

The STRAIGHT FORWARD



Price: \$0.00

Value: Priceless!

FREE

Press

WEEKEND GAZETTE

Volume 3 • Issue 25

Serving Stilwell & Adair County, Oklahoma

Friday December 29, 2023

Happy New Year!

Stilwell High School Drama Department Performed

LITTLE WOMEN

December 15, 16, Performing Arts Center



Freedom Robinson, Dixie Sherman, Keilynn Flippo, Milan Lee, Kat Farmer, Elijah Wright, Lisa Jones, Jordan Vann, Kamree Hardbarger, Trenton Nakedhead, Abigail Stuhmer, Aubrey Hubbard, Andre Jones, Hannah Stewart, Anna Jones, Mattie Workman. Not pictured is Deshea Canoe who played Aunt March on Friday the 15th.

It was Christmas time for the little women at the March house. In a one act adaptation by Scott Davidson of the Civil War Louisa May Alcott novel "Little Women," this play opens up with a 6 member choir, taking the stage, dressed in period costumes, singing a familiar Christmas Carol. This sets the tone of the entire performance. The 4 March sisters, Meg, played by Kamree Hardbarger, Jo, played by Jordan Vann, Beth, played by Kat Farmer, and Amy, played by Milan Lee, are found in their living room of their Massachusetts home. Their father, played by Elijah Wright, is off to war as a Captain for the Union Army. The sisters, along with their mother, are left

to fend for themselves during this period to try and get into the Holiday mood without Papa. Besides the anxiety they feel, there are the usual everyday problems that any young woman has to go through. One of those problems is the "boyfriend problem." A young suitor tries his hand at wooing one of the sisters in a tender scene on the living room couch. He leaves empty handed. The costuming was exceptional with authentic looking period vestments. The set was nicely done and fit the mood of the story. The players showed much enthusiasm in their interactions much to the audience's enjoyment. One could tell that much work had been put into this

production. At the curtain call, the audience of about 100 strong showed their appreciation with a robust round of applause. Credit Robynn Parris, SHS Drama Teacher, the support staff and all the players for a delightful evening at the theater! Oh, by the way, the final scene was a memorable one. With all the little women gathered in the living room, the door opens and in walks a wounded Papa, carrying his arm in a sling, who is greeted by shrieks of delight and warm embrace. A Merry Christmas. The End.



PROVERB POWER

Psalm 37:4 KJV

Delight thyself also in the LORD; And he shall give thee the desires of thine heart.

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



DREAMSTAR CONNECTIONS

Introducing MISS NEW YEAR Alia Vizuet



Dreamstar Connections Year In Review Photo Album Page 4.....

Dreamstar Connection Photo Lora Gallardo

They Risked It All/It's the Truth

MEMORIES OF FARM AND FAMILY

Number 55 By Donna Boecher

Can we start again in the New Year of 2024 to be the person we hoped to be when we were twelve? I say, "yes" and "no." Freedom is found when we become what God intended us to be. In Judges, Gideon just wanted to be a simple farmer; God had other plans. Gideon couldn't see beyond his present circumstance. As a pre-teen, I wanted to be a nun

and serve God continually. Excellent FIRST IDEA. However, I wasn't Catholic and God had other plans. I needed to obey, trust, and wait on God. My time was in the future. I was in the "preparation" time slot. I needed more wisdom and understanding about life and God's spirit within me. My future has become now. My faith and obedience set me on the path . . .

perhaps, to give insight to others or open their eyes to the goodness that God has for them. In obedience, I continue to be God's child and to listen to his voice. Am I a nun? No. Can I still be always His? Yes. In retrospect, listening and striving to be God's loving child was all He wanted.

DEAR JOHN.....

Dear John,

I married my best friend 2 years ago. My husband is very close to his younger brother, and I knew at the time they were inseparable. My mother-in-law and I talked about this prior to the marriage and asked me if I could handle having the younger brother around all the time. I said that it was not a problem and I had gotten used to him. Fast forward to now and I have second thoughts about this arrangement. My brother-in-law has his own house, and he works, but when he has free time, it is at our house. He is even going on vacation with us. My friends make jokes and say that I'm married to both. It really seems that I have become my brother-in-law's mother. He helps around the house, taking the trash out, shopping, cooking, and doing laundry. My main problem is that I want to be alone more with my real husband. I really do not want to hurt his feelings. I have tried to set him up with some of my friends and it never works out. Do you have any ideas that might help me?

Brother's Mother

Dear Brother's Mother, your problem, as the British would say, is "a bit of a sticky wicket." How does one get unstuck from a sticky wicket? In your case, the first step would be to have a heart-to-heart talk with your husband. Tell him how you feel. Let him know that you love his brother and enjoy his company, yet you would like to spend more alone time with him. Give your husband some suggestions on how to de-couple from his ever-present brother. The hard part is next. Your husband will have to carry the ball from here. Their talk may result in some feathers flying, with some acrimony to boot; yet it is necessary for the health of your marriage. After all, your marriage vow did not include being a mother to your husband's brother.

Sincerely,

Dear John

Have you got a question for Dear John? email: dear-john@writeme.com Real Name Not Used. Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.



ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

COMMENTARY BY JOHN BANKEL

Today's Trail Treks To..... What's In Store For '24?

Opinions about what 2024 will bring to America are flying around like swirling snowflakes in a Montana blizzard. Gurus, pundits, experts, sophists and prophets predicting the future. They are coming out of the woodwork with their attention grabbing prognostications. One high-powered economist, who was on the air the other day, predicts an economic calamity waiting just around bend. He said that the bottom will fall out of our economy, worse than what happened during the 1929 stock market crash or the 2008 mortgage debacle. He tossed around numbers like a 90% drop in stock market, krypto and real-estate values. There is a bubble which is about to burst. This bubble was created by DEBT, start-

ing with the "ginormous" national debt of \$34 Trillion, and compounded by 1.1 Trillion dollars worth of consumer credit card obligations. Credit card interest rates have risen to implausible rates as high as 32%. Biden's delusional economic policies, which are now known facetiously as "Bidenomics," have created the illusion that America is the wealthiest nation on the planet and that the economy is healthy? The balloon has been pumped up by the insane influx of "money" printing, paper without anything backing it. The balloon is now at its breaking point. The dam is about to burst. Now, this is all according to this economist. Is he right? Or is he wrong? My trips to the grocery store continue

to cost me more and more, regardless of anyone's opinion. Hedging on the side of caution is wise; stocking up for what could be a period of privation is advised for what's in store for '24!

Today's Trail has come to an end. Perhaps we will meet again, around the bend, my Friend. Meanwhile, may your Trail end up on the right side of the fence. Happy Trails!

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

The
STRAIGHT FORWARD
FREE Press

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.
Publisher: Golden Crown Publishing LLC

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."

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.

Vocabulary Word:

accord. To give or grant, as being due; to bring into harmony; to be in agreement.

Ex. In one accord they blessed the baby at its baptism.

For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. Luke 2:11

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

THE KIPLING KORNER

"And, attuned since Creation
To perfect accord,
She thrills in her station,"

THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

TOO MANY LEFT-HANDED CIGARETTES

When I heard that the State Supreme Court of Colorado issued a ruling that former president Donald Trump would not be allowed to be on the presidential primary ballot, I began to see a cause and effect for the court's clearly biased and illegal decision. It was not that many years ago that Colorado was one of the first states to legalize marijuana; I have seen studies where they are having problems with people driving impaired, but I also believe that the judges of the Rocky Mountain state are practicing law while being impaired.

The left leaners of this nation either cannot see, or do not care about, the division that they are causing in this nation because of the weaponization of our judicial system. The judges in Colorado pulled up a law that was passed just after the Civil War that does not apply to President Trump; they are claiming that he caused an insurrection on 1/6/21. I might note that Trump has not been indicted or convicted for causing an insurrection; January 6th was not an attempt to overthrow the government, it was a protest that got out of hand and many of the people involved later regretted being drawn into the riot. Maybe these judges have inhaled too much il-

licit weed on purpose, or second-hand smoke might explain their ruling. In their all-knowing minds did they ever consider the fact that Trump has not been charged or convicted of treason or insurrection? Even with all the frivolous cases filed by special council Jack Smith, insurrection is not one of them. Without a trial and due process, these judges have pronounced Trump guilty and passed sentence.

I watched Trump's speech on January 6th and he spoke two words that, in my opinion, made it very clear of his intentions; he said to the people to let their voices be heard peacefully and patriotically. If he had said for the people to go and destroy the capital that would have been different, but the facts and video tapes do not lie. I also might mention that before January 6th he offered thousands of national guard troops to maintain order, but then-Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, and the mayor of Washington DC refused the offer. It is absurd to think that Trump was trying to overthrow the government when he offered National Guard troops to maintain order.

I have talked about the trend in our country on many occasions, and I am becoming more alarmed every day. Free-

dom of speech is becoming a thing of the past, if you are a conservative and say something against the liberal mantra you will be boycotted, harassed, and hounded by the very government law enforcement agencies that were intended to be for the protection of the citizens of this nation. These kinds of actions are what cause conflicts and civil wars across our planet, we would be foolish to think we are immune to that kind of outcome. Fortunately, here in Oklahoma the efforts to keep Trump off the ballot have failed, but the conservatives in Colorado have been robbed of their choice in the presidential primary. Every day our country seems to be becoming some kind of banana republic; we so-called free people are being told who can run and what is best for us. The elites, who sit in their ivory towers, have deluded themselves into believing they know what is best for the rest of us poorly educated blue collar workers. I have news for the elites, I would much rather listen to a person who works hard and sweats for a living than a bunch of marijuana-impaired people who are removed from the real world.



STILWELL SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

A Look Back To The Beginning Of Stilwell Basketball

by Gregg Stilwell: Stilwell Sports Historian

With Stilwell Basketball close to opening up the second half of their season, let's take a look back at the very beginning of the sport at Stilwell High School. Basketball was the first sport to field a team with both the Boys and Girls tipping off for the first time in the 1915-16 school year. The first name of the Head Coach has never been found, his last name was Mount. The Boys team had a record of 6-2 with six of the games being played against Westville. The first game in history was a win over the Yellowjackets. In the

second game, the first ever played at Westville, saw Stilwell fall 55-22. The other loss was a 28-9 decision against Dwight Mission. The Girls played only one game in the 1915-16 school year and did the same in 1916-17. Both games were played against Siloam Springs and both were wins. Stilwell won 20-8 in the inaugural season and 15-4 in year number two. The Boys went 7-2 in 1916-17 with Westville and Siloam Springs being the only known opponents. The Yellowjackets handed Stilwell both of

their loses with scores of 28-19 and 51-39. Siloam Springs was defeated 65-20. On April 6, 1917 President Woodrow Wilson announced that the USA was entering "The Great War." As a result basketball wouldn't be played at Stilwell against other schools until 1926.



WHAT'S SO PUNNY?

PUN FUN

This is for all the Punsters within eyeshot of this column; those folks who can never get enough puns under their belts. Today we go to an area of humor that could be termed "silly," yet funny none the less.

1. Oh No! Have you heard of the guy who sent a fax with a postage stamp on it?
2. Measure Up: Or how about the guy that went to bed with a ruler so he could tell how long he slept?
3. Friendless: What about this one? The guy whose friends told him he has no friends at all?
4. Auto Know Better: What about the guy who sold his automobile for gas money?
5. Letter Perfect: Did you hear about the office guy who compared copies of a letter with the original to see if there were any spelling mistakes?

Well folks, there we have it. Can you think of anything more ridiculous than these 5 puns. Probably, is the correct answer. Like this one: How many Aggies does it take to change a light bulb? 14,000. 4 to hold the ladder, one to hold the bulb and 13995 to turn the house. And this one does not even take the cake! If you happen to know some more of these kinds of jokes, why not sent them to: PUN FUN writewright@journalist.com So long!



Episode 7 of 8.

Howdy all you Krypto aficionados! We are back from a week of Christmas celebration. After today's episode, there is only one more to go and Krypto 9.0 will be history. So far, this Kontest is being hotly contested but the jury is still out as to who will capture the \$25 Cash and Calculator prize! There is still time to get in on the action and that time is now. Today's answer is 8. You are playing with 12, 4, 15, 11, 6. Remember, you must use all 5 numbers and any combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication or division to write an expression that equals the answer: 8.

Give it a twirl. It is fun and challenging. By the way, if you have missed the other 6 episodes, you can catch up by visiting our website: straightforwardfreepress.com.

Send your solutions to:
email: themathguy@usa.com or snail mail: Krypto Kontest POB 885 Stilwell 74960

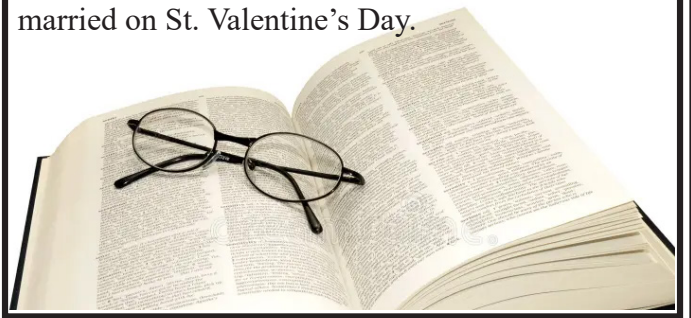
December 31, 2023

123123

Searching for Word.....

resolution. The state or quality of being in firm determination.

Ex. Their resolution for the year was to be married on St. Valentine's Day.



Dreamstar Connections



Kaylee Locust
Dreamstar Connections
Christmas Co-ed



Miss Alia Vizueth
Dreamstar Connections
Miss New Year



Paisley Ludlow
Dreamstar Connections
Jr. Top Model Winner



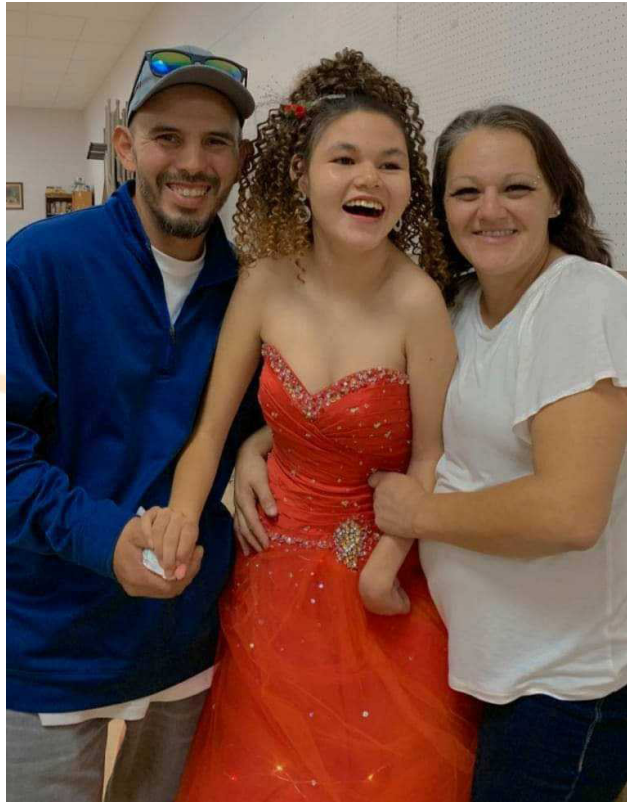
Aaliyah Larson Sr. Top Model
Dreamstar Connections
Sallisaw Parade



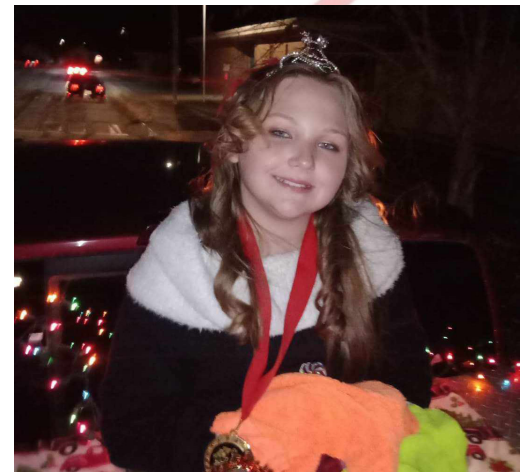
Alyssa Einsele & Shyloh Einsele & Randall Miller shine like stars in the Sallisaw Christmas Parade Dreamstar Connections Winners!



Aiyana Ketcher
Dreamstar
Sr. Coed & People's Choice Winner
Waving to the Crowd in the Sallisaw Christmas Parade



Addison Rivas
With her Parents Rey & Shantel Rivas.
3 time Queen title with Dreamstar Connections
Dreamstar Most Beautiful & Sr. Christmas Co-ed & Miss Congeniality



Judith Woods Dreamstar Connections Horizon award winner & Miss Hospitality in Sallisaw Christmas parade.



Pageant Judge Jen Boecher, and Alyssa Larson former Dreamstar Connections Holiday Queen @ the 15th Annual Dreamstar Connections Christmas Pageant.



Ariel Teehee with her dad Geronimo Teehee.
2nd Finalist Queen of Queens 3-5 years old
Santa Baby 2023 Most Beautiful.
Dreamstar Connections
Ariel at the Sallisaw Christmas Parade she is a winner!

STILWELL FIREWORKS @

Movie Town

805 South 2nd Street

Stilwell, OK.



10am-9pm
December 26th - 31st
Closed New Year's Day

FIVE BEST SENTENCES

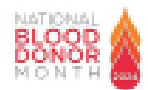
1. You cannot legislate the poor into prosperity, by legislating the wealthy out of prosperity.
 2. What one person receives without working for, another person must work for without receiving.
 3. The government cannot give to anybody anything that the government does not first take from somebody else.
 4. You cannot multiply wealth by dividing it.
 5. When half of the people get the idea that they do not have to work, because the other half is going to take care of them, and when the other half gets the idea that it does no good to work, because somebody else is going to get what they work for, that is the beginning of the end of any nation!
- Can you think of a reason for not sharing this?
Neither could I.

Hello
★ 2024 ★

COME OUT OF HIBERNATION



DONATE BLOOD & SAVE LIVES THIS WINTER!



Stilwell Memorial Hospital Blood Drive

Thursday, January 4
11 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Look for the Bloodmobile!

To make an appointment,
email [Jessie Collins at jcollins@stilwellmemorial.com](mailto:jcollins@stilwellmemorial.com),
or visit obi.org.



877 340 8777 • obi.org

Photo: Bill Winters
*While supplies last.

The Straight Forward Press

FREE

Brought to you By:

Join the We the People Movement



We Give Your Voice Power on Capitol Hill

Kat Foster (479) 250-2958
KatJacFos@gmail.com
www.nwyc.com



WAGYU Exceptional Flavor

- *Locally Raised
- *Antibiotic Free
- *Hormone Free
- *USDA Inspected

GROUND BEEF \$6.00 LB
Ask about other available cuts
Competitive Prices

Pick Up & Delivery
Stillwell, Ok.

CALL US @ 918-507-1943

ROBERTS & HART
Funeral Home
1428 S. Williams
Westville, OK 74965

ROBERTS-REED-CULVER
Funeral Home
801 W. Locust St.
Stilwell, OK 74960
918-696-2136
• Available 24/7 •

SCA TITLE
ABSTRACTING & TITLE CO.
WWW.SCATITLE.COM
Nicole Peppers
Office Manager / Closer
email: nicole@scatitle.com

Phone: 918-696-7644
Mobile: 918-208-4774
207 W. Division St.
Stilwell, OK. 74960

COME HAVE YOU A NUTRITIOUS AND DELICIOUS DRINK AT QUEENS NUTRITION.



1100 W Locust St.
(918)575-4830

Faith, Family & Feed



Red Wagon Feed

Dale & Tammy Kester
Owners/Operators
911 W. Locust St. • Stilwell, OK 74960
918-696-6137
redwagonfeed@gmail.com

Dr. David D. Cook, DO
Family Physician
www.homesteadpc.com
918-410-2345

805 W. Young Ave.,
Stilwell, Oklahoma 74960

State Farm Providing Insurance & Financial Services
Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710
Larry N. Strauss, Agent
114 W. Division
Stilwell, OK 74960
Bus. 918-696-4114

CUT-UPS SALON
918-696-4810
310 West Locust St.
Stilwell, OK. 74960
We Do Facials call Rachel
Walk In's Welcome
Yvette & Rachel

Made a CAFE
918-797-7598

Fort Smith Stockyards 482131 US-64 Mottett, OK
Stilwell Livestock Auction 471251 OK-51 Stilwell, OK

MONDAY 7:30am - End of Sale
WEDNESDAY 7:30am - End of Sale
THURSDAY & FRIDAY 7:30am - 2:00pm
Closed Saturday

BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNER
Dine In - Take Out.....and YES, WE CAN DELIVER!!!!
Morris Sevenstar & Joel Boydiddle, Owners

Jeffrey Bryant Jones
Attorney at Law



J. Bryant Jones PLC.
17 North Second
Stilwell, OK 74960
jeffjoneslaw@gmail.com
Phone: 918-696-5889
Fax: 918-696-2728

K Kester Family Funeral Service

1704 W Young Ave
Stilwell, OK 74960
(918) 410-0081
www.kesterfunerals.com

STILWELL PHARMACY

Family Owned Rx Since 1964
Prescription Compounding Hormone Replacement
Pain Cream Nausea Vomiting
~ Transfer Your Rx. Compound to Us ~
918-696-2500

Green Country Title and Closing, LLC
"Fastest and Most Accurate Abstract and Closing Service In Adair County"
Tel: 918-696-4744
contact.us@greencountrytitle.com
10 North 2nd St.
Stilwell, Ok. 74960

STARR OIL



918-410-0071

Simple Simon's Pizza

Stilwell, Ok.
Hwy. 59 North
918-696-7588

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

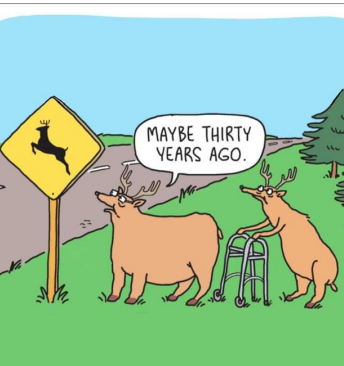
H&H PAWN

Hwy. 51 West
Stilwell, OK
(918) 696-5363

Baron Station

Convenience Store
Restaurant - Full Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner Menu
* Daily Food Specials
* Grab & Go Deli Items
*Fuel - Beer
*Local Vender Items
*Wingman Pizza = By the slice or Whole Pizza - Dine-in or Carry - out

5 miles South of Westville or
9 miles North of Stilwell
918-930-9321 Baron, Ok.
Visit us on Facebook 5S Baron Station



Rowan's
Let's Eat...

coffee • bakery • steaks

Stilwell, OK

MARANATHA THRIFT STORE

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

Wednesday - Saturday
11:00 a.m. to 5:00p.m.

TED'S STILWELL DISCOUNT LUMBER

309 S. 2nd St.
• In-Store Shopping •
• Delivery •
918-696-8337

Revelation 1:7

7 Behold, he cometh with clouds; and every eye shall see him, and they also which pierced him: and all kindreds of the earth shall wail because of him.
Even so, Amen.

The Muffler Shop LLC

- Custom Duels
- Wheel Alignment
- Minor & Major Repairs
- Mufflers
- Brakes
- Catalytic Converters
- Custom Tips

P.O. Box 1438
2909 Hwy. 59
Stilwell, OK 74960
(918) 696-5312

FARMERS INSURANCE
NancyGarrettInsuranceAgency
Office: (918) 696-3371
E-mail: ngarrett@farmersagent.com

AAA ABSTRACT CO., INC.
(918) 696-2770
E-mail: aaaabstract@windstream.net

REX EARL STARR
Attorney at Law



918-696-6500

Freya Cakes



Tuesday-Friday 11am-6pm
Saturday 10am-2pm
Homemade sweets
106 W. MAPLE
479-279-1066



wf World Finance
LOAN & TAX SERVICE

107 W. Division St.
Stilwell, OK 74960
(918) 696-3994
LoansByWorld.com

Associates Insurance Services LLC.

211 US-59
Kansas, OK 74347
Open: M-F 8:00-4:30
(918) 868-3502
800-725-5736
Rick Stubblefield, Agent

KEEN LAW OFFICE, P.C.

Phone: (918) 696-3355
KeenLawOK@gmail.com
STATE/FEDERAL/TRIBAL

Ralph F Keen II
ATTORNEY AT LAW

Westville Flowers and Gifts
We deliver Happiness
124 Williams Ave.
Westville, OK. 74965
918-723-3896

STILWELL SMOKE SHOP



119 S. 2nd St.
Stilwell, OK 74960
918-696-5096