

Cornucopia of cowboy events in Duncan this Saturday

By Ann Brown

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DUNCAN — Saturday will be a day of celebration at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center.

This year's National Day of the Cowboy will feature a wide variety of events, activities and exhibits all centered around cowboys. The museum will open at 10 a.m. and close at 5 p.m. with free admission all day.

Family-friendly activities for all ages include a horseshoe toss, face painting, pin the hooey on the longhorn, "there's a snake in my boot," a laser marksmanship game, and an art project for the little wranglers.

Leah Mulkey, education coordinator for the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center, said this year's theme is "Black Cowboys: Tall Tale or Top Hand."

"It will be a celebration of the black cowboys' accomplishments during the Chisholm Trail era to the present," she said.

Children's story time will highlight Bob Lemmons, a black cowboy who tracked wild horses. Also showing in the theater is "African American Cowboy: The Forgotten Man," a short documentary by Victoria Loozyanaky.

Wallace Moses, a professional re-enactor from the Lawton area, will be promoting his book, "Ebony Horse Soldiers," which tells the stories of the Buffalo Soldiers during the Indian War period through poetry.

One of the highlights of the day



Visitors to the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center during the National Day of the Cowboy on Saturday can also see an exhibit of Lawton artist Robert Peterson.

will be an appearance by Fred Whitfield, who will be on hand to sign his book, "Gold Buckles Don't Lie: The Untold Tale of Fred Whitfield." He will also be talking about his rodeo exploits from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Since 1990 this Texas cowboy has been swinging his rope and setting rodeo records. He earned more than \$3 million on the rodeo circuit, eight gold buckles for National Finals Rodeo titles in calf roping and 20 National Finals Rodeo Qualifications.

Even though he says he is slowing down his rodeo schedule this year to spend more time with his family, and because he will be 46 years old this year, he is still ranked at No. 19 in the world, not far off his pace in 2012 when he finished up at No. 14. In March he won the Rodeo Houston BP Super Series The Down Roping Super with a winning time of 7.8 seconds and took home a total of \$37,000 from this event. In 2012 he took home \$91,778 in earnings.

The Texas cowboy travels to rodeos all over the west including Lawton, where he won his event at the Lawton Rangers Rodeo in 2010. Now his is adding another notch to his rope with the release of his autobiography.

The title of the book is taken from the eight gold champion buckles he has won in Wrangler National Finals Rodeo tie-down competition in 1991, 1995, 1996, 1999, 2000, 2002 and 2005. In 1999 Whitfield claimed the 1999 National Finals Rodeo all-around crown.



For more Wallace C. Moses Sr. prepares for his portrayal of a Buffalo Soldier in this 2012 film photo. Moses, author of "Ebony Horse Soldiers," will be among the guests at the Day of the Cowboy celebration Saturday at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center in Duncan.

Whitfield's being named the world champion calf roping in 1991 was a historic feat. He was the first-ever African American to win a world title in the calf roping event.

Co-author Terri Powers said the book will be released right before the Day of the Cowboy event at the Chisholm Trail Heritage Center.

"This will be the first time Fred will have a personal appearance after the book is released," she said.

Chance to ride WWII plane in Frederick

By Moira Ferris

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FREDERICK — The public will get a chance to view and fly in two different World War II era aircraft Saturday at the WWII Airborne Demonstration Team's Summer 2013 Open Hangar Day and Fly-In.

This event will be at the historic Frederick Army Airfield section of the Frederick Regional Airport, southeast of the city, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. The event is free and open to the public. The Airborne Demonstration Team is extending a special invitation to all veterans of World War II to attend.

The public is invited to tour "Beagle Baby," the team's C-47, which will be on display throughout the day. Weather conditions permitting, the ride-along Airborne Experience will also be offered.

Additionally, the Oklahoma City Commemorative Air Force will fly in its P-51 Mustang PT-19, an open-cockpit plane that was a primary trainer for the U.S. Army Air Corps in the early 1940s. Flights will also be available in this aircraft.

Throughout the day, many military displays and memorabilia will be presented by the members of the Airborne Demonstration Team, and historic military vehicles will be on display. In addition, instructors and students from the jump



Courtesy

The Airborne Demonstration Team's World War II era C-47 Beagle Baby will be on display during the team's Summer 2013 Open Hangar Day and Fly-In July 27 at the Frederick Army Airfield at Frederick Regional Airport. The event will follow the conclusion of a weeklong flight school.

school will be on hand to show off equipment and answer questions. Airborne jump demonstrations are planned for that morning. Activities will include parachute packing, harness demonstrations and mock door training, as well as jump rides.

Many World War II Veterans will be in attendance and will be honored that afternoon at the wing pinning ceremony for jump school students.

In addition to the Airborne Team's activities, all pilots are invited to attend the fly-

in. Breakfast will be provided. Lunch, drinks and snacks also will be available.

This event will conclude Airborne Team's Jump School, which began last Saturday and continues until Friday. The Airborne Team had a special training session for several members of the 173rd Airborne Brigade Sky Soldiers on Wednesday and will be celebrating its 50th anniversary this year with a commemorative jump at 6:30 a.m. Friday.

For information call Sharon Bennett, (580) 305-2289.

Horses know the drill at Red Dirt Ride

By Ann Brown

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DUNCAN — Saddle up. It's time for the annual Red Dirt Ride Friday, Saturday and Sunday at the Stephens County Fairgrounds.

For six years drill teams from across Oklahoma and other states have converged on Duncan to compete. Eight drill teams from Oklahoma and one each from Texas and Arkansas will be on parade this year at the indoor arena.

In addition to the performances by the teams, there will also be a stall decorating contest and a poster decorating contest, event coordinator Vicki Foster said.

On Sunday there will be Cowboy Church at the arena for anyone who wants to attend, she said.

If there is a lull in the action, those attending these events can visit the various vendors who will be on hand with merchandise for sale.

Spectators coming to watch the Red Dirt Ride Equestrian Drill Team events will be treated to skillful horsemanship maneuvers performed in music and colorful costumes.

The teams are judged on execution of the drill, performance and numbers of the horses, originality and uniqueness of presentation, difficulty, and crowd appeal.

Foster said most people who come to drill team competitions are family members, so she would like to see more community members come to the performances.

Foster said the event usually has more teams from out of state than are coming this year.

"We were supposed to have a couple of teams coming from California, but there were conflicts," she said. "Also, a couple of other Texas teams usually come, but they are in the process of reorganizing."

Teamsters are a majority on many of

Cafe brings scoop of nostalgia to Cache

By Moira Ferris

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CACHE — A new eatery featuring soup, sandwiches and ice cream has opened downtown to provide a unique vintage atmosphere to customers and to draw more business into the area.

Robin Rosenquist operates Robin's Renaissance Ice Cream Parlor and Cafe, 515 C, which has been in business since September. Business hours are 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Wednesday through Saturday. The restaurant specializes in soups, sandwiches and

