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BRANSON

Tri-Lakes News

Tuesday, December 8, 2009



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Entertainment

All-American Cowgirls ride



Head of the All-American Cowgirls Trish Lynn performs at Silver Dollar City on Saturday.
Pat Dailey | Branson Tri-Lakes News

By Joshua Clark
Staff Writer

After the successful Southern Gospel Picnic festival last month, Silver Dollar City debuted the new acts for the National Harvest Festival, which will last until Oct. 31.

"The National Harvest Festival is the granddaddy of all harvest festivals," Lisa Rau, of Silver Dollar City, said. "It is a wonderful celebration of what the Ozarks has to offer in the fall."

Trick-riding cowgirls, award-winning musicians, native birds, more than 100 of the nation's top craftsmen and exhibits that spotlight some of the state's most famous residents will all come together for the festival.

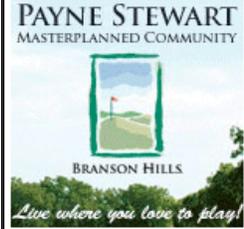
A Salute to the Great American Cowgirl, new to Silver Dollar City this year, will get the festival going in September.

The salute features the All-American Cowgirl Chicks equestrian drill team, who demonstrate trick riding, stunts and expert horsemanship. They join trick ropers, juried cowgirl artists and an exhibition of turn-of-the-century rodeo photographer R.R. Doubleday's cowgirl photographs.

Head cowgirl, Trish Lynn, has three of her daughters in the show, and loves the fact they can all be together.

"I'm so grateful they love what we do and we can all travel together," Lynn said. "The cowboy and cowgirl life is a great way of life. We get to take care of what God created for us."

The Salute to the American Cowgirl will be featured through Sept. 27.



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"We devote a lot of time in our act, as well as getting the horse to trust us," Lynn added. "Once we get them to feel comfortable, we throw them in the ring."

In October, Silver Dollar City will present Missouri's Best, which will feature the Wings Over Missouri birds of flight show. Bald and golden eagles to great horned owls will be featured in Echo Hollow.

"We haven't done a daytime show of this magnitude in Echo Hollow, so this is a neat time to utilize that 4,000-seat amphitheater during the day," Rau said. "These birds will be swooping all around, over the crowd and through the skies. It should be amazing."

The park will also feature its largest showcase ever of juried artists, called Missouri's Best Hands. Craftsmen demonstrating skills such as copper crafting, wood furniture building and pewtersmithing will all be featured.

There will also be exhibits highlighting Mark Twain, Laura Ingalls Wilder, George Washington Carver and Thomas Hart Benton.

Missouri's Best will be featured Sept. 30-Oct. 31.

In addition to the featured artists and events, the park will feature its own craftsmen, who make jewelry, create bronze sculptures, weave baskets, spin pottery and fashion stained glass. There will be more than 100 visiting artists in addition to the regular craftsmen at the park.

Entertainment will also be spread throughout the park. They will welcome an original musical production called "Headin' West." The production features elaborate sets, surround-sound and special effects. The show runs through Oct. 25.

"We want everyone to come out and experience the sights, sounds and smells of the harvest," Rau said. "The taste of America, and the fun of the harvest. You can really get swept up in it."

The festival runs through Oct. 31, Wednesday through Sunday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m., and 9:30 a.m.-6 p.m. Saturdays.

For more information call 800-831-4386.

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