

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 18, 2018**

CONTACT: Jennifer D'hollander  
863-676-1759; [jdhollander@cityoflakewales.com](mailto:jdhollander@cityoflakewales.com)

## **43rd Annual Pioneer Days Festival**

**A FREE Community Event Celebrating the Heritage of Lake Wales**

**CALL FOR VENDORS**

**NEW! Beers with Pioneers on Saturday night**

**LAKE WALES, Florida** - The Lake Wales Museum will host the **43rd Annual Pioneer Days Festival** on Saturday, October 27 from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m., and Sunday, October 28 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. This event is a heritage celebration for the whole family with free admission and free parking on both days. **Beers with Pioneers** specialty and craft brew event will take place on Saturday, October 27 from 4 - 9 p.m. A special admission ticket is required for Beers with Pioneers.

The Lake Wales Museum's Pioneer Days Festival is synonymous with Lake Wales history and culture, and celebrates the heritage of the greater Polk County community. The two-day event features free admission along the shores of Lake Wales Lake with over 100 heritage, artisan, community and food vendors, along with old-fashioned activities. The event draws a diverse audience of nearly 10,000 visitors and residents annually to the area over the weekend.

**Beers with Pioneers** will be held on Saturday, October 27 from 4 - 9 PM. This NEW offering as part of Pioneer Days includes 25 specialty and craft beers, live music, complimentary tasting glass and drawing prize tickets, a vintage photo station, domestic beer favorites and wine, and food from festival vendor will be available for purchase. Advanced tickets are \$25/person and \$30 at the door. Funds raised at the event directly support the Lake Wales Museum ongoing historic preservation, educational programming for all ages, museum exhibits and tours, and community programs.

Tickets are now on sale! **CLICK HERE** to purchase tickets.

**Pioneer of Year Celebration** includes honoring a recipient of the annual "Pioneer of the Year," award. On Saturday, October 27 at 10 a.m., we will recognize a resident of Lake Wales who has made an outstanding contribution to the quality of life and community of Lake Wales.

**More than 50 artisan and craft vendors** will showcase a range of goods for sale including handcrafted wooden items, holiday home décor, homemade candles and oils, handmade paper goods, gemstone, glass, and silver jewelry, Lake Wales illustrated art prints, paintings, quilted home goods, children's toys, clothing, accessories, and more. New this year, a fiber arts demonstration area will invite visitors to explore fiber making from carding to spinning and how fiber production creates clothing, décor and art. Handmade fiber art goods will also be for sale.

**Entertainment** will feature dance performances and live bands, guitarists, and vocalists playing familiar folk, bluegrass, country, 50's, 60's & 70's tunes. The Lake Wales High School Highlander

Band will perform at the beginning of the Pioneer of the Year Celebration beginning at 10 AM on Saturday, October 27.

The Lake Wales Museum is proud to recognize Lake Wales leaders who are making history today. During the Pioneer Days Festival, local non-profits and charitable organizations are invited to participate in the Future Pioneer Leaders event wherein visitors can deposit donations for their favorite local service organization. A portion of the proceeds will go towards the museum and each of the service organizations participating.

Other activities offered throughout the weekend celebration include historic architecture tours of downtown Lake Wales, Civil War reenactors camp, Talako Indian performers, antique car show and parade at 12 PM on Saturday, October 27, Flywheelers antique tractor and engine exhibits, old-fashioned family games, animal rides, petting zoo, horse and carriage rides, and early-American trade demonstrations.

This year's Pioneer Days Festival and Beers with Pioneers events are made possible by the City of Lake Wales, Lake Wales Museum Association, Visit Central Florida, Lake Wales Medical Center, Center State Bank, MAX 98.3, The Ledger Media Group, 90.7 WMFE, Sun Newspapers, WUSF, 97.5 WPCV, Florida's Natural, Sky Motorsports, Bernie Little Distributors and IHOP Restaurants.

#### **BECOME A VENDOR**

**CLICK HERE**, if you would like to participate in Pioneer Days Festival as a vendor.

#### **About the Lake Wales Museum**

The Lake Wales Museum is Central Florida's stop for history since 1976, and is open Tuesday - Saturday from 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. Admission is free. The museum features historical exhibits, events, educational programs and tours. Parking is free and the first floor is accessible for persons with disabilities, wheelchairs and strollers. **CLICK HERE** for more information about the Lake Wales Museum.

---

## **TICKETS NOW ON SALE!**

25 SPECIALTY & CRAFT BEERS • LIVE MUSIC  
COMPLIMENTARY TASTING GLASS & DRAWING PRIZE TICKETS  
VINTAGE PHOTO STATION • DOMESTIC FAVORITES & WINE AVAILABLE  
FOOD FROM FESTIVAL VENDORS FOR PURCHASE

**ADVANCED TICKETS: \$25/PERSON**

**AT THE DOOR: \$30/PERSON**

A fundraiser for the Lake Wales Museum!!!



FREE  
PARKING

FREE  
EVENT

43<sup>rd</sup>

THE LAKE WALES MUSEUM  
PRESENTS

# PIONEER DAYS

OCTOBER  
9 AM - 5 PM    11 AM - 4 PM  
27-28

On the Shores of Beautiful Lake Wales

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING OUR HERITAGE

HERITAGE ARTS  
PIONEER CELEBRATION  
HISTORIC TOURS  
FAMILY-FRIENDLY  
OLD-FASHIONED FUN

new

BEERS  
WITH  
PIONEERS

Craft Brew and Live Music

OCT. 27 : 4-9 PM

Separate Ticket Required

Visit [CityofLakeWales.com](http://CityofLakeWales.com) for more information and tickets

## PARTNERS



## LAKE WALES MUSEUM

325 S Scenic Highway \* Lake Wales, Florida [cityoflakewales.com](http://cityoflakewales.com) \* 863.676.1759