



ROLLIN' AROUND THE SQUIRLE



PASSPORT TO A POP UP ADVENTURE!

See and do all the "round" attractions and events you can.

August 24, 2024 ~ Blue Rapids, Kansas

The "Squirle" is an 8 Wonders of Kansas Customs Finalist



A collaboration between the
Kansas Explorers Club and Blue Rapids Round Town Square Festival

PLAN YOUR POP UP DAY IN BLUE RAPIDS



8am-9pm: Round Town Square Festival, Public Square, Museum and Community Building. Activities include kid games, crafts show, bake sale, bingo, raffles, open mic, live music at 6pm and much more!



9am-9pm: Blue Rapids Museum, 36 Public Square
Learn about the gypsum industry, Cold War experiments done in Marshall County, and see their special exhibit "A Train Runs Through It." Sit down and play vintage board games inside or enjoy a round of croquet and giant bubbles outside! Donations welcome.



10am: "Rollin' Round the Squirrel", Public Square
Take advantage of this opportunity to move around the squirrel on any kind of non-motorized conveyance (motorized wheelchairs are welcomed). Roller skates will be available. Bring your bicycle, skateboard, stroller--or just walk around. Theme music will be playing! Bring lawn chairs if you just want to watch.



10:30am: The Stump on the Square
In the middle of the "rollin' around" hour we'll pause to do The Stump. Hear about the plan for the day, answer Marci's Kansas questions and buy merchandise.



10am-12pm: Alcove Spring, 1780 E River Road
A part of the Oregon Trail that ran along the Big Blue River, this stop was a well known campsite for trail travelers. An eighth mile walk and guided signage take you to the spring. Local experts, Don Musil and Duane Iles will answer questions from 10am-noon.



10am-2pm: Central Branch Railroad, 11th & Main
Take a ride on the custom-built passenger car on the Central Branch Railroad. Rides from Blue Rapids across Big Blue River. Reservations not required on August 24, but suggested for larger groups. Seating for 15 passengers. Hayrack ride available from the Squirrel to the station. Rides happen on the hour starting at 10am. Last ride starts at 2pm. **Fee:** \$5 per person



11am-: Fish Fry at the Round Town Square Festival, downtown Blue Rapids. Serving until the fish runs out!



Round out your Belly:

- **Milly's Ice Cream, Food & Treats**, 414 Main St., Saturday 6am-7pm (**Pie will be available here!**)
- **Riverside Market**, 203 W. 5th St, Saturday 7am-7pm



1-2pm: Historic Baseball Game/Blue Rapids Field. from Main, 1/2 mile west on U.S. 77

Metal silhouettes of baseball players flank a sign that recounts the story of a historic game played here between barnstorming major leaguers in October 1913. Visit the silhouettes or grab a ball and glove to toss around on the field where Hall of Famers once played. Local expert, Titus Staples will share about this unique piece of Blue Rapids history from 1-2 p.m. at Blue Rapids Field or learn more by stopping in the museum.



1-3pm: Round Barn, 128 K-9. Watch for the Springhill Herefords sign. From Main, 1 ½ miles east on U.S. 77, then 1 ¼ miles east of K-9

Benton Steele built this unusual round barn in 1911 for John Drennan and his Hereford cattle. It measures 92 feet in diameter and is approximately 60 feet tall. Dave Stump and family now own the barn and will be available to show Explorers around.



6-8pm: Live Concert, Public Square featuring Eric Johanson, an American blues rock singer, guitarist, and songwriter. Sponsored by Marshall County Arts Cooperative.



6:30-7:30pm "Birding by Ear" Walk / 8-9pm - Owl Walk, at Alcove Spring, 1780 E River Road

Join Jackie Augustine, Executive Director of the Kansas Audubon Society on a walk through Alcove Spring's diverse habitats looking and listening for a variety of birds and owls. Jackie will share memory aids for learning them, point out other interesting natural history along the way and during the owl walk will teach you how to identify them by their call. Wear sturdy shoes, bring bug spray, water, binoculars and a flashlight for the Owl Walk.

OTHER ACTIVITIES TO ENJOY:



Bowling Balls on a Fence, From U.S. 77, go 2 ¼ miles east on K-9 to 1281 K-9. Look for the bowling balls atop fence posts long K-9 near Carol Johnston's home. Drive by only.



Round Square, Fountain Park, Ice Age Monument:
The round square was esigned by Taylor Holbrook in the early 1870s as the hub of Blue Rapids. Located in the Glacial Hills region of Kansas, a monument to the Ice Age is found on the square. In an open exhibit area, you'll find several billion-year-old red rocks, plus signage that provides the fascinating history of the rocks' formation in Minnesota and South Dakota and the glaciation that carried them to northeast Kansas about 600,000 years ago.

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