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For immediate release

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**79th Marion County Fair, July 23-Aug 1,
one of area's top entertainment bargains**

INDIANAPOLIS – One of Central Indiana's best bargains in family-oriented entertainment returns for a 10-day run beginning Thursday, July 23 when the Marion County Fair opens its gates for the 79th consecutive year. Between July 23 & August 1, an anticipated 100,000 visitors will enjoy a wide variety of concerts, thrill to spectacular grandstand entertainment, feast on an array of delicious fair foods, cheer the many 4-H and open class competitions, and flock to a midway acknowledged as one of the state's finest.

This year's fair promises to be among the biggest and best in its long history, says Marion County Fair Board President Ron Phillips.

"The traditional events beloved by long-time fairgoers are back on the schedule," Phillips said, "but we've also planned for many new and exciting attractions, activities and features.

"There truly is something for everyone in the family, regardless of age, and at a price that can't be beat!" he stated.

Tickets are just \$5 per person at the gate (children age five and under are free), and parking is free in convenient Fairgrounds lots. The Marion County Fairgrounds is located at 7300 East Troy Avenue, just east of the I-465 & Southeastern Avenue interchange.

Gate admission discounts of \$1 per person are available to fairgoers on specific days, or simply by logging on to the fair's new website, www.marioncountyfair.org, and downloading a printable coupon. Discount days and evenings include:

Sunday, July 26 – Red Hat Society Day. Society members wearing their red hats will receive a \$1 admission discount. The equestrian group Red Hats & Purple Chaps will perform in the Horse Arena at 1 and 4 pm.

Monday, July 27 – Bring an item for donation to **Indianapolis Animal Care & Control** for \$1 admission discount. Items needed by the shelter include pet food and treats, dog and

cat toys, cleaning supplies, cat litter, grooming brushes, blankets and towels, pet carriers, horse and pony halters, and other similar items.

Monday also is Seniors Night, when fairgoers age 50-plus receive a \$1 admission discount.

Tuesday, July 28 & Wednesday, July 29 – Bring a non-perishable food item for donation to **Gleaners Food Bank** for \$1 admission discount.

Wednesday also is Marion County Farm Bureau Ladies Night, when women receive a \$2 admission discount and ride midway attractions for free when accompanied by a paid adult.

Thursday, July 30 – **Donate school supplies for Teachers' Treasures** for \$1 admission discount on National City Bank Night (items needed include packs of pencils, pens, markers, crayons, tape, filler paper, spiral notebooks, new or used books, and other items for the classroom).

Additional information about the fair is available by calling the administration office at 317.353.2444. A complete day-by-day event agenda, along with registration forms and rules for a wide variety of fair competitions, are available by logging on at www.marioncountyfair.org.

“The Marion County Fair is pure fun, classic family entertainment at extraordinarily reasonable prices,” said Phillips. “Whether you come to the fair to ride the rides, feast on the food, take in the displays, see the animals, thrill to the grandstand events, or listen to some great musical performances, you’ll find it all here, for the 79th consecutive year.

“We look forward to welcoming everyone!” he said.

The 79th annual Marion County Fair is July 23 – August 1 at the Marion County Fairgrounds, 7300 East Troy Avenue (just east of the I-465 & Southeastern Avenue interchange). One of Central Indiana’s most outstanding entertainment bargains, fair admission is just \$5 per person; children 5 and under are free, and parking is free. Make it YOUR fair! – the 79th annual Marion County Fair. For more information and discount offers, log on at www.marioncountyfair.org.