

RUNNING SHORTS

Lots of places to run in Texas, the U.S. and around the globe

By Darren Grant

This spring, Walker County residents were running all over—all over Texas, all over the U.S., and even all over the world! Let's catch up on what some of them have been doing.

Our farthest-flung runner this spring might have been Maria Wicker, who completed in the London Marathon in 5:20:34 on April 23. This is one of the world's most prestigious marathons, topped perhaps only by...

...the Boston Marathon, which Jason Wallace ran on Apr. 17, finishing in 4:02:07. Just running Boston is a huge achievement, as it is so difficult to qualify. Jason says, "The crowd in Boston was unbelievable. They cheered like you were the first person they had seen all day, and there were almost 28,000 runners."

Huntsville will have another resident running Boston in 2018. Correctional officer and recent SHSU graduate Jose Torres qualified by running 3:02:28 at the Little Rock Marathon on Mar. 5.

And sometimes, the first step is the hardest. Finishing that first 5K ever is a big deal. In that number were youngsters Jake and Sharon Holland, at the Spring Fling in Elkins Lake on Apr. 22.

Neon for Neurons, a "glow run," was held on May 5 out by the hospital, to raise funds and get out the word about stroke prevention. Glow runs are great. They are held in the evening, with glow sticks and glow paint, and to double the fun this one had rock climbing and bounce houses, and a full Mexican dinner served afterwards. No wonder 650 people showed up!

This month the Seven Hills Running Club hosts a 5K and 1 mile run on the morning of Memorial Day, with breakfast served afterwards. Ken Johnson, club member for many years and Running Shorts columnist for ten, hosts this run, which begins and ends at his house on Timberwilde Drive. Entry fees are minimal and the public is invited. It's a great way to kick off the summer!

(Ken also compiles the "Recent Race Results" section of this column. Please send your race results to him at 1941runner@sbcglobal.net.)

Recent race results:

Pink 5K, The Woodlands, May 13

Cindy Pate, 56 38:09

Run the Woodlands 5K, The Woodlands, May 13

Ken Johnson, 75 38:38

Sunday Night 5K, The Woodlands, May 7

Ken Johnson, 75 37:26

Santo de Mayo 5K, Houston, May 7

Keith Ahee, 38 19:41

Josh's Superhero 5K, Waskom, May 6

Steve Allen, 45 21:51

Cinco de Mayo 5K, Houston, May 6

Ken Johnson, 75 36:52

Texas 10 Series, Sienna, Missouri City, Apr. 30

10 Miles

Jason Wallace, 42 1:09:48

Steve Allen, 45 1:14:05

Patrick Lewis, 52 1:19:42

Angelina Santos, 52 1:22:01

Steve Bickford, 56 1:27:13

5 Miles

Francisco Manzanares, 17 46:51

Cathy Bickford, 55 1:01:35

Dianna Sarno, 55 1:02:59

Ray Sarno, 70 1:03:00

LP Run (run as far as you can in 33 1/3 minutes), Rice Track, Houston, Apr. 29

Dan Byrne, 58 5.1 miles

Upcoming races in Huntsville:

May 20 – Five-0 Color Run, 5K & 1-Mile

May 29 – Memorial Day 5K & 1-Mile, Timberwilde Sub-division

June 17 – June Bug 5K & 1-Mile, Spring Lake Sub-division

June 18 – Gator Bait Trail Run, 13.1 Miles, 15K & 5K, Huntsville State Park

For more information about these races and others in the area, visit the Seven Hills Running Club website at <http://www.7hills.us> and click on Race Schedule.