



Volume XL no. 2

www.texasjack.org

March 2025

**THIS TIME NEXT YEAR
THE 2026 ROUNDUP
BY ROBERT OMOHUNDRO**

The time is coming, we're announcing the dates, we have the hotel, we're looking at just what we will do. And now you can block the dates on your calendars! The next Texas Jack Association Roundup will be in Richmond, VA, from Wednesday June 24th through Saturday June 27th, 2026.



We will be staying at the beautiful 4-star Omni Richmond Hotel at 100 S 12th Street in downtown Richmond. You can make your reservations right now! Just call reservations and mention the TJA to get the contracted special rate for double-occupancy rooms set aside for us.

Continued on p. 3

The Texas Jack Scout



from the Editor's Desk...



We began working on this issue with no Guest Editor—scary! But our members came through with flying colors. Thanks to Matthew, John, and Robert we have great informational and entertaining articles for you to enjoy.

I thought you may like a change from the Seek & Find puzzle, so I found a website that made crossword puzzles. I made up the content, so I hope you all can figure it out.

I'm always looking for TV programs that may include characters from the Wild West in Texas Jack's time and was surprised to see two programs that I didn't expect would do that. "Samantha Brown's Places to Love" Season 6, Episode 10, "Limerick and County Clare, Ireland" actually showed Lord Dunraven's castle which is now a hotel. The castle, inside, and surroundings are from 13:00 to 16:40 minutes in.

The other is "Expedition Unknown," Season 15, Episode 3, "The Lost Grave of Buffalo Bill," in which Josh Gates explores a claim that Buffalo Bill is not buried where we think, but 500 miles away where he told his wife he wanted to be buried. Josh also looks for a crate of whiskey that Buffalo Bill and Lord Dunraven were said to have buried for the winter and forgot where it was. Fascinating stuff you may want to look up.

Enjoy!

Linda Omohundro, Layout Editor

The Texas Jack Scout

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The Texas Jack Association was founded in 1980 by Frank Sullivan to commemorate John Baker Omohundro, prairie scout, western hunting guide, and Wild West showman.

The Texas Jack Scout publishes articles about John B. "Texas Jack" Omohundro, the times and places in which he lived, and individuals who have contributed substantially to maintaining his memory.

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Mr. Herschel C. Logan, Santa Ana, CA
Author of *Buckskin and Satin*
Mrs. Nellie Snyder Yost, North Platte, NE
Historian of the Plains

The Texas Jack Scout



The rooms are modern and well appointed. The hotel is located near the River Walk of the James River. You can have breakfast or lunch at the Westham Porch restaurant within the hotel. And from 4pm to 10:30pm you can relax at the Westham Tavern also within the hotel. There is also an indoor pool and a fitness center.

Contact the Omni directly at 1-800-843-6664 (1-800-THE-OMNI)

(all images of the Omni Hotel are from their website)



Atrium



Front Desk



Deluxe Room

Left 7/20

The Texas Jack Scout



Riverfront Canal Walk from visitrichmondva.org



The Texas Jack Scout



One of the places that we will be going to is the American Civil War Museum at the Historic Tredegar. According to Matthew Kerns, “it offers a comprehensive look into the Civil War with an array of exhibits and artifacts. It provides a deep dive into the stories of individuals both on and off the battlefield during one of the most pivotal times in America’s history.” Their website is <https://acwm.org/>

American Civil War Museum at Historic Tredegar. (Images are from the museum website.)



The Texas Jack Scout



The Texas Jack Scout



We are also planning for a special visit to Colonial Williamsburg! While this is not within Jack's lifetime, it is a gem just too good to pass up for this Roundup. This restored town is, according to them, the largest museum in the world. "From 1699 to 1780, Williamsburg was the political, cultural, and educational center of what was then the largest, most populous and most influential of the American colonies."



Governor's Mansion <https://williamsburgwalkingtours.com/>



Restored Capitol <https://www.currentsneo.com/>



Colonial Williamsburg, Virginia

A museum interpreter demonstrating the 18th-century art of wig making at the King's Arms Barber [...\(more\)](#)

The Texas Jack Scout



<https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/>

And we are hoping to revisit Richmond's Hollywood Cemetery where there is no small amount of the Omohundro families residing.

And finally, there will be our not-to-be-missed climax twin events: our all-inclusive Business Meeting on Saturday morning and our special private Saturday Evening Banquet.

So, what are you waiting for? Get those hotel reservations! We will have a 2026 Texas Jack Roundup registration form in the November *Texas Jack Scout*!

NEXT SCOUT ISSUE INFORMATION

The deadline for the November 2025 issue of *The Scout* is November 1, 2025.

Please send ideas and materials to our Guest Editor:

Rick Omohundro
rickwo@gmail.com

Thank you, Rick!

The Texas Jack Scout



Herschel Logan, Jack's First Biographer **By John T. Omohundro**

Texas Jack Omohundro's memory persisted only as a name cropping up occasionally in the biographies of better-known Wild West personalities like Buffalo Bill and Wild Bill Hickok until Herschel Logan discovered him in the late 1940's. Well-known in his time but dying young, Jack had slipped into the limbo of other lesser-known sidekicks like Arizona John and Doc Carver—recognized by only a few serious students of the West.

Buckskin and Satin, Logan's 1957 biography of Jack and his wife, Josephine Morlacchi, brought the couple back into the light. His book added much to Malvern Omohundro's massive genealogy of 1952, which for the first time compiled information about all the Omohundros, including Jack.

Why did Jack's life, seventy years earlier, finally get researched and published, and why by Herschel Logan?



<A young Herschel Logan in western garb, from Kansas State University archives.

In the preface to *Buckskin and Satin*, Logan writes that he had been doing research in 1951 for an article, "Royal Buffalo Hunt," about Buffalo Bill Cody guiding the Grand Duke Alexis of Russia, when he acquired a Smith and Wesson .44 revolver engraved, "Texas Jack/Cotton Wood Spring/1872," the same date as the buffalo hunt he was reporting.

"For an arms collector of many years standing, it was a thrilling bit of good fortune in that it offered an ideal incentive to delve back into history. Upon completion of the article, the question as to the identity of the man whose name appeared on the side of the gun became uppermost in my thoughts."

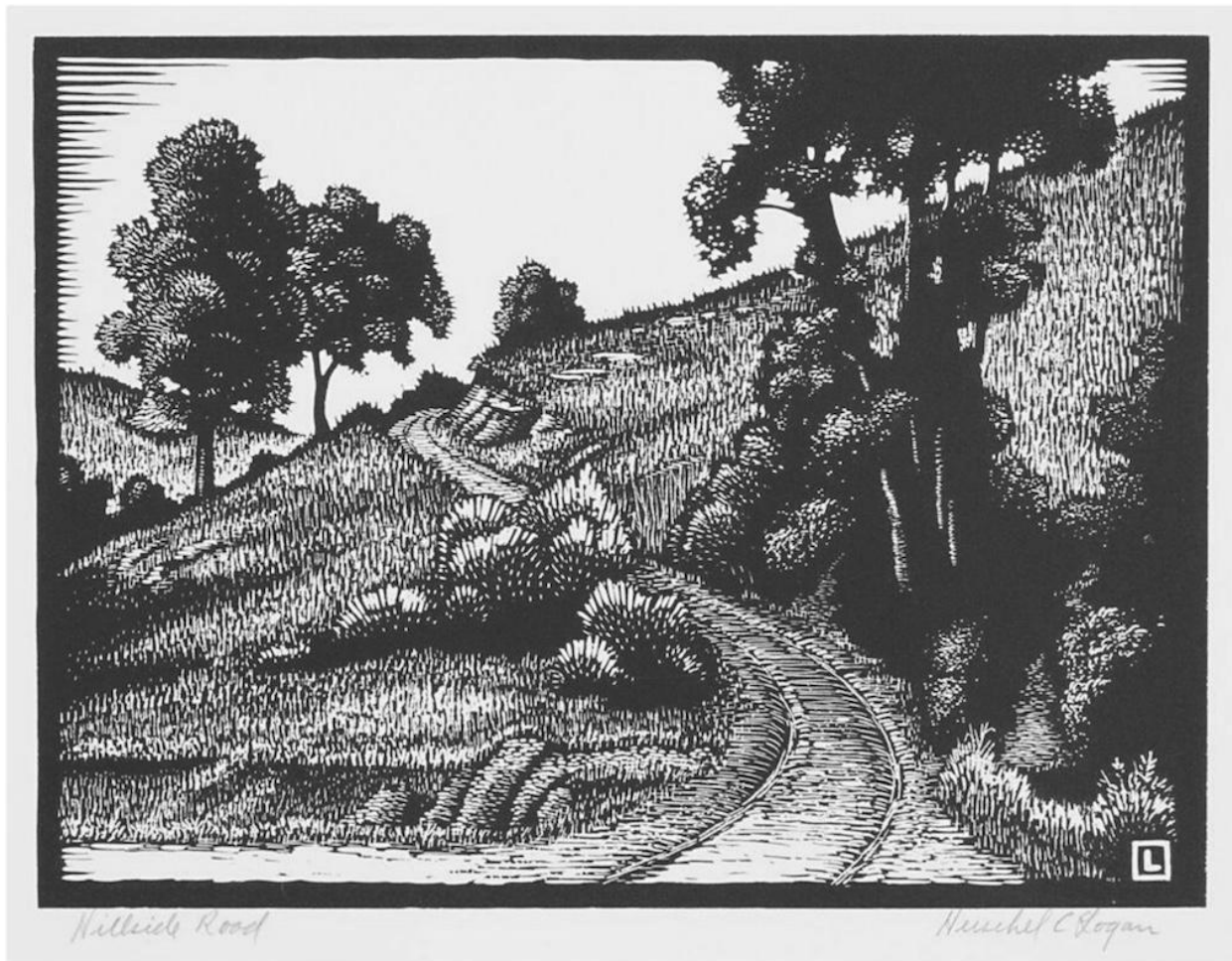
What sort of fellow would begin by acquiring a revolver and pursue it through to writing a biography of the little-known cowboy who owned it?

The Texas Jack Scout



Sometimes it seems as if a story lies dormant until it finds the right person to tell it, then it snatches them and inspires them to great exertion until the story is told, and that is the case here.

Like its native grasses, Logan had deep roots in the prairie. Born in Missouri in 1901, he grew up in Kansas, studied art, and became a commercial artist in Wichita and Salina, where he lived until retiring to California in 1967. In the 1920s and '30s he became one of the best known members of the Prairie Print School, who celebrated rural life and landscape in their prints. He favored woodcuts, some of which he exhibited at the 1939 New York World's Fair.



Hillside Road, a woodcut by Herschel Logan, from Kansas State University archives

By 1939 he had abandoned print art, in part because the American art scene was turning to abstraction. He remained in Salina managing a printing business and hosting a radio show about Kansas industry. In his company ads for the *Salina Journal*, he created “the Colonel,” a smartly-dressed Kentucky Colonel cartoon sharing grassroots wisdom. He himself became known as “the Colonel” around Salina because he often dressed as one.

The COLONEL

PRINTIN' For Sale
CONSOLIDATED

"I cal'ate sum girls would make good secretaries . . . if they weren't so clockeyed."

Distributors of A.B. Dick Duplicating Supplies and Equipment
Memiograph • Spirit Offset Photocopy

Consolidated
OF SALINA 

113 NORTH SANTA FE

<A "Little Colonel" cartoon in the Salina Journal, within an ad for Hershel's Consolidated Printing Co.

Logan had begun collecting arms when he was a teenager, but in Salina he continued that work and expanded his search into other lines. Logan was an avid collector of Western arms and Civil War paraphernalia and an author and lecturer on those subjects. He had written a half dozen books about historic arms and published articles in *American Rifleman*. He had over 600 guns and edged weapons. He also collected dime novels, mustache cups, and the largest archive of cartoon art in the country. When he laid his hands on Texas Jack's revolver in 1951, he was 50 and an acknowledged expert in Western arms and history. It's no wonder he felt he had to know what the engravings on his new acquisition referred to, and learning that much piqued his interest to find out the whole story of Texas Jack.

The quest that carried him through to *Buckskin and Satin* was a trying one. When the Texas Jack Association was founded in 1980, founders Dennis and Julie Greene made sure that Logan was granted honorary membership for his work. At that time, Julie introduced him to readers of *The Texas Jack Scout*. She quoted from a letter he wrote to her following his nomination as honorary member. Logan wrote,

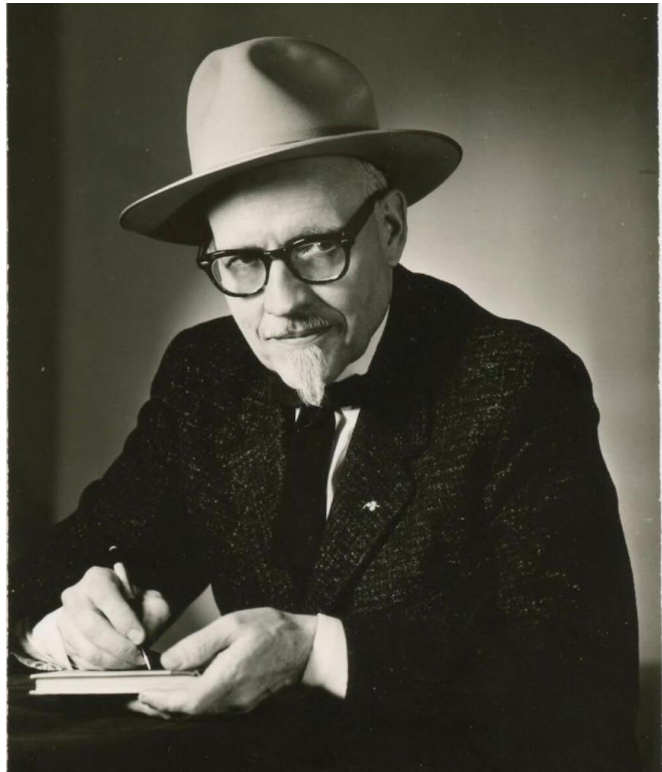
"Had I but known of the untold hours ... the voluminous correspondence involved ... or the miles to be traveled in the research on J.B. "Texas Jack" Omohundro it is doubted that I would ever have embarked on such a project."

The Texas Jack Scout

In maturity Logan often dressed as a Kentucky Colonel, having been inducted into the society of that name. Photo from Kansas State University archives.>

In our internet age, we marvel at the physical effort Logan put in to find hard-copy documents for his biography, just as we boggle to imagine cousin Malvern laboring in his Goochland home office full-time for six years to assemble evidence of three centuries of Omohundros.

Texas Jack's Association founders Dennis and Julie Greene, also avid collectors, and also living in California, visited Logan at his home in Santa Ana. The Greenes hoped to connect the 86-year-old author to a team of young film producers from Desparado Films. The producers eventually bought the film rights to *Buckskin and Satin*. But alas, no film resulted.



From L: The Desparado Films producer, Herschel Logan, and Julie Greene at Logan's California residence.

Ah, what could make a finer movie than that: a cowboy movie, with buffalo herds, Wild Bill and Ned Buntline, a love story, and great scenery? We must remain hopeful that if there were a slight retro swing in the industry, our boy would yet have his name up on the marquee.

Thanks to Matthew Kerns, author of *Texas Jack: America's First Cowboy Star*, for sharing images from his extensive files.

The Texas Jack Scout



The Man Who Put the “Wild” In the West

By Matthew Kerns

<https://www.dimelibrary.com/post/the-man-who-put-the-wild-in-the-west>



James Butler Hickok was born 188 years ago today, May 27, 1837. Most folks don't remember him by that name. They know him as Wild Bill—the long-haired gunslinger with twin ivory-handled revolvers, the gambler with nerves of steel, the unerring lawman who could shoot the wings off a fly at twenty paces.

But here's the thing: Most of what we “know” about Wild Bill Hickok is legend. Not fact.

Was he ever called “Duck Bill” for his oversized nose, or “Shanghai Bill” for his slim build, or “Dutch Bill” for his German heritage? Some sources claim so. Others never mention it. Even the name “Bill” is a mystery—his given name was James, and William was his father. Why “Bill”? No one knows for sure.

Was it a fight with a cinnamon bear that sent young Hickok limping west toward Rock Creek Station? Maybe. But probably not. Did he really kill David McCanles in a dramatic shootout at Rock Creek, outnumbered and outgunned? The facts are murky, the accounts contradictory.



Was the famous shootout with Davis Tutt in Springfield really about a gold pocket watch, or was there something more personal—like a falling out over a woman, maybe even Tutt's sister, Lottie? Did Hickok truly warn Tutt to stay away from the town square, or was that detail added later for dramatic flair? The accounts vary.

The Texas Jack Scout



Did he despise acting alongside Buffalo Bill and Texas Jack onstage, or was he simply uncomfortable in the spotlight, a poor performer cast in a role that didn't fit? Some said he hated every moment of it; others remembered him trying his best, if awkwardly.

And that "Dead Man's Hand"—aces and eights, black cards, cursed forever by the blood spilled in a Deadwood saloon? That tale didn't appear until decades after Hickok's death. In reality, when Jack McCall shot Wild Bill in the back of the head on August 2, 1876, the cards he was holding likely scattered across the floor with everything else. The hand, like so much of Wild Bill's story, was assembled later—built not from evidence, but from awe.



Yet the fact that these stories sprang up at all tells us something important. Hickok didn't need to make himself a legend. He simply lived in a way that invited it. He fascinated people. He unsettled them. He inspired awe, and envy, and fear. He left behind a shape too large to measure, a shadow too long to ignore.

When Buffalo Bill Cody and Texas Jack Omohundro created their first frontier stage show in 1872, they played themselves—two scouts turned showmen bringing the prairie to the stage. The following season, in 1873, they added a new star: their old friend James Butler Hickok. And when Cody eventually expanded that small stage act into the grand outdoor spectacle that toured the world, he didn't name it The Cody Show or The Frontier Spectacle. He called it Buffalo Bill's Wild West.

Hard not to see that as a tribute. A nod to the man who embodied the West's wildness long before anyone else tried to define it. The man they called Wild Bill.

And whether the stories about Hickok are true or not, they still echo—loud and clear—because of the man who left them behind.

Ed.—Photo inserts:

David McCanles truwestmagazine.com

Davis Tutt pinterest.com

sister Lottie Tutt canteymyerscollection.com

Jack McCall murderpedia.org



Remember from March *Scout*:

“Where is this beautiful city?
And what does it have to do with
the TJA?”

It is Richmond, VA, location of the
2026 TJA Roundup!

The Texas Jack Scout



A Letter From Buffalo Bill to Ned Buntline

By Matthew Kerns

<https://www.dimelibrary.com/post/a-letter-from-buffalo-bill-to-ned-buntline>

Reprinted in Street & Smith's New York Weekly, July 22, 1872:



<Ned Buntline, Buffalo Bill
Cody, Texas Jack
Omohundro

Buffalo Bill and Texas Jack. Letters from these real heroes of the present day inform us that the first named has just departed on a perilous trip into the far North-West, to recover property stolen by the Indians, while the latter is engaged in a new enterprise, which will add to his fame and bring him prominently before the public in a short time. Meantime, "Ned Buntline" is far away, but busy on his new story of "Texas Jack, the Hero of the Loup."

FORT MCPHERSON, June 4th, 1872.

Dear Colonel: —Before leaving on my trip among the Indians, I pen you a few lines to let you know myself and family are well. I leave tomorrow for a two months' trip. I am going from here across the country to the Missouri River among those Northern Indians, for the purpose of getting back some stolen horses. The Indians have stolen so many horses from the railroad and taken them so far north that troops have never followed them to their stronghold, where they feel secure with their stolen property, but now we are going to follow them to their own country and get the horses. Texas Jack is not going on this trip, he starts tomorrow to catch wild buffalo for a gentleman here from Niagara Falls. They are going to take some full-grown buffalo there, and some Indians, and have a genuine buffalo hunt. Jack will make you a visit while he is East.

Your true friend, W. F. Cody.

To see a photo of this letter, go to the listed website.

The Texas Jack Scout



Spirits of the Plains ©...January 2021

By: Driftin' AaronG

*Thinking back to the past in what I always thought were the good ol' days
Those ol' days when I might have traveled this land in so many ways*

*Back around 1870 when the wagons were all headin' west
Good folks lookin' for a better life to live giving their very best*

*Just their families, a little money, a wagon pulled by horses, oxen or mules
Headin' west was the call, free land awaitin', an' a journey filled with so many blues*

*Thinking about all this in our modern time as I sat camped by a creek on this desolate dry land
An ol' prospector wandered by with his loaded up little burro, coming across the soft unforgiving
sand*

*This ol' prospector looked to be a hundred years old or more
He looked all wrinkled an' tired, but tough and hardy to the very core*

*I offered him to sit an' have coffee an' a bite or two
An' in his coffee he added a little taste of hard brew*

*“For the cold” he said with a delighted smile
“I've traveled a long distance, an' just this morning, maybe only about one mile”*

*I asked him about the plains and if he knew the old stories of the past
The old prospector told me he'd been on a wagon train that would always be known to be the last*

*He told me about all the graves they'd left behind, an' of all the graves they'd found along the
trail*

He said they were all lookin' to find a better life, but for some in death they truly did fail

*He explained to me that if I truly wanted to learn more, then I should spend the night here
An' the truth of all the wagon trains west, in my heart an' mind would appear*

*I had no idea what he meant, but he thanked me for the coffee an' a friendly snack
An' told me to enjoy the visits of the night, an' that he'd probably not be back*

*I was a little confused at the things he'd said
But waited until dark when I finally went to bed*

*It was along about midnight when it all seem to begin
I awoke with a start an' gave a scary, but not so sure grin*

The Texas Jack Scout



*Not sure of what I was hearing, I listened all quiet an' still
It was a multitude of voices from the past, it just gave me a cold, cold chill*

*I learned from all I heard, that when the sun is way up high
The plains are often saturated with rain, or very hot an' dry*

*Wagons were often wrecked with runaway teams, or sudden death when cholera struck
An' more often than not the water was bad, an' too many folks were buried in the muck*

*What I've always thought about those good ol' days often make me wonder if I'd been that tough
Or maybe just have lived my life where I was born, an' hope that would have been enough*

*So, as I lay here in the dark listening to all the voices warning me of the past
It must be the spirits of the plains, telling me their history an' memories that will forever last*

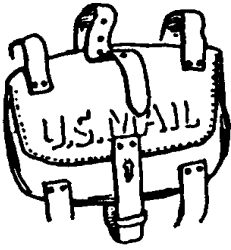


Greetings from the office of the President...which means that we have a computer in the end guest bedroom where we had room for a desk. I hope this edition of the *Scout* finds you all doing well as Summer is already here. Linda Omohundro, our layout editor, has given me a preliminary list of what will be in this issue, and it looks to be mighty good! Articles about Hershel Logan, Wild Bill Hickok, and a fun crossword puzzle. There will also be an article about a movie about Buffalo Bill's Wild West show too. And...a short update about how plans are shaping up for the Roundup around this time, next year, June 24-27, 2026, in Richmond, VA. We have a

block of hotel rooms reserved, tickets reserved for a visit to Colonial Williamsburg, and coming up, working on our visit to the Civil War Museum at Tredegar. We will also get a chance to go back to Hollywood Cemetery. I hope that we will have an opportunity to enjoy the Riverfront Canal Walk at some point also. I have never been to Virginia so this will be a significant event for me personally. Hope that you have a chance to kick back and enjoy this edition of the *Scout*!

Robert Omohundro, President

The Texas Jack Scout



4/17/25

Larry & Rene—

Thank you for *The Texas Jack Scout* “an occasional publication”. I have bought, sold, traded western items such as hats, spurs, saddles, horsehair, etc... for 50+ years. I ran across pictures and posters with Texas Jack and have always been very interested in his role as one of the first “real” cowboys, guides, hunters with a conscience.

You all are to be commended for keeping your family’s history intact thus fulfilling Harry Truman’s admonition that “*the only thing new in the world is the history that you don’t know*”.

Please keep me on your mailing/subscription list and let me know any fees due.

Ken Robertson
P.O. Box 580
Laramie, WY 82073

Editor's Note: Ken has told us that he likes going to old west auctions, and that if anyone in the TJA is looking for something, let him know at address above and he will see if he can find it.



Buffalo Bill at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival

By Linda Omohundro

<https://www.indiewire.com/news/festivals/>

Italian Western “Heads or Tails?” turns back time to capture the famed “Wild West Show,” hosted by Buffalo Bill (née William F. Cody), starring John C. Reilly. The feature premiered at the 2025 Cannes Film Festival. It centers on how Buffalo Bill’s Wild West Show changes the perspective of Italian woman Rosa, who is trapped in a stifling marriage to a

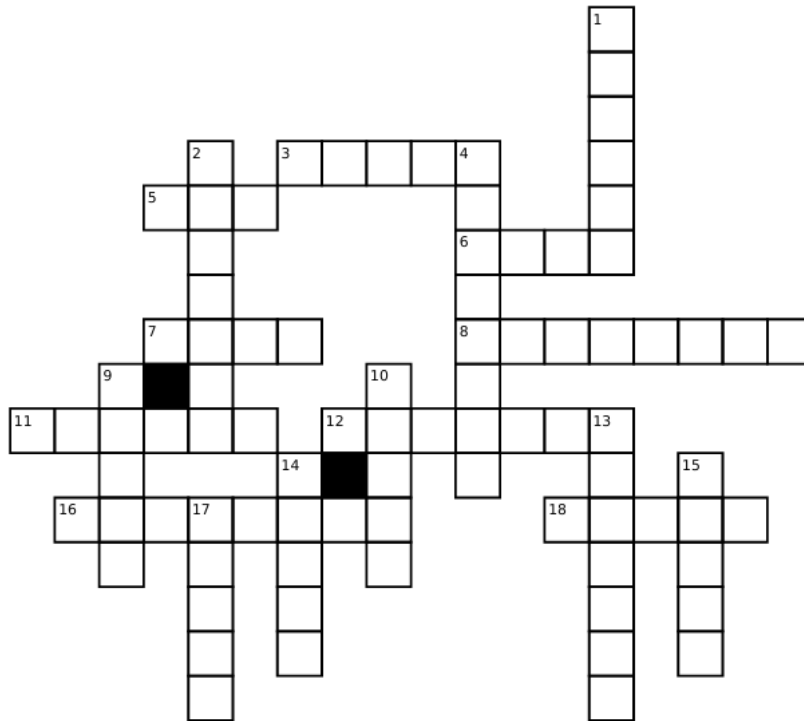


powerful and violent landowner. When a rodeo between American and Italian cowboys ends in tragedy, Rosa flees with a daring local rider who beat the Americans. But Buffalo Bill and others join the hunt for the bounty on the Italian rider’s head. “Rosa’s dream of freedom quickly collides with the weight of reality — and like in every good Western ballad, fate flips a coin.”

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ROUNDUP CROSSWORD



Down:

1. MAN WHO HERDS CATTLE
2. ANIMAL INDIANS HUNTED
4. CAPITAL OF VIRGINIA
9. PERSON SENT TO GET INFORMATION
10. PLACE FOR TRAVELER TO STAY
13. LARGE AREA OF GRASSY LAND
14. A LONG GUN
15. BUCKSKIN AND SATIN AUTHOR
17. THE LONE STAR STATE

Across:

3. A FLOWING BODY OF WATER
5. SOMETHING TO SHOOT WITH
6. BUFFALO BILL'S LAST NAME
7. JOHN B OMOHUNDRO NICKNAME
8. VERY LARGE HILL
11. WILD BILL'S LAST NAME
12. PROCESS OF COLLECTING CATTLE
16. WRITER NED'S LAST NAME
18. CART PULLED BY HORSES

The Texas Jack Scout



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TO