

Volume 25, Issue 6 | November 2022

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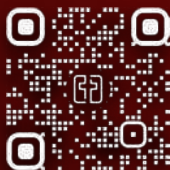
DECEMBER 22 – 7 PM
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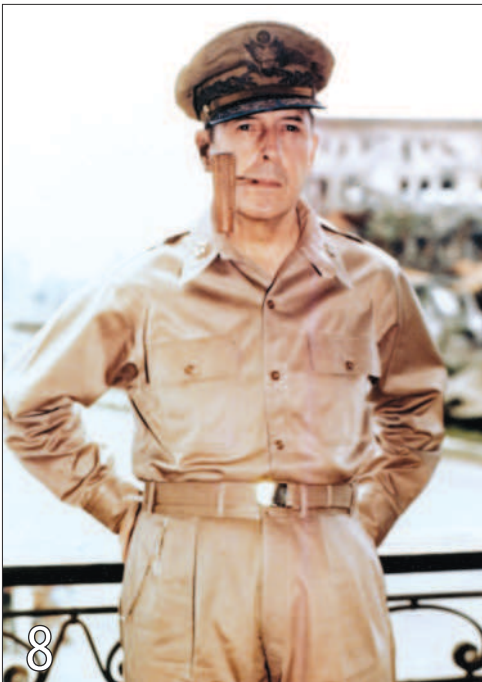


10



14

CONTENTS



8 I&A Champion | Military Order of the World Wars

10 I&A Travel | On Track for Holiday Fun

14 I&A Local | Fostering Support

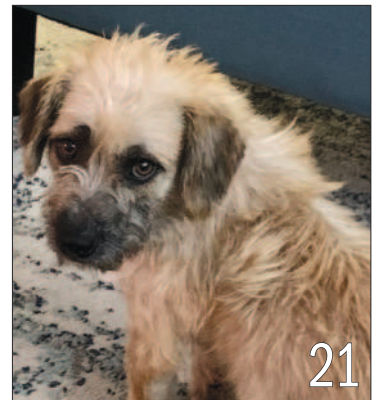
16 I&A Food | Keep it Simple and Seasonal

21 I&A Pet of the Month | Franklin Needs a Home


22 I&A Calendar of Events



16



21

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Letter from the Editor

What a great place America is. Because of those who fought for our freedoms, we can exercise our right to vote this month, honor our veterans, celebrate Thanksgiving with friends and family and so much more.

Continuing with our I&A tradition of honoring a veteran or veteran service organization in November, our Champion this month is the North Texas Military Order of the World Wars. This national nonprofit is made up of former military officers who continue to serve to promote patriotism, civic responsibility, public service, and leadership in the nation's communities. Turn to page 8 and learn how Wylie resident and North Texas MOWW Commander Jacques Loraine is leading the charge.

In Travel this month we are focused on Christmas trains. If you want to treat your "little ones" to a unique experience on one of many Christmas train excursions in Texas, you'll need to buy your tickets now. Turn to page 11 to read Carrie's story, then get your holiday pajamas ready for what could be a new tradition!

Do you know 1,200 Texas teens age out of the foster care system each year? Our Local story this month features a Farmersville couple, Misty and Brady Cottle, who started a nonprofit geared toward helping teens aging out of the foster care system. Read my story on page 14.

Feeling some pressure knowing the holidays are fast approaching? In our Food feature, check out the easy-to-accomplish recipes on page 16, along with a colorful cocktail that may make the season a bit merrier!

If you're on the lookout for upcoming activities, check out our Calendar on page 22 where you'll find an assortment of Veterans Day events and some pre-Christmas celebrations hosted by area cities.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving,



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To promote and further patriotic education in our Nation.

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To foster fraternal relations among all branches of the armed forces.

To promote the cultivation of military, naval, and air science and the adoption of a consistent and suitable policy of national security for the United States of America.

To acquire and preserve records of individual services.

To encourage and assist in the holding of commemorations and the establishment of memorials of the World Wars.

And to transmit all these ideals to posterity, under God and for our country we unite to establish the MILITARY ORDER OF THE WORLD WARS.



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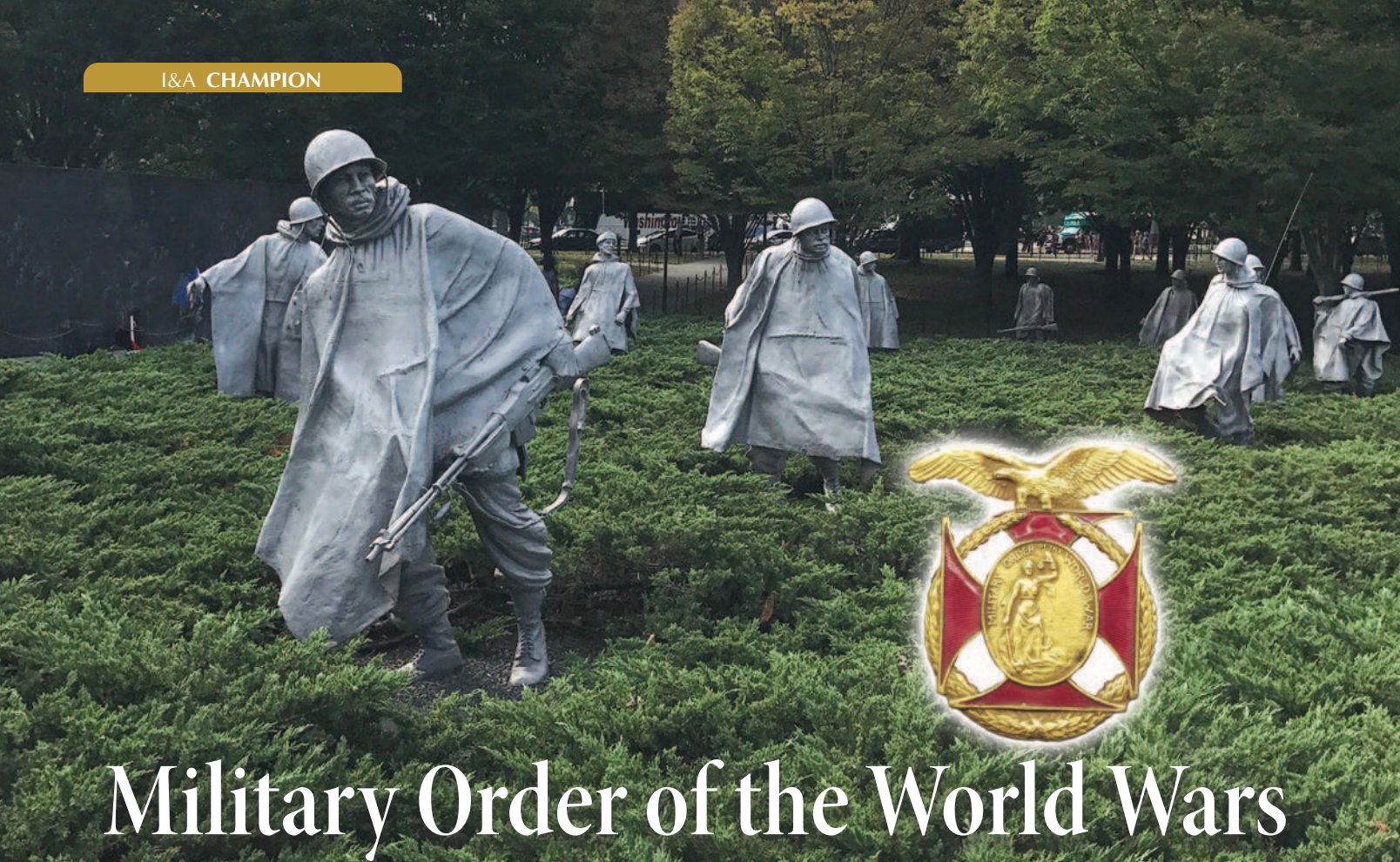
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Military Order of the World Wars

Serving youth, community, and nation

By Sonia Duggan

For 103 years, members of one of the nation's oldest patriotic, non-partisan veterans service organizations have continued to serve their communities — and their country — with a purpose to “promote patriotism, civic responsibility, public service and leadership in the nation's communities.”

Today, over 6,300 men and women in 14 regions are members (companions) of the Military Order of the World Wars (MOWW), founded by former General of the Armies John J. “Blackjack” Pershing, who encouraged his officers to form an organization so they could continue serving their country — but in a different capacity — following World War I.

The organization has an impressive roster of past and



Commander in Chief Michael Okin and Chapter 234 Commander Jacques Loraine

present Commanders in Chief — including Maj. Gen. Douglas MacArthur — and its 91st Commander in Chief, retired Lt. Col. Michael Okin, is tasked with equipping and leading the nonprofit into the future.

Region 8 serves nine chapters in Texas, two in Oklahoma and one in Kansas. Serving in a dual capacity for MOWW as Vice Commander

of Region 8 and Commander of the North Texas MOWW Chapter 234 is retired U.S. Army Chief Warrant Officer 4 Jacques Loraine of Wylie. Loraine, a retired Raytheon executive, has an extensive background in Army intelligence and served in the Air Force.

Loraine first joined Dallas, one of the area's largest chapters, upon his retirement in

2016, but said he eventually found his way to the smaller North Texas chapter, “so he could get into more leadership functions.”

Aside from Loraine, the chapter's leadership includes retired U.S. Army Maj. Gen. Gary Bunch as Vice Commander, retired U.S. Marine Corps Chief Warrant Officer 5 Quint Avenetti as Adjutant and retired U.S. Air Force Captain Keith Barrett as Treasurer.

Under their leadership, the North Texas Chapter added new members to its roster, said Loraine, and, “re-committed to growing, doing things for the community by leveraging what we were doing very successfully for many years with youth leadership, JROTC, Scouting programs, Public Safety and First Re-

sponder community kinds of activities.”

Chapter 234 companions meet the third Tuesday of each month at the Bavarian Grill in Plano from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. for lunch and a program. Meeting programs, according to northtexasmoww.org, are focused on the chapter’s area of service to “our youth, our communities and our nation.”

One of the key goals of MOWW is to serve America’s youth through patriotic education and ceremonies. Loraine said the size of the North Texas chapter allows them to focus and expand upon things such as its Youth Leadership Program.

“We’ve had a good youth leadership conference environment within this region,” he said. “We set up, at the regional level, a coordination team that reaches out to universities, sets up the programs. Then, we have a core function at the chapter levels that reach out to the school systems to find the rising juniors and seniors at the high school level to be able to participate.”

Youth Leadership Conferences (YLC) are multi-day conferences attended by high

school students hosted by MOWW throughout the U.S.

Bunch, who serves as the Texas A&M University YLC Director, said “the multi-day YLCs are funded educational conferences that provide U.S. high school students the chance to develop leadership skills via patriotic education.”

YLC classes are led by skilled instructors and supervised by well-qualified team leaders and counselors. Class time is dedicated to leadership; U.S. government, U.S. history and the U.S. Constitution, Patriotism, and Americanism; and the Free Enterprise System and the U.S. economy.

“The expectation is that the students will return to their high schools with a better understanding of what a leader truly is, how they lead effectively and impart that knowledge to their peers,” Bunch said.

Students are initially culled with the aid of high school counselors, Loraine said, from the standard student body, “not just the JROTC.”

According to the YLC rules, Loraine said they are limited to a certain number of JROTC high school students they can bring to the program “because we don’t want it to be military focused.”

The program, Loraine joked, is really “all about civics on steroids” and includes topics that are “just not taught in the school system.”

This year, the chapter’s Youth Leadership Coordination team selected two Wylie AFJROTC students, Senior Treyden Hallan and Junior Christopher Troncoso, to represent the organization at the annual conference at Texas A&M University in June.

In September, Treyden



Christopher & Treyden

and Christopher were awarded the prestigious MOWW Youth Merit Medal by Loraine for “outstanding leadership and demonstrated patriotism” at the YLC.

“They consistently demonstrated powerful leadership, superb articulation, outstanding intellect and superior poise and self-confidence throughout the YLC Conference,” Loraine said.

Christopher said, “it really does serve as a good point of reference for how to lead and I am incredibly thankful for the opportunity to go not just to the conference, but for also being selected to receive the Youth Merit Medal by my peers.”

In the future, Loraine said MOWW hopes to bring students to the U.S. Capitol which would be “a very different selection process.”

MOWW also sponsors award programs for Reserve Officer Training Corps and JROTC cadets, Boy Scouts of America, and Girl Scouts of the USA. Additionally, chapters formally honor those who excel in national security, homeland security, and law and order arenas. Recently, the chapter awarded a Meritorious Service Award to Sean James, a Fate resident and U.S. Navy veteran, for rescuing three children from a burning car.

After several years of working “under the radar for youth in the City of Wylie,” Loraine said he, Bunch and chapter chaplain, Retired

Army Lt. Col. Robert Welch II briefed Wylie City Council in August on “The MOWW — who we are and what we do” to bring awareness to their nonprofit.

Because the chapter’s focus really is to serve their communities, Loraine pointed out that they support other veteran service-related entities such as Patriot Paws and Patriot Anglers, among others, as well.

The commander said they are also working to form a relationship with American Legions in Wylie and Rockwall “so we can get some synergies between the veteran’s organizations to do better things for the community.”

MOWW companions live by the motto, “It’s nobler to serve than be served.” And for those who want to continue serving their country as a patriot while working with youth, veterans and other community outreach programs, and getting the message out, eligibility is open to active duty, retired and former commissioned or warrant officers of the uniformed services of the United States.

When Loraine’s term as commander is complete, he plans to become even more active in youth leadership in what he describes as “one of the best, least known veteran’s organizations in America.” ↪



Vice Commander Gary Bunch



Chaplain Welch, Loraine & Bunch



On track for holiday fun

By Carrie Dunlea

Whether you're young, old, or somewhere in-between and want a memorable Christmas experience that doesn't involve long car rides looking at lights, grab your children, grandchildren, spouse, or a friend, and climb aboard one of Texas' many trains offering holiday excursions.

The Lone Star State's rail history dates all the way back to 1850 when train travel was first welcomed. And although route mileage has been gained and lost over the years, there's still plenty of opportunities to be transported back in time as you experience holiday merriment from a different vantage point.

The Texas State Railroad, known as the "Official Railroad of Texas" is a great place to start your journey, whether for The Polar Express Train Ride in November or December — or to join in on one of



its many railroad excursions happening throughout the year.

The 1-hour Polar Express excursion starts in Palestine, just a 2-hour ride from Northeast Collin County. Once on-board, you'll enjoy an immersive experience as chefs serve hot chocolate and cookies while reciting *The Polar Express* by Chris Van Allsburg.

It's a memory you'll cherish forever, especially when you stop at the North Pole, where Santa and his elves hop on board to give passengers

a keepsake silver sleigh bell. The merriment doesn't stop there, however, as you'll sing Christmas carols along with the chefs on your journey back to the train depot.

There's an assortment of seating options and prices for this special journey including the Dome Class, Presidential Class, Presidential Coach, First Class and Coach. Book your golden ticket early at texasstaterailroad.net as these excursions to the "North Pole" sell out fast.

If your holiday travel plans

involve a trip to Central Texas, book your tickets now to hop aboard the **North Pole Flyer** which departs from the Betram Train Depot, located south of Austin. This 2-hour excursion is a fantastic opportunity to get some facetime with Santa and Mrs. Claus, drink hot chocolate and eat cookies, all while experiencing a live reading of the North Pole Flyer book.

Santa stays on board for this journey and visits each car to deliver a memorable gift to children and pose for photos. Mrs. Claus stays busy making sure the children get their Christmas lists completed.

Tickets for the North Pole Flyer are based on Silver and Gold departure dates; Silver dates are November 26-27 and December 3-4, and Gold dates are December 10-11 and 17-18. Gold passengers experience on-board caroling

>>> continues on page 12

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>>> continued from page 10

Fun

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If you want to spend the night, the **Austin Steam Train Association** has partnered with the Austin/Cedar Park Hyatt Place (Hyatt.com) so guests can relax and enjoy the experience or explore the Capitol in Austin just a short car trip away.

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If an excursion within the Metroplex is what you're looking for, then head to Grapevine, the city that calls itself "The Christmas Capital of Texas."

Start your journey at the Cotton Belt Historic District for **The North Pole Express**, an experience not unlike the others, riding in restored 1925 coaches with either a First Class or Touring Class ticket. This train ride is hosted by Mrs. Claus and includes a souvenir ticket, silver bell for children, cookies, milk served in a keepsake mug, Santa's Workshop Broadway-style show, a keepsake Santa photo, and a stroll through a snowy Christmas Village Forest.

For adults 21 and over, plan a girls' or couples' night out and book a ticket to ride the **Christmas Wine Train**. The trains depart from either the Grapevine location or the Fort Worth location inside the historic Stockyards.

The journey lasts approximately 90 minutes to 2 hours. General admission tickets include two 4-ounce glasses of Texas wine, commemorative wine glass, and individually portioned savory bites with dessert and other goodies. If you book a Premier Class ticket for a table of four, you'll



receive a meal and an additional glass of wine.

Families who want to make a weekend out of the Grapevine trip can take advantage of multiple holiday happenings in this festive city. The Grapevine Christmas Passport – Elf Adventure, located at the Cotton Belt Railroad District, allows visitors to visit Millican's Blacksmith Shop, the Grapevine Tin Shop, the Cotton Belt Route Section Foreman House, and the historic Cotton Belt Depot, to make unique items and collect passport stamps along the way.

Before you visit, be sure to check the schedule for the Palace Theatre in historic downtown Grapevine. This year, there's a variety of Christmas concerts and live performances planned, including *The Nutcracker*, Comedian William Lee Martin, an Elvis Christmas Special, The Texas Tenors and much more.

If you miss the opportunity to catch one of the Christmas trains, check out what Grapevine refers to as the "**After Christmas Trains**" that run December 26-30. While there's no wine, cocoa, or Santa on this train, you'll experience "The Great Train Heist" and help a special agent catch a notorious robber as you ride from the Cotton Belt Station to the Stockyards in Fort Worth. All

that excitement is rewarded with time at the Stockyards before you climb aboard to begin your journey back to Grapevine.

To book your tickets for any of the Grapevine events or to search for hotel packages and much more, visit grapevინetexasusa.com.

If the goal is to get out of the DFW area, train enthusiasts can head east to Jefferson for a unique experience aboard the **Christmas Express**, a narrow-gauge gas locomotive. The open-air train departs every weekend in December three times per day. Passengers will experience vignettes along the Cypress Bayou River about Christmas Across America — and depending on the time of day you chose — some excursions include lighted vignettes.

To purchase tickets, visit jeffersonrailway.com.

If you plan to stay in Jefferson for a few days, the historic city hosts a Wassail Walk December 5 and a Candlelight Tour of Homes December 5-7 and 10-12. Step back in time as you tour four homes, including two Queen Anne Victorians, and stroll through an Enchanted Forest of 112 decorated and lighted Christmas trees in Lions Park.

Make reservations today at jeffersoncandlelight.com.

Closer to home, tour the **KCS Holiday Express** Christmas Train when it stops in historic downtown Wylie at Oak Street and Birmingham December 3 at 4 p.m. Visitors can board the six-car train decorated for the holidays that includes a gingerbread box car, an elves' workshop, a reindeer stable and a red caboose. Children can visit Santa and his elves and pose for photos outside with a smiling tank car named Rudy.

No tickets are needed for this special event and the train stays at the location until everyone has toured its cars.

Don't chug along waiting for the perfect time to book a holiday excursion. Take a break from your routine — and Hallmark movies — and start a new tradition as you board a train bound for Christmas memories that will last a lifetime. ↪





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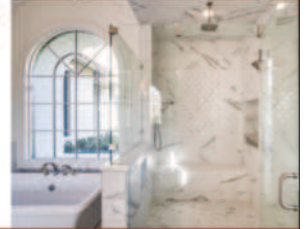
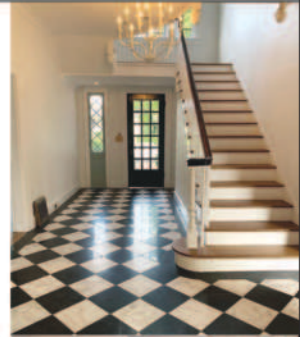
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Fostering support

Nonprofit looks to assist teens aging out of foster care

By Sonia Duggan

Turning 18 is considered an exciting milestone for teens as they cross the threshold into adulthood, often with family and friends by their side.

But for an estimated 1,200 Texas teens aging out of foster care each year, their 18th birthday signifies the end of what little stability they may have as they are suddenly faced with making adult life decisions.

“The reality is that once these kids age out, turn 18 and graduate from high school, the child welfare system is done with them,” said Brady Cottle, founder and executive director of the nonprofit Love Looks Like This.

“And in many ways,” he continued, “the kids who are aging out are done with being raised institutionally.” As a result, he said teens often choose not to participate



in the Texas Department of Family Services extended foster care program.

The knowledge of what these young adults must conquer on their own, along with a passion for ministry — specifically orphan care — is what prompted Brady and his wife, Misty, to move forward and launch their nonprofit in late March after 14 years of

renewing the Love Looks Like This domain name.

“We renewed that domain name year after year after year with the knowledge at some point, we would do something,” he said.

In March, Brady, an insurance agent for the past five years, said he came to a point where he decided he had to do something that was con-

nected to his heart.

Since receiving the official paperwork for LLLT and advancing with their plans, Brady said, “it began to have a lot of traction” from professionals in the industry around youth and foster care and grew from there.

The goal, Brady said, other than “to make it the favorite nonprofit of Farmersville” is to fill in the gap where kids are left off by creating a foundation for them by facilitating mentorships, education and training, improving self-advocacy and building circles of support.

When he speaks about building circles of support, Brady said what they’re doing is helping kids in the program build “their own community from the ground up.”

One way is to provide really practical resources, he added, including budgeting,

how to make a grocery list and shop for groceries, how to look for jobs, how to interview, how to understand a credit score, how to figure out transportation and much more.

There's no doubt support is needed for teens aging out of foster care, and unfortunately there are some unfavorable statistics tied to this select group.

According to the National Center for Housing and Child Welfare, 1 in 4 of America's foster youth are homeless within four years of leaving foster care.

Other statistics are equally alarming, noted Brady, including the fact that "one in every two young males who age out of foster care end up incarcerated before age 24."

In addition, he said, those who age out "have high exposure to violence, lack of education and continued education, even though the system itself offers college education."

As the program director for Treasured Vessels Foundation, a nonprofit that aids victims of sex trafficking, Misty knows what can happen to these youth. She said that the National Foster Youth Institute recently estimated that 60 percent of child sex trafficking victims have been within foster care.

And once they age out, experts say the risk of being trafficked increases even more.

Another factor that greatly affects teens that are no longer in foster care is transportation. Once they are no longer

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living with a foster family, they lose their ability to get to school or work, said Brady.

"There's low rates of mobility in this group, and between 1% and 3% actually get a driver's license," he said. "So, if a person who ages out is in a rural or semi-rural community like Farmersville — think about the (lack of) access of public transportation or even options like Uber or Lyft."

The Cottles, both native Texans, have lived in Farmersville for five years. They both have worked in and out of professional jobs, Brady said, but "we've always been had our hand in ministry."

They served fulltime in missions and church planting, first with a church plant in Dallas' Oaklawn area before leaving Texas to serve in Hawaii and Oregon as missionaries with Youth with a Mission (YWAM).

As parents of eight children, ages 21, 19, 18, 17, 17, 15, 13 and 11, six of them, Brady said, "came to our home through foster care, but with the idea that adoption is the goal."

This year, three of them are seniors; two homeschool and one at Farmersville High School.

"It's going to be a fun year," he said, adding that "two of them work full time and do school."

Knowing how expensive senior year activities can be for his own family, Brady said LLLT put together what they call senior micro grants, \$1,000 for an 18-year-old's senior events, "senior photos, formal and informal events, all those things cost money" for kids in the program.

Additionally, a McKinney photographer and a local barber have donated their services to aid seniors in the program.

They currently have a local teen that has a host family, he said, so "it's been fun to see our local community really rally around a local senior."

When he's not working as an insurance agent, Brady said he's working on Love Looks Like This.

"Starting a nonprofit is like starting any new business — budget issues, social media... right now, it's primarily Misty and I who are doing all the groundwork," he said.

LLLT is recruiting volunteers and coaches now, Brady said, "who will go out and spend time with these identified participants of our program."

He aspires to create a model — or even a movement — to follow, he said, or "at least that process that people can follow even if we're not around."

"I've never been a person that is been limited by what's possible, you know, or what people perceive to be possible," he said.

With the large number of teens aging out of foster care every year, Brady said, "we can only focus on a on a targeted geographic area for now until we grow."

"I'm really thinking at this point, our focus is to make a difference in the life of one person at a time." ↪



Keep it simple & seasonal

Thanksgiving dinners don't have to be a stressful affair. If you're hosting a small gathering this year, try this recipe from "Simple Soirées: Seasonal Menus for Sensational Dinner Parties" (Stewart, Tabori & Chang) by Peggy Knickerbocker. It only takes about an hour and is a flavorful option for holiday meals.

Poulet au Vinaigre | Serves 6 to 8

- 12 chicken thighs (about 3 to 4 pounds), bone in
- Salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 4 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- 6 shallots, minced
- 6 cloves garlic, minced
- ½ cup apple cider vinegar
- 1 ½ cups dry white wine
- 1 tablespoon tomato paste
- 1 ½ cups chicken stock, preferably homemade
- ½ cup chopped Italian parsley



Season the chicken generously with salt and pepper to taste. In a large, deep skillet (big enough to hold all chicken close together; or use two skillets), melt 3 tablespoons of the butter in 1 tablespoon of the olive oil over medium-high heat. Brown the chicken for about 8 minutes, turning so both sides get nicely browned. Transfer the chicken to a deep, broad, ovenproof casserole that can go from the oven to the table. Remove the skillet from the

heat and pour off most of the fat.

Preheat the oven to 375 F. Place the skillet back over medium heat and add the remaining 1 tablespoon butter and 1 tablespoon olive oil. Add the shallots and garlic and cook for about 1 minute, or until they become translucent. Add the vinegar and wine and stir up the crispy bits that have stuck to the bottom of the pan. Allow the liquids to cook down a bit, stirring occasionally, for about 8 minutes. Whisk in the tomato paste and let the sauce simmer and condense, about 5 minutes more. Then add the chicken stock, a little at a time. Keep stirring to mix well.

Pour the sauce over the chicken. Bake for 35 to 45 minutes until the chicken is very tender, turning the chicken pieces halfway through, so that both sides are infused with the sauce. Remove one thigh and cut into it to make sure it is done and no red juices flow from the cut. Remove the casserole from the oven, sprinkle the parsley on top, and serve.



Tropical Brown Sugar Carrots | Serves 8

There's nothing simpler than carrot served as a side dish. Try this recipe, courtesy of Holiday Slow Cooker (Page Street Publishing) by Leigh Anne Wilkes.

- 2 lbs. carrots, peeled and cut into 1-inch pieces
- 2 tbsp butter
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- 1 cup drained crushed pineapple
- 1/3 cup pineapple juice
- Fresh parsley, for garnish

Place the carrots in a 6-quart slow cooker.

In a saucepan over medium heat, melt the butter. Add the brown sugar, pineapple, and pineapple juice. Stir to combine and pour it over the carrots.

Cover and cook on high for 2 to 3 hours or on low for 4 hours. The time may vary depending on the size of your carrots. I like to remove the lid for the last 30 to 40 minutes to allow the carrots to absorb some of the juices in the slow cooker.

Sprinkle with fresh parsley for garnish, if desired.

Cranberry Margarita | Serves 1

- 1 ½ shots of tequila
- 1 shot of cranberry juice cocktail
- ¼ cup of whole berry cranberry sauce
- ½ shot of triple sec
- 10 ice cubes
- Lime, for garnish

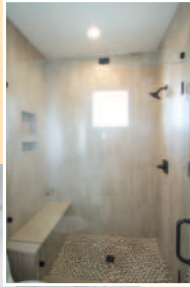
Combine all ingredients except garnish in a blender. Blend on high until smooth and frosty. Serve in a margarita glass. Garnish with dried cranberries and a lime wheel.

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Before the big meal, gifts and cherished moments at the family table, almost every holiday party starts with an important tradition: breaking the ice. This year, you can serve up a smile and start the party with this crave-inducing appetizer to get everyone talking.

The sweet touch of Roasted Garlic Whipped Feta Crostini can be your delightful way to brighten the season of gifts and gatherings. With its creamy cheesiness from a homemade whipped topping boasting the richness of feta and whole milk, it's an easy and tasty way to invite friends, family and neighbors into your home. This shareable treat comes together in a cinch while adding pops of cheerful color to plates and platters.

Find more holiday recipe inspiration at MilkMeansMore.org.

FAMILY FEATURES

Roasted Garlic Whipped Feta Crostini

Prep: 10 minutes | Cook time: 10 minutes | Servings: 16

- 1 bulb garlic (about 12 cloves)
- 4 tablespoons olive oil, plus additional for drizzling, divided
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt, divided
- 1 ½ teaspoons pepper divided
- 32 baguette slices
- 8 ounces feta cheese
- ½ cup whole milk, plus additional, if necessary (optional)
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- ½ cup pomegranate seeds
- ¼ cup parsley, minced

Preheat oven to 400 F. Slice garlic bulb in half, exposing garlic heads, and place in center of large piece of tinfoil. Drizzle each half with 2 tablespoons olive oil, 1/2 teaspoon salt and 1/2 teaspoon pepper. Wrap foil tightly around garlic and roast until caramelized, about 30 minutes.

Place baguette slices on large baking sheet and drizzle with olive oil. Bake on second rack in oven until golden brown about 10 minutes; set aside.

In high-speed food processor, pulse feta cheese, milk, lemon juice, remaining salt, remaining pepper and roasted garlic cloves until whipped and creamy, adding more milk as needed to reach desired consistency. Check for seasoning and adjust, to taste.

To serve, spread each baguette slice with whipped feta and sprinkle with pomegranate seeds and minced parsley.

Recipe courtesy of Liz Della Croce of "The Lemon Bowl" on behalf of MilkMeansMore.org



Apple and Sausage Stuffing | serves 8 | prep time: 20 minutes | cook time: 50 minutes

Up your stuffing game with this festive and flavorful recipe from *The Effortless Entertaining Cookbook* (Page Street Publishing) by Meredith Steele

- 1 tbsp grapeseed or canola oil
- 1 lb. Italian pork bulk sausage
- 1 cup yellow onion, diced
- 1 cup celery, diced
- 1 cup Granny Smith apples, diced
- 2 garlic cloves, minced
- 2 cups chicken stock
- 3 large eggs, beaten
- 2 tbsp fresh sage, chopped
- 1/2 tsp kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp fresh ground black pepper
- 1 lb. whole grain seeded bread, cubed
- 4 tbsp butter, cubed

In a large sauté pan, heat oil over medium heat. Add sausage and cook until browned, breaking into pieces with a spoon, about 8 to 10 minutes. Remove sausage to a large bowl. Add onion, celery, apples and garlic to the pan and sauté until apples are soft, about 5 minutes, then add to sausage. Add chicken stock, eggs, sage, salt, and pepper and stir to combine. Can be made 1 day ahead and stored covered in the refrigerator until needed—allow to sit at room temperature for 30 minutes before cooking.

Preheat oven to 350 degrees F. Place bread on a baking sheet and toast until slightly golden, about 10 minutes. Add to sausage mixture and fold to coat.

Pour into a buttered 9 x 13-inch baking dish and equally distribute cubed butter over. Bake, uncovered, for 50 minutes or until cooked through.

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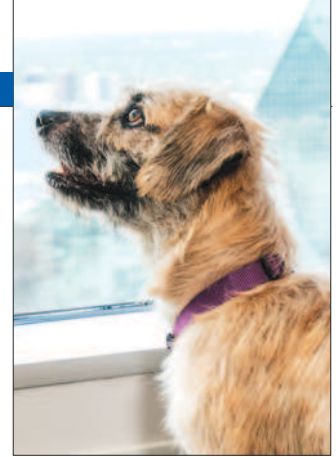


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I&A PET OF THE MONTH

Franklin needs a forever home



Franklin is a Dachshund /Terrier mix who is about 3 years old and weighs 24 lbs. He was found living on the streets as a stray and is learning quickly how great it is to live in a house!

Franklin is good with other dogs, but he's a bit wary of humans at first. He warms up to women right away but takes his time getting to know men. Once he trusts you though, you've got a friend for life. Franklin will follow you anywhere and everywhere!

Franklin is a very loving boy and is working hard on all his training so that he can

be the best dog he can be. His biggest goals right now are to finish his potty training (he's so close!) and learning to stay calm and relaxed in his kennel. He's full of life and a little silly, so after working on his training he loves playing, belly rubs, and snuggles.

Franklin had a rough start to life but that hasn't stopped him from being a wonderful, faithful companion. To help him continue living the good life in a loving home, please apply to adopt him today at www.pawsinthecity.org



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Calendar of Events



To submit a family-friendly event for our calendar, visit inaroundmag.com. Scroll down home page to the Events Calendar, then “click” to submit an event.

November 2

Coventry Reserve Christmas Open House & Pottery Sale, 5-9 p.m., 2004 Parker Rd., St. Paul. *Continues Dec. 3 from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.*

Fall Festival and Pumpkin Toss at In-Sync Exotics. Gates open at 11 a.m. Online auction, cakewalk, kids crafts and more. *Insyncexotics.org*

November 4

St. Jude Craft Fair - 9 a.m. – 5 p.m., St. Jude Catholic Church, 1515 E. Greenville, Allen. Featuring vendors with assorted craft, gift items, lunch and more. *Continues through Nov. 5 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m.*

November 8

Election Day

November 11

Wylie ISD AFJROTC’s annual Veterans Day Program. Begins at 10:40 a.m. at Wylie Stadium. Includes AFJROTC units from Wylie High and Wylie East High School.

November 18

Vintage Radio & Phonography Society Convention, DoubleTree Hotel, 1981 N. Central Expwy., Dallas. *Continues through Nov. 20*

November 24

Thanksgiving

December 1

Christmas in the Park, 5:30 - 8 p.m. City Hall Complex, 206 N. Murphy Rd., Murphy - Sidewalk parade, tree lighting and more

December 3

Kansas City Southern Holiday Express train stops near downtown Wylie, 4 p.m. on Oak Street

Wylie Arts Festival, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The Cross Church Event Center, 112 S. Ballard Ave.

Lucas Farmers Market and Country Christmas, noon, Lucas City Hall

December 4

Annual Wylie Christmas parade down Ballard Avenue, 6-7 p.m. followed by the tree lighting ceremony in Olde City Park, 112 S. Ballard Avenue

December 7

City of Sachse Christmas Extravaganza with parade at 6 p.m. down Miles Road followed by tree lighting at City Hall at 7 p.m. and much more





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