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Sara Evans, Five For Fighting, Sawyer Brown to headline 2022 Linn County Fair

By Alex Paul, Communications Officer

ALBANY — The 2022 Linn County Fair musical lineup includes two mid-valley favorites, Sara Evans and Sawyer Brown and a newcomer Five For Fighting. The fair will be held July 14-16 at the Linn County Fair & Expo Center, 3700 Knox Butte Road, Albany.

Sara Evans Thursday, July 14 Evans has released eight studio albums, including "Copy That" her most recent album, in 2020. Her "Born to Fly" earned a two-time platinum certification from the Recording Industry Association of America.

Evans has had more than 20 singles make the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts, including number one hits "No Place That Far," "Born to Fly," "Suds in the Bucket," "A Real Fine Place to Start," and "A little Bit Stronger." Evans has won numerous awards from Billboard, the Academy of Country Music, the Country Music Association, BMI, and a Dove Award. She has worked with numerous country talents including Vince Gill, Martina McBride, Lorrie Morgan, Mindy McCready and Phil Vassar. For a time in the early 1990s, Evans lived in the mid-valley.

Evans' last appearance at the fair was in 2018.

Five For Fighting Friday, July 15

Vladimir John Ondrasik "Five For Fighting" will make his first appearance at the Linn County Fair on Friday, July 15. He is a multi-talented singer-songwriter, pianist and music producer.

TICKET INFORMATION

Reserved seating ticket information will be available soon. Watch the Linn County Fair & Expo Center website at https://www.lcfairexpo.com/ and the Linn County Facebook page.

Five For Fighting (a hockey term) has had posted three Top 40 hits, "Superman-It's Not Easy," "100 Years," and "The Riddle." "Superman" was nominated for a Grammy in 2002. He has also posted hits on the contemporary charts with "World," "Chances," "What If," "Christmas Where You are," and "Got Blood on My Hands." He has recorded six albums, several live studio albums and one EP. In addition to his musical talents, Ondraski has a degree in applied science and mathematics from UCLA and for a time, studied opera. Five for Fighting has released two Platinum-selling albums, "America Town" and "The Battle for Everything." In 2003, Ondrasik was nominated for as a Favorite Adult Contemporary Artist by the American Music

Awards and he has been recognized among the top five AC and Top 10 Hot AC artist for the 2000s. He also speaks about entrepreneurship nationally. Ondrasik is a lifelong hockey fan and is a contributing writer for Sports Illustrated.

Sawyer Brown Saturday, July 16

Sawyer Brown has been entertaining audiences coast-to-coast for more than 40 years and is a Linn County Fair favorite. The band has released 18 studio albums, had more than 50 Hot Country Songs charts hits and three number one singles, "Step That Step," "Some Girls Do," and "Thank God for You." The group has worked with Randy Scruggs, Joe Bon-sall and Mac McAnally among others. Band members are Shayne Hill, lead guitar; Joe Smyth, percussion; Greg Hubbard, piano; and Mark Miller, lead vocals. Originally part of Don King's road band, the founding members stuck together after King's retirement in 1981. Their big break came in 1983 when they won the TV show "Star Search" and pocketed \$100,000 and a recording contract. The band's original name was Savanna, but another band had a similar name and the group settled on Sawyer Brown from nearby Sawyer Brown Road. Their first single, "Leona" in 1984, was a Top 20 hit and that was followed by "Step That Step," which hit number one. The band has earned a Horizon Award from the Country Music Association, was the 1997 Vocal Group of the Year for the Academy of Country Music and has five Vocal Band of the Year awards from the TNN Music City News Country Awards.