

# The STRAIGHT FORWARD

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# FREE Press



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Stilwell, Adair County, Oklahoma

Thursday, September 30, 2021



Stilwell FFA Junior Opening Ceremonies Team 1 and Stilwell FFA Advisor Laura Wood posing with their 1st Place certificate. Pictured: Laura Wood, Brooklyn Vann, Jett Sellers, Lily Workman, Rylin Bailey, Tenley Northcross, and Stella Ketcher.

## 2nd Annual Stilwell FFA LDE Contest Held

By Kaylee Stewart,  
Stilwell FFA Reporter

On Sept. 23, 2021, the Stilwell FFA chapter held their 2nd Annual Leadership Development

Events competition. There were four different contest areas which included Junior Opening Ceremonies, Senior Opening Ceremonies, 8th grade Team

Creed, and 9th grade creed. The contest was a big success with over 20 chapters from across the state in attendance. Stilwell FFA had students competing in every contest area except for 9th grade creed. Stilwell Junior Opening Ceremonies Team 1 placed 1st in their room and 5th overall, the Senior Opening Ceremonies Team 1 placed 3rd in their room, and the 8th grade Team Creed team 1 placed 3rd in their room. Congratulations!

Leadership Development Events teach students how to publicly speak and helps gain self-confidence. Participating FFA members are challenged to develop critical thinking skills and effective-decision making skills, foster teamwork and promote communication while recognizing the value and importance of being a leader. Agricultural programs teach students career skills in many different areas such as food production and biotechnology, but they also play an important role in the development of teamwork and leadership skills in students. LDE's prepare students for life after high school by teaching them how to interact and work with other people.

\* \* \* \* \*  
"How the Camel Got His Hump" in last week's issue was written by Rudyard Kipling. If interested in hearing some of Kipling's stories, go to Youtube.

## Simple Steps to Take to Know Your 911 Address

It is so important to know your 911 address if you have an emergency. About half of our 911 calls people do not know their 911 address. So much valuable time is wasted if you do not have your address handy and must look around for it.

When you are in a stressful situation it is very hard to think straight. Having the information at hand ahead of time helps everyone involved.

We do not have the technology that some counties can afford. We do have some technology and things have improved over the years, but we do not always automatically know where you are located.

There are simple steps you can take to get yourself and your family ready in case of an emergency.

First, have your address and directions on your refrigerator or some prominent location in your home. In your directions, please use actual road numbers, instead of common names. Go to the nearest town, right down miles, and road numbers as you go home. Making notes of left or right etc. If you are close to a school, cemetery, community building, church, etc. note these in your directions, this helps us narrow down the general area quickly.

Next, be sure your house number is on your house or driveway. It needs to be at least 4-inch numbers. Please make sure it can be seen from the road. On your mailbox, please mark both sides of it with

your address.

Third, teach your family and children the address, where to find it, and what the directions are. Depending on their age, they may be able to read directions to a dispatcher. Or they may be able to take a picture of the address and send to someone. Teach them how to call 911. But teach them when and when not to call 911, it is not a game.

All schools in our area received magnets to send home with each child. The magnet has a place for the 911 address and directions. It also has Poison Control numbers and Utility Phone numbers in case of outages. Please do not contact dispatch about outages, contact your utility instead.

Marking your house with the address also helps with package deliveries as well. If you have problems with packages, mail, etc. feel free to contact us at the 911 Office. Our phone number is 918-696-4019.

If you are missing a road sign, please contact the commissioners at 918-696-5310.

We have some extra magnets in the 911 Office at the courthouse. Stop by and pick one up. If you need help writing down directions to your address or making sure it is correct, please call or stop by. We are glad to help in anyway we can. Hopefully if we prepare ahead of time then when an emergency happens it will be a little less stressful.

## "OUR READERS' VOICE" Dodge, Deflect, Distract

By Concerned Citizen

The September 20, 2021 Commissioner Meeting was characterized by unwanted, and unanswered, questions.

### Proposing The Prohibited

The Commissioners' proposal for "premium pay" to ALL County employees directly violates a warning from the State Auditor website. It reads: "Caution – The Interim Final Rule provisions for premium pay should NOT be broadly interpreted to mean any employee of the County." Thus, one Citizen asked: "If they expressly caution that you should not use a broad interpretation to include just any county employee, whose decision was it to do the exact opposite and include every single one of them?" Commissioner Winger

dodged and punted to Steve Garrett, who danced around this over-inclusivity of all County employees. As is often the case, the actual question was never answered.

### "Premium Employees?"

Not all County employees are "essential workers" and not all "essential workers" are County employees. Accordingly, the State Auditor website states: "Fiscal Recovery Funds may be used by counties... to provide grants to third-party employers with eligible workers performing essential work." Thus, one Citizen asked: "What's the status of any proposals to use grants to third-party employers...?" Winger again deflected a question intended for the Commissioners and instead leaned on Garrett. Garrett acknowledged they could do such grants, but never addressed this heretofore total exclusion of non-government workers. So that question, likewise, was also never actually answered. Apparently the county workers are "premium employees" queued up for "premium pay." For now, the matter is "tabled" awaiting further

(See Dodge on Page 3)



Temple Grandin – "I think using animals for food is an ethical thing to do, but we've got to do it right..." Stay tuned for Tarra Boecher's encounters with Dr. Temple Grandin in the weeks to come.



## INDIANS FOOTBALL Stilwell Blanked By Broken Bow Commentary by John Bankel

On Friday night, 9/24, the Stilwell Indians Varsity Football team made the long trip to Broken Bow, Oklahoma to bang heads with the Broken Bow Savages. For the third time in 3 tries this season, the Indians came out on the short end of the stick as Broken Bow blanked the Indians 42-0, moving the Savages to 3-1 on the season while Stilwell slipped to 0-3.

The Indians will once again be on the road Friday night, 10/1, in a district contest, to face the Fort Gibson Tigers, who come in with a 3-1 record having lost only to perennial powerhouse Berryhill. The Tigers come off a 49-7 walloping of the Muldrow Bulldogs.

Kickoff is at 7 pm. Come on over and support your Indians.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**  
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### PROVERB POWER

"Come unto me all ye that labour and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." Jesus speaking in Matthew 11:28. (KJV)

# THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

## A REFRESHER COURSE

I once was told a story about how you could try to put a live frog into a pot of hot water; according to the story the frog would immediately jump out of the water, but if you put the frog into the water while it was cold and gradually turned up the heat, he would stay in the pot and eventually he would be boiled to death and not even try to jump out of the pot. We Americans have a lot in common with the frog, we have a bad habit of letting our government and corrupt politicians turn the heat up on us while removing the very freedoms that have made our country the envy of the world. I remember a quote by one of the founders of this nation, “When the government fears the people you have liberty, but when the people fear the government you have tyranny”. I watched the address by “resident” Biden where he made the comment that his patience was wearing thin concerning the people who chose not to take the Covid 19 vaccine. In his address you could see the anger he had towards his fellow Americans because of their decision not to take the shot. His remarks have the effect of making me angry; Biden is not a dictator of this nation, maybe because his first name is Joe, he fancies himself as being a modern day Joe Stalin. As far as I am concerned, Joe Biden can get happy in the same panties he got mad in.

Biden keeps talking about the science and how the vaccines are the solution to all of our problems and the unvaccinated are the cause of the spike of new cases. We need to remember that the vaccine is not a true vaccine, it only minimizes the symptoms of the virus and the people who have taken the jab can still catch the virus and spread it even though they took the shot. Neither I nor Joe Biden is qualified to tell everyone what they should do or not do. That should be a decision by every individual and their health care provider. There are many reasons people have for not taking the jab, for those of us who contracted the virus and recovered from it, according to an

Israeli study, natural immunity is up to 13 x stronger than the vaccine effect. I for one am not ready to screw that immunity up. There are many healthcare professionals who have not taken the shot; has it ever occurred to most Americans these people have been in the trenches and have seen the effects of the disease maybe, just maybe, they have come to the conclusion the shot is not for them.

Most liberals are devout believers in pro-choice when it comes to abortion and say no one has the right to tell anyone what to do with their body, but they now support forcing people to have chemicals pumped into their body just because someone tells you it is the thing to do. Now they are talking about vaccine passports and denying those who choose not to take the jab access to sporting events, meeting, etc. Those of us who believe in the teachings of the Christian Bible have been warned about a time when no one can buy or sell unless they carry the mark of the beast. I am not saying that the mandate is the mark of the beast, but from what I am seeing it is a pretty good dress rehearsal. We have been assured that the vaccines are safe and effective and God I hope it is true, but I have a problem when healthcare professionals who have a dissenting view are ignored and essentially blackballed. Put all of the information on the table and have a healthy debate. I believe that it was Thomas Jefferson who once said that the American people will make the right decision when given all the available information. In Bidens’s mandate he demands that unvaccinated people take a weekly covid test, maybe he should also schedule a weekly dementia test upon himself each week also.

My fellow Americans, I think it is about time that we all take a refresher course on what it is to be an American; we were never intended to be a race of sheep, let us be strong individuals who have the ability to use the freedom and liberties our founders gave to us.

# The Lady in the Blue Sari

Part 14

By Donna Boecher

Here we sat with Teresa, waiting Lydia her aunt. Teresa was a beautiful Indian young woman; long blue-black straight hair—worn down her back with a middle part—with symmetrical facial features; dark brown eyes; and caramel colored skin with the glow of youth. She was small-framed slender with soft curves in all the right places. She wasn’t in a sari, but if you were in India, you’d call her attire a casual “salwar kameez” made of auspicious-colored marigold silk embroidered with purple beads. With American eyes, it was soft flowing silk orange pants overlaid with a matching long, softly draping scoop-neck beaded top. Having captured our attention, we questioned Teresa about her stay in New Orleans, her plans, and hopes for the future.

Glancing from person-to-person as Teresa spoke, there was

a soft smile on Alex face, and he seemed to be watching Teresa’s lips move. Interesting undertaking, since she was speaking perfect English. I chuckled to myself. Perhaps, Alex and Teresa would soon “become” family. It would be an auspicious match! Love was in the air—everywhere! Alex the spice apprentice; Teresa the fiancée. Let the astrologers read the stars as to their future. Teresa is a Taurus and Alex is a Libra. Let it be soon.

So intent were we with the repartee between Alex and Teresa that we didn’t hear Lydia suddenly appear before us. “Guys, what’s up?” “Lydia, hope you remember me, it’s Thomas.” “Of course, Tom. I’m sorry it seems I’ve been trying to evade you, but I didn’t know you had actually befriended Alex. I could have found him months ago.” “Teresa let’s get cooking! I’m ready for a good Butter Chicken, garlic naan, and we’ll finish it with a creamy Kheer.

As the Cajuns would say, ‘laissez les bon temp rouler.’ And it is time to enjoy being together—it’s time to celebrate!”

By sunset, we had finished a good curry inside Lydia’s home. At dessert time, we trailed out onto the porch to watch as the final streaks of the sun reflected in a long oval of gold on the winding stream of the Mississippi River. It was a joyous occasion. Teresa and Alex would be instructed about their journey tomorrow. We all decided to meet for breakfast at the Café DuMonde for coffee and beignets. Excitement was in the air as we climbed down on the batture, and having called a cab, we rode home in the French Quarter.



Dear John,

I love onions John and my husband doesn’t. He eats food with onions in it and never says anything. I like my onions to be visible not all diced up and gone. This has gotten out of hand, now I make mine and his separate. When we eat at the church fellowships, he eats everything and I know it has onions I can see them. Oh, and the other thing he doesn’t want it salted. The man eats canned chili and spam. The sodium in that could kill a horse. Do you think that he is just nit picking me or should I be nice about this?

When Mom Ain’t Happy

Dear When Mom Ain’t Happy, when it comes to eating, we all have our own preferences; many of them go way back to our childhoods so they are habits that are pretty much set in concrete. Your husband’s disdain for onions is not unusual and probably something he picked up as a kid when his mother forced him to “eat your onion” and honestly, to a kid, onions were not exactly tasty. I have a feeling that when he sees an onion it triggers that memory. What I suggest is that you either do a better job of concealing the onions in your cooking or fix-up a separate dish sans onions. As for the salt, you can lighten up on it or assume he probably gets plenty from processed foods like spam. Too much sodium can cause health kinks. The worst thing you can do is to try and change the unchangeable. Some mountains are impossible to climb and some battles are never to be won. Happiness is to be cherished over consternation.

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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they are delivering. If this bill gets signed into law, it’s the end of the American dream and the beginning of government dependency.

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).

## Health Tips from Larkin...

By Larkin Fouse, CHHP

The power of organic eating: Nutritional benefits part 2: As we discussed in the last article on organic vs. conventional farming. Soil health is of great importance for our nutrition as far as vitamin and minerals go, but there is a lost art in the aspects of nutrition these days and that is the art of enzymes. Enzymes are little particles that break things down and allow for their transformation into something else in our bodies, they are what helps transform it into flesh, blood,

and bone in our bodies. However, they are also what transform toxins in our bodies into broken down waste material that can be expelled from our bodies. Thus organic foods high in enzymes serve as natural detoxifiers and have no chemicals in them so you get a pure cleansing. Whereas foods that are grown conventionally have little to no enzymes and are loaded with toxins, so they serve as poisoned food. So that the very thing that is supposed to sustain your life is killing you. Not a very pleasant thought indeed.



## Mullin It Over: Blank Check for Socialism

By Congressman Markwayne Mullin

By now, you have probably heard about President Biden’s \$3.5 trillion “Build Back Better” bill and all the empty promises in it. The truth is that it will do nothing to build our country up. Instead, this is a blank check to take our country into socialism.

This bill will change every American’s way of life. It’s filled with radical policy changes that will raise costs on all goods, put the federal government in charge of educating your kids, prioritize climate policy over national security, breach every American’s privacy, and saddle future generations with debt.

In an attempt to eliminate fossil fuels, this legislation would impose a “fee” on all methane emissions, including in our agriculture industry. We all know that a fee is just a tax and that consumers are the ones who will pay for it. The tax is estimated to cost \$6,500 per dairy cow, \$2,600 per head of cattle, and \$500 per swine each year. That is more than what the animals are worth, it’ll run ranchers out of business.

Democrats are touting that this bill has \$200 billion of federal spending for “free” universal preschool and community col-

lege. What the Democrats aren’t promoting is that states will be required to foot 50 percent of the cost once this measure is up and running. This is the same for free community college provisions. States will be required to foot 25 percent of the two years free of community college costs as well. Nothing is ever free. The state of Oklahoma will pay for this bill too, not just Washington.

The Biden Administration argues new Internal Revenue Service (IRS) provisions in the bill will narrow the tax-gap, but it’s just a gross example of federal overreach. The IRS would require banks to report transaction data for any account with at least \$600 of cash in or out annually, violating the privacy of what Americans do with their money.

These are just a few of the worst provisions in this legislation and there are thousands more that take us closer to full blown socialism. And beyond that, it calls for the highest sustained federal spending level in American history that will saddle our future generations with massive debt.

The Democrats want government control over every aspect of our lives and that’s exactly what

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

“**Scrutinize**  
• examine or inspect  
closely and thoroughly.”

The  
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Donna Boecher.....Editor  
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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# Obituaries

## Amy Marie (Vaughan) Steele January 9, 1979 – September 22, 2021

Amy Marie Vaughan was born January 9th, 1979 in Siloam Springs Arkansas to Dennis and Dianna (Vangordon) Vaughan, and departed this life to be with God, on September 22nd, 2021 in Siloam Springs Arkansas at the age of 42 years, 8 months, and 13 days.

Amy married Rick Steele on August 8th, 2002 and formed a combined family of two daughters, Summer and Jesse, one son Ricky.

Rick and Amy loved spending as much time as possible together doing many different activities like riding motorcycles.

Amy graduated from Northeastern State University in 2001 to pursue her lifelong dream of teaching high school math. Amy was currently teaching at Springdale High School.

Amy is survived by her husband: Rick Steele of the home; her Children: Summer McVicker of Springdale, Arkansas, Ricky Steele Jr. of Fort Bragg, North Carolina, Jesse Steele of Buckeye, Arizona. Parents: Dennis and Dianna Vaughan of Stilwell, Oklahoma. Brother: Daniel and wife Susan Vaughan of Wylie, Texas. Nephews: Chris, Rodney, Justin, and Dustin Vaughan of Wylie, Texas. Grandchildren: Tayiah, and William Meldrum, Tyler Strickland, Jacob Steele, Sadie Steele, and a host of other relatives, friends and coworkers who will all miss her.

Funeral services were held at 2 pm on Monday, September 27, 2021 at Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK with Bro. Navil Vaughan officiating. Interment followed at Stilwell City Cemetery, Stilwell, OK.



## Stetson Beau Wear

September 16, 2021 – September 16, 2021

Our perfect little Angel: Stetson Beau Wear was born on September 16, 2021, at 3:28 pm in Tahlequah, Oklahoma and flew with the Angels at the time.

Stetson was preceded in death by his great-grandparents: Robert (Bob) and Mary Wear; his great-great-grandparents: John and Myrtle Stand, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma.



Stetson is survived by his mother: Morgan Elizabeth Wear; his Lisi: Kristie Renee Wear-Byrd; his Paps and Mimi: Charles and Laura Soap; uncle: Tanner and companion Casey; aunt and uncle: Aubrey and Kobe Pritchett; 4 special cousins: Ryan Kole and Pazleigh Ann who will be arriving in November, Kavian Chad, and Creed Ryan; a special grandma: Charlotte Sue Wolfe, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma; great uncles: David Bradley Stand and wife Gina of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Darren Stand of Albuquerque, New Mexico, Ronnie Wear and wife Joyce, and Robbie (Bo) Wear, both of Sallisaw, Oklahoma; great-great uncle: David Henry Stand of Tahlequah, Oklahoma; his great-great aunt and uncle: Tom and Jonetta Johnson of Stilwell, Oklahoma; a special great-great aunt: T.J. Stand of Tahlequah, Oklahoma. Along with other special cousins and friends.

He will always be forever in our lives and hearts forever.

Graveside services were held at 10 am on Thursday, September 23, 2021 at Ketcher Cemetery, Stilwell, OK with Sib Wolfe and David Stand officiating. Interment followed under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.

# Mullin Opposes CR, Suspending Debt Limit

Congressman Markwayne Mullin (OK-02) released the following statement after voting against a continuing resolution (CR), which includes a suspension of the country's debt limit through December 16, 2022.

"This is absolutely reckless," Mullin said. "Suspending the debt

limit enables Pelosi Democrats to continue their out-of-control spending spree and force their socialist agenda on the American people, all without a plan to pay for it. Our country cannot afford to keep kicking the can down the road and passing bills off to the next generation."

# Mullin Opposes National Defense Authorization Act

Congressman Markwayne Mullin (OK-02) released the following statement after voting no on the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2022.

"I will always fight hardest in Washington for our service members who put their lives on the line to defend our freedoms every single day," Mullin said. "Unfortunately, this year's NDAA has multiple provisions that undermine this goal and do not have our troops' best interests in mind. This bill includes 'red flag' provisions that deprive servicemembers

of their Second Amendment rights and a provision to allow illicit cannabis businesses to use the banking system, advancing the legalization agenda. Further, it prevents governors from utilizing the National Guard to secure the border and does not hold the Biden Administration accountable for their actions in Afghanistan. The focus of the NDAA should always be to provide the resources necessary to remain the strongest military in the world. It is not a place to play partisan politics."

\* \* \* \* \*

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

# States' Rights

By State Rep. David Hardin

The House this year re-introduced its States' Rights committee, giving us a chance to examine and pass laws that reiterate the role of the state under the 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

This committee passed several measures this year that protected our religious freedoms and that established a process for the state attorney general to protect our state's rights from federal overreach.

House Bill 1236 authorizes the state attorney general to monitor and evaluate whether actions by the federal government, including executive orders by the President, regulations promulgated by a federal agency, or acts of Congress, violate the 10th Amendment. The measure also creates a State Reserved Powers Protection Unit within the Office of the Attorney General to review the federal government's actions. If a review concludes infringement on the 10th Amendment, the attorney general must determine whether the state should seek an exemption or seek to have the action declared unconstitutional.

The Legislature also is authorized to review federal executive orders, agency rules or legislative actions to determine constitutionality and whether the state should seek exemption or seek to have the federal action declared unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction. Upon recommendation from the Legislature, the attorney general will review the action to determine constitutionality. If the attorney general declines to pursue action, the Legislature may, by majority vote, initiate an action to seek an exemption, or seek to have an action declared unconstitutional by a court. No government entity or other publicly funded organization may implement, adopt or enforce any federal order or rule declared unconstitutional.

The 10<sup>th</sup> Amendment is very clear that what is not specifically listed as one of the limited federal powers is specifically reserved as a right of the state. And yet, our current president and his administration are trampling states' rights. This includes vaccine mandates and orders that inhibit domestic oil drilling and much, much more. This makes our law all the more timely.

Senate Bill 368, meanwhile, modifies the Oklahoma Religious Freedom Act to prohibit any governmental entity from declaring or deeming a religious institution, as well as any activity directly related to the institution's mission, to be nonessential. The measure prohibits a religious institution from being subject to closure or restriction greater than that imposed on any private entity facing similar conditions.

In Oklahoma, that was not much of an issue, but in other states during the onset of the pandemic, churches were shut down or severely limited in how many people were allowed



David Hardin serves District 86 in the Oklahoma House of Representatives. His district includes Adair County and parts of Cherokee and Delaware counties.

in their buildings. This was while casinos, liquor stores and other establishments were deemed essential and allowed to operate at full capacity. We want to make sure peoples' right to worship is not impeded in any way.

## ADAIR COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Commentary by John Bankel

### WESTVILLE HIGH SCHOOL YELLOWJACKETS FOOTBALL

In a home game versus the Locust Grove Wildcats Friday night, 9/24, the Westville High School Yellowjackets came into the game with a perfect 4-0 record. That record remained unblemished as Westville handed Locust Grove a sound thrashing by a score of 38-13. Westville is now 5-0 on the season. Over those 5 games the Yellowjackets have displayed not only a prolific offense but a very stingy defense as well. The stats show that Westville has scored 168 points while allowing their opponents a measly 55 points. If the Yellowjackets can keep that pace up, who knows how far they can go in this 2021 season? The next hurdle will come on 10/1 when Westville travels to Tahlequah to tangle with the Sequoyah Indians who are slumping along with an 0-4 record, having just suffered a terrifying 63-0 drubbing at the hands of 5-0 Lincoln Christian. Westville must guard against overconfidence to avoid what would be a major upset in this district contest. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

### CAVE SPRINGS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

On Friday night, 9/24, the Cave Springs Hornets took on the Webbers Falls Warriors in an 8-man football game played on the Hornets' home field. The outcome saw the hornets get buzzed big time as they endured a 52-14 drubbing. Cave Springs has yet to taste the sweet savor of victory as they slump to 0-3 on the season. Meanwhile, Webbers Falls remains unbeaten at 4-0. The Hornets next travel to Porum in a Thursday, 9/30, non-district contest. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

### WATTS HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL

The Watts Engineers did not play. They will be at home on 10/1 to tussle with the undefeated (4-0) Webbers Falls Warriors. Watts enters the game at 0-2 and will be looking for their first win. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

## Dodge (Contd. from Page 1)

direction from the State.

"MY Way Or The D.A.!"

These legitimate, unanswered questions highlight concerns about using Garrett as a consultant. By contrast, one Citizen contacted the State Auditor's Office and discovered they were readily available to help. The Commissioners can access them before, during and after the expenditures, literally getting advice, approval, and (eventual) audit from the same source. Leaning on the Auditor's Office for guidance has them essentially overseeing their own approvals, with them ultimately auditing themselves in the end! Thus, one Citizen asked the obvious: "Why would we pay a consultant, who's not accountable for any consequences, when we can get help from the auditors who will eventually be auditing their own advice & approved actions - for free?" Breathtakingly, rather than simply answering this important question, Winger harangued the Citizen and distracted with a diatribe that culminated in Winger suggesting the Citizen could be a terrorist! Needless to say, this question was ALSO never answered. Winger seemed livid by the other two Commissioners voting against hiring Garrett. Garrett took it better than Winger, gracefully encouraging the Commissioners to get free help if they could. Winger, curiously, defiantly vowed to go directly to the district attorney to see about hiring Garrett himself (opposing the will of the people and his two peers).

### Heightened Risk? Due To Covid?

One Citizen pointed out that "premium pay is intended to compensate essential workers for heightened risk due to covid." However, there is no "heightened risk due to covid" (never was). According to "official" numbers, we ALL merely "risked" a 99% chance of surviving something you had an 80% chance of never even getting to begin with! Equally damning, the absolute, raw number total of all deaths in 2020 & 2021 (in the United States and globally) is statistically the same as 2019, 2018, 2017, etc. It seems there was a gnarly flu (Coronavirus) that preyed on immunocompromised, comorbid – especially elderly – people. However, there was no deadly pandemic. According to Doctor Simone Gold, "SARS-CoV-2 posts virtually no mortality risk to people up to 70 years old. For those beyond 70, survival approaches 95%, and with early treatment is nearly 100% survivable." So where, exactly, is the "heightened risk?" That question (which summarily disposes of the contentious "premium pay" matter entirely), like all the rest, will probably never get answered.

## !!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](mailto:straightforwardpress21@gmail.com) or snail mail to: Straight Forward FREE Press, POB 885, Stilwell, OK 74960.



New Puzzle Page: Crossword, Word Search and Sudoku Fun!

# ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Commentary by John Bankel

## Today's Trail Travels to the Right Side of the Fence...

### WHY I CAN NOT VOTE DEMOCRAT...

I will vote for the most pro-life candidate, because God hates the shedding of innocent blood (Proverbs 6:17).

I will vote for the most pro-Israel candidate, because God blesses those who Bless Israel and curses those who don't (Genesis

12:3).

I will vote for the most pro-debt reduction candidate, because the borrower is servant to the lender (Proverbs 22:7).

I will vote for the most pro-work candidate because God says if a man won't work let him not

eat. (2 Thessalonians 3:10)

I will vote for the most Pro-Marriage candidate because God is for marriage as defined in (Genesis 2:24).

I will vote for the candidate who most closely believes government's purpose is to reward good & punish evil (Romans 13).

I will vote based as close as I can on God's Word (2 Timothy 3:16).

Today's 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 lead you to the right side of the fence.

John Bankel is a freelance journalist and retired math teacher and can be reached at: [writewright@journalist.com](mailto:writewright@journalist.com) for comments or questions?

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## Mullin Strongly Opposes Abortions on Demand Act

Congressman Markwayne Mullin (OK-02) released the following statement after voting against the Abortion on Demand Until Birth Act. This bill dramatically expands Roe v. Wade and would ban any state action to limit abortions while allowing abortion for any reason, at any stage of pregnancy until birth.

"This legislation is absolutely sickening. I will always defend the rights of the unborn and I cannot

imagine a bill that puts these rights more at risk than this one," Mullin said. "It goes far beyond Roe and overrides existing pro-life laws at the state and federal levels that protect both babies and mothers. As Americans, we have the moral, ethical, and personal responsibility to be the voice for those who cannot speak for themselves. And as a father of six, I cannot express enough how precious the lives of these innocent children are."



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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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Rick Stubblefield, Agent

# Puzzle Page

## KRYPTO KONTEST

The first Annual Krypto Kontest has a winner!! The winner of the calculator and the \$25 gift card is...David West!!

Congratulations David for a

solid performance...

Please contact the Krypto Kontest Manager by email: [themathguy@usa.com](mailto:themathguy@usa.com) to collect your prize.

Thanks to all who participated. Look for a new Puzzle Page in the next issue... Enjoy!



## THE KIPLING KORNER

"Teach us delight in simple things, and mirth that has no bitter springs." by Rudyard Kipling.

## WHAT'S SO PUNNY?

### PUN FUN

Today we have a triple decker of just plain pun fun:

It was plain to see the plain plane landed on the plane of the plain plain.

The punner was arrested and punished in the punitive somewhere in Punnsylvania.

We know 6 was afraid of 7 because 7, 8, 9. But why did 7 eat 9? He was told to have 3 square meals a day.

Hope you had your fill of fun puns for today. If you have a funny one or two or three or more, send them to: [writewright@journalist.com](mailto:writewright@journalist.com).

## 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.

## Stilwell's Trunk-O-Ween Set for October 29

This year's Trunk-O-Ween, sponsored by Stilwell Area Chamber of Commerce, will be held on Friday, October 29, from 4:30 to 6:00 p.m. on Division Street between 1st and 3rd Streets.

Costume Contest will be at 5:00 p.m. Age categories are: 0-2 years; 3-5 years; 6-10 years; 11-15 years; and 16 & Over. It will be sponsored by Stilwell Fraternal Order of Police.

Please line up on the South side of Division Street from 3rd to 5th Street.

Happy Halloween!

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