

Volume 2 • Issue 41

Serving Stilwell & Adair County, Oklahoma

Thursday June 1. 2023

Hoskin-Warner Campaign Event Special Report

The race for Cherokee Nation Principal Chief is heating up and rapidly coming to an end. On June 3, citizens registered to vote will cast their ballots not only for the office of Principal Chief, but also for Deputy Chief and several Council positions. There are 4 candidates seeking the Chief spot. Chuck Hoskin Jr. is the incumbent hoping to be able to serve for 4 more years. Those seeking to unseat him are Wes Nofire, who recently unsuccessfully ran for District 2 U.S. House Of Representative and has also served as a Cherokee Council member, David Cornsilk, a retired genealogist, and Cara Cow-

an Watts, who believes it is time to give the Nation's reins back to a woman. On May 16 at the Adair County Fair Grounds, Chuck Hoskin Jr. and his running mate, Deputy Chief Brian Warner, were well received by the robust and enthusiastic crowd. Both Hoskin and Warner touted their accomplishments, highlighting the construction of a much needed new hospital in Tahlequah and a new Wellness Center adjacent to the Wilma Mankiller Clinic. Hoskin also emphasized the continuation and expansion of the Cherokee Language preservation programs. Housing also remains a priority for

Commentary by John Bankel

his administration. At the outset of Hoskin's speech he quipped that Hoskin-Warner rank third in the minds of the Cherokee people with first place going to a good hog fry, second place to Chicky's Chicken. The food for the event was provided by Chicky's. Hoskin-Warner may have remained in third place. Still, not to worry, neither the hog fry nor Chicky's is on the ballot. With 4 candidates vying for Chief, a run-off seems likely. Both Hoskin and Warner believe they have earned a second "turn at bat." We shall know after 7 pm June 3.



Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. and John Bankel Straight Forward FREE Press Publisher.

TOM WOODS WRAPS UP A VERY SUCCESSFUL FRESHMAN YEAR



GROUND-BREAKING OF THE MARY L HOLLAND CARSON WELLNESS FACILITY



Very proud to be part of the ground breaking of the Mary L Holland Carson Wellness facility. What an incredible facility that is being built for our people and community. The virtual tour is amazing. Thank you Cherokee Nation Principal Chief Chuck Hoskin Jr. and Deputy Chief Bryan Warner for investing into the future generations of Cherokee families. I look forward to utilizing the facilities.

City of Stilwell

PROVERB POWER

Galatians 5:22,23 KJV

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, long suffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, temperance: against such there is no law.

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



Today, I wrapped up my first legislative session as a state Senator. I am beyond thankful and blessed to be serving the people of Senate District 4 at the state Capitol. The work we accomplished this year will have meaningful, lasting impacts for our community. Thank you to everyone who put your trust in me.

Tonight, it's time to get back to work on the farm to do my part to ensure Oklahoma remains a top agricultural producer in the country. Public servant by day, farmer by night.

Coming Soon:

WESTVILLE ON THE MOVE, WATTS HAPPING AND YOUNG WRITER PAGE.

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

Number 26

By Donna Boecher

Summer starts today, June 1. We have three glorious months to enjoy the fruits of the seasons - cool dawns, sunlight, fresh fruit from the orchards, vivid sunsets, and warm nights to observe the first stars at twilight and watching the on-and-off flicker of light from fireflies. In the early '50s most rural homes didn't have air conditioners. . . many like my grandmother had a window unit that blew air across water; it

was called a Water Cooler. The air being damp-cool, it only helped if you were within 10' of the blower. Granny used it when we watched television or had company. The best place to visit if it was daylight was outside under the elm or the walnut tree in the backyard. Friends would sit around in the metal "s" rocking chairs to visit, with an occasional fan in hand. I do remember later-on taking naps on a "rag"/braided rug

on the bedroom floor under a box fan. That was TOP SHELF! Then again, I was a preteen, not a teenager. If our government limits our use of oil products, we may see ourselves using the oldest type of fan – the HAND FAN. If you find yourself without electricity, remember who is sitting in the WHITE HOUSE. We will have regress 80+ years to the age of the coal oil lamp. Thank God we've had rain to cool the earth!



Outstanding Stilwell High School Alums: Faith Phillips, noted author, raconteur, film maker and U.S. Senator Markwayne Mullin pictured with new Stilwell Superintendent Matt Brunk.

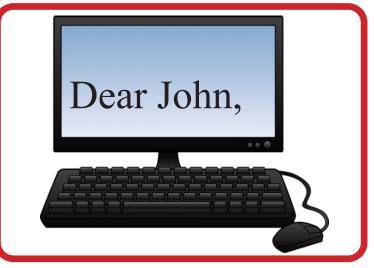
Ephesians 1:18 KJV

The eyes of your understanding being enlightened; that ye may know what is the hope of his calling, and what the riches of the glory of his inheritance in the saints,

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







Dear John,

I have decided that I can not win when it comes to back seat drivers. My wife tells me where to park and when I start to pull into the spot she says, "There is a better one!" She expects me to move over again. She tells me to slow down for intersections, what color the light is and when to turn. I know where I'm going and really do not need to be told how to drive. I just bite my tongue and let her guide me to every destination. To make my life even more interesting we go get her mother and then they both turn on their verbal GPS. It gets somewhat distracting, and I would like to stop this insanity before I lose my cool. What do you suggest that I do?

Home James

Dear Home James...back seat driving just may be one of the oldest irritants around, ever since the first wheel started turning. While riding in their chariot, imagine Cleopatra telling the Pharaoh where to go: "Hey Ramses, you missed your turn at the last sand dune. The Oasis is that way!" Many a man has lost his cool over the imperatives of a female companion. When that companion is your wife or your mother-in-law, it adds salt to the wound. The dilemma is real. The solution is elusive. A radical move, like stopping the car, getting out and handing the keys to the niggler, might work. When all else fails, this might be worth a try. Let Dear John know if you take a chance on using it and how it worked out. You may have to find an alternative way home, James.

Sincerely,

Dear John

Have you got a question for Dear John? email: dearjohn@writeme.com or snailmail: Dear John POB 885 Stilwell, OK 74960 Copyright 2023. All Rights Reserved.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR Save The Flowers!

Memorial Day and deco- rials, and harmful dyes Organization that can fix ration have passed by obviously all bad for the them and resale them. You

for another year and the ecosystem. Research can find lots of ways- online or in books - to reuse fake flowers. So, when it's time for the grounds keeper to mow the cemetery, and the flowers must come up, please take the time to collect them. If you can't make it back to the cemetery, make arrangements for someone else to get them. Two weeks of use for these lovely flowers is just not enough. Together, let's save the flowers!

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

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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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graves look beautiful with all the colorful flowers. But in a couple of weeks, guess what? All of those high-dollar flowers that you lovingly placed on your friends and loved ones' graves will be tossed into the dumpster and sent to the landfill. My guess is that hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent each year on artificial flowers. While this is great for retailers, it's not so great for the environment. Fake flowers are made from plastic, synthetic mate-

shows that it can take up to 450 years for these flowers to decompose. While fake flowers are not recyclable, they are reusable. Even though, after exposure to the sun, some of the petals may have faded, others will still be in perfect condition. You can take a couple of bunches, separate them and make a perfectly good bunch that looks brand new. If reusing them is not your thing, then consider giving them away - donate them to a resale shop or non-profit

Cathy Unger

EVERYONE IS INVITED

FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH NEWNAN, GA SR. HIGH **CHOIR IN** CONCERT

Featuring choir & handbells

JUNE 5, 2023 / 7:00PM **FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH STILWELL**



How about the boys basketball team making it to State while remaining

plary citizens who conduct themselves with dignity, confidence and pride as

Adair County Road Grader







Justin Chambers grading the roads in Adair County. He stops a moment for a free copy of the Straight Forward FREE press from John Bankel.



On the road again!



Stilwell High School 2022-23 Sports Summary

Commentary by: John Bankel

Another school year has come to an end. During the course of the year many memories have been made both on the field and in the classroom. Summarizing all of the accomplishments is not an easy task; still, there are some that standout from the rest.

The football team had their best year in many a season, finishing with a respectable 5-5 record. Who will ever forget the Indians' miraculous last second 2 point conversion in the Madill game that gave them a remarkable 46-45 win?

in the top 10 of Class 4A all season long? Let us not forget the accomplishments of the our female athletes, who, across the board, had successful seasons like the Lady Indians basketball squad making it to the Area competition but falling just one game short of going to State. In Girls Soccer, 4 Stilwell players will play a fundamental role in building the brand new Conners State Girls Soccer program. That is history making stuff. Our athletes are exem-

they strive to improve in all aspects of their lives. Stilwell can be proud of its Stilwell High School Indians. Wado to all!

Taco the Blue Heeler is too tired to chase.



THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW By Russell Turner THE CRUELEST TAX

When you look at all of the taxes we are forced to pay, it can be mind boggling. From income taxes to sales taxes and all in between it is no wonder people are having a hard time making ends meet. Personally, I believe that the cruelest tax is that of inflation; when inflation robs you of your purchasing power, it takes more money to buy the same as you did just a short period of time ago. Recently I read an article where Americans stating that they were worse off financially climbed to 35 percent in 2022, the highest level since the Federal Reserve started tracking this statistic in 2014. Inflation has altered consumers' spending and saving choices, with most saying they stopped consuming a product or used less because of price pressures. More than half (51 percent) trimmed their savings amid the inflationary climate. I also read that Americans are driving older autos, with the average being 12 years old. Having a dependable auto is a necessity as much as to purchase electric ve-

having shelter. I see the cost of new autos continue to increase, but we need to remember that there is a point where the people simply cannot afford to purchase them. I have the belief that you cannot offer a product, even if it is of great quality, if the people cannot afford to buy it.

The autos we drive today are in many aspects superior to those manufactured back in the 70's and 80's, they get better mileage and the engines last longer. Some of the improvements have come about due to mileage and emissions regulations passed by the government, but we need to remember that there is a limit to what our current technology can achieve. Right now, we have a group of people who, with their green agenda, will do anything to force the American people to drive only electric vehicles. Recently the EPA has raised eyebrows that would raise the emissions so high that they would be impossible to achieve, the end result would be to force people

hicles. By some estimates the new regulations would cause 2/3's of all light vehicles and trucks to be electric by 2032, in 2022 less than 6% of new car sales were electric. We need to remember that there is no such thing as free energy, there are not nearly enough chargers to accommodate that many electric vehicles and we won't have the generating capacity with the greenies shutting down coal plants and refusing to build nuclear plants. Going total electric is not the solution for our nation; some places the electric vehicles will work great, but for the most of us they will not. Going total electric will cause higher prices and fewer choices. Right now, most American people are struggling to even buy a good used car, forcing people into this so-called green utopia will put autos out of their reach. I guess the logical thing to do is to invest into companies that build bicycles, at the rate we are going that will be all we can afford

WHAT'S SO PUNNY? **PUN FUN**

Everyone loves a smiley face. Put on a good Pun and you will smile awhile. Take a gander at these and get ready to put on a smile and have some PUN FUN.

1. Absconding: Why did the thief hire a maid to plan his next caper? He wanted to make a clean getaway!

2. Seeing It Through: Making mirrors is a job that I can see myself doing.

3. Up In The Air: I read

a book on helium once. I could not put it down. 4. Spilled Coffee: Did you hear about the unfaithful espresso? It was grounds for divorce! 5. Phony Food: What do you "call fake noodle?" Impastas.

Oh boy! We are done for today. Now you may have to take a while to wipe away all your smile. Or better yet, keep it on there until the next time for more PUN FUN!



The morning of June 6, 1944, American troops and their allied forces landed on the beaches of Normandy, France in an invasion, code-named Operation Overlord, during World War II, which began the liberation of France, and ultimately other areas of Europe, from Hitler's Nazi regime. This day, known as D-Day, and the strategically planned landing of 156,000 British, Canadian and American troops at

6:30 A.M. on the five beaches of Normandy was code-named Operation Neptune.

You can get first hand accounts of this event by clicking on the QR code below.



The Roving Reporter... In and out and roundabout...Stilwell





REMEMBER SUNDAY IS DOUBLE STAMP DAY

Stomping Grounds Coffee & Cakery 1731 Hwy. 59 S., Stilwell, OK, Oklahoma





Windows are in, stonework is going up as the new Stilwell City Hall continues to take shape...

Searching for a Word: - background - the ground or scenery located behind something.

Ex. I paint the background of my pictures first, then I decide what will be drawn in front.



THE KIPLING KORNER



(The Doctor said) "It's only complete loss of control over the speech and memory" (Aphasia) ... No man can toil eighteen annas in the rupee (16 annas) in June without suffering."

(As in India, so in Oklahoma, don't work overheated; there are consequences.)



Greetings Krypto fans! We are now in double overtime on Krypto Kontest 6.0. The winner is yet to be determined, so if you have not gotten into this version of Krypto and not given yourself the chance to Win the \$25 cash and calculator prize, now is the time to jump in! Today's Krypto has 14 as the answer. You are playing with: 12, 5, 8, 23 and 15. Remember, you must use all 5 numbers, but each one only once, and any combination of addition, subtraction, multiplication or division, to write an expression that equals the answer. Krypto is fun, it is challenging and can be very rewarding if you end up winning the Kontest. Give it a try!



The Hardin Report

QR for the weekly Legislative Update 5/26/2023. 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: canvas-heavy, coarse, closely woven fabric of cotton, hemp, or flax -traditionally used for tents or sails.

Ex. We only used a canvas tent one year when

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL COMMENTARY BY JOHN BANKEL

Today's Trail Treks To..... The Script Was Flipped

From Crewcuts to Mopheads to Beards and Buns. such is the transformation that has taken place during the course of my lifetime. It was in 1963 that saw significant changes in America's social scene. There was the monumental game changing Supreme Court decision to outlaw prayer in public schools. Ever since then, our public school system has taken a nosedive, particularly in the big cities. Around the same time, we saw a tumultus change in the pop music scene going from the crewcut Beach Boys to the mophead Beatles and their British invasion. The hippie and drug culture ensued. "Turn on and tune out" became the

watchword among many of America's youth with Harvard psycho prof Timothy Leary leading the parade. Music steadily degenerated from wholesome melodies and lyrics into hard core acid rock. Mopheads became long haired freaks. The freak show has gotten worse since then, what with rampant unthinkable public perversion promoted by mainstream media. There seems to be no end in sight. On the bright side, America still has plenty of folks with good taste and solid morals that can still act as a bulwark against a final catastrophe: the complete dismantling of everything American. America needs another

flipping of the script, the antithesis of the flip that got us where we are today. Perhaps that flip is already on its way!

Today's Trail has come to an end. Perhaps we will meet again around the bend, my friend. Until then, may your Trail end up on the right side of the fence. Vaya con Dios!

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



A VERY IMPORTANT PERSON

Billy Graham was returning to Charlotte after a speaking engagement and when his plane arrived there was a limousine there to transport him to his home. As he prepared to get into the limo, he stopped and spoke to the driver.

'You know' he said, 'I am 87 years old and I have never driven a limousine. Would you mind if I drove it for a while?'

The driver said, 'No problem. Have at it.'

Billy gets into the driver's seat and they head off down the highway. A short distance away sat a rookie State Trooper operating his first speed trap.

The long black limo went by him doing 70 in a 55 mph zone.

The trooper pulled out and easily caught the limo then got out of his patrol car to begin the procedure. The young trooper walked up to the driver's door and when the glass was rolled down, he was surprised to see who was driving.



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

He immediately excused himself and went back to his car and called his supervisor. 'I know we are supposed to enforce the law.... but I also know that important people are given certain courtesies. I need to know what I should do because I have stopped a very important person.'

The supervisor asked, 'Is it the governor?'

The young trooper said, 'No, he's more important than that.'

The supervisor said, 'Oh, so it's the president?"

The young trooper said, 'No, he's even more Important than that."

After a moment, the supervisor finally asked, 'Well then, who is it?'

The young trooper said, 'I think it's Jesus, because he's got Billy Graham for a chauffeur!'

