

...Common Sayings

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Looking at a horse's teeth is a time-honored and scientifically-backed way to determine a horse's age. The original listener of this phrase - possibly used as early as 400 A.D. - would have likely known this fact and understood that looking at a gift horse's teeth to determine age would be considered rude. Since the animal was free, it shouldn't really matter how old it is.

Farm wisdom: Good manners go a long way. And you can always donate the gift later if you don't need or want it.

'Til the cows come home

This saying can be traced at least as far back as the 16th-Century play The Scornful Lady.

Cows don't usually get in a hurry to go anywhere unless they're being chased. They do tend to wander back to the same area in the evenings, especially if it's a sheltered or safe space where they feel protected from predators. So, they will eventually come back "home," but it likely won't be until dark, and maybe not even every day.

Farm wisdom: If you're waiting on something 'til the cows come home, you might want to settle in for a bit. Maybe even bring a snack and a phone charger.

Don't put all your eggs in one basket

This phrase warns against risking all you have on one particular thing.

Think about it. If you were gathering eggs in the morning, and your family's ability to eat well depended in large part on the eggs from your backyard chickens, wouldn't you be extra careful gathering them? You might even make multiple trips or use more than one basket to place them in just in case you tripped or met another misfortune on the way back to the house.

Farm wisdom: Whether it's an investment or the expectation of something to come, plan ahead and manage your risks, so you're not caught empty-handed.

Time to hit the hay

I personally heard this many evenings when I stayed at my grandparents' house. It meant "time to go to bed," a phrase I never really liked hearing.

Hitting the hay probably originated from the fact that mattresses from early history until the 1800s were made from whatever people had on hand that was soft...or at least softer than the floor or a wooden platform.

Hay stuffed in rough fabric sacks was a common choice due to its availability, as well as the ability to easily throw out the filling and replace it periodically. So, hitting the hay became a way to say going to bed, and we still use it to this day.

Farm wisdom: Hit the hay early, so you're ready for whatever tomorrow brings.

Hope you enjoyed our fun farm wisdom primer! And with that, I believe I'll go hit the hay, or maybe I'll stay up 'til the cows come home myself.

Since 1889, newspapers have served Coke County beginning with the Coke County Rustler. In the 1980s, the Bronte Enterprise and the Robert Lee Observer combined to become The Observer/Enterprise. The history told in these publications is fascinating and we want to share it with our readers of today. Each week, we will include items from the archives.

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Ben Oglesby
Mrs. Ben Oglesby
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VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL BEGINS NEXT WEEK
Annual vacation Bible School at First Baptist Church will begin next week, June 2 and continue through the following week until June 13.
Hours will be from 8:30 until 11:30 a.m. for the nursery, beginner, primary and junior departments. "Teen Time" will be from 7 to 9 p.m. each night.
A preparation and enrollment day will be held next Saturday, May 31, from 8:30 a.m. until 10 o'clock.
All young people in the community are invited to attend.

SCOTCH FOURSOME SUNDAY
A Scotch foursome golf tournament will be held Sunday at the local course. Tee off time is 1:15 p.m. Women are especially invited to compete in the matches.

MRS. FANCHER HOSTESS FOR SOROSIS CLUB
Mrs. Royce Fancher was hostess for the Sorosis Club when they met Thursday night, May 15. Mrs. Clyde Lee was in charge of a program on "Women's Responsibility to Freedom."
The group voted to erect some street signs in the city as their project. Mrs. C. C. Boecking was named secretary to replace Mrs. Clint Low, who is resigning from the club.
Present were Mmes. C. B. Barbee, Boecking, R. T. Caperton, Clark Glenn, E. F. Glenn, Clyde Lee, Royce Lee, Clint Low, Noah Pruitt Jr., Joe Rawlings, C. O. Richards and Fancher.

JAMES C. STEPHENS RECEIVES COMMISSION
Ft. Benning, Ga. (AHTNC) — James C. Stephens, 24, son of Mr. and Mrs. Lonnie C. Stephens of Bronte, was commissioned an Army second lieutenant after graduating from the Infantry Officer Candidate School, Ft. Benning, Ga., May 6.
During the 23-week course he was trained in leadership, tactics of small infantry units and use of infantry weapons. He also received instruction in map and aerial photograph reading, guerrilla warfare and counterinsurgency operations.

ANN HARRIS IS UNIVERSITY GRADUATE
AUSTIN, Texas (Spl.) — More than 1500 University of Texas students are candidates for degrees from the College of Arts and Sciences at the May 31 commencement.
Dr. John R. Silber, dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, made public the degree list which includes Ann Elizabeth Harris of Bronte.
Miss Harris will receive the Bachelor of Arts degree with a major in English. She is the daughter of Dr. and Mrs. John R. Harris of Bronte.

HERE'S BLACKWELL
By Mrs. Rockey Thompson
The Rev. Steve Harper, 21-year-old evangelist, will hold a revival meeting at the United Methodist Church in Blackwell June 8-13.
Young Harper is an associate evangelist with the Ed Robb Evangelistic Association, with special responsibility for youth work. He was appointed to this position May 15, 1968, and before that time he served on a part-time basis.
He is a licensed preacher in the United Methodist Church. Although he is only 21, he has worked in 50 evangelistic efforts. Rev. Bruce Parks recently commented, "He could preach in the pulpit of any church in the nation."
With the evangelist will be Danny Amerson, a junior at McMurry College. He will be in charge of music and youth activities during the revival.
Albert Sneed of Hempstead is visiting with his mother, Mrs. Edna Sneed, and his sister, Mrs. Alvin Edwards, and family.
Mrs. Artie Walls visited over the weekend in Colorado City with her son and his wife, Mr. and Mrs. Troy Walls.
Mrs. Rockey Thompson had as her visitors part of last week her sister, Mrs. Buster (Lula Mae) Cagle of Garland, and her mother-in-law, Mrs. Clara Cagle of Fort Worth.
Mrs. Maud White has been visiting in Midland with her son, Jaye White, and family, another son, Martin White, and her daughter, Mrs. W. E. Stewart, and family.
Mrs. Vera Moore of Nolan is visiting this week with Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Hendry.
Mr. and Mrs. Bill Morris and Little Bill are visiting this week in Odessa and Seminole with friends.
Honored at Shower
A pink and blue shower last Wednesday honored Mrs. Bill Morris. The affair was held in the United Methodist Church fellowship hall. Hostesses were Mmes. Rosemary Jeffrey, Shirley Mauldin, Lucille Raney, Susanne Tipps and Joan Poehls.
Mr. and Mrs. Oxford Raney visited over the weekend in Abilene with their daughters, Mrs. Charles Sanders and Mrs. Nellie Frances Hanson, and their families.
Mrs. James Jones and children visited last week in Comanche with Mr. Jones and with her sister, Mrs. Tommy Jones, and family, and with other relatives and friends.
A. E. Clem is a patient in Simmons Memorial Hospital in Sweetwater and Allen Sweet is a patient in the Veterans Hospital in Big Spring.

WAYNE BRIDGES GRADUATE AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY
Mrs. B. F. Bridges attended the graduation exercises at Texas A&M University last Saturday, May 24.
Her grandson, Floyd Wayne Bridges, son of Mr. and Mrs. Louis Bridges of Eden, received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Agricultural Education. He is a member of Alpha Zeta, the nation's oldest agricultural fraternity. Members are elected from students of agriculture who have achieved outstanding records of scholarship, character, and leadership in their chosen fields.
There were over 1,300 graduates in the '69 class.

BRONTE DELEGATES AT ANNUAL CONFERENCE
Rev. and Mrs. Fred Brown and Mrs. C. E. Arrott left Tuesday for Corpus Christi to attend the annual conference of the Southwest Texas Conference of the United Methodist Church. The Rev. Brown is pastor of First United Methodist Church in Bronte and Mrs. Arrott is lay delegate for the church.
Bishop O. Eugene Slater of San Antonio is the presiding officer at the annual conference.
Pastoral appointments for the new conference year will be read at the closing session of the conference next Saturday.
The local delegation will return to Bronte Saturday night.
Mr. and Mrs. Norman R. Kiker and Kathy spent the weekend of May 17 with Mr. and Mrs. Ronnie Lee in Waco.

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