

# The STRAIGHT FORWARD

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# FREE Press



Volume 1 • Issue 15

Stilwell, Adair County, Oklahoma

Thursday, October 7, 2021



Adair County Litter-Free & Green collected 528 tires on Tire Collection Day. These tires will be picked up by a tire recycle company. Workers pictured, left to right: Evotio Leon, Tayven Unger, and Ed Unger.

## ACH&GA to Offer Fall Break History Tour

By Regina McLemore,  
CH&GA Secretary

During the month of September, the Adair County Historical and Genealogical Association (ACH&GA) offered two tours of five historical spots of Adair County: the site of the old Flint Courthouse, Starr Springs, Ned Christie's gravesite, the Baptist Mission, and the Howard Hotel.

Led by tour guides Wanda Elliott and Regina McLemore, the tours were well-attended and well-received. Emily Thompson, a Westville teacher, will lead a similar

tour on Thursday, October 14. This tour has been scheduled during fall break to provide an opportunity for educators to participate, but if seats remain untaken, they will become available to all. Participants should be healthy and able to walk short distances. They must also bring a light lunch, preferably with drinking water, and be prepared to spend most of the day, 8:30 until 3:00, with a tour group.

Seating is limited, so please call ACH&GA at 918-696-2535, Tuesday through Friday, to reserve your spot as soon as possible.

## Adair County Commissioners' Meeting Report

By John Bankel

On Monday morning at 8:30, the Adair County Board of Commissioners met at their regular weekly meeting in the Board Room at the County Courthouse. Commissioners present were Sam Chandler, District 2, Chairman Mike Winger, District 1, and Larry Wood, District 3. The Agenda for this meeting contained 18 items. The Board acted on 2 of those items.

The first was approval of the Pafford EMS contract and the second was approval of a motion to challenge the 2020 Adair County Census results. Sam Chandler explained that the census numbers

for 2020 were lower than those of the 2010 census by about 3000; he further emphasized the impact that the numbers have on federal emergency funds made available to the county. Apparently, many other counties in Oklahoma have been similarly impacted.

Under new business, one of the citizens raised the question of the inconvenience of the 8:30 am meeting time pointing out that most citizens are at work and are thus precluded from participating in their government. Chairman Winger said, "I will take that under advisement."

The next meeting will be held Monday October 4 at 8:30 am.

## From One Steward of the Land to Another

By Tarra Boecher

If you could choose one influential person to meet in life, who would it be? For me that person is Dr. Temple Grandin. My passion for humane animal husbandry led to my fascination with all Dr. Grandin has to offer.

We live in cattle country, so I think it's safe to assume most of us know exactly who she is. For those of you that are not familiar, do yourself a favor and go watch the HBO movie titled "Temple Grandin," or checkout one of her numerous book titles. Dr. Grandin entered the cattle feedlot industry in the 1970's. Getting accepted in the industry as a woman, in that day and age, was no easy task. Dr. Grandin's exposure to slaughter facilities opened her mind to how the mismanagement of livestock was leading to unnecessary losses, stress, and animal suffering. Animal behavior became her life's study, and it enabled her to bring about positive change within the industry.

Dr. Grandin was born with Autism, and she thinks in pictures. Thinking in pictures allows her to see things the way animals see them. Her gifts, as an extreme visual thinker, have aided her abilities to design functional, humane, and low stress working facilities. Today, more than 50% of the worlds operating slaughter facilities have been constructed from Dr. Grandin's designs.

My husband and I recently attended the American Wagyu Association annual conference, in Fort Collins, Colorado. Dr. Grandin was one of several incredible guest speakers, courtesy of Colorado State University. I was excited, like a little kid walking through the gates of Disneyland for the first time, over the opportunity to listen to her speak.

At dinner, on the last evening of the conference, I couldn't help but gravitate towards the empty seats at her table. Don't mind if I do, I thought, and asked if two



Pictured above, left to right: Tarra Boecher, Dr. Temple Grandin and Charles Boecher. The Boechers recently attended the American Wagyu Association annual conference in Fort Collins, Colorado, where Dr. Grandin was one of several guest speakers.

of the four remaining seats were taken. The seats were not taken! So, I weaseled my rear end into the closest seat and parked it. Taking the seats ended up being the best decision I could have made.

After dinner had ended, I told her of my opportunity to write this article, and asked if I could interview her. She quickly obliged, we excused ourselves from the dining room, and headed for a sofa in the Hilton's now empty lobby. To say I was unprepared is an understatement, but I was not remotely considering passing up this opportunity. We spoke for at least an hour, mostly about my interest in opening a humane processing facility, and I left our encounter feeling more enriched than before. It ignited in me a passion to tap into my gifts and share them with the world.

A lot of us here in Adair County raise animals intended for human consumption. There's room for improvement in every operation, mine included. I couldn't agree with Temple Grandin more than when she says, "I think using animals for food is an ethical thing to do, but we've got to do it right. We've got to give those animals a decent life, and we've got to give them a painless death. We owe the animal respect." If our operations function with a lack of respect for the animal's life, it's fair to say we're doing it all wrong. If we are using an electric prod as our main mode of control when working our cattle, we're doing it wrong. If we're weaning our calves on the truck as they're headed for the sale barn, we're doing it wrong. If we're not properly vaccinating our calves before they leave our possession, we're doing it wrong. It's imperative we take pride in everything we do, wherever life takes us, and animal husbandry is no exception.

At a time when there's so much chaos and uncertainty in the world, one of the things Dr. Grandin says we can count on is Grazing animals having a future in the world's food-chain. As stewards of the land, let's do it right.

I will be joining a webinar, with Dr. Grandin, called "Ask Temple" on October 11<sup>th</sup>. If you have anything you'd like for me to ask her, please email me at [zionaoks@gmail.com](mailto:zionaoks@gmail.com). You can also join for \$44.95, and ask her anything, by going to <https://www.fhautism.com>.

Let's be a little more like Temple. Passionate, persistent, and willing to share our gifts with the world.



### Stilwell Sports Spotlight

**INDIANS FOOTBALL**  
**Tigers Maul Stilwell**  
*Commentary by John Bankel*

On 10/1, in a Friday night game at Fort Gibson, the Stilwell Indians, entering the game with a record of 0-3, tangled with the 3-1 Fort Gibson Tigers in a Class 4A, District 4 contest. It became quickly apparent that this game was not going to be close as the Tigers pounced on the Indians early and often, mauling their way to a lopsided 58-8 win.

This week, on 10/8, Stilwell will be returning to their home

field, after 4 consecutive road games, where they will be hosting the Hilldale Hornets, (Muskogee). Hilldale is 4-2 on the season, having just come off a 38-31 loss to the Broken Bow Savages in a District 4 contest. Hilldale is 0-2 in District play. Stilwell is 0-1.

Come on out and support the Indians!

Stilwell Junior Varsity derailed Roland Rangers Monday night at James Bradley Stadium 20-0.

### ANNOUNCEMENT

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is now **ONLINE** on Google!

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Check it out and enjoy!

### PROVERB POWER

"Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that proceeds from the mouth of God." Deuteronomy 8:3,

Matthew 4:4, Luke 4:4 (KJV)

# THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

## CAN'T SEE THE FOREST FOR THE TREES

We Americans often take for granted all of the choices that are available to us. Whenever we want to go out and eat at a restaurant, we have many options; in my area we have Mexican, Chinese, and American establishments just to name a few. When we need clothing, we also have a huge assortment of shops, anything you can think of there are often many shops wanting to sell you their products. The one factor that has given us all of these choices is the economic system of capitalism and many of those choices are from middle class family-owned businesses. Today the very system that has granted us all of the choices we enjoy is being attacked by the liberals in this country.

Whether the liberals like to admit it or not, they also like having a multitude of options to spend their money on. I have noticed that many of the liberal persuasion have the idea that everyone should be equal in income; like a lot of ideas, it may sound good but it will never work. The liberals fail to factor in the determination and drive of various individuals. I can remember former President Obama talking about those in our society that won life's lottery when it came to winners and losers in our system. Granted, there are instances when someone got into a business just at the right time and made a huge sum of money, but it is my opinion that being successful is a long-term process. Recently I heard a comment from Dr. Phil where he said that the difference between losers and winners is the simple fact that the winners are willing to do the things that the losers refuse to do.

Having been raised on a farm I know that there is always a job or project that has to be taken care of each and every day. I live on a farm with a creek running through it, and there happens to be a good swimming hole on it. I can remember hauling hay in the summer time at the same time some of my counterparts were lounging on the creek bank drinking cold beer; many times I would liked to have been able to

hire some one to help in the hay hauling, but I guarantee you that it was impossible to hire any of those guys regardless of how much you were willing to pay. By my willingness to do the hard work instead of drinking cold beer on the creek bank I worked to be a winner, there was no lottery involved. Those of us who have saved and taken care of our earnings want to pass those on to our descendants to make their lives a little easier, but we are coming under attack from Biden and his liberal henchmen in the form of a new death tax.

With a current estate tax exemption of \$11.7 million, very few estates pay death taxes. Under Biden's plan it will implement a capital gains tax at death on previously untaxed appreciation of asset values during life. Taxpayers with net worths not remotely near the current \$11.7 million estate tax exemption would be captured in the net of that new death tax. Under the Biden Budget Plan, individuals with a net worth of less than \$1 million at death could be subject to a significant percentage of their net worth being consumed by the new tax. One million dollars may sound like a lot, but in today's inflated prices a home or small business can easily add up to more than a million dollars. This ill-conceived idea is a direct assault upon the middle class. If this piece of garbage passes, many middle class people will have to sell the family business or family home just to pay the taxes. If this happens many of the choices we enjoy will no longer be there, the government will essentially be putting them out of business in the name of wealth redistribution.

When we Americans are foolish enough to give the reigns of power to a bunch of people who make promises of giving you something for nothing, we need to remember that the money has to come from somewhere. I have always heard the old expression of not being able to see the forest because of the trees, if we freedom loving Americans don't get involved and stop this nonsense America will never be the same.

### THE KIPLING KORNER

"There is no sin so great as ignorance. Remember this."

The  
**STRAIGHT FORWARD**  
**FREE Press**

Truth is Our Target

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John Bankel.....Journalist  
Joy Coleman.....Composing

PROVERBS 29:2-"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."

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# The Lady in the Blue Sari

Part 15

By Donna Boecher

There was excitement in the air as Lydia, Alex, Teresa, and I met at the Café DuMonde for coffee and beignets. Lydia, after we had taken our first sips of coffee, stated, "I've ticketed you on Air India, and made hotel reservations. Everything is arranged from New Orleans via Mumbai to Kochi. You leave a week from today. Alex has some inoculations he'll need. You'll fly into Mumbai, rent a car, and drive down to Kochi; it's 900 miles. I think you both need to get the feel of India. There is so much color and beauty to be seen and felt. Since Teresa speaks Hindi, there will be no problems that can't be overcome. I suggest you divide the trip into four days, since your average miles per hour will be 45. First, go to the Cathedral of the Holy Name in Colaba and pray guidance on your trip south. Nine hundred miles will keep you on the road 5

hours a day. Think of stopping at: Pune, Goa, Mangalore, Kannur, and especially at Palayur to see St. Thomas' first church." Finally, she took a breath! Overwhelmed with the details, this young couple were silent yet smiling. What a trip. To be young with this great adventure to be lived. I sent my prayer to the Father for them.

I knew Lydia remembered her days in Kerala. She'd told me she had been gripped with chill bumps when she first stepped where St. Thomas had met, in 52 c.e., the Hindus praising their Sun god by throwing up water into the air. He'd challenged them to believe in Christ if he could keep their water from touching the earth! Accomplishing the miracle, many believed; yet many had their hearts hardened. To step on soil where the Disciple Thomas had stepped was faith convicting. Amen. There would be more to come before they step on the airplane.

## Friends of Library Fall Book Sale To Be Held October 7, 8 & 9

Stilwell Public Friends of the Library will be hosting their Fall Book Sale this Thursday & Friday, October 7th & 8th from 9 am to 5 pm and Saturday, October 9th from 9 am to noon. The sale will be held in the community room at the Stilwell Library. If you have books that you would like to donate, just drop them off anytime during the sale. All proceeds will benefit the Stilwell Public Library.



Dear John,

Walmart has a rude cart guy. I think he needs to have his clock cleaned. I think if the right guy took him down and put him on his back, he would be like a whale out of water. Some old guy should teach him a lesson. What do you think?

Signed,

Rumble At Walmart

Dear Rumble, This guy's rudeness must be pretty pronounced for you to envision such a drastic measure as putting him on his back in front of God and everybody and watch him flop around like a whale out of water? While you may have every right to be angry over an employee's rudeness, (which is never acceptable under any circumstances and especially in the marketplace), there is a more benign approach to coach this individual into behaving more kindly. And that approach is to involve his manager, who may or may not be aware of his worker's behavior shortcomings. You may discover that others have already expressed the same complaint, yet even if that is not the case, your complaint deserves attention; it is now the manager's job to see that the situation is ameliorated. In the future, you can be a monitor to see if anything has changed.

Sincerely,

Dear John

Got a question for Dear John? Send it to: [dearjohn@writeme.com](mailto:dearjohn@writeme.com). Real names are not used.

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## Chamber Chili Lunch Rescheduled Until October 22

Stilwell Area Chamber of Commerce will hold their Homecoming Chili Lunch on Friday, October 22, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, located at 4 North 3rd Street.

The cost is \$6.00 for chili, dessert and drink.

To-go orders will be available, but please call in before 11 a.m. on October 22, at 918-696-2202.

## Health Tips from Larkin...

By Larkin Fouse, CHHP

**The Dangers of Fluoridated Water, Part 1:** Fluoridated water, one of our great modern health promoting measures taken by the state to keep our water supply safe and healthy. Or not. The research that has come out on all the harmful effects of fluoridation is great and vast, from the chemicals affecting your immune system, to contributing to Alzheimer's and mental illness! Along with some circles of thought believing that it can even hinder your spiritual connection to God! The list goes

on and on about all the harmful things that fluoridated water can do to you. Though here is a hint as to why it is harmful for you. It is the left over product that you get from processing aluminum, which we know is harmful for you! Next week I will give you all the tips and tricks I know of to keep your house safe from this modern bane to health. Larkin Fouse is a certified holistic health practitioner, operator and owner of Crescent Clinic in Stilwell. See advertisement in this paper for more information.



## Mullin It Over: A Crisis of His Own Making

By Congressman Markwayne Mullin

The past nine months of Biden's presidency have brought about a wave of crises unlike anything I have seen during my time in Washington.

While Congress is back to vote on the Democrats' combined \$5.5 trillion tax and spend spree, the crisis at our southern border is worsening by the day. It's no secret—the American people have watched these conditions deteriorate before their eyes. This situation has evolved from border crisis to national security crisis, and now, a humanitarian crisis.

Illegal border crossings are up 317 percent from last year. August was the second month in a row with over 200,000 border apprehensions. Nearly 15,000 Haitians have crossed the Rio Grande and thousands more are in South America waiting to do the same. Nearly 5,000 pounds of deadly fentanyl have been seized by border patrol agents. Yet, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas told Congress last week, "the border is secure."

Not only has the Biden Ad-

ministration not addressed the full scope of what is happening at our border, they have not done a single thing to prevent the situation from worsening either. All 1.2 million illegal immigrants who have come to our border since February 1, 2021, came because our President refused to take this crisis seriously.

Last week, I joined Rep. Tony Gonzales (TX-23) to introduce a resolution urging President Biden to address this crisis through real solutions and get our border security under control. It is going to take the full enforcement of immigration laws such as Title 42 expulsions and the Remain in Mexico Policy, as well as additional Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) agents to get this crisis under control.

This is a crisis of Biden's own making. And it is past time for him to fix it.

Want to stay up-to-date on what I'm doing in Oklahoma and Washington on your behalf? Sign up for my newsletter by visiting [mullin.house.gov/newslettersignup](http://mullin.house.gov/newslettersignup).

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"Our Readers' Voice:" A page dedicated to the expressed opinions of our readers. Send your opinion to: [straightforwardpress21@gmail.com](mailto:straightforwardpress21@gmail.com).

## Obituaries

### Michael Eugene Osbourne

Michael Eugene Osborne was born in Syracuse, New York, in 1959. He was a son, a husband, a brother, a father, and a friend. He never knew that so many would reach out in such caring ways and with so much concern during his last days. His passing was far too soon. He was always one of the brightest lights in the sky.

After graduating high school in Crossett, Arkansas, where the family settled after his father left the Air Force, he joined the Air Force himself, where he succeeded quickly. He was a link in a chain of a family that believed in protecting our country. He worked his way from systems operations to eventually teaching for Microsoft after his retirement. Michael was a Post Rider with the VFW Unit 10, and a member of the Levi Doughit VFW Post 1674 in Siloam Springs, Arkansas.

Family memories of Michael include his sweetness and sensitivity as a child. His family will hold his memory alive for the following generations.

Michael loved the feeling of freeness afforded him by riding a motorcycle which he also loved to share with others. Michael's humor was so subtle and dry that often his jokes were not realized until well after he'd left the room. His faith was always important to him and became more so as he neared his last time on earth.

Michael was preceded in death by his father, Walter W. Osborne, close aunt, Ethel Whitaker, his grandparents, Mae and Lawrence Whitaker, and Clementine and Walter D. Osborne.

He leaves a wife, Patricia, and children, Sarah and Michael II of Oklahoma. He spent many good years with Frankie, his granddaughter, who loved their time together and will always have beautiful memories to share.

Michael also leaves a family who will miss him tremendously. His mother, Helen, sisters, Diane and Peggy Osborne of Arkansas, a son Douglas Hollingsworth of Seattle, cousins, Scott, Terry, and Keith Whitaker of Tennessee, raised as close as brothers.

Of the many others considered family are those close and caring friends in his hometown of Crossett.

Our family remembers and thanks Michael for his service to our country as well as the service of his wife, Patricia.

May the memory of our loved one Michael be a blessing to all those whose lives he touched.

### Gerald Scrapper

May 16, 1957 – September 23, 2021

Gerald Scrapper was born May 16, 1957, in Cherokee County, Oklahoma and departed this life on September 23, 2021, in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 64 years, 4 months, and 7 days. Gerald was the son of the late Carl Scrapper.

If you ask a hundred people who was Gerald Scrapper, they'd each tell you a different story. A fisherman, a teacher, a music lover and singer of his own bedroom concerts, coach, a cheerleader, a loving family man, a great ball player, sports lover, and they'd even tell you some stories of him just being goofy. He was all those things and more. Most of all he was an amazing Husband, Father, and Papa to his family. He enjoyed spending all his time with his family just sitting outside and being together.

Gerald is survived by his loving family that include his wife: Kathy Soap Scrapper; along with five children: Samantha Johnson and husband Trey of Stilwell, Oklahoma, Helen Jackson and husband Jay of Fort Smith, Arkansas, Susan Scrapper and husband Richard, Russell Scrapper and wife Felicia, Julie Beaver and husband Rainwater, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma; 14 grandchildren: Lane Johnson, Randon Scrapper, Levi Scrapper, Alaina McCullough, Allie Jackson, Layson Welch, Takalynn Scrapper, Laniston Welch, Talon Scrapper, Halona Beaver, Laiah Scrapper, Amiyah Beaver, Lyssa Hurlburt, Chenoa Beaver; 1 great-grandchild: Lucas Johnson; brothers, a very special partner in crime: Jed Scrapper and wife Margaret of Sallisaw Oklahoma, Earl Scrapper, Larry Scrapper and wife Jonanna, both of Tahlequah Oklahoma, Jon Scrapper and wife Lisa, Matt Scrapper and wife Angela, both of Pryor Oklahoma; a very special uncle: Tom and Evette Sanders; several nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm on September 29, 2021 at New Life Church, Stilwell, OK with Bro. Max Ford and Bro. Steve Campbell officiating. Interment followed at Salem Cemetery under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.

### Jerry Dean Walton

May 10, 1960 – September 24, 2021

Jerry Dean Walton, 61, of Westville, Oklahoma, passed away on September 24, 2021, at his home.

Jerry was born to Mary (Kirby) Walton on May 10, 1960, in Westville, Oklahoma. He married Cynthia (Smith) Walton on November 8, 1980 (since divorced) and had three children: Brian, Tim, and Heather Walton.

Jerry worked at Gates Rubber Company for 35+ years and was known for his hard-working attitude. He was known to his friends and family as a jokester, Uncle, Brother, Father, and friend. You could always find him outside of work mowing lawns, attending car races, and spending time outside with family.

Jerry was preceded in death by his mother: Mary Walton; son: Timothy Walton; sister: Jennifer Kindle; niece: Vanessa Guthrie; his grandparents: Julie Mae and Will Tom Kirby; and granddog: Liz Barnes-Walton.

Jerry is survived by his son: Brian Walton; grandchild: Sam Walton



of Siloam Springs, Arkansas. his daughter: Heather Walton; son-in-law: Damian Barnes; and granddog: Rukia of Kansas City, Missouri. Sisters: Janice Ebert of Red Bluff, California, Joan (Jesse) Allen of Colcord, Oklahoma, Julie (Walter) McGowen, Judy (Rusty) Galyean, and Joyce Walton, all of Westville, Oklahoma, and Jean (Fred) Villines of Lincoln, Arkansas; numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

No public services at this time.

Roberts & Hart Funeral Home, Westville, OK.

### David Lynn Ketcher

June 1, 1955 – September 29, 2021

David Lynn Ketcher, 66 years, 3 months and 29 days. Born June 1, 1955, in Siloam Springs, Arkansas. A resident of the rural community of Christie in Adair County, Oklahoma. David passed from this earth September 29, 2021, in Tahlequah, Oklahoma.

David was preceded in death by his wife, Cindy Jean Ketcher (Sexton), his parents, William "Albert" Ketcher and Francis Earlene Ketcher (Thurman). Also, siblings Bobby, Brenda, William "Junior".

Surviving his passing are 3 children: Christopher Ketcher of Stillwater, OK, Winston Ketcher and Jasmine Ketcher, of the home in Christie. Surviving siblings include, Jimmy Ketcher of Claremore, OK, Joy Sweptson of Rocky Mountain, OK and Betty Ferch of Wynne, AR.

By trade David was an auto mechanic, pursuing a career in manufacturing and mechanics. In his retired years he always enjoyed working on cars or anything with a motor.

David was an avid collector, a seeker of a "good find," ready to repair or restore items he thought would be of value to his home. David was an amateur genealogical researcher and enjoyed exploring his connection to local history. In his life David discovered and became proud of his Cherokee heritage and his relation to the ancestors that survived the Trail of Tears. David was always ready to tell a story about a place or monument remembering local historical events.

Funeral services were held at 2 pm on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at Roberts & Hart Chapel, Westville, OK, with Bro. Jesse Butler officiating. Interment followed at Old Baptist Mission Cemetery, Westville, OK.

### Lizzie Mae Teehee

May 14, 1938 – September 27, 2021

Lizzie Mae Teehee left this world to be with her Lord and Savior on Monday, September 27, 2021 at the age of 83.

Lizzie was born May 14, 1938 to Roger and Nancy (Sawney) Cochran. She married George Teehee and from this union had 9 children and one stepson.

Lizzie loved going to church, attending singings, sewing and sharing stories about her ancestors, culture and teaching the Cherokee language and ways. She loved spending time with her grandchildren and cherished every moment spent with them. She will be greatly missed.

Lizzie was preceded in death by an infant daughter: Sarah, her parents, stepson: Nathaniel Teehee, grandsons: Jonathan Handle and Joshua Teehee, sisters: Joanne Smith and Sally Terrapin, brothers: Charlie Cochran, Andy Cochran, Tom Cochran and J.D. Cochran.

She is survived by her loving children: Jennie Wolfe, Leona Jackson and husband Dean, Bernice Powell and husband Phillip, Alene Teehee, George Teehee, Jr. and wife Shirley, Dennis Teehee, Henry Teehee and Kenneth Teehee. Lizzie is also survived by her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nieces, nephews, other family member and friends.

Graveside services were held at 1 pm on Friday, October 1, 2021 at Salem Cemetery, Stilwell, OK with Gary Leach and Avery McGee officiating. Interment followed under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.

### Edward Lee "Jimboy" Sawney

September 12, 1964 – September 16, 2021

Edward Lee "Jimboy" Sawney was born on September 12, 1964 in Tahlequah, Oklahoma to Sallie Marie Sawney. He passed from this life to his forever home on September 16, 2021 in Tulsa, Oklahoma at 57 years of age surrounded by family.

Jimboy, as everyone knew him, was a jokester and always had a smile on his face. He loved his family. They meant the world to him. He loved going fishing anytime he could. He also was a traveler. He loved watching football, especially the OU Sooners. He was an awesome chef as well. While he lived in Ada, Oklahoma for a time, he entered a tough man contest and won.

He is preceded in death by his mother: Sallie Marie Sawney and sister: Dorena Alexander.

Jimboy is survived by a special friend: Julia Vann of Hulbert, OK, four brothers: Thomas Hawk, Jr. of Lincoln, AR, Jerry Hawk of Westville, OK, Jesse Hawk of Stilwell, OK and Stevie Sawney of Ada, OK, five sisters: Willie Mae Alexander, Mary McDonald and Christine Hawk, all of Ada, OK, Letha Crittenden of Colcord, OK, Janice Sawney of Tahlequah, OK.

He is also survived by a host of nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

Graveside services were held at 2 pm on Wednesday, September 22, 2021 at Chulio Cemetery, Stilwell, OK with Jeremy Verette, Sr. and Leo Duncan officiating. Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.

### IF YOU GOT A STORY?

We'd love to print it...just e-mail it to:  
straightforwardpress21@gmail.com.

## ADAIR COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Commentary by John Bankel

### WESTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL YELLOWJACKETS REMAIN UNBEATEN

On Friday night, 10/1, the 5-0 Westville Yellowjackets travelled to Tahlequah to take on the 0-4 Sequoyah High School Indians. Considering the disparity in the two teams' records, one might expect that the score would not be close. After the night was over, Westville blistered their way to a sixth consecutive win as they walked off the field sporting a 60-32 victory. One thing that can be said for the losing team is that they put more points on the board than any of the other five Westville opponents. After 6 games, Westville has scored 228 points, while allowing only 87. Westville next host the unbeaten (6-0) Lincoln Christian Bulldogs for what shapes up to be Westville's biggest test of the year. One thing is certain, there will be only one unbeaten team that walks off the field that night! Keep your fingers crossed for the Yellowjackets!

### CAVE SPRINGS HORNETS POUR ONE ON PORUM

On Thursday night, 9/30, in an 8-man football contest, the Cave Springs Hornets traveled to Porum to take on the Porum Panthers. Cave Springs came into the game with a 1-3 record while the Panthers were also at 1-3. The Hornets were able to pour it on with 30 points while the Panthers were held to 8. Cave Springs is now 2-3 and await a home district game on 10/7 versus Watts. Watts comes in with an 0-4 record and will be looking for their first win of the year. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

### WEBBERS FALLS

### WARRIORS WALLOP WATTS

In an 8-man football contest held Friday night on 10/1 at Webbers Falls, the Webbers Falls Warriors pummeled the Watts Engineers with a shutout victory 46-0. Watts fell to 0-4 while the Warriors maintained their unblemished record, now at 5-0. The Engineers will seek their first victory next at Cave Springs in a Thursday night, 10/7, contest. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

### NOTE FROM WATTS

Westville Masonic Lodge matched \$2,000 that Watts had raised from a dinner last month. The "Shop with a Cop" will take place for those less fortunate at Christmas.

### Westville Trunk or Treat Set for Oct. 29

Trunk or Treat 2021 will be held in Downtown Westville on Friday, October 29, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

Happy Halloween!

### !!COMING SOON!!

### Adair County Young Writers' Page

YOU can be a young writer at any age and get your writing on this page...Prose or Poetry.

Send your writing to: straightforwardpress21@gmail.com or snail mail to: Straight Forward FREE Press, POB 885, Stilwell, OK 74960.

## Obituaries

### Michael Wayne Rowe

July 7, 1956 – September 26, 2021

Michael Wayne Rowe, known as Mike to his acquaintances, Mikie to his friends, Dad to his children, Opa to his grandsons, and Hon to his wife, entered eternal life on September 26, 2021 at the age of 65, at his home in Westville, OK. Mike was born on July 7, 1956 in Muskogee, OK, the second son to John and Joy (Kelley) Rowe. He married Deborah (Debby) Mullen on May 16, 1975 at New Hope Church, near Westville, OK.

Mike grew up in the Gum Springs community, where he tromped through the woods and explored caves, which led to his lifelong fascination with spelunking and hiking. Mike graduated from Gore High School in 1974. He attended Vo-Tech in Muskogee while in school, and completed his training in carpentry. This education was the catalyst for his career choices, first as a cabinet maker and carpenter, and then as an electrician.

He was saved at a young age. Mike was ordained as a deacon by Christie Southern Baptist Church. He joined Sager Creek Community Church in Siloam Springs, AR where he continued his Christian service as a deacon. He loved Jesus very much and was excited about going home to spend eternity with Him.

Although he lived a brief lifetime, Mike did not live an average life. Mike had a flair for dressing in Hawaiian shirts, shorts, and sandals. He learned what he wanted to learn, he fixed what he wanted to fix (Mike was the original “Mr. Fix-it”), traveled where he wanted to travel, built what he wanted to build, and loved his family and friends with an infinite love. Mike was a genuine giver and he had a passion for helping those in need. His love language was ‘acts of service’, which he accomplished by building and wiring houses, porches, decks or barns for people he esteemed.

Mike was a fearless explorer and he loved to go on adventures in tight spaces. He enjoyed panning for gold, taking flight lessons, and discovering uncharted terrain, whether by land, air, or water. His spontaneity took him on escapades all over the country, and even on a missions trip to Africa. He enjoyed visiting with friends and family gathered around a campfire. Mike also liked eating homegrown tomatoes and sweet corn, fishing when the fish were biting, playing his guitar and an assortment of musical instruments, tinkering on wrecked cars, and watching classic cartoons. Mike was tenderhearted toward old ladies, small children, and animals and he adored them all—including the pygmy rattlesnake that bit him while he attended the Passion Play several years ago.

Mike was preceded in death by his parents, John and Joy Rowe.

Mike’s legacy of love includes his wife of 46 years, Debby, his children, Jessica Decker of Tulsa, OK & Audrey Rowe of Norman, OK, and his triple decker grandsons, Simon, Elliott, and Oliver. He also is survived by his sister, Barbara Albright, and brothers, Joe and Richard Rowe. Mike also leaves behind his best friends—Tom Laymon & Jeff Morris, and his beloved dog Si. Mike would like to let you know that his work earth side is done. He received a final service call, an offer he couldn’t refuse, for an assignment from which he will not return. This job came with a huge sign-on bonus including a reunion with loved ones Mike has not seen in a long time. He is in heaven waiting to greet his multitude of friends, family and his fan club from all over the world.

Funeral services were held at 10 am on Saturday, October 2, 2021 at Sager Creek Community Church, Siloam Springs, Arkansas with Bro. Jim Henderson officiating. Interment followed at Akins Cemetery, Sallisaw, Oklahoma under the direction of Roberts & Hart Funeral Home, Westville, OK.

### Wilburn Lee Denny

June 19, 1954 – September 23, 2021

Wilburn Lee Denny was born on June 29, 1954, in Tahlequah, Oklahoma and passed away from this life on September 23, 2021, in Tulsa, Oklahoma at the age of 67 years, 2 months, and 25 days.

He loved to fish and spend time with friends and family. He worked as a welder, but he was a jack of all trades. Every time you saw Bill, he had a smile on his face and was always dressed to impress.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Ulus and Elizabeth (Adair) Denny; an infant brother; sisters: Pat Duvall and Shirley Hummingbird; and a nephew: Rodney Hart.

He is survived by his sisters: Carol Wolfe-Shell, and Rebecca Hart and husband Dennis, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma; a brother-in-law: Gary Hummingbird of Stilwell, Oklahoma; an uncle; Edman Denny of Stilwell, Oklahoma; a very special brother: James Pittman of Chouteau, Oklahoma; 4 nieces, several great nieces and nephews, along with a host of many other relatives, and friends.

Graveside services were held at 1 pm on Wednesday, September 29, 2021 at Seabolt Cemetery, Nicut, Sequoyah County, OK with Bo Wolf officiating. Interment followed under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.



### Wanda Lea (Brown) McCully

August 9, 1935 – September 29, 2021

Wanda Lea (Brown) McCully, daughter of John R. Brown and Nettie (Beanstick) Brown was born August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1935 in Stilwell, OK.

Wanda attended Zion School through 8<sup>th</sup> grade and after graduating from Stilwell High School, she worked as a reporter for the Democrat-Journal for a short time and then attended and graduated Draughton Business School, later she was employed by Hertz for several years.

Wanda married Haskell McCully August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1956 and they made their home in Tulsa. When Wanda and Haskell decided to move back to Stilwell, she worked as an algebra tutor at Stilwell High School for several years. Several students really appreciated her help that insured that they would graduate.

Wanda gave her life to the Lord at an early age and her family and church (family) meant everything to her. She was a member of Stilwell Church of Christ.

She was preceded in death by her parents and grandparents.

She is survived by her husband of 65 years, Haskell, of the home, one son, Michael Duane McCully of Bunch, OK; 3 Grandchildren: Charity Hambrick, John McKinney, both of Claremore, OK and Cody McCully, Bunch, OK; 3 Great-Grandchildren: Jimmie McKinney, Riley Hambrick and Evan Hambrick; Brothers: H. D. Brown and Rick Brown, both of Stilwell, OK; Sisters: Retha Faddis, Sue Ann Smallen and Francis Longshore, all of Stilwell, OK; Step-brothers: Earl Raleigh and Jennings Raleigh; Step-sister: Beth Raleigh Glenn. And a host of nieces, nephews and other family members all left to cherish her memories, her beautiful warm smile and sweet spirit.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm on Tuesday, October 5, 2021 at the Church of Christ, Stilwell, OK with Rusty Dawson and Larry Hatfield officiating. Interment followed at Pilgrim Rest Cemetery, Stilwell, OK under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home.

## Our Readers' Voice..



### Opportunities Missed From Contributions Dismissed

By Concerned Citizen

The September 27, 2021 Commissioner Meeting amplified a trend of disinterest in Citizen participation, juxtaposed against disturbing willingness to dedicate time instead to immaterial and counterproductive sideshows.

Commissioner Mike Winger now forced all Citizen questions and comments to the END of the meeting, in less than 3 minutes, under “New Business.” However, feedback on the current agenda item isn’t new business. Additionally, real-time Citizen involvement is required for Commissioners to actually contemplate what Patriots share. By contrast, if they’ve already voted, Commissioner decisions foreclose eventual Citizen contributions.

Marginalizing Citizen input, by batching it in a chronologically moot misplacement under “New Business,” is just one problem. Agenda items are also typically vague. Simply sharing a few introductory sentences would provide helpful context. Context, in turn, might eliminate some questions, while allowing more meaningful ones (*all now futile under Winger’s “New Business” scheme*).

Commissioner failure of curiosity is another liability. One Citizen asked if proposed rural water infrastructure investment involved expanding service to new customers. Commissioner Sam Chandler, clearly irritated, eventually stated it did not. Did the Commissioners comment further, seek to understand the basis for the question, or ask what the Citizen envisioned? NO! Had they queried, or actual dialogue been welcomed, they’d have learned that some wells in the County are dry. Perhaps ARPA funds could also help reach prospective customers? We may never know, because nobody cared to converse.

Similarly, a Citizen asked about using ARPA funds to retire County debt. Chandler quickly stated that ARPA funds cannot be used for

existing debt. So what? If ARPA funds are more restrictive, what if those can *instead* be used for some standard County expenditures? Subsequently, now-available County funds can be redirected to debt. Is that an option? Since efforts at conversation are a war of attrition, we may never know.

What we do know is that Winger does find time to entertain the irrelevant and illogical, in his “attack the messenger” style of diverting dialogue and nullifying Citizen civic duty. Winger previously accused those cautious of \$5,000.00 county worker payments of not caring if they died (*notwithstanding that proposal flagrantly violates State Auditor guidance*). Of course, that’s merely his unsophisticated, nonsensical means of emotionally abusing those who challenge him. He also recently obfuscated a question by exclaiming that he did not know the inquirer’s name, address, citizenship, or status as a terrorist! How any of that impacts the vitality of the question remains a mystery.

This time, before the Pledge of Allegiance, Winger interrupted to publicly chastise someone for sitting with a hat on. That’s neither his job nor his business. Moreover, Winger apparently forgot that the flag he thought he was defending actually represents the freedom for others to not be like him. Winger’s honor of men’s traditions, over the underlying precious constructs, percolated repeatedly. The flag reflects representative government, with public servants dutifully effectuating the will of We The People. While seemingly impressed by the pomp and circumstance of removing his hat while on his feet, apparently lost on him was the breathtaking contradiction in him subsequently disgracing the very essence of the flag as he stymied Citizen collaboration ubiquitously.

Witnessing Winger’s obedience to form over substance was reminiscent of the legalistic Pharisees scolding Jesus for healing a man on the Sabbath. Jesus chose the more excellent way

## Deliverance

By Donna Boecher

I was given the number “fifteen” upon awaking. It is a symbol for restoration, healing, and deliverance; a multiple of five which signifies grace. Wow. Grace should always be our expectation from God through His gift of the “Son.” We can know, as believers, that “dis-ease” is not the victor in life. Dis-ease is an opportunity for us to demonstrate our God-given authority to “overcome.” We are OVERCOMERS! Demonstrating His love when faced with adversity, God responds with restoration. Angels, as messengers of God, call us to praise Him. Awesomely, in His omnipotence, omnipresence, and omniscience, God set aside the seventh day as His. How glorious and easy to rest in God’s arms when we join with other believers in obedience and praise.

\* \* \*

*The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched—they must be felt with the heart.—Hellen Keller*

by conducting the miracle, but the stronghold of their “whitewashed tombs” and fault-finding agenda blinded the religious “leaders” to the Glory before them. Verily, as Jesus put it: ***“The Sabbath was made for man, not man for the Sabbath.”*** Indeed, but the tail so often wags the dog. Likewise, the public is best served not from Winger’s prim & proper, hat-free, standing, firm flag salute, but rather by his deference to the flag’s “consent of the governed” quintessence that epitomizes a free people.

### Peavine School’s BBQ Drive-Through Dinner Set for Oct. 7

Peavine Public School will be having a BBQ Drive-Through Dinner event on Thursday, October 7, from 10:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

Meal #1: Pulled pork sandwich, chips, beans, coleslaw, cookie, and drink—\$7.00.

Meal #2: Brisket sandwich, chips, beans, coleslaw, cookie, and drink—\$9.00.

Order of 5 meals or more will be delivered in the Stilwell area from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. You must call the school for delivery at 918-696-7818.

Proceeds will go to the Students’ Christmas Fund.

### Westville Fall Festival Set for October 23

Fall Festival 2021 will be held on Saturday, October 23 beginning at 10:00 a.m. at the Westville Park. There will be fun community events! Games, food vendors, craft vendors, etc. Event is sponsored by Westville Chamber of Commerce.

### ATTN: Adair County

Let us know if you have any news items, pictures and/or upcoming events you would like announced in

**The Straight Forward FREE Press.**

You can e-mail them to:  
**straightforwardpress21@gmail.com.**

Vocabulary  
**WORD**  
of  
the  
**DAY**

**Convicted**  
*The “resident” in the White House is convicted of his senility with every word he attempts to speak.*

- to find or prove to be guilty.
- to convince of error or sinfulness.

*(Metaphor of America)*

# The Giant in the Hen House

Part 2

By Donna Boecher

Youths and new-to-the-voting booth citizens are the “Chicken Jump Ups” of America. They – the media and politicians – tell us to check for truth in what is being presented to us. Yet, most of the media available is tainted with untruths or half-truths. America needs a trustworthy family to direct us to the truth and to the voting booth. We, as chicks right out of the incubator of our families, are ready to take part in a life of self-governance. By the time we get our first paycheck from our first job, we see that there are problems. Where, to whom, and for what is “we the people” money being spent??? Through trusted guidance from family and our village of teachers we learn the answers. There are progressives; there are conservatives; and there are other voices among “we the people”, but votes lose value and direction when they break for a third party. It is better that the “Chicken Jump Ups” work to add value to one of the two parties. New to voting? Keep calm and carry on! Listen! Make your voice heard for change and betterment in the party that demonstrates most of your values!

As adopted by this huge metal machine with lights and warm air that helped me grow and peck out of my shell. It was a warm relationship, but there were no hugging feathers to comfort me after my breakout. I don’t know what I would have done if I hadn’t been surrounded by all my other adopted brothers and sisters.” But my story as Chicken Jump Up’s didn’t start or stop with that single revelation. It seems that even with the love and warmth of his siblings, I was once again – on my second day out – shipped off to another location where some government people boxed me and others into cardboard and sent us home to giant humans who would give us a dry, warm home with lots of food and water. By day three I was eating and sleeping with forty-nine siblings. There was a small feeder with tiny bits of grain just our size and a small red and white water tank for when we got thirsty. Everything was strange and there had been all my brothers, sisters, and I would run far away from the giant. What to do, what to do? Run left, run right, run back. This way, that way. Run, run, run. Whuh, I was out of breath. But things started to quieten down and repeat themselves. We even began to listen in on the hens that lived next door.

One of the hens was the great-great-granddaughter of THE Little Red Hen. She was so proud of her heritage, and did she go on about what she’d learned from her family. She was a real organizer, that Rhode Island Red. They could hear her advice to the other hens through the walls. She was all about working together to get what they needed from the giant. They clucked, “Don’t interfere with the giant and stay away from the yellow broom.” Of course, Chicken Jump Up and his family didn’t know what a broom was. But they expected to learn. They still ran from the giant, but now

they would run over to nibble from the water and feed as soon as the giant was gone. That is, until the day the giant brought in the tall, tall metal water can. It was four times as big as their little red and white water can. Of course, when it first came into their room, they didn’t know what it was. It was scary. It took up so much room in their shelter.

Some of the brothers immediately made reconnaissance raids against it. They’d quickly sweep in from the left and race out on the right without touching the walls of metal. The can remained. It didn’t move. More raids were made. Some were quiet and casual forays with sidelong glances at the giant metal walls.

What was it? It didn’t move. It didn’t cluck. It was cold and it had some type of shiny liquid just inches away from their beaks. Finally, one brave chick calmly strode up to the metal and stuck its beak into the liquid. Wow. Not bad. Tasted okay. So, he lifted his head and strode back into the pack of friendly feathers at the far end of the enclosure. Now all the rest would have to make a pilgrimage to the site.

Now there was something else going on in the hen house. The giant was spying on them after bringing in the feed. But it was okay. The giant only opened the door once a day and would then just gawk at them through the wire mesh from the next room. It was almost laughable and since they couldn’t see the giant’s body, it looked funny. It was just a round head with eyes, nose, and mouth staring down – sort of like Humpty Dumpty. Rhode Island Red had talked about Humpty Dumpty. They stayed back from the wall just in case. They didn’t want to see the head fall. “You know, Dumpty didn’t go back together again.”

However, it was during this spying time, that Chicken Jump Up was named. Until that special day everyone was doing the same things. Run, run, eat, eat,

drink, drink, snuggle, snuggle, sleep, sleep. On this day, one chick scared itself so badly that it flapped its wings all in a flutter and leaped up at the same time. Suddenly, it was sitting on top of the small enclosure wall. Wow. What a view. It was heads taller than all the rest and it could see everywhere. It could see into the great expanded room where the pine chips were strewn and where their cardboard box was cast to one side. That day the giant called the too-scared chick by its new name - Chicken Jump Up. The hens heard the giant talking on the cell phone, whatever a cell phone was. Two more giants were coming; some of the siblings would be taken away to a new home. The night after that call, they all huddled together under the warming lights. It might be their last visit with all the family. But Chicken Jump Up said, “Don’t worry, the giants have been nice so far. And remember, we have our extended family – the hens.” Hearing those comforting words, the chicks closed their eyes and tucked their heads under a wing. Morning would be here soon enough. For tonight they were together, and they were warm.

**The government – Giant in the Hen House – promised that, if we gave them part of our paycheck, they would provide assistance when we got old and unable to work. Yet, it’s predicted to run out by 2035 and each year the eligibility for the assistance stretches into the future. The Chicken Jump Ups of today may have nothing to gain from “social security”, it’s been given to their grandparents. Every year, the future amount is dwindling because it takes the earning of two to pay the assistance for one. But America – The Chicken Jump Ups - has become apathetic. They see the “Giant”(the federal government), but they’ve been conditioned to believe it is a “good” thing when the government gives out money.**

**Dear Readers,**  
 Innovation and imagination are the hallmarks of American ingenuity. Pure genius may be another way of saying it. And FREEDOM makes it all happen.  
 At The Straight Forward FREE Press, we are re-imagining the LOCAL NEWSPAPER. First of all, we bring only local news, local events, local people, local places. We believe that is what local folks want. Secondly, we believe that the LOCAL NEWSPAPER should be FREE to the reader. Finally, we believe that the LOCAL NEWSPAPER should operate as a community service, an outreach channel, a not for profit enterprise.  
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 Let us know what is on your mind or if you have a newsworthy item, send it to: [straightforwardpress21@gmail.com](mailto:straightforwardpress21@gmail.com). Looking forward to serving you, our Reader.  
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# THE ROVING REPORTER In, Around, and Out About Town



**Who says nothing ever happens in Stilwell? News is where you find it! Like at the corner of 4th Street and Hickory, where the photo shows a Stilwell Utilities crew on the spot, mending a breach in the underlying water pipe. According to a crew member, the pipe broke due to longterm wear and tear. Like most everything else, water pipes have an expiration date.**

Your Roving Reporter

## Oklahoma SDA Permit Class to Be Held Saturday, Oct. 9

An Oklahoma SDA Permit Class will be held this Saturday, October 9 at McConnell Farms Range. Class will start at 8 a.m. and end around 4 p.m. Class and range fee is \$65.00.

Following is a list of items that will be covered during the training: General Firearms Safety, Fundamentals of Handgun Shooting, Correct Position for Firing a Handgun, Correct Presentation for the Handgun, Loading and Unloading Techniques, Clearing Malfunctions, Dynamics of Ammunition and Firing of a Handgun, Provisions of Oklahoma Laws Relating to Self-Defense, Provisions of Oklahoma Self Defense Act, Open Carry and Concealed Carry, Dry Fire Practice, and Live Fire Familiarization Course.

Upon successful completion of the class and the Live Fire Familiarization Course participants will be issued a Course Completion Certificate that is good for three

years from the date of issue. We will also offer help on completing your application online if you’d like, or you can do it on your own. Complete application instructions will be provided on how to process it.

Classroom and firing range are located at 467790 East 648 Road (Chewey Road), Watts, OK. The classroom is air conditioned and all facilities, including the firing range, are wheelchair and motorized buggy accessible.

If you’re not interested in this type of class, other classes are held on personal protection and proficiency training.

Visit our websites at: [mcconnellfarmstrangellc.com](http://mcconnellfarmstrangellc.com) or [mcconnellfarmstrangellc.info](http://mcconnellfarmstrangellc.info). We also have a Facebook business page under McConnell Farms Range LLC.

For more information, please contact McConnell Farms Range LLC at 479-957-3670.

## Mullin Opposes Democrats’ Build More Inflation Act

Congressman Markwayne Mullin (OK-02) released the following statement after voting against the Build More Inflation Act, which passed the full Energy and Commerce Committee. The Build More Inflation Act is part of the Democrats’ \$3.5 trillion tax and spend spree.

“The Build More Inflation Act is a step closer to a complete socialist takeover by the Democrats,” Mullin said. “From a massive investment in the Green New Deal to expanding government-controlled health care, this \$1 trillion portion will kill jobs and take away freedom. And this is just a fraction of the larger, \$3.5 trillion tax and spend spree that will saddle future generations with crippling debt. The American people are already paying more for just about everything and they are the ones who will suffer the consequences. This is not what our country is about. I will continue to fight back against these dangerous policies and reckless spending.”

The \$1 trillion package includes:

- A tax on natural gas, driving up costs of energy and manufacturing.
- Unrealistic clean energy standards to meet Paris Climate Ac-

cord standards.

- More federal health spending and control than Obamacare.
- Expansions of Medicare, making it closer to insolvency.
- Incentives to keep children out of school and prioritize remote learning.

• Handouts to the Federal Trade Commission without privacy protections for Americans.

Democrats rejected almost all amendments submitted by Republicans including amendments to:

- Exempt farmers, ranchers, and agriculture operators from the Natural Gas Tax. The tax is estimated to cost \$6,500 per dairy cow, \$2,600 per head of cattle, and \$500 per swine each year.
- Prohibit taxpayer dollars from being used to fund abortions.
- Ensure federal emergency response system funding does not go to entities that support defunding or abolishing the police.
- Ban the use of critical minerals from China and the Taliban as well as from forced labor.
- Ensure federally recognized Indian Tribes aren’t subject to burdensome Green New Deal regulations.
- Prohibit the teaching of Critical Race Theory.

# ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Commentary by John Bankel

## Today the Trail Travels to the WESTVILLE-STILWELL BATTLE FOR THE ADAIR COUNTY SEAT: PART 1

The great rivalry between Westville and Stilwell did not begin on a football field, some warm September evening, many decades ago. Instead, its first chapter may have begun soon after the Trail of Tears brought the Cherokees to this area. But the biggest battles, including much name calling and courtroom drama, came at statehood when Stilwell would "take" the county seat from Westville.

Remember some Cherokees had signed the treaty of removal and took the money and ran, so to say! They had come here ahead of the others, with all their belongings, slaves included, and at their own leisurely pace.

Many of these Cherokees may have lived in the area that would

become the Flint District and later Southern Adair County. It is my understanding that many of the Cherokees south of Stilwell speak a different dialect (there are three) of Cherokee than those in the north end of Adair County.

As we know, those that did come to our area over the Trail of Tears, with nothing but the clothes on their backs, ended up at Bread Town, just north of present day Westville. This would be part of the Goingsnake District of Cherokee Nation and later Northern Adair County, Oklahoma.

Is it possible that these two groups of Cherokees would be rivals? I'd venture a guess that many a heated game of stickball, the little brother of war, took place between these two factions over

the years. End of Part 1.

Part 2 will be in the next issue.

For today the Trail has come to an end, and as Roy Rogers and Dale Evans were fond of singing, "Happy Trails to you, until we meet again." May your trail end up on the right side of the fence.

*The foregoing has been excerpted from a book, Trivia & Vignettes Of Oklahoma History, by Terry Rose, a local historian and is intended for educational purposes only.*

John Bankel is a freelance journalist and retired high school math teacher and can be reached at: [writewright@journalist.com](mailto:writewright@journalist.com).

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# NEW Puzzle Page

## KNOW YOUR BIBLE WORD SEARCH Light of the World

H A I S S E M K S A V I O R D  
L H S V I O A V Z X F V M E F  
O M U H U N K H R G O J I T V  
V Z C V P S M N E B K F N C G  
I O J W A S W X Q A I Z U E R  
N F E C W G O S D R L O Y F M  
G K R Z L N W N O E S E D R T  
X E M O M I Q L O O S R R E L  
D B Z V E T G S D F O I A P I  
L G U C R R I H X W G C A E F  
R A L Q C O W J E Y H O Y R U  
A V W O I F O H B E X M D S P  
X M N M F M T C R E G D U J X  
V H U T U O N O G T U N K H F  
E W X L L C N A Z A R E N E N

COMFORTING	GLORIFIED	HEALER
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MESSIAH	NAZARENE	PERFECT
PRAISED	SACRED	SAVIOR
SON OF GOD	TEACHER	THE WORD



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**HUGE YARD SALE**  
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**At Dr. Martin's Old Office Building**  
**912 West Cedar Street**  
**SALE STARTS AT 8:00 A.M., SATURDAY, OCT. 9<sup>TH</sup>**  
*Please do not come any sooner!!! No one will be allowed to browse any sooner.*



Items will be from the office, such as office equipment/supplies, furniture, breakroom items, some antique items, and much more--too numerous to mention. There will be some clothing items also--wool slacks, shirts, belts, etc.

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