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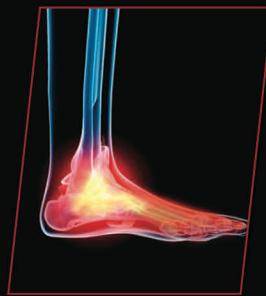
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# NOW

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#### ON THE COVER

The Corsicana Running/Walking Club offers free fun and fitness.

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Memories by Melissa.

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— Anne Frank



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## EDITOR'S NOTE

Dear Readers,

I feel like dancing around my lake property while singing that “Everything’s Coming Up Roses” song! My roses and fruit trees are blooming beautifully bringing joy to my lake neighborhood. Allergies be gone, please! I love the out-of-doors.

I’m also enjoying visiting my grandkids, and after sharing days of activities that take us outside, we gather after dinner for game nights. My youngest three grandkids are following the example set by my two grown grandchildren who also grew up with parental-limited TV and Internet time per day. Doing so has given our family shared times that make for lasting memories. Pick-up Sticks, Crazy Eights, Old Maid, Candy Land, Go Fish, Chutes and Ladders, Chinese Checkers, Checkers and Monopoly are all household favorites. We’re all competitive, but good sportsmanship is practiced. So many great life lessons are being learned through our generational “gaming” together.

Every summer I spent four to six weeks on the road showing my children the United States. After days of sightseeing, nights in youth hostels or campground cabins were spent playing these same games. My kids still say our trips, which lasted into their college days, were the best parts of their childhoods.

May you enjoy time spent with your family this glorious month!

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# ALWAYS ON THE

A dynamic photograph of a man in his late 20s or early 30s running towards the camera. He is wearing a black tank top with a white circular logo featuring three stylized figures, dark grey shorts, and blue running shoes. He has tattoos on his right arm and is wearing a black baseball cap and yellow sunglasses. The background shows a bright, sunny day with green grass, trees, and a clear blue sky.

— By Rick Mauch

*Kristen Darby started running in 2005 to escape her dark place. Dr. Matthew Branch began running as a teenager, took some time off, and returned because, well, he just couldn't stay away. Scott Barham wanted to get in better shape.*

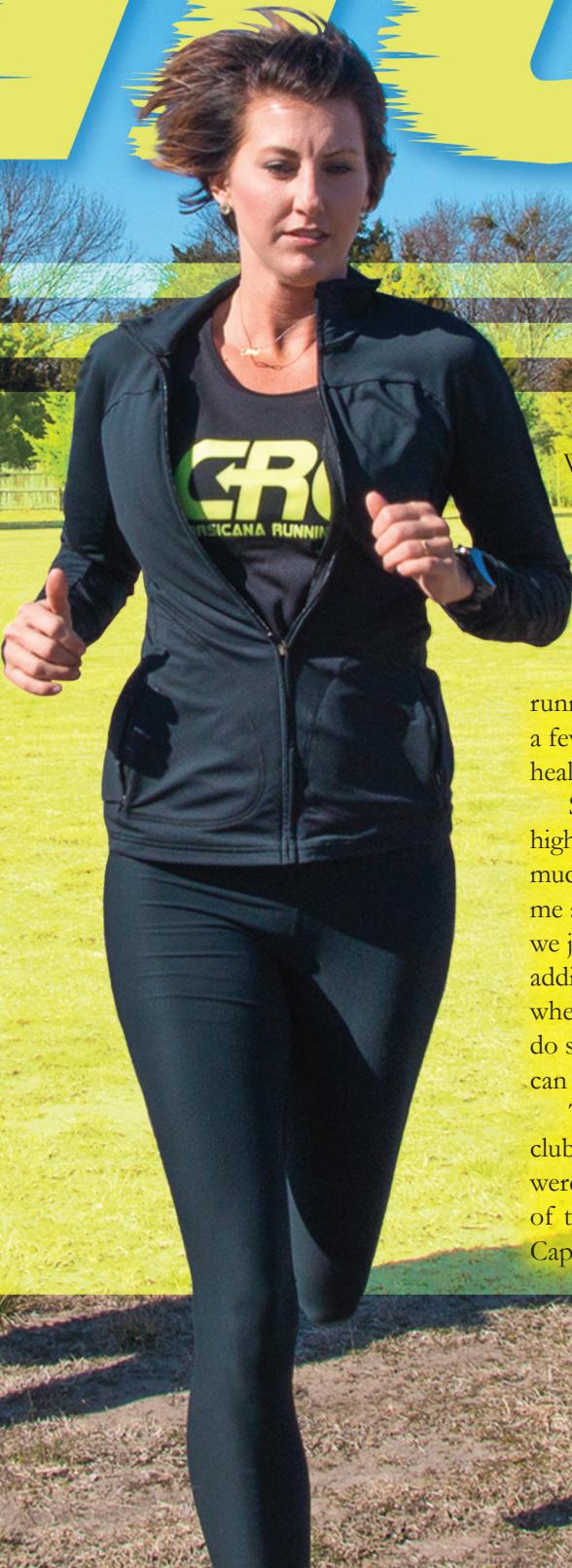
But whatever the reason, they and others are enjoying life today as members of the Corsicana Running/Walking Club. The club, formed in 2015, has grown from an original 10 members to more than 200, connecting via Facebook. Many of them meet and run together on a regular basis. "When I started running, I was going through a difficult time," Kristen said. "Running helped me re-establish myself and push forward."

In 2013, Kristen took running to a different level. She decided to run her first half-marathon, the Cowtown in Fort Worth. "That's my favorite race still," she said. "It will always be special to me."

Kristen, 37, has now run 10 half-marathons and one full marathon. But, like many runners in the club, she was not a runner earlier in life. In fact, she confessed that, in high school, she was skinny and afraid to do anything. "When I decided, it was completely by myself," she said. "And it opened up so much in my life. I was a single mom for a very long time, but running was free, and nobody held me back."

Matthew, 43, compared running to a drug — a good kind, of course. "It keeps my mood level and centers my mind. It's an escape and form of meditation," he said.

# Run

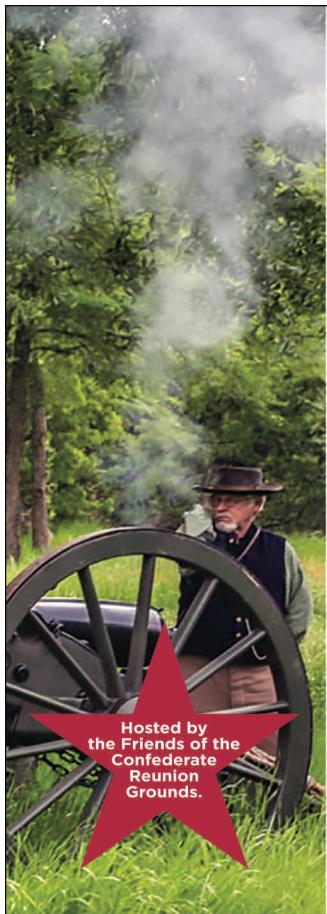


The Corsicana Running/Walking Club has a place for everyone. Sure, there is a competitive side — and they do quite well — but, there is also a place for folks who just want to be more active in life. “There’s always room for the faster runners and the slower runners,” said Scott, 44, who began running a few years ago. “We just want to get people healthy [and] get them active.”

Scott bumped into an old friend from high school. He noticed his friend was in much greater shape than before. “He told me about how he’d taken up running, so we just started running together. I kept adding miles,” Scott said. “For example, when you get to six, you push yourself to do seven. Then, if you can do seven, you can do eight.”

Though it hasn’t been around long, the club has a solid history of success. They were the runners-up in the co-ed division of the Texas Independence Relay and the Capital to Coast Relay.

Nathan Bugg, Kristen Darby and Dr. Matthew Branch are ready for a good run.



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Like Kristen, Mathew has run one marathon and several half-marathons. Likewise, Scott has a marathon and a few halves under his belt.

Club Founder and President Nathan Bugg, in his 40s, qualified for this year's Boston Marathon, as did Corsicana High Cross-country Coach Jesus Rodriguez, 39. Also, coaching members Jody and Mark Hawkins, both in their 50s, have competed in elite events throughout the nation and started the Leap of Faith Running Club to help develop young runners.

With last year being the most competitive yet for the Corsicana club, they got away from their regular meeting and running time, which was Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings at 4:45 at the YMCA or IOOF Park. However, they'd like to get back to that running time, or whatever is comfortable for most people. "We're trying to get back to more community involvement, but we'll always have a competitive side," Kristen said. "We have plans to reconvene and get back to those mornings. It's a great way to keep everyone involved."

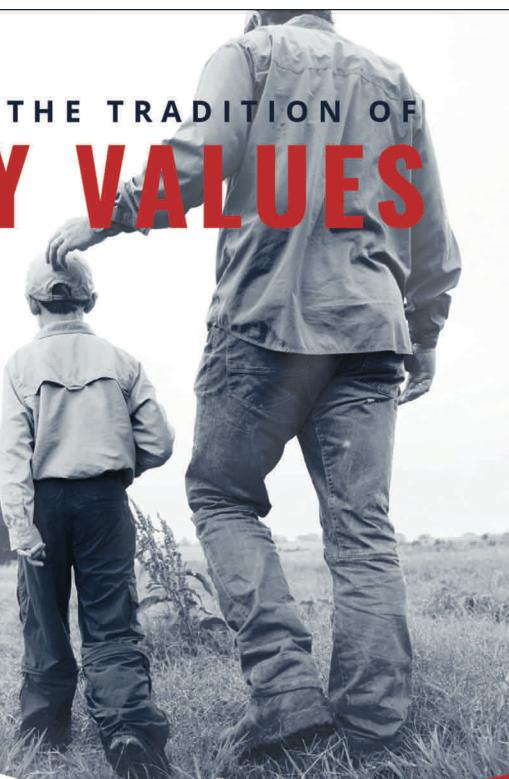
The club features folks from all walks of life, and the only requirement to belong is a love of running and/or walking. Kristen is a teacher, Scott is a veterinarian, Nathan runs his own heating/air-conditioning business and Matt is a doctor and certified emergency medical technician. "When we're together, we're all just runners," Kristen said. "It doesn't matter how much money you have or don't have, what car you drive or what house you live in. We all just love being together and running."

It also includes all ages. Jesus will often bring along some of his high school cross-country runners. Matthew's entire family; his wife, Cathy; and even their three children, all run for recreation and competition. "That's the great thing

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about running," Scott said. "It's something you can do when you're young and even into your 70s or 80s."

In fact, Scott said the club began as a result of folks enjoying being together. They liked it so much, they wanted to share their experience. "Nate threw it out there on Facebook and people responded," Scott said. "Some are super-fast and some are slow, but the idea is just to get people moving."



Kristen added, "The best part about running is it has so many layers. Now, after a very competitive year, I'm going to get back to relaxing — just get out and run."

In fact, she and Matt are now focusing on shorter, faster races when they do compete. She also wants to do more relays. "Eventually, though, I would like to do a triathlon," she said, adding with a laugh, "when my husband and kids allow me."

Matthew has been focusing on swimming, of late, as he rehabs his left heel from an injury. He's excited about getting back to running soon. "You don't stop running because you get old. You get old because you stop running," he said.

But whether it's competitive or just for fun, Kristen encourages everyone to give running a shot. Sure, it's tough at first, but she said the rewards are worth the effort. "It doesn't take long to get used to it, and so much of it is mental," she said, chuckling. "The best part is you get a really cool shirt (at races), and you get to eat great food with no guilt." **NOW**

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# Peaceful Fellow

AT HOME WITH DOUG

*From the top of the first rise in the road, visitors spot the American flag flying proudly in front of a series of barns. As they turn into Doug and Susie Winters' place in this world, they spot the welcoming front and side porches that note their abode, a barndominium. "At first, people thought we were living in a barn," Susie recalled.*

Doug had bought the 65-acre property in 2006. "It was a one-room bachelor's pad, bath and closet, along with a shop space," Susie said. Following the couple's wedding day on January 1, 2011 (easily remembered as 1-1-11), they lived in that small space for one year. "Doug watches NASCAR, and I don't, so we built a wall to make a separate bedroom and bath," Susie added.

They kept on building walls, with some help. The barndominium now boasts multiple bedrooms, office, living room and a large gathering kitchen and dining room that accommodates their blended family of five children, spouses and five grandchildren, as well as neighbors and friends. "We love having family here, all of whom live within a few hours' drive, and we enjoy the friendships with our neighbors, and neighborhood get-togethers," Susie said.

The couple met at the Cowboy Church of Ennis and found they had much in common. Doug was born in Huntsville, raised in Pattonville, Texas, and graduated from Texas A&M University. "My dad was an ag teacher, and I attended college on an ag scholarship," he said.





## AND SUSIE WINTERS

— By Virginia Riddle  
*ships*



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A native of Pecos, Texas, Susie's dad ranched, and her mom was the first elected woman county sheriff in Texas. Following her graduation from Texas Tech University, Susie became a teacher and school counselor. She retired from Ennis ISD. "We like the peacefulness of this place, and we can see the sky," Doug said.

"I found that I loved trees and grass," Susie added, while agreeing with Doug that the stars and quiet are added bonuses along with living in a metal barndominium. "There's no maintenance," Susie explained. "That gives us more time with our animals."

And this couple does have animals. "We wanted to have Longhorn cattle, even though that makes us

an Aggie and a Red Raider who love Longhorns," Doug stated, noting the irony. They started with a herd of seven, using high-density grazing, moving cows daily and have now multiplied the herd to 50 head of grass-fed, registered Longhorns.

The couple worked through the Navarro County Farm Service Agency and the National Resource Conservation Service to find ways to conserve grass and water. They sell beef and other food products they produce at the Ennis Farmers Market, and they aspire to open a store for pasture-raised, grass-fed beef, fresh produce and healthy products. Susie also sells many items from Uniquely Yours Village in the Treasures Farmhouse in Corsicana as "The Ranching Wife," her Instagram and Facebook username.

"Doug has a saying, 'You are what you eat, eats,'" Susie added. "We grow much of what we eat for health

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reasons. Also, we want to conserve our Earth and the ground we own, leaving more than what was here when we found it.” Hence, the reason for the farm name, Trail of Faith.

Doug, who works for a high-security fence company, added, “The cattle are my peace after days of work.” Goats and free-range chickens complement the cattle.

“We offer a haven to multi-animal species, including wildlife,” Susie said. “Having the animals opens doors for us to meet people.” Fortunately, one of Susie’s sons lives on their property and helps with the animals. This enables the couple to travel together occasionally.

Doug enjoys working with wood, creating much of their home and its décor, including their bedrooms’ cedar furniture. When she’s not enjoying times with the grandkids, Susie likes to go antiquing, cook, garden, quilt and sew. “I’m kind of a nester,” she said. “I like to find old things and find another purpose for them.”

The kitchen/dining room, is a warm, inviting, functional space where they spend most of their time. Susie’s grandmother’s round table, flanked by her great-grandmother’s chairs, seats their large family. A water dipper is repurposed into a wall flower holder, and antique chicken warming lights illuminate the large island table. Another table and hutch serve as Susie’s baking space.





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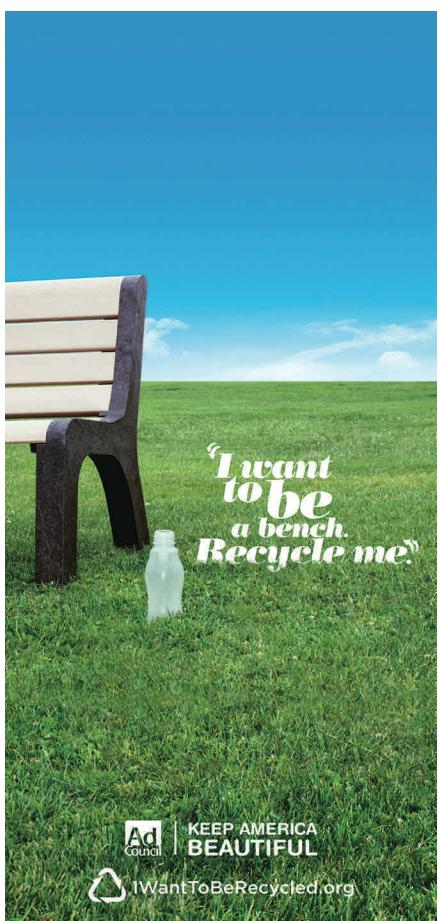
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The living room, once a workshop, is now ranch themed with its cowhide carpet and comfortable, relaxed seating. Just beyond is the study with its tin ceiling and walls of old, repurposed fencing. Another cowhide carpet and western sayings and artifacts enhance the theme. The heavy Dutch Amish rocking chairs, created in Pennsylvania, provide a relaxing retreat after a busy day.

Two guest bedrooms are ready for the grandchildren to sleepover. A green-and-white-themed bedroom is home to Susie's quilt collection, while a Fourth of July theme "explodes" in the other bedroom. "I was born on the Fourth of July, and on my brother's 5th birthday. I've always loved the Fourth of July and thought all the fireworks were just for me, until my brother told me otherwise," Susie explained.

The Western theme is carried out in the master bedroom with Doug's hand-crafted furniture and Susie's quilts. An antique cabinet was repurposed into a master bathroom vanity. "I found the antique mirror that hangs over it in a garage sale. It was priced down because it had flaws in it that I just love," Susie said.

A family that hunts together, stays together. With land that not only supports their growing herd but also abundant wildlife, this couple enjoys hunting with family and friends. "Doug loves my children, and I love his children," Susie said. "So, whether we're hunting, cooking or gathered in the kitchen around the dining table, we are creating memories with lots of laughter and fellowship." **NOW**

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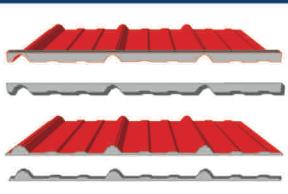
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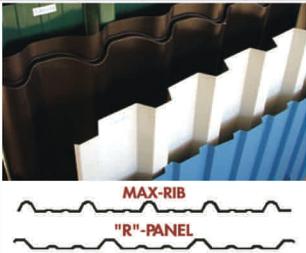
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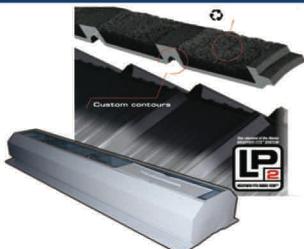
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## Howdy

— By Virginia Riddle

Midnight Yell, the Corps of Cadets, and the Fightin' Texas Aggie Band — these are just some of the special traditions Texas A&M University students, alumni, faculty and fans enjoy on game days. There are few universities that can compete with the strong traditions uniting those who have loved A&M since its founding in 1871. "We can't explain why Aggie traditions are so special and worldwide," Sarah Dockery, Class of 2018 and photographer of the Navarro County A&M Club, said. "There's a spirit can ne'er be told."

"Aggie traditions are the heart of being an Aggie," David Hodge, Class of 1985 and treasurer of the Navarro County A&M Club, said. "They are comforting and mean that my fellow Aggies have my back." And what about those infamous Aggie jokes? "I love 'em," David enthused.

Started around the early 1980s, the local club remains strong. Mark Watson, Class of 1985, serves as the club's

vice president, while Adam Levine, Class of 2001, is the president. "We all work and run this club together," David said. The club's Facebook page announces fundraising events and other news throughout the year.

"Our club's purpose is to keep the Aggie traditions alive and pass them on," Sarah said. The friendly greeting "Howdy," is said often at the annual club's fish fry, which provides a networking opportunity for members and Navarro county high school seniors who have committed to A&M. Recipients of scholarships ranging from \$500-\$1,500 are announced.

Each year, the steak cook-off fundraiser is held in August, and in December the club hosts a Christmas party during which current A&M juniors who are receiving funding from the club for their Aggie rings are announced. One such student last year was Steely Southard, a first-generation Aggie and Blooming Grove High School graduate. "Ring recipients are drawn, and I wasn't drawn, but someone stood up and said all of the candidates would receive a ring scholarship. It was someone I didn't know, but I wanted to hug everybody. The Aggie Ring and Ring Day are big deals. It's something students look forward to. I look

forward to the day I can do that for someone else. It's humbling, and I'm very grateful," Steely, an animal science major who plans to work in the animal health industry, said.

"We gave checks for seven rings last year," Adam said. "We've also donated to the Brent Thompson memorial statue." A Corsicana native, Brent was one of the police officers lost in the downtown Dallas shootings on July 7, 2016.

The annual Aggie Muster is the first gathering of 2018 for the club, which numbers around 400 members. First initiated in 1883, Aggie Muster is always held on San Jacinto Day, April 21. Since that first year, Aggies have met worldwide, in wartime and peacetime, for the Roll Call for the Absent — those who have died during the past year. A relative or friend answers, "Here" and a candle is lit for each absent person. While somber, the ceremony is also an opportunity for favorite remembrances, networking and cheers accompanied by "Whoop" and "Gig 'em" showing thumbs up approval.

Silver Taps, held in honor of current students who have passed away, is a cherished memory of Steely's Aggie days, while Sarah cherishes memories of Midnight Yell held before games. Adam remembers his freshman days in Moses Hall fondly, since it was a chance to meet everyone. Adam was a student when the bonfire fell. "That incident brought us all closer together," he said. All four of these Aggies named Dixie Chicken, a local restaurant, as their favorite place in College Station.

David almost missed out on the Aggie experience. "I wasn't really planning to go to college at all," this Corsicana High School and Navarro College attendee said. "I went to an Aggie football game and Yell Practice, and I was hooked," he said.

"From the outside looking in, you can't understand it," Adam concluded. "From the inside looking out, you can't explain it." NOW

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# CookingNOW

## In the Kitchen With ROCKIE GLICKSMAN

— By Virginia Riddle



Busy local business leaders, Rockie Glicksman, owner of Cotton Kisses Boutique, and her husband, Kyle, a vice president at Corsicana's First State Bank, enjoy cooking. "Our kitchen's our favorite room in the house," Rockie said. "Kyle's the chef, and I'm the sous chef. We cook as a family. It's fun to watch our kids, Sloan (13) and Coco (7) learn to cook."

Passed down family recipes are favorites. "Kyle and I were fortunate to live next door to my grandmother for many years. She always made my favorite pie and then would call me to come over," Rockie recalled. She's included that pie recipe and her mom's coconut chess pie recipe here. "My mom lives with us, and she loves to cook. She's always cooking or baking with Coco." **NOW**

### **Stacy Smith's Chicken Pot Pie**

*This recipe can be frozen before baking for future use.*

**5 cups chicken stock**  
**2 chicken bouillon cubes**  
**1 1/2 sticks butter**  
**2 cups onion, chopped**  
**3/4 cup flour**  
**Salt and pepper, to taste**  
**1/2 cup heavy cream**  
**3 whole roasted chicken breasts, deboned and chopped into bite-size pieces**  
**1-2 cups carrots, sliced and slightly steamed in microwave**

**1 cup frozen peas**  
**Parsley and chives, minced, to taste**  
**1 pkg. of 2 prepared pie crusts**

- 1.** Preheat the oven to 350 F. In a saucepan, heat the chicken stock; dissolve the bouillon cubes in the stock.
- 2.** In a large pot, melt the butter; sauté the onions over medium heat for 10-15 minutes.
- 3.** Add the flour; cook the mixture over low heat, stirring constantly for 2 minutes.
- 4.** Add the hot stock mixture; stir until the mixture thickens. Add the salt, pepper and heavy cream; stir in the chicken, carrots, peas, parsley and chives.
- 5.** Roll out the pie crusts; place one crust in the

bottom of a large casserole dish.

**6.** Pour in the chicken filling; cover with the other pie crust. Press the crust to the sides of the dish.

**7.** Cut slits into the top of the crust. Cook for 1 hour; remove. Let the pie rest for 15 minutes before serving.

### **Iona's Pot Roast**

**3-4 lbs. bone-in arm roast**  
**Butter, enough to cover bottom of the pan**

**2 cups water**

**2 garlic cloves**

**4-5 carrots**

**3 large potatoes, cut into chunks**

**1 onion, sliced**

**1 2-oz. pkg. Lipton Onion Soup Mix**

**Salt and pepper, to taste**

**Flour, as needed**

**Horseradish**

**1.** In a large pan, brown the roast slowly on all sides over medium heat in the butter; add the water.

**2.** Add the garlic cloves, carrots, potatoes, onion, soup mix, salt and pepper; cover. Cook at 350 F in the oven until the roast is tender.

**3.** Add flour, if needed, to create the desired thickness; serve with horseradish.

## Mom's Famous Coconut Chess Pie

1/2 cup butter  
1 cup sugar  
5 egg yolks  
1 Tbsp. flour  
1 cup milk  
1 tsp. vanilla  
Pinch of salt  
1 cup coconut  
1 prepared pie shell

1. Cream the butter and sugar; add the egg yolks, one at a time.
2. Add the flour; fold in the milk, vanilla, salt and coconut. Bake in a prepared pie shell at 350 F for 50-55 minutes. Do not overbake!

## Kyle's Spicy Sriracha Shrimp Tacos With Cilantro Slaw

1 tsp. paprika  
3/4 tsp. garlic powder  
3/4 tsp. ground cayenne pepper  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. black pepper  
1 lb. shrimp, peeled and deveined  
1 Tbsp. olive oil  
3/4 cup light ranch dressing  
1 Tbsp. Sriracha sauce  
1 Tbsp. apple cider vinegar  
1 Tbsp. honey  
Juice from 1/2 lime  
2 cups cabbage, finely shredded  
1/2 jalapeño pepper, minced  
8 corn tortillas  
3/4 cup cilantro, chopped

1. In a small dish, mix the paprika, garlic powder, cayenne pepper, salt and pepper together well.
2. Sprinkle the paprika mixture over the shrimp; toss to coat.
3. In a large skillet, heat the olive oil over medium-high heat. When the olive oil is hot, add the shrimp; cook 6-7 minutes or until the shrimp is no longer opaque and is thoroughly cooked.
4. In a small bowl, whisk the ranch dressing and Sriracha sauce. In another bowl, combine the apple cider vinegar, honey and lime juice; mix well.
5. Add the cabbage and jalapeño pepper; toss the mixture to coat.
6. Serve the shrimp inside tortillas, topped with the cabbage slaw, ranch and Sriracha dressing and cilantro.

To view recipes from current and previous issues, visit [www.nowmagazines.com](http://www.nowmagazines.com).

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BusinessNOW

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— By Virginia Riddle

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Since 1980, Lynda Housley, a State Farm agent, has been servicing customers in Navarro County and its surrounding areas. "As a former social worker, I'm a good listener," Lynda said. "I match State Farm products to each customer's individual needs. I'm here to make sure life goes right."

Customer satisfaction comes first on Lynda and State Farm's list of priorities. Her daughter, Melissa Housley, and team member, Michelle Atwell, are there to help



customers, too. Both are licensed, and Lynda's agency can boast combined experience of 61 years!

Lynda and State Farm offer Auto, Home and Small Business insurance coverage, as well as Health and Life insurance products. Additionally, Motorcycle, Boat, Renters & Farm/Ranch are also available.

Customers can conveniently pay online or face-to-face in Lynda's office by cash, check or with most major credit cards. "We're always happy to see customers come by," Lynda said.

Every day is different for State Farm agents. "I enjoy the challenges," Lynda remarked. "We have to adapt to changes in the federal and state laws, rules and regulations and be very flexible. We've seen lots of changes over the years. Our whole industry has become tech savvy, as have our customers. We monitor consumers' buying habits and adapt our routines and products to the cyber world." Policies and notices are now available to customers 24/7

through Lynda's website. Her email is located on the website for customers' convenience and inquiries.

Lynda's agency has earned the State Farm Life Ambassador Award for many years and the Golden Triangle Award, which represents 15 consecutive years of membership in State Farm's Legion of Honor indicating continuous profitability in addition to numerous industry Quality Awards. "I've truly been blessed, but my success also stems from the quality of people we have in Navarro County, most of whom are genuinely concerned about their family's well-being and future as they seek out products to preserve and protect it."

Lynda moved to Corsicana in 1978 with her husband, Harold. The couple are proud parents of Melissa and Hal. Hal is an oil and gas attorney and resides with his wife, Natalie, in Houston. Lynda and Harold enjoy traveling, gourmet cooking, hunting and wine tastings.

A Florida native with a degree from The University of Southern Mississippi in social work and business management, Lynda's spirit of giving back to her adopted community has led her to become one of Corsicana's most active civic leaders. She volunteers through the Children's Advocacy Center of Navarro County, Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce, Navarro County Board of Realtors and Kinsloe House. She has also served for many years as fund-raising chair for Navarro County's American Cancer Society board. This past Christmas, her agency served as the Toys for Tots Navarro County official drop-off. "Together with the Realtors and the Corsicana Police Department, we collected over 200 toys," Lynda stated.

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# TravelNOW Hidden Gems

— By Allison Burdick

What do gold, Bruce Lee, and strawberries have in common? They're all part of Seattle's heritage shared through not one, not two, but three National Park Service sites that explore the area's history, culture and community.

## History: Pioneer Square

*All hail to the Klondike!*

Situated within historic Pioneer Square (Seattle's original neighborhood) is a restored building known as the Cadillac Hotel. Constructed in 1889, it is now the home of Klondike Gold Rush National Historical Park, which shares stories from the 1897-98 gold rush in the Yukon Territory of Canada that swept gold-seekers through Seattle and up toward the Klondike gold fields. History buffs are exposed to Seattle and the Pacific Northwest's past through the eyes of stampeders looking to strike it rich, including John Nordstrom and how

he managed to start a shoe empire. Kids can earn Junior Ranger badges by completing activities, while they explore the park. Short films and rotating exhibits are also part of the experience and help visitors delve deeper into the impact of the gold rush on Seattle.

## Culture: Chinatown-International District

*Enter the Dragon!*

A short walk from Pioneer Square is the Chinatown-International District, a neighborhood rich in restaurants, shops and public art. The Wing Luke Museum of the Asian Pacific American Experience, an affiliated area of the National Park System, celebrates the art, history and culture of Asian-Pacific Americans through vivid storytelling and inspiring experiences. Learn how the neighborhood shaped Seattle's most famous martial artist and world icon, Bruce Lee. Take a historic building tour and catch preserved scenes of the everyday lives of the

hundreds of Chinese, Japanese and Filipino immigrants who once made this building their home. A menu of other guided tours takes you through the neighborhood — including one led by your stomach — with different seasonal dishes that may include dumplings, noodles, rice and barbecue.

## Community: Bainbridge Island

*Nidoto Nai Yoni — “Let it Not Happen Again.”*

A short, and extremely scenic, ferry ride from Pioneer Square takes visitors to Bainbridge Island, a community that encourages us all to learn from a dark chapter in our nation's history. Japanese immigrants first began arriving on the island in the 1880s, and strawberry farming was introduced in 1908. Many Japanese Americans went on to own and operate farms on the island and became integral to the community. However, immediately following the attack on Pearl Harbor, the United States government began arresting and facilitating the mass removal of all individuals of Japanese ancestry from the West Coast. The Bainbridge Island community was the first to have its members of Japanese ancestry forcibly removed from their homes. The Bainbridge Island Japanese American Exclusion Memorial, a unit of Minidoka National Historic Site, is an old-growth red cedar, granite and basalt memorial that honors all 276 Japanese and Japanese Americans who were exiled from the Bainbridge Island community. These were the first of what would become 120,000 individuals of Japanese ancestry — two-thirds of whom were United States citizens — forcibly removed from their homes and incarcerated during World War II. Visitors can check regularly for tour schedules.

Whether you are looking for stories, activities or new cuisine, the Seattle area is your destination with three National Park Service sites to visit, all easily accessible through public transit. For maps and other planning tools, visit [www.nps.gov/state/wa/index.htm](http://www.nps.gov/state/wa/index.htm). **NOW**

*Photos courtesy of the National Park Service.*

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## Better Safe Than Sorry

— By Zachary R. Urquhart

*If it has not happened yet, you can expect to get the first tornado scare of the year any day now. Late spring to early summer is the height of storm season in North Texas, and you will want to be sure you are prepared for an emergency situation. Here are some ideas for what to stock up on and how to be as ready as possible if severe weather comes your way.*

### Have a Plan

- *Know your home's safest spot.* Depending on your house, this could be a simple one. You want to stay away from windows, ideally staying close to interior walls without much that could fall on you. Most importantly, make sure everyone in your home knows where to go in case of danger, so you do not have children panicking and missing if storms are happening.

- *Know how to leave.* One of the saddest sights when major storms hit are the thousands of cars along the freeways trying to find refuge. Be sure you know the major evacuation routes, so if you have to evacuate, you can get somewhere to stay for a while.

- *Know if you can bunk with a friend.* If your house does not offer a good safe spot, plan ahead to have a place you can go when severe weather is expected. You might have friends who have a bunker, or at least a better safe spot than you do. Storm shelters are not the norm in this part of the country, but more and more contractors are offering to build or install them.

### Have Supplies

- *Get food and water now.* If you want to avoid the price gouging that sometimes happens in a storm's aftermath, go ahead and stock up on bottled water and canned foods. One easy plan is to always have a surplus of those items,

and every few months, consume what you have and buy replenishment. Be sure to include food for your pets when you are making your grocery list. And remember that your pets will increase the amount of water you need.

- *There are other useful items.* If you lose power, you may not be able to do much about your refrigerator and cold food, but you can be ready to stay warm with plenty of blankets. And just like you should have a stock of sustenance, be sure you have a supply of the batteries you will need for flashlights and any items that are essential for your family.

#### Have Information

- *Use the radio in the mornings.* Each morning, before you press play on your favorite CD or turn to your satellite music station of choice, tune into a station that includes regular news and regular updates. Forecasters never know exactly when storms might sprout up, but they usually have an idea at least a few hours in advance. In the same vein, keep a television turned on and tuned to a major network. You don't have to do anything more than watch for a break from regularly scheduled programming to bring a breaking weather update.

- *Download a Weather App.* There are many options, so many in fact that the only bad choice is not having one at all. Apps like WeatherBug or AccuWeather will not only warn you of tornadoes and extreme conditions, they also track lightning, so you know whether it is smart to be outside in less severe conditions.

Hopefully, you will never need any of these tips. But, if the worst does happen, your best plan is to be prepared. **NOW**

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## Zoomed In: Meredith Bell

By Virginia Riddle

The saying, "There's no such thing as a free lunch," doesn't apply at UCF Wesley Foundation in Corsicana. Every Sunday evening and Monday at noon, Meredith Bell, director of the center, and a host of volunteers, serve free meals to college students. "All are welcome. We give them opportunities to grow. Most of our students are first-generation and former foster kids. They're trailblazers in their families, and here, they find others on that same journey," Meredith explained.

When not at work, Meredith, a minister herself, serves as a pastor's wife. She and Dr. Steven Bell enjoy spending time with their two daughters, ages 13 and 9. She volunteers with the hospital, VOICE and CISD's reading mentor program.



Bernice and Billy Wren feed the ducks at IOOF Park.



Faith Hope awards the Navarro College MLK Scholarship to CHS senior Brandon Osborne at the Fifth Award MLK, Jr. Breakfast.



Collins Catholic School students volunteer at Corsicana's Salvation Army.

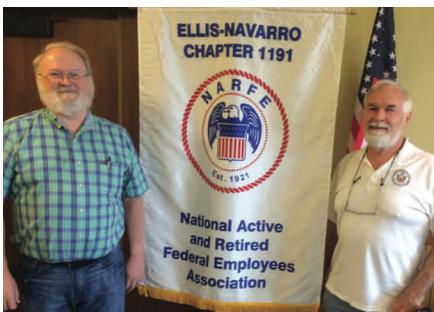


Military veteran Dr. Vernon Bryder thanks members of the Navarro County Retired Teachers Association for their service to Texas students and their communities.

NOW



Gail Cummins purchases customized jewelry from owner Tom Adams at Victorian Sample Florist.



NARFE Chapter 1191 welcomes speaker Ray Nance (L), TxDOT's assistant area engineer in Corsicana.



Corsicana First UMC's Young at Heart members enjoy a Valentine-themed luncheon.



Shelia McGee holds her 10-pound catch of the day at Sunset Cove Marina.

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# Calendar

**1 — 7**

The Life and Art of Texas Artist Hollis Williford: Pearce Museum at Navarro College. For more details, visit [www.pearcemuseum.com](http://www.pearcemuseum.com).

**1 — 15**

Corsicana Art League Annual Show: Warehouse Living Arts Center Gallery. Support Corsicana's thriving art scene. Visit the Art League's Facebook page or call the Warehouse at (903) 872-4556.

**3**

Piecemakers' Quilt Guild meeting: 9:30 a.m., Westhill Church of Christ Fellowship Hall. For more details, visit [www.pqgcorsicana.org](http://www.pqgcorsicana.org)

**4**

The Eureka, Mildred, Navarro and Richland Chambers Lake Crime Watch potluck luncheon and meeting: 1:00 p.m., Eureka UMC. The speaker will be Corsicana Chief of Police Robert Johnson. Email Patty Knauth at [pk2@airmail.net](mailto:pk2@airmail.net).

**5 — 14**

Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks: Warehouse Living Arts Center. Call (903) 872-4556



**6**

Senior Circle Pot Luck Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Navarro Regional Hospital. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892 or email [connie\\_beal@chs.net](mailto:connie_beal@chs.net).

Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce Wine & 9: 3:00 p.m., Corsicana Country Club. Golf and wine tasting fun. Call (903) 874-4731.



Corsicana Ghost Walk: 8:30-10:30 p.m., Corsicana Opry & Event Center. Tickets are \$20 at the door. Reservations are requested. Call (903) 872-6779.

**7**

Cowgirls of CCC Spring Event: 6:00 p.m., Cowboy Church of Corsicana, 5864 W. Hwy. 31. Email [cowgirls@cowboychurchofcorsicana.com](mailto:cowgirls@cowboychurchofcorsicana.com).

**9**

Eclectic Readers Book Club: 6:30 p.m., Corsicana Public Library. The book being discussed this month is Hidden Blessings by Kim Cash Tate. Call (903) 654-4810.

Life and Limb: the Toll of the American Civil War: The Pearce Museum presents this National

Library of Medicine Traveling Exhibit. Call (903) 875-7642. Runs through **May 12**.

**12**

James L. Collins Catholic School Open House: 6:00-7:00 p.m. Contact Christina Cozart at (903) 872-1751.

Navarro College Student and Faculty Art Show's Focus on the Future: A free wine and cheese opening reception will be held at 5:30 p.m. on the 12th. Pearce Museum Gallery. Call (903) 875-7642. Runs through **May 12**.



**13**

Navarro County Retired Teachers Association meeting: 9:45 a.m., Navarro County Courthouse. Judge H.M. Davenport is the speaker. All retired school personnel are invited. Email [pk2@airmail.net](mailto:pk2@airmail.net).

**14**

Angels of Corsicana Troop Support Packing Day: 9:00 a.m., 1020 N. Business 45. To volunteer, donate or submit a name of a deployed military person, contact Jean O'Connor at (903) 851-2560 or visit the group's Facebook page.

**16**

Senior Circle Lunch and Learn: 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Navarro Regional Hospital classrooms. Lori Dykes, sleep study representative, will speak on obstructive sleep apnea and

# April 2018

treatment. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892 to reserve a seat.

17

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1009 meeting: 7:00 p.m., LaPradera Restaurant. Email Roy Messick at [roy.messick@gmail.com](mailto:roy.messick@gmail.com).



19

Java with Joanna: 7:30-8:30 a.m., Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce Board Room. Call (903) 874-4731.

Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours: 5:30-7:02 p.m., Once Upon a Table. Call (903) 874-4731.

20

Poetry Open Mic Night: 6:00-8:00 p.m. Corsicana Public Library. Share your own poetry, read favorites or enjoy listening. Call (903) 654-4810.

21

Mildred Education Foundation & PTO's Denim & Diamonds: 6:30 p.m., Corsicana Airport Hangar. Dance to Triple Nickle. Visit [www.mildredacademictrust@yahoo.com](http://www.mildredacademictrust@yahoo.com).

21 — 28

Corsicana's Annual Derrick Days: For a complete listing of all the many

activities, times and forms, visit [www.derrickdays.com](http://www.derrickdays.com).

26

Corsicana Newcomers' Club: 11:00 a.m., Kinsloe House. The speaker will be Connie Gibson, owner of C&J Farms. Lunch is \$15. For confirmed reservations, contact Annie Avery at (714) 345-6707.

26, 27

Navarro Regional Hospital Auxiliary's Collective Goods Fundraiser: 7:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m., Navarro Regional Hospital classrooms. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892.

*Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to [virginia.riddle@nowmagazines.com](mailto:virginia.riddle@nowmagazines.com).*

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# Jewell of the Town

— By Rick Mauch

Jewell Hutson smiled, then spoke with a laugh. “The Good Lord’s leaving me here for something, and I’ve got to figure out what it is! But then, maybe I’m better off not knowing.” Most of the other folks in Kerens can tell her. She has spent her life making people around her happy — all 107 years.

Jewell was recently honored at a birthday party — two, in fact. One, hosted by family members, was at a local Mexican restaurant for those who couldn’t make the official party. The other was at the Kerens United Methodist Church, where she has been an active member for many years.

Jewell was born and raised in the Kerens area, graduating from Kerens High School in 1929. She started and ended her five-decade teaching career in the Kerens ISD, teaching kindergarten through eighth grade there and at a variety of other places. She retired in 1979. “My specialty was the first three grades. I loved getting them started off,” she said.

Many of her former students attended the party — the most recent one, that is. The Methodist church started

throwing her a shindig when she turned 100. “We started at 100, and we’re going to keep doing it every year,” her best friend, Lelia Cossey, said.

“She’s a celebrity around here,” said Debbie Kelley, a physician’s assistant at the clinic in nearby Trinidad. “She just brightens up a room when she’s in it.”

On Jewell’s kitchen table are books filled with pictures of her many students over the years. “I’ve got to keep my pictures of my babies,” she said.

She credits her longevity with eating healthy, mostly. Jewell was also athletic when she was younger, loving tennis — and she focuses on positive thoughts. “We ate out of the garden growing up, you might say,” she said.

Jewell still lives by herself with only a little help. She even drove herself until last year, when she said she simply tired of doing so. She’s also regularly on Facebook. “I think she’s worn out three of four computers,” Lelia said. Her home’s decor features her own paintings, and she paints coffee cups to sell at an annual fundraiser for the local cemetery.

She never remarried after her late husband, John, passed in 1965. He was a successful high school basketball coach and has an athletic center at East Chambers High School named after him. Jewell has a son, two granddaughters and two great-grandsons. “I sit there and rock and think, *What should I do today?*” Jewell said. “Then, here one of my friends will come! My life is full.” **NOW**

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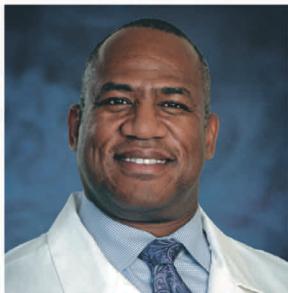
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