



STILWELL SPORTS SPOTLIGHT Stilwell Indians Football: New Coach, New Season



The 2023 Stilwell High School football season is just around the corner. A new season always brings a sense of anticipation and excitement along with cooler Fall breezes. Those breezes will have to wait since we are still in the thick of a hot Summer. With practice starting August 1, the first few weeks are sure to be a test of endurance and will for the players who have decided to come out. The 2022 season was one of the most successful in recent Stilwell football memory as the Indians finished with a 5-5 record and narrowly missed qualifying for the playoffs. Many of the key players from that squad were seniors and have graduated. This year's team will have a new look and a new head coach. The head coaching job opened up when Beau Collins handed in his resignation due to family circumstances. As it turned out, Bryan Ross had been hired as the new Offensive Coordinator just prior to Coach Collins' de-Coach Ross had parture. brought a wealth of head

coaching experience with him; for Stilwell's sudden need for a head coach, this turned out to be providential. Coach Ross was asked if he would be interested in, once again, being a head coach. He said, "Yes." Bryan Ross went to Clarksville Arkansas High School where his father was the head baseball and football coach for many years. Ross played high school baseball and football. He said that baseball was his better sport. After graduating, he started his collegiate baseball career with West He recalls a Briant-Conway Arkansas Community Col- barnburner, where his squad lege. From there, he was offered a scholarship to play for U of A-Little Rock, a Division I school from the Sun Belt conference. I asked him if he had had MLB aspirations? He replied, "Yes, I did." Being a coach's son and having excelled in sports, left Bryan with a distinct desire to follow in his father's footsteps. In 1992, after finishing his playing career, he accepted the head baseball and assistant football positions at Charleston High School, a

small school outside of Fort Smith. In 2009, along came an opportunity to move up to Siloam Springs High School, where he would spend the next 9 years. He guided two squads to playoff wins in 2013 and 2014 despite the fact that Siloam had been moved up from 5A to 6A/7A to play with the "big boys." In 2018, with 2 years left for full retirement, Ross took the head coaching job at 7A powerhouse Conway and a chance to tussle with perennial 7A champion, Briant. lost in the final seconds of the game. His next move came in 2020, when Locust Grove head coach Neff, who is a Stilwell Alum, called Ross to be his Offensive Coordinator. There he spent the 2021 and 2022 seasons. The passing of Stilwell Offensive Coordinator Zach Self opened up the Offensive Coordinator job at Stilwell. After finding out about the opening, Ross was hired. And now, Bryan Ross finds himself as the new Stilwell High

School head football coach. We spoke about the upcoming season and what he has seen so far. He told me that, until the team gets into full practice mode, his assessment is still premature. He said that the Freshmen show good overall talent with a good mix of skill players and linemn. I asked him what he expects from the returning players. He replied that leadership will be a key component of building a team. On offense, the Indians will display a spread offense with a balanced attack. Being physical on both sides of the ball will be key. According to Coach Ross, only 2 things can be controlled: "Attitude and Effort." And, in the words of legendary Coach John Wooden, "Give it your all; play to your capability." Coach Ross could probably write a book about his coaching career. Being the new Stilwell High School Indians head football coach will be the new chapter. The first installment of that new chapter will take place on September 1 at 7pm at James Bradley Memorial Stadium as the 2023 Indians take on an old rival, the Class 3A Roland Rangers. Kickoff is at 7 pm. Come out and fill the stands with robust cheering!



Commentary by John Bankel

Adair County Care Portal Meeting WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2023 AT 9:30 A.M. FIRST BAPTIST **CHURCH STILWELL**

The Adair County Care Portal group is dedicated to meet the needs of children who are either entering, living in, or exiting foster care in Adair County. The Care Portal group is made up of members from several churches in Adair County. Those included are: First Baptist Church, Stilwell; Rocky Mountain Bible Church; Powerhouse Church; First Baptist Church, Westville; First Baptist Church, Watts; Rock Springs Baptist Church; Mulberry Tree Baptist Church; New Life Church; and Impact Church of Westville.

Story continued on page 3.....



PROVERB POWER

Ephesians 6:12 KJV

For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spirtitual wickedness in high places.

The Straight Forward FREE Press is now ONLINE on Google! www.straightforwardfreepress.com Check it out and enjoy!

Number 35

Ър

They Risked It All/It's the Truth **MEMORIES OF FARM AND FAMILY**

By Donna Boecher

ASK THOSE QUESTIONS YOU'RE THINKING

My grandparents, I had over and over again. My two sets, had questions but they - for the most part shared them with someone. One grandmother wondered why one of her children had died in infancy, although she had reared nine; eight of her own plus one of her grandchildren. I spent many summers with her. She questioned the "why" of that early death else. The process of lov-

other grandmother had five and seemed only to appreciate them when they were old enough to add to her comfort and abundance. You can guess which one I loved most. You're right. The one who CARED. Love is always the answer. Feeling low? Put yourself out there helping someone

ing and forgiving brings us closer to God. When I was a youngster, there was a scripture referred to as the "golden rule." You probably know it as Matthew 7:12 or Luke 6:31 - "And as ye would that men should do to you, do ye also to them likewise." Look beyond "self." Love is free and has a truly ricocheting effect. Love well.

Oklahoma State Senator Tom Woods Thanks Straight Forward FREE Press



District 4 State Senator Tom Woods Holding his framed copy of Straight Forward FREE Press. Thank you posted on FaceBook



Senator Tom Woods grew up in Westville, Oklahoma, and was elected to the Oklahoma Senate in 2022. He proudly represents the citizens of Senate District 4, which includes Adair County and parts of Delaware, Se-Counties. and Cherokee quoyah

Woods was raised on a dairy farm and graduated from Westville Public Schools. His grandparents are both retired educators, and his father worked in a factory while his mother stayed at home to work on the farm and raise his six brothers and sisters.

Tom's family taught him the value of hard work from a very young age as he was given his first dairy cow at the age of 12, in exchange for milking cows on his parent's dairy farm. He remained dedicated to his business and had 30 dairy cows by the time he was 18.

He now operates a feed store, trucking company, and a commercial cow/ calf operation with 200 cows. Through hard work and commitment, Woods believes we must build up future generations to be active contributors and producers in society, not just consumers.





Dear John,

I was reading online and found "The Washington Free Beacon." It reminded me of your publication because the truth is FREE. I hope you go to their website and see the Biden age tracker; it is counting down right to the second. I found several great articles to read and the infamous "Fact Checker." One of the articles that interested me was about who was pushing the ban on gas stoves. It is a Colorado-based nonprofit called Rocky Mountain institute. This "nonprofit" is linked to China and they are not the clean green machine the masses are led to believe. I hope your readers will take time to visit The Washington Free Beacon and read for themselves. My mom always said, "nothing in life is free," but the truth of God's word is free not to be sold. You really cannot buy the truth, one must look for it. All of the Washington swamp has deep roots in China and the buck stops there. I hope you share this with your readers.

Praying for truth,

Dear Praying...first of all, thank you for sharing this valuable piece of information. There is no doubt that everything in our lives has shifted with the advent of the communication technology that is in place today. It was not all that long ago when computers, cell phones and the internet did not exist or were considered to be "novelties." Today's "novelties" appear to be getting to the truth. Was it not Pontius Pilate who threw up his hands and queried to himself, "What is truth?" Today's truth seems to be a matter of convenience and a product of "spin doctors." However, having said that, one can still find reliable sources of information, albeit, not perfect, yet at least having a solid ring of truth. When it comes down to it, the old Latin phrase, "caveat emptor"-let the buyer beware- applies. God supplies us the brain but, it is up to us to learn to use it. And that is the truth.

Sincerely,

Dear John

Have you got a question for Dear John? email: dearjohn@writeme.com or snail mail: Dear John POB 885 Stilwell 74860 Real Name Not Used.

Truth is Our Target P.O. Box 885 • Stilwell, OK 74960 straightforwardpress21@gmail.com

The Straight Forward Free Press is sponsored by "The Golden Mind Learning Foundation Inc.", a non-profit, faith-based, community outreach organization.

Printed by: FREE Press Printing Co.

Donna Boecher	Editor
John Bankel	Co-Editor/Journalist
Stephanie Cullinane	Ćomposer

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

Contents of this publication are protected by copyright. Reprint for educational purposes only.

The Straight Forward FREE Press Logo is the exclusive property of The Golden Mind Learning Foundation Inc. Registered Trademark pending.

1020 S. 2nd Street, Stilwell, Ok. 74960

Thursday - Saturday 10:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.



Vocabulary Word: virtue - moral excellence and righteousness; goodness.

Ex. To have virtue one must practice and display

goodness.



THE KIPLING KORNER

"What do they know of England who only England know." (Something for the USA to consider about herself.)

Friday July 28, 2023

FROM OUR READERS In search of ex-cellence July 20th 2023

By Ronny Vann

While taking my twomile-walk today, I found myself thinking about running again. Only I had to remind myself or, rather remember the verse in Matthew 26:41, "Watch and pray, lest you enter not into temptation. The spirit indeed is willing but the flesh is weak."

I was sorely tempted to run but naw, too many years have flown by. My cross-country days are almost fifty years behind me now. I must be content with walking, though the time it takes me to walk two miles is nothing to brag about! When the subject of running a race comes up, I know for a fact that NDN's are very good at it. Some excel at it more than others. Which brings me to the prefix of ex and its' many uses. We see expresidents, congressmen, and women, ex-actresses, or actors, and ex-athletes. From this, one can surmise that ex means past or before, even used to be. Like an ex-wife one who is no longer the wife or in the case of the male, an ex-husband. Though one does not say my "ex-job." It just does not seem to roll off the tongue smoothly. Does it? The armed forces do infiltrate and when the muck hits the proverbial fan, they have to ex-filtrate pretty darn quick. Exfiltrate would have been a pretty fancy word for the ndn's to use but they just

used the words like run or hide! At least, I think they did. I know we used a different word than ex-tract or ex-tracting, when we, uhh, borrowed a farmer's watermelon, tomatoes, or picked some fruit from his trees. Ohh yeah, how about when you re-lax can you ever ex-lax? When one meets a veteran, he or she, is not an ex-serviceman, or woman: they are still soldiers; it never leaves them. One of my pet peeves is when people talk about princess Diane. People conveniently forget she was divorced. She lost the title of princess and become just an untitled person. There are no ex-princesses in my neck of the woods. Remember Prince he said "that he was now the artist formerly known as Prince." He did not want to be called an ex-Prince. One more point to ponder about the so called X-men. Are they no longer men? Maybe too much to stretch it that far, huh? I know of one entity that practices ex-communication. Does

to talk too, or hear from them? I am glad that at least I can not become an ex-ndn, at least until there is an ex-ecutive order to that effect. Might be too much for this simple ndn. If you can help me out ex-it until the next time. That means get out of

Adair County Care Portal Meeting

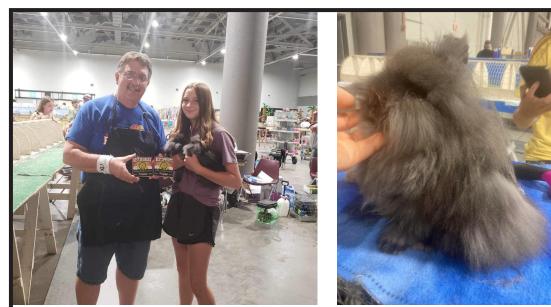
this mean you are not able please do so! Now I must Dodge!



Tanner Elms

Logan Elms

Huge Congratulations to Tanner Elms and Logan Elms for kicking off their summer jackpot season this weekend in Fayetteville, AR at the Farmington FFA double header jackpot. Tanner stood 1st and 4th. Logan was 5th in a very competitive class. Congrats to these boys and looking forward to the rest of the season.



Chevenne Yates

Big congratulations to Cheyenne Yates for getting BOB (Best of breed) and BOS (Best opposite) with her lionhead rabbits at the Shawnee county fair in Topeka, KS. She is currently going to go up for best in show.



Some of the children's needs that have been met since January are diapers and wet wipes, clothing, cribs, toddler beds, twin-sized-mattresses, couches, chairs, a refrigerator, gas stove and several car seats. There have been 21 requests for help since January and 15 were fully met and two partially met with 32 children being served.

The next meeting of this group will be on Wednesday, August 2, 2023 at 9:30 a.m. at the First Baptist Church, Stilwell Youth Building at 801 West Hickory. Any area churches, local organizations, businesses or individuals are invited to attend and join in this effort to help these children.

For more information on the Care Portal of Oklahoma, visit www.111Project.org or e-mail Kathy West, Adair County Care Portal Coordinator, at Kathywmedlpc@ yahoo.com.



On July 20th, the Stilwell FFA students Tanner Elms, Sarah Asher, Alexandria Yates, and Cheyenne Yates competed at the big 3 field day. The Stilwell FFA would like to give a special thanks to Mr. Coakley, herd manger at the OSU swine unit, and his staff for letting us tour at the swine unit.

THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW By Russell Turner

JUST DOING MY JOB

there has been a constant drumbeat about the potential indictment of former President Donald Trump concerning the January the 6th riot in 2021. As I remember he was impeached by the democrats in Congress even after he was out of office, now we are witnessing a continuing saga of the get Trump play book. As far as I am concerned Trump spoke two words that in my opinion makes any charges null and void, he told his supporters to protest PEACEFULLY AND PATRIOTICALLY and let their voices be heard. In any election there is an option for anyone to challenge the validity of the election; in my state of Oklahoma after the election has been called, it is not certified until the following Friday. In the case of Trump, the liberals and the media keep saying that he was trying to overthrow the election; if we accepted their rhetoric, anyone who challenges the validity of an election is trying to overthrow an election. Recently I was talking to an individual about Trump, and he expressed his disapproval of him because he tried to overthrow the election. This individual has run for public office in the past,

Over the past days and I gave him a scenario to think about. I said, "If you ran for office and didn't get enough votes to win, and you found out that many people who voted did not even live in your district, how would you respond?" Immediately he said that those people should be prosecuted. I told him maybe now he can understand what Trump was trying to do despite a biased media and a justice system that has been corrupted.

> As all this kangaroo court is taking place, we are witnessing a two-tiered justice system where the liberals are being protected while the hammer falls on anyone who identifies as a conservative. The media has become a complete joke, they refuse to even acknowledge the overwhelming evidence of the Biden family taking money from our most dangerous adversaries. While Joe Biden claims to be a caring man who loves the American people, at the same time he refuses to acknowledge his granddaughter in Arkansas which was sired by his dope-headed son.

I have also noticed that the American people are not completely stupid; they see what is going on, and every time another indictment comes

down Trump's poll numbers go up. The liberal, woke crowd is pushing this country closer than any of us would like to admit toward a second civil war. We do not need to minimize the left, their actions are showing that they are preparing for war by endless regulations, the promoting of a digital dollar, and wanting to hire 87-thousand gun-toting IRS agents just to name a few. Many people have the idea that American citizens will not fire upon their fellow citizens, we need to look at history to see what humans are capable of. The nation of Germany committed all kinds of atrocities against segments of their society before and during WW2. Their law enforcement and military arrested their fellow Germans who were their neighbors, and who they had known for years; most of those people arrested never returned because they were eliminated in the gas chambers. Those people in power were government employees and they were just doing their job. We in America need to take a lesson from their history, taking orders because of one's job is not an excuse for any atrocity.

WHAT'S SO PUNNY? PUN FUN

Here come the puns, here come the puns, here come the puns and lots of PUN FUN! How about, for all you kids, a bunch of Dad Jokes? Of course Dad Jokes are not just for kids, but for Dads and Moms and anybody else who likes to laugh. So, get your funny bone and your ribs ready for tickling. Here goes:

1. Date Fright: "I am afraid for the calendar. Why? Its days are numbered."

2. Fore Eyes: Why do fathers take an extra pair of socks with them when they go golfing.? Just in case they get a hole in one. That's only par for the course.

Bubbling Over: Singing in the shower is fun until you get soap in your mouth. Then it becomes a soap opera.
Fishy Tale: What do you call a fish wearing a bowtie? Sofishticated. Blub, blub...

5. Diet Reckoning: "I thought the dryer was shrinking my clothes. Turns out it was the refrigerator all along." Clothes the fridge door.

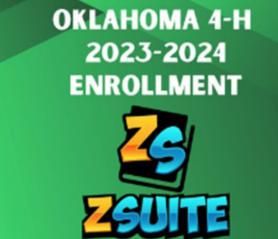
Well my dear Punfunsters, this edition of PUN FUN has come to an hilarious end. Keep that funny bone ready for the next installment. Keep that PUN FUN smile in your heart and on your face. Remember, tomorrow always comes after today!

Psalms 91:1, 2

1 ¶ He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty.

2 I will say of the LORD, He is my refuge and my fortress: my God; in him will I trust. Psalms 91:1, 2

> Scripture sponsored by: Faith Tabernacle Corner of Hwy. 51 & Piney Road Stilwell, OK





TEAM!		
Athletic		
Director		

Nichole Starr

It's a great day to be an INDIAN!



OPENS AUGUST 1

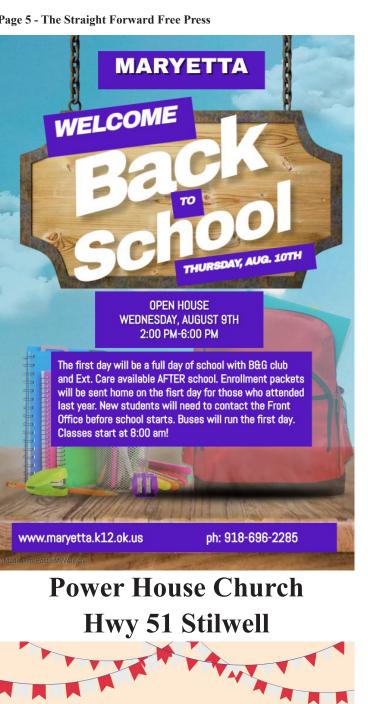
Searching for a Word: sanctity- holiness of life or disposition; saintliness.

4-H YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

Ex. The sanctity of life can only be gained when one asks for God's blessings and strives to emulate Him.



Page 5 - The Straight Forward Free Press





Friday July 28, 2023

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL COMMENTARY BY JOHN BANKEL Today's Trail Treks To..... LIE LIKE LYE

Nowadays there is a lot of lying going on, especially from the top echelons of government. There is an old adage that goes something like this: How can one tell if a politician is lying? That's easy. When his/her lips are moving. I recall the classic retort of then President H W Busch when he said, "Read my lips: no tax hikes." Not hard to guess what came next, is it? One of the best ways to clean a stuck drain is to use a product called "Drano." When the crystals come in contact with water, they make a hissing sound and soon smoke can be seen and heat can be felt. This is because of the chemical reaction. Drano contains sodium hydroxide, NaOH is the chemical formula. In everday parlance sodium hydroxide is known as lye. It is the stuff from which soap is made. When someone tells a lie, that lie can set off a "chemical reaction" that can burn the hearer. Politicians use it all the time. They say one thing and then do another. The biden regime has become particularly adept at speaking out of both sides of the mouth. As a matter of fact, these folks not only speak with forked tongue, but also dodge a question altogether and make one feel like a dope for asking it. That is taking lying to new levels of sophistication. But like Drano, those lies eventually trigger a chain reaction that reverberates throughout

our land. The end result is truth goes down the drain and so does all credibility. Biden and his cohort politcians need to have their mouths washed out with soap. A lie is like lye.

Today's Trail has come to an end. Perhaps we will meet again around the bend my friend. May your Trail end up on the right side of the fence. Happy Trails to you, until we meet again.

John Bankel is a freelance journalist and a retired High School Math teacher and can be reached at: writewright@journalist. com Copyright 2023. All **Rights Reserved.**

Oklahoma Boy Catches Frightening Fish Species Related to the Piranha in **Neighborhood Pond**



Oklahoma resident Charlie Clinton, 11, caught a pacu, a South American relative of the piranha, while fishing in a local pond. PHOTO: OKLAHOMA



Adair County Litter-Free & Green Litter-Free & Green Recycle Day Schedule: April 15, May 20, June 17, July 15, Aug 18, Sept 16, Oct 21, Nov 18, Dec 16. Location: Behind Vonnie's Pawn Shop at 101 W. Walnut St, Stilwell OK. Hours: 9am to noon. For more info. contact Cathy at 696-1178 or Joyce at 696-7316.

10:00 Sunday Morning Service Bethal Church Everyone Welcome

Alcoholics Anonymous meeting being held at the Stilwell Depot on Wednesday nights at 6:30 pm.

DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION

IRS 'Whistleblower X,' a Gay Democrat, Reveals Identity and Tells Congress He Was Blocked from Investigating Hunter Biden.





Full Story using the QR code above.

> The Washington Free Beacon

