



# NEWS RELEASE

---

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
January 22, 2018

Media Contact: Celso Martinez, 972-623-8836

## Sachse EDC plays role in attracting Woodbridge Café

SACHSE (January 22, 2018) A 30-year journey that began in Albania has reached another highlight in a string of hard-earned successes for the owners of Sachse's newest breakfast and lunch location, Woodbridge Café.

Jimmy and Donna Rushiti have completed a soft opening for the full-service eatery at 7340 Hwy 78, between Woodbridge Parkway and Ranch Road, serving a full breakfast and lunch menu from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Arriving from Albania in 1985, Jimmy began his food service career as a dishwasher at the Red Apple Inn, a café started by his relatives in Wisconsin. After several years of learning both the kitchen side and the business side of café ownership, he steadily grew to know and understand the ins and outs of the restaurant industry.

In 2016, he decided to make a leap of faith and made the long trek to Texas, opening the Lakewood Café in Rowlett. At the Lakewood Café, he made certain to apply the same successful principles he learned over his long career in Wisconsin, having soaked up knowledge and experience from his extended family and associates.

He and Donna worked to make the Lakewood Café a place where people would find delicious, well-prepared food combined with a sense of family atmosphere. They carefully handpicked the staff and imparted to them their tradition of ensuring that every customer felt at home.

And customers responded, making the Lakewood Café among the area's favorite stops for Rowlett residents and visitors from throughout the area.

"Our goal from the beginning was to make people feel like they were at home in our restaurant," said Jimmy. "We made sure that the food was always up to our high standards, and that the service was second to none."

That philosophy of giving customers what they asked for quickly spread, and regular customers at the Rowlett location expressed it in ways that proved amusingly beneficial both for the Rushitis and for the City of Sachse.

"One of our regular breakfast customers at Lakewood would ask for his waffles to be prepared in a certain way, and we complied," said Donna. "It was an unusual combination that included using bacon. Needless to say, it was not on the regular menu, but we did it as a way to demonstrate our commitment to our customers."

Word of the highly accommodating café somehow got around, impressing some Sachse residents so much that a proverbial bug was put in the ear of Leslyn Blake, Sachse's Economic Development Corporation Executive Director.

"I kept hearing about how Lakewood Café was this really incredible place, where service and atmosphere and menu all came together in a way that brought people back over and over," she said. "I knew, then and there, that we had to have one in Sachse."

Conversations began and before long, a relationship between Jimmy, Donna and Leslyn blossomed. Leslyn convinced them to look at Sachse as the place for their next location.

-more-

Jimmy says expansion was already on his radar screen, but had not made any decisions on location. Leslyn showed the couple several open spots in Sachse, each with its own advantages.

After some deliberation, Jimmy and Donna chose the spot on Hwy 78 and began to convert the open space into what is today a warm, inviting and cheery location, with tables and booths bathed in plenty of sunshine from the large windows which form the wall facing the generous parking lot.

“The City of Sachse has been extremely supportive and a great partner for us,” said Donna, herself a native of Wisconsin who met and married Jimmy and is now a full partner in the businesses.

“Coming to Sachse has been a wonderful experience and the right decision for us,” said Jimmy. “This feels like home.”

An official ribbon-cutting and grand opening is set for Saturday, Jan. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon with drawings for prizes from area businesses and free beverages.

Woodbridge Café can be found on Facebook and contact can be made by email at [woodbridgecafe75048@gmail.com](mailto:woodbridgecafe75048@gmail.com) or by phone at (469) 782-0184.

###

*Note: A photo file and cutline accompany this news release.*

**ABOUT THE CITY OF SACHSE** – Sachse is an emerging city in Collin and Dallas Counties with a population of 20,329 according to the 2010 census. Located about a mile north of the President George Bush Turnpike off State Hwy 78, the City is chartered as a Council-Manager municipality. Founded in 1845 by William Sachse, the City enjoys an eclectic mix of older, established neighborhoods and new residential and commercial developments. Proud of its history, the City is home to a strong historical restoration movement which includes an extensive history museum.

Photo and cutline:



**STAFF READY FOR PATRONS – Owners Jimmy and Donna Rushiti (center) are surrounded by the staff at Woodbridge Café, ready to provide home-style service to patrons. From left, Iain Hurley, Esat Rushiti, Frank Sula, Jimmy and Donna Rushiti, Daniella Paiva, Elaine Whelan, Ebony Jones and Patty Nieto welcome customers from 7 a.m. to 3 p.m. with a full breakfast and lunch menu. The Rushitis opened Woodbridge Café recently and are hosting a grand opening on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon. The café is located at 7340 Hwy 78 in Sachse.**