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ON THE COVER



The Buchy family is walking into their future in Corsicana.

Photo by Memories by Melissa.

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Editor's Note

Hello, Dear Readers!

By the time some of you are reading this on February 2, Mr. Groundhog will have predicted our future weather. I always root for him to not see his shadow, since I want spring to come early. While I enjoy the birds who are so entertaining at my feeders, I am always ready to get back into my gardens and take daily walks with the dogs.

Don't forget to offset any gray in the sky this month with red. February 3 is National Wear Red Day reminding women to take care of their hearts with exercise, proper diets and yearly checkups with their doctors. I was thrilled last year to see so many men wearing red in honor of the women in their lives. What a nice prelude to Valentine's Day this month!

Lastly, please take time on the 20th to remember George Washington and Abraham Lincoln's birthdays on President's Day.


May you and yours stay safe and warm,

Virginia

Virginia Riddle
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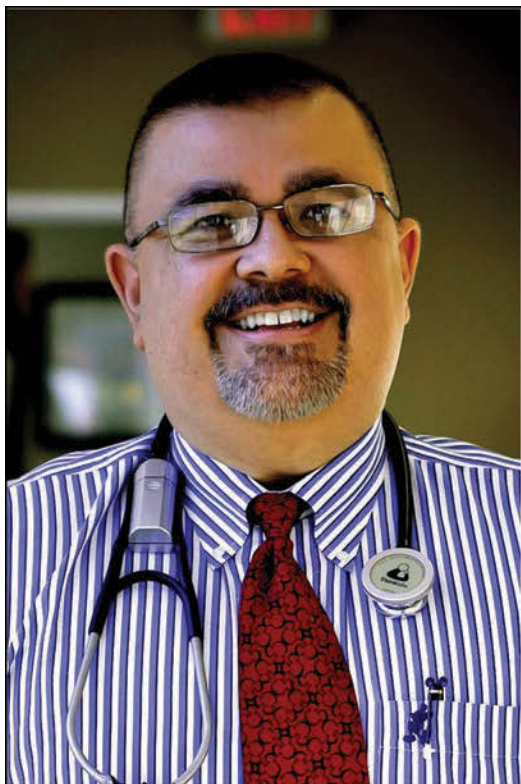
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Centex Citizens Welcomes Dr. Joe Saucedo as New Board Member

Centex Citizens Credit Union is proud to announce the addition of Dr. Saucedo as its newest board member. Dr. Saucedo is a Corsicana area physician with the mindset of giving back to his community. Dr. Joe, as many of his friends and patients call him, considers Corsicana home because this is where he has established local roots. A graduate of Texas A&M University, Dr. Joe has been practicing medicine for the past 18 years.

"The greatest achievement in my personal life is my family, my wife Renata, and children Anthony and Ella. In my professional life, it would be being part of my patient's family."



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CLAY SHOOTERS SUPPLY

STAYING ON TARGET

Just as an avalanche can begin with a shot and build momentum and strength, so has the Navarro County 4-H Shotgun Sports Program snowballed during its first year. “I wanted my son, Grant, to learn so we could share the sport,” Jason Gamez recalled. “We got involved in another county’s program, and I wondered why we couldn’t start our own program in Navarro County because Grant was enjoying this sport so much.”

“Jason came to us, and we got him all set up,” Brittany Scott, Navarro County Extension agent, said. “He does a great job, and at the 2016 4-H annual banquet, Jason was awarded the 4-H Club Leader of the Year Award.

“Both Brittany and Paige Bishop, another extension agent, have helped us,” Jason said. “They have handled the paper and legwork and the logistics, so we could get our nonprofit status and also enter the major competitions in San Antonio and Houston. We email a lot!”

The efforts by these adults and many others who have volunteered over the past year have paid off in many ways. “We

started with only six students, but now we have 16: four girls and 12 boys ages 9-17,” Jason said. “Our mission is to involve youth shooters in the sport in the safest manner possible. What they learn from shooting can help the youth in so many other realms of their lives.”

By competing through the Scholastic Clay Target Program and the National Sporting Clays Association, the students are involved most of the year. “They compete in skeet, trap and sporting clays,” Jason explained. The rules and regulations are stated online by the different organizations, which also include the National Rifle Association and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department. “TPWD hosts an annual scholarship shoot, and \$10,000 Go-Texan scholarships are awarded to the top 10 each year at the 4-H statewide competition,” Jason added. “This is a growing sport. Students can even advance to qualify for the Olympics.”

A young man is shown in profile, aiming a wooden shotgun. He is wearing a black and white baseball cap with a logo, safety glasses, and a black t-shirt with the word "FREEDOM" visible. He is holding the shotgun with both hands, and the background is a stone wall.

GET

— By *Virginia Riddle*

Parent volunteers are essential to the success of the program. “All parents can shoot with the students. It’s a bonding experience, since we have a like interest, and we can compete together in father/son shoots,” said Arron Cottongame, volunteer and father of 12-year-old student member, Remington. “This program teaches respect, responsibility, marksmanship, a positive attitude, discipline and how to be both a good loser and good winner. These kids will become better adults and leaders.”

The students practice at Upland Bird Country, a Corsicana sponsor; Caney Creek Shooting Sports in Teague, Texas; and the Ellis County Sportsmans Club in Waxahachie, Texas. “This is a relatively expensive sport in time and money,” Jason explained, “but we had sponsors that helped get us off the ground and running, and we have 13 sponsors for 2016-2017.” The team also receives an annual grant from the NRA. “Atwoods has been very helpful by providing ammunition and targets at a discount,” Jason added. The students compete with over-under 12 gauge and semi-automatic 20 gauge shotguns about once a month in Texas cities from Tyler to Dallas to San Angelo and San Antonio. “There are folks from everywhere,” Jason said.

“Other kids are watching those who are shooting and are very supportive and root each other on,” Arron added. “There’s a lot of camaraderie.”

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All levels of ability are welcome to join the team. Students are taught safety; how to load and shoot; the maintenance of firearms; competition rules and regulations; hunting procedures; and the laws, ethics and careers relating to shooting sports. "As coaches, we stress 'eyes and ears' be focused at all times while still having fun," Jason said. "The students learn what to do when their shotgun misfires. This also applies to life skills learned, such as: to keep learning; get stronger from adversity; analyze what went wrong, correct it and move on; and get over the problem while conducting oneself well."

"This experience has taught me how to carry myself in front of people," Brady Miller, a team member and student at Blooming Grove High School, added.

"I started shooting with my grandfather and adopted his good habits as my own." At 15 years of age and with three siblings, Brady aspires to become a lawyer or thoracic surgeon and is seeking scholarships. But he also tells other kids how much fun shooting sports are. "I'm planning to graduate from Navarro College at the same time as my high school graduation," Brady revealed. He is working toward an Eagle Scout Award, plays trumpet in the BGHS band, acts in Warehouse Living Arts Center productions, competes in FFA creative arts contests and serves in the National Honor Society and on the BGISD Superintendent's Advisory Board.

Other team members include: Allison Alonzo, Hunter Autry, Jack Blanton, Corina Cardenez, Colin Kennedy, Paxton Kilgore, Preston Kindle, Emily Lane, Shaffer Lott, Holden Prince, Kyler Rounsavall, Matthew Stills and Allyn Willis.



New member, Matthew Harrison, learns the ropes from Coach Jason Gamez.



Arron Cottongame sees the impact the Navarro County 4-H Shotgun Sports Program has by teaching good life skills.

"These are all great kids," Jason said.

Arron, a Corsicana native, works at his family's business, Griggs Sheet Metal, and aspires to become certified as a 4-H coach, which requires attending a two-day session. "The training teaches us how to teach and interact with kids, both boys and girls," Jason, a certified coach, explained. "Background checks are required of all coaches."

A financial advisor with Maplewood Investments and Corsicana native, Jason earned his associate degree from Navarro College and his bachelor's degree from Sam Houston State University. He is passionate about coaching the team and loves watching the students' skills grow. "I have worked with youth for many years, and my Christian faith has been a huge part of the way I coach," he shared. "All of us participating have the same views. We want God to be the center of this organization, and He has been. We have been blessed by many people who have helped make this club possible, but it wouldn't be what it is without Christ at the helm. All of our jerseys are inscribed with a Scripture chosen by the team: Hebrews 12:1-2. 'Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before Him he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.'" **NOW**

Editor's Note: For more information, email jgamez4b@gmail.com.

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WHERE HISTORY BECOMES REAL

— By Virginia Riddle

Cowboys riding across vast ranges, a Civil War field hospital, ancient arrowheads and the story of prehistoric people told in a state-of-the-art exhibit — all of this and much more is part of Pearce Museum Director Ann Zembala's world. "Growing up, I loved history and historical objects. I could touch something from earlier times and have a connection to someone from long ago. That's why museums exist," Ann said.

A native Texan born in Del Rio and raised largely in Abilene, Ann describes herself as an Air Force "brat" who has lived in many places, including Turkey and Hawaii. An undergraduate internship at the British Museum in London ignited her interest in becoming a museum professional. Ann graduated from Austin College and did her graduate work in American history and museum administration at the University of Delaware, including an internship at the Smithsonian. It was

while working as the curator of a new museum in Baltimore, Maryland, that Ann met her future husband, Dennis. Together they built the Baltimore Museum of Industry into a thriving educational institution.

The couple eventually moved to Detroit, Michigan, Dennis' hometown, when he accepted the position of director of Detroit Historical Museums. "I couldn't work for Dennis, so I became development director of a Jesuit high school where our son, Andrew, later attended as a student. I raised scholarship funds, wrote grants and enjoyed working with students, faculty and parents," Ann recalled.

The day came when Dennis was ready to retire, so the couple decided to head south to be closer to their daughter, Dr. Meg Sullivan; her husband,

Dr. John Sullivan; and their sons, Jack and Henry, in Ennis. "We wanted to be here and share times with our family," Ann explained. "And for me, it was coming home to a state I love."

After getting settled into their Ennis home, Dennis became an adjunct history instructor at Navarro College, and Ann worked more than two years for the Salvation Army in Ellis County before applying for her position with the Pearce Museum at Navarro College. "This is an ideal combination of my museum and school administration careers," Ann stated, "and it helps that Dennis has fallen in love with Texas and Texas history and volunteers at the museum."

The Pearce Museum is part of Navarro College and promotes education and research as its mission. "Chuck and Peggy Pearce's overriding interest was in storytelling, through their collection of over 17,000 letters, diaries and other first-person accounts of the Civil War. We also have their extensive art collection that tells intriguing stories of the American West with action and realism, and we recently added a new gallery, which creatively interprets the prehistoric period of Navarro County's history. We love working with Navarro's faculty and students, and seeing students of all ages participate in the museum's educational programs. Combined with the Planetarium, the Cook Education Center is a full one-day field trip for any school-aged group, all under one roof," Ann stated.

To make the Pearce Museum more student and teacher friendly, Ann recently hired two part-time retired teachers, Cindy Williams and Kaye Tindell, who are updating curriculum materials to help prepare students for their visit and aid their review afterwards. Costumed volunteers portraying historic characters are also available to travel to schools and share their Civil War stories with students. Ann instituted new museum hours, which allow the Pearce Museum to be open on Saturdays and during school holidays, such as spring break week. "All through spring break, we are open to students and their families even when Navarro College is closed," Ann revealed. Ann is also available to make presentations to community groups.

The museum's other staff members include a curator, Christina Lucas; admin, Jessica Kindon; and interns from

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The docents enjoy sharing the history of the artwork with anyone eager to learn about it.

Navarro College and Baylor University's museum studies program. Everyone wears many hats, and Ann has enjoyed working with Carole Davenport, Cook Center events director, and Dr. Bruce Brazell, Planetarium director, in bringing special offerings to the public. "Carole is a fantastic ambassador for Navarro County and the college. I've met so many wonderful people in town thanks to her," Ann said. "Also, Dr. Richard Sanchez, Dr. Harold Housley and the other Navarro College administrators, as well as the members of the Navarro College Foundation are very supportive of the Pearce Museum.

The museum could not operate so well, however, without its dedicated volunteers, who serve in several capacities. Docents guide visitors through the exhibits and share their expertise in history and art, and other volunteers transcribe period letters and diaries, index the transcriptions and help researchers. "We have one docent meeting a month, ongoing training and take field trips to other museums," Ann said. "I treasure our volunteers and really rely on them. They do an amazing job and go above and beyond for our museum."

A challenge for all museums is funding. Even though the Pearce Museum has an



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endowment from Mr. and Mrs. Pearce, which is managed by the Navarro College Foundation, Ann's experience as a grant writer has come in handy. Donations are also accepted. "With additional funding, we could host more programs and exhibits," she said. "We work very frugally by doing everything in-house. We are proud to have collections of national importance and are working hard to publicize them. We don't want to be Corsicana's hidden treasure!"

While Ann and her team greet many foreign visitors, senior groups, serious researchers and school children, and overall visitation has steadily increased, it still remains lower than she would like. "Right now we have more foreign and out-of-state individual visitors than local visitors. We want to increase our audience numbers across the board, so we are bringing in traveling exhibits and creating our own new ones." With six changing exhibits, three student/faculty art shows and a variety of public programs this year, there will always be something new to experience at the Pearce Museum. Western artists share their expertise with art students and community members during their exhibits. During holidays, special exhibits are featured, such as the macabre antique restraints Mr. Pearce collected that were on display last Halloween.

No matter the visitor's age, the magic of the Pearce Museum's historic exhibits and art collection enhances the imagination. Ann concluded, "To be able to see an actual historic artifact and to learn the story of the person connected to it, or to stand in front of a painting and observe its lighting and texture at different angles — you can't get that online. You have to come visit us!" **NOW**

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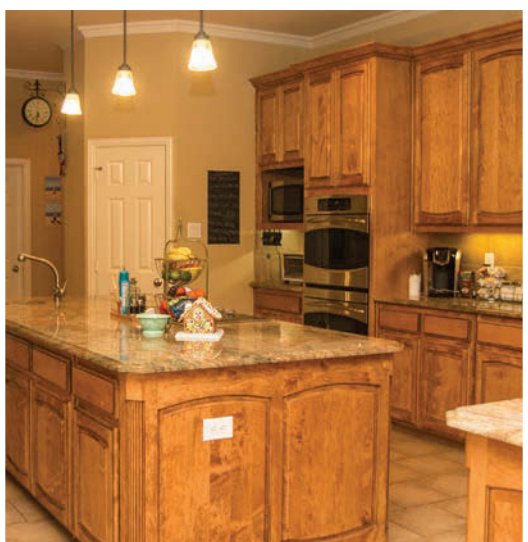
At Home With Mark and Leshia Bucky

Mark Buchy was raised in the Shenandoah Valley. Leshia Buchy was born in Quanah, Texas, and they met in Altus, Oklahoma. Mark was stationed at the Air Force base, and Leshia was attending a dance with friends. Mark watched her from across the room. Just as Leshia's friends were ready to leave, Mark approached her, and asked her to two-step. She stayed to "get to know him because he seemed so genuine," Leshia said, smiling as she looked over her shoulder at Mark and remembered.

Before the evening was over, Mark wrote his phone number on a napkin, "instead of asking for her number. 'Trust me, you want my number,' I recall telling her." Two-and-a-half months later, they were engaged.

"She is pretty laid-back," Mark said.

"I've always trusted him," Leshia added.



AY

— By Nancy Smothermon



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Having lived under six roofs in nine years, they are now in their dream home on Richland Chambers Lake. Their new home is a ranch-style house built in 2007. The Air Force took Mark many places over the years, but his heart has always been with his family. Mark and Leshia are a loving couple with three children — Lexie, age 16; Reagan, age 10; and Luke, age 8.

The pair survived active duty moving them from place to place. Mark loved being an instructor pilot in the Air Force, and his education has given him the opportunity to teach cadets history at the U.S. Air Force Academy. Meanwhile, Leshia filled her time going to school

online and making lifelong friends over the years. They particularly enjoyed living in Washington State and Del Rio, Texas. "Corsicana is our home now," Mark said.

Mark truly is quite the history buff, and his study, located to the right just as one enters the front door of their home, is decorated with pictures of planes he has flown. He has three-dimensional models in his study, as well. The room is the first image of this family's history visitors see.

Leshia has slowly begun decorating their new home. They are the second family to live there. Lexie's room is painted purple, and Reagan's room is a stunning shade of green. Lexie is a lovely

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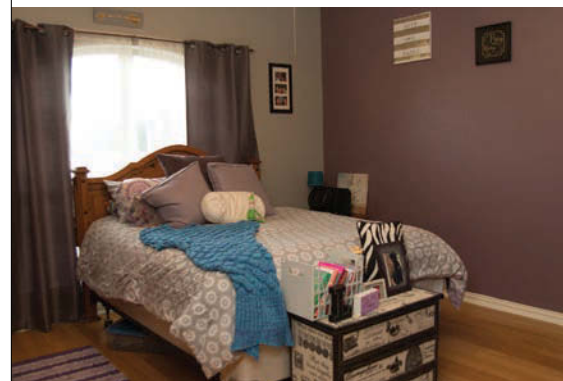
young teenager who enjoys her friends at both Waxahachie Preparatory Academy, where she attends three days per week, and Park Meadows Academy, a private school in Corsicana, where she attends the remaining two. Reagan and Luke also attend Park Meadows Academy. Reagan is the little artist in the family. She enjoys crafts and drawing. Her handiwork is displayed proudly in the hallway between the front study and kitchen on a large chalkboard. She has drawn her family. Luke's room is two-toned like an old model car, blue and tan — perfect for a young boy. The girls share a Jack-and-Jill bathroom.

Mark and Leshia have a beautiful master bedroom positioned behind the study and to the right. Large windows let in plenty of light in the mornings and the majestic beauty and expanse of the lake and yard. The master suite has a huge spa tub with a fireplace, separate shower and double vanity.

The kitchen is elegantly designed with marble countertops and a bar convenient for the kids to enjoy quick meals. "I haven't had time to decorate the dining room, yet," Leshia remarked. She is hoping to find someone to help her decorate soon.

The family room is their favorite space. It's located on the front of the lake house and is lined with huge windows and French doors leading out to the patio. In the corner of the large room, decorated with a comfortably sized sectional sofa, is a fireplace made of Austin stone. "I could sit out here all day and all evening," Mark smiled.

The family enjoys the outdoors together. Mark is an avid fisherman and hunter. They share time together on the water both on the lake and in their swimming pool, which is located just outside the great room.



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Looking out the windows of their home toward the lake, Mark shared about the many doors of opportunity that have been opened for him and his family. "We have been greatly blessed," he smiled. He and Leshia are very active in the community and in their church. They volunteer at their children's schools, church and within their subdivision, where Mark serves as the president of the homeowner's association. They enjoy the gatherings they and their neighbors share each month.

Mark works at Tradeway, an investment company owned and operated by their pastor at Park Meadows Church, where Mark is the chief compliance officer. "A lot of prayer went into the decision to separate from the Air Force and join the company," Mark admitted. "But it was the best choice!" Despite Mark's Catholic upbringing and Leshia being raised Assemblies of God, the family thrives together at Park Meadows. Mark serves as deacon, and Leshia serves as the school's administrative assistant. The family is actively contributing to the community they live in.

From the patio, you can see the boat dock on the water, and off to the left is the detached guesthouse. The guesthouse has two bedrooms, making the ranch-style house a six-bedroom home with four-and-half-bathrooms on one-and-a-half-acres of lake-front on the third largest inland lake in the state of Texas. The ranch-style home also boasts a three-car garage and ample space for lawn equipment in a space just off the garage area.

Mark's 15 years of dedicated service in the Air Force took him all over the world. But the chalk drawing in the hallway of a house with five stick figures that represent the Buchy family says it all. He and Leshia are happy to be home, together with their children. **NOW**

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With over 300 employees and offices in Corsicana, Waco and Temple, Lochridge Priest, a family-owned and -operated company for over 50 years, is proud of its customer-first philosophy. "Providing the best service in a timely manner to our customers is our most important goal," Rodger Chase, LP sales manager, remarked.

A Lennox dealer, the company is able to supply the latest residential and commercial air conditioning/heating, plumbing as well as electrical services and equipment. Trained and certified Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) and North American Technician Excellence (NATE) technicians work on and supply almost any brand of HVAC equipment, including: furnaces, heat pumps, packaged units, boilers, mini-

split systems, air conditioners, solar solutions, air handlers, thermostats, garage heaters, zoning, humidity control and ventilation. Whether customers are repairing or replacing worn units or building new ones, Lochridge Priest provides choices that fit customers' needs and budgets, while maximizing energy efficiency. "Our service area encompasses a 90-mile radius of our three offices — east to Tyler, south toward Austin, west to Brownwood and north to just south of the Metroplex," Rodger explained.

The company is registered by the state of Texas, and technicians undergo continuous education to be NATE certified. "Lennox provides training at their site, as well as locally," Dan Michalek, Corsicana's branch manager, said. The company has

been a consistent recipient of the Dave Lennox Premier Dealer Award and employees have received Dave Lennox individual awards.

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Founded in 1963 by Cooper Lochridge and Lloyd Priest, the company has had offices in Corsicana since 1983. "All of our Corsicana employees live in the area," Dan said. The company supports and volunteers with the Food for Families annual drive, Pink Out Day (breast cancer awareness), Toys for Tots and the American Heart Association's annual walk. "We took our trucks and supplied water to Marlin during their water crisis," Dan said. Lochridge Priest is a member of the Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce, the Waco Chamber of Commerce, Temple Chamber of Commerce, the Waco Home Builders Association and the Temple Home Builders Association.

Both Rodger and Dan obtained their education and certifications through Texas State Technical College in Waco and have risen through the ranks of Lochridge Priest to their present roles. Rodger has been in the HVAC business for 35 years and with Lochridge Priest for 25 years. Dan has been with the company for 25 years. "I have been really working in this business since I was 15 years old and started working with my dad," Dan said. Both men enjoy hunting and fishing and spending time with their families.

Challenges abound in this field of business — the ever-changing market and technology, shipping and the Texas weather. However, Dan and Rodger agree the joys far outweigh the challenges. Rodger concluded, "We have the ability to meet different types of people and provide comfort by working through their HVAC problems. It's all about putting our customer first." **NOW**

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1. ATM transactions. If you use an ATM outside your bank's network, you may be charged a few dollars per transaction. Try to locate an ATM for your bank or a surcharge-free machine. If you plan to travel, withdraw cash at your bank ahead of time.

2. Low minimum balance. Some accounts require you to maintain a certain amount. If you dip below — even temporarily — you could be charged. Avoid this by keeping sufficient funds in your account, or switch to an account that doesn't require a minimum balance.

3. Account inactivity. Idle accounts are sometimes subject to fees. If you don't use the account often, move your funds to one with less restriction. Or, avoid the fee by scheduling a regular monthly transaction to keep it active.

4. Closing fees. If you close an account, your bank may charge you a fee. Ask whether the bank can waive it, particularly if you open a new account with the same institution.¹

5. Debit card transactions. Debit cards sometimes impose a fee on each transaction. Review your statements carefully and

determine if you can pay any expenses a different way.²

6. Foreign transactions. Check to see if your card charges a fee for each transaction you make overseas. (This might include an online purchase from an overseas-based company.) If so, consider using a credit card with no foreign transaction fees, or use cash or travelers checks.³

7. Paper statements. Some banks may charge if you request paper statements instead of getting them via email.⁴ **NOW**

Sources:

¹www.bankmobile.com/watch-out-for-these-seven-sneaky-bank-fees/

²www.investopedia.com/articles/pf/07/bank_fees.asp

³www.aol.com/article/2015/07/15/financial-fees-you-should-never-pay/21209194/

⁴www.bankmobile.com/watch-out-for-these-seven-sneaky-bank-fees/

Lynda Housley is a State Farm agent based in Corsicana.

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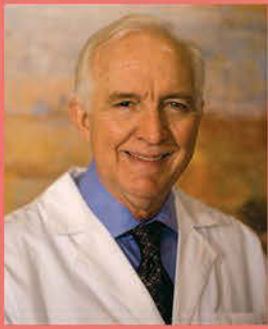
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Women Experience Different Heart Attack Symptoms

February brings the opportunity for national awareness to a significant health problem right here in Navarro County. The statistics are both telling and alarming, in terms of the impact on our local communities. Every 43 seconds, someone in the U.S. suffers a heart attack. Each year, more than 600,000 of those afflicted will not survive the attack, with nearly half of the victims being women. While we've all become familiar with the "Hollywood heart attack" (a man suddenly clutches his chest and immediately falls unconscious), only a portion of victims will experience a heart attack in this way — and women's symptoms may be significantly different.

Awareness campaigns over the past decade have helped improve survival rates for women having heart attacks, but much work remains. Here in Texas, cardiac-related conditions are responsible for one in three female deaths, and are more deadly than all forms of cancer combined. Some other Texas facts:

- Heart disease and stroke account for 29 percent of all female deaths in Texas.
- Heart disease alone is the leading cause of death in Texas, accounting for 17,936 female deaths in 2009.
- Nearly 60 percent of women in Texas are obese and overweight (according to the American Heart Association).

The American Heart Association recently published a scientific statement about women's heart attack causes and symptoms in its journal, *Circulation*. Three key points are made in this new statement: Women frequently have different underlying causes to heart attacks than men, such as the types of

plaque build-up; compared to men, women tend to be undertreated and are less likely to participate in cardiac rehab after a heart attack; and risk factors, such as high blood pressure and diabetes increase heart attack risk in women more severely than in men.

In addition to the obvious feeling of pain, pressure or heaviness on your chest, here are the most common symptoms experienced by women having a heart attack:

- Sharp pain in the upper body, including in the neck, back and/or jaw area;
- Severe shortness of breath, either at rest or with minimal level of exertion;
- Sudden and/or "cold sweating" that you suspect is not menopause-related;
- Unexplained or sudden fatigue — one of the most common symptoms, and the easiest to ignore or misdiagnose;
- Unfamiliar dizziness or light-headedness;
- Unexplained nausea — women are twice as likely as men to experience nausea or vomiting during a heart attack.

If you aren't feeling normal or are experiencing any of the symptoms above, head to your local emergency room. It is better to take care of yourself and prevent damage to your heart, in the event you are having a heart attack. A woman's intuition is a very strong thing. Don't ever discount it. **NOW**

Diana Grimes, RN, is the cardiac rehab coordinator at Navarro Regional Hospital.





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99th Annual Corsicana & Navarro County Chamber of Commerce Banquet & Silent Auction: 5:00-8:00 p.m., I.O.O.F Event Center. Call (903) 874-4731.

February 3

Senior Circle Pot Luck Luncheon: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Navarro Regional Hospital. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892.

February 6

The Piecemaker's Quilt Guild of Corsicana: 9:30 a.m., refreshments; 9:30 a.m., business meeting; Westhill Church of Christ Fellowship Hall, 3400 Texas 22. Visit www.corsicanaquiltguild.com for more information.

February 7

Economic Development Partnership meeting: 8:00-9:00 a.m., Corsicana Public Library. Free and open to the public. For more information, call (903) 654-4800.

February 10

Navarro County Retired Teachers meeting: 9:45 a.m., Northwest Apartments Community Center. Email pk2@aimail.net.

February 11

Navarro College Foundation's Dancing for Our Stars fundraiser: 6:00 p.m., Cook Center. Call (903) 875-7591 to reserve tickets.

Cupid Shuffle 5K & 15K: 7:50 a.m., 15K begins; 8:00 a.m., 5K begins, Getzendaner Park, Waxahachie. Wear your tutu and your Valentine's socks. Come run in the name of love. You can register online at reachcouncil.org/events. For more information, email nisa.hurd@reachcouncil.org.

February 15

Navarro Regional Hospital Senior Circle Lunch Bunch: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Italian Village. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892.

February 17

Navarro Regional Hospital Senior Circle Lunch and Learn: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Hospital Classrooms. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892.

February 18

Johnny Bradshaw & Out of the Blue band: 7:00 p.m., Corsicana Opry. Tickets are

\$12 for adults; \$5 for children. For more information, call (903) 872-6779.

February 21

Vietnam Veterans of America, Chapter 1009 meeting: 7:00 p.m., La Pradera Restaurant. Contact Roy Messick at roy.messick@gmail.com.

February 23

Corsicana Newcomers' Club: 11:00 a.m., Kinsloe House. Contact Annie Avery at (714) 345-6707.

February 25

Black History Month Celebration: 1:00 p.m., Corsicana Public Library. For more information, call (903) 654-4810.

February 27

Corsicana Writers Guild meeting: 6:30 p.m., Corsicana Public Library. For more information, call (903) 654-4810.

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In the Kitchen With Wrenda Freeman

— *By Virginia Riddle*

An Oklahoma City native and self-taught cook, Wrenda Freeman began cooking at age 12. These days, her family, which includes her husband, Steve; son, Hunter; daughter, Abbey; son, Dave; daughter-in-law, Sharon; and grandson, Graham, inspire her to turn simple ingredients into delightful dishes. “I enjoy creating something wonderful and sharing it with family and friends,” Wrenda said. “I have many good recipes and enjoy trying new ones. Abbey will send me recipes and say, ‘Can you make this?’”

Wrenda loves being involved with community events and can be found watching Abbey cheer at Mildred ISD sporting events. Outings with friends, volunteering wherever needed, reading, traveling and spending time with family and their two dogs, Boomer and Maggie, fill Wrenda’s life. **NOW**

Baked Chicken Taquitos

Cooking spray

1/3 cup (3 oz.) cream cheese

1/4 cup HERDEZ Salsa Verde

1 Tbsp. fresh lime juice

1/2 tsp. cumin

1 tsp. chili powder

1/2 tsp. onion powder

1/4 tsp. garlic powder

3 Tbsp. cilantro, chopped

2 Tbsp. green onions, sliced

2 cups cooked chicken, shredded

1 cup pepper jack cheese, grated

12-16 small corn or flour tortillas

1. Preheat oven to 425 F; line a baking sheet with foil; lightly coat with cooking spray.
2. Heat cream cheese in the microwave for 20-30 seconds to soften.
3. Add salsa, lime juice, cumin, chili powder, onion powder and garlic powder; mix well.

4. Add cilantro, green onions, chicken and cheese; mix well.

5. Place 3 Tbsp. of chicken mixture on the lower third of each tortilla; keep it about 1/2 inch from the edges.

6. Roll each tortilla up. Place seam side down on baking sheet. Spray the tops lightly with cooking spray.

7. Bake 15-20 minutes until crisp and ends start to get golden brown.

Caramel Nut Rolls

2 doz. Rhodes frozen rolls

1/2 cup or 1 stick butter, melted

3/4 cup brown sugar

1 3-oz. pkg. butterscotch pudding (not instant)

2 Tbsp. half-and-half

2 Tbsp. dark Karo syrup

1 cup pecans, chopped

1. Arrange frozen rolls 4 across, 6 down in a 9x13-inch greased pan.

2. Mix butter, brown sugar, pudding mix, half-and-half and syrup; pour over rolls.

3. Sprinkle the top with pecans; place in cold oven overnight.

4. In the morning, bake at 350 F for 25-30 minutes; remove and let set 10 minutes before serving.

Chicken and Wild Rice Soup

6 cups water

1 4.3-oz. pkg. Uncle Ben’s Long Grain and Wild Rice (original mix)

2 cubes chicken bouillon

1 4.2-oz. pkg. Lipton Chicken Noodle Soup Mix (Use only 1 packet.)

1/4 cup celery, chopped

1/4 cup carrots, chopped

1/4 cup onion, chopped

2 10.75-oz. cans condensed cream of chicken soup, undiluted

1 1/2 cups cooked chicken, diced or chopped

1. In a large saucepan, combine water, rice with its enclosed seasoning packet, bouillon cubes and soup mix packet; bring to a boil. Cover; reduce heat to simmer for 10 minutes.

2. Stir in celery, carrots and onion; cover and simmer for an additional 10 minutes.

3. Stir in chicken soup and chicken; simmer 10 more minutes until the rice and vegetables are tender.

BBQ Pulled Pork

4 lbs. boneless pork loin roast

2 tsp. seasoned salt

1 tsp. black pepper

1 tsp. garlic powder

1 cup barbecue sauce

1 cup Coca-Cola

8 hamburger buns or sandwich rolls

1. Cut the roast in half; place it into a slow cooker.

2. Sprinkle roast with seasoned salt, black pepper and garlic powder; cover and cook on low heat for 4 hours or until meat is tender.

3. Remove meat; skim fat from cooking juices. Shred meat with a fork; return it to the slow cooker.

4. Combine the barbecue sauce and Coca-Cola; pour mixture over the meat.

5. Cover; cook on high for 1 hour or until the sauce is thickened. Serve on hamburger buns or sandwich rolls.

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