

By: Cook

H.R. No. 768

R E S O L U T I O N

1 WHEREAS, On March 11, 2009, 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, advanced manufacturing, information technology, and
12 the oil and gas industries; and

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

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

1 WHEREAS, Corsicana is world-famous for its DeLuxe Fruitcake,
2 a creation of the 113-year-old Collin Street Bakery; shipped
3 throughout the United States and to more than 200 foreign countries
4 each year, this confection holds the prestigious Gourmet Society
5 Culinary Merit Award; and

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

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

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

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

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1 RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives of the 81st Texas
2 Legislature hereby recognize March 11, 2009, as Corsicana/Navarro
3 County Day at the State Capitol and extend to the citizens visiting
4 today best wishes for an informative trip to the seat of Texas
5 government.