

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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**Experience Tioga for a summer staycation weekend!**

(Tioga, Texas) The Tioga Heritage Museum presents a Western Trade Days every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday through September in the heart of downtown Tioga.

You'll love the quaint old west charm of downtown Tioga and you can get your shopping fix without breaking your pocketbook from dozens of unique vendor booths. Tioga's Trade Days hosts businesses and artisans selling western goods, arts and crafts and just about anything else you can think of.

An authentic chuckwagon cafe will be serving up a campfire breakfast and a barbeque lunch. Pop's Kitchen is adding a chicken sandwich, turkey club and turkey pannini to his menu as well as yummy Italian Ice. And the Tioga Heritage Museum drink booth will sell fresh blueberry lemonade, sweet tea as well as soft drinks and water bottles.

Be sure to check out the wagon sale on the Museum's front porch at the June Trade Days, June 27th! This month will feature a \$5 t-shirt sale and \$1 bags of homemade caramel popcorn.

You'll want to take a tour of the Tioga Heritage Museum which of course features Gene Autry memorabilia -- Tioga's most famous son -- as well as artifacts and photos of other interesting Tioga area history. Free Museum tours are available on every Trade Days and by appointment. We'll have a bunch of new Gene Autry products in our Museum gift shop just in time for the June Western Trade Days!

The 2009 Trade Days season is April – September, 4<sup>th</sup> Saturdays (which by the way, is NOT always the last Saturday), 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM. Call the Museum phone number with any questions at 940-437-5333 and please leave a message if no one answers or email us at [info@westerntradedays.com](mailto:info@westerntradedays.com). More information can also be found on our website at [www.westerntradedays.com](http://www.westerntradedays.com).

Make it a weekend outing and spend the night at Tioga's Spirit of the West hotel so you can get up early for the chuckwagon breakfast. Then you'll have more time to enjoy a barbeque dinner at the famous Clark's Outpost and the Italian cuisine of Diverso's Restaurant. There's also camping at nearby Lake Ray Roberts.

The Tioga Museum & Heritage Association founded the Western Trade Days in June 2008 as a monthly fundraiser for the 501 c3 non-profit organization. For the past ten years the TMHA has hosted a variety of fundraising events and festivals to help reach their goal -- maintain a facility that would serve as an educational and cultural center highlighting the area's most famous people, businesses, lifestyles and events of the past.

There's still room for more vendors to participate. We want to be a gathering place for anyone who has goods to sell. So we also welcome flea marketers and garage sellers. Spaces are a generous 15' x 30' and rent for \$20. Electricity is available for an additional \$10.

School bands, church choirs, community groups, local bands and individuals are invited to donate their musical and singing talents. We are especially interested in planning a big wrap up to our season in September as well as celebrate Gene Autry's birthday. Please contact us if you would like to sign up to perform.

Tioga is located in the center of north Texas horse country, on the northeast shores of Lake Ray Roberts, Highway 377 and Gene Autry Drive, about 30 minutes north of the Highway 380 corridor and 30 minutes south of the Red River.

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