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AUGUST 2022

A Heart for Ukraine

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Lions Varsity Football
Schedule

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Crossword/Sudoku

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Twisted Metal Rod
& Collision

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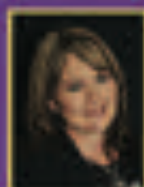
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ON THE COVER



Darryl Willis displays a Ukrainian Bible in his home.

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A vertical advertisement for Meg Sullivan MD. On the right is a portrait of a smiling woman with short blonde hair, wearing a light-colored blazer over a dark blue top. On the left, there is a red heart logo with a white caduceus inside. Text to the left of the portrait reads: "MEG SULLIVAN MD", "BOARD CERTIFIED CARDIOLOGY", "Fellowship in Cardiovascular Disease", and "Baylor University Medical Center". Below this, it says "ACCEPTING NEW PATIENTS" followed by a list of services: "Outpatient Stress Testing", "Echocardiography", "Preoperative Assessment", "Pacemaker Evaluation", and "Preventive Cardiology". At the bottom, a red banner contains the text: "LOCATED INSIDE ENNIS DOCTORS CENTER", "802 WEST LAMPASAS STREET. ENNIS, TX 75119", and "P: 972.875.4700".

A vertical advertisement for John M. Sullivan, M.D. On the left is a portrait of a man in blue scrubs and a blue surgical cap, with his arms crossed. On the right, the text reads: "JOHN M. SULLIVAN, M.D.", "General & Laparoscopic Surgery", "BIG OPERATIONS", "SMALL INCISIONS", "Performing elective surgeries now using Covid prevention measures". Below this is a list of procedures: "Hernias", "Skin Cancers", "Lumps/Bumps", "Minimally Invasive Hemorrhoid Procedures", "Colonoscopy & Endoscopy", and "Laparoscopic Gallbladder". At the bottom, a dark blue banner contains the text: "LOCATED INSIDE ENNIS DOCTORS CENTER", "802 West Lampasas Street Ennis, Texas 75119", and "p: 972.875.4700".

EDITOR'S NOTE



Bill

Bill Smith
EnnisNOW Editor
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(972) 843-1323

Fore!

I used to play a lot of golf, perhaps too much. It was just so convenient when we had a course here. I could get off work at 5:00 in the afternoon and be teeing off by 5:30. We had a regular group of guys, and we all knew how each one played, so we could divide up into relatively even teams within just a few minutes. Players were generally “ranked” A through D, and in addition to four- or five-man teams, two men from one team would also be playing against two from another team, and there would also be individual matches taking place. When it was time at the end of the round to see who won, it was probably a good thing that those little pencils did not have erasers!

Occasionally, we would get a group together to go out of town for the weekend to either play in a tournament or just play each other like we did at the local course. We had more fun than the law should have allowed at a tournament in Pine Bluff, Arkansas, and I’ll never forget the trip to Granbury, Texas.

When our local course closed several years ago, some of the “regulars” chose to go to one of the neighboring cities that have a course to have a regular game. Others chose to travel around the area and play different courses each week, and a few (like me) essentially gave up the game. I continued to play in a few charity tournaments in the area, but there’s nothing like having a local golf course.

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A Heart for Ukraini

— By Bill Smith

Darryl Willis speaks from his heart when he recalls the beautiful country and beautiful people of Ukraine. Having made more than 25 visits to the war-torn country over the years, he has friends and colleagues who remain there, as well as some who are refugees for a second time, the first time being when Russia invaded the country from the east in 2014.

“I have a lot of dear friends in Ukraine,” Darryl began. “We thank God for Facebook instant messaging. It is one of the few ways we can communicate. I have a friend who has served as my interpreter when I have been there. She is the same age as my eldest child, and she calls me her dad. She is in Zaporizhzhia, about 130 miles from Mariupol. Her parents are in Rozivka, about 35 miles away, and it has been taken over by the Russians. We try to talk or leave voice messages every night.”

Since 2017, Darryl has been a regional director for Eastern European Mission. EEM is primarily an organization that publishes, prints and distributes Bibles and Bible-based materials in more than 30 countries and over 20 languages through a vast network of partner churches and organizations. Prior to assuming the role of regional director, Darryl was the youth camp program director. As program director, he had a host of responsibilities that were often done in Ukraine, including recruiting and training teams to build relationships, distribute Bibles and Bible literature and teach character traits and values to children in the Pioneer Youth Camps in Ukraine. During this time, he also developed curriculum and training material for the organization.



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"We eventually came to realize that the youth camps were a 'mission drift' from our primary purpose and decided to turn the youth camps over to another organization. EEM provided grants to them for a couple of years, and we still provide Bibles and other camp literature," Darryl continued. "We also continue to provide Bibles in the public school system. In Ukraine, the Bible is used to teach the students character."

"The Bibles we distribute are translated from the original languages that are available by professional Bible scholars, and we pay them royalties for their work. In Ukraine, Bibles are very expensive, but our distribution program is very efficient. Only about 4 percent of gifts to EEM go to administration and 9 percent for development. All of the rest goes to production and distribution of the Bibles, making them free to everyone who receives one. In 2021, we gave away over 1.5 million Bibles."

Although Darryl claims to speak only a little Russian and Ukrainian, when he says in one of these languages that he only speaks a little, his eyes light up and he sounds like he might be speaking his native tongue. His wife, Terri, commented, "You can tell he loves Ukraine!" It is very clear.

While his responsibilities have changed significantly since he was director of the youth camps, Darryl still has colleagues in the youth camp program that is part of another organization. "Inna lives in Kharkiv, which is also one of the major cities being bombed. She continues to serve there. Our EEM staff had an office in Donetsk when the war broke out in 2014, and they fled to Kyiv. When the present conflict started, the employees in Ukraine had the freedom to make their own decisions, whether to stay or evacuate. My colleague, Dasha Novakova and all except one of our staff members moved to our office in Vienna, Austria. This is crucial to understand. Many of our staff members have been refugees twice now, because of the two separate wars Ukraine has experienced in a relatively few years."

Darryl affirms that EEM is not a humanitarian aid organization, and that they are not about to try to "reinvent that wheel." He said, "We are very good at raising funds, and we are a



very effective and efficient conduit to get the funds where they need to be to do the most good. When funds are received at EEM that are earmarked for Ukrainian aid, 100 percent of it goes to the relief efforts. We do not have any transfer or administrative fees taken from them," he continued. "There are a lot of organizations and individuals that are generous and want to assist by gathering supplies here and shipping them to Poland or some of the other countries that have been accepting Ukrainian refugees. They are much appreciated. However, it is a costly process to pack and ship the goods. We have found that the products the refugees need are already produced or available in Poland and the other countries in the area. Our staff in Vienna manages these funds, and they know the charities that have 'boots on the ground' that the money can be channeled through to obtain what the refugees need, and to get it in their hands. We do receive requests for funds from other organizations, and all of these requests are properly screened."

With so much change taking place because of the war, it would probably be easy to lose focus. Darryl said, "We cannot abandon our core mission. Seventy-five percent of the public schools in Ukraine use the Bibles we provide to teach character. We also have over 600,000 Bibles in public schools in Croatia. We are seeing walls come down because of the Bibles. The requests are growing exponentially. We can never produce enough to meet the requests. If we had the funds, we could easily distribute 2.4 million Bibles in a year."

"Ukraine desperately needs our help and support. We don't need to forget them. They don't just need a moment in time. They need us long term. At the very least, but at the very most, pray. Don't underestimate the value of prayer and communication." **NOW**



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If you have any questions, please contact the Athletic Office at 972-872-7374.

EISD Athletic Department

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9/9 COLLEYVILLE HERITAGE
9/16 @ CORSICANA
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— By Bill Smith

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Gabe Larez brought Twisted Metal Rod & Collision to Ennis in 2003, but it was not an easy decision to make. “We had a



lot of customers in the Carrollton/Farmers Branch area, and I was afraid we would lose them if we moved down here,” Gabe recalled. “Our old clientele essentially sustained us for the first three years here. We transported their cars down here to work on them, then transported them back.”

The move to Ennis was primarily because the business needed shop space, and they found the building on Avenue F was the size they were looking for, and it was more affordable than what was available in the Metroplex. “During those first few years, I did most of the work myself, with the assistance of some students that the high school referred to us from their vocational education program. At the time, we were primarily building hot rods, and the body work expanded from there,” Gabe added.

Gabe has been doing something with cars since he was about 17 years old, when he started washing cars. “Larry Riggs is the one who brought me into the hot rod business,

and he has been like a father to me over the years. He had a lot to do with convincing me that the business could grow in a smaller community," Gabe related. "I had always lived in the city, but now that I am here, I love the small town. The people are so friendly. I even met my wife here!" Gabe has a record of community service also, having served as local Lions Club president and also delivering Meals on Wheels.

Twisted Metal does everything related to auto body repairs, from complete restorations and insurance work to painting. They work on all makes and models, and the customer's satisfaction is their No. 1 goal. "The one thing we need right now is to hire some more employees," Gabe said. "Before COVID-19, we maintained a staff of 10-12 employees. Today, we have six. If someone is willing to work, they need to come see us."

"We still pride ourselves on getting repairs done in a timely manner. The only exception to getting the work out, when we expect to, is parts delays. Hopefully, the supply-chain issues will be behind us soon."

The hot rod business has mainly been for car shows, but Gabe, himself, had a passion for racing a few years back, mostly at Cedar Creek and Yellow Belly drag strips. Twisted Metal's website proudly cites that their work has been featured in *Hot Rod Magazine*, *Car Craft Magazine* and *Super Chevy Magazine*. They have also received awards for Best in Show and Best in Paint at local and national shows for many years.

Gabe acknowledged that the car repair business has changed over the years, and it has been important to keep up with the technology. "Everything is computerized now," he said. "Even the hot rods have computers. We have not had a lot of total electric vehicles yet, but we know they are coming, and it requires that our tech employees go back to school. We have already worked on a lot of hybrid vehicles."

"We believe the future of Ennis, and our business here is bright. We have some land behind the shop where we plan to expand. We are so happy to be in Ennis, and we really want to thank our friends and customers for their support." **NOW**

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Jim Wehmeier, and Jess and Brenda Haupt explore the new Ennis City Hall.

Zoomed In: Roy Almond and Pedro Lozano

By Bill Smith

Neither Firemen Roy Almond nor Pedro Lozano are natives of Ennis, but both are obviously happy to be here and part of the Ennis Fire Department. “I have been here for eight years and just had to come from Maypearl to get here,” Roy said. “I came to Ennis because three of my instructors at Navarro were with EFD: Jeff Aycock, Chad Wester and Gary Cochran.

Originally from Pleasant Grove, Pedro said with a smile, “I got to Ennis by luck!” Pedro has been with EFD for five years, is a paramedic, and he works out of Station 1, while Roy works at Station 3. Both men acknowledged that a lot of changes have taken place in the few years they have been in Ennis, as two new stations have been built.



Ennis Mayor Angie Juenemann, City Commissioner Kameron Rabum and County Judge Todd Little help kick off the Ennis Sesquicentennial.



Alex Rendon, principal at the Alamo School, addresses the community at the open house.



The Vine at 119 holds a ribbon cutting and open house.



Joe and Kitty Crow enjoy the Bluebonnet Market with their granddaughter, Ryann.



Abigail Flores, Jean Carlo Boceyo and Joel Flores cool off at the Rotary Park Splash Pad.



Alma Doig beats the heat at the Ennis Public Library.

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Desiree Gruben, May 2022 Graduate

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Welcome to the 2022-2023 School Year!

During the 2021-2022 school year, our staff began the work of assisting our students in the many academic, mental health, and attendance areas that came about due to the COVID pandemic. We saw many improvements but understand there are more challenges ahead as we move our students down the path to exceeding their potential.

We are eagerly anticipating another great year of student success here at Ennis ISD. In order for this success to be fully realized, it will take a continued effort of students, staff, parents, and community to pull together to give our students all the resources needed.

While there are many issues on which we must focus, school safety must always be the number one priority on all of our campuses. We continue to review safety plans and protocols, ensure staff and students are properly trained, and make sure our EISD Police Department is collaborating with the City of Ennis Police Department to keep a positive working relationship.

PULL
HERE

Our goal is not only to keep all students safe but also to make sure parents feel their children are safe when they send them through our campus doors each morning.

We are looking forward to seeing all the smiling faces on August 11th and are excited about all the success our students will achieve in 2022-2023!

We Are Ennis!

Jay Tullos
Superintendent of Schools



Here's to a great upcoming school year to all students, parents and staff. It is an honor to partner with EISD again to provide back-to-school information you need this year.

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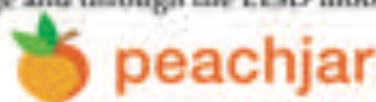
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Peachjar:

In listening to our families and in an effort to be more environmentally friendly and fiscally responsible, Ennis ISD will no longer regularly distribute paper "take home" flyers on any of our campuses. Instead, the district will work with campuses and organizations to distribute materials electronically via Peachjar.

Approved flyers containing information about events in and around Ennis ISD will be posted online to the Peachjar system and you will be notified via email that new flyers are available to view. You can choose to either save the flyer or print it. Regardless of what action you choose, the flyer will remain available to you electronically on Peachjar until the set expiration date. No more missing information because a flyer was lost or got stuck in the bottom of a student backpack. Peachjar will be accessible on the district website homepage and through the EISD mobile app.



Mobile App:

EISD encourages the use of our free mobile app. This powerful communication tool provides easy access to campus and district information including calendars, lunch menus, sports schedules, notifications, social media, and more. Users can customize the app by subscribing to the campuses of their choice to receive specific news and notifications. Users can also choose to receive push notifications to quickly get news and updates about school closures, emergencies, events and more. The free app is available for download on iPhones, iPads, and Android devices. Simply search "Ennis ISD" in the Apple Store or Google Play.

You can find

Ennis ISD

in the app store.



Enrollment and Registration:

Enrollment for new students and registration for returning students for the 2022-2023 school year is available online. If your student is new to Ennis ISD, you will need to create a Family Access Account, then follow the step-by-step process of online enrollment. This information is on our website homepage under "Families". Current Ennis ISD families will access registration in the same place. Pre-K and Kindergarten enrollment is not available online and will have to be done in person at Crockett or Carver ECC. Please contact your campus for more details regarding Pre-K/ Kindergarten enrollment.

What is Skyward Family Access? Family Access gives parents access to real-time data about their student's grades, attendance, assignments, and more. Alerts can be set to individual preferences and information is easily accessed using the Family Access login. If you already have a Family Access Account, you are able to add incoming students to your existing account.

For assistance with Family Access, please email FamilyAccess@ennis.k12.tx.us or call 972.872.7000.



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July 4th - Independence Day (observed)

2022 AUGUST

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Aug. 1-10 - Staff Development
Aug. 11 - First Day of School

2022 SEPTEMBER

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Sept. 5 - Labor Day

2022 OCTOBER

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Oct. 14 - Staff Development
October 17 - District Holiday

2022 NOVEMBER

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Nov. 21-25 - Thanksgiving Break

2022 DECEMBER

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Dec. 16 - Early Release
Dec. 19-30 - Winter Break

2023 JANUARY

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Jan. 2 - Staff Development
Jan. 16 - Martin Luther King Day

2023 FEBRUARY

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Feb. 20 - Presidents' Day

2023 MARCH

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March 13-17 - Spring Break
March 20 - Staff Development

2023 APRIL

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April 7 - District Holiday

2023 MAY

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May 18 - Early Release
May 19 - Staff Development
May 22-23 - Bad Weather Days
May 29 - Memorial Day

2023 JUNE

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- District Holiday
- First Day of School
- Staff Development
- Early Release
- Bad Weather/PO
- [] Grading Period Ends/Begins

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Tip Line:

As an added safety measure, EISD has a Tip Line. This Tip Line is posted on the home page of the EISD website, on each campus website, and on the district mobile app. If anyone were to suspect or become aware of any students or adults in a school who are planning or acting in an unsafe manner, they can report it. This includes, but is not limited to, the use or possession of drugs or weapons, and/or threats to injure or bully others. It is a fast, effective, and safe way to let us know about any unsafe situation. If they choose, tips can be submitted anonymously, without the worry of being identified as the source of the information. The Tip Line is available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Tips will be referred to school and/or law enforcement authorities as deemed appropriate.

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CookingNOW
In the Kitchen With
BRENT VRLA

— By Bill Smith

Brent Vrla is a native of Ennis and is proud to be “Czech on both sides” of his family. “When you asked me to include measurements, I had to go back and make some of the recipes because, according to my mom, I cook like my grandpa, Frank E. Jurica. We don’t use actual measurements,” he said with a laugh. “My first memory of cooking was making pancakes on Saturday mornings when I was in elementary school.

“Cooking is relaxing to me,” he added. “I like to share what I cook with family and friends. I enjoy helping out with community events like the Boys & Girls Club’s annual fundraiser and treating the heroes of the Ennis Police Department to a meal for their service to our community.” **NOW**

Stuffed Manicotti

1 lb. ricotta cheese
8 oz. mozzarella or Italian blend shredded cheese
4 Tbsp. Parmesan cheese, grated
2 tsp. sugar
2 eggs
Nutmeg, to taste

Salt, to taste

Pepper, to taste

1 8-oz. pkg. manicotti noodles

Canola or olive oil

2 24-oz. jars your favorite marinara or pasta sauce

1. Combine the cheeses, sugar, eggs, nutmeg, salt and pepper.

2. Stuff the manicotti noodles with this mixture. I use a beef jerky gun to stuff the manicotti noodles.

3. Spray a 13x9-inch baking pan with canola or olive oil.

4. Bring the marinara or pasta sauce to a boil.

5. Cover the bottom of the baking pan with half of the pasta sauce. Arrange the stuffed manicotti noodles in a single layer in the baking pan (the 8-oz. container has 12 noodles). Top with the rest of the sauce.

6. Cover with foil; bake at 400 F for 40 minutes.

7. Remove from the oven. Remove the foil; top with more grated Parmesan cheese (or Italian blend shredded cheese). Bake for about 5 more minutes (or until the cheese is melted).

Bacon-wrapped Pork Loin

1 pork loin
4 cloves garlic, minced
6-8 Tbsp. mustard

Salt, to taste

Fresh cracked pepper, to taste

Minced onion flakes, to taste

Softened butter (enough to coat inside of butterflied pork loin)

1 lb. bacon

Butcher twine

Foil wrap

1. Butterfly the pork loin.
2. Add the garlic cloves to the mustard. Rub the inside and outside of the pork loin with the mixture.
3. Sprinkle and rub the salt, fresh cracked black pepper and minced onion flakes on both sides of the pork loin.
4. Pat the inside of the pork loin with softened butter; fold the pork loin back together.
5. Wrap with bacon; tie with butcher twine to close it up.
6. Put on a rotisserie. (I have an Emeril Lagasse Power AirFryer 360.) Cook at 400 F about 25-30 minutes until the internal temperature hits 145 F.
7. Wrap in foil for 5 minutes, then serve.

Sauerkraut

1/2 lb. bacon, diced, or more to taste
1/2 medium onion, diced (divided use)
4 cloves garlic, minced, or to taste (divided use)
3 32-oz. jars Libby's sauerkraut
Cornstarch, for thickener

1. Bring the bacon to a simmer; add half of the diced onions and the garlic. Drain at least half of the bacon grease.
2. Pour in the sauerkraut; boil for about 10 minutes, stirring occasionally.
3. Stir in the cornstarch; simmer for about 5 more minutes.

Cheese Enchiladas

Cooking oil, enough to coat tortillas
1 small pkg. (20) corn tortillas
1 20-slice pkg. H-E-B Easy Melt Cheese, or your choice of cheese
1 15-oz. can chili
1 8-oz. pkg. shredded Mexican-style cheese

1. Heat some oil in a skillet; quickly give each side of a corn tortilla a dip in the oil to soften them up enough to roll easily.
2. Stuff with cheese (or whatever you want). I put a slice of H-E-B Easy Melt Cheese in each corn tortilla, and then roll them up. Place in a 13x9-inch glass baking dish.
3. Top with chili; bake for about 30 minutes on 375 F.
4. Top with shredded cheese; broil until the cheese is melted.



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Bacon-wrapped Pork Loin

Smoked Pork Ribs

1 rack St. Louis-style or baby back ribs
Mustard, enough to coat ribs
Dry rub of your choice

1. Remove the silver skin/membrane from the back of the ribs.
2. Generously coat the ribs with mustard and a dry rub.
3. Smoke for about 2-3 hours between 225-250 F. (Each smoker is different, so you may need to adjust the temperature and

time.) Once the ribs have a nice smoke color, remove and wrap them in foil.

4. Either finish cooking in the oven or put them back on the smoker until the bones easily pull out.

Beer Bread

3 cups self-rising flour, plus a small amount to dust the pan
1/4 cup sugar
1 12-oz. can or bottle of beer
1/2 stick butter

1. Mix the flour, sugar and beer to form a dough.
2. Dust a greased loaf pan with flour.
3. Scrape the batter into the loaf pan. Spread into the corners.
4. Either dot the top with softened butter or top with melted butter.
5. Bake for about 1 hour at 350 F.
6. Remove from the loaf pan; let cool on a wire rack.

Bacon-cheese Smoked Chicken Thighs

1 pkg. (about 10) chicken thighs
Canola or olive oil for coating

Dry seasoning of your choice, with a little added cornstarch

1 lb. bacon (You won't need the whole pkg. — just enough to cover the thighs.)
1 8-oz pkg. shredded cheese

1. Coat the chicken thighs with oil and the dry seasoning/cornstarch mixture.
2. Put the thighs close together on the smoker; drape them with bacon.
3. Smoke at 225 F for about 1 1/2 to 2 hours, or until the chicken reaches 165 F.
4. Remove the bacon strips. Dice the bacon; mix it with shredded cheese.
5. Top the chicken thighs with the diced bacon and cheese.
6. Cook until the cheese has melted.

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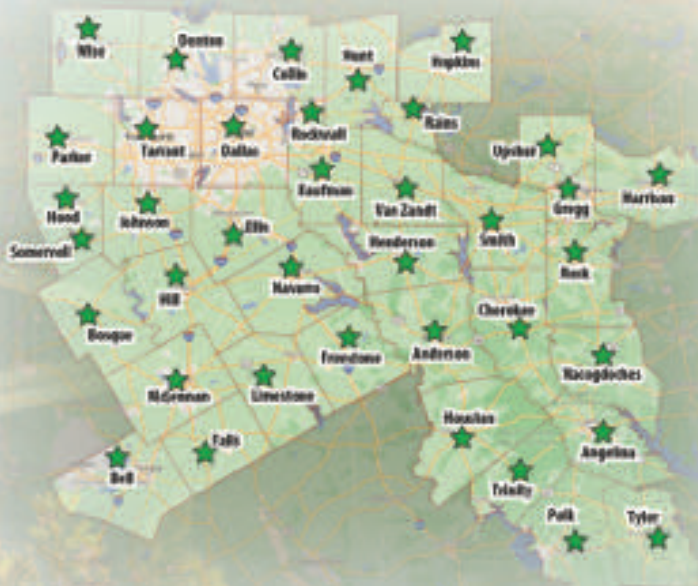
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A desert landscape with a rocky cliff in the foreground and a mirage of water in the distance. The sky is clear and blue. The title "A SHIMMERING MIRAGE" is overlaid on the image. The word "A" is red, "SHIMMERING" is black, and "MIRAGE" is red. The author's name "— By Virginia Riddle" is in black.

A SHIMMERING MIRAGE

— By Virginia Riddle

The most interesting road to White Sands National Park winds through Cloudcroft, New Mexico, high in the Sacramento Mountains. From two overlooks, travelers can view snow-covered mountain tops above and white gypsum sands spread across the foot of the Andres Mountain Range. The two ranges form the Tularosa Basin, which encases the sands. After a 30-minute drive from mountain cool to desert hot, more surprises await.

The best time to experience the park is in late fall to early spring due to desert temperatures. However, the park opens at 7:00 a.m., so an early morning visit before the daily temperatures rise is possible. Glowing sunrise and sunset colors enhance the group walk/talks with park rangers. The White Sands Missile Range surrounds the park, which closes each week when nearby Holloman Air Force Base schedules tests, so call ahead.

Preparation is key to enjoying this park. Bring plenty of water, snacks, sunscreen, hats, sunglasses and sleds for everyone. Not the beach, digging in the sand isn't allowed, but sledding the dunes is a treasured pastime. Many

Alamogordo area lodgings check out sleds, boards and wax for free.

At the park's entrance, stop at the adobe visitors' center. Built in the 1930s in the Pueblo Revival style, it's part of a national historic district within the park. Literature, interactive museum exhibits and a short video are offered along with the only potable water source in the park. Rangers offer tips, guidelines and information, or download the free NPS app.

While neighboring mountain roads need snowplowing, Dunes Drive in White Sands NP is plowed because the sand drifts constantly. Cleared parking areas accompany three trailheads, the Interdune Boardwalk (handicapped accessible), Backcountry Camping Trail, Lake Lucero (a playa) and the amphitheater. Roadside exhibits, shaded picnic areas and restrooms are available. When hiking the trails, always carry water and keep landmarks in sight. It's easy to get lost among blindingly white dunes. Footprints disappear within minutes.

Covering 275 square miles, this is the largest gypsum field in the world, with gypsum left behind when the Permian Sea retreated and melting glaciers dissolved the mineral eons ago. Rain and snow continue dissolving the gypsum, while wind and sun separate and break down the crystals into sand. Water, lying just inches below the sandy surface, supports plant and animal life.

Animals, such as the bleached earless lizard and the Apache pocket mouse, scurry among the plants and visitors during early mornings, evenings and overnight. Adapted to life in the sands, they grew lighter than cousins living elsewhere. They are camouflaged and

stay cooler. Early morning visitors might notice, on wind-stilled mornings, mouse tracks followed by fox tracks, two of many nocturnal animals.

Dune pedestals, created by shrubs such as the skunkbush sumac, shelter many animals. The soaptree yucca grows taller in the dunes, so new leaves stay above the sand. Desert flowers add beautiful color to the trails.

As Dunes Drive reaches its cul-de-sac turn, the surrounding dunes are clear of plants and ready to sled. After a challenging climb to a dune peak and waxing of the sled or board so it goes faster, visitors, young and old, thrill at sledding the dunes in tandem or solo.

People have been coming to this area since the Jornada Mogollon started farming in the basin during the Archaic Period. American Indians came in the 1600s, joined by Europeans and Americans in the 1800s as railways were built. White Sands NP was created in 1933, so visitors from around the world can continue visiting and enjoying this phenomenal natural treasure. **NOW**

Photos by Virginia Riddle, LLC.





While every corner of the world may claim its own dialect, Texas goes big toward its own communication style. People from other parts of the country have probably heard many typical Texan phrases, while some slang is purely local. Here's a beginner's guide for any recent transplants trying to acclimate to the language of the Lone Star State.

Howdy — A less fancy way of saying, "How do you do?" the greeting, *Howdy!* is even the official greeting of Texas A&M University, the state's largest university with about 70,000 students. *Howdy* is often followed by the word, *y'all*, which leads us to ...

Y'all — A contraction that means just what it clearly says: You all. *Y'all* can address two or more people, but a very large group (or multiple groups) requires a pluralized plural. That's where *all y'all* comes in. (Yes, Texans know that means "all you all," but groups can be really, *really* big here, so we don't consider it redundant.)

Fixin'ta — Although foreigners might think you're about to repair something when hearing this phrase, it actually just means you are about to *do* something. Whatever you're about to do, however, never ever say it with a *g*. *Fixing* still means repairing something, even in Texas.

Ain't — A contraction meaning: I am not, I have not, he/she has not, we are not and that is not. Certainly not exclusive to Texas, but common for natives who ain't fixin'ta use more syllables than absolutely necessary. Used in a Texas sentence: "This ain't my first rodeo!" (meaning I've actually done this before/I'm not new to this). Further abbreviations include *y'aint* (y'all are not) and *aintcha* (aren't y'all?).

Git — Because get is just plain uppity, Texans slip *git* into all kinds of phrases: *Git-r-done* (meaning to accomplish something); *all git-out* (meaning very or extremely); or *git-to-gittin'* (meaning to get started). For example, a warning between siblings about chores: "You bes' git-r-done before Pa gits-to-gittin' home or he'll be mad as all git-out."

As those examples suggest, individual words are often partnered with other phrases for emphasis in Texas. Here are some common phrases one might use to show they are Texan through and through.

Bless your heart — While this one can be sincerely stated in regard to something bad happening to someone else: "Your horse got loose? Bless your heart!" it can just as easily be meant sarcastically: "You think you know what you're doin'? Bless your heart."

Dadgumit! — A Texan's way to curse around children, suitable for use wherever a swear word is intended. Derived from *darn it* or *dang it*, *dadgumit* works well in conjunction with *shoot fire* and *son of a gun!*

Don't have a cow! — While lots of Texas-centric language actually has roots in other places, this phrase is

originally attributed to a Denton, Texas, newspaper, where a writer quoted a subject saying someone would “have a cow” if they knew about something unacceptable he had done. When telling someone, “Don’t have a cow!” you’re telling them not to overreact. Similar cattle-themed sayings include: *Till the cows come home* (meaning for a long, long time); and *Take the bull by the horns*, encouraging someone to tackle something head on. And, let’s not forget ...

All hat, no cattle — Every state probably has its own version of Texas’ slang for someone who considers themselves important without reason. Perhaps a derogatory reference to city-folk imitating the fashion of actual cowboys, it can also describe a person who is all talk but little action. “That politician never keeps his promises. He’s all hat, no cattle.”

While many other words and phrases are commonly associated with Texas, the state’s unofficial motto may be the most famous of all ...

Don’t mess with Texas. Launched in 1986 as an anti-littering slogan, it is widely accepted as a reminder of a Texan’s toughness and a warning for anyone who might forget.

Portraying former President George W. Bush on TV’s *Saturday Night Live*, actor Will Ferrell reminded 9-11 terrorists they should not have messed with Texas. Further proving how iconic the reference had become, it is also listed in the Advertising Hall of Fame.

Ironically, the official motto of Texas is just one word: *Friendship*. *Tejas* was the Spanish pronunciation of *teyshas* or *thecas*, the Caddoan word for ally. So, while Texan talk may be full of swagger, it tries to keep that motto in mind ... as long as you don’t make a mess while you’re here. **NOW**

Sources:

1. <https://bigseventravel.com/texas-slang/>.
2. <http://wheretexasbecametexas.org/texas-state-moto-friendship/>.
3. <https://blog.tmlip.org/dont-mess-with-texas-the-story-behind-the-slogan>.
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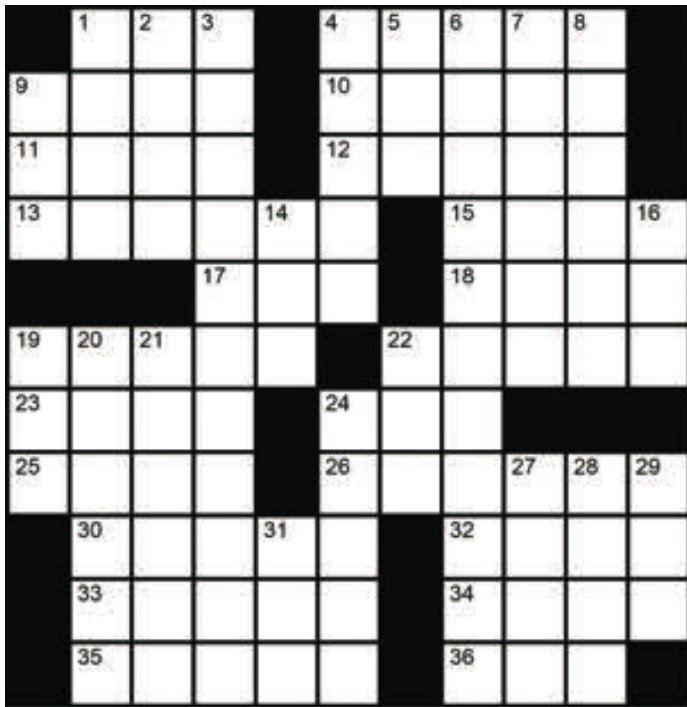
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Across

- 1 Out of whack
- 4 Brass groupings
- 9 Running great --- Devers
- 10 In plain view
- 11 Approximately
- 12 More recent
- 13 Where landlubbers are found
- 15 Drink greedily
- 17 Rotation period
- 18 Wingless parasites
- 19 Sacked out
- 22 Al --- (pasta order)
- 23 Shuck
- 24 Short Egyptian boy-king?
- 25 "Avenger" Mrs. Peel
- 26 Birl
- 30 Gem State capital
- 32 Czech track champ --- Zátopek
- 33 Orange Muppet
- 34 Pestored persistently
- 35 Takes five
- 36 It can be the limit

Down

- 1 Rowers in a boat
- 2 Angle
- 3 Bad places to build houses
- 4 Thin as a rake
- 5 Reverential salutation
- 6 Publications from special groups
- 7 Became shorter
- 8 Hard-and-fast
- 9 Former Portuguese colony in India
- 14 Backstabber
- 16 "Aw, heck!"
- 19 --- who must be obeyed
- 20 Surplus furniture
- 21 "Rum Punch" writer --- Leonard
- 22 Batman and Robin, for example
- 24 Corners
- 27 Out of control
- 28 In apple-pie order
- 29 Catastrophic occurrence (abbr.)
- 31 Command to Rover

Online versions and solutions available at www.nowmagazines.com. From our Homepage, click on the Crossword-Sudoku tab. Click on a puzzle. Click on the See All button to view solutions.



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Easy

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | | | | | 8 | | 9 | |
| | | 8 | 1 | 9 | | | | |
| 6 | | | | | | | | 8 |
| | | 4 | | 2 | | | | |
| | | 6 | | | | 5 | | 1 |
| | | | | | 3 | | 4 | |
| 5 | | | 6 | 4 | 2 | | | |
| 2 | 1 | | | | | | 6 | |
| | | 9 | | 1 | | | 3 | |

Medium

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 2 | | | 9 | | | | | |
| | | | | 8 | 3 | | | 4 |
| | | | 2 | 5 | | 3 | | 8 |
| | | | | 6 | | | 9 | |
| 5 | | 7 | 3 | 2 | | | | |
| | | 2 | 5 | | 1 | | | |
| | | | | | | | | |
| | | 8 | 6 | 3 | 9 | | 7 | |
| 9 | 6 | | | | | | | |

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AUGUST

Due to COVID-19, some events may have been cancelled or rescheduled while we were at press. Check with individual organizations or your city or Chamber websites to verify dates and times.

8/5

Ennis High School Varsity Tennis:

Ennis vs. Frisco Heritage. 9:00 a.m., EISD Tennis Center, 2104 W. Ennis Ave. Call EHS Athletic Department for more information at (972) 872-7374.

8/6

Give a Kid a Chance:

Local families are invited to this drive-through event hosted at Ennis High School between 8:00 a.m.-noon. Give A Kid A Chance provides new backpacks, school supplies, new clothing, age-appropriate books, and on-site haircuts to Ennis ISD families at no cost. A hot breakfast will be served for families to enjoy from 8:00-10:00 a.m. See www.ennis.k12.tx.us for more information including a map of the drive-through route.

8/11-8/21

The Book Club Play:

Lots of laughter and literature collide in this smart hit play by Karen Zacarias, about books and the people who love them. When the members of a devoted book club become the subjects of a documentary film and accept a provocative new member, their longstanding group dynamics take a hilarious turn. Ennis Public Theatre, 113

N. Dallas St. For showtimes and ticket information, go to www.ennipublictheatre.com or call (972) 878-7529.

8/12-8/28

Hyer House:

In this play written and directed by Bill Rhoten, Clara doesn't want to go to assisted living at Hyer House. She says she doesn't have Alzheimer's. She just can't remember anything. But when she meets up with the director, nicknamed "Hollywood," she relents, and over the weeks, discovers new friendships, "gainful employment" and that community living has its rewards. Theatre Rocks!, 505 NW Main St. For showtimes and ticket information, go to www.theatrerocks.com or call (972) 878-5126.

8/13

Marty Stuart & His Fabulous Superlatives:

7:30 p.m., The Palace Theatre, 112 W 6th Ave., Corsicana. For tickets and information, visit www.corsicanapalace.com.

8/18

SWAP Networking:

Bring a friend and your business cards! 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Ennis Chamber of Commerce, 207 NW. Main Street. For more

information and to RSVP, contact jennifer@ennis-chamber.com or call (972) 875-2625.

8/19

Ennis Lions Football Pre-season Scrimmage:

Lions at Princeton. Contact the EHS Athletic Department for details. (972) 872-7374.

8/26

Ennis Lions Football Season Begins:

The 2022 season begins in Waxahachie! 7:00 p.m., Lumpkins Stadium, 200 Indian Drive, Waxahachie.

8/31

Greater Ennis United Way Kick Off Fish Fry:

Come and hear the benefits the Greater Ennis United Way provides for our local agencies. \$15. Noon, Tabernacle Baptist Church, 1200 Country Club Road.

Mondays

Men's Brown Bag Bible Study:

Bring your Bible and a sack lunch and join other men of the community for a brief time of Bible study during the noon hour. Noon-1:00 p.m., Baylor

Baptist Church, 210 N. Preston St. Use the Knox Street entrance. (972) 875-2521.

Tuesdays

Rotary Club of Ennis Meeting:

Lunch, club business and program. Noon, The Vine at 119, 119 S. Dallas St.

Wednesdays

Ennis Host Lions Club Meeting:

Noon, Tabernacle Baptist Church, 1200 Country Club Rd. Please call Bob Taylor at (972) 875-3546 or email bretco3546@gmail.com if you plan to attend, so your lunch can be ordered.

Saturdays

Ennis Bluebonnet Market:

Our farmer's market includes fresh produce, baked goods, crafts and other activities. 8:00 a.m.-noon, North Dallas Street. For more information, contact the Ennis Welcome Center at (972) 878-4747.

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