MEDIA ADVISORY

Louisiana Department of State



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CHENNAULT AVIATION AND MILITARY MUSEUM STAFF TO HOST LITERARY EVENT

The staff of the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum will host a literary event appealing to all Louisianians interested in history, architecture and stories about north Louisiana personalities on Tuesday, Oct. 11 from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. at the museum. The event will feature four authors and each will be present to sign copies of and discuss their work.

Historian and photographer Lee Estes is considered the dean of north Louisiana photographers having used the camera to record the world for more than 65 years. He has written two books, "Fading Textures" and "Fading Warriors." "Fading Textures" is a photographically illustrated volume describing northeast Louisiana as it may have appeared during the late 19th and early 20th centuries. "Fading Warriors" describes the exploits of 47 participants, most from the Monroe area, during World War II.

University of Louisiana at Monroe professor of history Dr. Richard Chardkoff Ph.D. has authored many historical articles for various literary journals. His recent books, "Sol's Story: A Triumph of the Human Spirit" and "The Flyboy Heroes of Selman Field," will be featured at the event on Oct. 11. "Sol's Story: A Triumph of the Human Spirit" chronicles the adventures of Sol Rosenberg who endured the horrors of a concentration camp during World War II, later settled in Monroe and established a successful and thriving business. "The Flyboy Heroes of Selman Field" depicts the navigators who trained at Selman Field and went on to heroic performances during World War II. Ironically, this book signing event will be in one of the last remaining structures from Selman Field.

William Caverlee, local author and journalist, wrote "Amid the Swirling Ghosts and Other Essays," a fascinating collection of musings about people and places around north Louisiana. His writings have appeared in a number of prestigious publications including "Louisiana Cultural Vistas," "Christian Science Monitor," "Flight Journal" and "World War II Quarterly," among others. He is also a contributing writer for the "Oxford American," and his short stories have been published in "Louisiana Literature" and "Cimarron Review."

Wesley Harris is a resident authority on the history of Camp Ruston, one of the largest prisonerof-war camps located in the United States during World War II. The Ruston native has authored three books including "Fish Out of Water: Nazi Submariners as Prisoners in North Louisiana During World War II," a compelling story of the imprisonment of the crew of U505 which was shrouded in secrecy, even from other POWs and their families at home, and "Neither Fear Nor Favor: Deputy United States Marshal John Tom Sisemore," a true story of one of the most able and remarkable law officers in northwest Louisiana during the 1890s. Also available is "Greetings from Ruston: A Post Card History of Ruston, Louisiana." Harris will address the regular meeting of Friends of the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum at 6 p.m. at the museum.

For more information about the Chennault Aviation and Military Museum, call 318.362.5540 or visit <u>www.sos.la.gov/camm</u>.

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