# Ennis NOW

GO OU

OCTOBER 2024

MAGAZINE

# The Sky's the Limit

Layton Wilder is flying in Oklahoma

# United Efforts

This Ellis County
group coordinates
assistance

In the Kitchen With Tania Gutierrez 2024 Hay Maze/ Pumpkin Patch Section

> Also inside: Scavenger Hunt

Featured Business: The Backyard

OSHCH TIMITEN OSHCH TIMITEN OSHCH TIMITEN

....ECHWSS EDDW....



Dr. Pedro F. Franco, DDS
Dr. Drew Havard, DDS
Dr. Ahmed Zaidi, DMD
Oral and Maxillofacial Surgeons



WE ACCEPT MOST INSURANCES

MEDICAID & CHIP

### THREE CONVENIENT LOCATIONS:

### **Ennis**

2200 W. Ennis Ave. Suite B Ennis , TX 75119

P:(972) 875-7616 F:(972) 875-7618

### Mesquite

2101 N. Belt Line Rd. Suite B Mesquite , TX 75150

P:(972) 270-6617 F:(972) 270-8381

### **Irving**

2727 N. O'Connor Rd. Irving , TX 75062

P:(972) 594-7414 F:(972) 594-1834

Hablamos Español
Visit our Website
www.dfwoms.com



MOM APPROVED









FOLLOW OUR SOCIAL MEDIA







When you make Ennis home, our team is here to be your guide.



Vanessa Zmolik Branch Menager NMLS #377756 M: 469.337.4578 vznolkk@guildmortgage.net Apply Online www.VanessaZmclik.com



Staci Fincher
Sales Menager
NMLS #469883
M: 469.337.4916
sfincher@guildmortgage.net
Apply Online
www.StaciFincher.com



Guild Mortgage Company: Equal Housing Opportunity; NMLS #3274.

www.nmls.consumeraccess.org/. All leans subject to underwriter approval. Terms and

conditions apply, subject to change without notice. Branch address: 101 NW Main St., Ennis, TX

75119. For more licensing information, please visit www.guildmortgage.com/licensing.





101 NW Main St., Ennis, TX | 972-878-2222 | www.citytxrealestate.com
Offices also located in Waxahachie, Midlothian, Corsicana and Red Oak.



Janie Hendrix Broker Associate



Melissa Montelongo Realtor 214.399.9044



Destinee Rudd Realtor 972.849.8642



Shellie Smiley York Realtor 469.245.5274



Jessica Braddock Realtor 214,289,4670



Josh Locke Realtor 903.819.1048



Becky Herrera Realtor 469.693.5227



Kim Lu Realtor 817.913.2693



Mariene Norcross Realtor 512.431.4413



Shirley Martine Broker Associat 972.742.5762



Jason York Realtor 903.851.3682

# Pecans, Candies & Pecan Pies! New Crop of Pecans Available!



Seasonal Gift Items

Inside & Outside Decor

New Crop Pecans

Walnuts

Almonds

**Dried Fruit** 

Peanut & Pecan Brittle

Pecan Pies

Fried Pies

**Chocolate Candies** 

Jams & Jellies

Sauces

Vegetable Plants

### NEW ITEMS ADDED REGULARLY!

We also carry fishing bait, fishing supplies and home decor.

### SERVING LUNCH DAILY

Hamburgers, Hot Dogs and Sandwiches Made with Fresh Sliced Meat from Our Deli Counter

Providing the Freshest Pecans for 35 Years!

"And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ." ~ Philippians 1:6





Hours: Mon.-Fri. 8 a.m.-5 p.m. | Sat. Hours: 8 a.m.-12 p.m.

903-345-2535 | Hwy. 31 W., Powell, TX Owners: Kim & Dennis Bancroft | HACC Compliant

If You Can't Get in to See Us ... Check Out Our Website!

WWW.GREENTREEPECAN.COM



Dr. Sudha Lakhwani DDS & Associates (972) 875-2501



\$30 Toothache Visit

Includes Necessary X-ray, Exam and Doctor Consultation Reg. Price \$100

Not valid with any other offers. Expires 10/31/24 \$99 New PATIENTS ONLY Dental Checkup (Regular price \$150)

Come meet our experienced, professional staff today & get your dental checkup! Simple cleaning • Necessary X-rays Excludes deep cleanings. Offer applies only in

Excludes deep cleanings. Offer applies only in the absence of gum disease. Expires 10/31/24

For Patients with No Insurance

Full Mouth Deep Cleaning \$600 Simple Cleaning \$75 Most Extractions \$250 (Excludes wisdom teeth)

Expires 10/31/24

\$250

Limited Exam & X-ray with a single extraction (Regular price \$350)

(Regular price \$350) Excludes wisdom teeth Expires 10/31/24

Tuesday - Friday 10 AM - 6 PM Saturday 9 AM - 3 PM Dr. SUDHA LAKHWANI DDS & Associate



1012 E. Ennis Ave Suite C Ennis, TX 75119



Accepting Medicaid & CHIP and All PPO insurances Walk-ins & Same-day Emergencies

11

Care Credit financing and payment plans available. Also accept Visa and MC.

Sample prices only. Actual prices may vary depending on final diagnosis by dentist.

### ON THE COVER



Layton Wilder is ready for takeoff.

Photo by Bill Smith.

Publisher, Connie Poirier General Manager, Rick Hensley

### **EDITORIAL**

Managing Editor, Becky Walker Ennis Editor, Bill Smith Office Assistant, Kristin Bato Writer, Angel Morris Editors/Proofreaders, Rachel Rich Virginia Riddle

### **GRAPHICS AND DESIGN**

Creative Director, Chris McCalla Artists, Jerri Akers . Kristin Bato Martha Macias . Anthony Sarmienta

### **PHOTOGRAPHY**

Photography Director, Chris McCalla Photographers, Kobbi R. Blair Bill Smith

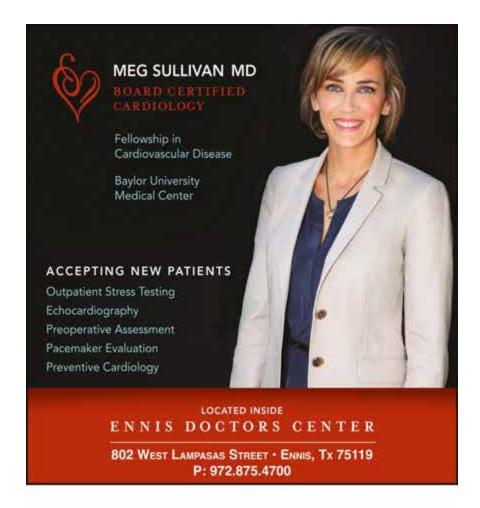
### **ADVERTISING**

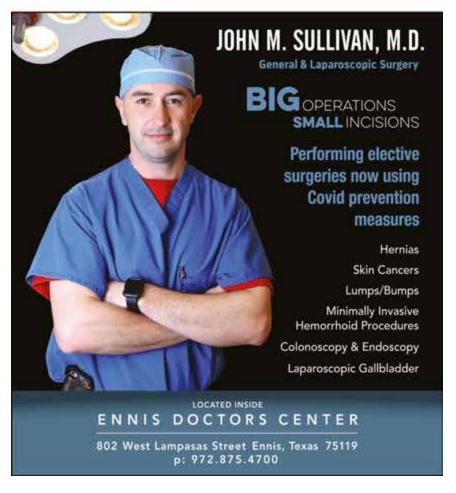
Advertising Representatives, Linda Roberson . Cherise Burnett Dustin Dauenhauer . Bryan Frye Kelsea Locke . Linda Moffett Karen Schaefer. Jeremy Young

Billing Manager, Angela Mixon

EnnisNOW is a NOW Magazines, L.L.C. publication. Copyright © 2024. All rights reserved. EnnisNOW is published monthly and individually mailed free of charge to homes and businesses in Ennis ZIP codes.

Subscriptions are available at the rate of \$35 per year or \$3.50 per issue. Subscriptions should be sent to: NOW Magazines, P.O. Box 1071, Waxahachie, TX 75168. For advertising rates or editorial correspondence, call (972) 875-3299 or visit www.nowmagazines.com.







(972) 843-1323

bill.smith@nowmagazines.com

### **EDITOR'S NOTE**

It's Fall, Y'all!

It's no secret that fall is my favorite season of the year. Summer is too hot. Winter is too cold, and spring can't make up its mind whether to be hot or cold. Spring can also be severely unpredictable. Remember the rain and thunderstorms last April and May?

But fall! After the sweltering summer, we start having some cool sunrises and sunsets. Storm season has passed, baseball is in the playoffs and football is in full swing. Evenings are even comfortable at the football games, especially when the sun drops behind the press box at Lion Memorial Stadium.

The Bluebonnet Market continues through the end of the month downtown, and the faithful vendors who suffered through the summer months are still there, and they appreciate your support. Most Saturday mornings you can catch my wife and I there, enjoying the fresh produce, baked goods and various crafts.

October in Ennis brings festivals hosted by churches and other local groups. I hope you were able to get out for Blues on Main last month. My family, including the grandkids, like to come and enjoy the hay maze and pumpkin patch. It is all month long, and it's the best place in town to take fall family photos!

October in our part of Texas does not include long periods of fall foliage like you might find in New England, but it is still my favorite time of year. How could you not like the month that gets us ready for Thanksgiving and Christmas?

Are you a fan of fall?

### Are You Registered to Vote P

October 7, 2024 deadline to register or update your registration for the November Election.

Register to Vote and find election information online at: www.co.ellis.tx.us/elections Facebook.com/

elliscountyelections

Email: Elections@co.ellis.tx.us Address: 204 E Jefferson St

Waxahachie, TX 75165

Phone: 972-825-5195

Scan QRCode for more information.



### **2024 General Election**

Early Voting:

Mon, October 21 --- Fri. October 25 8am-6pm Sat, October 26 7am-7pm Sun, October 27 1pm-7pm Mon, October 28 --- Fri. Nov. 1st 7am-7pm Locations:

- Ellis Co. Woman's Building (Davis Hall) \*\*Main Early Voting Site\* 407 W Jefferson Street, Waxahachie
- Ellis County Sub Courthouse (Conf. Rm) 207 S. Sonoma Trail, Ennis
- Midlothian Conference Center (Ballrooms) 1 Community Circle Drive, Midlothian
- Palmer ISD Annex Bldg (Portable Bldg) 303 Bulldog Way, Palmer
- Red Oak Municipal Center (Ballrooms) 200 Lakeview Parkway, Red Oak

Election Day: Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024 7am-7pm (Vote at any of the 30 vote center polling locations in Ellis County)

# RESTORATION 2024

### FOUR DAYS OF POWERFUL SINGING AND PREACHING

### CHRESTEN TOMLIN

Evangelist



Sun., 10/20 @ 10:30 AM

### **JOEY ROGERS**

Pastor I



Tues., 10/22 @ 7 PM

### IVAN PARKER

Gospel Singer



Sun., 10/20 @ 7 PM

### **JASON STIDHAM**

Evangelist



Wed., 10/23 @ 7 PM

### LORENZO SEWELL

Pastor



Mon., 10/21 @ 7 PM



Scan the QR code to learn more.

JOIN US AT THE HISTORIC CHAUTAUQUA **AUDITORIUM IN WAXAHACHIE, TX FOR AN** UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCE.

**OCTOBER** 20-23, 2024



f @RestorationCampMeeting



\$3 Crown
TUESDAY
\$2 Tequila
\$2 Tacos

BEVERAGES



### HAPPY HALLOWEEN

OCTOBER 25TH 8PM-12AM
ADULTS COSTUME PARTY WITH PRIZES
OCTOBER 26TH 6PM-9PM
KIDS COSTUME PARTY WITH PRIZES



### 469-881-1022 EnnisGameroom.com



807 West Lake Bardwell Drive • Ennis





# 

Layton Wilder has accomplished a lot in the 18 years he has been in Ennis. He recently graduated from Ennis High School as valedictorian. He took up flying and has already soloed several times. He loves being at the controls so much that he has chosen aviation as his future career.

"I've just always had an eye turned toward the sky," he remarked with a smile. "I look up when I hear a crop duster flying over. Planes have always fascinated me. My first flight was in 2019 out of Corsicana, and I trained at a private field, Eagles Nest Estates in Midlothian." Layton explained that his father, Ennis Police Officer Justyn Wilder, had worked security for a pilot there and recommended the instructors at Eagles Nest for his flight training. "My mother, Sara, is a teacher at Crockett Elementary, and I also have a sister, Ann. I know they support me in everything I do.

"I received my student pilot's license last December and my first solo flight was out of Ennis Airport. The student pilot's license requires 15 hours of ground school and a written test with the instructor's approval. Once that was completed, I could solo. I've never been scared in the air. There was not a copilot's seat in that plane, but I knew my instructor would not have let me go up alone in that \$100,000 plane if she did not have confidence in me. I have flown solo to Waco and Stephenville. For those flights, we do not have to file a flight plan. We calculate things like wind and fuel requirements and navigate by waypoints such as lakes and other features on the ground. The air controller for this area is in Fort Worth. They have the ability to track the plane, and I know they are there to help if needed. Once you start flying by instruments, you file flight plans," he informed.

In high school, Layton's favorite subjects were math and engineering, and he admitted his senior year was pretty tough with the goal to be valedictorian of his class. "I took some hard courses as a senior that helped me get my grade points up to where they needed to be," he said. It had been a goal from his earliest education. "I went to a family friend's graduation when I was just 5 or 6 years old. He was the valedictorian of his class, and I knew I wanted to give a speech like that someday."

Another interest Layton has is photography. It is a hobby he enjoys, and as one might guess, he concentrates on aviation photography. He has his drone license and works with the media team producing videos at Tabernacle Church.

"I also want to travel. I love Ennis. Growing up here has been great, and the community has given me lots of support. I am attending Oklahoma University now, and it is a new ball game compared to Ennis,"









Layton said. He admitted to being a Texas Longhorn fan until making the change to the Sooners. He continued, "I chose Oklahoma because they have the highest rated aviation program in the nation. My other choices were Baylor University and Oklahoma State, but when I got accepted by OU, it was a no-brainer."

The OU School of Aviation has been around since 1947. The school offers five concentrations in their undergraduate program, emphasizing aviation management and also professional pilots (Layton's obvious choice). Their website boasts about their development of the student's knowledge, leadership and communication skills for their aviation careers. The fleet of aircraft that will be available to Layton includes two new PA44-189 Seminoles. They claim their flagship is a late-'90s model King Air C90B that they purchased in 2005. "I will be able to complete all of the ratings up to flight instructor at OU," he enthused.

Sitting outside at Ennis Municipal Airport, Layton nodded knowingly at the pilot as a small plane prepared to take off. He also knew the other plane parked in front of the local office and hangar. His first lessons and solo flights were in the Cessna 172. "I can identify most planes that fly over. I actually have a chart in my room at home with silhouettes of World War II planes from both the Allies and the Axis. The chart has a heading, 'How to Identify Warplanes.' It is just a passion with me," he said.

At Oklahoma University Layton will be in the Air Force ROTC. "My initial goals include getting hired back at OU after I graduate as an instructor. I plan to be in the National Guard, so I will be able to have a full-time civilian job also. Eventually, I want to be a full-time commercial pilot.

"I am looking forward to traveling a lot, including overseas. I have never been to Europe, but I want to go there. I know I would not want to live there, but visiting should be great!" he exclaimed. "Commercial aviation offers lots of benefits, and it is fascinating. Like everyone else, I am in awe at the size of the planes, and amazed that they can get them off the ground! I think it will be great that I would get paid to travel, and my family could fly free also."

Wilbur Wright said, "The desire to fly is an idea handed down to us by our ancestors who, in their grueling travels across trackless lands in prehistoric times, looked enviously on the birds soaring freely through space, at full speed, above all obstacles, on the infinite highway of the air." Layton has brought the desire that Wright spoke of into his own reality. He plans to soar above the eagles. NOW





### **Primary Care Services**

- Diabetes Management
   Hypertension Management
- Cholesterol Management
   Preventative Care
- Disease Management
   Acute Illnesses and Injuries
- Asthma/COPD/CHF Heart Failure
- Allergy Testing & Weight Loss Strategies

Accepting PPO, HMO, Medicare and Medicare Advantage Plans

### **Accepting New Patients** and Walk-ins

Call now to schedule an appointment. (469) 719-3690

Hours: Mon.-Fri.: 9 AM-5 PM; Sat.: 9 AM-3 PM Email: office@1sthealthclinics.com • https://1sthealthclinics.com/

Se Habla Español!



### Dr. Federico Maese

Leading Dallas Internist & Cardiologist for over 25 years.

2 LOCATIONS: Red Oak 269 East Ovilla Road Ste 100 Red Oak, TX 75154

> Ennis 400 I-45 Suite 130 Ennis, TX 75119



### **OPEN POSITIONS:**

Machine Operator • Forklift Drivers Industrial Maintenance Mechanics • Electricians

### BENEFITS:

- Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield Insurance (Medical, Dental, and Vision)
  - Parental Leave
  - Up to 6% company match on 401(k) contributions
    - Charitable matching program
      - Free lunch Fridays
        - And more

To apply go to: https://careers.jameshardie.com



### **BusinessNOW**

### The Backyard

- By Bill Smith

The Backyard 115 SW Main St. Ennis, TX 75119 (972) 268-4629 thebackyardennistx@gmail.com Facebook: The Backyard Ennis Instagram: thebackyard\_ennistx

Hours: Wednesday-Thursday: Noon-9:00 p.m. Friday-Saturday: Noon-11:00 p.m.

As a plumbing contractor, Todd Wagliardo related that food trucks are one of his go-to dining options as he travels around the state. "I enjoy casual dining," he said. "One of the things I noticed about the restaurants in town was a lack of entertainment options for kids, especially when families were getting together with larger groups, and they might be at the restaurant for an hour-and-a-half or more."

The outdoor space with a variety of food trucks and entertainment options is a niche that The Backyard is able to fill. Mandy Tate said they scour the internet to find the various food trucks that frequent The Backyard. "When we first started, we contacted the local trucks that set up at the various events around town. Now we are a part of a number of Facebook groups that keep our name in front of the food truck operators, as well as give us leads to contact for them to check us out. We also have operators reach out to us because they heard about us through word of mouth."

The grand opening for The Backyard was in December 2022. "We were really well received," Mandy recalled. "It was a cold day, but we had nine food trucks. Over 1,000 people came through, and I remember a really big seller that day was Italian Ice."

Texas weather can be a challenge for an outdoor venue, but The Backyard has the amenities to provide a comfortable experience dining outdoors. October is a great month for comfortable temperatures, but as cooler temperatures approach, numerous portable heaters are spread throughout the park. In the summer months, shade has been provided by umbrellas at the tables, and during the latter part of this past summer, a large awning was added to cover almost the entire dining area, as well as giant cooling fans.

"One of the comments the truck operators have made is that they can come here and rest for a while because it makes their job easier," Todd mentioned. "Señor Bigoton is one of our current vendors and has been here from the very start. They love the design and amenities of our park."

Mandy offered reasons why the patrons keep coming back, saying, "In addition to the food trucks, on Wednesday nights, we have bingo at 7:00 p.m. with cash prizes. On Saturday evenings, we have live music from 6:00-9:00 p.m. (as the weather permits), and we have something special for every holiday. This month, we have cruise-in nights on the 11th and 25th from 6:00-8:00 p.m. At the back of the park, yard games like cornhole and giant Jinga are available, and table games are available for free at the bar."

"The outdoor space with a variety of food trucks and entertainment options is a niche that The Backyard is able to fill."

The bar is also leased. It is a concession-style bar with a broad variety of offerings, including beer, wine, liquor and frozen drinks, as well as nonalcoholic beverages for kids.

In the future, Todd would like to see The Backyard include eight full-time trucks offering a constant variety of foods, plus one rotating truck. "We can comfortably park 10 trucks in here, and it just takes eight or nine to provide a big variety. For a get-together with a large group, such as a birthday party, it is attractive because the people can get what they want — everyone does not have to have just pizza.

"We have some companies and families who are regulars here, and we appreciate their business. The city health inspector has been great, and Becky McCarty and her crew have done a lot for us."

Todd and Mandy both emphasized that The Backyard is a place for the whole community to enjoy. Mandy said, "Thanks for your support. We look forward to being able to fill up all of the truck spaces and the tables!" NOW

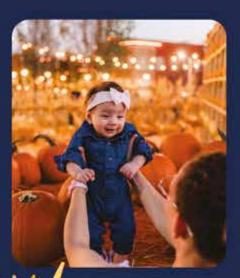


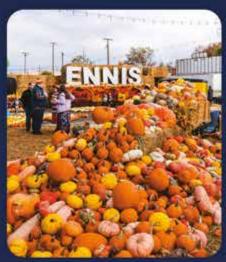
D. BLAYNE LAWS, M.D. www.FamilyCareClinicForADHD.com Se habla Español

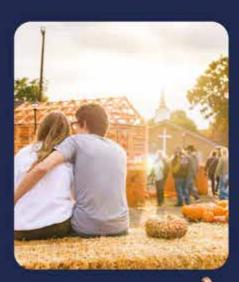
HANDLEIT WE'RE YOUR DESTINATION FOR QUALITY FIREARMS. (214)463-5138 | HOURS OF OPERATION: MONDAY-FRIDAY 10AM-6PM 291 Eagles Drive, Ennis, Texas 75119

### HISTORIC DOWNTOWN ENNIS

# HYMAZE AND \* PUMPKIN PATCH









- @VISITENNISTEXAS
- @ DOWNTOWNENNISTX

VISITENNISTEXAS.COM



CITY OF ENNIS

ENNIS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

OCT. 1-31

## \* HAY MAZE & PUMPKIN PATCH \*







### Create an affordable price, just for you.

Introducing the State Farm<sup>\*</sup> Personal Price Plan™

Jenny Vidrine, Agent 2106 W Ennis Avenue Ennis, TX 75119 Bus: 972-875-4791 jennyvidrine.com Hablamos Español

1708168.2

We're excited about serving you. Stop by and see us soon!

Like a good neighbor. State Farm is there.



State Farm Bloomington, IL









## \* HAY MAZE & PUMPKIN PATCH \*









### **Around Town**





Coach Sam Harrell speaks about Ennis Lions football.

### Zoomed In:

### By Angel Morris

### Mia DeCapua and Makenna Feller

As co-captains of the 37th Line of the Ennis Lionettes, Mia DeCapua and Makenna Feller are proven leaders. This is the fourth year for each of these young ladies to perform with the well-known dance team.

Mia said, "I joined Lionettes because I have a passion for dance. I hope to be able to be on a college dance team in the future." She indicated that her favorite subject is math. "I do not know what major I will select in college, but I'm pretty sure I will try to minor in dance."

Makenna likes English at EHS, and she likes to read romance novels. Her favorite part of Lionettes is the opportunity to get together with her friends every day. "I'm not sure what next year will bring, but possibly attending a Christian college," she suggested.



Claudia Steindl makes crafts at the Ennis Public Library event, sponsored by H-E-B.



City employees discuss plans for a new park at Lions Club.



Robert Almaraz and Poncho enjoy the puppy park.



Robert, Ashley and Liam Garza enjoy an evening at The Backyard food truck park.



This group of future Lions enjoys Meet the Lions Night at Memorial Stadium.



Window to the Wild presents an educational raptor show.







Cooking helps Tania Gutierrez relax, and it is a way to show how much she cares for her loved ones. "I find inspiration and satisfaction when I serve meals to them," she said. "I follow chefs from all over the world on social media, and when I find a recipe I love, I go over ingredients and remove or add items we use in Mexico to give it my own twist. I grew up in Laredo, Texas, right on the border with Mexico. We learned the best of U.S. and Mexican cuisines.

"I started cooking when I was around 7 years old," she continued. "Many of my recipes are inherited, especially the ones I use during holidays like Thanksgiving and Christmas." Now

### Mole

- 3 dried chipotle chiles, stemmed and seeded
- 2 dried guajillo chiles, stemmed and seeded
- 2 dried ancho chiles, stemmed and seeded
- 3 cups chicken broth (divided use)
- I dinner roll, torn into pieces
- 2 corn tortillas, cut into 1-inch strips
- 5 tomatillos, cut in half crosswise

- 2 tomatoes, cut in half crosswise
- 1 Tbsp. lard
- I onion, halved and thinly sliced
- 1/2 head garlic, peeled and sliced
- 1/3 cup peanuts, chopped
- 1/4 cup raisins
- 2 Tbsp. cumin seeds
- 1 Tbsp. dried thyme
- 6 whole allspice berries
- 5 whole cloves
- 3 cinnamon sticks
- 5 oz. dark chocolate, coarsely chopped

### 3 Tbsp. white sugar 1 tsp. salt

- **1.** Toast the chipotle, guajillo and ancho chiles in a dry pan over medium heat, stirring constantly, until warm and aromatic, about 3 minutes. Transfer to a blender.
- **2.** Heat 2 cups chicken broth in a saucepan until it begins to simmer, about 5 minutes. Pour the broth into the blender.
- **3.** Toast dinner roll pieces and tortilla strips in a dry pan over medium heat, stirring constantly, until lightly browned, about 3 minutes. Transfer to the blender with the chicken broth and chiles.
- **4.** Allow the chiles, toasted bread and tortillas to soak, fully submerged, in the chicken broth, until softened, about 10 minutes. Blend the mixture until smooth.
- **5.** Cook the tomatillos and tomatoes in a dry skillet on medium-high heat until soft and blackened, 3 to 4 minutes per side. Place in the blender with the chile puree.
- **6.** Melt the lard in a large skillet over medium heat. Stir in the onions, garlic, peanuts, raisins, cumin seeds, thyme,

allspice berries, cloves and cinnamon sticks; cook and stir until the onions are soft and golden, 5 to 8 minutes.

- **7.** Remove the cinnamon sticks and other whole spices; add the onion mixture to the blender with the chile-tomato mixture. Blend until smooth.
- **8.** Pour the chile puree into a large saucepan over medium heat. Stir in the 1 remaining cup of chicken broth, chocolate, sugar and salt. Bring the mixture to a simmer; stir until the chocolate is melted and the sauce is thickened and slightly reduced, 10 to 15 minutes.

### Santa Fe Beef and Corn Chili

1 lb. ground beef

- I tsp. minced garlic
- 1 15 1/2-oz. can red kidney beans,
- 1 15 1/4-oz. can sweet corn, drained
- 1 15-oz. can tomato sauce
- 1 14 1/2-oz. can diced tomatoes with mild green chilies, undrained
- 1 1 1/4-oz. pkg. chili seasoning mix 3/4 cup dairy sour cream
- $1 \frac{1}{2}$  tsp. green hot pepper sauce
- **1.** Heat a large nonstick skillet over medium heat until hot. Add the ground beef and garlic; cook 8 to 10 minutes, breaking into small crumbles and stirring occasionally. Pour off the drippings, if necessary. Cooking Tip: Cooking times are for fresh or thoroughly thawed ground beef. Ground beef should be cooked to an internal temperature of 160 F. Color is not a reliable indicator of ground beef doneness.
- 2. Stir in the beans, corn, tomato sauce, tomatoes and chili seasoning; bring to a boil. Reduce heat; simmer, uncovered, for 20 minutes, stirring occasionally.
- 3. Meanwhile, combine the sour cream and pepper sauce in a small bowl. Serve with the chili.





### Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC



### Financial goals aren't achieved overnight.

Whether it's investing some extra income, preparing a future for your family with your retirement secured, or saving for a home or education costs, we're here to coach you through it.

Let's start building the future today.



Jeff Irish, AAMS™ Financial Advisor 1905 West Ennis Avenue Suite #401 Ennis, TX 75119 972-875-4706

MICO-BISSE-A AECSPAD TIMES





### **New Hours Starting**

October 1, 2024

Thursday 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm Friday 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm Saturday 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm Sunday 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm

New Menu Item: Pizza!



### Dinner at the Vineyard

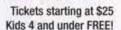


4 course wine-paired dinner October 12th at 7:30 pm



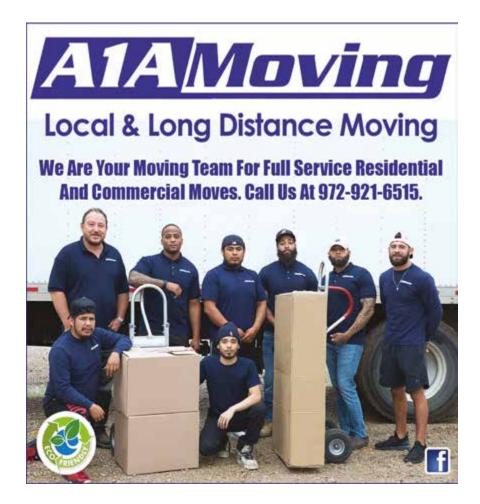
October 18th 7:00 pm October 19th 3:00 pm & 7:00 pm October 20th 3:00 pm

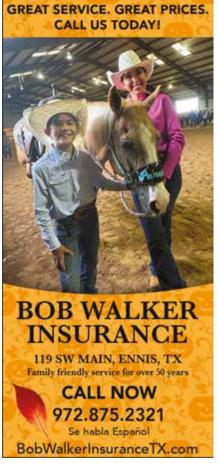
### **Purchase Tickets**













Norma Black, winner of \$50 cash. said, "I've played a few times before winning. My favorite part about the magazine is looking at all the ads and studying them."





### Tonja Barnebee CPA, PC

Tax Preparation • Payroll • Bookkeeping QuickBooks Consultations & Training For your Past, Present and Future Accounting Needs

972-875-9900

Monday - Thursday 8:30 AM- 5:00 PM 900 WEST ENNIS AVENUE #103 • ENNIS, TX

NOW ACCEPTING NEW CLIENTS!





### Gates and Fences

- Professional Craftsmanship
- Competitive Prices
- Guaranteed
- Unmatched Commitment



Hours: Mon - Fri: 7AM-6PM Saturday: 8AM-2PM Sunday: Closed



Waxahachie • 972-937-6654

Extended Hours to Better Serve YOU!









morgandentistry.co

# UNITED EFFORES



— By Angel Morris

Just as its name implies, Unite Ellis is an organization bringing together multiple groups to help locals in need. Through collaborative efforts, leaders in business, church, education, government and other nonprofits partner to uplift the community. At Unite's helm is Anna Hammonds. "We have amazing people doing amazing things in this county. Unite's mission is to ensure we're all working together to best utilize resources," Anna explained.



When someone can't be helped by an individual organization, Unite puts its network in motion. "With my co-champion, Chris Aguilar, we utilize about 150 people across the county to help with housing and homelessness, domestic violence, poverty and other issues," Anna shared.

In this way, Unite is about more permanent solutions. "If we work together, we're not only more effective, but we limit duplication of services and can move toward longer-term change — helping people thrive and flourish rather than just moving them on until they need help again," Anna underscored.

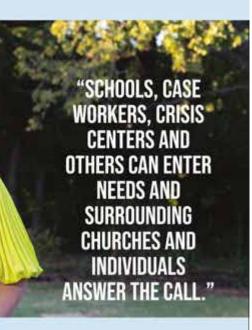
Working in the nonprofit/social services sector since 2005, Anna was drawn to Unite as a means to help the community in which she lived. She and her husband, Danny, and their four children, have lived in Midlothian since 2013, where Anna has served on the City Council, the MISD Education Foundation Board, within her church and as a business owner. "Those areas parallel the entities partnered within Unite," Anna noted. "The root of what we do as a family is our love for Jesus and wanting to make an impact in a direct way in the world, which means rolling your sleeves up and jumping in.

"In that same sense, Unite is about addressing all areas of human flourishing, including mental and physical health, vocational health, relational health, financial health and spiritual health," Anna continued.

Some of Anna's favorite success stories include Unite partners helping a single mom of two children move from a hotel to a rent house, with all appliances and furniture donated; purchasing a new trailer for a couple who lost theirs to a fire; providing things like backpacks, take-home meals, all-sizes of underwear, hygiene products and sensory rooms for schools; and directing pregnant teens to resources for when babies arrive. "There was a mom who was about to receive citations for not keeping up with her lawn. Our network not only mowed for her but bought a lawnmower and taught her sons how to use it," Anna recalled. "Teach a man to fish!"

Under the umbrella of Unite Greater Dallas — which serves seven counties — Unite Ellis utilizes CarePortal, a software project to connect families in crisis to a network of organizations that can meet their basic needs. "Schools, case workers, crisis centers and others can enter needs and surrounding churches and individuals answer the call," Anna explained. "CarePortal is one of our biggest tools and getting more people and more schools online is awesome!"

Unite also conducts Cost of Poverty Experience (COPE) simulations, giving participants a glimpse into the lives of low-income individuals and families — a look at the obstacles and decisions that impact them every day while living in poverty.



"Certainly there are times when people think others are just taking advantage of the system, and sometimes that is true, but it is rare." Anna shared, "There are so many obstacles to overcoming the cycle of poverty, COPE is truly an eye-opener toward understanding how infuriating it can be for the person really trying to better their life."

COPE is one of the most-requested tools of Unite Greater Dallas and has been facilitated 120 times for 100 groups of people with more than 8,000 participants over seven years. "What address does a homeless person list on job applications? Where do they clean up for interviews? How does an undocumented family living in a car learn how to do things the right way? How does a victim of violence get away?" Anna questioned. "COPE addresses these and so many more eye-opening issues."

Unite is keenly aware that poverty is about more than finances. "When people don't have relationships in their life, a basic support system for needs or advice, everything else can begin to collapse. Pepper in mental health or addiction issues, and the struggle is that much worse," Anna reminded.

Unite networks meet all across the county on a consistent basis by geography, service line and sector. "Our hope is that you will be inspired to become a part of someone else's success story," Anna shared. "Communities flourish when we unite." NOW

Editor's Note: Learn more at www.uniteellis.org.









### 10/1-10/31

### Hay Maze and Pumpkin Patch in the North Plaza: For more information, contact

the Ennis Welcome Center, 201 NW Main Street. (972) 878-4748.

### 10/5

### **Ennis ISD Choirs Perform:**

Come enjoy our local vocalists as they present several choral groups. Free. 10:00-11:00 a.m., downtown near the Bluebonnet Market. For more information, contact the Ennis Welcome Center, 201 NW Main St., or call (972) 878-4748.

### 10/12

### The Rescue Haven Graduation Ceremony:

Come celebrate recovery with our most recent graduates. 9:00 a.m.-noon, Eastside Church of Christ, 607 Martin Luther King, Visit www. therescuehaven.com or email lisa@therecuehaven.com.

### 10/14

### **Ennis Chamber of Commerce Golf Classic:**

Individual players: \$185. Sponsor opportunities at various levels. Check-in: 11:30 a.m.; shotgun start: 1:00 p.m., Old Brickyard Golf Course, 605 North Interstate 45, Ferris. To register, email gwilliams@ennis-chamber.com or visit www.ennis-chamber.com.

### 10/26

### Crossroads of Texas Country Festival:

This new and improved arts and music festival includes 10-time Grammy Award winner Asleep at the Wheel, 200-plus artists/craftspeople, music on 10-plus stages, food and more. Free admission. 9:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m., Downtown Waxahachie. www.texascountryfestival.com.

10/31

Halloween Trunk or

### **Treat and Block Party:**

Sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. 6:00-9:00 p.m., two locations, downtown Ennis and Bluebonnet Park. For our merchants, this is a fantastic opportunity to showcase your business while providing a safe and fun environment for families. Get creative and decorate your trunk, hand out treats and connect with potential customers in a fun, festive atmosphere. For more details, visit our website or contact us by phone at (972) 878-2625 or email, jennifer@ ennis-chamber.com.

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





WE ARE A WELLNESS AND TOXICOLOGY LAB THAT OFFERS A
WIDE RANGE OF SERVICES INCLUDING DRUG & ALCOHOL TESTING, DOT TESTING,
SNEAK PEEK GENDER TESTING, YOURTEARS FOR DRY EYES, WELLNESS PANELS
AND SO MUCH MORE!

YOU DON'T NEED A PHYSICIAN'S ORDER TO OBTAIN LAB WORK!

LET US SHOW YOU HOW!!

VISIT US AT:

2508 W. 2ND AVENUE

CORSICANA, TX 75110

(903) 874 -9007

WWW.ARCPOINTLABS.COM/CORSICANA



# COMPLETE HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER

### INTRODUCES |

Regenerative Medicine with Platelet Rich Plasma (PRP) Therapy

A proven safe and effective way to treat Arthritis and other conditions without using any medications.

The Solution is in your blood.

Conditions that can be treated with PRP Therapy:

- Bursitis
- Bursitis Tendonitis
- Degenerative Arthritis
- Muscle, Ligament and Tendon tears/injuries
- And Many more

### **Relieve Knee Pain with Regenerative Medicine**

Our FDA cleared Knee Pain/Osteoarthritis Treatment

Treatment is safe, easy and requires NO SURGERY

Call today if you experience any degree of joint pain or discomfort.

> Treatment is covered by most insurance companies.

We Believe in Living Life Pain Free

469-732-0880 or 972-937-0086

or email us at: completehealthmedicalcenter@gmail.com

COMPLETE HEALTH MEDICAL CENTER • 905 FERRIS AVENUE • WAXAHACHIE

WWW.COMPLETEHEALTHMEDICALCENTER.COM

Call to make your appointment & receive a FREE Acoustic Wave Treatment.



LIVE MUSIC

FOOD & CRAFT Vendors

COTTON GIN Tour

CHILI Cook-off

ANTIQUE TRACTOR Show

INDIAN TRAIL
MASTER NATURALIST



Saturday, October 19th

KerensCottonHarvestFestival.com

Proceeds benefit the Kerens Library

STREET DANCE

CLASSIC CAR Show

PANCAKE Breakfast

Exhibits

PH0T0 Contest

QUILT RAFFLE & Show







TITLE SPONSORS







# CAMELOT DENTAL and Orthodontics

The absolute BEST in family dentistry and now offering new services!



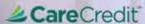
- State-of-the-art digital dental practice!
   No messy impressions!
- Regular Checkups
  - Root Canals
- Wisdom Teeth
  - Dentures

### BRACES

- Compassionate and friendly staff
- Medicaid-Chip and most PPO insurances

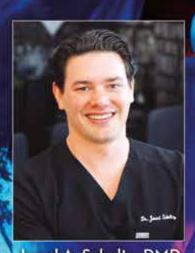


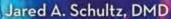




Se Habla Español

"Extremely professional staff, very engaging with patients, fun ambiance and extremely fast service!" Fernando F.







Clayton Fisher, DDS





SCAN HERE

710 W. Ennis Ave., Ennis, TX Call or Text 972-875-8775