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#### ON THE COVER



The "catch" isn't all these members gain while fishing.

Photo by Memories by Melissa.

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# **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Recalling Valentines past ...

"Vintage" is what Etsy calls the valentine cards my mother saved from my elementary school days. Going through them, I admit they are true works of frameable art. Vintage sounds better than "old" or "ancient." At home, days before the annual Valentine's Day class party, I would decorate a cigar box my dad had donated to the cause. Try to find one of those these days! But we used those cigar boxes to hold crayons, pencils and treasures, such as our collection of Valentine's cards. Remember class parties with all that sugar? From cookies, to suckers, to candy, to cupcakes and punch — we were reenergized into springtime.

When I had my own children, I contributed, as forever a homeroom mother, to the cupcakes. No more cigar boxes, but other assorted containers worked just as well. As grandmother of six, I've attended their parties and helped corral the over-sugared kids and admired their stash of franchised, themed card collections. Not quite the same thing, but I'm so glad the day of love and appreciation is still celebrated in schools.

As this winter's winds blow, I'm enjoying writing, reading, puzzles, crochet and cross-stitch projects, hot cocoa, soup, tea and oatmeal. I keep the birdfeeders filled and find joy in the cardinals, doves and sparrows who frequent those cones of plenty. I even think I'll break out the sewing machine and find the old doll clothes patterns I used when my daughters were young. My two granddaughters have decided to love a couple of baby dolls, whom I'll dress and make furnishings for their "homes."

Enjoy your February fun times!





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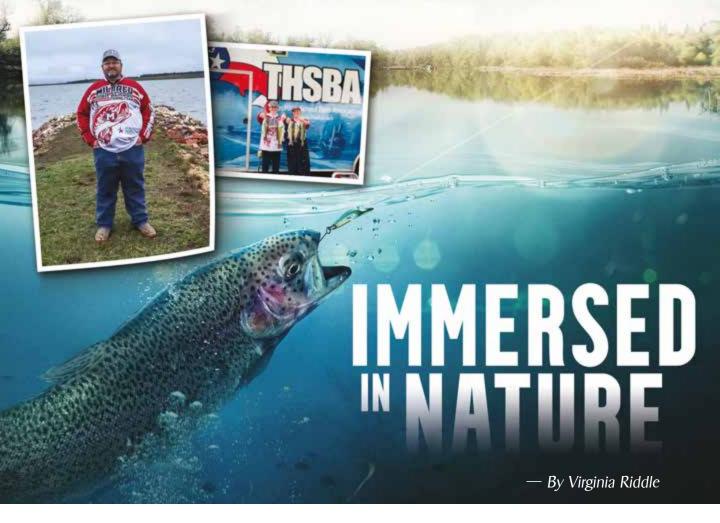


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The spray of lake water in cold predawn morning hours as the bass boat creates a wide wake in the lake is part of the sport Lexi Fulton, a junior at Mildred High School and a competing member of the Mildred High School Bass Association, enjoys. "Through this program, I learn important life and people skills," Lexi shared. "I have to get along with other people in the boat for a whole day, in the cold or heat. That's especially hard by hour seven, and I haven't caught anything, but I'm still standing and freezing!"

John Williamson, a fellow junior at MHS and lifelong fisherman, added, "It shows how much we enjoy the sport. Participation means early mornings and dedicating your mind to it." Lee Trevino, a native Texan who's not only a pro golfer but is also a bass fisherman, agreed by once stating, "[Bass fishing] will really improve your ability to focus. If you aren't ready when that fish hits, you can't set the hook."

Helping to teach these students fishing elements and competition rules are the boat captains, all volunteers and/or parents. The local association competes in Texas High School Bass Association tournaments against schools of all sizes unlike UIL competitions. MISD doesn't sponsor the group but allows it to meet on campus. "It's a challenge to compete against large schools," Ron Capehart, a parent volunteer and head of the group, said. "It takes a team effort. We've placed as high as third in the state so far." The MHSBA competes in the Central Division, one of nine in the state association. The top 40 percent of division teams go on to one of the three regional competitions. Then the top 40 percent of the teams at regionals compete at the state tournament. "There are about 200 teams from 31 schools in our division. The students earn points in each tournament. Last year, we had one team qualify for the state tournament, which was held at Lake Belton," Ron stated.

Begun in 2016 by Joey Hanna, MHSBA historically has fielded five to six teams of two fishermen each. This season, lasting from August through May, there are 12 anglers. This is Ron's third year to be involved. "The association teaches the kids patience and gives scholarship monies," he explained. "A guarantee of \$3,000 for the top five places is offered at each tourney. There's also a Captains' Pot for the next place and rods, reels and gift cards given for places down to around 30th place. At the state level, a truck/trailer is awarded to the Angler of the Year. Lots of colleges have fishing teams, such as Tarleton State University." Scholarship monies go to the student's college choice, or if the student is going into the military, the monies go directly to the student. Ron has been a fisherman since he was a little kid, and two of his own children, son, J.T., and daughter, Hazel, both juniors, also fish.

"Safety is a big thing with the association," Ron said. "In the case of lightning or wind, which John reflects is 'impending doom over the horizon,' the tourney's cancelled. We're inspected at random, and the top five-10 teams can be polygraphed pertaining to who, how big and when issues. Lakes like to host the tourneys since the association has a 98 percent catch/release rate." Word-of-mouth around the community and school is largely responsible for growth in MHSBA, but the group has a Facebook page and posts meetings. A student can come into the group having never fished before. "Boat captains will show students pointers, and pretty soon, they figure it out," Ron shared. Kids supply some of their gear, and boat captains supply some. Lexi, who has fished since she was 10 years old, uses a friend's grandfather's gear, while John, being a third-generation fisherman, has plenty of his own gear.

Participation in tournaments is an excused absence from school as are other sports and activities like 4-H and FFA. The No Pass-No Play rule applies. "The students pay the entry fees, about S63-S64 per tourney, but if she or he is ruled ineligible, the team loses those points," Ron explained. "Boat captains meet at the school before tourneys, and we communicate with the parents and kids through group texts."

Local funding comes through advertising on team jerseys, bake sales, a raffle and the MISD Booster Club. There are corporate sponsors and advertisers at the state level. "We try to pay boat captains for fuel," Ron said. "The students go by businesses and become salespersons while selling the ads." Members give back to the community by helping senior citizens at the annual Fishing Day held at I.O.O.F. Park. "The state association also notifies local clubs of events in which they can help," Ron added.

Ron, a Corsicana native and local attorney, enjoys living in the country where he can fish in his backyard. He also fishes offshore on the coast. Both Lexi and John are Navarro County natives. Lexi plans on attending Navarro College's cosmetology school. She "fishes to fish."

John, who's fished since he "could hold a pole," said, "I have no regrets joining the team. Being at a small school, we've all grown up together. Fishing's in my blood." He plans to attend The University of Texas and become an archaeologist.

With goals like this set, John and Lexi are fulfilling THSBA's mission: "Provide a venue where high school students have the opportunity to compete in organized tournaments while establishing strict guidelines and academic standards that will allow our student anglers to excel in the classroom and on the lake."

The early mornings spent in peace, quiet and cold before fishing starts will stay with John. Lexi added, "It seems cold in those moments, but looking back, we realize we've made great memories with friends and family."



"But God, being rich in mercy, because of the great love with which he loved us, even when we were dead in our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ (by grace you have been saved)." ~ Ephesians 2:4-5



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## **Zoomed In:** By Virginia Riddle Barron Hall, Michael Sullivan, Bill Stovall

Above-and-beyond good deeds don't go unnoticed in Kerens. When a neighbor couldn't manage the stairs at home seven months ago, three Kerens VFD members volunteered and stepped up to help on a twice-a-day basis. Before Michael Sullivan drives a truck, or Barron Hall reports to the Navarro County Jail as a correction officer, or Bill Stovall serves in the Corsicana Fire Department, they meet at their neighbor's home and see him safely downstairs. The reverse happens as the trio returns home from work.

Hand in Hand Hospice did notice and recently honored these firemen. However, Michael stated, "We don't do it for the recognition. It's all about helping people and caring for the community."

Note: Not pictured is Bill Stovall, who was on duty at CFD.

# Around Town



CPD Chief Robert Johnson shares information on new city ordinances with business owners.



Kay Hable welcomes James Blair DAR Chapter members all aboard the Mayflower.



The eating and fellowship is always great at MLK Community Center's breakfast celebrations.



It's ribbon-cutting time at Instaff's new location.

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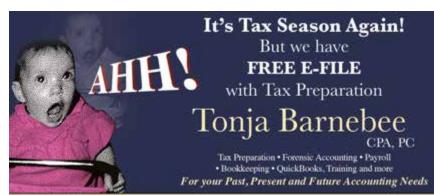
Jacob Castillo and Chandler Ware are Texas 4-H Shooting Sports Ambassadors.



Better Garden Club members celebrate the group's annual recognitions by the District X State Garden Club.



These ladies have a good time at Corsicana Senior Center's weekly cardmaking class.



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- By Virginia Riddle

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The year was 1919. U.S. President Woodrow Wilson attended the Paris Peace Conference at Versailles, which eventually ended WWI. As U.S. troops started returning home, the Grand Canyon National Park was established. In Texas that year, the 7th Cavalry regiment helped push Pancho Villa back into Mexico after he attacked lands and settlers near El Paso. And locally, in Corsicana, Seth Miles was busy trading a Dodge car for a sewing machine, an iron bed and a few dollars in cash and opening the doors to Miles Furniture's first location on West Collin Street. Later, the store was moved to Main Street and Collin and then to its current location at 4th and Beaton. Many events have occurred in history during the more than 100 years Miles Furniture has served as one of the largest furniture stores in Central Texas. "Meeting the customer's needs is our top priority," Jeffrey Patterson stated. "And we do so with no misleading sales gimmicks."

Owned and operated by the Miles family for three generations, Cliff Patterson took the reins of the business in 2004. Cliff, Jeffrey and Kristie Butler lead a total staff of five employees. Job titles aren't important. "Each employee has numerous duties that wouldn't really be described by a single title," Jeffrey explained. "Basically, we all do our part to offer the best possible experience for our customers."

Whether the customer needs a new accent table or is furnishing an entire home, Miles Furniture has plenty to peruse. Product lines offered include: La-Z-Boy, Best Home

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Furnishings, Mayo Furniture, Leather Italia, Elements, Coaster, Cottage Creek, Legacy Classic, Riverside, Hillsdale, Coast to Coast, Parker-House, Tennessee Enterprises, UltraComfort Recliners, Dalyn Rugs, Sealy, Tempur-Pedic and Corsicana Mattress, plus more. "We have a large selection of living room, dining room and bedroom furnishings ready for immediate delivery," Jeffrey stated. "Our friendly, no-pressure sales staff and excellent delivery staff provide unmatched service during and after the sale and delivery."

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Just as generations of Miles family members have operated the store, generations of area families have made Miles Furniture their go-to place for fine furnishings. "Longtime customers have found out over the years that no one cares about them more than we do, and no one will try harder to fulfill their furniture wants and needs," Jeffrey said. "I enjoy treating customers in a way that lets them know that our first priority is to take good care of them."

Over these many years of continuous operation, staff have faced many challenges and succeeded in becoming one of Corsicana's oldest businesses. "There are many challenges on a daily basis, but over the recent years, just acquiring inventory and having a decent selection to offer customers has been a major challenge for us, as well as many retailers around the country and the rest of the world," Jeffrey stated.

Best of the Best and other awards are wonderful, but Jeffrey and his fellow staff members value something even more. He shared, "Many of our customers return again and again whenever they need something. The fact that we have earned their trust and loyalty is perhaps the highest accolade that we could receive." **NOW** 



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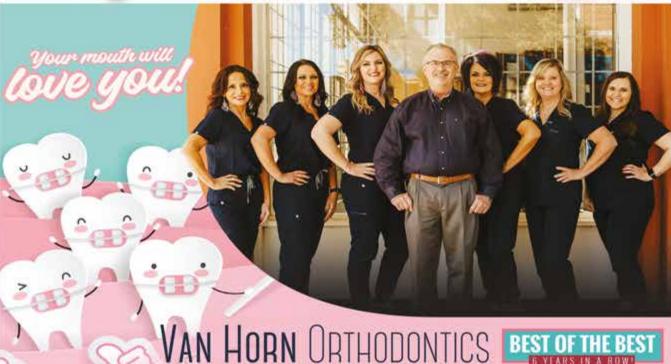


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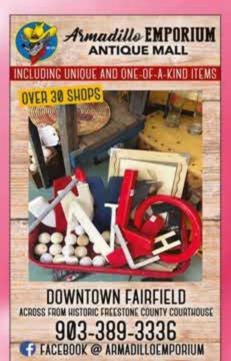
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Learning to cook from her two grandmas, starting about age 8, inspired Stephanie Rustin to become a professional baker. She's now an aromatherapist, herbalist, Better Garden Club member, mom and homeschool teacher for Rhiannon. "Being a homeschooling mom, homesteader and working in the kitchen with Rhiannon has filled my bucket tenfold," Stephanie said.

"My favorite cookbooks are from *Harry Potter* and *American Girl*," Rhiannon explained. Rhiannon enjoys reading, the theater and art, while her mom's passions are anything crafty and working in their church's nursery.

Stephanie shared, "We definitely invent recipes, starting usually with what we have on hand. The spark of invention lies in necessity. Cooking from scratch connects me with the earth and my family in ways that can't really be put into words."

#### **Turkey Rice**

- 1 lb. ground turkey
- I Tbsp. Bragg Liquid Aminos
- 1 Tbsp. coconut oil
- $1 \frac{1}{2}$  cups rice
- 3 cups water with 1 Tbsp. chicken bouillon
- 1 Tbsp. salt
- l tsp. garlic
- l tsp. paprika
- l tsp. pepper
- I tsp. onion powder
- I cup frozen vegetables

#### Sriracha, to taste (optional) Avocado slices, to taste (optional) Chia seeds, to taste (optional)

 Heat a large, deep skillet over medium heat. Add the turkey; cook until brown.
 Add the amino acids; sauté 1 minute.
 Add the coconut oil; heat for 1 additional minute.
 Add the rice; toss it until beginning to brown, about 1-2 minutes. Add the water/ bouillon; turn the heat to high.
 While waiting for the mixture to boil, add the rest of the seasonings. When boiling occurs, reduce the heat to the lowest setting; cover. Cook for 5 more minutes. **5.** Add the mixed vegetables; stir. Replace the cover; cook on low heat for 5 more minutes, until the vegetables are soft, and the rice is fluffy.

**6.** Stir completely; serve hot in bowls with optional ingredients added.

#### Grandma Aaron's Pasta Salad

- 1 12-oz. pkg. pasta of your choice
- 2 pats butter
- 1 8-oz. pkg. Applegate Uncured Bacon
- 1 1/2 cups mayonnaise (more or less
- to desired consistency) 1/2 of 3.8-oz. bunch green onions,
- chopped
- 1 Tbsp. salt
- 1 Tbsp. pepper
- l tsp. paprika
- 1 tsp. garlic

 Cook the pasta according to the package directions; drain. Add the butter; stir.
 In a skillet, fry the bacon until crispy; drain on a paper towel. Chop the bacon into rough pieces.

**3.** In a bowl, add the pasta, bacon, mayonnaise, green onions and seasonings;

mix well. Cover the bowl; refrigerate for 1 hour. Remove, uncover and mix well again before serving.

#### Vegan Chili

- 1 16-oz. pkg. dried kidney beans, presoaked for 24 hours, drained and rinsed
- I sweet potato, peeled and chopped
- I tomato, chopped
- 3-5 yellow potatoes, peeled and chopped
- l jalapeño, diced
- $1/2 \mbox{ large yellow onion, diced}$
- 3 carrots, peeled and sliced
- 2 stalks celery, diced
- 1 zucchini, diced
- 3 Tbsp. chili powder
- 1-2 Tbsp. cumin
- 1 Tbsp. paprika
- 2 Tbsp. salt
- 1-2 Tbsp. pepper
- I-2 Tbsp. garlic powder
- 1-2 Tbsp. onion powder
- 1 Tbsp. Mexican oregano
- 2 pinches sugar
- 1-2 Tbsp. tomato bouillon Juice of 1 lime 1/2 of 2.8-oz. bunch cilantro Tortilla chips, to taste Sour cream, to taste
- l avocado, sliced Grated cheese, to taste

Cholula Hot Sauce, to taste

I. Add the beans, sweet potato, tomato, yellow potatoes, jalapeños, onions, carrots, celery, zucchini, all seasonings and bouillon to a Crock-Pot. Cover with water, leaving about 1 inch above the waterline.
2. Cook on low for 8 hours, stirring hourly. Remove the lid; cook on low for an additional 4 hours.

**3.** Using a potato masher, mash the Crock-Pot ingredients during the last few hours of cooking; add the lime juice and cilantro. Stir well to keep the mixture from sticking; add any additional seasonings to taste.

**4.** Let the chili sit in the Crock-Pot for about 30 minutes before serving over tortilla chips topped with sour cream, avocado, cheese and hot sauce.

#### Popcorn Cake

I lb. marshmallows I stick butter I/2 cup oil I gal. popped popcorn I lb. M&Ms I0-oz. pecans

**I.** In the top of a double boiler, melt the marshmallows, butter and oil. Pour the

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tray in the freezer for about 1/2 hour prior to baking to keep them a nice shape and from spreading out too much.

5. Remove the tray; place on the counter while the oven is preheating to 350 F.
6. Bake for 6 minutes; then rotate the tray. Bake for an additional 7 minutes. Remove the tray; set on the counter for 1 minute. Flatten the cookie tops slightly with a gloved hand. Transfer the cookies to a cooling rack for another 2 minutes before serving.

mixture over the popcorn. Stir in the M&Ms and pecans.

**2.** Butter the sides and bottom of two Bundt pans. Pour the mixture into the pans; freeze for 1 hour.

**3.** Remove the cakes from the Bundt pans by placing a warm, damp cloth on the bottom of each pan and turning it upside down.

#### Rich and Thick Butter Sugar Cookies

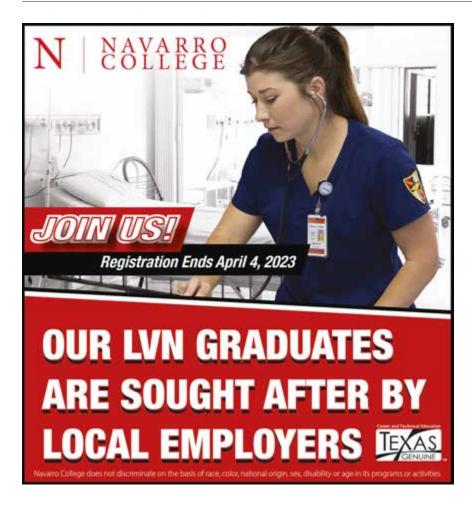
2 sticks butter 1/2 cup sugar, or slightly more 1 1/2 tsp. vanilla l egg
 2 1/2 cups all-purpose flour
 1/4 tsp. salt
 1/4 tsp. baking powder

In a large bowl, mix the butter, sugar and vanilla with a mixer on medium-high speed for 1-2 minutes. Add the egg; mix again for about 1 minute until the batter is smooth.
 In a separate bowl, whisk together the flour, salt and baking powder.

**3.** Add the flour mix to the wet mixture a little at a time. Mix on medium after each addition until the cookie dough is light and slightly sticky and dry.

**4.** Use a cookie scoop or large spoon to create dough balls. Put the balls on a cookie

To search for more great recipes from any of the 9 NOW Magazines publications, visit www.nowmagazines.com.





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# **Crossword Puzzle**

| 1  | 2        | 3  | 4  | 5  |              | 6        | 7        | 8        | 9  |          |
|----|----------|----|----|----|--------------|----------|----------|----------|----|----------|
| 10 | $\vdash$ | +  |    | +  |              | 11       | $\vdash$ | ┢        |    | 12       |
| 13 | +        | +  | +  | +  | 14           |          | $\vdash$ | $\vdash$ |    | $\vdash$ |
| 15 | +        | +  | +  | +  | +            |          | 16       | $\vdash$ |    |          |
|    |          |    | 17 | ┢  | +            | 18       |          | 19       | 1  | +        |
| 20 | 21       | 22 |    | 23 | $\mathbf{T}$ | $\vdash$ |          | 24       | +  | $\vdash$ |
| 25 | +        | +  |    | 26 |              | $\vdash$ | 27       |          |    |          |
| 28 | +        | +  | 29 |    | 30           | $\vdash$ | +        | 31       | 32 | 33       |
| 34 | 1        | 1  | 1  | 35 |              | $\vdash$ | 1        |          | 1  | +        |
| 36 | 1        | +  | 1  |    |              | 37       | 1        |          | 1  | -        |
|    | 38       | +  | +  | +  |              | 39       |          |          | +  | +        |

Crosswordsite.com Ltd

Across

sumame

10 Cavalry

cool

11 Get --

weapon

(banish)

13 Failed to keep

15 Behind, at sea

Yugoslavia

16 Dictator of former

17 Consider 19 "But of course!"

20 Front part of

an apron

23 Half a South

American dance

taxes 25 "Messenger"

molecule

principle 28 Man-eating

giant

30 Angolan

34 Globally

capital

36 Hullabaloo 37 Often "done" in the middle of the day

renowned

24 After costs and

26 Bright, positive

6 Javanese tree,

arrow poison

a source of

- 38 Distribute 1 Robert Downey Jr's father's original 39 Tend a fire
  - - Down
    - 1 Scat artist Fitzgerald

cards

- 2 "Land of a million
- elephants" 3 "Meet Me
  - Louis
- 4 Behaved
- 6 Vase

- 9 Alleviate
- 12 Fishing bob
- 20 Chesterton's

- 32 Down source

Online versions and solutions available at www.nowmagazines.com. From our Homepage, click on the Crossword-Sudoku tab. Click on a puzzle. Click on the See All button to view solutions.



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- 33 "But, --- was ambitious, I slew him" (Shakespeare, Julius Caesar")
- 35 Key to oblivion?
- 5 Requirement for a surprise party
- 7 "Seven Years in Tibet" actor
- 8 --- Monk, TV 'tec

- 14 Sine of 30"
- **18** Instruction
  - books, as Mulan reinterpreted
- sleuthing cleric
- 21 Close, Don and I go off
- 22 Pan inventor 27 Full range
- 29 "Born Free"
  - characte
- 31 Forbidden act
- - The Turquoise Armadul Give Her What She Really Wants!



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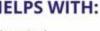
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Scavenger Hunt Email scavenger.cor@nowmagazines.com



Catherine Dube - \$50 Cash from NOW Magazines

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# Valentine's Day

Some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press. Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

#### 2/1, 2/8, 2/15

Kinsloe House Luncheon: Noon, Kinsloe House, 618 W. 3rd Ave. For membership information or reservations, call (903) 654-0620.

#### 2/4, 2/8, 2/18, 2/25

Navarro College Home Basketball Games: Times vary, Wolen Special Event Center. www.navarrobulldogs.com/sports.

#### 2/6, 2/15, 2/21, 2/28

Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services Live Webinars: Times vary. For a link to the webinars, call (800) 888-1904.

#### 2/15

Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce

Awards Banquet: \$50 per person/\$550 per table of 8. 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Cook Center, 3100 W. Collin St. For more details, please call the Chamber at (903) 874-4731.

#### 2/16

Mexia Chamber of Commerce Business After Hours: 5:30 p.m., 214 Sherman, Mexia. (254) 562-5569.

#### 2/21-2/26

**Breakfast:** The playwright is Corsicana's own Pam C. Dudley. Times vary, Warehouse Living Arts Center, 119 W. 6th Ave. www.thewlac.com.

#### 2/22-3/23

Early African-American Education in Corsicana, Lincoln Artifacts, Texas Invitational Art Show and Sale: Three new exhibits open in February! Early local's only preview of the art show: February 22: 6:00 p.m.; regular hours: Monday-Friday: 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; Saturday: noon-4:00 p.m., Pearce Museum at Navarro College. For more information, call (903) 875-7438.

#### 2/25-Summer 2023

125&175:

Corsicana Artist and Writer Residency's special exhibit commemorating Corsicana's 175 years with history from the 125-year-old I.O.O.F. Lodge. Viewable 24/7 from the sidewalk, 411 N. Beaton. (480) 824-3015.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to virginia.riddle@nowmagazines.com.



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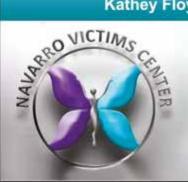
ENNIS DOCTORS CENTER

802 West Lampasas Street Ennis, Texas 75119 p: 972.875.4700 Navarro Victims Center is excited to offer the following services to the communities of our county at no charge. For survivors (men, women, children) of family violence, stalking, sexual assault and human trafficking, we provide:

- Emergency and long-term shelter (men referred to other shelters)
- Case management (help reaching goals)
- Counseling for adults and/or children
- Transportation
- PTSD class
- Life Choices course (in group or 1-on-1)
- Legal advocacy
- Computer lab and library (with Internet)

- Various support groups
- Family violence classes
- Help with protective orders
- Assistance with completing Crime Victim Compensation form and Victim Impact Statements
- Family Support for child victims
- Court preparation and accompaniment
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