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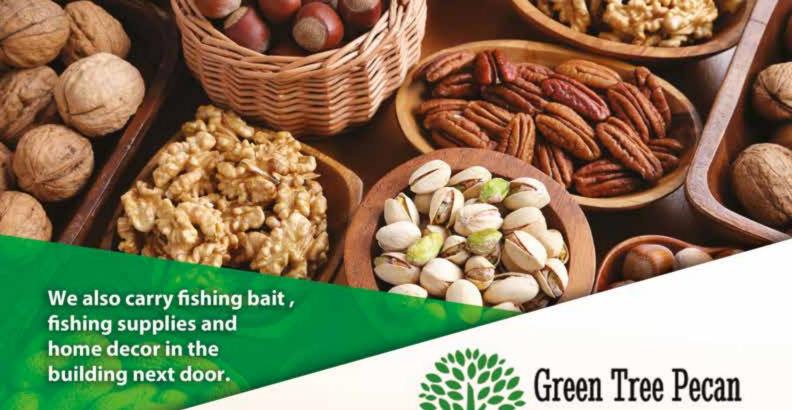


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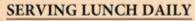


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September 2022 Volume 19, Issue 9

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# **EDITOR'S NOTE**

Friday night lights are back!

And school is back in session. Hopefully, just around the corner we will have cooler temperatures and soft, soothing rains as fall gets rolling into high gear. We can all give a sigh of relief from summer sun and heat and get back into gear for school activities. Get out and support your favorite teams, children, grandchildren and school staff at the many activities and sports endeavors available to the public.

For some May high school graduates, college is their destination, but for my grandson, Kristopher, and others, it's straight into the workforce they go. This will be a "gap" year for Kristopher to explore options for the future. He has a job sailing the high seas as he decides on a college major. His interests lie in oceanography, so I can't wait to hear of his around-the-world adventures. Like all parents and grandparents, to me he will always still be that kid who loved to play checkers at the dining room table for hours with me while we bet a penny a game. Bon voyage, Kristopher!

I was privileged to interview Hershel "Woody" Williams, America's last living WWII Medal of Honor recipient, when he attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Navarro County's Gold Star Families Memorial Monument and was saddened to hear of his recent passing. He will be remembered as a hero at the Battle of Iwo Jima and, in later life, a veteran who was dedicated to honoring Gold Star families. Through his Woody Williams Foundation, Woody established 103 monuments across the U.S., and 72 more monuments are underway. His life was well-lived, and his legacy will live on in Navarro County.

See you "Around Town!"















— By Virginia Riddle

The smell of fresh lumber and paint, the flash of whirring saws, the pounding of nail guns and volunteers all at work — the Christmas in Action team is on-site to bring tears of joy and sometimes the freedom of access and mobility to a Navarro County homeowner in need. "The wheelchair ramps and home repairs are usually simple, safety things we do that bring joy to someone," Chuck Covert, the group's warehouse manager for the last 18 years, shared. "Our work is a godsend to so many."

Recipients may be recent amputees living alone, who can't get in and out of the house; people with other disabilities; or retired grandparents, who are doing all they can to raise grandchildren but can't afford needed home maintenance repairs. "Lack of access in and out of a home becomes a fire safety issue," Chuck explained. He builds ramp modules offsite which enables CIA volunteers to produce a finished ramp on-site in one day. The ramps must be custom designed for the site to meet requirements. When electrical and plumbing are required, CIA uses master electricians and plumbers. Otherwise, CIA accomplishes its mission through all-volunteer crews led by Executive Director Alvis Reeves.

"We have a 12-member board," Alvis explained. "There's no office or payroll. Materials are purchased from companies like True Value, McKee Lumber Company and Home Depot. McKee gives us a 20-percent discount, and often these companies' skilled employees provide labor. Our 5,000-square-foot warehouse is also donated. Funds are donated through the Navarro Community Foundation, First

Baptist Corsicana, the Navarro County United Way, several churches and individuals. All funds raised go toward rehabbing homes and the ramps. Other volunteers include members of area service clubs, churches, Corsicana High School student groups and the Navarro College football, basketball and volleyball teams. "We keep in touch with all the volunteer groups and individuals and provide the project packets of information, so we can match the skill levels needed to the groups," Alvis added. "I'm proud of the volunteers, and Chuck, who worked for True Value, is a godsend." One of Alvis' best memories includes working with the Navarro College volleyball team in 2019. "They enjoyed it and understood what CIA's work meant," Alvis shared. "There's a reason why they were national champs!"

Recipients are found mostly through relatives, former recipients, neighbors or churches referring them. "They must be homeowners, and most are on a fixed income," Alvis said. "We do a due diligence interview with applicants and verify income and need. We're never at a loss for people in need."

CIA is a national Christian nonprofit organization founded by Bobby Trimble in Midland, Texas. There are about 24 CIA branches across the United States. The Navarro County-based group rehabs, on the average, 55 homes a year and accomplished 41 emergency repairs and ramps even during the worst of COVID while taking COVID precautions. "In the 16 years that the Navarro County group has worked, it's provided 591 homeowners relief involving the efforts of nearly 600 volunteers yearly and many organizations and individuals providing financial funding and materials," Alvis said. There are no age limits for volunteers or recipients.

One of those volunteers is Karen Cook, the group's treasurer. "I'm involved in CIA because of my friendship with Alvis," she said. "He moved to Corsicana and wanted to help improve our town. It's because of his dedication CIA is an active part of Navarro County. I enjoy meeting people in Navarro County and helping them resolve a problem with their home. It's very rewarding to work with teams and see how much can be

accomplished when everyone works together." Karen's been a Corsicana resident since age 3 except while attending nursing school. She's been a local nurse for 20 years and has helped her husband, Lance, in their business. "I enjoy the history and size of Corsicana and my church home, First Baptist," she added. "I grew up in the church, met and married my husband there and raised our three sons there." Karen has learned some carpentry skills on mission trips while helping rebuild New Orleans after Hurricane Katrina. She enjoys reading, antiquing, historical homes and being a grandparent.

Chuck grew up "all over the world" as an Air Force "brat," and served in the U.S. Air Force himself. "My dad had good friends in Corsicana while living here, and I moved to Corsicana after retirement," he said. Chuck met his wife, Sara, in Corsicana.

Alvis learned building skills from his dad while growing up in Shamrock, Texas. "I was a carpenter's son," he explained. "I grew up with B.F. Risinger, First Baptist Corsicana's former minister. He was a grade ahead of me." Alvis graduated from Texas A&M University, and, during his student summers, he helped his dad build houses. Alvis joined the Texas National Guard and Army Reserve and became an accountant in Corsicana. "I wanted to escape big-city life," he quipped. "My wife, Dolores, basically encouraged and led me to salvation." He and Chuck agree that Corsicana is a great place to raise a family and live.

"We believe that the major reason CIA has been successful for such an extended time is that we operate as a Christian organization," Alvis shared. "Our Lord has led our decision-making process, and He commands us to help our less fortunate community members. We feel the hand of Jesus guiding us in every project." James 2:14-17 is quoted on the national CIA website. New volunteers are always welcome to help carry out CIA's mission of making a difference in Navarro County while building hope.

Editor's Note: For more information, visit www.cia-navarro.org.



# Tonja Barnebee CPA, PC

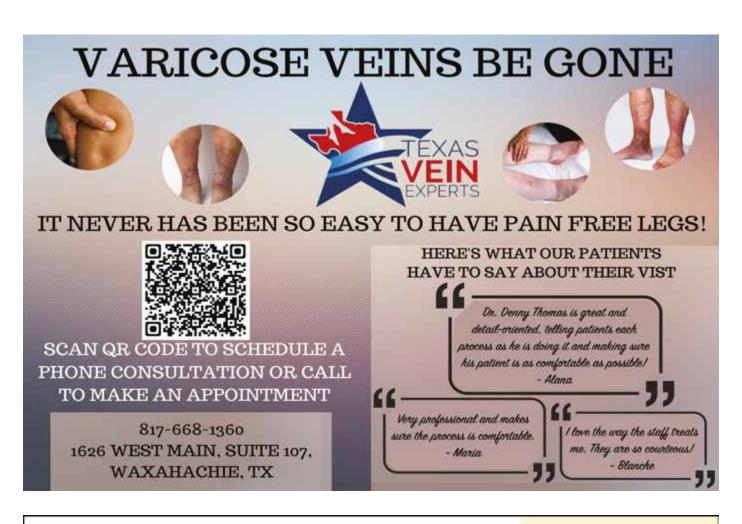
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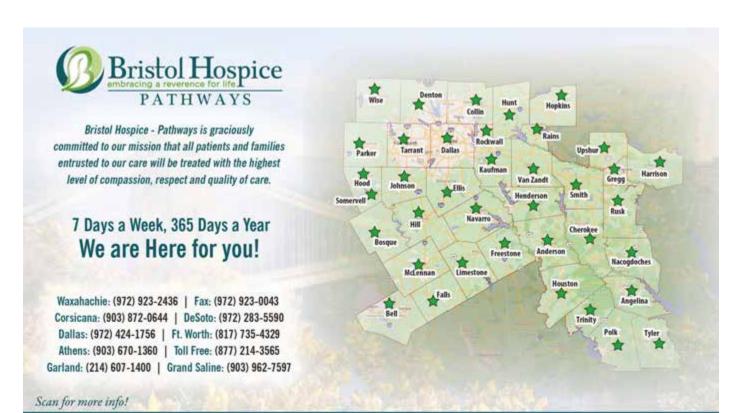






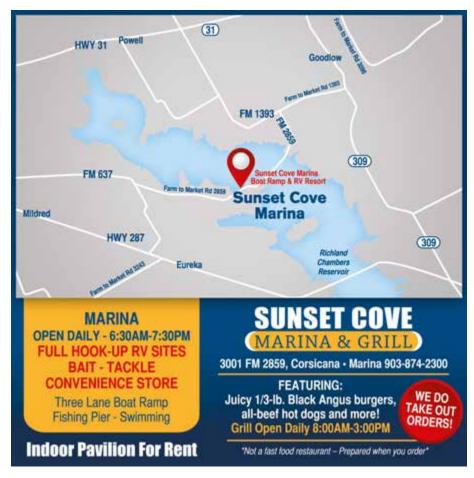
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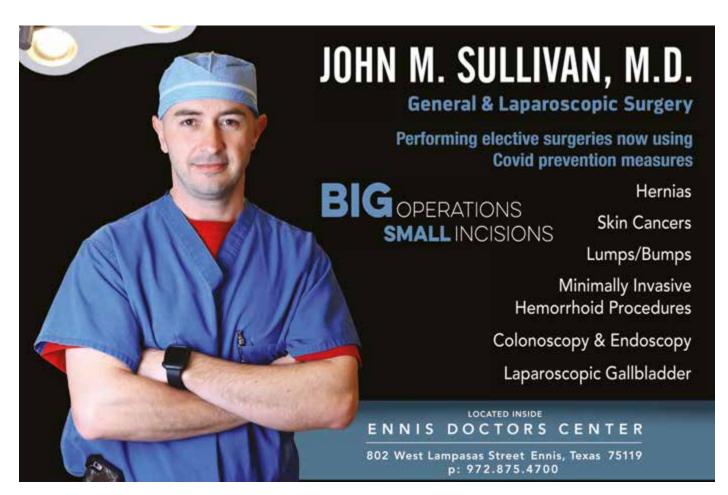




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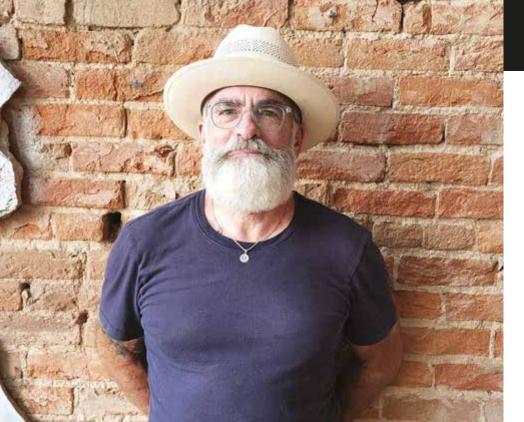












# **Around Town**



Raquel Linderman lends her voice to Food Truck Friday in Downtown Corsicana.

# **Zoomed In:** Houston Clark

As a co-founder of a firm with his brother, Houston Clark's business travel took him and sometimes his wife, Sherry—to Europe and throughout the U.S. frequently. "It was high pressure and very stressful," he recalled. A heart attack in 2015 prompted the couple to rethink priorities. "We were living in Dallas and started looking for a place in the country. We moved to Corsicana in 2019."

The "place" became Purdon Groves where the couple, now joined by son, Mac, and his wife, Yessika Clark, are creating an urban farm venue. "People are amazing and supportive here," Houston remarked. He serves on the Habitat of Humanity of Navarro County board and loves road cycling, hunting and reading.



James Blair DAR Chapter Regent Barbara Watkins presents a 30-year membership certificate to Margaret Thomas.



The WLAC 101 Dalmatians cast performs musical numbers from the show for Kinsloe House members.



Joshua Bubb, Liam Petty, Teddy Taylor and Gage Taylor donate some summer time and their talents to paint stockings for U.S. troops serving overseas.

By Virginia Riddle



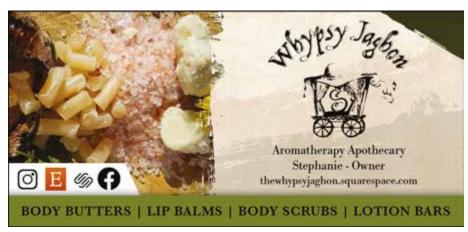
Providing a boatload of fun, Charmelle Garrett models for the Corsicana Newcomers fashion show.



This is one way to stay cool at the Corsicana YMCA's Bash.



Alisa Parks, Bobbye Hancock and Valorie Mattice greet Corsicana Newcomers Club members.







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# Green Tree Pecan Company

- By Virginia Riddle

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Anytime is a great time to visit family-owned Green Tree Pecan Co., but with the holiday season just around the corner, it's almost a must. Owners Dennis and Kim Bancroft greet and help customers find just the right treats and eats. "We love getting to meet and know so many people through the years," Dennis said. "Some people come by just to see our two dogs that come to work with us every day and hang out in the office."

Chestnuts might roast in that popular Christmas melody, but at Green Tree Pecan, the fruit of the Texas Official State Tree holds center court. Customers can enjoy the down-home atmosphere in person or shop online or by phone. The store offers pecans, almonds, Brazil nuts, cashews and peanuts in raw, roasted or mixed packaging. Candies, dried fruits, home decor items, metal yard art, garden and flowering plants in season and nut and fruit trees are also available. Green Tree is also the place to go for commercial and individual custom pecan shelling services. Their deli serves breakfast and lunch

items including cold sandwiches, hot dogs and burgers. "We provide a great product and service at a reasonable price," Dennis explained.

The business, now employing 10 people, was started by Royce Bancroft, Dennis' dad, in 1979. "We started harvesting pecans and incorporated in 1984," Dennis recalled. "I started as a row crop farmer but was handed the opportunity to manage 300 acres of pecan orchards in addition to the 300 acres we harvested. From 1992-2014, the family sold pecans out of a booth at Canton First Mondays, and in 2000, Dennis purchased his dad's interest in the pecan shelling business. "Since 2000, we've been able to grow our business exponentially," Dennis added.

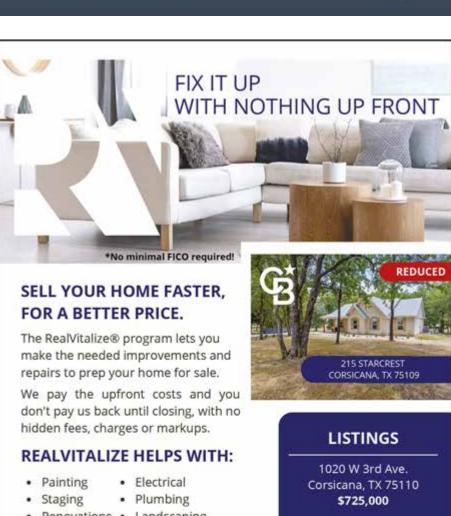
A Navarro County native, Dennis was raised in Powell. "My family all live in Navarro County and are part of our business," Dennis stated. "Our daughter, Rebecca Abbie, handles all of our retail shipping and office duties. Our son, John Bancroft, handles the pecan shelling plant and product packaging. John's wife, Jasmine, joined us this year. She helps in the packaging department and sends out our monthly newsletters. We put Bible verses in our advertisements because in that way, we have found the true value of life and hope that others will find it, too."

As the business grew, Dennis still found time to give back to his community. He has served 19 years as the mayor of Powell, as the Powell VFD's fire chief and on the Navarro County Planning & Zoning Commission. He has been a Navarro Regional Hospital trustee for three years and an Emergency Services District commissioner for one year.

When the family isn't at work, Dennis and Kim enjoy traveling and RVing across Texas and visiting the San Juan Mountains in Colorado. At home, during breaks from the store, they enjoy their small farm and watching wildlife pass through the acreage.

Proud grandparents of granddaughter, Chloie, and grandson, Landon, Dennis and Kim will perhaps enjoy bringing them into the business full time eventually. "Chloie and Landon have been coming to work with their mama since they were about 2 weeks old," Dennis said. "We truly are a family business." NOW





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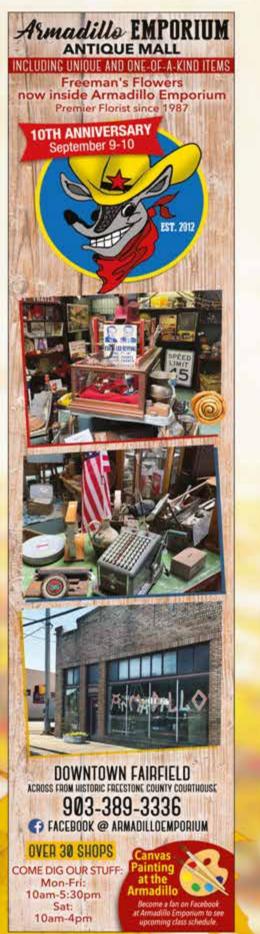
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Having grown up surrounded by a large family, Paula Neff learned early to cook on a grand scale. She attended a New Orleans cooking school for fun, and she opened a restaurant/tearoom in Waxahachie and catered at the country club. Before retiring, Paula was Dallas Baptist University's assistant director of campus dining. She's recently formed a food-based ministry, Hope to Go, with her church. "We're distributing food to all of Navarro County," Paula explained.

She enjoys baking and cooking for family, friends and church gatherings. "I enjoy down-home cooking prepared with higher nutrition and less sugar," Paula said. "Finding and adapting new recipes is an obsession. Cooking is combining love and art, while sharing your heart." NOW

# **Apricot Apple Almond Relish**

This recipe makes 4 cups and is good served hot or cold.

2 cups sugar

1 cup dried apricots, chopped or processed 1 cup golden raisins

1/2 cup slivered almonds, toasted

1/4 cup apple cider vinegar

- 2 Tbsp. orange peel, grated
- 4 tart apples (approximately 4 cups), chopped or processed

**1.** In a large saucepan, mix all the ingredients. Heat to a boil; stir constantly. **2.** Reduce the heat to low; simmer 20-25 minutes. Stir frequently, until the apples are tender and the mixture is slightly thickened.

#### Chicken Salad

This recipe is best if made a day ahead of serving.

- 5 lbs. chicken breast, cut in half
- 1 1/2 cups mayonnaise
- 1 1/2 tsp. curry powder
- 1 8-oz. can crushed pineapple, drained
- 2 Tbsp. lime or lemon juice
- 1 tsp. salt
- 3/4 cup green onion tops
- 3/4 cup almonds, sliced and toasted
- **1.** In a large pot, heat water until steaming. Drop the chicken in; stir once. Cover; let the pot rest off of the heat until the chicken is no longer pink in the middle.
- **2.** Strain the chicken; cover with a dish towel until it's completely cooled. Shred the chicken, or dice it into bite-sized pieces.
- **3.** In a bowl, combine the remaining ingredients, except the almonds. Spoon the mixture over the chicken; toss until the chicken is coated.
- 4. Top with the almonds. Cover; chill completely.

#### **Healthier Oatmeal Cookies**

Dried cranberries and chopped nuts can be substituted for the raisins.

1/2 cup raisins

3/4 cup warm water

1 1/2 cups self-rising flour

1/2 cup almond flour

1 tsp. cinnamon

1 1/2 tsp. baking soda

1/2 cup butter or Earth Balance, softened

2 Tbsp. granulated Splenda

1/3 cup Swerve Brown Sugar

1 egg

2 Tbsp. milk

1/2 tsp. vanilla

1 1/2 cups quick oats

Powdered ginger, to taste (optional)

- **1.** Prepare a large cookie sheet with parchment paper. Preheat the oven to 325 F.
- 2. Plump the raisins in 3/4 cup warm water for 10 minutes. Drain; pat dry with a paper towel.
- 3. In a bowl, mix the flours, cinnamon and soda: set aside.
- 4. In another bowl, cream the butter and sugars until fluffy. Add the egg, milk and vanilla; mix thoroughly.
- **5.** Gradually add the flour mixture to the butter mixture; stir thoroughly. Stir in the oats, raisins and ginger.
- **6.** Drop the batter by heaping teaspoons or a tablespoons onto the cookie sheet. Bake 10-12 minutes, or until golden brown; cool on a cooling rack.

### **Paula's Taco Soup**

This recipe works well doubled.

- 1 1/2 lbs. ground or chili ground beef
- I medium onion, diced
- 1 1-oz. pkg. taco seasoning mix
- 1 1.5-oz. pkg. ranch dressing mix
- 1 15-oz. can pinto beans with juice
- 1 15-oz. can black or kidney beans with iuice
- 1 15-oz. can hominy, drained
- 3 14.5-oz. cans diced tomatoes
- 1 6-oz. can chopped green chilies

Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

- 3 cups water
- 3/4 cups fresh cilantro (measured before chopping)
- 1/3 cup lime juice, or more to taste Cheddar cheese, grated, to taste (optional)
- **1.** Brown the meat and onion; drain. Add the seasoning mixes; stir until they are dissolved.
- 2. Add the beans, hominy, tomatoes, chilies, salt, pepper and water; cook until the flavors come together.



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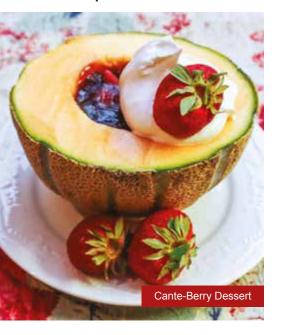
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**3.** Add the cilantro and lime juice; mix well. Simmer for about 15 minutes; serve topped with the cheese.

#### **Cante-Berry Dessert**

Kids of all ages love this recipe.

I cantaloupe, washed, halved, seeded (Don't peel the rind.)



- 1 3-oz. pkg. sugar-free gelatin dessert (black cherry or strawberry)
- 3/4 cup hot water, or any juice except pineapple or orange
- I cup ice cubes
- 2/3 cup fresh strawberries, halved or frozen strawberries, thawed and halved (divided use)

Sugar-free frozen topping, to taste

- **I.** Cut a thin slice of the melon halves' ends so they stand on their own; place the halves on a rimmed baking sheet.
- **2.** In a bowl, dissolve the gelatin using the water or juice and ice cubes.
- **3.** Add half of the berries to the gelatin; add the berry filling to the melons, using the halves as bowls.
- **4.** Chill until set; cut the halves into quarters. Add the topping and remaining berries.

## **Banana Split Ice Cream**

- 2 eggs
- 2 cups sugar
- 2 pts. heavy cream
- 1 8-oz. can crushed pineapple, drained
- 2 10-oz. cartons frozen strawberries, or 1-pt. fresh strawberries
- 3 bananas, chopped into small pieces
- 2/3 cup pecans, chopped

# I Tbsp. vanilla I to I 1/2 qts. chocolate milk

- **1.** In a large bowl, stir the eggs, sugar and cream until the sugar is dissolved. Add all other ingredients, except the chocolate milk; mix well.
- **2.** Using an ice cream maker machine, pour in the fruit/sugar mixture. Add the chocolate milk up to the canister's fill line.
- **3.** Chill the mixture in the refrigerator overnight, or at least a few hours. Remove; stir well before beginning the freezing process according to the machine's directions.







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20	21	22	Т	+	t	+	t	t		t
23	1	t	t	+	$\vdash$	+	T			
24	T	T		25	$\vdash$	$\vdash$		26	27	28
29	T		30			31	32		1	T
	33	+	+	T		34	$\vdash$		1	T
	35	+	+	+		36	$\vdash$	+	+	

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#### Across

- 1 It's good from a crow's nest
- 5 Young ceremonial attendant
- 9 Spiny desert features
- 10 Wickedness
- 11 Oscar winner Tatum ---
- 12 Celebrate noisily
- 14 Affirmative reply
- 15 You have one only when seated
- 17 Gabrielle Solis player Longoria
- 18 Called the shots
- 20 Concise explanations
- 23 --- to (concerning)
- 24 Not-for-profit TV spot
- 25 Edward Snowden's former employer
- 26 Bolt's partner
- 29 The Everlys woke her
- 31 Tantalize
- 33 Cabernets, for example
- 34 Versifier Nash
- 35 Times which include periods
- 36 Laugh loudly

Medium

#### Down

- 1 Arrow tailfeather
- 2 Cold confections
- 3 7th Greek letter
- 4 Biddability
- 5 Criminal
- 6 Madison or Lexington, in NYC
- 7 "But to --- you and to --- me, ..." (Cole Porter, "High Society")
- 8 Craps natural
- 9 Bashful
- 13 Young 'uns
- 16 Divas' solos
- 18 Croak
- 19 El --- (Charlton Heston role)
- 20 Pickpockets
- 21 Make certain
- 22 "The Mummy" star
- 26 Nothing
- 27 Employer
- 28 Maximum Scrabble tile value
- 30 First Lady McKinley
- 32 Self-esteem

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.

# Sudoku Puzzle

Easy

3 2 9 5 7 6 5 4 6 9 8 3 9 4 3 6 8 5 6

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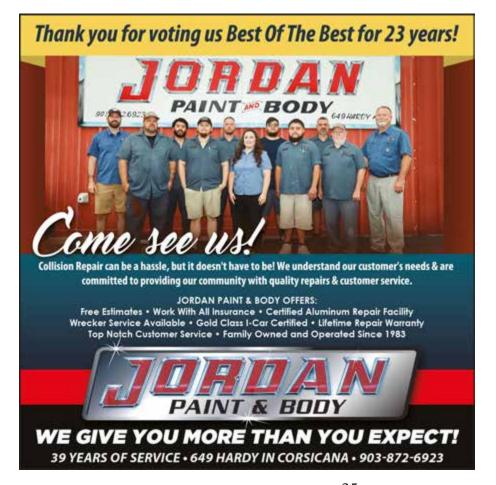


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## 9/1-9/6

### **Corsicana Spray Parks:**

Go to www.cityofcorsicana. com/356/Parks-Recreation for many fun summer activities available for all ages.

# 9/1-9/28

#### Glory Fills the Sky!:

Visual and written observations by artist Melanie Stokes. **Monday-Friday:** 10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Warehouse Living Arts Center Gallery, 119 W. 6th Ave. (903) 872-5421.

# 9/7

#### **Kinsloe House Luncheon:**

Come experience Kinsloe. Speaker is Corsicana City Councilwoman Susan Hale. Make reservations by **September 5** at noon. Lunch is \$20. (903) 874-5791.

# 9/7, 9/12, 9/16, 9/20 and 9/30

#### Presbyterian Children's Homes and Services Live Webinars:

For adults interested in adopting and/or fostering children. Times vary. For a link to the webinars, call (800) 888-1904.

# 9/8

Friends of the Library: 9:00 a.m., Corsicana Public

Library, 100 N. 12th St. (903) 654-4810.

# 9/8-9/18

#### **Our Town:**

7:30 p.m. and 2:30 p.m. performances, Warehouse Living Arts Center, 119 W. 6th Ave. (903) 872-5421.

# 9/12-10/12

#### Western Artists Roundup: Opening Reception:

**September 12:** 5:30-7:30 p.m., Pearce Museum, 3100 W. Collin St. **Monday-Friday:** 10:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.; **Saturday:** Noon-4:00 p.m. (903) 875-7438.

# 9/17

# Tribute to Country Superstars Kenny Chesney & Carrie Underwood:

7:30 p.m., The Palace Theatre, 112 W. 6th Ave. www.corsicanapalace.com.

# 9/24

#### William Lee Martin:

7:30 p.m., The Palace Theatre, 112 W. 6th Ave. www.corsicanapalace.com.

# 9/25

#### God Bless America: A WWII Radio Hour:

Performed by Dr. Shellie O'Neil. 8:30 a.m. and 10:50 a.m.,

First United Methodist Church Corsicana, 320 N. 15th St. tbritton@fumccorsicana.org.

# First and Third Tuesdays and Saturdays

Hope to Go Food Pantry: (Open the first full week and third full week of each month.) Tuesdays: 5:00-6:30 p.m.; Saturdays: 10:00-11:30 a.m.; 5502 S. U.S. Highway 287. (903) 303-2402.

# Tuesdays and Saturdays

# Navarro County Farmers Market:

7:00 a.m.-noon, 405 E. Collin St. Facebook Navarro County Farmers Market.

# Fourth Thursdays

# Corsicana Newcomers Club Meeting:

11:00 a.m., Kinsloe House, 618 W. 3rd Ave. Annie Avery, For more information, call (714) 345-6707.

# First Fridays

#### **Food Truck Friday:**

Live music, family-friendly games, karaoke. 5:00-9:00 p.m., 224 E. 5th Ave. For more information, call (903) 654-4851.

# Second Fridays

# Corsicana Troop Support Angels Packing Day:

10:00 a.m., 111 E. 1st Ave. (503) 887-7902.

# Second Saturdays

#### Mimosas at the Market:

10:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Downtown Corsicana. (903) 654-4851.

#### **Coyote Squadron Meeting:**

10:30 a.m.,

Corsicana Municipal Airport, Christine.hall93@yahoo.com.

# Third Saturdays

### **Navarro Fiber Friends:**

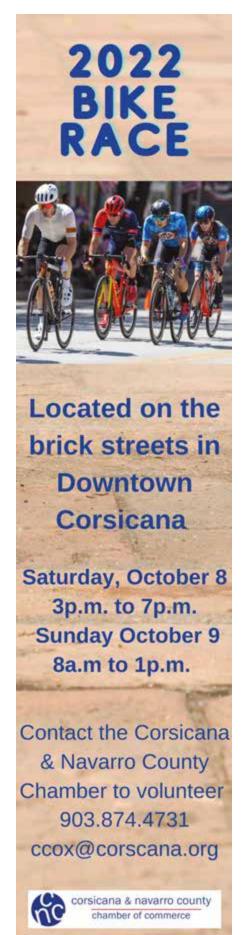
11:00 a.m., Corsicana Senior Citizens Center, 919 W. Park Ave. (903) 654-4980.

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



















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