

## 125th Dawson County Fair set for July 15-24

Written by Elizabeth Barrett

Thursday, 12 May 2011 19:53 - Last Updated Thursday, 12 May 2011 20:05

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### **Randy Rogers Band features country rock.**

The 2011 Dawson County Fair, July 15-24, promises 10 full days of shows and exhibits to celebrate “Your Brand of Fun.”

This year, the fair is 125 years old.

The entertainment headliner on Saturday, July 23, is the Randy Rogers Band which will perform in the grandstands. Gates open at 6 p.m.

Local country music performer Reggie Shaw, formerly of Overton, opens the show at 7 p.m. Tickets for the event go on sale June 13.

A new feature to the fair this year is being billed as the “Brand Event” which ties into the fair theme.

Area cattlemen and women are invited to bring branding irons to burn their brands on a board Tuesday, July 19 from 3-5 p.m. which will be displayed in Stevens Arena.

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Each year, the Dawson County Fairgrounds come alive with 4-H'ers, livestock, food vendors, commercial and open class exhibitors, carnival rides and grandstand shows. The fair atmosphere has always been a celebration of a successful summer, a time to visit with community neighbors and a week of fun and entertainment.

This year's fair starts with the carnival opening the evening of Friday, July 15.

Events on Saturday, July 16, begin with shooting sports . See a full schedule of 4-H shows, exhibits and more [online](#) .

The Heart of America Carnival will provide action-packed excitement with 22 rides on the Midway every evening July 15-23.

Food vendors will set up on the grounds to serve funnel cakes, prime rib sandwiches, Italian subs, barbecue and more. Other fair favorites include the 4-H Cafe and fair concessions next to the grandstands.

The Dawson County Raceway will roar to life two times during fair week with races scheduled July 17 and July 24. Gates open at 5 p.m. and racing action starts at 6:30 p.m.

The first chance to glimpse the Brand Event display will be during the cattle sorting event on Tuesday, July 19, starting at 7 p.m.

On Wednesday, July 20, in the grandstand, fair goers will be entertained with the talents of Alexa Whipple from Arapahoe who is opening for the Richards Family of Holdrege. The show begins at 7 p.m.

Also on Wednesday, fair goers can stroll through 50 exhibits in the commercial building and

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Open Class. Doors open at 6 p.m.

Ten lively dogs will show their cattle-herding skills at the first- ever dog competition on Thursday, July 21, in the Dawson County Arena. Competition begins at 6:30 p.m.

When the motors start roaring on Friday, July 22, the “Crashfest” Demo Derby is getting ready to start at 7 p.m. A trucks class has been added.

Ring action begins on Saturday, July 23, with a 4-H swine show at 8 a.m. at Stevens Arena followed more 4-H events.

At 2 p.m., mutton busting will take place in the Dawson County arena where kids of all ages will try to stay on a bucking sheep or tie a goat.

For more information, and a complete list of more events, call the fair office at 308-324-3600 or visit [online](#) .