

By Russ Pankonin, The Imperial Republican

Seems like summer just began. But we know the summer break is winding down and school's just around the corner when it comes time for the Chase County Fair & Expo.

This Sunday will mark the beginning of an eight-day run of the fair that has built a tradition of excellence second to none in Nebraska. It's often been called the Western Nebraska State Fair and Western Nebraska's Grandest Fair.

Building a tradition like the Chase County Fair & Expo doesn't just happen overnight. It takes years of successful planning and execution to become the fair it is.

There's no doubt the Chase County Fair enhanced its reputation by offering live grandstand shows. Over the years, the fair has played host to some of the greatest names in the entertainment business.

It would be hard here to name them all dating back to 1952. But let's just look back at some of them from Lassie to The Three Stooges to Louis Armstrong to Johnny Cash to Willie Nelson to George Strait to Ted Nugent and Alice Cooper.

But the Chase County Fair is much more than grandstand shows—it's the place to be next week.

You'll see everything from top livestock showmen and their animals to the best quilt in the county.

There's plenty of free entertainment throughout the week, including the magic and comedy of Jerry Fraiser.

Take a helicopter ride over the city of Imperial and the fair grounds. Take in the parade and the barbeque that follows. Take in one of the largest farm ag expos and business displays in the tri-state region, just to mention a few of the events.

Chase County's fair is indeed grand, so make your plans to attend and we'll see you there!