



Presented by Brookshire Brothers

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 7, 2008

For More Information Contact:
Kelly Daniel, Membership & Marketing Manager

Blueberry Bon Appetit on Main Street on June 14

By Kara E. Killough, Nacogdoches County Chamber Intern

NACOGDOCHES – Taste buds are sure to be blue at this year’s Texas Blueberry Festival, presented by Brookshire Brothers, on Saturday, June 14. The event promises tasty blueberry fun for those that love to cook and those that love to eat. Downtown and Festival Plaza will be filled with fresh blueberries, ice cream, cobbler and traditional summer fares like funnel cake and tator twisters.

“Many of our vendors serve freshly-prepared foods, ranging from kabobs to boudin, barbecue, turkey legs, kettle corn, fried green tomatoes and of course shaved ice and ice cold lemonade,” said Sherry Banks, one of the festival organizers and a Chamber staff member.

The festival officially begins at 8 a.m. with the Nacogdoches Kiwanis Club Blueberry Pancake Breakfast. This mouth-watering event is held on the downtown square at Main and Fredonia Streets and features the famous Kiwanis blueberry batter. Pancakes are \$5 per plate and will be served until there’s not a pancake left.

“Pie eaters have more opportunities this year to eat their way to success,” said Debra Young, festival food and frolic director. “The Festival Plaza stage will be the site for at least eight pie eating contests. Contests will begin at 11 a.m. and run throughout day and are sure to offer laughs for both contestants and onlookers. Registration takes place prior to the events.” Festival Plaza is the park south of downtown.

-more-

The Blueberry Hill Soda & Sweet Shoppe at Regions Bank is another essential part of the festival. Regions turns its lobby into an old-fashioned soda shop filled with blueberry cobbler, ice cream, lemonade and coke floats. It's the perfect place to briefly retreat from the warm June weather and enjoy some scrumptious treats.

Hayter's Mill Creek Farm will be on hand with fresh blueberries from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., or until they run out. Grab a five pound box for \$10. Blueberries freeze well, so stock up!

There are also shuttles to and from The Blueberry Place, a local farm bursting with berry fun. The shuttle rides will be free to visitors, but the you-pick-em blueberries cost \$1.25 a pound. No pre-picked blueberries will be available at The Blueberry Place the day of the festival and visitors should be ready to practice their picking skills. The farm is open only to festival shuttles on the festival day, June 14.

"We won't have parking space for other vehicles at the farm," said Festival Chair Joe Scifo.

Visitors can let their inner chef out at the Brookshire Brothers' pie baking competition. Prior to the competition, participants must fill out a Blueberry Pie Competition form available at Brookshire Brothers stores and www.TexasBlueberryFestival.com. Participants must bring this completed form and their entry to the Brookshire Brothers booth on the square by 10 a.m. Entries are judged on taste and presentation. Winners will be announced at 2 p.m. and will receive cash prizes donated by Brookshire Brothers.

"A separate cobbler and ice cream contest is scheduled to begin at 10 a.m. at the entrance to Commercial Bank of Texas," said Young. "There is a \$5 entry fee for this contest and visitors are asked to bring entries in non-returnable containers. The winners will be announced at the Chamber of Commerce information booth on the square and awards will be presented to the winners in each division."

The Texas Blueberry Festival is a production of the Nacogdoches County Chamber of Commerce. For more information visit the festival's web site at www.TexasBlueberryFestival.com or call (936) 560-5533. The festival is a Keep Nacogdoches Beautiful litter-free event.

###

19th Annual Texas Blueberry Festival sponsors:

Blue Diamond Sponsor – Brookshire Brothers

Blue Topaz Sponsors – 1st Choice Personnel
Wal-Mart

Blue Ribbon Sponsors – Consolidated Communications
Kroger
Region's Bank
Hayter's Mill Creek Farm
Lehman Eye Center
Texas Farm Products
Huntington State Bank
Nacogdoches Pediatric Dentistry
Suddenlink

Blue Sky Sponsors - Citizens 1st Bank
Sam's Club
Etech, Inc.
Timber Springs
Nacogdoches Medical Center

Blue True Sponsors - BancorpSouth
The Blood Center
The Daily Sentinel

Blue Buddy Sponsors - Adams, Belanger, Atherton, LoStracco
AFLAC
Allcom AT&T Authorized Dealer
Austin Bank
Excel Car Wash
First Bank & Trust East Texas
Fredonia Hotel and Convention Center
Leon and Patsy Hallman
Texas Bluebird Society

Major In-Kind Sponsors - The Blueberry Place
City of Nacogdoches
Gap Broadcasting
Keep Nacogdoches Beautiful
KJ-103 FM
Nacogdoches Convention & Visitors Bureau
Nacogdoches County Expo
Pinecrest Children's Academy
Texas Forest Service

The Daily Sentinel
Tipton Ford
University Rental
Yates Broadcasting

###