

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DATE: MARCH 1, 2010

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BUDA DOWNTOWN MERCHANTS TO HOST FIRST THURSDAY

Grab your boots and your best western wear and head to Downtown Buda! Join the merchants from within the Buda downtown business for First Thursday, “Alive after Five,” which will take place on Thursday, March 4 from 5 – 9 p.m. Downtown merchants are encouraging local residents and visitors to come stroll through the unique antique and specialty shops, while enjoying food from downtown restaurants.

Activities for First Thursday run the gamut. Windwalker Primitive Weapons will have its grand opening. This gunshop/gunsmith of the 1800s and early 1900s features restorations of rifles and pistols. Enjoy brisket, cowboy chili, beans, jalapeño cornbread for sampling and more. There will be dancing, wine tasting, sarsaparilla and cowboy coffee. Buda Grocery & Grill will be serving up an enticing menu with their “Dinner under the Stars,” which includes a free wine tasting featuring Texas Wines. At \$8.99 per person, visitors can enjoy King Ranch Chicken, Salad, Pinto Beans, Dinner Roll, Iced Tea, and a warm brownie sundae. Don’t forget to call for reservations. Nonna Gina’s Italian Restaurant will be having a four-course, four-beer dinner with Chad Ellis of Ben E. Keith Beverage. This dinner is by reservations only and will be \$30 per person (includes souvenir beer glass). The menu will include Fried Corn Tostados with 3 Salsas and Guacamole, Vietnamese Saviche, Pork Roast and Peach Cobbler and Beef Ribs with 4th of July Potato Salad. The beers will include Fireman's 4 and Sierra Nevada. The other 2 will be surprises selected by Chad Ellis. Main Street Café dinner guests will receive a free piece of pie with every entrée purchased, while Palmar Mexican Restaurant will feature a buy one dinner and get the 2<sup>nd</sup> dinner half off. For those wanting something sweet, stop by Buda’s beautiful 1940s old-fashioned soda fountain and enjoy a delicious Boot Scootin’ Smoothie half price! The Buda Soda Fountain features ice cream, malts, milkshakes, pies and cakes, a full coffee bar, and nostalgic candy. Come in, pull up a bar stool at their marble counter and enjoy!

For those wanting to get the goods on their shopping adventures, the retail merchants have plenty to offer. Get 20% off any one item at Buda's Red Door, while Casa de Arte boasts their art sale! All items in their store will be 20% off. The Old Main Street Station and Sue Ellen's Florist features great plants, flowers, jewelry, candles, antiques, collectibles and more! You can get 15% off your total purchase. Now open on Sundays from 12 – 5 p.m., The Looking Glass is offering 20% off any one item.

Where you are one of a kind, not a dime a dozen, Salon One 12, is offering a free haircut with any highlight services, and Genesis Hair Design will feature their \$7.00 haircuts (only) for adults and \$6.00 haircuts (only) for kids and seniors. Don't forget to bring your kids to the Buda Public Library. There will be Texas History and Western books on display and storytime!

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; Raby's Roots; Salon One 12; The Looking Glass; The Yellow Sweater; Trendy Tay; Windwalker Primitive Weapons; Buda Public Library; Buda Grocery and Grill; Buda Soda Fountain; 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).