

## Gays Mills Folk Fest Press Release 2026

Whoop dee doo! The Gays Mills Folk Festival is coming right up, May 8th, 9th, and 10th, 2026. What better way to spend the weekend than dancing, picking, grinning, and listening to some great musical acts from around the Midwest. Bring your Moms! The festival kicks off Friday evening at 7 o'clock with a lively square dance in the Gays Mills Community Commerce Center, 16381 Hwy 131. All dances are taught, no experience necessary, fun for all ages.

Saturday's events start at noon outside the community building. Afternoon events include an open stage (bring your talents), Maypole dance, fiddle bee, and a variety of music and dance workshops. Food will be available with tacos by Ladi on the fest grounds from 12 to 3 and a chili dinner at the KEX from 5 to 7.

The big Saturday concert starts at 7:00 pm also in the Community Commerce Center. The first act, "Stay Tuned," is a group of seasoned musicians from the Dodgeville area, performing renditions of classic country and Western swing from the likes of Hank, Patsy, Willie, and other greats. Next, we are excited to welcome the Native Intertribal Dance company (formerly the Little Priest Singers), a group of speakers, singers, and dancers from several of the woodland tribes. For over forty years, members have been traveling around showcasing traditional tribal music and culture. Last but not least is Slapdash Bluegrass. Playing a mix of original and traditional songs, they are a dust-kicking, fast-picking bluegrass and old time band, sure to get your toes tapping.

Wrapping up the festival, as always, is the Sunday morning gospel sing, overlooking the Kickapoo sloughs behind the library. For more information, check out our website, [www.gaysmillsfolkfest.org](http://www.gaysmillsfolkfest.org)

The Gays Mills Folk Festival is a project of the Kickapoo Cultural Exchange (KCE).