

LIVESTOCK

Get best entertainment value around

By JERILYN JOHNSON

ONE funnel cake — \$3.50 ... lunch at the Pork Chop Tent — \$10 ... four track-side tickets to the Sara Evans concert — \$120 ... top bid for the grand champion market steer — \$22,000 ... a day with your family at the Missouri State Fair — priceless.

The Missouri State Fair is a fun and affordable vacation destination for families. "We understand that families today are looking for a great value," says Marion Lucas, state fair director. "This year's fair has been carefully planned to optimize the family-vacation dollar. The entertainment and educational opportunities are unmatched."

The 2008 fair, Aug. 7-17 in Sedalia, promises even more exhibits, education and fun events for both rural and urban audiences. Its "Go 4 It!" theme reflects the can-do attitude and exciting atmosphere

of the annual celebration of Missouri's rural roots.

View the best of Missouri — from agriculture to fine art. Highlighting the fair will be concerts from today's top artists, rodeos, midway rides, harness racing, tractor pulls, the Super Farmer and Super Teen contests, pig races, prize livestock and crops, cook-offs and more.

Concert lineup

The Missouri State Fair Pepsi Grandstand concert lineup includes Missouri natives Sara Evans and Trent Tomlinson. After humble beginnings in the rural heartland, their careers have flourished, making both nationally recognized artists. Evans earned the 2006 American Country Music Female Vocalist of the Year Award. Tomlinson will accompany Evans in concert on Friday, Aug. 15.

Other country artists performing at the Pepsi Grandstand are Josh Turner and Pat Green on Saturday, Aug. 9, and the award-winning Jason Aldean and Terri Clark on Sunday, Aug. 10. Finishing up the week is Blake Shelton with Tracy Lawrence on Saturday, Aug. 16.

The Pepsi Grandstand also will offer a country rock concert on Friday, Aug. 8, with Charlie Daniels, .38 Special and Shooter Jennings.

Key Points

- The Missouri State Fair is family-friendly and affordable.
- Concert lineup includes top country artists Sara Evans and Josh Turner.
- Country Gold Tour concert will raise money for 4-H and FFA.

Classic charity

FFA chapters and 4-H clubs are the benefactors of a special Country Gold Tour performance on Wednesday, Aug. 13, when Missouri country music artist and auctioneer Leroy Van Dyke auctions an autographed guitar during the intermission. The guitar will be signed by country music legends on tour with

Van Dyke that evening. Invited are Helen Cornelius, Rex Allen Jr., Jim Ed Brown, Bobby Bare, Moe Brandy, T.G. Sheppard and Charlie Rich Jr.

Tickets may be purchased through the Missouri State Fair Web site starting June 14 or by calling Ticketmaster at 1-800-769-6776. A complete list of ticketed events is available at www.mostatefair.com.



SARA EVANS

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