

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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BUDA DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS TO HOST FIRST THURSDAY

While the origins of April Fool's Day is uncertain, the Downtown Buda Merchants' Group will be hosting an "April Foolish Fun Night" on First Thursday's "Alive after Five" event, which will take place on Thursday, April 1, from 5 – 9 p.m. Though it has been said that April Fool's Day began as a way to mock French people who were slow to switch to the Gregorian calendar which changed New Year's from April 1 to January 1, downtown merchants are encouraging local residents and visitors to come stroll through the unique antique and specialty shops, while enjoying food from downtown restaurants.

Lots of "foolish" activities will be occurring in Downtown Buda. Visit Casa de Arte for face painting and caricature drawings. There will be a children's foolish costume contest with prizes for the foolishly dressed at Salon One 12, while the Buda Soda Fountain hosts balloon making for those seeking some helium fun.

Other participating downtown merchants include Buda's Red Door, who will have an Easter egg hunt. Eggs will be hidden throughout Buda's Red Door, and each egg will be filled with discounts that can be redeemed at checkout. mGenesis Hair Design will offer \$7.00 haircuts for adults and \$6.00 haircuts for children. Buda Grocery & Grill will be serving up an enticing menu with their "Dinner under the Stars." At \$8.99 per person, visitors can enjoy Lasagna Bolognese, house salad, garlic bread, and iced tea. Don't forget to call for reservations! The Grill will also give a free scoop of "silly" rainbow sherbet to those that stop by.

Indulge in local culture; mingle with neighbors, and experience, in one evening, the diversity of downtown Buda's historic and unique character. Participating downtown merchants include Buda's Red Door; Casa de Arte; Cimarron Rose; Genesis Hair Design; Old Main Street Station and Sue Ellen's Florist; Memory Lane Antiques; Raby's Roots; Salon One 12; The Looking Glass; The Yellow Sweater; Windwalker Primitive

Weapons; Buda Public Library; Farmers Insurance Group; Buda Grocery and Grill; Buda Soda Fountain; Garcia's Mexican Restaurant; Main Street Café; Nonna Gina's Italian Restaurant; and Palmar Mexican Restaurant.

The Buda Downtown Merchants are a group dedicated to work cooperatively to increase business traffic and increase sales for the merchants and service businesses that operate in Buda's downtown area. For more information about First Thursday, please contact City of Buda Tourism Department at (512) 312-0084 or visit [www.ci.buda.tx.us](http://www.ci.buda.tx.us).