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MCDONOUGH COUNTY
The Voice weekend

SUNDAY, JUNE 7, 2026 | MCDONOUGHVOICE.COM

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Race track goes up for sale



Brandon Dean standing at Peoria Speedway. MATT DAYHOFF/JOURNAL STAR FILE PHOTO

Peoria Speedway faces an uncertain future

Dave Eminian
 Peoria Journal Star
 USA TODAY NETWORK

Peoria Speedway officials told spectators Saturday that weekly racing at the venerable quarter-mile dirt track was coming to an end under owner Brandon Dean. Saturday's race card was the last un-

der Dean, who put the facility up for sale on Monday, June 1. Dean says if he can't find a buyer, he'll use the 50-acre property for non-racing events.

The Central Illinois Flea Market is a tenant at the Speedway and will continue to operate there.

A long-planned feature event on June 11 – the DIRTcar Summer Nationals Late Models and Summit Racing Equipment Modified Nationals – will run as scheduled at Peoria Speedway. But weekly car divisions racing is halted until the track is sold.

"Tonight's the last night of weekly racing at Peoria Speedway under Brandon Dean. ..." fans heard over a public address announcement Saturday that was posted on social media later. "The track goes on sale Monday. We have one person from down South who has been interested, but nothing has been finalized ... or (any) meetings (held) ... so tonight will be last night of weekly racing until someone buys the race-track."

See **SPEEDWAY**, Page 2A

Free vocal concerts coming to Macomb

Nida Tazeen
 Galesburg Register-Mail
 USA TODAY NETWORK

Residents in Macomb and St. Charles can attend free vocal concerts this July, featuring world premieres by Illinois and Arizona composers.

The professional vocal ensemble withonevoice will present its summer season concert, "Hold Fast," at 7:30 p.m. July 23 in the COFAC Recital Hall at Western Illinois University and again at 7:30 p.m. July 25 at Baker Memorial United Methodist Church in St. Charles, according to a community announcement.

The performances will include world premieres by Illinois composers Alex Berko and Ryan Korell, as well as Arizona composer MaryAnne Muglia. The ensemble is also in the second year of a three-year recording and commissioning project for its first album, expected in 2028.

Public rehearsals and free tickets

withonevoice, based in Chicago, is a nonprofit vocal ensemble of 16 professional musicians and teachers from multiple states. The group is hosting a residency at Western Illinois University in Macomb from July 20 to July 23. Rehearsals are open to the public.

See **CONCERTS**, Page 2A

State delays ban on credit card swipe fees again

Claire Grant
 Springfield State Journal-Register
 USA TODAY NETWORK

Three years after Illinois lawmakers passed a bill ending "swipe fees" on taxes and tips, the state will be delaying implementing the bill another year.

Senate Bill 3645 further delays the implementation of the Interchange Fee Prohibition Act, which was slated to take effect on July first after opponents of the bill lost in court last year.

The bill will now take effect in July of 2027.

The bill dates back to 2023 and will require restaurants, vendors, any business which can receive tips and taxes to pay interchange fees on the pre-tax

amount of purchases, with a new state cap on what businesses collect on sales tax.

As defined in the bill, an interchange fee is a charge or fee established by a card network for the purpose of compensating the bank for its involvement in an electronic transaction. The fee is levied as a way to protect businesses at the risk involved for using credit, compensation for the bank and maintenance to continue updating and protecting cards.

Merchants operating in Illinois currently have to pay a percentage ranging from one to three percent of the transaction as an interchange fee, including non-revenue generating tip and tax.

See **SWIPE FEES**, Page 2A



A screen truck petitions Illinois lawmakers to repeal the Interchange Fee Prohibition Act on May 23. CLAIRE GRANT/THE STATE JOURNAL-REGISTER

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