

By: Cook of Navarro

H.R. No. 1544

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On April 12, 2007, many proud residents of the city  
2 of Corsicana and Navarro County are gathering in Austin to  
3 celebrate Corsicana/Navarro County Day at the State Capitol; and

4 WHEREAS, Officially organized in 1846, the county is named  
5 for Jose Antonio Navarro, a signer of the Texas Declaration of  
6 Independence and a prominent leader during the days of the Texas  
7 Republic and early statehood; and

8 WHEREAS, The arrival of the Houston and Texas Central  
9 Railroad in the early 1870s helped to spur the development of this  
10 region; the county's multifaceted economy now revolves around  
11 agriculture, manufacturing, and the oil industry; and

12 WHEREAS, Corsicana was established in 1848 to serve as the  
13 Navarro County seat and became a prosperous commercial center in  
14 the late 1880s; in 1894, drillers seeking more water for the town's  
15 growing population struck oil and gas instead and their find, the  
16 earliest major oil discovery west of the Mississippi, led to the  
17 state's first oil boom; and

18 WHEREAS, Over the years, this initial strike was followed by  
19 the discovery of several additional oil fields; since 1895, Navarro  
20 County has produced more than 200 million barrels and today has the  
21 longest continual flow of oil in Texas; moreover, Corsicana holds  
22 the distinction of being the first city in Texas to use gas for fuel  
23 and lighting; and

24 WHEREAS, Corsicana is world-famous for its fruitcake, a

1 creation of the 111-year-old Collin Street Bakery; shipped  
2 throughout the United States and to more than 200 foreign countries  
3 each year, this confection remains the only fruitcake ever to earn  
4 the prestigious Gourmet Society Culinary Merit Award; and

5 WHEREAS, A charming community and the largest town in the  
6 county, Corsicana features many attractions, including the Lefty  
7 Frizzell Country Music Museum, the Warehouse Living Arts Center,  
8 the award-winning restored Palace Theater, and Pioneer Village, a  
9 historical recreation of a 19th century town; in addition, Navarro  
10 College is home to one of the finest Native American art collections  
11 in the Southwest at the Gaston C. Gooch Library, the Cook Center for  
12 Arts, Science, and Technology, and the extensive Pearce Collection  
13 Museum of Civil War and Western Art; and

14 WHEREAS, Visitors and locals alike can keep up with news and  
15 events in Corsicana and the region by reading the *Corsicana Daily*  
16 *Sun*, whose presses have been rolling now for more than a century;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, This geographically diverse area is a haven for  
19 outdoor and water enthusiasts, who find ample opportunity for  
20 boating, fishing, skiing, and numerous other activities at  
21 Richland-Chambers Reservoir, Navarro Mills Lake, and Lake Halbert;  
22 and

23 WHEREAS, The citizens of Corsicana and Navarro County are  
24 continuing to build on their colorful history and rich heritage,  
25 and it is most appropriate to honor them as they embrace the myriad  
26 challenges and opportunities of the future; now, therefore, be it

27 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 80th Texas

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1 Legislature hereby recognize April 12, 2007, as Corsicana/Navarro  
2 County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the citizens visiting  
3 today best wishes for an informative trip to the seat of Texas  
4 government.