2026 Hootin and Hollarin festival schedule

On the cover

This year's cover photo was taken by Karla Smith during the 2025 Hootin an Hollarin queen pageant, as contestants performed a square dance. Square dancing is a festival staple and is held, with a live band, on the dance platforms in front of the Main stage from 9 p.m. to midnight each night.

***All activities listed on this schedule are FREE to participate in except the 5k race, car show and shotgun/archery competitions. See those event page for details on specific entry fees.**

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THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 17

5:30 to 6 p.m.	National Anthem and Gainesville mayor's welcome *National Anthem by 16-year-old Jessica Suit, welcome by Gainesville Mayor Gail Reich*
5 to 7 p.m.	Quilt show viewing - building on southwest side of square
6 to 7:30 p.m.	Ozark Thunder performs - Main stage
7:30 to 9 p.m.	Queen pageant - Main stage *During tallying of votes, citizen of the year and parade marshal will be honored*
9 p.m. to midnight	Square dancing - platforms in front of Main stage

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

10 a.m. to 7 p.m.	Quilt show viewing - building on southwest side of square
10 a.m. to noon	Shelter Insurance kids corner open, southwest corner of square ***Dena, the balloon lady, will offer free balloon animals from 10 to noon Friday at kids corner*
10:30 a.m.	Terrapin races at Shelter Insurance kids corner
11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.	Mammoth Worship Team performs - Main stage
Afternoon	Gazebo pickin' - gazebo, northwest courthouse lawn
1 p.m.	Cedar Pete and Addie Lee contest - Main stage
1:45 p.m.	Princess pageants - Main stage
3:30 to 5 p.m.	Blayd and Tara Law perform - Main stage
4 to 5 p.m.	Old fashioned kids' games - parking lot off NW corner by City Hall
5 p.m.	Bed races - southwest corner of the square by Molly's Salon
5:30 p.m.	Outhouse race - northwest corner of square/City Hall
5:30 to 7 p.m.	New Grass Attack performs - Main stage
7 p.m.	Ozark County FFA Bull Blast - Gainesville Saddle Club, Main St.
7:30 to 9 p.m.	Psychobilly Cadillac performs - Main stage
9 p.m. to midnight	Square dancing - platforms in front of Main stage

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

8:30 a.m.	Hillbilly 5K run/walk - northwest corner of the square by City Hall
9 a.m.	Archery/shotgun shoot - grassy area across Highway 160
9:30 a.m.	Pet show - Main stage
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.	Car show - on Third St. between 160 Pit Stop/White Oak Station
10 a.m. to noon	Shelter Insurance kids corner open, southwest corner of square
10:30 a.m.	Terrapin races at Shelter Insurance kids corner
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.	Quilt show viewing - building on southwest side of square
10 a.m.	Cornhole tournament - Parking lot off northwest corner by City Hall
11 a.m.	Costume contest - Main stage
11:30 a.m.	Pie contest - at Shelter Insurance, southwest corner of square
Noon to 12:30 p.m.	Calling contests - Main stage
Afternoon	Gazebo pickin' - courthouse gazebo, northwest courthouse lawn
12:30 to 2 p.m.	Buckshot performs - Main stage
2 p.m.	Parade - from Main Street around the square to Third Street *Ozark County Farm Family and Century Farm will be recognized on the Main stage before parade.*
3:15 to 4 p.m.	Magic show - Main stage
4 to 4:30 p.m.	Simply Southern Cloggers perform - Main stage platforms
4 to 5 p.m.	Old fashioned kids games - parking lot off NW corner by City Hall
5 to 6:30 p.m.	Stringed Union performs - Main stage
7 to 8:30 p.m.	Hannah Harper and her band performs - Main stage
9 p.m. to midnight	Square dancing - platforms in front of Main stage