



CITY OF DRIPPING SPRINGS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wild West Fest to provide rip-roaring family fun

Date: September 11, 2009

Editors Note: If you have any questions regarding this press release, please call City Administrator Michelle Fischer at 512-858-4725.

DRIPPING SPRINGS, TEXAS – Bring your entire family out for a rip-roaring day of fun at ***Wild West Fest 2009*** on Saturday, October 24. Beautiful Harrison Ranch Park, located on Ranch Road 12 across from Dripping Springs Elementary School, will be transformed into the biggest and best celebration of the Old West this side of the Hays County line.

There will be plenty of western entertainment for all ages. Opening ceremonies will begin at 8 a.m. with a competition play day, including Lucky Buck, Clothes Race, Egg and Spoon, Flag Race, Water Race and Trail/Obstacle Course to follow. At 2 p.m. spectators will enjoy the action, excitement and thrills of an authentic Ranch Rodeo. Cowboys and their horses will compete in events that showcase specific skills that are needed daily on working ranches.

At 5 p.m. there will be a special performance by Imagine A Horse. Owned and operated by Sue De Laurentis and Allen Pogue, Imagine A Horse at Red Horse Ranch is one of Dripping Springs' best kept secrets. Their magnificent horses have been featured in the finest equine publications in 12 countries around the globe. Imagine a Horse will present a breathtaking Circus Style three horse Liberty Act. For more information on Imagine a Horse, see www.imagineahorse.com.

Wild West Fest will feature a Chili and Salsa Cook-Off sponsored by Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club, an old-fashioned pie contest and other tasty concessions including a beer booth and more. Just bring your lawn chair or blanket and get ready to chow down on a supper plate full of BBQ while you relax and enjoy some lively music. For your listening pleasure, music will be provided by three different bands beginning at 4 pm, including Billy Garza and 40 Guns, Tony Harrison and Hot Texas and headliner Jon Wolfe.

Local business booths whose offerings reflect crafts and goods of agricultural and western life will also be displayed. From western jewelry and paintings to wooden frames, horse accessories and western décor, you will see a sampling of the hill country's finest art and craftsmanship.

For added fun for the whole family, there will be a small livestock and petting zoo, hay rides, goat demonstrations and a Haunted House sponsored by Texas State University Recreational Programming Department. Kids and the young at heart will also enjoy heritage games such as

Tug of War, Sack Races, Cow Patty Toss and Dummy Roping. Photos will be available with a Longhorn Steer and the celebrity horse from the movie "Lonesome Dove."

Hosted by the City of Dripping Springs and Harrison Ranch Park Steering Committee, all proceeds from the western themed festival will benefit local efforts to develop Harrison Ranch Park.

To date, almost twenty area businesses and individuals, including Lazy 8 Ranch, St. Martin de Porres Catholic Church, Stansberry and Associates, Drippin' Towin' Service, Inc., J. Allen Adair, DDS and Laura Adair, DDS, The Feed Station, New Sound Hearing Aid Center, May Claire Company, Inc. Marketing and Public Relations, Hays County Commissioner Karen Ford, McDonald's (Benton Enterprises), Security State Bank and Trust, Penny Johnson and I.V. Ferguson, Francis Vestal, Dripping Springs Cook-Off Club, Hill Country Wastewater Services, Melanie Cambron and Jerry Wright, Badlands Taxidermy, and Ellis and Salazar have contributed event sponsorship dollars and donations which will provide festival security, sanitation, barricades, tents, trash pick-up and publicity for the event. Event sponsorships at various levels of support are still needed and are available until October 1.

Donations of live auction and raffle items such as guns, western art and jewelry, etc. are also needed. These items will be auctioned and raffled off to benefit park improvements at Harrison Ranch Park. Please call Parks Coordinator Ashley Seay at 512-858-4725 if you would like to donate an item today.

Festival sponsors and western booth vendors must register by October 1. Please call 512-858-4725 for more information. Sponsorship forms and applications for western vendors, Play Day, Ranch Rodeo, and Pie, Chili and Salsa contests are available at City Hall and on the official event website at www.dswildwestfest.com.

For continued information on the progress at Harrison Ranch Park, please see the Park's website at <http://dspard.synthasite.com>.