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1 OWNER HOME



2001 W. 14th
3/2/2 with carport. Sits on 2 pretty lots. Great for investment or small family.

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1023 S. 13th
Great location, new roof, outside paint. Across from YMCA and Donut Shop. Lots of traffic.

NEW LISTING



Location, location! Walking distance to Bowie School! 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, large backyard, large eat-in kitchen. This home has so much Potential!



Blooming Grove! There are so many options with this great building. 3,700 sq. ft. with 2 1/2 acres. The possibilities are endless!



Location counts! Commercial lot with great potential. Located across from the Navarro County Court House. Includes smaller building next door.



One of Corsicana's finest homes! Fantastic floor plan for entertainment. Comes complete with 3 split bedrooms, master suite and bath, walk-in closets, 3 living, walk-in pantry and built-in wine cooler.



This 4-bed, 2-bath home has lots of room and is ready for your family to make their own!



Fantastic family home with large family room, formal living and dining. Large laundry room with room for a freezer and office. Updates just complete! New wood look tile in entry and breakfast kitchen area, new tile in baths and recent paint!



700 Lexington
3/2/2 on corner in beautiful neighborhood within walking distance to park. Updates throughout. Don't miss this one!



504 Northwood
Classic 2-story beauty in great location with 4 bedrooms, 2 baths, fireplace, large fenced yard. **MUST SEE!**



Great home in a quiet area. This 3-bedroom, 2-bath home has so much to offer. Great backyard for family time, two-car carport, storage building and a huge covered porch! The home features 2 living areas, one is open to the kitchen area. Great bedroom sizes and much more!



Located in historic downtown Corsicana. With a little TLC this will be a great location for a restaurant, shopping or office building. The possibilities are unlimited. Great store front, large upstairs area with a loading ramp. Come see today!



Premium waterfront lake lot located in Azure Bay on Richland Chambers Lake! Azure Bay is located on the south side of Richland Chambers Lake. 0.91 acre of treed beauty with a sweeping view of the lake and over 170 feet of water frontage, 30+ mature trees.



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109+ acres of fenced pastureland in Navarro County. Property is fenced and would be great for livestock or, based on location, an opportunity for a housing development or subdivision.



Two premier listings soon to be on the market!



SOLD!



Lot 61-The Shores
This boat slip with lift is being sold with a 1-acre lot located within The Shores Subdivision. Lot access is on Grandview Drive. Clubhouse and other amenities are a bonus! Mildred ISD.



2004 SE PR 2164
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1112 Elmwood Ave.
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ON THE COVER



*The Derrick Days Rodeo spotlights
Navarro County's western heritage.*

Photo by Memories by Melissa.

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Editor's Note

Happy Easter!

As our fields, gardens and parks turn green and blossom into full glory, we are challenged to Keep America Beautiful this month. Let's clean up, spruce up and plant as feverously as farmers work their fields. It's great to feel the warmth of the sun after these past cold, dreamy, cabin fever days of winter.

Easter Sunday is April 16, a day to remember Jesus' resurrection and have fun watching children hunt the Easter

Bunny's eggs. The word *Easter* originated from a Saxon pagan festival which honored Eastre, a goddess symbolized by a rabbit.

Words are important, especially when playing Scrabble. Created by Alfred Mosher Butts in 1938, Scrabble Day is the 13th. My family plays this game seriously! Words turn into stories told on Tell a Story Day on the 27th. Whether written or verbalized, stories must be shared. Join the new Writers' Guild at the Corsicana Public Library, and tell *your* story.

Keep making and sharing wonderful memories,

Virginia

Virginia Riddle

CorsicanaNOW Editor

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WESTERN HERITAGE

— By Virginia Riddle



The sound of hoof striking wood, a nearly 1-ton bull snorting its displeasure and a bull rider quietly focusing on details that will help keep him on that bull — all that action and more is chronicled by the deep resonating tones of the longtime rodeo announcer, T.C. Long's, words as the Derrick Days Pro Rodeo crowd anticipates the outcome of man against bull. The bull rider nods, the gate opens and man and bull erupt into the arena. "We do whatever we can to put on a quality show and make it bigger and better every year," Ronald Burton, a bull rider turned clown/ bull fighter and partner in VLK Rodeo Productions, stated.

His partner, rodeo judge and Kerens native David Atkeisson, concurred. "We bring in both the standard and non-traditional events each year and provide

David Atkeisson



something new. All the events are crowd pleasures.” The events planned for this year’s rodeo on April 28-29 at the Navarro County Expo Center include: tie-down roping, steer wrestling, saddle bronc riding, girl’s break-away roping, team roping, bareback bronc riding, bull riding, American freestyle bull fighting and barrel racing. Last year, participants’ ages ranged from a 12-year-old barrel racer to bull fighters and ropers in their 50s. The events are sanctioned by the Cowboys Professional Rodeo Association and the United Professional Rodeo Association.

Although pro rodeo participants come from all corners of Texas and neighboring states to compete for a payout of over \$16,000, the Derrick Days Pro Rodeo offers amateurs and people involved in other types of entertainment chances to participate. “We’ll feature an equine drill team and involve local youth as much as possible,” David said. Young kids participate in the mutton bustin’ and the calf scramble. Area FFA chapters

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operate concession stands, and a portion of the event's proceeds benefit the Go Texan Scholarship Fund. Shopping is available through area vendors. "We'd love to get even more area students involved, and it's always a challenge to provide new events and a good payout for contestants," David added.

The rodeo honors Navarro County's long history as a ranching and farming area. Some of the pro participants from this area include Justin Garriss, a Blooming Grove freestyle bull fighter and former bull rider, and Chuck Goff, a Frost American freestyle bull fighter. "This is a fun rodeo that's getting more popular every year. I compete in area rodeos, since family comes first, and I like to see my friends compete," Chuck, a welder who's competed in rodeos for 11 years, stated.

The rodeo became a part of the annual Derrick Days in the early 1990s but hasn't been continuously associated with the event. About 30, mostly area corporate sponsors, help promote the rodeo. "Our sponsors and partners have been very faithful," David stated. "I remember the rodeo's earlier days and being so excited with the house packed. Then I went off to college. I came back and now get to judge several rodeos a year." The chief financial officer for Palestine ISD, David has helped produce this rodeo for the past four years. "I grew up in the country and around rodeos, starting with the Kerens High School Rodeo. I like to go to other rodeos to get new ideas. We are just rodeo nuts. It's an addiction." David serves on the board of directors of the CPRA and loves spending time with his wife, Leah,

and their two daughters, Lauren and Katherine, with all their many activities.

Working with David and Ronald will be 10-12 experienced staff members and two to three local volunteers. "We get the best livestock through three stock contractors," David said. Safety issues also have to be addressed for both the contestants and crowd members. "We hire Navarro County Sheriff deputies, and Ryan Farish, an emergency medical technician, helps coordinate our needs with the Corsicana Fire Department," David explained.

Two volunteers help promote the Derrick Days Pro Rodeo and are active throughout the community and other events. Ann Marett, a native of Fort Worth who grew up in Corsicana, moved back here to care for her mother after spending a 32-year career in marketing and public relations both in the high tech and magazine industries. In addition to serving on the Derrick Days board of directors, Ann volunteers with the arts, the Corsicana Preservation Foundation, the Corsicana Convention & Visitors Center and the Corsicana Orphans' Home Cemetery Project. Along with Carey Dean, a local radio personality at The Ranch, Ann has handled publicity for Derrick Days events for the past two years. "The rodeo's pure fun. I grew up going to the Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo every year," Ann said.

Carey admits that he's been involved in the Derrick Days Pro Rodeo almost



Ronald Burton lights up the atmosphere as a rodeo clown.



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since it started. "I love the build-up to the event," he said. Contestants are attracted through several trade publications and the event is publicized through print media, radio, posters and through area sponsors/partners. "The rodeo brings in contestants who will stay over and contribute to the local economy," Carey explained. Volunteers with the rodeo have earned the Derrick Days Committee of the Year Award.

Ticket prices this year are \$10 for adults, \$5 for kids 12 and under and free to children under the age of 5. Tickets can be ordered online at www.vlkrodeoproductions.com or at area sponsors' business locations.

As exciting as this rodeo is for the packed houses of spectators on both evenings of competition, it's the area youth participants and pro competitors who really get their adrenaline rush. Ronald has spent 25 years in the sport of bull riding and bull fighting with 17 of those years as a rodeo clown earning Top Clown kudos from the CPRA. While he professes to enjoy the production end of rodeo life, his heart and humor still lie in his rodeo clown acts that entertain but have a very serious purpose, as he distracts irate bulls from fallen riders as they are rescued by the pick-up men in the arena. Known in the rodeo jargon as a barrelman, a documentary was filmed featuring Ronald as the *Man in the Can*. "It's a feel-good film about living your dream and the life of a rodeo clown," Ronald explained. "It's a joy to work with rodeo people, and rodeo fans are the greatest fans in the whole world. It's good, clean fun for the whole family, and where else can a cowboy work on weekends while wearing make-up and tights?" **NOW**



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A BLESSED PEACEMAKER

— By Virginia Riddle

A photo of a child hangs low on the wall by Det. Ronni Phillips' desk, daily reaffirming her personal mission in law enforcement. "This was my first case where a child was a victim and died," Det. Phillips recalled. "The suspect got life without parole. When justice is served for people like this child, it reminds me of why I'm here."

A native of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, Det. Phillips' childhood experiences gave her an empathy for children. Her dad served the public as a fireman, and though she wasn't interested in following in his footsteps, she did want to be a police officer. "I always wanted to test everything, so my family warned me away from a career in law enforcement. But I was determined, and now my family is proud of me," she said.

Following high school, Det. Phillips married; worked in banks; had her son, who is now serving in the U.S. Army; moved to

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WHILE FINDING THE
EVIDENCE AND GOING
WHERE IT TAKES US.
EVERY CRIME IS LIKE A
PUZZLE. WE HAVE TO PUT
THE PIECES TOGETHER."



Texas and became a single, divorced mom in Waxahachie. "I had been a stay-at-home-mom for nearly 10 years, and then I started working two jobs while going through the Navarro College Police Academy," she remembered.

Upon graduation, Det. Phillips became a Corsicana Police Department patrol officer in July 2006. In 2007, she became a canine officer, partnering with Rambo until his retirement in 2010. The landscape of Corsicana offers quite a learning experience for police officers. "With a lake, I-45 and a college, there are so many calls while on patrol. It makes the time go by fast. I've made so many contacts, especially with this community's tremendous business owners," Det. Phillips said. "I enjoy meeting people and learning what they do. I'll always talk to anybody."

Training and education helped her obtain a promotion to detective. A binder contains her many certifications. "I'm one class away from having an intermediate/advanced peace officer license," Det. Phillips revealed. "I'm

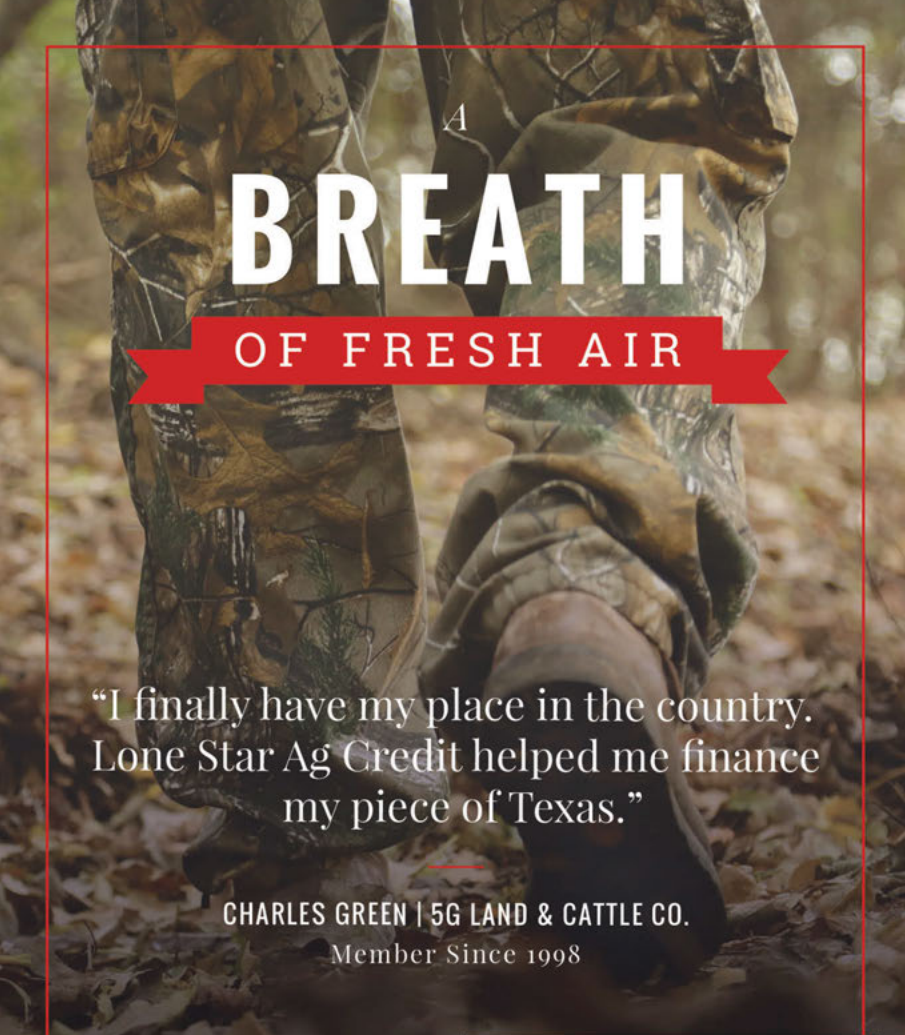


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Daniel Putman, Ronni Phillips, Nori Rhodes and Ron McGaha are proud to be part of law enforcement in Corsicana.

working on a criminal justice degree at Navarro College and would like to get a four-year degree in the subject. I try to take as many courses as I can. Some classes are mandated like the legal updates every two years. We have to keep up with Texas criminal and traffic laws, changes in technology and forensics. To be a police officer means going through a lot of training, but you want to know what you're doing."

Det. Phillips, like all her fellow officers, wears many hats on the job. "We have to be a disciplinarian, counselor and law enforcement customer service representative," she explained. Cases get referred by dispatch and patrol officers or can go straight to detectives if a major crime is involved. Detectives conduct general investigations on all cases above Class C misdemeanors to felonies. They take turns being on-call for a week at a time. "We prepare cases for the grand jury, process crime scenes, work with prosecutors and other agencies and obtain and serve arrest and search warrants. We must be neutral while finding the evidence and going where it takes us. Every crime is like a puzzle. We have to put the pieces together," Det. Phillips explained. "I do fight for my cases. I had to fight to be where I am today!"

The worst of times happen when a fellow officer is lost. "Being in law enforcement makes us so much more aware of our surroundings. We see what others don't and what people can be capable of doing, so we can develop trust issues," she said. "Also, all infant deaths



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are tragic. We feel the pain, go on, but we can't forget. We learn to appreciate the good times because we see so much that's bad. We have to be strong and hold together at a scene for those who can't."

On the other hand, law enforcement officers experience some funny times. "Some people can say and do the most incredibly funny things. I have about 1,000 funny stories," Det. Phillips quipped. She also enjoys the public relations aspect of her job. "I read to students at Carroll Elementary. I've learned how much teachers are involved in kids' lives."

Joy on the job comes through her police family and in knowing that justice is served and that the work she and her fellow officers do makes an impact on someone's life. "I've gotten to learn, see and be a part of so much. It helps me to feel that I'm giving back to my community," Det. Phillips said. "It makes

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someone's day when we solve a problem or reach out to them."

Her work can be exhausting. "We have to be multitaskers, and this is not a 9-5 job," Det. Phillips revealed. "We have to be available in all kinds of weather, hours and situations. It's hard to be away from our families during times of crises."

Equally hard for peace officers is to find folks who know what you see and do while on the job. Det. Phillips is married to Capt. Jeramy Phillips, who's over the Navarro County Sheriff's patrol and SWAT unit. Together, they are raising their 15- and 8-year-old children. "When I walk out my office door, I'm me. I leave work at work, but my husband and I understand each other well. My children still need a sensitive, comforting mom at home," she said. The couple are very involved in their children's lives and at their church, the Lone Star Cowboy Church. "A parent is a leader to a child. We lead by example," Det. Phillips explained. Camping; animals, especially horses; school activities; FFA activities; and learning to play the guitar and banjo are things she enjoys. "I sing in church in the band ministry. My passion is to never take time for granted but spend it with my family," she said. She also loves to decorate their home for Halloween and Christmas. "I go above and beyond. I want my kids, and eventually my grandkids, to always remember these holiday times."

Det. Phillips advises young people interested in a law enforcement career to also lead by example and not get into trouble. "Corsicana has a hometown atmosphere and a potential for growth and development, so officers will be needed. Make sure it's really what you want, and then follow your passion. We are all people — sons, daughters, mothers, fathers. Stay strong and on the right path. I know I'm here because God put me here to help people." **NOW**



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Downtown Atmosphere

— By Nancy Smothermon

At Home With
Charles & Alyssa Dunnahoe



Many of the buildings in downtown Corsicana are being bought and occupied by business owners on the lower level, while second level areas are being renovated for residents. Charles and Alyssa Dunnahoe were intrigued with the idea of living in a loft apartment like many New Yorkers and Chicagoans do. Their timing was perfect. They approached a local Realtor, and after just a few weeks of discussing their dream home, the building across from the Corsicana Post Office became available. They moved quickly and are now living in the historical downtown Corsicana building, and yes, they own the whole building,

not just the loft upstairs. When guests come to visit, they are greeted by three very friendly Yorkies: Dub, Fender and Bella, who, with their noses pressed against the large pane glass windows, wag their tails in excitement and bark to alert Charles and Alyssa that they have company.





The Dunnahoes' home, located on Main Street, has been well cared for. Built in 1900, the building had many occupants over the years, including such businesses as: the Western Union Telegraph office, the original Chamber of Commerce, the Palace Theatre management offices, the law office of Kerri Anderson-Donica and B&B Publishing Company. Today, Charles; Alyssa; their son, Zane Wilchar; and his best friend, Irvin Horn, are living in and remodeling it, while the Yorkies have the run of the place, including the small spot at the back of the building. The dogs are content with the small outdoor area and the frequent walks they share with Charles and Alyssa. "We love being part of the vibrant downtown neighborhood with its coffee shops, diners and other couples and young people. It's a great place to live," exclaimed Charles and Alyssa simultaneously.

"I've lived in town all my life," Irvin said. "I'm used to the trains and the fast pace of downtown life."

"I like being close to everything and in the middle of all the local activities we are involved in," Zane added.

Alyssa is a dispatcher at the Navarro County Sheriff's Department. She has worked there since graduating from Navarro College seven years ago. Before that she lived in Kerens with her family and attended Kerens High School.

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Charles attended Wortham High School and also graduated from Navarro College. He is currently wrapping up his final classes to become a nurse practitioner. The two of them enjoy serving and helping others. They enjoy “being in the mix of things.” Zane and Irvin both graduated from Corsicana High School and currently attend Navarro College.

Together, Charles and Alyssa are planning and designing what they want

their home to look like. Neither of them claims a certain style. They both want the building and their new home to reflect as much of the original integrity of the historic building as possible.

The first efforts toward remodeling include the kitchen at the end of the long hallway and the main floor bathroom. “We want a larger kitchen and a larger bathroom,” Charles said, pointing out the old kitchen area and where they have plans to start knocking



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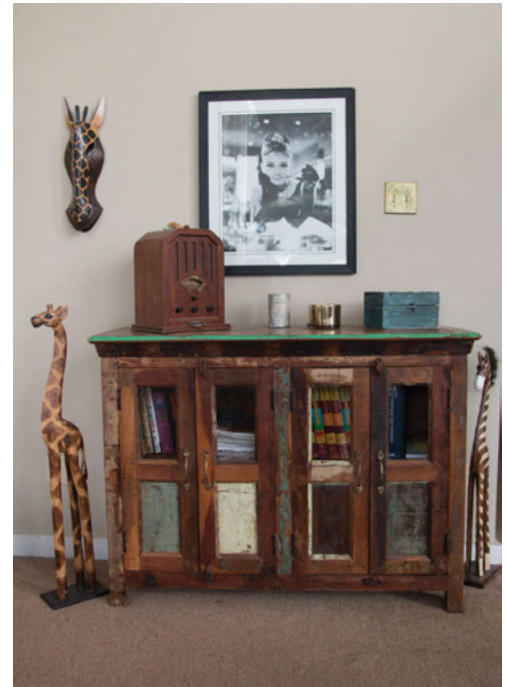
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out old walls. They want a see-through bar area between what will be the kitchen and what they are designing to be a small, casual dining area. "Perhaps like a bistro," Alyssa stated.

"Nothing formal, but comfortable," Charles added.

On either side of the hallway are three rooms. Two of which serve as bedrooms for Zane and Irvin. One, being used for storage right now, will soon be an office for Charles. The entryway is a small area, but with the large windows and the natural light, the room does not seem small at all. Even on a cold day, the sun warms the entryway, in which Alyssa displays her collection of wooden giraffe carvings. She also shares her love for all things theater there. One of her favorite things is the picture of Audrey Hepburn. To the left of the entryway is the staircase leading to the second level of living space.

This past Christmas, Alyssa decorated a set of drums stacked in the shape of a Christmas tree with a small strand of lights. "She plays the drums," Charles pointed out. "This room at the front upstairs is the Jam Room," he said. "All the doors are solid wood and extra wide, unlike doors in newer houses."

"The room has great acoustics. You can barely hear the music downstairs," Alyssa shared. "But, you can certainly hear us playing if you're in the street," she smiled. Just to the right of the music

room is what they call the Tower Room. They are hoping to one day install a spiral staircase to the roof.

At the top of the landing, there's a comfortably sized room where Charles watches TV. The couple plans to turn it into their theater room. Several other local buildings are under renovation, so they are scoping out deals and great finds when walking the dogs and visiting the neighboring residents and business owners.

The rooms at the top and directly in front when you reach the landing are the upstairs bathroom, a huge closet, master bedroom and storage room, which they hope to convert into an exercise room. From the bedroom windows, you can see the Palace Theatre, the old Hands Furniture building and Chase Bank. "We love our view," Alyssa said with excitement. "The puppies love it, too," she added. "They jump up and down to see the squirrels play back and forth in front of the windows here. They have grown to love our new home as much as we do."



Charles and Alyssa have unique plans for each room: the simple kitchen with a pass-through bar; a new office for the nurse practitioner in the family; a music room for the musicians; a home theater, where they are debating the current paint color; and two-thirds of the upstairs closet for Alyssa, leaving one-third for Charles. "As it was expected," he laughed.

They are so excited to be working on their home and are glad they found a place where they could live and work at the same time. The building is so spacious. The rooms are unique. This loving family will soon be putting out the welcome mat. **NOW**

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Now celebrating a successful first year in Corsicana, CCCU's Debbie Wilson and staff look forward to serving Corsicana for many more years.



HERE TO SERVE

People helping people — that's what the CCCU staff does. — By Virginia Riddle

Just over a year ago, a strikingly beautiful new building was being completed, and the new staff of Centex Citizens Credit Union was being hired and trained to provide the service that members have grown to appreciate. This month marks CCCU's first anniversary, and what a successful year it's been! "We encourage all employees to have an attitude of servitude and volunteer throughout this community," Debbie Wilson, branch manager, said. "We're big on caring for our members."

While new to Corsicana, CCCU was originally chartered in 1954 as the Mexia State School Credit Union. In 1992, a new community charter and name change allowed CCCU to serve anyone who lives or works in parts of Freestone, Hill and Navarro counties, as well as its home, Limestone County, where the main branch and east branch are located in Mexia. Over time, however,

the mission has remained the same — "to serve our members' financial needs with quality service and innovative technology, while maintaining financial strength, security and stability."

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Camesha Busby, Debbie's able assistant branch manager, is assisted by Maria Vargas, Vivian Duran, Patricia Calderon, Gabby Maldonado, Jorge Escalante and Clara Castaneda. "Employees are cross-trained to do everything, so there's no waiting. We also try to hire Navarro College students as part-time tellers and are able to work around their class schedules," Debbie stated. Dr. Joe Saucedo, a Corsicana family practice physician, recently joined the eight-member board of directors made up of Kenneth W. Pollard Jr., Richard Johnson, Charles Warren, Dennis Wilson, Bobby McDonald, Terry Don Shivers and Donna Savage. Janis Massey is CCCU's president and CEO.

"We encourage all employees to have an attitude of servitude and volunteer throughout this community."

Debbie, a native of New Mexico, moved to Corsicana in 1972. She received on-the-job training from Mrs. A.C. Barley at Navarro County Abstract Company and Corsicana Federal Savings and Loan. "She was my mentor," Debbie recalled. Debbie has 38 years of business experience, two of which have been with CCCU.

She and her husband, Gordon, enjoy getting away to their Leakey, Texas, cabin and floating the Frio River when they can, but Debbie also serves on many boards. She's one busy lady. "I was raised to serve and give back to my community," she said.

Camesha was raised in Mexia and has been an employee of CCCU for seven years. She has three daughters and four grandchildren and is very active in her church, where she serves as secretary and sings in the choir. Her pastime enjoyments are reading and going to movies. Camesha moved to Corsicana over a year ago and has enjoyed being out in the public and meeting new people. She's definitely a "people person," and it shows when members come into the credit union. **NOW**

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United Way of Navarro County staff and volunteers prepare for the 2017 5K Glow Run.



Tina Scruggs, Navarro Regional Hospital's cardiac coordinator, speaks to the Navarro County Health Alliance.



It's time to celebrate MLK Day in Corsicana.



Blanca Galvan and her sons, Emiliano and Antonion Nuñez, make valentines at the Corsicana Public Library.



The cast of Corsicana High School's One Act Play, 'The Scottish Tragedy', prepare for the next advancement in UIL completion.



The Corsicana High School JROTC honors James Blair DAR members at their George Washington Tea.



James L. Collins Catholic School's staff and students marvel at the vintage cars during the Sweethearts and Orphans Car Show.



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You may be thinking it's time to buy a home, finance a new car or purchase a life insurance policy. Here are tips to help you determine if you're ready to make these first-time financial decisions.

Are you ready to buy a house?

First things first: Do you have money saved for a down payment? You should aim for 20 percent or more of average housing costs in your area to avoid private mortgage insurance. If you've set that aside and have been preapproved for a mortgage loan, then you're on the right track. But before falling in love with your dream home, it's important to understand what you can — and can't — afford. In addition to a mortgage payment, your monthly expenses may include property taxes and insurance, which vary by location. These can add up to more than you might think. According to the Insurance Information Institute, home insurance premium costs average around \$800. On top of that, you'll want to factor in maintenance costs and desired upgrades.

Are you ready to buy a car?

Buying a car also requires more than being able to cover

monthly payments. If you've also saved up for additional costs, including fuel, insurance premiums, routine maintenance and repairs, you're almost ready for car ownership. Next step: Do your research. First, find a car that's financially reasonable — the monthly total of all of your household's car payments shouldn't exceed 20 percent of your household's take-home pay. Then make sure your desired car won't rapidly depreciate in value (resale value) and is well-suited to your driving needs.

Are you ready to purchase life insurance?

A life insurance policy can help support your loved ones financially when you're gone. It isn't just for married couples with children, either: If you have dependents of any kind, you may be ready to consider life insurance. Before committing to a policy, decide whether term or whole life insurance is best for you, and calculate how much coverage you may need. For more information, contact your insurance agent. **NOW**

Lynda Housley is a State Farm agent based in Corsicana.



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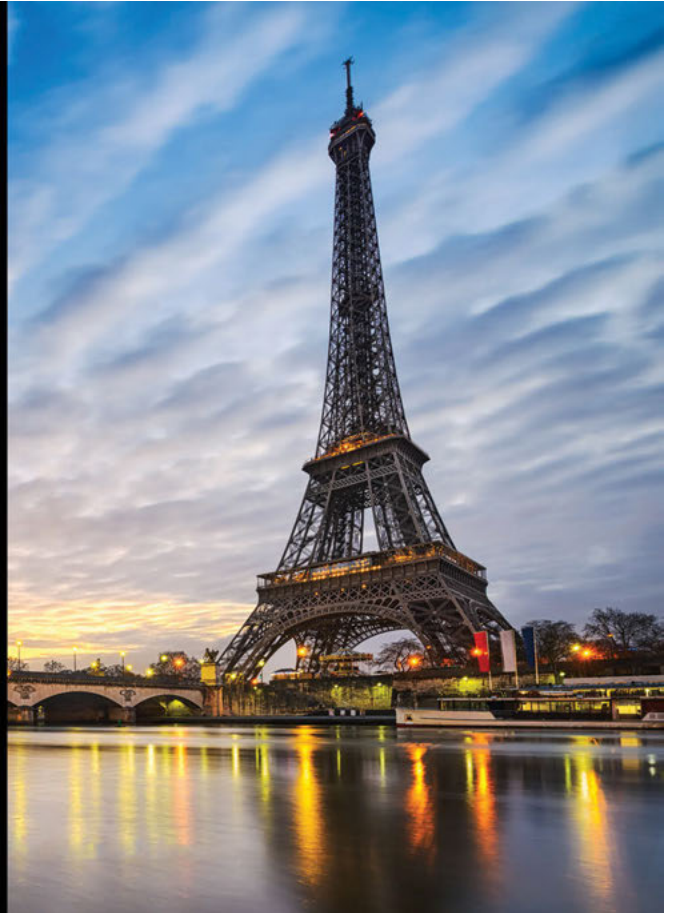
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April 1 — 8

The Savannah Sipping Society: Warehouse Living Arts Center Gallery. Call (903) 872-4556.

April 2 — 9

Navarro County Youth Expo: Navarro County Expo Center. For a complete listing of all events and contests' times and dates, visit www.navarroexpocenter.com.

April 7

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

Jimmy Fortune: 7:30 p.m., Palace Theatre. Call (903) 874-7792.

April 8, 9

Historic Spaces & Places Popup Corsicana: Event times and locations vary. For more details, email amandapopken@gmail.com.

April 10

Senior Circle Lunch and Learn: 11:30 a.m.-

1:00 p.m., Navarro Regional Hospital classrooms. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892 or email connie_beal@chs.net.

Eclectic Readers Book Club: 6:30 p.m., Corsicana Public Library. Call (903) 654-4810.

April 11

Angels of Corsicana Troop Support Packing Day: 9:00 a.m., 1020 N. Bus. 45. Contact Jean O'Connor at (903) 851-2560 or visit the group's Facebook page.

April 14

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

The Fog, '50s, '60s '70s rock 'n roll band: 7:00 p.m., Corsicana Opry & Event Center. Call (903) 872-6779 or visit www.corsicanaopry.com.

April 18

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

April 19

Senior Circle Lunch Bunch: 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Anna's Café, 122 W. 3rd Ave. Contact Connie Beal at (903) 654-6892.

April 22 — 29

Corsicana's Annual Derrick Days: For a complete listing of all the many activities, times and forms, visit www.derrickdays.com.

April 24

Corsicana Writers' Guild meeting: 6:30 p.m. Corsicana Public Library. Call (903) 654-4810.

April 27

Corsicana Newcomers' Club: 11:00 a.m., Kinsloe House. Lunch is \$15. Contact Annie Avery at (714) 345-6707.

Submissions are welcome and published as space allows. Send your current event details to virginia.riddle@nowmagazines.com.



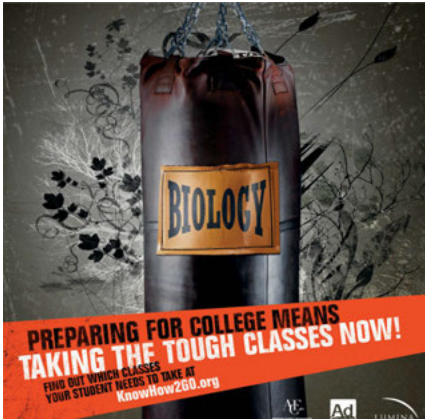
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In the Kitchen With Linda Cross

— *By Virginia Riddle*

Growing up on a farm, Linda Cross learned to cook from her maternal grandmother and mother and was influenced by “rural girl activities,” such as 4-H and her school’s home economics classes. “Hanging onto my grandmother and mother’s apron strings, I learned downhome cooking from those two uncommonly good cooks,” Linda stated. After her college graduation and marriage, Linda joined her husband while he served in the U.S. Air Force. “I was significantly influenced by U.S. regional cooking and through relationships with other military wives who had collected recipes while their husbands served in foreign countries,” Linda recalled.

“After approximately 70 years of cooking on a wood stove to today’s appliances, I still like watching my friends and family enjoy the food I prepare,” Linda said. “Bon appétit, y’all!” **NOW**

Slow Cooker Enchiladas

- 2 lbs. lean ground beef
- 2 1-oz. pkgs. taco seasoning mix
- 2 1/2 cups water
- 2 12-oz. jars chunky salsa
- 2 10.75-oz. cans condensed cream of mushroom soup
- 2 10.75-oz. cans condensed cream of chicken soup
- 8 cups Mexican cheese blend, shredded (divided use)
- 20 6-inch corn tortillas, quartered

1. Crumble ground beef into a skillet over high heat; cook while stirring until beef is evenly browned.
2. Add taco seasoning and water; simmer for 15 minutes over low heat.
3. In a medium bowl, stir together salsa and both soups. Mix in 7 cups of cheese.
4. Cover a slow cooker’s bottom with a layer of tortillas; add a layer of the beef mixture,

then a layer of the cheese mixture.

5. Repeat layers; end with a layer of tortillas; top with remaining cup of cheese.
6. Cover; cook on high for 45 minutes.

Jicama-orange Salad

- 1 small red onion, sliced
- 1/2 cup orange juice
- 1 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 Tbsp. rice wine vinegar
- 1/8 tsp. pepper
- 1 medium jicama, peeled and cut into strips
- 2 cups orange sections
- 1/2 cup avocado, diced
- 1 Tbsp. cilantro, chopped

1. In a skillet, cook the red onion, orange juice, olive oil, rice wine vinegar and pepper in a skillet for 3 minutes.
2. Toss the onion mixture in a large bowl

with the jicama and orange sections.

3. Top with avocados and cilantro.

Best Banana Pudding Ever!

- 1 8-oz. pkg. cream cheese, softened
- 1 14-oz. can Eagle Brand Condensed Milk
- 1 tsp. vanilla
- 1 5.1-oz. box vanilla pudding mix
- 3 cups cold 2% or whole milk
- Vanilla wafer cookies
- 3 bananas, sliced
- 1 1/2 cups Cool Whip

1. Using a mixer, blend the cream cheese, condensed milk and vanilla.
2. In another bowl, combine the pudding mix and milk, stirring 3–4 minutes until slightly thickened; pour into cream cheese mixture.
3. In a large glass bowl or rectangular glass baking dish, place a layer of vanilla wafers; add half of the pudding mixture; top with banana slices.
4. Repeat the layers; refrigerate. Add Cool Whip prior to serving.

Avocado Tomato Salad

Salad:

- 1 avocado, cut into chunks
- 2 tomatoes, cut into chunks
- 1 cucumber, sliced

Tequila Lime Vinaigrette:

- 2 tsp. tequila
- 3 Tbsp. olive oil
- 1 Tbsp. lime juice
- 1 tsp. herb spice salad dressing

1. *For salad:* Toss ingredients together well.
2. *For vinaigrette:* Mix ingredients together well; drizzle over salad.

Potato Soup

- 1 lb. bacon, fried crisp and crumbled
- 5-6 lbs. potatoes, cubed and cooked
- 1 1/2 cups water
- 3 cups milk
- 1 10.75-oz. can condensed cream of chicken soup
- 1 8-oz. tub sour cream
- Salt and pepper, to taste
- Onion, diced, to taste (optional)

1. Place all ingredients into a slow cooker; simmer for 2–3 hours.

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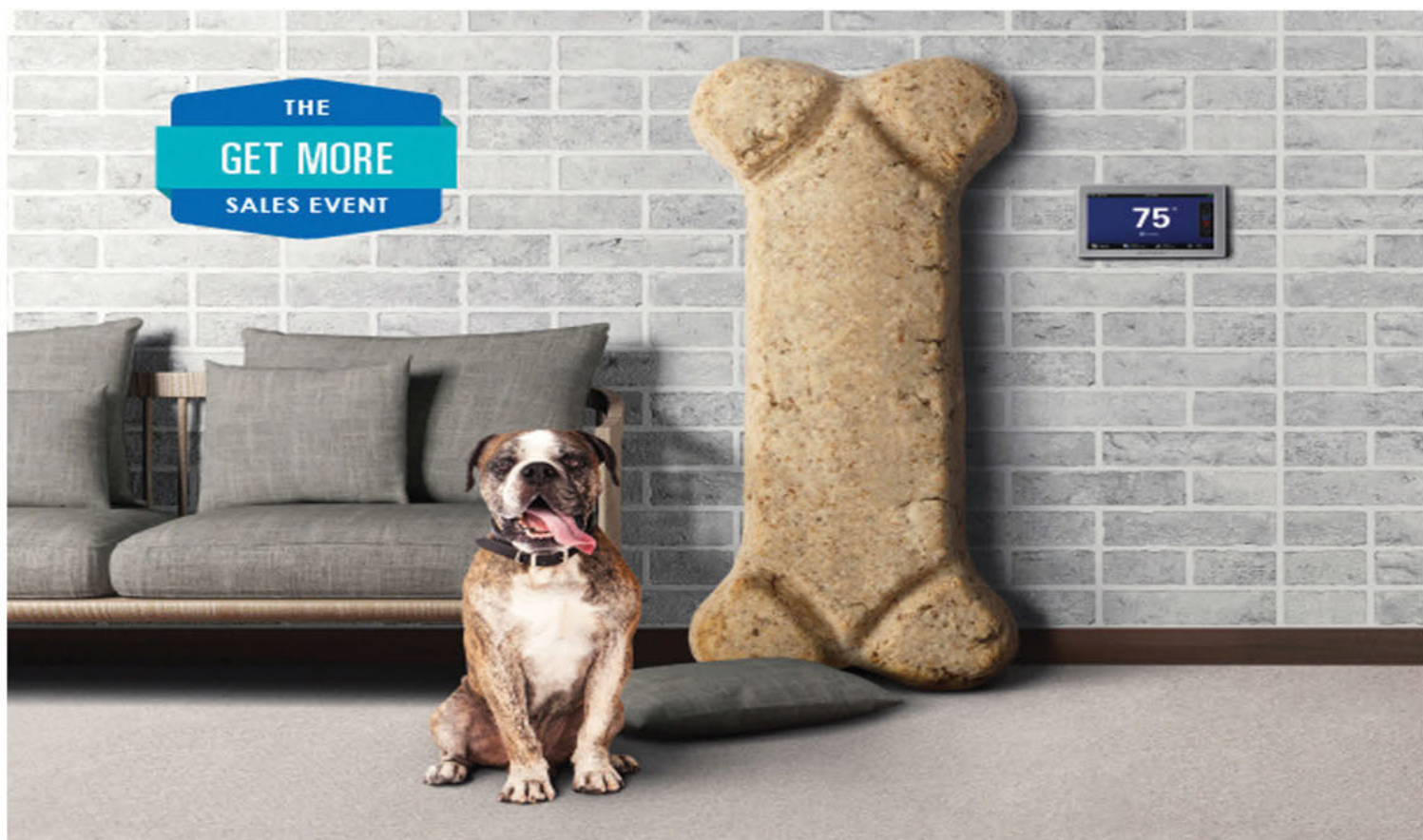
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