

The STRAIGHT FORWARD FREE Press



Price: \$0.00
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Volume 1 • Issue 8

Stilwell, Adair County, Oklahoma

Thursday, August 19, 2021



U.S. Senator James Lankford shown making a point during his talk at the Adair County Republican Party meeting.

U.S. Senator James Lankford Visits Stilwell on August 11

By John Bankel

It is not very often that a sitting U.S. Senator takes time to visit little old Stilwell, yet on August 11, U.S. Senator James Lankford came to speak to an enthusiastic group of Adair County Republicans at the KCS Train Depot.

The Senator began his address telling about how he and the Senate had worked practically night and day for 5 straight days and had just finished up the vote on the \$1 Trillion "Infrastructure Bill" at 4:20 the morning of his visit. He voted "No". He then boarded the next available plane to Dallas on his way to Stilwell.

Remarkably, he looked "none the worse for the wear" as he delivered a 90 minute talk in his commanding deliberate deeply resonant baritone voice. His primary focus was on the Biden administration's stupendous spending spree, which, besides the \$1 Trillion "Infrastructure Bill", foresees spending an additional \$3.5 Trillion

on what the democrats have dubbed "The Human Infrastructure Bill", a bill that probably gives Bernie Sanders sweet dreams since it contains a plethora of FREEBIES such as FREE pre-school, FREE college tuition, FREE healthcare and a FREE PASS for illegals to continue to invade America.

This Bill, if it passes, in this writer's opinion, will spell economic disaster for the United States and pave the way for the socialism that Sanders and the democrats so crave.

Lankford's talk ended with a vibrant Q&A session along with a photo-op with various attendees. The Senator finally got to go home and, as he had quipped earlier, "re-introduce myself to my wife and family." James Lankford is, indeed, a servant of the people. (For greater detail on this and other issues, please visit: www.lankford.senator.gov.)

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Take Part in Your Local Government

By Donna Boecher

It's Your Government.

After having an excellent breakfast at Izora's on Monday, I dropped by the Adair County Courthouse to take part in my local governance. It's no hard. Introduce yourself; ask your question(s); and wait for the answer.

I saw you take part in "governance" last Tuesday at "Meet the Teacher Day," you did well. Now it's time to ratchet it up a notch.

Monday mornings, I drop in on the County Commissioners meeting at 8:30. They are there early signing

lots of documents that keep our county running. These meetings are open to all the residents of the county. That means "you."

Do you have a problem to be fixed? Maybe, you'd like to have the stop sign repainted, so you can read it. Now, that just a simple issue because we all know from our driver's license test what shape a stop sign has. But if a major issue comes, your GOVERNANCE (action, exercise of authority) may be what's needed.

See you at the courthouse; it's your government.

4th Annual Youth Gathering AWAKENING

By John Bankel

A youthful gathering, along with a smattering of older folks, took place on August 14 around 6 pm at the Kiwanis Stage. A band was on hand to play contemporary Christian praise and worship music. No sooner did the band begin playing when the skies opened up and poured down rain. Many in the audience, who had made themselves comfortable on the grass, scurried onto the stage to find shelter under the canopy. The band had to quickly move its equipment from the front of the stage to a dry spot further within and kept on playing.

This writer could not help but quip to a bystander, "This would be a good time to play 'Our God Reigns'." The rain lasted about 30 minutes, after which blue skies and a little sunshine started appearing; that could have prompted the band to play "Shine Jesus, Shine" at this AWAKENING! And shine He did!

Westville Melon & Barbecue Festival Set for August 28

The 3rd Annual Westville Melon and Barbecue Festival will be held on Saturday, August 28, from 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m. at the Westville City Park, 113 Buffington, Road in Westville, OK.

There will be live music provided by Ahna Jennings, Andrew McLaughlin and Ozark Blend, contests, crafts and food vendors.

Children's Park Parade—ride, pedal or drive.

Free watermelon slices will be served to everyone.

Free admission to attend.

Booth fees are \$20. Set up time 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

Stick around till dark for the fireworks spectacular provided by the Smith Family and the City of Westville.

Drake Martin Memorial Car Show Set for August 28

The Drake Martin Memorial Car Show will be held Saturday, August 28 at Adair County Park in Stilwell, OK, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Entry fee is \$25. All proceeds will go to Drake Martin's family to help with medical expenses.

Classes will be: Trucks, Hot Rods, Rat Rods, Drag Cars, Dirt Cars, Metric Bikes, American Bikes, Baggers, Choppers, Oldest Bike, Oldest Car, Pre-70's, Best of Show, and Judge's Choice.

For more information, contact Brent at (918) 575-2564 or Willis at (918) 410-6639.

Stilwell Indians Sports Spotlight

By John Bankel

The 2021 edition of the Stilwell Indians football team is going through the final days of preparation for their first game, a home game against Grove, Thursday, August 26. Kickoff is 7 pm.

The schedule this year has a total of 11 games on it. For your convenience you will find it below:

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	HOME/AWAY
Thursday, 8/26	Grove	7 pm	Home-Non District
Friday, 9/3	Rogers (AR)	7 pm	Home-Non District
Friday, 9/10	Gentry (AR)	7 pm	Away-Non District
Friday, 9/17	Prairie Grove (AR)	7 pm	Away-Non District
Friday, 9/24	Broken Bow	7:30 pm	Away-District
Friday, 10/1	Ft. Gibson	7 pm	Away-District
Friday, 10/8	Hilldale (Muskogee)	7 pm	Home-District
Friday, 10/15	Poteau	7 pm	Home-District
Friday, 10/22	McLain Science & Tech	7 pm	Home-District
Friday, 10/29	Muldrow	7 pm	Away-District
Friday, 11/5	Sallisaw	7 pm	Home-District



Attendees of the Back-To-School Block Party enjoying the live music and activities.



Chance Chambers (left), performs some of the songs he has written. The Shawn Crittenden Family Singers (right) also sang some songs for the crowd attending the Back-To-School Block Party.



Back-To-School Block Party a Success

By John Bankel

The Kiwanis Stage is seeing a lot of event activity this Summer. On August 7 at 6 pm, about 100 people, mostly students, gathered at the Stage to take part in a backpack giveaway, sponsored by The Adair County Boys and Girls Club.

The street in front of the courthouse was lined with various booths among which was an Army, Army National Guard, Northeastern State University booth to hand out their brochures and answer questions. Across the street, at Fletcher Park, a table was set up offering free hot dogs, chips and a drink for those who brought

their hunger and thirst on a very warm night with a slight southern breeze blowing.

And there was music. The Shawn Crittenden Family Singers were on hand to deliver their soothing country melodies. Chance Chambers, a young man from Tahlequah, who has ties to Stilwell, took the stage to display his folksy bluesy style with songs that he had mostly written. He has got talent!

Tyler, the emcee, gave away a plethora of door prizes throughout the night. Everybody went home with lots of information, entertainment and a backpack!

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Straight Forward FREE Press

is now ONLINE on Google!

www.straightforwardpress.com

Check it out and enjoy!

PROVERB POWER

"The Lord hath made all things for himself: yea, even the wicked for the day of evil." – Proverbs 16:4 (KJV)

THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

THE GOOD, THE BAD, THE UGLY

The good part of the story is the fact that we Americans live in a country where innovation and ingenuity are the norm instead of being the exception. Under the leadership of President Trump, our medical professionals came up with treatments for the corona virus; while the media and some politicians call it a vaccine, in the strictest since it is not truly a vaccine but is supposed to reduce the symptoms of the disease if you happen to get it. The bad part of the equation is the way the media touts the vaccine as being completely safe and effective; while I do not put much faith in the mainstream media, I hope and pray that the vaccines will prove to be safe over the long haul. Another bad part is the way the whole corona virus issue has become so politicized. Our government is full of politicians who, in an attempt to curry favor with certain groups, are ready to bankrupt our nation in order to win in the next election. What has become ugly is the way anyone who has a difference of opinion is treated by the mainstream media and social media.

In the past, one of our greatest strengths was the way we dealt with divisive issues. With our freedom of speech everyone was entitled to their opinion; I firmly believe that open debate is the answer to our problems. I believe that Thomas Jefferson once said when the American people are given all of the facts, they will make the right decision. From what I have seen, the media must have had an agreement with each other to quell any opposing views about the so-called vaccines. Any opposing view about it is immediately labeled as a lie or misinformation. People are being censored and banned from sites such as Facebook and Twitter. Their actions to quell any difference

of opinion parallels what dictators and authoritarian regimes have done throughout history. The act of censorship is causing people to not trust those who are telling us that the shot is effective and safe, I say put all of the information on the table and let the people decide. However, very recently there have been reports that the vaccines are not as good as they were first reported to be. The nation of Israel is the expert in the world on covid 19 and vaccines. Israel has announced that the ability of the vaccine to prevent the spread is waning. Pfizer went from 95% effective against preventing infection in January-April to just 39% in June-July. These are the facts that the American people need to be made aware of.

I recently read an article where some medical professionals were advocating the use of other drugs such as hydroxychloroquine and ivermectin to treat the disease; the FDA immediately said that there wasn't enough time spent to assess the effectiveness of those drugs. It seems ironic to me that drugs that have a track record of safety cannot be used because there were not enough trials, but it is ok to inject people with an experimental vaccine that hasn't even been in existence for a year. The biggest ugly is the move by the government to mandate the shot to all Americans regardless if they have natural immunity from recovering from covid 19. All of this is happening at the same time our southern border is wide open and many of the people illegally entering our country are positive for covid and are being bussed to cities all across our nation. Now you have it - the good, the bad, and the ugly. I am afraid if the people of this nation don't come to their senses, the ugly is about to get much uglier.

Health Tips from Larkin...

By Larkin Fouse, CHHP

Beat the heat with my little nutty friend: The coconut has long been associated with the tropics, luaus, hula dances, MaryAnn's cream pies, and aggravated monkeys assaulting unsuspecting trespassers in their territory. However, from a natural health perspective the water of the green coconut is one of the greatest natural rehydrating fluids in existence. This wonderful juice can hydrate your body faster and more gently than Gatorade without all the artificial color - flavoring, and it also helps the body to detox as well. As

such, should you start drinking it, you will need to start out slowly, as not to start too heavy a detox or you will feel unwell. However, having a few ounces of this wonderful drink from my experience has helped me to deal with high heat with great ease and joy and it leaves me feeling very fresh. The brand of coconut water that I recommend is harmless harvest as they have the freshest and least refined water I have found on the retail market to date. Have fun in the sun, stay hydrated, and don't overheat with the help of your little friend the coconut!

The Lady in the Blue Sari

Part 8

By Donna Boecher

Why, Lord? I was calm after asking God. So, Alex's mother's name was Amy Marie. Lydia and Amy had been long, lost friends according to Lydia's flyer. She was truly Alex's Auntie. . . . It seems that after Lydia went to India, Amy had moved to Washington state and severed all connections to friends and family. Obviously on her death, she had wanted Alex to have a trusted "family" member to support him in his future. But with all the secrecy that Lydia had created, Alex now didn't know what to expect or to believe.

It's mid-August and we've been looking at rentals in Carrollton between Carrollton Avenue and Leonidas. We started the search this way because we could eat, shop, and relax between trolley and bus lines. Nothing suspicious. There were many homes that had rooms for let since they had been built in the 1800s when there were several architectural styles that allowed for several families to share. A two-story shotgun had a staircase just inside the back door that accessed only the top floor, or another style had two front doors because there were no internal hallways, so this allowed rental of a room off the front. We spent many an afternoon over sweet mint tea, pondering the pros and cons.

If we hadn't been doing a lot of walking, our gourmet meals in the Big Easy would have packed the weight on both of us. Noticeably, with the influx of Indian, there were now many restaurants that

offered meatless menus. Even the Camellia Grill had several breakfast listings: Idli and sambar, baked beans, poha, upma, kheer, matar paneer (a curry composed of spices and water buffalo and cow cheese). It was easy to eat gluten free or vegetarian in New Orleans. Indians had a long history of eating the products of cattle - the gifts without taking the life of the gift-giver.

Finally, we made a decision! An Indian family with three daughters had a two-story main house with a Garconnaire at the back of the property. Who knows what the interior had looked like in the 1800s, but the "boys only" residence was renovated to have an open concept downstairs with a large entertaining room, kitchen, and half bath, while the second floor had a huge bedroom, sleeper sofa, walk-in closet, and full bathroom with an enormous balcony on top of the porte cochere. Two side-by-side vehicles could park under the porte cochere. It exuded privacy. The price was right. Alex signed a contract. My curiosity got the best of me, and I asked Alex how the interview with the owners played out.

"Tom, they were really nice. They asked my birth date and time and some other specifics about my life. After I filled out the contract, they said they would consider my leasing of the garconnaire. They said they would call the following day, which they did. Do you understand the questions about my birthdate?" (The answer next week.)



This week's Dear John will be electrifying but don't get shocked at Dear John's answer...

Dear John, I always turn the light off when I leave the room. My son said, "You're not saving money by doing that." I complain because he leaves lights on. He doesn't pay the electric bill. Tell me Dear John, how much does it cost to leave the light on?

Lightning Bug Critic

Dear Lightning Bug, first of all, your son is in error if he really thinks that leaving a light on doesn't cost money. The electric company loves it when lights are left on, as well as anything else that uses electricity. Many folks have no idea how much it costs to use electricity. They simply get a bill at the end of the month and pay it or not. But try not paying your electric bill? Your question about the cost of leaving a light on is a good one. It gets us into how the power company computes the cost of the power you use. The "watt" is the unit used to measure power. They charge you by the "kilowatt hour" (kwh). In Oklahoma the cost of a kilowatt hour is around 10 cents. So what's a kilowatt hour? "Kilo" means 1000. Like a kilogram is 1000 grams. So a kilowatt is 1000 watts. Thus, if you leave a 1000 watt light bulb burning for 1 hour, it would be measured as 1 kilowatt hour. In Oklahoma, (each state varies) it would cost you 10 cents. If you left that same bulb burning for 10 hours, it would cost 10 times more for 10 kilowatt hours. If you have a 100 watt light bulb, you would have to leave it on for 10 hours for the bulb to use 1 kilowatt, and, in Oklahoma it would cost 10 cents. If you had 10 such lightbulbs burning for 10 hours, it would cost you 10x10 or a dollar. So, while the cost of leaving lights on seems minimal, over the long run it can add up to perhaps 100's of dollars. Shutting the lights off, or anything else that you are not using, makes, after all, economic sense.

P.S. So when Motel 6 says they'll keep the light on for you, they probably use a low wattage bulb...a 40 watt bulb can burn for 25 hours for 10 cents in Oklahoma...

Sincerely,

Dear John

Got a question for Dear John? email to: dearjohn@write.com or send to: **Dear John, POB 885, Stilwell, OK 74960.**



Mullin It Over: America First, Not America Last

By Congressman Markwayne Mullin

Americans are paying more for just about everything thanks to President Biden's out-of-control spending and disastrous policies. Look no further than what it costs to fill up your gas tank.

The national average for a gallon of gasoline is \$3.18. That's over a dollar higher than this time last year. While a dollar may not sound like a lot, it adds up fast. On average, if you fill up your car's 15-gallon tank every week, you'll be spending around \$780 more on gasoline than you would have last year. Even if you fill up every other week, that's still around \$390 more.

In Oklahoma, we can't get anywhere without driving so gasoline is a necessity for nearly every household. Families shouldn't have to spend more of their hard-earned paychecks just to fill up their tanks.

President Biden has finally real-

ized the problem he created. But rather than reversing his attacks on American energy production, he called on the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC+), including Russia, to ramp up oil production. We have the resources right here at home to meet our energy needs and bring the prices down. We should be putting Americans back to work instead of relying on our adversaries for our energy.

From day one of his presidency, it's clear that President Biden has not put the interests of the American people ahead of the interests of his party. This is just the latest example. We must always put America first, not America last.

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.

The STRAIGHT FORWARD FREE Press

Truth is Our Target

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

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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Vocabulary

WORD of the DAY

“ Ruminare ”

- to go over in the mind repeatedly and often casually or slowly.
- to chew again what has been chewed slightly and swallowed: chew the cud.

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK?

Drop us a line at **straightforwardpress21@gmail.com**

OR

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 Stilwell, OK 74960.

Obituaries

Noel Joseph "Joe" White December 23, 1930 – August 9, 2021

Noel Joseph "Joe" White was born December 23, 1930, in Watts, Oklahoma and he departed this life to be with the Lord on Monday, August 9, 2021, at the Veterans Memorial Hospital in Fayetteville, Arkansas. Joe is the son of the late Harold and Pearl White.

Joe was a graduate of Stilwell High School. In his younger days, he was a great athlete who went on to play football for the Army 45th Division team, Central State and Northeastern State University. Joe proudly served his country for 4 years as a member of the 45th Infantry Division of the United States Army during the Korean War. After the Korean War, Joe married the love of his life, Lorene Dunaway on July 3, 1954. After college, he went on to be a Coach, Teacher, Administrator, and Pastor. His passion for teaching was evident in all the lives that he touched. In his retirement, he loved to play golf, spend time with family, and write books. He was a lifelong learner who earned a PhD and an author who had three books published.

Joe founded several churches in Adair County. He currently served as the pastor of the Freedom Christian Center. He enjoyed playing the trumpet, singing Gospel music and Christian fellowship. To know Joe, you know he loved sharing the Bible and his love of Jesus with others. Joe cherished his time playing music with the White Brothers. Jerry, Bill, and Harold (his dad) played trombone, Pearl (his mom) and Larry played the piano while John played the drums. The family musical group provided many entertainment opportunities in the community. The Gospel singings and music were the focus of many family holiday celebrations. His love for music and his musical talents have been passed down too many of his family members.

Joe was a retired Coach who enjoyed watching sports and following local Adair County teams. Coach White could often be seen cheering from the sidelines at basketball and football games. He enjoyed following the teams his son coached and some of his favorite memories were family road trips to the State Tournament for the Westville and Stilwell basketball teams. You could see him coaching from the sidelines and giving his infamous #1 sign! Joe had a heart for animals and couldn't turn away a stray. Over the years, he rescued many dogs and cats providing them with a home. He loved walking his dogs; Smiley, Sassy, and Button along the banks of Barron and Peavine Creek.

Joe's family was his number one priority. He loved being a Dad and Grandad. He loved cookouts at the creek, birthday dinners at the Catfish Hole and holiday celebrations at his home. He cherished every moment spent with his family and taught them all the most important thing in life, to love God with all your heart.

Joe is preceded in death by his parents: Harold and Pearl White of Stilwell; his brothers: Bill and David of Stilwell, and his wife: Lorene White of Baron.

Joe is survived by his children: Joseph White of Stilwell, Debra Hummingbird of Baron, Ron Dunaway and wife Jennifer of Tulsa, and the late Melvonna Dunaway of Stilwell, and Wendy Kimble and husband Jeff of Westville; his brothers: John White of Stilwell, Larry White and wife Sue of Broken Arrow, and Jerry and wife Mary of Stilwell; grandchildren: Heath Watt and his wife Maegon of Westville, Rachel Hummingbird of Baron, Rebecca and her husband Bret Barton of Stilwell, Hunter Littlejohn of Westville, Courtney Kimble of Westville, Dylan and his wife Luz Kimble of Westville, Dara Fountain of Stilwell, Cara and husband Hunter Stevens of Stilwell, Sara Fountain of Rogers, Arkansas, Mackenzie Duncan, and Matthew Gilmore of Tulsa; great-grandchildren: Ellie and Edie Barton, Julia Littlejohn, Aiden Kimble, Blaze Christie, Everly Christie, Ridge Stevens, and Ruger Osbourn. A host of nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends also survive him.

Funeral services were held at 10 am on Saturday, August 14, 2021 at Impact Church, Stilwell, OK with Heath Watt and Charles Crozier officiating. Interment followed at Stilwell City Cemetery, Stilwell, OK under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.

Osie (Duck) Castro February 1, 1951 – August 5, 2021

Osie (Duck) Castro, the daughter of Cornelius and Lizzie (Bearpaw) Duck. She was born February 1, 1951, in Stilwell, Oklahoma and departed this life on Thursday, August 5, 2021, in Tahlequah, Oklahoma at 70 years of age.

Osie and Gabriel married on August 15, 1992, and made their home in Stilwell, Oklahoma in the Cherry Tree Community. Upon this union they had a son: Cornelius Castro, and a daughter: Cornelia Ritter.

Osie worked at several factories/companies, she worked on an apple farm and became a semi-trailer operator. In 1984 she attended Flaming Rainbow University and earned a bachelor's degree and attended Superior Truck Driver School in Phoenix, Arizona and received her CDL. Earning her CDL allowed her to travel the countryside in many states. After her countryside adventures, she was a general labor for Facet Industries and was employed for many years and later retired from the company. She later became a Foster Grandparent at Dahlongah School, which she loved being a "Granny" to the children and working with the staff. She was a member of Cherry Tree Baptist Church, which she served as the Treasurer of the WMU. Most of all she loved serving her Lord. She enjoyed her hobbies, which were: beading, and tending and caring for her animals. Osie had a green thumb for raising beautiful plants both in her house, and in her yard. You could see in her yard many of her cactus and driving the church van brought her great joy.

She is preceded in death by her parents; her husband: Gabriel Castro; sisters: Susie and husband Fred Riddle, Louella and husband Bob



Gonzales, Leta Mae and husband Elmer Hawk, and Martha (Carolyn) Salinas; brother: Sid and wife Lucinda Duck; sister-in-law: Anna Bell Duck; special sister: Nancy (Bunch) Gonzales; nieces: Elizabeth Ross, and Betty Jo Gonzales; and great nephew: Eric Gonzales.

Osie is survived by her son: Cornelius Castro of the home in Stilwell, Oklahoma; daughter: Cornelia Ritter of Stilwell, Oklahoma; brothers: Tex Duck of Stilwell, Oklahoma, and George Duck of the home in Stilwell, Oklahoma; sisters: Jennie Duck, and Dora Duck, both of Stilwell, Oklahoma; grandchildren: Xavier Ritter; and special grandchildren: Cody McCarter, Sunshine Moton, Lillian (Wes) Moton, and Michael Shawn Campbell, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma. Many nieces, nephews, family, and friends also survive her.

Osie was a lady who enjoyed life and had a loving heart for all. She will be dearly missed by those who knew and loved her.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm on Thursday, August 12, 2021 at Roberts/Reed-Culver Chapel, Stilwell, OK with Bro. Leo Duncan and Bro. Josh Galcatcher officiating. Interment followed at Feathers Cemetery, Stilwell, OK.

Richard Charles (Rick) Holiman October 24, 1949 – August 7, 2021

Richard Charles (Rick) Holiman was born October 24, 1949, in Columbia, MO to Charles (Dick) Holiman and JoAnn (Paden) Holiman and departed this life on Saturday, August 7, 2021, in Owasso, OK.

Rick was married to Mary Adams on October 10, 1980. Rick had four children Steven, LaDonna, Robin, and Lacie Jo.

Rick loved spending time with his family and especially his grandchildren. He enjoyed watching his granddaughters in their dance recitals. Rick had a great love for hunting, fishing, being outdoors, working on old cars. He loved going to drag races, watching John Wayne movies, and listening to classic country music. Rick was a real Mr. Fixit, even if he had to be creative. He had a soft spot for rescuing animals. He was always willing to help others that needed it, even strangers. His helpfulness was one of the many things his family loved about him. He was loved by his family and friends and will be truly missed.

Rick was preceded in death by his father Charles (Dick) Holiman, his wife Mary Holiman, his sisters Peggy Jo Jones and Rebecca (Becky) Goldback, daughter Robin Whitlow, grandson Dalton Whitlow.

Rick is survived by a loving family, his mother JoAnn (Paden) Holiman-Warren of Tahlequah, OK, 3 children: Steven Holiman of Salina, OK, LaDonna Goebel (Terry) of Afton, OK, Lacie Jo Holiman-Peacock fiancé (Donald) of Collinsville, OK, 9 grandchildren: Rochelle Jackson, Cherokee Holiman, James Holiman, Kelley Taylor, Xena Yeager, Chandelyn Whitlow, Kelsey Zachary, Aubree Peacock and Michaela Peacock. 1 brother-in-law and friend, Herman Jones of Stilwell, OK, 2 nieces: Tammy Kester (Dale) of Stilwell, OK and Tina Newberry (Mike) of Keota, OK, 1 nephew, Vince Jones (Cheryl) of Minnetonka, MN. 2 aunts: Linda Hensley (Don) and Jimmie Belle Worth of Broken Arrow, OK, former wife Donna Watkins Ringgold of Pryor, OK. Rick had nine beloved great-grandchildren, many great nephews and nieces, cousins, and extended family.

Funeral services were held at 11 am on Tuesday, August 17, 2021 at Roberts/Reed-Culver Chapel, Stilwell, OK with Drew Newberry and Mike Newberry officiating. Interment followed at Stilwell City Cemetery, Stilwell, OK.

Tex Duck

January 14, 1954 – August 8, 2021

Tex Duck, the son of Cornelius and Lizzie (Bearpaw) Duck was born on January 14, 1954, in Stilwell, Oklahoma and departed this life on Sunday, August 8, 2021, at 67 years of age.

Tex and Anna Bell (Teehee) Duck were married on February 14, 2001, and made their home in Stilwell, Oklahoma in the Cherry Tree Community. From this union a son was born Calvin Duck.

He worked for Stilwell Foods and went on to work for Facet from which he retired from the company after many years of employment. Tex graduated from Stilwell High School and was a member of Chuculate Baptist Church. He had numerous hobbies such as hunting for wild onions, mushrooms, crawdads, fishing, and enjoyed his daily exercise by taking his walks in Wal-Mart. The family remembers him in his younger years as an awesome mechanic.

He is preceded in death by his parents; wife: Anna Bell Duck; son: Cameron Duck; stepson: Mike Shell; stepdaughter: Norma Shell; brother: Sid and wife Lucinda Duck; sisters: Susie and husband Fred Riddle, Louella and husband Bod Gonzales, Leta Mae and husband Elmer Hawk, Osie Castro and husband Gabriel, and Martha (Carolyn) Salinas; nieces: Betty Jo Gonzales, and Elizabeth Ross; and great nephew: Eric Gonzales.

He is survived by his son: Calvin Duck and wife Lawanda of the home in Stilwell, Oklahoma; stepchildren: Laura Rust, Lucas Shell, Erma Shell, and Dorothy Shell, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma. Sisters: Jennie, and Dora Duck; brother: George Duck, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma. Granddaughter: Kaydan Paige Duck; great-grandson: Braxton James Littledeer, along with a host of many grandsons and granddaughters.

He was loved by his family and friends and will be remembered by all.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm on Friday, August 13, 2021 at Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK with Bro. Donnie Sanders officiating. Interment followed at Feathers Cemetery, Stilwell, OK.



Stilwell

Jennings, Nancy—Viewing Wednesday, August 18, 2021 from 1-4 pm.

Brown, Coeta—Services are pending.

Flynn, Cliston—Services are pending.

Westville

Fowler, Daniel—Services are pending.

Vankirk, June—Services are pending.

I Saw an Angel

By Donna Boecher

My experience or yours can happen anywhere at any time, but you know it happened. My witnesses – trees, birds, God, and the angel. It was a beautiful day in God's country. Zoned out, along the winding road canopied with trees, I drove out into the sunlight, and back-to-earth. I saw a strange light bouncing off my car's side mirror! Blue, red, blue, red, was it the police? What had I been doing while I was ruminating?

Quickly but safely, I pulled to the side of the road, turned off my ignition, then rolled down my side window. I sat quietly not knowing what I might have done. Had I been going too fast, had I only paused at the stop sign by the church? The policeman would give me the answers, I was clueless. Waiting, I checked for my driver's license and insurance card. My insurance card was missing! I took a deep breath and prayed. I should have talked with God before leaving the house. BUT I was only going 3 miles. Light bulb idea . . . prayer should be continual.

An angelic visage plus a glint of silver buttons and badge spoke, "Ma'am can I see your license?"

"Yes, officer, here it is. What did I do?" "Well, Ma'am, your left brake light is out, and your license plate tag expired six months ago. Can I see your insurance card?" I'd changed purses, and my car had no documents. Strike three. Yet, immediately, I felt grateful! My man in blue must be an angel! I could have had a wreck with NO TAILLIGHTS. The truth was freeing! "Officer, can you call my insurance agent?"

"Sure Ma'am." His face left my window. Minutes later, he spoke. "Ma'am your insurance is valid, and your record is clear." Pausing, he finished with, "I'm not ticketing you, but take care of the light, the tag, and the insurance card. Have a good day, Ma'am." I accomplished all without a hitch within 30 minutes. How you ask?

I'd been visited by an Angel! A missing \$100 had appeared two days earlier on the passenger-side floor mat; my expired tag was \$100. The auto-repair shop employee said, "You're lucky, Ma'am, this light is an unscrew and replace type otherwise we wouldn't be able to fix it." The insurance card copy was the easiest – just a computer-click away. I'd heard nothing – no sirens, not anything. I was saved from an accident! All was quickly corrected, and God had given me provision before I even knew I needed it.

I've never seen a policeman where I met my angel, and by the time I started my car, he'd disappeared. The road was empty before and behind. I'm thankful. Count your blessings and pray; God's angels are waiting to help you.



Puzzle Page

KRYPTO KONTEST: WEEK 5
Welcome to Week 5 of the Krypto Kontest.

Peggy A. submitted a Week 4 Korrekt Krypto. That gives her 1 point and a tie for the lead with Kevin H. and David W. The Kontest



- **Adair County Historical & Genealogical Association Membership Meeting**, Thursday, August 19, 6:00 p.m., KCS Depot (and ZOOM), Stilwell.

- **Adair County Free Fair**, September 2-9, Adair County Fairgrounds, Stilwell; Exhibitors may bring their entries beginning at 8:00 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 2 for ribbon judging; Horse Show, Saturday, Sept. 4, Westville Rodeo Arena, 9:00 a.m.

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is heating up but far from over, not until the end of September.

Here is the Week 5 Krypto:
The Answer is 11. You are playing with 3, 11, 15, 7, 9. Remember, you must use all 5 numbers, but each one only once, and any combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, in your expression.

Give it a try...it's fun and can be rewarding if you win a calculator and a \$25 gift certificate from a local merchant.

Send your entry to:
Krypto Kontest c/o Straight Forward FREE Press, POB 885, Stilwell, OK 74960.

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What's So Punny? PUN FUN

Could a...Librarian be called a bookkeeper?...Referee a game warden?...Dairyman a cowboy?...Cabinetmaker the president?... That there is pretty punny, eh?

Got a pun? Send it to: straightforwardpress21@gmail.com.

ATTN: Adair County
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ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Commentary by John Bankel

Today's Trail Treks to the Taboo of Money: MONEY. WHAT MONEY?

Maier Rothschild was quoted, back in the 1500's, as saying: "Let me control the flow of money, and I will control the world." That prophecy has come true. Have you ever tried discussing money with family or friends? I'll bet you all the money in the world that the discussion eventually imploded into a fire-fight. The predominant issue for marriage breakups, family relationship dissolutions, and wrecked friendships is money. Money is the big taboo!

The Bible says, "The love of money is the root of all kinds of evil." 1 Timothy 6:10. Money controls the affairs of mankind. Nothing happens until "you show me the money."

Maier Rothschild is called the "father of modern day banking." In a way he originated the phrase "take it to the bank." The word "bank" comes from the Italian word "banco" and it literally means "bench."

Let's go back to Italy of the 1500's. Italy really didn't exist as a country in those days. Italy was not unified until the late 19th century. Before unification, the geographic area that we now call Italy, consisted of a conglomeration of regions, called principalities, with each region being governed by a prince, duke, or other such noble head, with its own army, economy, and money.

When a person traveled to a

neighboring region, they could not use the money they brought. It had to be exchanged into the currency of that region, much like our foreign exchange today. The money changers sat on a bench (bank) with a small desk in front of each merchant shop ready for business.

In those days, the Roman Catholic Church was the dominant political and religious entity in Europe; the Church ruled with an iron fist dogma which was relentlessly enforced, especially in the market place. One of these dogmas was the Scripture found in the book of Psalms which forbade the lending of money at usury.

Maier Rothschild was Jewish and not bound by the dogma of the Catholic Church. What he understood was that there was money to be made in the exchange of money. He grabbed hold of the benches, (literally seized the opportunity), to control the flow of money by charging each exchange a 10% premium – in dollars and cents, that would be: you got 90 cents for every dollar you exchanged – and the modern "banking" business was born.

In essence not much has changed; banks still make the bulk of their money at usury. Check your credit card interest? Mine is at 25%. Best not to keep a large balance on that one. 25% when you borrow;

0.25% when you deposit, i.e., give the bank your money so they can use it to make oodles more. (The ratio of 25 to 0.25 is 100 to 1!) For every dollar of deposit they can lend it out and make a 100!

Maier Rothschild was a pretty shrewd dude. The Rothschilds are still around today and control the global banking system whose head is the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Every bank in the world is connected to these two entities and operates under their jurisdiction. Not a penny passes by without their notice, figuratively speaking.

From the days of Maier Rothschild's brainchild till now, a few noteworthy events have taken place which transformed the banking business into what it is today.

Those events will be discussed in the next installment of "On The Campaign Trail." So, come on back and find out. For today, the Trail has come to an end, and as always, in the words of Roy Rogers and Dale Evans, "Happy trails to you, until we meet again" and while you're at it "keep smiling until then." May your trail end up at the Cross.

John Bankel is a free-lance journalist, and retired Math teacher. ? or comments: email: writewright@journalist.com. All rights reserved. Copyright 2016.

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