

The city in which he built his adulthood home continues to host the same event that he began more than a century ago.

The Buffalo Bill Rodeo, named after North Platte's son Buffalo Bill Cody, will hold its annual rodeo June 13-16 at the Wild West Arena.

Fans of the old west and today's new west will pour into North Platte for the rodeo.

For Lincoln County Commissioner and former Lincoln County Sheriff Duane Deterding, the rodeo is special. "Rodeo is my kind of sport." The former steer wrestler has worked the security gate since 1981, and "I've loved every minute of it," he said.

(The rodeo) "is a big deal," Deterding said. "Rodeo is a way of life for a lot of people around here."

The rodeo brings in big name talent, world champions and young cowboys, with big thrills and spills on bucking horses, bulls and in the roping, steer wrestling and barrel racing. It's the beginning of the cowboys' busy summer season.

New this year for the rodeo is a video replay screen, which will take fans closer to the action and replay the best rides and runs. It will be 12 feet by 18 feet and be mounted on the east side of the arena.

This year's rodeo is June 13-16 and begins at 8 p.m. each night. General admission tickets can be purchased online at NebraskalandDays.com, through the NLD office (888-313-5606) or at the gate.

The Buffalo Bill Rodeo was inducted into the Pro Rodeo Cowboys Hall of Fame in 2008.