

The STRAIGHT FORWARD



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Serving Stilwell & Adair County, Oklahoma

Thursday May 18, 2023

Quarterly Excellence To Carl Unger



Adair County District 1 Commissioner, Charles Boecher, presents Carl Unger Award of Excellence. This award was presented to Carl Unger for going beyond the normal duties and expectations of an employee of the district and county. Carl's actions this quarter reflect great credit upon himself, District 1, and Adair County.

2023 Mr. and Miss Stilwell High School



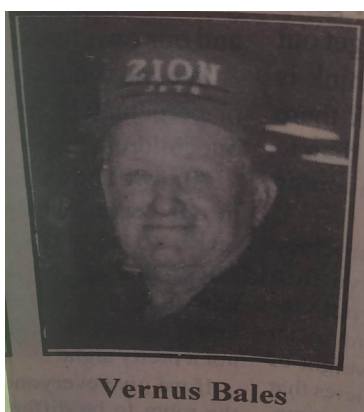
Stilwell High School is excited to announce our 2023 Mr. and Miss SHS, Jesse Armstrong and Abby Hale! Congratulations to two very deserving students!

Cherokee Nation Buys Prize Winning Strawberries



Cherokee Nation Deputy Chief, Brian Warner, far left, and Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr., far right, gladly display the prize winning strawberries purchased with the winning bid at the Strawberry Festival Auction.

January 16th Was Proclaimed Vernus Bales Day In Stilwell



On May 13, at 10:00 a.m. at the Kiwanis Stage in downtown Stilwell, officials from the City of Stilwell, the Cherokee Nation and the State of Oklahoma, gathered with Lora Gallardo and her family to honor the memory of Lora's father, Vernus Bales, who was tragically killed on January 16th, 25 years ago, while working for the City of Stilwell in the construction of the wall on the 59 Bypass. Stilwell Mayor Jean Ann Wright, Cherokee Nation Councilman Joshua Sam and District 86 State Representative David Hardin, in turn, read a proclamation establishing January 16 as "Vernus Bales Day" in Stilwell.

PROVERB POWER

Romans 8:1 KJV

There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, who walk not after the flesh, but after the Spirit.

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



Poetry and music are very good friends. Like mommies and daddies and strawberries and cream - they go together.

Nikki Giovanni

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

Number 24

By Donna Boecher

My mother, Maxine, always wanted to be an author; she had a family instead; she considered family a full-time job. "Her writings" would be composed of love letters in 1939 to my father when separated for nine months while he built an oil refinery in Manama, Bahrain; he wrote back. I have both sides of the story. That compilation is a treasure in itself along with an ancient address book from those days. She wrote: letters to family and friends; letters to her children; and her

1936 diary where she tells of meeting my father during "Training Union" at the Baptist church in Tulsa (4th St. and Denver). Amongst her papers, I found a black account journal with her list of people to write from Bahrain. Communication was important. The eldest cousin remembered racing from the mailbox in Texas with a letter from Aunt Maxine in Bahrain. She wrote of a scheme planned and perpetrated to foil the bombing of the Texaco Oil Refinery. The scheme worked! They had located

the "flare" away from the refinery. That message as a TEXT would not have had the same punch as an in-hand letter. Generations will HOLD and read a diary's words or re-read letters, both ARE TOUCHABLE/SOLID! Mail a letter; excite the recipient! Did I tell you I also have a letter from my father written in 1939 on Mosel railroad letterhead? I wish I could have been a mouse in his pocket! Letters matter.



Dear John,
Enjoy this recipe and remember the good old days.

Not an ordinary Martha

The Famous Woolworth Ice Box Cheesecake



INGREDIENTS:

- 1 (3 oz.) package lemon jello
- 1 cup boiling water
- 3 cups graham cracker crumbs
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) butter, melted
- 1 (8 oz.) package cream cheese
- 1 cup granulated sugar
- 4 tablespoons lemon juice
- 1 (12 oz.) can evaporated milk, chilled

PREPARATION:

In a medium bowl, dissolve jello in boiling water. Let cool 5-10 minutes, or until slightly thick. While jello cools, mix 3/4 graham cracker crumbs with melted butter in a medium bowl, then press into the bottom of 9x13-inch pan and set aside. Reserve remaining crumbs for topping. In a medium bowl, beat evaporated milk until whipped and fluffy. 2-4 minutes. In a separate, large bowl, beat cream cheese, sugar and lemon juice together until smooth. Add in thickened jello, then fold in whipped evaporated milk. Spread filling evenly over crust and top with reserved graham cracker crumbs. Cover and chill at least 2 hours, or overnight. Slice, serve, and enjoy!

Psalms 91:15-16 KJV

15 He shall call upon me, and I will answer him: I will be with him in trouble; I will deliver him, and honour him.
16 With long life will I satisfy him, and shew him my salvation.

SCRIPTURE

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ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

COMMENTARY BY JOHN BANKEL

Today's Trail Treks To

ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION IRONY

From the moment our current White House resident set foot into his office, chaos has reigned in America. The gates of the Southern Border swung wide open resulting in an unmanageable invasion of illegals-euphemistically called "migrants" by the Democrats-totally, to date, around 8 million people from the world over running rampant throughout our nation. Now that Title 42 has expired, the flood has become a deluge. Where to put them is the big question? Even radical left wing big city mayors, Lori Lightfoot of Chicago

and New York City's Eric Adams are crying "Uncle", yet are not ready to lay the blame on Biden and his preposterous policies.

For the Democrats, this is money in the bank as they will almost all be voting Democrat in future elections. Yet, while Republicans are busy amping up their denunciations, there is a hidden irony in this traffic. Consider this? For a society to remain sustainable, the birth rate must be a minimum of 1.9 births per couple anything below that threshold spells doom. Among America's

population the birth rate is hovering around this threshold of extinction. Enter illegal immigration, stage left. America will, no doubt, undergo radical changes because of it, and perhaps become a third world nation. Yet, ironically at least America will not go extinct! What a deal, huh? And that is the irony of illegal immigration.

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. Vaya con Dios.

John Bankel is a freelance journalist who can be reached at writewright@journalist.com. Copy right 2023. All Rights Reserved.



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Donna Boecher.....Editor
John Bankel.....Co-Editor/Journalist
Stephanie Cullinane.....Composer

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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Krypto Kontest 6.0

Week seven of six

Hello Krypto players. Goodnews! Krypto 6.0 is being extended for two more weeks since no clear-cut winner has been determined. This Kontest is still up for grabs so grab a pencil, put on your thinking cap, and give this one a try. Your answer is 11. You are playing with 3, 20, 7, 17, and 19. Remember, you must use all 5 numbers, but each one only once, and any combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication, or division, to write and expression which equals the answer. Give it a shot. You just might win the \$25.00 cash and calculator prize! Send your solution either by email: themathguy@usa.com, or mail to: Krypto Kontest P.O. Box 885 Stilwell, Ok. 74960.

THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

AN ENDANGERED SPECIES

We often hear of an animal that is on the verge of extinction, usually it is caused by over-hunting or poaching. To quote Mr. Spock from Star Trek, "It is illogical to hunt a species to the point of extinction." That quote is correct, but it also applies to telling the truth or lies. From everything I am seeing, truth is becoming barely recognizable in our political system. I have heard people dismiss lying when it comes to politics, but when Moses brought the 10 Commandments down from Mount Sinai there were no exceptions to bearing false witness even if it pertained to politics.

One of the biggest issues currently is the story of the Hunter Biden laptop. During the 2020 election, President Trump brought up the issue in one of the presidential debates. Biden's response was that the whole story was nothing but Russian disinformation, and the lapdog mainstream media took his word and refused to do any digging into the truth of

what really went on. There were 51 individuals that signed a letter saying that the whole story was from the Russians; it reminds me of a child when caught doing something wrong, they will say that the devil made them do it. Fortunately, the new House majority is looking into the whole letter fiasco, the report is that the 51 individuals didn't even take the time to look over what they were refuting. It has been reported that the current secretary of State Antony Blinken, who was a member of the Biden campaign team, was responsible for drafting the letter and getting a bunch of Trump haters to sign a document that was nothing but a complete lie. If the media would have done their job it would have ensured a Trump victory, it is just another example of how the media controls the American public.

I am sure that eventually the truth will come out and those so-called 51 experts will be exposed for what they really are, in my

opinion they should all be fired and lose all pensions and retirement benefits for enabling the most corrupt and inept administration to occupy the White House. Resident Biden also knew that the laptop story was true, and he looked right into the cameras and lied to the American people while quoting the 51 traitors who signed it. All the mainstream media can do is accuse Trump of trying to overthrow the election. I have news for them, Trump was using his Constitutional right to challenge underhanded practices in an election. Any election in our nation is not certified until a protest period has passed, that has separated us from the banana republics in other countries. With all the congenital liars running our government, it makes me not believe most of what I hear coming out of Washington DC. If we voters don't start making an attempt to find out the truth, "truth will quickly become" an endangered species.



STILWELL SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Summer Softball Schedule

May 31 st Wed	Tahlequah	H 11:00am	V/JV
June 6 th Tu	Spiro	@ 11:00am	V/JV
June 7 th Wed	Gore	H 11:00am	V/JV
June 10 th Sa	Open Streets Volunteers		TBA
June 15 th Th	Gore	@ 11:00am	V/JV
June 19 th Mo	Tahlequah	@ 11:00am	V/JV
June 22 nd Th	Roland	H 11:00am	V/JV
July 11 th Tu	Oktaha scrimmages Festival		TBA
July 15 th Sa	First practice!!	11:00am	
July 18 th Tu	Oktaha scrimmage Festival		TBA
July 19 th Wed	Roland scrimmage Festival		TBA
July 25 th Tu	Oktaha scrimmages Festival		TBA
July 26 th Wed	Roland scrimmage Festival		TBA
Aug 2 nd Wed	Roland scrimmage Festival		TBA
Aug 3 rd & 4 th Th/Fr	Panama scrimmage Festival		TBA

*All games/times are subject to change

*To sign up for Stilwell Softball Remind 101, please text the message "@stilwellfb" to the number 81010. By doing this you will now receive any softball info that is sent out. I would highly encourage parents to sign up as well!



2023 Stilwell Indian Baseball Summer Schedule

Date	Opponent/Location	Time
6/5	Kansas	5:00
6/8	@Vian	12:00
6/12	@Kansas	5:00
6/13	Sallisaw Central	6:00
6/15	Vian	12:00
6/19	@Sallisaw	TBA
6/20	@Sallisaw Central	6:00
6/22	Sequoyah	12:00
6/26	Sallisaw	12:00
6/29	@Sequoyah	12:00

*All games will consist of 2 five inning games

*All games/times are subject to change

*To sign up for Stilwell Baseball's Remind 101, please text the message "@stilwellfb" to the number 81010. By doing this you will now receive any baseball info that is sent out.



United States Senator Markwayne Mullin

For 76 years, the Stilwell Strawberry Festival has brought together thousands of Oklahomans for games, live music, free strawberries, and of course, the rodeo. It was a joy to ride in the Festival Parade last weekend alongside my boy, Jim and celebrate one of our favorite hometown traditions.

Searching for a Word: – scheme – A plan or program of action, especially a crafty or secret one.

Ex. Their scheme was to sprinkle cayenne pepper on the mean boy's popcorn while he wasn't paying attention.

“Most people are about as happy as they make up their minds to be.” —Abraham Lincoln



STILWELL MIDDLE SCHOOL

Graduating With Honors



Co-Valedictorian,
Taylor Barnett.



Co-Valedictorian,
William Snodgrass.



Salutatorian,
Tucker Ridge.



Graduate with Honors,
Paisley Asbill.



Graduate with Honors,
Cassidy Davis.



Graduate with Honors,
Feliciano Evans.



Graduate with Honors,
Galilea Flores.



Graduate with Honors,
Noemi Garcia.



Graduate with Honors,
Brylee Kimble



Graduate with Honors,
Samuel Lopez



Graduate with Honors,
Addison Means.



Graduate with Honors,
Arianna Ramirez.



Graduate with Honors,
Israel Samargis.



Graduate with Honors,
Milo Turman.



Graduate with Honors,
Skarlet Villeda.



Graduate with Honors,
Hailey Watkins



Graduate with Honors,
Madeline West,



Dr. Phil, and Tom Woods
meet at the capital.

WHAT'S SO PUNNY?

PUN FUN

The Speed of Light:
Light travels faster than sound. That's why some people appear bright until you hear them speak.

Sudden Realization:
I was wondering why the ball was getting bigger.

Unemployment:
I have a few jokes about unemployed people, but none of them work

Split Personality:
"I have a split personality," said Tom, being frank.

Sinking Ship:
I Renamed my iPod The Titanic, so when I plug it in, it says "The Titanic is syncing."

How To Get Holy Water:
How do you make holy water? You boil the hell out of it.

A Balance Check:
I lost my job at the bank on my very first day. A woman asked me to check her balance, so I pushed her over.

Taking Things Literally:
It's hard to explain puns to kleptomaniacs because they always take things literally.

The Difference Between:
What's the difference between a hippo and a zippo? One is really heavy and the other is a little lighter.

Wind Farm:
Two windmills are standing in a wind farm. One asks, "What's your favorite kind of music?" The other says, "I'm a big metal fan."

All Right:
Did you hear about the guy whose whole left side was cut off? He's all right now.

Day Off:
I can't believe I got fired from the calendar factory. All I did was take a day off.

Loose Dogs:
A police officer just knocked on my door and told me my dogs are chasing people on

bikes. That's ridiculous. My dogs don't even own bikes.

Losing Your Luggage:
I tried to sue the airline for losing my luggage. I lost my case.

Quality Camouflage:
I went to buy some camouflage trousers yesterday but couldn't find any.

An Irishman is stumbling through the woods, totally drunk, when he comes upon a priest baptizing people in the river. He proceeds into the water, subsequently bumping into the priest. The priest turns around and is almost overcome by the smell of alcohol, whereupon he asks the drunk, "Are you ready to find Jesus?" The drunk shouts, "Yes, I am." So, the priest grabs him and dunks him in the water. He pulls him back and asks, "Brother, have you found Jesus?" The drunk replies, "No, I haven't found Jesus!"

The priest, shocked at the answer, dunks him again but for a little longer. He again pulls him out of the water and asks, "Have you found Jesus, brother?" The drunk answers, "No, I haven't found Jesus!" By this time, the priest is at his wits end and dunks the drunk again, but this time holds him down for about 30 seconds and when he begins kicking his arms and legs about, he pulls him up. The priest again asks the drunk, "For the love of God, have you found Jesus?"

The drunk staggers upright, wipes his eyes, coughs up a bit of water, catches his breath and says to the priest, "Are you sure this is where he fell in?....."




THE KIPLING KORNER

"Of all the liars in the world,
Sometimes the worst are our own fears."


"In school, you're taught a lesson and then given a test. In life, you're given a test that teaches you a lesson."

-Tom Bodett

Obituaries.....



JoAnn Eubanks
August 23, 1952 — May 6, 2023




Kimberly Ward
March 28, 1990 — April 30, 2023




Donna Sue Hogshooter
July 15, 1947 — May 5, 2023




Vanessa Gay Dart
January 17, 1964 — May 4, 2023




The Hardin Report

QR for the weekly Legislative Update - 5/11/2023. I'm honored to serve the great people of House District 86. Please feel free to call me with any questions, concerns, or to discuss issues. The best way to reach me is to either call or text me on my cell phone, 918-507-2811 or call my office at 405-557-7394.



Vocabulary Word: **plan.** A proposed or intended course of action.
Ex. The plan was to make peanut butter and jelly sandwiches for their picnic.

Community Bulletin Board

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

PHOTOS OF STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL SUBMITTED TO STRAIGHT FORWARD FREE PRESS

Photos submitted by: Chuck Hevezi



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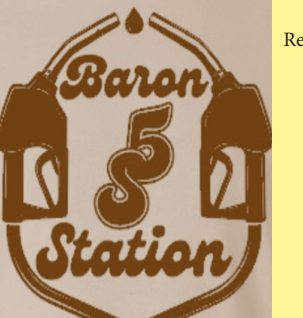
Be ye strong therefore,
and let not your hands be weak.

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Baron Station



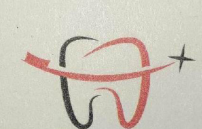
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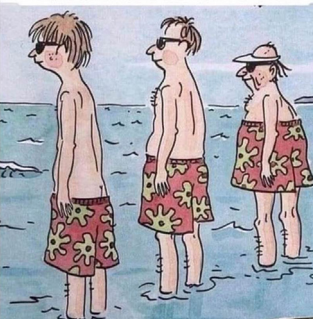
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