

Scotty McCreery Set To Headline At The Marshall-Putnam Fair's Biggest Concert Yet

Country music fans across Central Illinois are in for a major night of entertainment as Scotty McCreery is set to take the stage at the Marshall-Putnam Fair on Thursday, July 16, 2026.

The concert is expected to be one of the biggest events in the fair's history, bringing a nationally recognized country artist to Henry for a night of live music, community celebration, and fair tradition.

McCreery first captured America's attention in 2011, when he won Season 10 of American Idol as a teenager. Since then, he has built a successful country music career with his signature deep voice, classic country sound, and heartfelt songs.

The timing of McCreery's fair performance makes the night even more special for fans. His new album, 15, a retrospective album featuring four new tracks, is set to be released at 11:00 p.m. Central Time on July 16th, the same night as his Marshall-Putnam Fair concert. That means fans in Henry will get to celebrate with McCreery just as the next chapter of his music career officially begins.

Known for hits including "Five More Minutes," "Damn Strait," "You Time," "In Between," "It Matters to Her" and "Cab In A Solo." McCreery has earned a loyal fan base and continues to be one of country music's standout

performers. His appearance at the Marshall-Putnam Fair is anticipated to draw fans from across the region.

Opening the show will be Taylor Brunninga & The Bandits and Cody Calkins, giving concert goers a full evening of country music before McCreery takes the stage.

Tickets have been selling quickly, as Reserved Box seats are nearly completely sold out. Concertgoers are encouraged to purchase tickets early, as prices are expected to increase the day of the show. Ticket options include Track tickets, General Admission Grandstand seating, and Reserved Box Seats.

The concert is presented by COUNTRY Financial - Steve Vogel of Henry and Jonathan Krieghauser of Lacon, with support from several local businesses and sponsors who continue to help make major entertainment possible at the fair.

The Marshall-Putnam Fair has continued to grow its concert lineup in recent years, and fair organizers say bringing McCreery to Henry reflects the fair's commitment to offering high-quality entertainment while celebrating the community spirit that has made the event a summer tradition.

Tickets and additional information are available at marshallputnamfair.org. Reserved Box Seat information may also be available through the Marshall-Putnam Fair Office at 309-364-2814.

Midland High School Names 4th Quarter Honor Roll Members

High Honors
Seniors: Tucker Bickerman, Morgan Blunier, Daniella Bumber, Sophia Coccia, Lauren Colby, CaiLynn Day, Mariska Faulkner, Ethan Fishel, Evan Fishel, Ella Foster, Heather Gilbert, Angelina Gonzalez, Zoey Holmstrom, Rayden Marliere, Landon McFadden, Jordyn Pyles, Claudia Quimby, Dominic Rosa, Kiryn Schaer, Evan Taylor, Landon Vangelisti, Bryce Tenor and Zachary Zinser.

Juniors: Lilian Auza, Jane Bella, Caleb Dorsey, Margaret Dorsey, Kyler Gausewitz, Hayden Grandsart, Stevie Green, Beau Hattan, Samuel Lord, Parker Lyons, Anna McGlasson, Anna Marie Rinaldo,

Adalynn Stickel, Isabella Thompson and Gavin Weide.

Sophomores: Zoe Auer, Sophia Cordio, Jacob Deffenbaugh, Chloe Doran, Kinley Draper, Addison Graham, Caden Hannon, Kynadal Hattan, Skyler Hohstadt, Norah Keinath, Valerie O'Day, Lily Pelphrey, Icie Rasmussen, Kira Roberts, Isabelah Rosa, Destinee Sanchez, Kaitlyn Schaer, Kherington Sullivan, Emma Tower, Jackson Vogelgesang and Lily Wildbahn-Nambiar.

Freshmen: Lily Bean, Levi Bella, Maleigha Blunier, Preston Call, Maximus Dalton, Levi Dorsey, Alexander Grove, Gemma Hals-

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Lacon Police Called To 2-Vehicle Crash On Sunday, June 7

On June 7th 2026 at 1:21 p.m. the Lacon Police Department responded and is currently still investigating a traffic crash involving two vehicles that occurred at Fifth St. and Ida St. in Lacon. The vehicles were driven by Cindy Benson from Lacon and Jeffrey Jenneke of El Reno, Oklahoma.

It was reported that the two vehicles were going in opposite directions on Fifth St. when one or both crossed over the center line and struck the other head on.

Assisting on scene was the Marshall County Sheriffs Department, Lacon Sparland Fire Department and Ambulance. EMS arrived on scene an assisted the drivers of the two vehicles. There were no serious injuries and two vehicles were towed from the scene.



Marshall-Putnam Retired Teachers To Hold Meeting On June 16th In Henry

Marshall-Putnam Retired Teachers will have their June 16th meeting at the American Legion in Henry at 10 AM. After a short business meeting, guest artist Mary Jane Peterson-Thorton will lead the group in a Japanese Fish Printing Activity. Lunch is available from Rio's for \$13.00. The public is welcome.

U of I Extension Hosts Special Fossils Of The Illinois Valley At The Lacon Public Library

The University of Illinois Extension invites community members to step back in time and explore the prehistoric story of Illinois during Fossils of the Illinois Valley, a special program held on June 24, 2026, from 10:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. at the Lacon Public Library (205 6th St, Lacon, IL 61540).

This engaging session will introduce participants to the remarkable fossils found throughout the region, with a special focus on the world-famous Mazon Creek fossil beds. Known for their exceptional preservation, Mazon Creek fossils offer a vivid window into life

roughly 300 million years ago, when Illinois was covered by tropical swamps teeming with diverse plant and animal species.

Attendees will learn how these fossils formed, what they reveal about ancient ecosystems, and why the Illinois Valley remains a significant paleontological site. The program will also discuss the area's geological history and highlight notable fossil finds that help scientists reconstruct the state's prehistoric past.

This program is free and open to the public. Register online at go.illinois.edu/FossilLacon.

Indiana Officials Say Bears Still May Stay Despite Team's Indiana Statement

By Jim Talamonti | The Center Square

Although the Chicago Bears say the team's board of directors moved to advance plans for a stadium in Indiana, elected officials in Chicago say conversations are ongoing to keep the team in Illinois.

Bears Chairman George McCaskey and President & CEO Kevin Warren said in a statement issued Friday that the board voted to advance the stadium development project in Hammond, Ind., with the exact site to be selected.

"We believe a world-class stadium project in Hammond will transform the region, connecting Northwest Indiana to the South Side of Chicago through the Loop and across neighborhoods and suburbs stretching north of the city," McCaskey and Warren stated.

Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker's office responded by saying the Bears have hindered their progress by shifting their position on a stadium location over the last six years and especially the last few months.

"Gov. Pritzker has always been clear that he wants the Bears to stay in Illinois and still remains open to a sensible solution that protects taxpayers," the statement said.

Republican gubernatorial candidate Darren Bailey said this is happening because Pritzker failed to manage the budget.

"The very fact that we don't have the money and Indiana does proves everything. We've got the

economy, we've got a great state, but J.B. Pritzker has failed to deliver for the people of Illinois," Bailey told The Center Square.

On Feb. 26, Indiana Gov. Mike Braun signed legislation creating a framework for a new Bears stadium in Hammond. Indiana Senate Bill 27 provides for a 1% food and beverage tax in Lake and Porter counties, a 5% hotel tax in Lake County, a 12% ticket tax and the capture of new property taxes at the development.

State Rep. Kam Buckner, D-Chicago, sponsored megaprojects legislation that was approved by the Illinois House and stalled in the state Senate before the spring legislative session ended last Monday.

Buckner said Warren called to let him know the Bears would be releasing the statement regarding Hammond.

"He ended the conversation by committing to continue discussions around their pursuit of a new stadium in Illinois," Buckner said in a statement.

Cook County Board President Toni Preckwinkle said the county remains willing to engage with team ownership and state leaders to keep the Bears in Illinois.

"As those conversations continue, I am committed to solutions that protect taxpayer dollars while continuing to support the legacy of the Bears in our state,"

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ALL-YOU CAN EAT FRIED FISH!!

FISH FRY & BAKE SALE

LET US COOK FOR YOU!

Saturday, June 13th 4:00 - 6:30 p.m.

Fried Fish, Potato Salad, Baked Beans, Cole Slaw, Drink & Dessert
Adults: \$12.00; Children Under 12: \$5.00; 4 Years & Under: Free
Carry-Outs Available - (309) 360-6558

Limited boxes of candy will be available for \$10 each

St. John Lutheran Church

400 N. Jefferson St., Washburn



BOOMTACULAR

Sponsored by the Marshall County Motorcycle Club

SATURDAY, JUNE 13

Proceeds to Benefit 2026 Fireworks For The Marshall County Old Settlers

Food ♦ Auction ♦ Raffle

Decorate Your Ride. Best One Wins \$15

Golf Cart, Vehicle, UTV or Ride on the Hayrack
(First come, first serve for hayrack)

\$20 Per Person includes the ride and meal of pulled pork and fixings

\$10 - Meal Ticket Only ♦ \$8 - 12 Years and Younger Meal

Sign-In 10:00 to 11:45 a.m. In the alley behind Whiskerz, River Rats and River Valley 119, Lacon

Ride Leaves at Noon

Meal following ride - available 5:00 p.m. and after

We encourage all surrounding communities to come and enjoy the fun with your UTV, vehicle, golf cart, or ride on the hayrack supporting a great community event.



FRONT END ALIGNMENTS AVAILABLE!



Who You Gonna Call?

Jeff Cochran!

We will no longer be accepting credit cards

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Located at Lacon's East Edge - 1218 Ninth Street (Just Off Route 17)

(309) 246-8000

www.cochranscollisioncenter.com