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New experiences in the Old West

Gold panning in Tombstone, new Wyatt Earp statue and Buffalo Soldier Tours

Cochise County, Ariz. (July 22, 2008) -- Visitors can learn to pan for gold at **Helldorado Town**, see the unveiling of an eight-foot **Wyatt Earp** statue in Tombstone, thanks to gallery owner Tim Trask in St. David, near Benson and join a bus tour of historic **Buffalo Soldier** sites provided by the City of Sierra Vista and the Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers. These iconic Old West activities can be experienced in Cochise County.

Pan for gold the way 1800s prospectors did

Grab a pan. You just might strike it rich! Donny Miller at Tombstone's Helldorado Town shows you techniques to pan for gold the way miners of the 1800s did. Using the attraction's sluice, visitors swirl dirt with a miner's old metal pan. Gold panning began just last month, and kids love to discover the turquoise or fool's gold hidden. The dirt is "seeded" so everyone is guaranteed to discover treasures. The panning techniques learned can be used anywhere gold may be hidden!

Info: Helldorado Town, Toughnut & 4th Streets, Tombstone; 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., daily; \$4; 520-457-9035

Earp House and Gallery to unveil Wyatt Earp sculpture

An eight-foot bronze statue of Wyatt Earp will be unveiled this fall at Tombstone's Earp House and Gallery. The Earp House and Gallery commissioned the sculpture of the larger-than-life marshal. A limited edition bronze replica will be on sale at the Gallery of Dreams in St. David, where master sculptor, Tim Trask, is completing the sculpture. It features local and national artists working in a variety of media. Works are priced from \$10 to \$10,000.

Earp House and Gallery
102 E. Freemont
Tombstone, Ariz.
520-457-3111

www.wyattearphouse.com

Gallery of Dreams
247 E. Patton
St. David, Ariz.
520-720-2649

www.agalleryofdreams.com.

Bus tours offer history of Buffalo Soldiers

Visitors can enjoy group tours of Buffalo Soldier Historic Sites thanks to transportation provided by the City of Sierra Vista. The Southwest Association of Buffalo Soldiers' monthly tours include an overview of the soldiers' involvement in the Indian Wars and Gen. "Black Jack" Pershing's expedition against Pancho Villa. The tours on Fort Huachuca include the Brown Parade Field, the Old Post Cemetery and the Black Officers' Club. Admission on the bus tours is

\$12 for adults. Children 12 and under are free. The next tours are Aug. 16, Sept. 20 & Oct. 18.
Water and snacks are included.

Info: Sierra Vista Visitor Center, 520-417-6960.

Note: Fort Huachuca is an active military installation. United States citizens are permitted access onto the post with current and valid photo identification for all citizens over the age of 13.

Located in southeastern Arizona, Cochise County is one of the most culturally, historically and geographically diverse areas in the American Southwest. Its legendary communities—Benson, Bisbee, Douglas, Tombstone, Sierra Vista and Willcox—were strategically located less than a day’s journey by stagecoach and are now just a short drive from one another.

For more information about Cochise County, call the 1-800-862-5273 or visit explorecochise.com.

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