The 24th Annual Pony Express Rodeo, on July 3 and 4, promises to be jammed packed full of entertainment.

That, according to rodeo announcer Jared Slagle of rural Gothenburg.

"It's the same wild and western rodeo with some new exciting entertainers and new exciting local events sprinkled through out," Slagle said. "There will be world-class rodeo entertainers both nights."

And there are other community events as well such as a fun run/walk in Ehmen Park.

Slagle said each night of the rodeo has a different theme—

July 3 is "Kid's Night" when kids 12 and under get in free and July 4 is "Freedom Night" when veterans and military service women and men are allowed in free.

Trick rider and roper Max Reynolds and rodeo funny man and comedian Steve "Snorkle" From will provide entertainment.

"Kids Night" is sponsored by the Gothenburg FFA.

The cost for adults is $8.

Rodeo slack will be 8 a.m. on July 3 and 4.

The rodeo will be at the roping grounds on 27th Street, north of Lafayette Park.

After the rodeo ends both nights, the evening will be capped off with a beer garden provided by the Rotary After Dark Club and deejay services from RTI Computer Sales & Service.

A concession stand will be manned by local Boy Scouts to help fund some of their projects.

The scouts will also run the concession stand at the rodeo from 4-10 p.m. on July 3 and provide breakfast, lunch and dinner on July 4 from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.

There will be pony rides and roping dummies provided for entertainment before 7 p.m. by Becky's Buckaroo's.

Proceeds will go towards the Dawson County Relay for Life that raises funds for cancer research.

In addition, the Gothenburg High School Rotary Interact Club will provide snow cones at the rodeo grounds as a fund raiser towards projects for the school year.

For more information about the rodeo, contact Tim Gibbens, roping club president, at 529-1691 or Slagle, rodeo chair, at 529-2139.

Fun run/walk

A 5K Firecracker Fun Run/Walk will ignite the Independence Day celebration.

The Tail Twister 4-H club will put on the event in Ehmen Park at 8:04 a.m. on Friday, July 4.

Registration begins at 7:34 a.m. with an individual fee of $10 and a family fee of $30.

The event is part of the Youth- in-Motion project with proceeds going towards Dawson County 4-H.

For more information, call Karen Peterson at 529-0904.

Participants are also asked to contribute to the club's special community project by bringing old, but wearable shoes, for donation to Soles4Souls.

For more information, contact Arleigh or Becky Costello at 529-3356.

Boy Scout Barbecue

As in past years, the Boy Scouts will have their annual barbecue at the Senior Center from 4-7 p.m. on Friday, July 4.

The center is at 20th Street and Lake Avenue.

Fireworks

Fireworks, sponsored by the Gothenburg Rotary Club, the City of Gothenburg and the Gothenburg Volunteer Fire Department, will begin at dusk on July 4.

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