• Special to the Daily Leader

The International Pancake Day Board is proud to welcome Bisquick as an official sponsor of Pancake Day events in Liberal.

“Bisquick is a household name and one that most of us associate with pancakes, so this seems like a natural fit,” said Janice Northerns, Pancake Day publicity chair.

The company will donate pancake mix and provide a grant.

“We are happy to have Bisquick as the supplier of the pancake mix for Pancake Day Tuesday and the eating and flipping contest on Saturday,” said Ken Thompson, International Pancake Day Chairman. “They will help make this a great celebration.”

In addition to Bisquick, other corporate sponsors this year are Black Hills Energy, Bank of America, Sunflower Bank, the Community Bank, Dillon’s, First National Bank, Holiday Inn Express, McDonalds, Seaboard and Windjammer Cable.

This year’s celebration will get started with several events Saturday, including the eating and flipping contests and a recipe/cooking contest, all at the Knights of Columbus Hall in downtown Liberal. Pancake Day merchandise will also be for sale. The eating and flipping contests begin at 10 a.m., and contestants should sign up Saturday at the Knights of Columbus Hall at least 30 minutes before their division competes. The recipe/cooking contest is at 11:30 a.m., and entries are due by 5 p.m. Fri. Feb. 12.

Residents can enjoy an authentic taste of England Saturday afternoon at the British High Tea, set for 4 p.m. at the Baker Arts Center, 624 N. Pershing. Tickets are $5.

Events slated for Sunday include the Miss Liberal Scholarship Pageant at 2 p.m. and the Christian Artist Showcase, featuring vocalist Daniel Kirkley, at 7:30 p.m. Both will take place in the Liberal High School Auditorium.

The Pancake Day Talent Show, featuring 24 finalists competing for cash prizes, will begin at 7:30 p.m. Monday in the Liberal High School Auditorium.

Tuesday is Pancake Day, and the celebration offers something for everyone. The traditional Pancake Day breakfast will be from 6 to 10 a.m. at the Seward County Event Center, with the breakfast program getting under way at 7:30 a.m.

A public reception will be at 9 a.m. at City Hall.

At 10 a.m., children's races begin, followed by the new youth division races, the Last Chance Race and the Men's Pacer Race.

The main event, the International Pancake Day Race, is at 11:55 a.m.

Immediately following the race, a shriving service is set for 12:15 p.m. at First Methodist Church. The Live Web Chat between Liberal and Olney, England, when the race winners from each city officially compare times, is set for 1:30 p.m., also at First Methodist. Finally, the day will end with the traditional parade at 3 p.m., running from 11th St. south down Kansas Avenue to Trail Street.#

For ticket prices, entry forms or rules, or information regarding any Pancake Day event, call 624-6423. A complete schedule is also available at www.pancakeday.net, the Pancake Day Web site.