

NORTHLAND CHRISTIAN Connection

One Faith, One Family, One Legacy

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ALUMNI SPOTLIGHT - Rachael (Sherwin) Carter
(Class of 1997)



"Upon its creation, the leadership of Northland Christian School set the example of what it means to be a family that works together, plays together, and prays together. NCS is a family that encourages the best, honors God, and changes lives for eternity."
-Lovee Sherwin

Rachael (Sherwin) Carter attended Northland from the age of two until she graduated from high school in 1997. After graduating from Northland in 1997, Rachael attended college at Abilene Christian University where she reunited with Brad Carter, her future husband, whom she originally met at church camp. After graduating from ACU in 2001, Brad and Rachael married and began life in Abilene where Rachael worked on a Master's degree. Shortly after, God introduced His plan for the Carter family and they added three beautiful daughters (Elie, Caroline, and Annie) over the following years.

In May of 2012, Rachael and Brad answered the Lord's call and moved, along with their three young girls, to Swaziland (now Eswatini) in Africa where Brad served as the president of African Christian College. Rachael served faithfully beside him for twelve years teaching classes on campus and as an encourager to the entire ACC community. During that time, Rachael was best known for scheduling reading times with the children of students on campus. She also taught students organic practices, sustainability, and created the Locavore Farmer's Market. This market sells organic produce, fresh baked goods, homemade ice cream, and handmade items. Another product sold at the market is macadamia honey from the macadamia orchard on campus. This orchard is a primary source of tuition funding for students and they all work together to maintain and harvest the macadamia nuts to help cover tuition costs and expenses. Rachael and Brad returned to Texas in December of 2024 to oversee the processing and distribution of the macadamia products. The products of their labor are sold online under the label Ukwazi Macadamia as well as in the bulk nut sections of HEB and Central Market stores.

The Sherwin family has a long and rich history at Northland. Rachael's sister, Amy, is a graduate of the class of 1986 and her brother, Jonathan, attended for a time as well. Some of you likely remember Rachael's parents, Woody and Lovee Sherwin. Lovee began teaching at Northland in 1977 and was a beloved preschool teacher for many

years. In addition to teaching, Lovee also developed our Pre-K program, served as Early Childhood Director, and computerized the Elementary library. Lovee wrapped up her 29.5 years of faithful service to Northland by teaching computer classes to our 3rd-5th grade classes.

Though Woody has received his heavenly reward and Lovee has retired to Abilene to be near Amy and her family, the Sherwin family will always remain a treasured piece of Northland's history. They are wonderful examples of how servant leadership and the Northland community work to change the lives of students and families for eternity - even in Eswatini, Africa.

Business Partnership Spotlight - The Lanier Law Firm



The Lanier Law Firm sponsors and funds the Northland Debate team. As former high school competitors, the Lanier's have been long-time supporters of speech and debate. The Lanier's founded the Northland Debate Program in 2004 and have continued to support the program for the past 21 years. The support of the Lanier Law Firm has allowed Northland's Debate Program to make a name for itself on local and national circuits. We are truly grateful for their support!

There are many benefits included in becoming a Northland Christian business partner. Click the link below to discover more!

[Business Partnership Information](#)

ELEMENTARY

Muffins with Mom

On October 16th, our Cougar Cubs and their Mamas enjoyed our annual *Muffins with Mom* event! It was a time spent honoring the wonderful women in our lives, while reflecting with a heart of gratitude and thankfulness for them. Students and Moms chatted and savoured yummy treats while watching a heartfelt slideshow, created by our very own Mrs. Blossom, and Mrs. Maw delivered a touching message full of reminders of ways we can continue to honor and exemplify our love to our treasured Mothers. We offer our sincere thanks to all the moms and special guests who attended the event! We were so glad to see you and spend time witnessing your love and devotion to your precious children.

We are also grateful to our Student Council members for providing service for the event. Not only did they do a fantastic job, but they worked with the exuberance of a cheerful heart! Thanks guys!









Storybook Parade

This is no trick! The Cougar Cubs ended this month with a bang! Our annual Storybook Parade saw many smiling faces and all sorts of fun and interesting characters! Students and faculty paraded through campus and it was a sweet treat for all who saw!





Pre K Field Trip

Our Pre-K classes visited The Woodlands Children's Museum for a fun-filled field trip. The children loved exploring the exhibits and engaging in hands-on activities that brought learning to life. A big thank-you to our parent chaperones and teachers for helping make the day such a success!



First Grade Field Trip

On Thursday, October 16, the first grade had the privilege of touring Daikin Park-home of the World Champion Astros! Our guide led us around the park and allowed us access to many special areas, including where the reporters work and the train that celebrates Astros home runs. One highlight for the students was sitting inside the Astros dugout. First grader Alden stated, "Learning how to make baseballs was cool!" The teachers had a fantastic time and want to send a shout-out to the amazing parent chaperones. It was a "home run" day!



Third Grade Field Trip

Horseback riding, fishing, and archery, oh my!
Earlier this month, our 3rd grade Cougars had an adventure at Camp Olympia, where they learned all about wilderness survival, tried their hand at archery, caught a few fish, and rode a couple of horses!

Thanks, Mrs. Norwood for leading such a camp-tastic trip; s'more the best!





Elementary Fishing Tournament



Hold on to your reels!

Our Cougar Cubs had a very successful Fishing Tournament, led by Coach Jeff Martin!
The 2025 NCS Big Bass Tournament places, with pounds of fish caught, are as follows:

6th- Nolan Richard
5th- Amelia Ortega with 2lbs
4th- Camilla Ortega with 5lbs
3rd- Hanson Kiley with 6lbs
2nd- Barrett Kiley with 7lbs
1st Evelyn Jaeger with 16lbs

BIG BASS AWARD winner:
Evelyn Jaeger

These kiddos weren't squidding around!
Congratulations, guys!





Flag Football

A note from Coach Jones,

As a coach I look for what needs to be developed from my student athletes and the boys are usually the ones that show so much promise. As a dad I look to see how my daughter is measuring up to the standard I have set for her so the girls get more "dad coach" than the boys do.

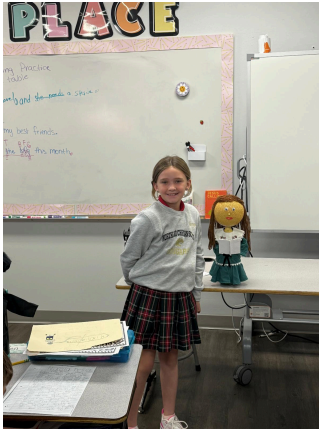
Seeing all my students that have come out for flag football fills my heart and watching them have fun as they get better at the game is what the "coach" part of me enjoys the most. The best is yet to come and all the kids are doing very well in the new developing flag football program at NCS.



Fourth Grade Bottle Biography Project

Fourth graders completed a research project in early October! They got to choose a famous person to research, conduct research, and then write a paragraph about their figure to share

with the class. Students also created models of their figure out of a soda bottle. Their soda bottle models were spectacular!



Elementary Praise and Worship Team

The Elementary Praise and Worship team has had a busy October! They have led worship at 3 chapels and also an early morning faculty praise and worship time! They meet on Friday mornings to learn new worship songs to teach and lead in chapel. Great job Elementary Praise and Worship team!

5th graders: Allison Ramirez, Shelby James, Jennifer Trieu, Lillian Jabori, Henry Zachary, Duke Owens, Ramona Congdon, Emilie Durdin, Annie Nguyen, Emme Bekker, Kennedy Williams (not pictured)

The team is led by Tamara Nelson, NCS Elementary Music and Honor Choir Director.



SECONDARY

Spiritual Renewal Day

Secondary students, teachers, and staff joined together in worship on Spiritual Renewal Day coordinated by Mrs. Harmann and Mrs. McCathran. This is a day dedicated to reaffirming and growing our faith as a school community. This year's event was hosted by Champion Forest Baptist Church and a fantastic lunch from

Cane's was provided by our wonderful PTO. During this time together, students worshiped while being led by a phenomenal worship band, spent time together in their life groups, built relationships playing games, and participated in a service project. It is always a blessing to see our students giving praise, glory, honor, and thanks to the Lord who has blessed us all so richly.





James and the Giant Peach

Northland's Fine Arts Department rivals all schools both large and small. We witnessed this again as Mrs. Jurick and cast members performed their fall musical, *James and the Giant Peach*. Students auditioned for parts in the spring and began working on their roles several months ago. Following a grueling tech week, the show came together and was performed brilliantly! The students were prepared, rehearsed, entertaining, and the audience thoroughly enjoyed all three performances. Joining the cast but performing in the orchestra pit were a few members of another shining Fine Arts star, our orchestra program. Greg and Danielle practiced countless hours preparing for the show and were joined by Mrs. Hearn in the pit. Finally, the students were coached so well by our Secondary Choir Director, Mrs. Aimee Bowles. How blessed we are to have programs that complement each other so well. Congratulations to all on a WONDERFUL SHOW!

Mrs. Jurick would like to recognize her fabulous cast and crew: Loghan, Hallie, Ben, Matthew, Abi, Lily, Quinton, Tabitha, Nyla, Cydney, Adela, Cadence, Briseis, Brooklyn, Makayleigh, Lillian, Skylar, and Christina.

Stage Manager: Tyler
 Sound and Tech: Aidan and Lloyd
 Backstage Support: Celeste





Life Groups

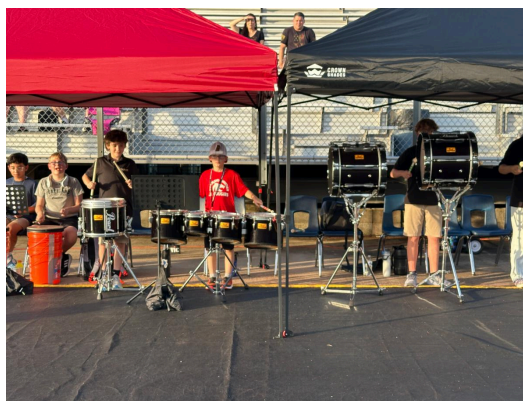


Secondary Life Groups kicked off earlier this month. Life Groups are a fantastic way to connect with God, each other, and as a campus. Our younger grades are able to learn from older Life Group leaders and that time spent learning together is a blessing to young and old.

Northland Christian Drumline

The Northland Christian Drumline and Bucket Brigade "Sound of Spirit" is reaching out to High School, Middle School, and Elementary school students who would like to become members of this special group of students. No prior experience is necessary, only a desire to share your energy and school spirit at football games, basketball games, pep rallies, and special school events. Please contact Brother Patrick at bcallahan@northlandchristian.org

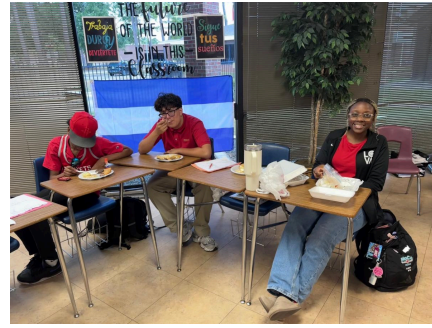
The Cougar Drumline kept us all in rhythm on Friday at the Pep Rally and Varsity football game. Brother Patrick does a fantastic job leading students from both the Elementary and Secondary student bodies!



Celebrating Cultures in Spanish Class

Ms. Acosta's Spanish classes spent some time this month studying different cultures and presenting to their classes what they have learned. After the presentations, they were able to enjoy foods from each culture. This is always a highlight in our foreign language department!





World Geography Plays Destination X

Mrs. Bazunu's 9th grade World Geography classes competed in a "worldwide" scavenger hunt game of Destination X using their recently gained knowledge of Latin America. Students traveled all over campus following clues given by different teachers. They used these clues to find Destination X - a Latin American landmark. The winners received a free trip to the campus coffee shop!



Fine Arts Chapel

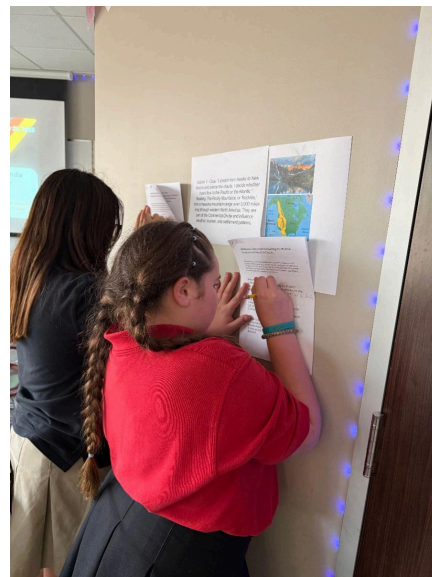
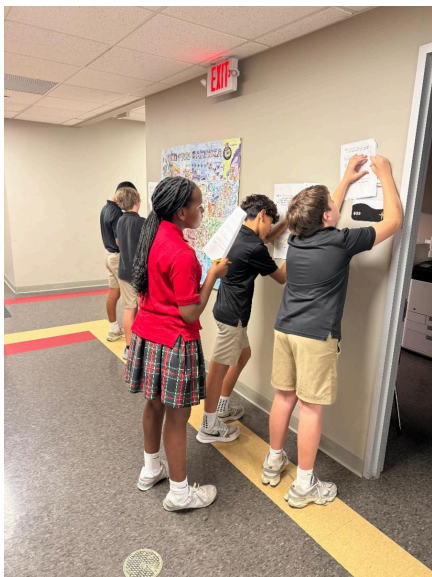
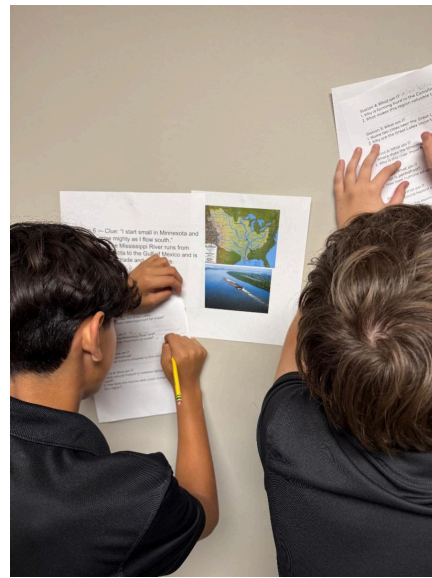
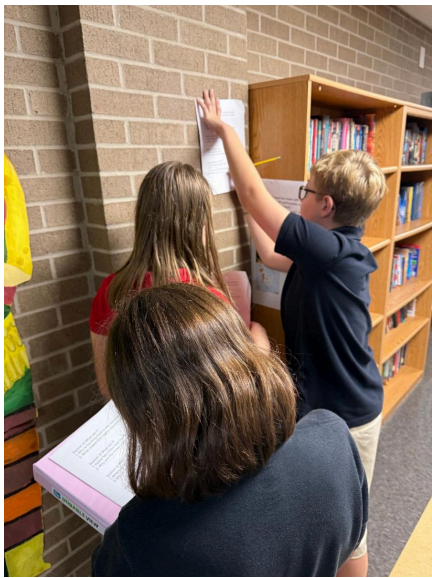
We recently worshiped during Chapel while being led by Northland's phenomenal fine arts department! Mrs. Bowles' choirs sang beautifully, Mrs. Hearn's orchestra was phenomenal, and Mr. Menees' students had beautiful artwork inspired by Scripture on display. Our sound guy, Aidan O'Kelley, used his talents to keep everything on track and sounding perfect. We are so blessed, at Northland, to use the gifts with which God has blessed us to worship Him!



Social Studies Statues and Gallery Walk

Sixth grade students in Mrs. Bazunu's class got "hands on" during their studies on Latin America. They were able to create Moai statues out of play-doh!

Mrs. Bazunu also had her sixth grade social studies classes complete a Gallery Walk. She incorporated this walk as a way to engage students as they learn about major geographic landforms in the U.S. and Canada.



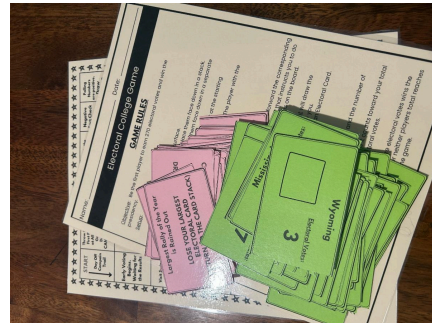
Growing Smarter by Snacking in Science

Sixth and seventh grade science classes demonstrated the rock cycle and the phases of mitosis using some of their favorite treats! Sixth graders, in earth science, demonstrated (using Starburst "sediments") how rocks change form through weathering, erosion, heat and pressure. Seventh graders used Oreos, sprinkles, and Skittles to model the phases of mitosis including interphase and cytokinesis. These were fun days in our middle school science classes!



Government and the Electoral College

Government students were divided into pairs and each pair played the Electoral College game to illustrate the complexities of the Electoral College process that ultimately elects our President every 4 years. Campaign cards quizzed them over the specifics of the process while electoral college cards were awarded for correct answers to the questions. The game concluded when one of the two students had 270 electoral votes.



Orchestra Ovations

Congratulations to all the Middle School Orchestra students who auditioned for TMEA Region 33 orchestra last week. Almost 400 students auditioned and our students did amazing!

Congrats to 8th graders Bella Shaffer, Cailey Owens, Izzy Calle and Sophia Jones who all earned a spot in the Philharmonic, second orchestra.

And congratulations to our students who got in the top Symphony Orchestra, 6th grader Caleb Beatty who beat over 150 violins, and 7th grade violists Warren Burhan and Aiden Shives who got in the top 10!





ATHLETICS

FCA is off to a Strong Start

Both high school and middle school have kicked off their Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) meetings for the 2025-2026 school year. Both meetings had a full house and were led by Mr. Driver as well as speakers Connor Hernandez and Jamie Clark. Northland Christian athletes are equipping themselves to shine His light! A big "thank you" to Mrs. Beatty and Mrs. Leard for providing lunches for the FCA attendees!



Varsity Volleyball

Our Cougar Varsity Volleyball team caught fire just as district play began. They finished 8-2 in district and ended the regular season as TAPPS 4A District 6 Champions with the playoffs scheduled to begin next week! Way to go, ladies!





Varsity Football and Cheer

Northland's Varsity football and cheer teams celebrated Senior Night earlier this month. The seniors, Jackson, Spencer, and Reilly led the Cougars to an 84-36 victory over Allen Academy. They were cheered on by fellow seniors Emma, Ariel, and Makena. Each senior was recognized and shared their favorite scripture and plans for the future. These Cougars are certainly leaving a legacy!





Cross Country Cruises to State

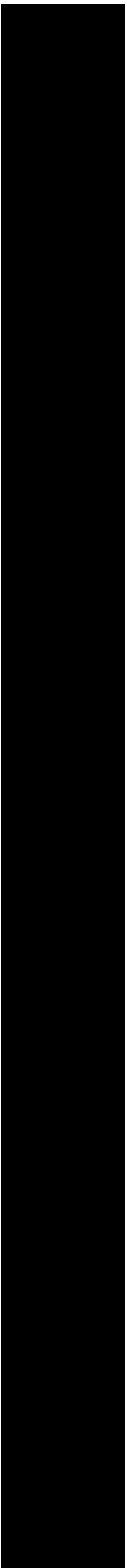
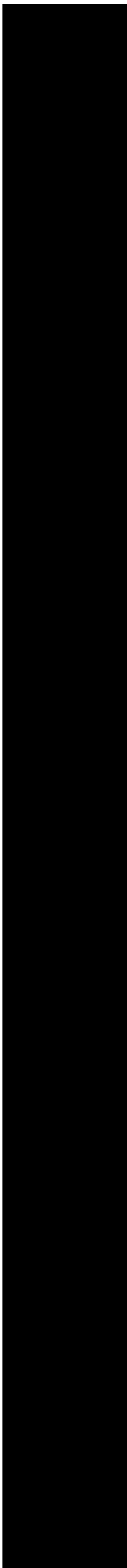
UPDATE - The Cougars had a great showing at the state meet in Waco. They were led by Grant Rodges who placed 3rd among 188 runners and is the TAPPS 4A Bronze Medalist! Coach Abt is so thankful for everyone who supported the team this weekend and sent them off with goodie bags and a sign. The future of Northland Cross Country is bright!

Northland's cross country program excels year after year and the Fall 2025 season has been no different. Led by Coach Abt and Coach Joey, the Varsity girls team placed first at the district meet and were led by Sophie (2nd place), Faith (6th place), and Kris (10th place). With the assistance and competitive drive of Grace, Margo, Danielle, and Claire, the girls team will be traveling to the State Championship Meet in Waco!

The Varsity boys team is led by District Champion, Grant! He has benefited, throughout the season, from his teammates Max, Bronson, Isaac, Arturo and Adrian. Almost all of this group will be competing at the State Championship Meet in Waco!

The Varsity team's success is enhanced by the our excellent middle school cross country program. All of the middle school runners earned PR's at the district meet and were led by Lincoln who placed 3rd and Danielle who placed 6th in the district.

Northland's cross country runners put in the work and the fruit of their efforts is displayed through their success. Many of them train through the summer and all of them begin practice at 6:00 in the morning on campus. The entire Northland family is so proud of each runner! Way to run, Cougars!









Middle School Volleyball

Northland's Middle School volleyball teams wrapped up their seasons in fun and exciting ways! The B team finished with a fun scrimmage against the parents in a "Pink Out" game. They celebrated a resounding win over the adults. The A team finished the season with a hard fought win over The Woodlands Methodist. It's a great time to be a Cougar!





Middle School Football and Cheer

The Cougar Middle School football team has played hard in each of their games this season. They are small in number, big in heart, and well supported by the Varsity players. The middle school team wrapped up their season recently and recognized the 8th graders during half time. Each player shared their favorite scripture, football memory, and thanked some special people. The Northland community is extra proud of these guys!

The team has also been supported by our fabulous Middle School cheer squad led by Mrs. Downey. They arrive at school extra early for practices and work hard to cheer their team on to victory! Pictured from back to front and left to right are: Makayleigh, Hallie, Sophia, Nyla, Brooklyn, Skylar, Isabella, and Olivia.



NOVEMBER 2025

SECONDARY NCS

DAILY GRAB & GO

Monday Chicken Wings
Tuesday Shrimp Basket
Wednesday Grilled Cheese Chicken Sandwich
Thursday Lunch Day
Friday Chicken Tenders

3 National Sandwich Day P. Iced Pork Sliders or BBQ Chicken Sliders Mac & Cheese Cole Slaw	4 Chicken Nuggets Grilled or Crispy Medicine Potatoes Green Beans Sausage & Beans Day Chicken Koodle	5 Chicken & Bama Pasta Alfredo Sauce Broccoli Garlic Toast	6 French Toast Sticks Scram Eggs Mashed Potatoes Salmon & Beans Day Salmon & Beans Rice w/ Lemon Butter Sauce	7 Chicken or Vegetarian Pies Cranberry Vinaigrette Orange Slices
10 Build Your Own Bowl Tender Steak or Chicken Herb Rice, Quinoa, Rice, Corn & Bean Beans	11 Southern Fried Chicken Mustard Creams Red Beans & Rice	12 Baked Ziti (Sausage & Peppers) w/ Lemon & Basil Dressing Fazenda Bread Sautéed Zucchini	13 Barnen Bowl Chicken or Shrimp & Z Barnen Koodles, Eggs, Miso Soup, Scallions, Corn	14 National Pickle Day Grilled Cheese w/ Tomato Basil Soup Pickle Sprinkles
17 National Bread Day Mac & Cheese Bar (Chicken or Beef) Sautéed Beans & Sautéed Mashed Mashed Bread Butter Sage Bread	18 Chicken & Sausage Sambos Green Beans Jicama Rice Sweet Cornbread	19 Quesadillas (Chicken or Cheese) Roasted Vegetables Spanish Rice	20 Thanksgiving Feast Slow Roasted Turkey Braised Potatoes Cranberry & Glazed Sweet Potatoes Dinner Roll	21 Pumpkin Pie
24 	25 	26 	27	28

OTHER DAILY OPTIONS: BAKED POTATO BAR, VEGETABLE ENTREE, & GLUTEN SENSITIVE MEALS

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