Come explore life in Jo Daviess County as it was in 1832. Black Hawk and his warriors attacked the Apple River Fort in June of 1832 during the Black Hawk War. Nearly 175 years later the fort has risen from the prairie and you can explore it and talk with costumed interpreters about life on the frontier. Please join us at this year’s special events at the Fort.

Please Note: Many of these activities are subject to change due to inclement weather or other unforeseen conditions. Unless otherwise noted, all events are free and open to the public, however donations are always appreciated.

For more information, please call 815.858.2028 or visit www.appleriverfort.org

January 12  Into the Wild Living History Day 1 pm – 4 pm
Enjoy a brisk afternoon of outdoor woodsmen and pioneer activities. Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Learn the history and how to’s of snowshoeing while exploring the outdoors using traditional trekking skills. Learn how to dress meat as the menfolk butcher a hog. Warm yourself at the log house with fresh baked bread and hot apple cider.

March 23  Sunrise Service  7 AM
Experience the beauty of a sunrise Easter service at the Apple River Fort, complete with 1830’s circuit-riding minister. After the service enjoy a hearty breakfast at the First United Methodist Church.

March 29  Cabin Fever Jubilee  10 AM—4 PM
Escape from your homes, stretch your legs, and get some fresh air as the settlers of the Apple River Fort embrace spring and demonstrate activities such as maple sugaring, spring planting, soap making and more. New this year is sheep shearing and sheep
herding demonstrations ongoing throughout the day. Be prepared to jump in and join in the fun!

**April 5**  
**Hearthcooking Workshop**  
9 AM – 4 PM

Sign up and enjoy a day learning how to cook over an open fire. Join Culinary historian Susan Odom as she takes you through the steps of mastering cooking using the “magic of fire” and cast iron cooking equipment. Pre-registration is required. $45.00 per person. Space is limited.

**April 23**  
**Native American Star Stories with Brian “Fox” Ellis**  
7:00 – 8:00 PM

“Coyote Places the Stars” – Native American Star Lore. With folktales from many nations, storyteller Brian “Fox” Ellis, shares the legends of how the stars came to be, the creation of the Milky Way and stories about specific constellations, all from a distinctly Native American world view. Blending songs and poetry with audience participation and traditional cosmology there is something here for both old and young listeners as they are transported to the campfires of not so long ago, not so far away.

**May 2**  
**MEET THE AUTHOR SERIES**  
6 PM

This year’s featured author is Dr. Patrick Jung author of the newly published book: The Black Hawk War of 1832, which is part of the Campaigns and Commanders series. The dinner and lecture cost is $35.00 per person. Call for reservations, menu and location information.

**May 2 & 3**  
**Black Hawk’s Raid: The Fort Under Siege**  
10 AM – 4 PM

Experience the fort as it was over 100 years ago as the local militia prepares for the battle at the Apple River Fort. Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. The militia will drill, fire, and recruit at scheduled times throughout the day as the women and children demonstrate pioneer skills critical to their survival on the frontier. This event coincides with “Elizabeth’s Spring Fling Festival”, a craft fair, bike ride, children’s games, and food festival located in downtown Elizabeth.

**May 24 & 25**  
**Apple River Fort Rocks! Kids History Fun Days!**  
10 am– 4 pm both days

Enjoy a fun filled day full of children’s games and activities. Children will play “stump tug” and toss atlatls, play “snakes in the grass” and much, much more! Come join in the fun and learn a little history!

**June 28 & 29**  
**Fort Days and the Gathering of Elizabeths**  
10:00 am – 4:00 pm both days

Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Experience life inside the Fort with militia drills, hearth cooking and much more. The Village of Elizabeth comes alive celebrating their rich heritage and invites anyone and everyone named Elizabeth to join us for a wonderful weekend celebrating the bravery and spirit of frontier women everywhere!

**July 5**  
**The Glorious Independence Day Celebration**  
1 PM–4 PM
Join the settlers at the Apple River Fort as they bravely celebrate Independence Day. Despite the ongoing war, the neighbors will gather at the fort to commemorate America’s fight for Independence from Britain. There will be military speeches and demonstrations, a reading of the Declaration of Independence, and an 1830’s version of baseball, games and much more.

**JULY 14-18 **“WILD HISTORY” SUMMER DAY CAMP AT APPLE RIVER FORT 9 AM – 4 PM
Enjoy a wild week of historic activities at a pioneer fort from both the Native American and European settlers’ point of view. Pre-registration required.

**JULY 26 & 27 **LIVING HISTORY WEEKEND 10 AM – 4 PM BOTH DAYS
Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Demonstrations may include a variety of seasonal chores such as hearth cooking, gardening, lead bullet molding, wood splitting and more.

**AUGUST 2 **WEIRD HISTORY: Mourning & Healing Folklore and Customs in the 1830s 10 AM – 4 PM
Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. In the midst of jubilation as the news of the end of the war arrives, one fort resident is killed in an accident while others come home sick and wounded. Experience first hand the mourning and healing customs of the 1830s. Hopefully, Dr. Newhall will have his leeches ready just for you!

**August 16 & 17 **Living History Weekend 10 AM – 4 PM both days
Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Demonstrations may include a variety of seasonal chores such as hearth cooking, gardening, lead bullet molding, wood splitting and more.

**August 30 & 31 **Apple River Fort Rocks! Kids History Fun Days! 10 am – 4 pm both days
Enjoy a fun filled day full of children’s games and activities. Children will play “stump tug” and toss atlats, play “snakes in the grass” and much, much more! Come join in the fun and learn a little history!

**September 6 & 7 **Living History Weekend 10 AM – 4 PM both days
Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Demonstrations may include a variety of seasonal chores such as hearth cooking, gardening, lead bullet molding, wood splitting and more.

**SEPTEMBER 20 ** TAVERN ON THE GREENE 6 PM
Come and share in an evening of fun and frivolity, 1830s tavern style. Woodbine Bend will come to life as an 1830s tavern, complete with drinking mugs, tavern songs, waitresses in historic costume and even some local celebrities either behind the bar or waiting tables. Dinner is a multi-course meal from 1830s recipe books. Entertainment includes fire eating, rousing tavern songs, beautiful ballads and much more. Tickets are $40 each. Woodbine Bend Clubhouse, 3500 E. Center Rd., Woodbine. All proceeds benefit the educational programs at Apple River Fort.

October 11 & 12  Living History Weekend  10 AM – 4 PM both days
Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Demonstrations may include a variety of seasonal chores such as hearth cooking, gardening, lead bullet molding, wood splitting and more.

OCTOBER 24  Classic Tales of Terror  6 PM – 8 PM
From Edgar Allen Poe to Ambrose Bierce, this haunting program of classic literature is not for the faint of heart. 6-6:45 PM the scary stories begin! (There will be a short intermission with hot chocolate and marshmallows!) 7:00– 8:00 PM for only the bravest hearts!

October 25 & 26  Living History Weekend  10 AM – 4 PM both days
Costumed interpreters engage guests in activities and adventures in history. Demonstrations may include a variety of seasonal chores such as hearth cooking, gardening, lead bullet molding, wood splitting and more.

December 13  KEEPING CHRISTMAS  12:00 noon — 4 pm
Experience the sights, smells, and sounds of a 1830s Christmas at the Apple River Fort. Learn how Christmas began on this magical journey into the past. Join the militia officers and their wives as they prepare for a Christmas Ball. But stay on the lookout for revelers whose celebration of the holiday may get out of hand! Hot cider will be served around warming fires. The Interpretive Center will have the local Farmer’s Market & a traditional German Christmas Market to fill your Christmas shopping needs.

Apple River Fort State Historic Site
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www.appleriverfort.org • 815-858-2028