Clubs - Mecosta, "Heart of the Lakes" |
| ◆ Little River Schoolhouse Volunteer Group | ◆ Optimists |
| ◆ Mecosta County Park Commission | ◆ Daughters of American Revolution, Mecosta Chapter |
| ◆ Albert Schiffer VFW Post 2335 | ◆ Mecosta History Club |
| ◆ Morton Township Library | ◆ Michigan One Room School House Association |
| ◆ Russell Kirk Center | ◆ Mecosta County Convention & Visitors Bureau |
| ◆ Mecosta County Optimist Club | ◆ Wheatland Township |
| ◆ Old Settlers Reunion Website | ◆ Village of Mecosta |
| ◆ Thrivent | ◆ Wheatland Township Library |
| ◆ Remus Downtown Development Authority (DDA) | |
| ◆ Mecosta County Commission on Aging | |



How to Build Your Family Tree For Beginner/Intermediate -A Four-Part Genealogy Workshop Series with Mary Ann Stickler - in partnership with Remus Area Historical Society and Morton Township Library.

In this series participants will:

- Learn how to build your family tree;
- Discover how and where to find free records;
- Investigate value of Ancestry.com membership;
- Realize ways to use newspapers to understand life/times of ancestors;
- Explore a bit about how AI can be helpful in research and writing;
- Use guided instruction time to work on your family tree.

Sessions will take place at the Morton Township Library in Mecosta

Wednesday mornings from 10AM – Noon

Session One: Wednesday, April 8, 2026

Session Two: Wednesday, April 15, 2026

Session Three: Wednesday, April 22, 2026

Session Four: Wednesday, April 29, 2026

Workshop fee \$20 for all four sessions.

To insure a positive experience, limit of **15 participants. Some laptops will be available.** Laptop very helpful but not required. Detailed handouts provided. Registration deadline Friday March 20. **To register or ask questions, email: maryannstickler@hotmail.com**



REMUS-MECOSTA AREA HISTORY MILESTONES...

- In 1836, Chief Mecosta, meant "Big Bear Paw," "Bear Cub," or "Little Bear", signed his X mark on the Potawatomi Treaty ceding Native American land to the U.S. government.
- In 1837, Michigan became the 26th state.
- In 1840, Mecosta County boundaries defined.
- In 1840, the government sold land to lumber barons and was soon filled with lumbermen.
- In 1859, the first Mecosta County government formed.
- In 1862, the Homestead Act offered land to any citizen or intended citizen, including immigrants, women and former slaves, 160 acres with a title at end of five years as long as the settlers resided on and improved the land.
- In 1877, Bingen established, settlement moved 1880 as Remus to be on railroad line.
- In 1877, Isaac and Lucy Berry claimed homestead at School Section Lake, built a home, orchard, recreation area and a log structure as the first school for area children; wife Lucy was first teacher of this naturally integrated school.
- In 1879, Mecosta village was established.
- In 1905, Berry offered two acres in Section 16 (the School Section) for a new clapboard school house. Named for the Berry's home in Canada, Little River School was built by a group of neighbors and served multi-racial children until 1935. It still stands on its original location today.



Remus Area Historical Society (RAHS)

324 S. Sheridan, P. O. Box 71
Remus, MI 49340

For more information, call
Linda Howard (989) 560-8305,
Char Lenon (989) 560-2431, or
Dawn Snyder (989) 561-5469
Email: RemusMuseum@gmail.com.

If you wish to be deleted from this list or if this email should have been directed to a different email address



For Sale at Remus Museum!
History books
& Heart of Remus T-Shirts.
Sizes: Sm. \$15; M-3XL \$20

FINANCIAL SUPPORT... We are grateful to our members, donors and grant makers.

These donors contributed money needed to match our grants:

- Little River Schoolhouse Volunteer Group
- Albert Schiffer VFW Post 2335
- Russell Kirk Center
- Mecosta County Opti-mist Club
- Old Settlers Reunion Website
- Mecosta County Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Thrivent
- Remus Downtown Development Authority (DDA)
- Hixson's Family Market
- Fates Market
- Wheatland Music Organization.



Grantmakers: State of Michigan America250MI and Consumers Energy Foundation (both pending).

The Museum is open to residents and visitors **every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. through October 31**, and by appointment.

COME TO A MEETING!

Regular meetings are held the **3rd Wednesday of each month at 4:30 p.m.** at the Remus Museum.

Because (RAHS) is an incorporated tax exempt nonprofit, all gifts are tax deductible as allowed by law.

Yes, I wish to support the Remus Area Historical Society (RAHS) and Museum.

Contact Name (s) _____

Would you rather remain anonymous? ____ yes ____ no

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Phone Number _____ Email Address _____

Enclosed is

\$ ____ for **RAHS membership**. (\$35-individual, \$50-family, \$100-business or group, \$500 - supporting member/group.)

Gifts are being made in memory/honor of: _____ Please mail an acknowledgement to
_____ (name) _____ (address)

_____ city/state/zip.

\$ _____ **TOTAL** enclosed.

PLEASE MAKE CHECK MADE PAYABLE TO **RAHS**; MAIL TO: REMUS AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY (RAHS), INC., P.O. BOX 71, REMUS, MICHIGAN 49340. DONATIONS CAN ALSO BE SENT VIA PAYPAL.