

It is partly economic. Fewer people work in jobs dependent on seasonal cycles. What does the season matter in an office, beyond tangential decisions like determining whether to wear an overcoat for the walk from the parking lot? It is partly technological. Plenty of folks still work outdoors, but the tools of the trade are much more suited to do work at more times of the year than "the old days." Part of it is the on-demand lifestyle we've created over the decades. When we want it, we buy it/order it/download it/demand it. You need not wait for a particular fruit to ripen in the garden and enjoy its seasonality, you can just go buy it at the grocery store whenever you want it.

What does that have to do with a New Year's resolution, anyway? My wife made a comment the other day that life changes were probably better suited for spring and that made a ton of sense. If one acknowledges the cycles of the seasons, spring is the time for new growth and new changes to take hold. A few weeks ago, I wrote about the values of the darkness and the winter solstice, and I made the observation that the darkness was worth honoring and embracing as part of the natural cycles.

I cannot help but think, though, that the darkness of winter is a terrible time to embrace and apply life changes in the form of New Year's resolution. In a seasonal mindset, winter is for rest and reset. It recharges you for the good work of planting new crops in the spring. It allows you to clean, organize, and repair your equipment so that it is ready to go.

In that same way, we should apply the seasonal cycles within our lives. We should rest and reset during winter and get ourselves ready to implement life changes and self-improvement during the spring of new growth. I've got a few more things I want to say about living seasonally in the year to come, but as the new year kicks off in full, and as we think about improving our lives, remember, seasons exist for a reason. Hundreds of generations of our forefathers centered their life, their work, and their pleasure around seasonal cycles and living within that seasonal harmony. The modern world is a frantic, frenetic, anxiety-inducing place. A good antidote for that just might be living within seasonal harmony.

A good place to start just might be with spring resolutions for ourselves, our family, and our community. It might be a healthy new addition to life.

James Decker is the Mayor of Stamford, Texas and the creator of the West of 98 website and the Rural Church and State and West of 98 podcasts. Contact James and subscribe to these essays at westof98.substack.com and subscribe to him wherever podcasts are found.



Bronte ISD
Breakfast
Monday, January 29
 Cereal, crackers, fruit, juice, milk
Tuesday, January 30
 Sausage, egg, and cheese uncrustable, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday, January 31
 Powdered donuts, fruit, juice, milk
Thursday, February 1
 Pancake and sausage on a stick, fruit, juice, milk
Friday, February 2
 School Holiday
Lunch
Monday, January 29
 Hamburger, ranch beans,

tots, pears, milk
Tuesday, January 30
 X-treme burrito, corn, cucumbers, rosy applesauce, chocolate chip cookie, milk
Wednesday, January 31
 Grilled cheese, veggie cup, french fries, orange smiles, milk
Thursday, February 1
 Mozzarella sticks, marinara sauce, tomato cup, salad, strawberries, milk
Friday, February 2
 School Holiday

Robert Lee ISD
Breakfast
Monday, January 29
 Cereal, toast, fruit, juice, milk
Tuesday, January 30
 French toast, sausage, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday, January 31
 Chicken-n-biscuit, fruit, juice, milk
Thursday, February 1
 Pancake wrap, yogurt, fruit, juice, milk

Friday, February 2
 Cheesy toast, sausage, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch
Monday, January 29
 Corn dogs, tots, baked beans, fruit cup, milk
Tuesday, January 30
 Quesadillas, refried beans, cucumbers, salsa, apricots, ice cream cup, milk
Wednesday, January 31
 Crispy chicken sandwich, chips, veggie cup, salad, fruity jello, milk
Thursday, February 1
 Asian bowl, broccoli, corn, Mandarin oranges, milk
Friday, February 2
 Hamburger helper, carrot coins, green beans, roll, fresh fruit, cookie, milk
Blackwell CISD
Breakfast
Monday, January 29
 Bacon, egg, and cheese pancake sandwich, fruit, juice, milk

Tuesday, January 30
 Cereal, fruit, juice, milk
Wednesday, January 31
 Pizza, fruit, juice, milk
Thursday, February 1
 Biscuit, sausage, gravy, fruit, juice, milk
Friday, February 2
 Donuts, fruit, juice, milk
Lunch
Monday, January 29
 Chicken burger, fixins, smiley fries, milk
Tuesday, January 30
 Bean burrito or soft taco, fixins, Spanish rice, milk
Wednesday, January 31
 Chicken fried steak, mashed potatoes, green beans, gravy, roll, milk
Thursday, February 1
 Fried rice, lo mein noodles, egg roll, sweet-n-sour sauce, soy sauce, milk
Friday, February 2
 Soup, toasted cheese sandwich, crackers, milk

**NOTICE OF DEADLINE TO FILE AN APPLICATION FOR PLACE ON THE BALLOT
 CITIES, SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND OTHER POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS**

**AVISO DE FECHA LÍMITE PARA PRESENTAR UNA SOLICITUD PARA UN LUGAR EN LA
 BOLETA PARA CIUDADES, DISTRITOS ESCOLARES Y OTRAS SUBDIVISIONES POLÍTICAS**

Notice is hereby given that an application for a place on the CITY OF BRONTE
 (name of political subdivision)

General / Special Election ballot may be filed as indicated below:
 (Circle one)

(Se da aviso por la presente que una solicitud para un lugar en la boleta de la Elección

General / Especial de CITY OF BRONTE puede ser presentada como se indica
 (círcule uno) (nombre de la subdivisión política)

a continuación:)

Filing Dates and Times:
 (Fechas y Horario para Entregar Solicitudes:)

Start Date: 01/17/2024 End Date: 02/16/2024
 (Fecha Inicio) (Fecha Límite)

Office Hours: 8a-4p, weekdays, except Fri 2/16 until 5p
 (Horario de la Oficina)

Physical address for filing an application in person for place on the ballot:
 (Dirección física para presentar una solicitud en persona para un lugar en la boleta)

114 S WASHINGTON ST., BRONTE, TX 76933

Address to mail an application for place on the ballot (if filing by mail):
 (Dirección a donde enviar una solicitud para un lugar en la boleta (en caso de presentar por correo))

BRONTETX@WCC.NET OR 325.473.2048

Email and Fax Number to send an application for place on the ballot: If a filing fee is submitted, the application may not be faxed or emailed.
 (Dirección de correo electrónico o número de fax para enviar una solicitud para un lugar en la boleta: Si un pago de inscripción es presentada, la solicitud no puede ser enviada por correo electrónico o fax.)

Teresa Ballard
 Printed Name of Filing Officer or Designee
 (Nombre en letra de molde del Oficial de Archivos o Persona Designada)

Teresa Ballard
 Signature of Filing Officer or Designee
 (Firma del Oficial de Archivos o Persona Designada)

12 / 6 / 2023
 Date Posted
 (Fecha archivada)