

The Sweet Shoppe . . . Chamber welcomes business

A sweet, new business was welcomed to membership in the Fairfield chamber of commerce last week. The Sweet Shoppe, owned by Angela Morgan, opened last year in the Kennedy's Korner store on the east side of the courthouse square.

Fresh cupcakes and "Krumballs" are offered daily, as well as a variety of other sweets, and all occasion gift bags.

"My mom has made the 'Krumballs' for as long as I can remember, which are crumbled up pieces of cake rolled in a ball and dipped in chocolate," Mrs. Morgan explains.

"Over the years they were always a hit at showers and parties. Two years ago my mom and I decided we were on to something—offering a small bite of cake instead of a whole slice, nobody wanted to order big cakes because of all the leftovers, plus so many people are watching their calories they didn't mind just tasting one," she adds.

On a whim the pair rented a booth at a weekend craft fair in Arlington and sold out two days in a row, also receiving many follow up orders. After moving to



THE SWEET SHOPPE owner Angela Morgan, holding scissors, cuts the ribbon at the Fairfield chamber of commerce ceremony welcoming her store as a new member. Chamber officials and other members joined her at the event.

from Arlington to Fairfield four years ago, and as a new stay at home mom, Mrs. Morgan wanted to open a store here in Fairfield, met Amy Ralstin, owner of Kennedy's Korner, and eventually moved The Sweet Shoppe to that downtown location.

The arrangement allows people to stop in and "get a quick sweet fix" or place larger orders for parties,

showers and weddings. Krumballs are the most popular item and are offered in a variety of cake flavors - chocolate, red velvet, vanilla, strawberry, lemon, oreo and peanut butter. The Krumballs are a favorite for weddings, receptions and showers, Mrs. Morgan notes. She also makes cupcakes, chocolate covered oreos, pretzels, marshmallows,

peanut clusters and the store carries several varieties of candy.

Last week's chamber of commerce banquet featured Krumballs as the dessert for more than 200 people. Special requests for flavors and colors or decorations can be made to help coordinate for special events. The Sweet Shoppe is open Tuesday-Friday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. and Saturday 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.. Mrs. Morgan can also be reached at 903-389-2205 or krumballs@yahoo.com. Mrs. Morgan, with her husband Chad, have one daughter, Lydia. They attend First United Methodist Church in Fairfield.

Monday at elementary school . . . Students will jump for heart

Fairfield elementary students will "Jump Rope

for Heart" on Monday to raise money for the American Heart Association.

This year's theme is "Heart Heroes" and goal is to beat last year's total raised of \$9,000.

The students will jump in various activities during their physical education classes on Monday, and are urged to turn in a heart cutout with a person's

name on it and why that person is a heart hero for the student.

Those students participating in fundraising will receive a special treat and have their name entered in a drawing for door prizes. Teachers who donate to the cause will get to wear jeans on Friday so they can "jump in" on the fun.

For information, visit americanheart.org/jump.

Coalition considers kid safety

Kid Safe and Reality Education for Drivers were two programs discussed at the recent meeting of the Freestone County Health Coalition.

The group met Jan. 20 at the county courthouse. The meeting was opened by Frances Collier.

A slide presentation was made by Rachel Bettinger-Cooney with the Kid Safe Program at Hillcrest Medical Center, emphasizing the importance of booster seats for the children.

In the Please Be Seated Program, cars spotted with children not in booster seats are reported to the program, who in turn, contacts the driver about getting a booster seat. Statistics statewide show an improvement in compliance.

When giving presentations, the Hillcrest program has a doll called Booster Seat Molly that talks to the children.

They provide presentations around the region to parents.

Next Health in Action Meeting will be February 17th at 2:30 at the courthouse.

Teen violence is topic of programs

Complex relationship issues and preventing dating violence will be addressed at Fairfield high school next week in an awareness program sponsored by the GFWC Fairfield History Club. "Choosing Respect" will be moderated at FHS on Feb. 10 by former FISD superintendent Tony Price.

An informational program will be presented Feb. 9 at 6:30 p.m. at First Baptist Church for parents and community members and a follow-up program for those who miss the presentation will be offered on Wednesday, Feb. 10 at 6:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church.

According to research done by History Club members, American teens from across the country are experiencing alarmingly high levels of abuse in their dating relationships, and the economy appears to have made it worse.

Nearly half of all teens whose families have experienced economic problems in the past year report having witnessed their parents abusing each other.

These teens report a higher incidence of abuse in their own dating relationships, says a recently released study on teen dating abuse commissioned by Family Violence Prevention and Liz Claiborne Inc. (Love is Respect).

The study released in 2009 reported that one in five teens who have been in a serious relationship report being hit, slapped or pushed by a partner.

One in three girls who have been in a serious relationship say they've been concerned about being physically hurt. One in four girls reported going further sexually than they wanted to as a result of pressure.

Despite the high num-

bers of teens experiencing abuse, parents are dangerously out of touch with the level of dating violence and abuse taking place in their children's lives.

Though 82 percent of parents felt confident they could spot the signs of abuse, only about 58 percent could correctly identify the warning signs.

The majority of teens in abusive relationships have not confided in their parents, but when they do, significant numbers do not heed parents' advice. Schools remain the most efficient way to reach youth in the community.

Teen dating violence is a community problem, requiring the attention and involvement of the community at large. Schools cannot do it alone. Information and perspectives on dating violence that students acquire through classroom lessons must be reinforced by family and friends, community and church groups, the media and public officials.

To prevent dating violence and promote healthy behaviors, communities must ultimately transform the societal influences that allow dating violence to take root.

Next week's programs are sponsored by the Fairfield History Club through their Domestic Violence Awareness and Prevention Campaign.

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