



PROUDLY SERVING THE ENNIS COMMUNITY SINCE 1908

**“The mission of the American Sokol is to provide fitness and community for individuals and families through physical, educational, cultural, and social programs.”**

Donations and news worthy items to support the Sokol KHB Newsletter should be sent to Sokol KHB Newsletter, P.O. Box 205, Ennis, TX 75120

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**SOKOL KHB ENNIS ANNUAL MEMBERS DAY**  
**SAT. DEC. 2, 2023 / 1PM-10PM**

**1:00 Annual Meeting & Elections**  
**3:00 Member Awards**  
**3:30 Gym Exhibition**  
**4:00 Santa & Christmas Social**  
**4:30 Kids Karaoke & Games**  
**5:30 Meal** Meat provided / Please bring covered dish  
**6:30 Karaoke** (Adults)

*Members Day occurs annually on the first Saturday of December*

**SOKOL ACTIVITY CENTER - 2622 E Hwy 34, Ennis TX**  
**972-875-7959 fundraising@sokolennis.com sokolennis.com**

**SMOKE FREE EVENT**   
**NO SMOKING PLEASE**

To the board, committees, and numerous volunteers, I would like to thank you for all the help you have given this year. Through all the highs and lows, we have made a lot of improvements this year. We will continue to move towards improving all areas of our unit. Without all of you we could not have done this.

As it was my first year as president which I never imagined I would be, I'm thankful we have such a great board who are committed to seeing our unit grow and improve.

Looking forward to the next year! Thank you all. Nazdar!

Michelle Slovak



**SOKOL KHB ENNIS  
ANNUAL MEETING ELECTIONS  
NOMINATEES FOR ELECTED OFFICE 2024**



| <u>TITLE</u>                       | <u>CANDIDATES</u>      | <u>TITLE</u>                            | <u>CANDIDATES</u>    |
|------------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------------|----------------------|
| President.....                     | <b>Michelle Slovak</b> | Auditing Committee.....                 | <b>Debbie Macik</b>  |
| Secretary.....                     | <b>Laura Trojacek</b>  | Auditing Committee.....                 | <b>Deanna Betik</b>  |
| Vice-President.....                | <b>Benny Trojacek</b>  | Auditing Committee.....                 | <b>Debbie Slovak</b> |
| Second Vice-President.....         | <b>Randy Owen</b>      | Budget & Finance Committee.....         | <b>Debbie Macik</b>  |
| Financial Secretary.....           | <b>Nannette Liska</b>  | Budget & Finance Committee.....         | <b>Deanna Betik</b>  |
| Treasurer.....                     | <b>Mike Liska</b>      | Budget & Finance Committee.....         | <b>Debbie Slovak</b> |
| Educational Director.....          | <b>Liz Moucka</b>      | Reconciliation Committee.....           | <b>John Marek Jr</b> |
| Membership Director.....           | <b>Nannette Liska</b>  | Reconciliation Committee.....           | <b>Harold Corey</b>  |
| Public Relations Director.....     | <b>TBD</b>             | Reconciliation Committee.....           | <b>David Liska</b>   |
| Physical Director (to be ratified) | <b>Joanna Wilson</b>   | Delegate to Southern District.....      | <b>Thomas Betik</b>  |
| Editor.....                        | <b>Chuck Kalat</b>     | Delegate to Southern District.....      | <b>Debbie Slovak</b> |
| Bylaws Chairman.....               | <b>Rusty Liska</b>     | Youth Ambassador (to be appointed)..... | <b>Joanna Wilson</b> |

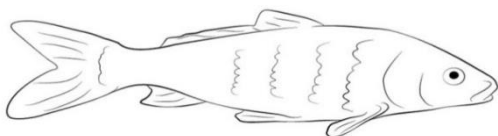
## Educational Director's Report

### Czech Christmas Traditions

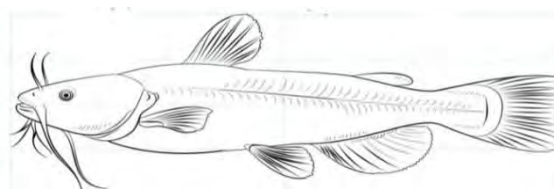
The Czech holiday season begins December 6 on Svatý Mikuláš (St. Nicholas Day). The baking of Christmas candies and sweets (Vánoční Cukroví) commences. Family recipe treats are baked to share with friends and neighbors. If there were any quarrels or hard feelings during the year, this is the time to apologize.

Because Christmas is a religious holiday, fasting and abstaining from meat were observed on Christmas Eve. Traditionally, the Christmas Eve dinner main course is carp. One popular recipe has the best cuts of the carp dredged in flour, dipped in egg wash, then in bread crumbs and fried. Carp is a bottom feeding fish common in Europe, and has a muddy flavor. That sounds a lot like our catfish, which makes fried catfish a good substitute for the Czech traditional carp dinner. Some keep a couple of the carp's scales in their wallets for good financial luck. In some families, it is a custom to put a coin under each person's plate to symbolize wealth in the coming year. The coin will be carried around for good luck. Another tradition says that if you have fasted properly on Christmas Eve, you might be able to see the golden pig. If you do, you will be prosperous in the coming year. Another traditional food is vánočka, a sweet bread filled with dried fruit and nuts, eaten on Christmas Eve.

**Carp**



**Catfish**



The Christmas tree tradition is different from in the U.S. The tree, purchased only a few days before Christmas (*not on Thanksgiving weekend*), is hidden away in the home and decorated only by the head of the household. No one else is allowed to see it until after the Christmas Eve dinner. During the dinner, no one is allowed to leave the table. While everyone is eating, the tree and gifts “miraculously” appear into the main room. After dinner, everyone wishes each other a Joyous Christmas (Šťastné a Veselé Vánoce). They rush to the tree and distribute the gifts before going to midnight mass. Ježíšek (Baby Jesus), not Santa Claus brings the gifts.

The Christmas Day feast features a roasted goose, chicken soup, dumplings, kolache and other sweets. Because Christmas is a sacred day, no chores are done. The families socialize and play games, speculating on what the next year would bring for each other's fortunes and love lives.

During the communist era, religious aspects of holidays were discouraged, and Christmas was not officially recognized as a public holiday. However, many Czechs continued to celebrate the holiday in secret. After the fall of communism in 1989, Christmas was again recognized as a public holiday. Today, Christmas in the Czech Republic is celebrated with most of the same traditions as in other countries. While Ježíšek (Baby Jesus), always brought the gifts, even during the communist era (*shhh!*), Czechs are now trying to keep the commercial Santa Claus out as he creeps into everything.

**Na zdar!** Sis. Liz Moucka Krajca, Educational Director

**Veselé Vánoce a Šťastný Nový Rok**

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year**



## Membership Drive 2024

It's that time again for our annual membership drive going into 2024. All members are needed to help with this endeavor. Please encourage your family, friends, and relatives to join. The membership application can be found on the membership page at [www.sokolennis.com/membership](http://www.sokolennis.com/membership) or in the Sokol clubroom. For more information regarding membership, please email [membership@sokolennis.com](mailto:membership@sokolennis.com).

## Seeking Sponsors for 2024

Sokol Ennis is now seeking sponsors for 2024. Only \$150 per yearly sponsorship. Business ads will be publicized as follows:

1. Sokol Ennis Newsletter (bi-monthly Feb/Apr/Jun/Aug/Oct/Dec)
2. Sokol Ennis Website at [sokolennis.com](http://sokolennis.com) (all year)
3. Sokol Ennis Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages (monthly)
4. Sokol Ennis Sponsor Banners in the Sokol Activity Center (all year)

Email business ads to [fundraising@sokolennis.com](mailto:fundraising@sokolennis.com). Send check to Sokol KHB Ennis / P.O. Box 205 / Ennis, TX 75120-0205 or purchase online at [www.sokolennis.com](http://www.sokolennis.com) (homepage). Sponsorships and ad designs must be submitted no later than Jan 25, 2024.

## Monthly Czech Movie & Social December 14<sup>th</sup>

The next Monthly Czech Movie & Social is Thursday, December 14<sup>th</sup> in the Clubroom. Doors open 5pm. Accordion music by David Slovak at 6pm. The featured film is "Cosy Dens" at 7pm.

About the film: *Cosy Dens* (Pelíšky) is a comedy about two families celebrating Christmas in the same apartment house during the Prague Spring, but not everyone is in a good mood. The father of one family is patriotic and anti-Russian. The father of the other is an army officer, and pro-Russian. Teenage kids think their fathers are totally stupid; fathers are sure their children are nothing more than rebels, hating anything they say. A motley group of neighbors, whose lives are intertwined by the friendships of their teenage children, try to sort out their political and personal dreams during an uncertain time during their country's history.

Pizza, chicken strips, corn dogs, French fries, cheese sticks, jalapeno poppers, fried pickles, onion rings, bread pretzels, tater tots & snacks available for purchase at bar. Non-smoking event (smoking allowed on patio). Czech Movie & Social occurs monthly normally on the first Thursday by the Ellis County Czech Heritage Society. All Sokol members welcome.



### **Clubroom Christmas Set for Friday, December 15<sup>th</sup>**

Our annual Clubroom Christmas Party will be Friday, Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> starting at 5pm. Please bring a covered dish or snack. Chili will be provided. Music by David Slovak & Friends at 7pm. Drink Specials!

### **Sunday Football Watch Party December 17<sup>th</sup>**

The Clubroom will be open Sunday, Dec. 17<sup>th</sup> for Cowboys vs Bills game. Doors open 2pm. Game at 3:25pm. Fried Chicken will be provided. Bring a covered dish if you like. Spin-the Wheel drink specials. No smoking (allowed on patio). Flat screens & sound system in Clubroom & on patio.

### **New Year's Eve Dance!**

We are hosting a New Year's Eve Dance on Sunday Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> in the main hall. Doors open at 7pm. Admission is \$10 a person (no advance tickets). Music provided at 8pm by The Moravians (polka, country, variety). Champagne will be available for purchase at the bar. Complimentary black-eyed peas & cornbread at midnight. No reservations please. For more info, contact [fundraising@sokolennis.com](mailto:fundraising@sokolennis.com).

### **Monthly Members Meeting January 17<sup>th</sup>**

Our next monthly members meeting is Wednesday, Jan. 17<sup>th</sup> at 7pm in the Dining Room. All members are encouraged to attend. Sokol values your interest & welcomes your involvement in the organization. There are many opportunities for youth & adult members to be involved. Involving the entire family in volunteer activities addresses the benefits of youth volunteering while utilizing the volunteer resource of adults with children. Sokol encourages parents and their children to volunteer together! Members are also encouraged to provide feedback & offer ideas on Sokol's educational, physical, cultural, & social programs & activities. Members Meetings occur every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month.

### **CALENDAR – UPCOMING EVENTS**

- Dec 2 Annual Members Day / Christmas Celebration – Main Hall 10am
- Dec 10 Ellis County Toy Run - Main Hall 12pm
- Dec 14 Czech Heritage Society Social & Czech Movie: "Cosy Dens" 7pm – Clubroom 5pm
- Dec 17 Dallas Cowboys Watch Party – Clubroom 2pm / Game 3:25pm
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve Dance – Main Hall 8pm / Music by The Moravians
- Jan 4 Czech Heritage Society Social & Czech Movie: TBA 7pm – Clubroom 5pm
- Jan 17 Monthly Members Meeting – Dining Room 7pm
- Feb 1 Czech Heritage Society Social & Czech Movie: TBA 7pm – Clubroom 5pm
- Feb 11 Super Bowl Party – Clubroom 12pm
- Feb 14 Monthly Members Meeting – Dining Room 7pm
- Feb 16 Pre-Party for Ennis Czech Music Fest – Clubroom 5pm / Band TBA 7pm
- Feb 17 Ennis Czech Music Festival – Main Hall 1pm [www.ennisczechmusicfestival.com](http://www.ennisczechmusicfestival.com)
- Mar 2 \$10K Building Fund Benefit – Main Hall 6pm (For Tickets call 972-268-2543)

**Email any ideas for fundraisers & social events to the Ways & Means Committee at [fundraising@sokolennis.com](mailto:fundraising@sokolennis.com)**

**Join Sokol Ennis Members Group on Facebook to get upcoming event notices & other info**

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# GYMNASTICS REPORT

Gymnastics hosted a Fall Festival in October. We had a really good turn out for our first one. We had a bounce house, hay ride, and lots of candy! Gymnastics has been working on a parade float for the Parade of lights Nov. 30. We have been getting ready for our Christmas program on December 2. Santa is stopping by for all the kiddos. We are excited to give away A Fire Pit Made by Texas Iron Concepts. Tickets are still available for \$5 a ticket Drawing Dec. 12, 2023.

## Volleyball Report

Volleyball plays every Wednesday Night and is accepting new members/players! Speak to Brandon or Chris!

## POOL REPORT

BOI hosted a Spooky Pool Night in October. The kids loved it. We had 4 spooky people! Already has been requested to do it again next year. Pool is closed till March 2024 depending on weather of course when we re open for 2024 season.

Nazdar !! Joanna Wilson - Physical Director/Gymnastic Manager/Pool Manager Sokol KHB Ennis



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# SOKOL ENNIS FIREPIT RAFFLE

## \$5.00 PER TICKET

Made & Donated by Texas Iron Concepts

### For tickets

972-921-1962 / [fundraising@sokolennis.com](mailto:fundraising@sokolennis.com)  
or buy from our gymnasts

Also available at Clubroom Mon & Weds 5pm-10pm  
& at Swimming Pool when open

### Drawing

**December 12, 2023**

(Need not be present to win)

Visit [sokolennis.com](http://sokolennis.com) & follow us on Facebook  
Sokol Activity Center - 2622 E Hwy 34, Ennis TX





## Czech Sokol Visit

In September we were on tour with Czech & Then Some in the Czech Republic. Part of the trip was spent in Pardubice. Our liaison with the Pardubice government treated some us to a visit at Sokol Pardubice I. They are celebrating their 160 year anniversary. They had been under a major renovation the past couple of years. A climbing wall, indoor track, upstairs beam practice area, and a large locker room were some of the areas we saw. Very impressive setup. Below are some pictures we took during the visit. Very glad we got to visit them. Bob Podhrasky, Lori Laznovsky, and I took a picture with their gym director. Submitted by Michelle Slovak.



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## DONATIONS

Sokol Ennis always appreciates donations to our organization, whether they be “In Memory” of a deceased member, or simply because you are able to help continue the Sokol mission. We have different areas, or accounts, where your donation can be applied. Therefore, it would be helpful to let us know in a note accompanying your donation, how you wish us to apply your generosity.

- General Fund (operations, dues support, etc.)
- Building Fund (improvements, maintenance, etc.)
- Scholarship Fund
- Swimming pool / Gymnastics
- Museum – Education

## December / January Member Birthdays

December

|    |                |            |
|----|----------------|------------|
| 1  | Skrivanek      | Glenn      |
| 2  | Diaz           | Lydia      |
| 2  | Trull          | Shirley    |
| 5  | LaScala        | Frank      |
| 6  | Zaidle         | Mary Ann   |
| 8  | Benton         | Elayna     |
| 8  | Krajca         | Jeanette   |
| 12 | Howard         | Larry      |
| 12 | Lopez          | Alma       |
| 13 | Oates          | Mary       |
| 13 | Patak          | Jeannette  |
| 19 | Webster        | Jacqueline |
| 20 | Lofgreen       | Barbara    |
| 20 | Valek          | Adele      |
| 20 | Vrla           | Frank      |
| 20 | Wester         | Jo Ann     |
| 21 | Perkey         | Barbara    |
| 22 | Lambert        | Annette    |
| 23 | Machuca        | Jesus      |
| 23 | Rutherford     | Kathy      |
| 25 | Boggan         | Dusty      |
| 26 | Cryer          | Thomas     |
| 26 | Redwine        | Leigh      |
| 26 | Snodgrass      | Becky      |
| 27 | Marek          | John       |
| 27 | Slovak         | Michelle   |
| 28 | Betik Marshall | Katherine  |
| 28 | Vitovsky       | William    |
| 28 | Zapletal       | Danny      |
| 29 | Matous         | Stanley    |
| 29 | Ornelas        | Barbara    |
| 29 | Valek          | Glenda     |
| 30 | Liska          | Diane      |
| 30 | Owen           | Randy      |
| 31 | McElroy        | Sally      |

January

|    |            |            |
|----|------------|------------|
| 1  | Henning Sr | Jackie Don |
| 1  | Ojeda      | Adamarisse |
| 1  | Sosa       | Karla      |
| 2  | Jakubik    | Sara       |
| 6  | Tyner      | Kelli      |
| 7  | Steele     | Marlene    |
| 7  | Warner     | Mary       |
| 8  | Desai      | Dhara      |
| 8  | Morales    | Cathie     |
| 9  | Lane       | Rosemarie  |
| 9  | Dodson     | Billy      |
| 11 | Martinek   | Bernard    |
| 11 | Reeve      | Joyce      |
| 14 | Dlabaj     | Leonard    |
| 15 | Patak      | Charlie    |
| 20 | Novy       | Theresa    |
| 21 | Castillo   | Mallorie   |
| 21 | Mitchell   | Gary       |
| 22 | Owen       | Debbye     |
| 24 | Amos       | Rebecca    |
| 25 | Belew      | David      |
| 26 | Anderson   | Woody      |
| 26 | Garcia     | Rachel     |
| 27 | Thomason   | Eric       |
| 28 | Cooke      | Rosemarie  |
| 28 | Roth       | Bernard    |
| 29 | Rolen      | Gaylon     |
| 30 | Knize      | Evelyn     |

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**SOKOL ENNIS CLUBROOM CHRISTMAS**  
 Social & Sing-A-Long

DRINK SPECIALS  
 Spin-the-wheel

7pm Music by  
**DAVID SLOVAK & FRIENDS**

Please bring a covered dish  
**CHILI PROVIDED**

**FRIDAY DECEMBER 15, 2023 at 5PM**







**SOKOL ENNIS CLUBROOM  
 OPEN SUNDAY DEC 17TH**

**DOORS OPEN 2PM**

**FOOTBALL WATCH PARTY 3:25**

**FRIED CHICKEN PROVIDED**  
 Bring a covered dish or snack if you like

**SPIN-THE-WHEEL DRINK SPECIALS**

**GO WBOYS VS. BILLS**

Pizza, chicken strips, corn dogs, French fries, tater tots, cheese sticks, jalapeno poppers, fried pickles, onion rings, bread pretzels & snacks also available for purchase at bar

Clubroom regular hours Mon & Weds 5pm-11pm

NO SMOKING EVENT smoking allowed on patio

Flat Screen TV's & Sound System in Clubroom & on Patio



**SOKOL ENNIS NEW YEAR'S EVE DANCE**  
**SUNDAY DEC. 31, 2023 at 8PM**  
**SOKOL ACTIVITY CENTER**

**MUSIC BY THE MORAVIANS**

**Black-Eyed Peas & Cornbread at midnight**

Doors open 7PM  
 \$10 per person  
 No reservations

Full bar  
 Champagne available for purchase at bar  
 ATM available

SMOKE FREE EVENT NO SMOKING PLEASE






"Christmas gives us an opportunity to pause and reflect on the important things around us."  
 —David Cameron

TO ALL  
SOKOL KAREL HAVLICEK BOROVSKY MEMBERS:

MERRY CHRISTMAS -- VESELÉ VÁNOCE!

&

HAPPY NEW YEAR -- ŠTASTNÝ NOVÝ ROK!

FROM

THE SOKOL KHB EXECUTIVE BOARD

\*\*\*\*\*

**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR!

MAY 2023 BE BLESSED AND JOYFUL.

FROM

THOMAS & DEANNA BETIK

\*\*\*\*\*

MAY EVERYONE HAVE A BLESSED CHRISTMAS!!

FROM

BENNY & LAURA TROJACEK

\*\*\*\*\*

MERRY CHRISTMAS AND HAPPY NEW YEAR!

FROM

THE ELLEVEN FAMILY

\*\*\*\*\*

MERRY CHRISTMAS & HAPPY NEW YEAR

FROM

THE MIKE & NANNETTE LISKA FAMILY

# SEASON'S GREETINGS



*Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year  
from  
David, Michelle,  
Josef & Isabella Slovak*

\*\*\*\*\*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND BEST WISHES  
FOR A SAFE AND HEALTHY NEW YEAR**

FROM

**THE KALATS – JAN, CHUCK,  
PATTI,  
CHARLES, CHRISTINE, & TAG**

\*\*\*\*\*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND  
HAPPY NEW YEAR EVERYONE!  
STAY BLESSED**

FROM

**JOANNA, WES, AND MADELINE WILSON**

\*\*\*\*\*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A BLESSED NEW YEAR!**

FROM

**DIANE AND DAVID LISKA**

\*\*\*\*\*

**SEASON'S GREETINGS**

**WISHING ALL THE BEST AT CHRISTMAS &  
IN THE NEW YEAR**

FROM

**RUSTY, MARY, ADELYNN, AND GRAHAM LISKA**

\*\*\*\*\*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS TO ALL  
AND BEST WISHES FOR A HAPPY NEW YEAR**

FROM

**BARBARA AND RHONDA LISKA**

\*\*\*\*\*

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
AND BEST WISHES FOR A JOYFUL NEW YEAR**

FROM

**JAMES AND DEBBIE MACIK**

\*\*\*\*\*

**“CHRISTMAS IS NOT A TIME NOR A SEASON, BUT A  
STATE OF MIND. TO CHERISH PEACE AND GOODWILL,  
TO BE PLENTEOUS IN MERCY, IS TO HAVE THE REAL  
SPIRIT OF CHRISTMAS.”**

**CALVIN COOLIDGE**



2023 Sokol Ennis Sponsors - Thank you for your support!

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| <p><b>Shellie Smiley-York</b><br/>                 101 NW Main<br/>                 Ennis, TX<br/>                 469.245.5274<br/>                 shellie@citysrealstate.com</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>HQI Contractors Inc</b><br/>                 "Honesty, Quality, Integrity!!!"<br/> <b>Bob Peters</b><br/>                 Founder</p> <p>15443 Knoll Trail Suite 100<br/>                 Dallas, TX 75248</p> <p>972.672.4462<br/>                 bob@hqicontractors.com</p>                                                                                                                            | <p>HARDWOODS - LAMINATES - TILES - LVT PLANKS<br/> <b>CARPET DIRECT</b><br/>                 www.denniscarpetdirectflooring.com<br/> <i>You Are The Middle Man!</i><br/>                 Call me for a <b>FREE ESTIMATE</b> and <b>SAVE!!</b><br/>                 50 to 50% below retail! #1 Dist. of Stainmaster Carpet<br/> <b>Dennis Hajek</b><br/>                 Phone: (972) 322-4575<br/>                 carpetdirectflooring@yahoo.com</p>                                 |
| <p>17th Annual<br/> <b>ENNIS CZECH MUSIC FESTIVAL</b><br/>                 Sokol Hall   Sat., February 17, 2024<br/>                 ENNISCZECHMUSICFESTIVAL.COM</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | <p><b>the GroundsGuys</b><br/>                 a neighborly company<br/>                 214-971-7200<br/>                 Irrigation &amp; Lawn Care</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | <p><b>MATOUS ELECTRIC LLC</b></p> <p>3868 FM 1181<br/>                 Ennis, Texas 75119<br/>                 TECL #23078</p> <p>972-875-8005<br/>                 JoeMatous@yahoo.com</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <p><b>ROBERT GILLENLINE</b><br/>                 Agent</p> <p>911 S. Clay St.<br/>                 Ennis, TX 75119</p> <p>972.875.6506<br/>                 469.438.6531<br/>                 rgillentine@txfb-ins.com</p> <p>FARM &amp; RANCH / ANNUITIES / HEALTH</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | <p><b>THE "TO DO" GUY</b><br/> <b>Zeke Martinez</b><br/>                 972-955-4360</p> <p>LET'S GET THOSE "TO DO" THINGS DONE!</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | <p><b>Bella Italia Restaurant &amp; Bar</b><br/>                 105 S Kaufman St<br/>                 Ennis, TX 75119<br/>                 972-875-7571<br/>                 Catering Available</p> <p>"Your Neighborhood Italian Restaurant"<br/>                 — OPEN —<br/>                 Sun-Tues, Wed-Thurs 11am-10pm • Fri-Sat 11am-11pm • Closed Monday</p>                                                                                                               |
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