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China says to penalise Luckin Coffee for accounting fraud



Inside C2

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U.S. makes deal for 100 million doses of coronavirus vaccine, deaths expected to rise



Reuters) - Two major drug companies will supply the U.S. government with 100 million doses of an experimental coronavirus vaccine, the Trump administration said on Friday, as the nation's top health agency predicted that fatalities would rise in the coming weeks.

U.S. President Donald Trump participates in a "COVID-19 Response and Storm Preparedness" event with Florida Governor Ron DeSantis and U.S. Health and Human Services (HHS) Secretary Alex Azar at the Pelican Golf Club in Belleair, Florida, U.S., July 31, 2020. REUTERS/Tom Brenner

The agreement calls for the U.S. government to pay French drug maker Sanofi (SASY.PA) and British pharmaceutical giant GlaxoSmith-Kline GSK.L. up to \$2.1 billion to supply it with enough vaccines for 50 million people, with the option to buy another 500 million doses.

The purchase falls under the Trump administration's so-called Operation Warp Speed, intended to rush a COVID-19 vaccine to the market by the end of 2020.

"Today's investment supports our latest vaccine candidate, an adjuvanted product being developed by Sanofi and GSK, all the way through clinical trials and manufacturing, with the potential to bring hundreds of millions of safe and effective doses to the American people," Alex Azar, secretary of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, said in announcing the deal.

The coronavirus, which first appeared in China, has infected 4.5 million people in the U.S. and killed more than 152,000 Americans, according to a Reuters tally.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control on Friday forecast between 168,000 and 182,000 total fatalities by August 22, predicting that deaths will rise fastest in Alabama, Kentucky, New Jersey, Puerto Rico, Tennessee and Washington state.

The CDC also released a study that said COVID-19 had spread to nearly half the staff and campers at a sleep-away camp in Georgia over a week and a half ago.

The investigation demonstrated "that children of all ages are susceptible to SARS-CoV-2 infection and, contrary to early reports, might play an important role in transmission."

SHIFTING TO MIDWEST
New infections rose by nearly 2,000 in Illinois on Friday, according to the state health department, the highest single-day increase since May. Neighboring Indiana in the Midwest saw a spike of 901 new cases.

A top White House pandemic advisor, Dr. Deborah Birx, has said the virus appeared to be shifting away from Sunbelt states, including Arizona, California, Florida and Texas, and moving into the Midwest.

Birx, coordinator of the White House coronavirus task force, said on Thursday that Ohio, Kentucky, Tennessee, Missouri, Kansas and Nebraska were particularly at risk. Four U.S. states reported record increases in deaths on Friday, including Florida, which has in recent weeks been a hot spot of COVID-19 cases.

Florida also reported 9,007 new cases, bringing its total infections to over 470,000, the second highest in the country behind California. Florida is among at least 18 states that saw cases more than double in July, when almost 25,000 people in the United States died of COVID-19.

"I definitely don't feel safe. I feel like I'm fighting an invisible enemy," said Zinnia Santiago, 50, an executive assistant who lives in Coral Springs, Florida.

The state, already reeling from the pandemic and resulting economic damage, was forced to close testing sites on Friday as Hurricane Isaias approached bearing high winds and heavy rains and residents stocked up on essentials.

ONE DEATH A MINUTE
Coronavirus deaths in the United States are rising at their fastest rate since early June. Roughly one American died about every minute from COVID-19 on Wednesday.

In the nation's capital, top infectious

disease expert Dr. Anthony Fauci, during testimony before a U.S. House of Representatives subcommittee, fended off efforts by both Republicans and Democrats to draw him into the fierce political debate over the handling of the pandemic.

Slideshow (3 Images)
A travel advisory went into effect in Chicago on Friday requiring travelers from neighboring Wisconsin to quarantine for 14 days. Wisconsin joined 21 other states that have seen a surge in new cases.

The COVID-19 outbreak "is not in good control" in Wisconsin said Allison Arwady, commissioner of the Chicago Department of Public Health.



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Harry-Hines Branch 972-348-3433	Legacy Branch 972-348-3466	Carrollton Branch 972-428-5088	Arlington Branch 817-261-5585	Garland Branch 972-272-3375	Plano Branch 469-429-2422			

China says to penalise Luckin Coffee for accounting fraud

BEIJING (Reuters) - Chinese regulators said they would penalise Luckin Coffee after confirming accounting fraud that has already forced the company to delist from the U.S. Nasdaq exchange.

FILE PHOTO: A woman leaves a store of the Chinese coffee house chain Luckin Coffee in Beijing, China, July 8, 2020. Picture taken July 8, 2020. REUTERS/Thomas Peter The Ministry of Finance, which began an investigation into Luckin Coffee (China) and Luckin Coffee (Beijing) in early May, found Luckin booked 2.25 billion yuan (\$322.60 million) of sales through fake coupons from April 2019 to the end of last year, it said in a statement on its website on Friday.

It also found Luckin inflated sales by 2.12 billion yuan during the period, while costs were inflated by 1.2 billion yuan and profits by 908 million yuan.

The ministry said that it would now impose administrative penalties on Luckin, without giving further details.

The State Administration for Market Regulation said in a separate statement, again without giving details, that it too would take action against the two domestic entities of Luckin and related third party companies that helped Luckin with the false promotion.

Fortunes of Luckin, which directly competes with U.S. coffeehouse Starbucks (SBUX.O), have nosedived since the probe was disclosed in April.

The delisting of its U.S. shares added to concerns about Chinese company governance after the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) warned in April of the dangers of investing in emerging market stocks, singling out China in particular.

The China Securities Regulatory Commission (CSRC) said in April that it had initiated talks to cooperate with



FILE PHOTO: A woman leaves a store of the Chinese coffee house chain Luckin Coffee in Beijing, China, July 8, 2020. Picture taken July 8, 2020. REUTERS/Thomas Peter

the SEC on a possible investigation into Luckin.

Luckin wound up an internal probe earlier this month that found the company's revenue was inflated by around 2.12 billion yuan in 2019.

During the investigation, Luckin sacked its CEO and COO, executives who had previously held top positions at Chairman Charles Lu's other firms.



Stay Home!

BUSINESS

Wear Mask!

Coronavirus Has Triggered The Steepest Recession Since World War II

U.S. Economy Plunges At Titanic 32.9% Rate In 2nd Quarter And Points To Draw-Out



The U.S. economy has plunged at a Titanic rate of 32.9%.

Compiled And Edited By John T. Robbins, Southern Daily Editor

The economy began to recover in mid-May after a severe contraction at the beginning of the quarter, but the U.S. faces a long road back, analysts say. Millions of Americans are still out of work, thousands of businesses have closed and many of those that remain open have had to scale back operations because of tepid demand or ongoing government restrictions. The recent surge in coronavirus cases in about half of U.S. states, especially large ones such as Texas, Florida and California, has also dealt a blow to a fragile economic recovery.

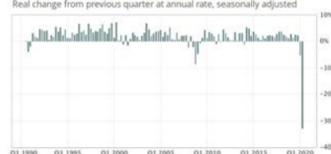
Previously GDP had never shrunk by more than 10% on an annualized basis in any quarter since the government began keeping track shortly after World War Two.

What happened: Consumer spending, the main engine of the economy, contracted by a record 34.6% annualized clip in the spring.

The decline was especially sharp in services — travel, tourism, medical care, eating out and the like. Businesses that rely on large groups of customers and heavy store traffic bore the brunt of government lockdowns after the pandemic erupted. Spending on services nosedived

at a 43.5% annual pace.

U.S. GDP plunges record 32.9% in second quarter



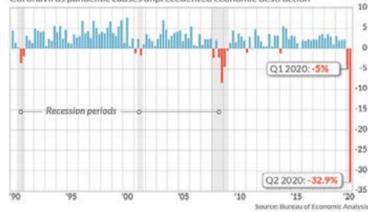
The numbers: An economy badly battered by the coronavirus shrank at a record 32.9% annual pace in the second quarter, underscoring just how big a hole the U.S. finds itself in as it labors to recover from the deepest recession in American history.

Households also spent far less on goods, though the decline wasn't quite as steep. Purchases dropped 11.3%. Americans bought more cars, groceries and certain other household staples with many working from home, but sales of clothing, gasoline and many other goods all fell sharply. Business investment also stumbled badly as companies froze or slashed spending. Outlays on infrastructure such as oil rigs sank 35% while spending on equipment shrank by 37.7%. Both are record declines. Investment in new housing also shriv-

eled up by 38.7%, but it appears to have sprung back quickly. Record low mortgage rates have spawned a rash of new home sales and spurred builders to step up construction toward the end of the quarter. The level of inventories also shrank by a whopping \$234.6 billion annual rate in the second quarter, compared to an \$80 billion dropoff in the first quarter.

Companies cut back on production as sales slumped and exports tumbled. That's also weighed heavily on the economy, though production has picked up in the last few months after the economy largely reopened. Government spending was a mixed bag. The federal government stepped in with massive infusions of aid for businesses, households and the unemployed, but states and localities have suffered a big drop in tax revenue even as expenses soared. Overall government outlays edged up 2.7% in the spring. Federal spending jumped more than 17%, offsetting a 5.6% decline in state and local outlays.

Economy posts record 32.9% decline in second quarter



The tidal wave of damage from the first global pandemic in a century was almost as bad as Wall Street expected. Analysts polled by MarketWatch had forecast a 35% decline in gross domestic product at an annual pace, the official scorecard of the U.S. economy.

International trade was a smaller drag on the economy. Exports dwindled by 64% in the second quarter, topping a 53% drop in imports. The coronavirus caused massive disruptions in the flow of global trade and a worldwide economic slump resulted in far less demand.

It may be months if not years before trade fully recovers, economists say, especially with the U.S. and China still at loggerheads on a number of issues. The two countries have the world's largest economies. The rate of inflation, meanwhile, fell at a 1.9% pace in the second quarter after increasing early in the year. The cost of many goods and services have fallen as companies cut prices to try to drum up sales. Inflation

is likely to remain low until the pandemic fades.

Looking back at the first quarter, the originally reported 5% drop in GDP was unchanged. The pandemic struck in early March and tore a huge hole the economy in the final month of the quarter.

Big picture: The economy is primed to expand in the third quarter, but the surge in coronavirus cases in many U.S. states has already taken some air out of the recovery. Economists polled by MarketWatch predict GDP will expand at an 18% annual pace from July to September, though estimates are likely to be ratcheted down.

The path of the recovery depends heavily on whether Congress passes another massive relief package, economists say, and whether the pandemic is brought under control again. Prolonged uncertainty will only cause Americans to save more and spend less, thus hurting the economy. (Courtesy <https://www.marketwatch.com/>)

Related

Consumer Confidence Craters In July

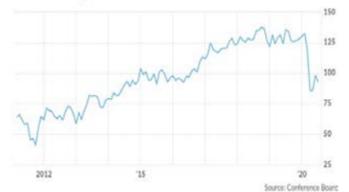
The level of confidence is still above its pandemic low of 85.7, but it's likely to be a long time before it returns to its pre-crisis peak. The index stood near a 20-year high at 132.6 in February before the pandemic struck. The economy is not expected to make a full recovery for at least a year or two.

"Consumers have grown less optimistic about the short-term outlook for the economy and labor market and remain subdued about their financial prospects," said Lynn Franco, senior director of economic indicators at the board. "Such uncertainty about the short-term future does not bode well for the recovery, nor for consumer

spending."

Consumer confidence deflates in July

Americans turn more pessimistic as confidence index falls to 92.6 from 98.3



What happened: An index that gauges how consumers feel about the economy right now actually rose to 94.2 in July from 86.7. Massive federal aid and other measures to prop up the economy have helped stave off worse financial straits for million of Americans already struggling to get by. More than 30 million people are receiving unemployment benefits.

Yet Americans have gotten more pessimistic about the near future. Another gauge that assesses how Americans view the next six months — the so-called future expectations index — sank to a four-month low 91.5 from 106.1 in June.

Congress is weighing a new financial-relief bill this week, but the outcome is unclear and it's possible that emergency unemployment benefits could be reduced. Washington has kicked in up to \$600 in extra benefits for jobless Americans on top of what state plans pay, but the measure ends July 31. (Courtesy <https://www.marketwatch.com/>)



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Editor's Choice



People flee as driver in a blue Jeep rams through the crowd of protesters on Interstate 225 during a march against the death of Elijah McClain and racial injustice in Aurora, Colorado, July 25, 2020. REUTERS/Kevin Mohatt



A man is seen on a boat after his house was flooded in Munshiganj district, on the outskirts of Dhaka, Bangladesh, July 25, 2020. REUTERS/Mohammad Ponir Hossain



Mexican ballet dancer Abigail Miranda, member of the classic dance company "Ballet de Monterrey", takes part in an online training class as her daughter touches her legs at their house in Monterrey, Mexico. The company is a prime example of how wide...



A COVID-19 patient reacts after being tested inside a field hospital built on a soccer stadium in Machakos, Kenya, July 23, 2020. REUTERS/Baz Ratner



Inmates protest on the rooftop of the San Sebastian prison, to demand government medical assistance amid the coronavirus outbreak, in Cochabamba, Bolivia, July 27, 2020.



Teacher Maura Silva, who works for public school Escola Municipal Frei Vicente de Salvador and who created a "hug kit" using plastic covers, embraces her student Yuri Araujo Silva at Yuri's home, in the 77 Padre Miguel slum in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil



Republican Congressman Louie Gohmert, who steadfastly refused to wear a mask during the coronavirus pandemic, said on July 29 that he has tested positive for COVID-19, raising concerns that other members of Congress may also have been exposed



Brazilian President Jair Bolsonaro's wife and one of his ministers have tested positive for COVID-19, according to an official statement on July 30. Just days after her husband said he had overcome the virus with a negative test following weeks

Compiled HOUSTON (July 30, 2020) - Houston Community College has launched an artificial intelligence (AI) Associate of Applied Science degree program, making it the first community college in Texas to have such a program.

The launch came on the heels of the approval by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges, regional body for the accreditation of degree-granting higher education institutions in the Southern states. "The new AI program is launched online for the fall 2020 semester at HCC Southwest, HCC Northeast and HCC Southeast. The regional offering of the new program will be available to students across the college service area," said Sean Otmishi, dean of the Digital and Information Technology Center of Excellence headquartered at HCC Southwest. HCC Chancellor Cesar Maldonado, Ph.D., P.E., called the new AI program "a game-changer for our college."



"It is the latest of HCC's ongoing efforts to embrace new technologies and keep a pulse on the ever-changing needs of the industry," he said. "Offering an innovative program like AI will allow our students to take advantage of all the accelerated job openings in Houston, in Texas and beyond."

HCC Southwest President Madeline Burillo-Hopkins, Ed.D., said the new program continues the college's initiative to develop curricula relevant to the 21st century technological landscape.

"AI has been transforming many aspects of the workplace today and will have a growing impact on our economy and lives," she said. "I'm excited we have made this leap forward for our students who will help take the technology to the next level in the future."



The new curriculum will provide students

Artificial intelligence program launched at Houston Community College

with fundamentals of the best practices in artificial intelligence. AAS graduates can move on to a four-year university to pursue a bachelor's degree in computer science, cybersecurity or electrical engineering, said G. Brown, Ph.D., program coordinator of Networking and Telecommunications at HCC Southwest. "Because of a dire shortage of AI specialists, many companies are offering big salaries," Brown said. "AI specialists are in high demand by companies like Microsoft, Apple and Amazon, as well as NASA and SpaceX." Last year, the job site indeed.com placed machine learning engineer on the top of its annual list of the 25 best jobs, citing a 344 percent increase in job postings from 2015 to 2018 with an annual base salary of \$146,000. Machine learning is an application of AI. "AI specialists combine different technologies to enable machines to sense, comprehend, act and learn with human-like levels of intelligence - whether it's a smart building turning off lights to conserve energy, a robot learning to navigate a path on its own, or a drone using computer vision technology to avoid objects," Otmishi said.



Josh Bankston with MACE Virtual Labs, a partner of HCC, said the new AI program is a "win for MACE." The Houston-based company collaborated with HCC Southwest to open a virtual reality lab in 2019.

"The future of technology and the scope of all the industries HCC services can only stand to benefit from more understanding and integration of things like machine learning and artificial intelligence," he said. Registration for the AI program is underway at HCC. To enroll, call



713.718.2000 or visit hccs.edu/apply.

About HCC

Houston Community College (HCC) is composed of 14 Centers of Excellence and numerous satellite centers that serve the diverse communities in the Greater Houston area by preparing individuals to live and work in an increasingly international and technological society. HCC is one of the country's largest singly accredited, open-admission community colleges offering associate degrees, certificates, workforce training and lifelong learning opportunities. To learn more, visit hccs.edu. (Courtesy HCC)

Related

5 Courses in an Artificial Intelligence Degree Program

Five Courses Found in Artificial Degree Programs

- Concepts in Artificial Intelligence
Introduction to Machine Learning
Vision Sensors
Designing Human-Centered Systems
Introduction to Deep Learning



Courses in artificial intelligence degree programs can depend a lot on what students need from their programs. From undergraduate to graduate curriculums, the differences in programs often stems from whether a degree is applied or academic in nature. Here are five courses that are commonly found in

an artificial intelligence program.

Concepts in Artificial Intelligence

This course is often also known as Introduction to Artificial Intelligence and is the prerequisite course for any further advanced study in the field. Most students will take this course in their first semester. The course is developed for students to learn about the history of artificial intelligence, what an intelligent agent is, game playing, constraint satisfaction problems, and more. Students will also learn by doing hands-on projects and completing research papers. This course is usually not an in-depth look of the field but functions to introduce new concepts to learners.



Introduction to Machine Learning

Most students will have heard of machine learning, but in order to be successful in the field of artificial intelligence, they must also learn this concept. Machine learning is the science of getting computers to work without a program attached to them. It is the technology behind self-driving cars, smartphone assistants, and even web search engines.

This course serves as an introduction to the discipline and includes a variety of projects that must be completed individually as well as with a team; case studies and laboratory projects may also be required. Students will most often have to complete prerequisites in math and statistics.

Vision Sensors

A course in vision sensors focuses on displays and cameras that give the public new visual experiences. This is a course that covers everything from cameras to film equipment to advancements in technology, including solid state drives and the use of cameras in conjunction with other technologies. Students who are interested in working in a specialized field that includes the daily use of cameras will want to complete a course in this discipline. Students are advised that this course will require lab days and these must be com-

pleted in order to complete the experiential learning component of the course.



Designing Human-Centered Systems

Designing Human-Centered Systems is a course that focuses a student's attention on the skills, tools, and concepts needed in order to design systems and software that meets the public's needs. The core concept of this course is Human-Computer Interaction, the skillset that every professional will need in order to design and improve existing systems for human use. Most students who take this course are not specializing in the field and therefore will only be taught the wider aspects of the field.

Introduction to Deep Learning

Introduction to Deep Learning is not the same as machine learning, although many students believe that they are. This course focuses on deep learning methods that apply to machine translation, image recognition, game playing, and even machine learning. Students will have the opportunity to learn how deep learning algorithms work as well as work on projects that make up the majority of their final grade. There are prerequisites required for this degree, so students are advised to ensure they meet the requirements before attempting to sign up. The interest surrounding artificial intelligence is only growing; Venture Beat reported last year that Carnegie Mellon University will be the first university in the country to offer an undergraduate degree in the field. With so many students wishing to specialize in the field, it has become important for schools to release more specializations and degrees that center on artificial intelligence. The above five courses can be found in artificial programs all over the country and should be considered required for any student. (Courtesy https://www.computer-scienceedegreehub.com/)



美国最受欢迎10种食物

1、巧克力曲奇冰激凌 Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough Ice Cream 1937年,来自麻洲的 Ruth Grave 在她做的黄油区奇中加入了切碎的巧克力。由此发明了世上最好吃的区奇饼干。在美国人民享受她的区奇的同时,他们总是设想如何能把这美味发展的更好。10多年后,有了让人惊讶的觉悟:因为有人太懒去烤这个区奇饼干,发现吃混好了的生面居然比烤完的成品更有味。在美国人民合力下终于想出了一个壮观的办法:把生面切成小块,拌在冰激凌里!Now that 's American Cooking!

2、特大鸭 Turducken 如此聪明并且简单的创造,让人不敢相信 5000 年的世界文明居然没先想到。拿一只火鸡,塞只鸭子在它肚子里,然后再在鸭子里塞只鸡。从这里开始你就可以

自由发挥了。不过推荐是在鸡里再塞些香肠和熏肉,油炸 2-3 小时。特别加分,如果你能想出办法加入溶化的奶酪制品在这到"壮观"的菜里。有些美国人想把这道菜变成传统的感恩节大餐,有的已经开始在圣诞节吃上了。不过如此美国化的发明,还是最适合在 4th of July 享用。

3、水牛城辣鸡翅 Buffalo Wings 不要以为这道菜只有在水牛城才能吃到,甚至还有个美国快餐就以这个为名字呢。大部分美国人觉得鸡肉不如猪肉油腻,不如牛肉有口感,只能凑合。但是把它放到 600 度的油中炸到焦脆,直到你不认识它是肉了。然后浇上辣酱,沾着熔化了的 Blue cheese 一起吃? That's more like it! 特别提到是加在盘底的蔬菜,吸收了鸡肉上掉下的油,普通的蔬菜也变美味了。

4、火焰冰激凌 Baked Alaska 美国的生活是很复杂的。当他们面对严肃的决定像"你想吃什么甜点啊,亲爱的?冰激凌还是苹果派?"他们不会知识简单的说"我们拿一勺冰淇淋,放到苹果派上如何?"No, no. 他们能把一整盒的冰欺凌,想出办法把它烤在一个派里。

怎么做到的?打死我也不明白。但是我知道这点:你可以在上面倒上朗姆酒,然后把它整个点燃,现在才像道菜。

5、考伯沙拉 Cobb Salad 吃了这么多油腻的东西,有的美国人开始说:"我想今天就吃一碗色拉好了。"当然,他们说的色拉不是指那种无聊的欧洲人吃的绿青菜加红番茄。美国人做色拉时,先要有足够的肉类种类和重量,然后一定要有牛油果和奶酪。基本上你在一个 Double Cheese Burger 中找到的都可以放进去。最好的例子 Cobb Salad:熏肉,炸鸡肉,牛油果,鸡蛋粒,蓝奶酪和任何你在冰箱中



找到的都可以放进去。

6、鲁宾三明治 Reuben Sandwich 这种装满了东西的三明治现在在世界上都满多见的。不过 Reuben 是最美国的了。首先要用 10 多种香料烤的熏肉片,一口吃下去你都不知道吃了什么只知道是肉的那种,推荐每个三明治中要放入至少 1 磅。然后在每 3 片中藏一块"瑞士"奶酪,那种中间有洞的,真的瑞士人决不会去碰的。再在上面撒些"俄国色拉酱",一种鲜艳的,橘红色奶酱。

7、巧克力棉花糖夹心饼 S'mores 一直不明白,为什么 S'mores 会在美国如此流行。饼干用的是英国人的 Graham crackers,在美国一直就没什么人吃的。中间夹的是软糖块,那是美国小孩野炊是穿在棍子上烤着玩的,烤好了一般就扔到一旁,没多少人爱吃的。反正和在一起,美国人就喜欢吃了。

8、美式中国菜 "Chinese Food" 美国料理最棒的地方就是胡思乱想,有时候想出来的他们自己都无法承认,就找个接近的风格,跟著那个叫。举例:"Chinese Food"。横跨美国 50 州,所谓的中国快餐提供 10 多道漂亮的,油炸了的,酱油烤了的事物。鸡肉沾上甜辣酱和面包屑然后油炸后叫陈皮鸡(orange chicken),春卷里面加奶酪或奶油,炒饭炒面吃完后盘里的剩的油可以用来再炒

2-3 道小菜。这些菜都有一个共同点,他们都是美国人借著中国菜的模版想出来的。

9、费城牛肉芝士三明治 Philly Cheese steak 只有在 Philadelphia,美国里最美的城市,才能发明出如此象征性的三明治,而且强力坚持不需要任何人来尝试改善它。只用最差的原料, Pennsylvania 的市长 Ed Rendell 解释那些不是本洲的人尝试来做 Philly cheese steak 的问题:"第一,他们会用好的牛肉。你需要用最肥最硬的肉才能得到合适的味道。第二个错误,当然,你只能用奶酪制造时的残渣,不能用真的奶酪。"Rendell 坚持这样因为"真的奶酪不能溶透到肉里"。

无论如何,Philly cheese steak 还是很美味的。如果用上好的肉和奶酪会让它更好吃吗?当然。不过那样就不是美国原味的了。

10、美式炸热狗 Corn Dog 1942 年,在一个德州美丽的乡村集市上,一个有商业头脑的年轻人叫做 Neil Fletcher 想出了一个可以让他的热狗热卖的办法:在热狗肠上涂厚厚一层便宜的玉米糖浆,用热油炸的 5 分钟,再在后面插根棍子。就这样一个美国传统诞生了。每年当天气转热,春暖花开时,美国人一边享用这简单可口的美食,一边问自己:我们还能油炸些什么呢?

