

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Do your Christmas Shopping at Tioga's Western Trade Days!**

(Tioga, Texas) Tioga is providing two early Christmas shopping events before Thanksgiving: Western Trade Days on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 8:00 AM – 5:00 PM, in the heart of downtown Tioga, Hwy. 377 and Gene Autry Drive.

Each month since its onset, Tioga's Western Trade Days has hosted a variety of artisans, collectors, retailers and flea marketers selling their goods and products to north Texas shoppers. From one-of-a-kind jewelry and purses to dolls, bird houses, fountains and wind chimes, from barnwood furniture and other wood crafts to leather and iron home and ranch décor, from antiques and collectibles to western gift items, pottery and ceramics, from knives, buckles, clothing, shoes, books, movies and candles to trees, shrubs and a farmer's market of veggies and fruits, the list of products that have been sold at Tioga's Western Trade Days is endless and different each month.

The Tioga Museum & Heritage Association founded the Western Trade Days in June 2008 as a monthly fundraiser for the non-profit organization running from February – November annually. The event has continued to double in size each month and has space for about 100 vendors. The TMHA hopes that more local folks will come and enjoy affordable shopping at this unique occasion. And the TMHA hopes readers will help them spread the word to all their family, friends and neighbors.

Kick off your shopping experience with an authentic chuckwagon breakfast or take a break from shopping and enjoy a chuckwagon lunch. Pavilion table and chair dining is provided. Breakfast musical entertainment in October will feature the "Sonshine Sisters" from Whitesboro, Texas beginning at 8:00 AM.

Be sure to take a free tour of the Tioga Heritage Museum which features Gene Autry memorabilia as well as artifacts and photos of other interesting Tioga area history. And shop at the Museum gift shop where you'll find Gene Autry hometown gift items, CDs, Bailey Farm jams and preserves and much more.

The October Western Trade Days is also proud to feature a performance by the Tioga school band around 11:00 AM. The Tioga Band is a small ensemble composed of 7th and 8th grade students. The Band's performance is inspired by the spirit of our western heritage. The Crossing by Robert Sheldon musically describes a journey's good and bad times through its rhythmic and fluid sections. Shenandoah is a haunting folk song

that tells the story of a trader who falls in love with an Indian woman and longs to take her farther West. Abington Ridge by Ed Huckleby is a spirited adventure. Its Western theme is repeated throughout leaving you energized with visions of cowboys conquering the Western wilds.

Vendor spaces are still available! Each 15'x30' lot rents for \$20.00. Call Sue at 940-437-5503 or John at 940-390-5093 or email [info@westerntradedays.com](mailto:info@westerntradedays.com) for more vendor information. Check out our website at [www.westerntradedays.com](http://www.westerntradedays.com) where you can register to participate online and get the latest updates. We welcome area school, church, community bands and groups and individuals to donate their musical and singing talents. Please contact Annette at 940-390-7886 if you would like to sign up to perform in October or November.