

The STRAIGHT FORWARD FREE Press

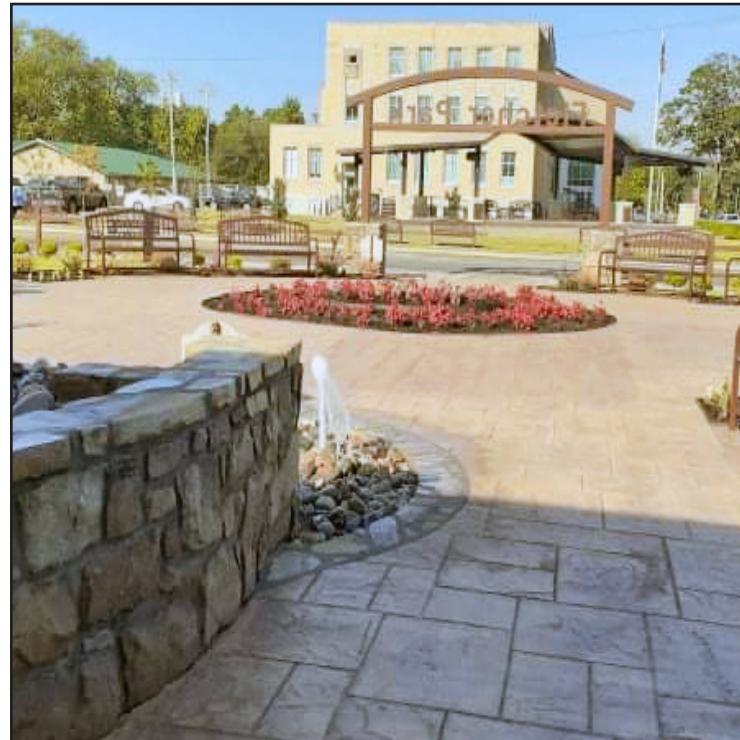
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Volume 1 • Issue 16

Stilwell, Adair County, Oklahoma

Thursday, October 14, 2021

THE ROVING REPORTER In, Around, and Out About Town



Fletcher Park, Kiwanis Stage, and New Courthouse all in one fell swoop. The harbinger of a New Stilwell?

Photo by The Roving Reporter

Commissioners Approve “Phantom Candidate”

Commentary by John Bankel

At the Sept. 27 Adair County Board of Commissioners meeting, agenda item 7: “Discussion and possible action regarding Eastern Oklahoma Library Appointment of William Eckstein to the Library System’s Board of Trustees”, was tabled until the October 4 meeting. It seemed the commissioners were in want of information on the candidate, who was not there to present himself.

On October 4, again as item 7 on the agenda, the commissioners were ready to move forward on approval, despite the fact that Mr. Eckstein was still not present and the commissioners still knew nothing about him. A concerned citizen, from the audience, asked the question, “Who is this man and why is he not here to present himself?” A good question for which the commissioners had no reply. Instead, a motion was made and carried, to approve what

turns out to be a “PHANTOM CANDIDATE.” It is this writer’s opinion that the Board had plenty of time to see that this man would be there to present himself and answer any pertinent questions from both the commissioners and the citizens there assembled and should have never moved forward until that happened. After all, the Library is a public entity funded by public tax dollars. This matter should have once again been tabled until Mr. Eckstein could appear so that concerned citizen taxpayers could have a VOICE in their government.

Miller has had many different jobs in her life, but none could satisfy her ambition of being her own boss. As with most entrepreneurs, she is not employable by anyone else! In addition to her Wild One boutique, her store offers tanning and spray tanning by Becky Tibbit Barnes,

Stilwell Sports Spotlight INDIANS FOOTBALL Hornets Swarm Stilwell

Commentary by John Bankel

With the American flag flying high in the distance and fluttering merrily in the balmy southern breeze on Friday October 8, it was a perfect night for Stilwell football. After having endured a rigorous 4 weeks on the road, the Stilwell fans were out in numbers to welcome their Indians back to their home turf to play the very fleet footed 4-2 Muskogee Hilldale Hornets. The Indians had very few answers for containing the speed of the Hilldale athletes. As the players went to their locker rooms for halftime, the Hornets had swarmed the Indians to the tune of 35-0. The second half, however, turned out to be a tighter tussle after Stilwell got

fired up when, on a fair catch for a punt, the Hilldale player was called for targeting, a cheap shot if there ever was one. Stilwell managed to hold the Hornets to just 13 points while the Indians scored a TD and a 2 point conversion at the 11:44 mark of the 4th quarter. The final score was 48-8, leaving the Indians with an 0-5 record, 0-2 in District 4 play. Hilldale is now 5-2 with 1-1 in the District.

Stilwell stays at home awaiting a very powerful Poteau Pirate squad, who is ranked #2 in the State, on Thursday, October 14. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

Come out and cheer for the Indians.

BUSINESS BUZZ:
It is the entrepreneur that built America...
The Entrepreneur Spirit
Highlighting local entrepreneurs in an ongoing series...

WILD ONE: A UNIQUE BOUTIQUE

By John Bankel

Lindsey Miller, born and raised in Adair County, created something special, something unique when she opened “Wild One”, a salon and boutique next door to the Tag Office in February, 2020. One can only imagine that the timing of her opening was anything but ideal, as one surely knows why? Yet Lindsey, being of a true entrepreneur spirit, more or less took it all in stride, knowing full well that starting a business is always a risky endeavor requiring a ton of hard work.

Today, Miller is still hard at work always coming up with new creations for fueling her dream of owning her own business. Her leathercraft items are handmade by either herself or her mother and father and are something to behold. Other items are also exceptional works of art, like the silversmith creations of Macky and Linda O’Neal and Jack Spinks. One of the displays hanging in the back of the right side wall are original paintings by a local artist, Rebecca Braden, who loves to depict Adair County country and cowboy scenes. Wild One has that country cowboy flair, yet with elegance.

Miller has had many different jobs in her life, but none could satisfy her ambition of being her own boss. As with most entrepreneurs, she is not employable by anyone else! In addition to her Wild One boutique, her store offers tanning and spray tanning by Becky Tibbit Barnes,



Stop by Wild One and check out all the unique items the shop has to offer.

Ruth Fourkiller and Lindsey Miller. Jasmine Lowery does nails. Lindsey is planning to add facials, lashes and aesthetics.

But that is not all! With her husband, Bryce, they also run Miller Strawberry Farms. On that farm they are working on bringing out a fall strawberry. Stay tuned on that! And most of all, Lindsey is committed to her and Bryce’s children in supporting them in all

their activities. Perhaps someday they will follow in their footsteps and pickup the entrepreneur spirit.

When this writer asked Miller from where she got the name of her enterprise, she said, “That’s what my mother called me!” Be sure to stop by and see for yourself what this “unique boutique” has to offer.

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Two Senate Candidates Speak at the Adair County Republican Party Meeting

At the recent Adair County Republican Party meeting held at Rowan’s Restaurant, two candidates for Senate addressed the overflow crowd.

Brian Hyatt, a resident of Muldrow and a businessman, who is running for the District 4 State Senate seat being vacated by term limited Mark Allen, spoke first about how he would ardently bring a voice for the right to life of the unborn, whose life he believes begins at conception, as well as vigorously working for the protection of all Oklahoma citizens’ right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.

The second candidate was Jackson Lahmeyer, who is running for the United States Senate seat currently occupied by James Lankford. Lahmeyer gave a dynamic address with an

emphasis on Lankford having left-leaning tendencies and no longer representing the conservative values of his constituency, in that Lankford gets 95% of his campaign funding from outside the state from major donors such as Pfizer and Blackstone investments, who is known to have ties to the Clinton Foundation. In addition, Lankford kowtowed to BLM when he served on the 1921 Tulsa race riot commission when he so shamefully apologized to the commission for, in effect, “being white.” Lahmeyer is the pastor of a church in Tulsa and a successful businessman, who, at the age of 30, has 5 children. He believes that America is in deep trouble and, as a U.S. Senator, will strive to do something about it.

A lively Q & A session followed to end the evening.

ANNOUNCEMENT
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PROVERB POWER

“I will lie down in peace, and sleep; for you alone, Oh Lord, make me dwell in safety.” Psalm 4:8 (NKJV)

Stilwell’s Trunk-O-Ween Set for Oct. 29

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

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

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

Happy Halloween!

THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

COMRADES IN ARMS

Most people my age can remember the propaganda that the former Soviet Union had that controlled the information that was given to the people of that former nation. In their system there was the truth that very few people ever heard of, the vast majority of their nation was spoon-fed the communist party doctrine. Anyone who dared to question the official party platform would find themselves in some gulag or re-education camp located in Siberia. Many Americans have a hard time understanding how a system could get so perverted, and they also believe that it could never happen in our country. The sad fact is simple in America today, the communist party platform had nothing over the current mainstream media in the good ole USA.

Just a few days ago the audit report was made public concerning Maricopa County in Arizona. Immediately the mainstream media said that the vote tally changed very little, and in fact Joe Biden even gained a handful of votes; what they are not telling you is the report is not a recount but an audit. Whenever you continue to count all ballots, even the fraudulent ones, the tally is not likely to change. According to the final tally Trump only lost the state of Arizona by a little over 10,000 votes, in Maricopa alone there were many times that number of questionable votes counted. The list includes 23,344 Mail-in Ballots Voted from Prior Address and 9,041 More Ballots Returned by Voter Than Received. Cyber Ninjas noted that some 5,295 ballots were affected by voters who potentially voted in multiple counties and 17,322 Duplicates of Early Voting Ballot Return Envelopes. Auditors stated

in their report that "according to the Master File Table (MFT) of the drives, a large number of files on the Election Management System (EMS) Server and HiPro Scanner machines were deleted."

The comrades in arms like to use our right of free speech to voice their ideals, but they will do everything in their power to silence anyone who has a different opinion. How many times have you seen them call for a boycott of people or companies who happen to have conservative principles? This communist attitude is not limited just to the mainstream media, try to mention an alternative treatment for Covid 19 on Facebook or Twitter. If anyone dares to question the current accepted treatment of the disease you will be banned, censored, or have a disclaimer added to your post.

All of this nonsense has seemed to explode in a very short period of time, and about the time I think I have heard it all there will be another asinine idea pop up. I have to hand it to the comrades; they are doing a great job of dividing our nation and its citizens. One of their current tools is the nonsense called Critical Race Theory. Anytime you can get a group of people thinking that they are somehow being treated wrongly they will look to these individuals to carry their banner. Many years ago, the people of Germany failed to stand up to a group of thugs called the Nazis; because of their apathy, they paid a horrific price. In one Arizona county there were over 55 thousand questionable ballots counted, so comrades don't try to convince me that the election was fair and honest.

I just hope that we Americans learn from the Germans' mistake and avoid paying a similar price.

THE KIPLING KORNER

"If history were taught in the form of stories, it would never be forgotten."

**Vocabulary
WORD
of
the
DAY**

Indigenous
Kangaroos and Koalas are indigenous to Australia.
• originating or occurring naturally in a particular place; native

* * * *

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

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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.

Printed by: FREE Press Printing Co.

Donna Boecker.....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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The Lady in the Blue Sari

Part 16
By Donna Boecher

After a trip of 20+ hours, Alex and Teresa arrived in time for breakfast. They were jet-lagged but decided they would go to the Cathedral of the Holy Name in Colaba and pray for their trip. Noon found them heading southeast toward Pune, having breakfasted on Poha for Teresa and Upma for Alex at a little restaurant called "The Second Wife." It was nice having a savory meal of rice or wheat seasoned well with few green peas, garlic, onion, curry leaves, and turmeric – plus salt and pepper. That would keep them until they stopped in Pune for the night.

They paced themselves in the crowded traffic until they were clear of the never-ending suburbs of Mumbai. Alex and Teresa

both loved horses, and Teresa found through the internet a small breeding ranch in Pune. There they would see the Deccani horses. As late as the 1800's, the Deccani ponies were bred to fight in the undulating hills; they were strong and stood 12-13 hands. Having planned to see all the "special" horses of India, they now marked the Deccani off their list. It was a good moment knowing the Deccan ponies were on the increase since the "worldwide pandemic." Alex said they reminded him of the Chincoteague Ponies of America's east coast. The environment had shaped them. Would India shape Alex and Teresa? Categorically, they would be changed!

Lydia, in New Orleans, had suggested the Fort Jadhavgarh Pune which was a Heritage Hotel; all the Heritage hotels had been part

of India's past. "Garh" meant fort and that's what the hotel had been. History was swirling around the couple as they watched the sunset and then the magnificent starlit black sky. In the morning, they would head for Goa. They knew it might be filled with international tourists, especially Americans who loved the beaches, but they didn't care. They were prepared for anything and everything, even their raucous peers. They said their prayers and surrendered themselves to God's plan for them in this colorful and unique country. Tomorrow they would find Alex two lightweight cotton short sleeved kurtas with pajama style pants; this would keep him cool in the increasing heat as they moved south. Tomorrow would be another God-given day.

Health Tips from Larkin...

By Larkin Fouse, CHHP

The Dangers of Fluoridated Water—Part 2: How to protect yourself: There are a few simple yet effective ways to protect yourself from fluoridated water if you have it in your home. **Method #1** for your drinking water, get a quality charcoal water filter and run all your drinking water through it first before consuming. **Method #2** for your shower, there are charcoal shower head filters that keep out up to 90% of the chemicals in your water so that you do not breathe them in directly when they become steam in your shower. So you can get one you like and install it. **Method #3** this one is strange but yet has been proven effective

as I have testimonies from people I have shown this to. The third way to remove fluoride taste and smell from your water is to pray for your water source with the intention to have all the chemicals removed from it. I know this sounds strange, but test it before you say that it can't possibly work. Go to your sink after reading this, pray for the water in your house to be cleaned then run the water out of your sink for 15 seconds or so, then taste and smell it and see if there is a difference to you. If it works for you, good, if not use the other two methods above to help you stay safer from the chemicals in your water.



Dear John, I was reading a Facebook post. The person was complaining about Stilwell. Other people communicating on the post said all the complaints could be about any town? I like our little town, it reminds me of Mayberry and hope there are others who feel the way I do. What are your ideas about Stilwell.

Aunt Bea

Dear Aunt Bea, you are right about one thing: every town, large or small, has its own set of problems. And among those problems there are many that all towns have in common. In my estimation, Stilwell, overall, is a very good place to live. And the future looks very bright. There are many signs that Stilwell is on the verge of growing and expanding its economic base. This should present employment opportunities that don't exist today. One thing that expansion will bring that may not be a good thing? Stilwell may be Mayberry no more!

**Sincerely,
Dear John**

Got a question for Dear John? Send it to: dearjohn@writeme.com. Real names are not used.

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Mullin It Over: Someone is Lying

By Congressman Markwayne Mullin

Last week, President Biden's top defense advisors: Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff General Mark Milley, and Commander of U.S. Central Command General Kenneth McKenzie, testified before Congress on the events leading up to the disastrous withdrawal from Afghanistan. Unfortunately, we did not learn anything we did not already know.

Repeatedly, President Biden told us the Afghanistan withdrawal was a success. Even after lives were lost, weapons stolen, and Americans abandoned, he continued to call this a success. We know this withdrawal was a complete and utter failure. General Milley said it himself: this was a strategic failure and American credibility is damaged.

During the hearing, Secretary Austin, General McKenzie, and General Milley testified that they recommended the U.S. keep 2,500 troops on the ground in Afghanistan. But in an interview with ABC back in August, President Biden said he was not given this recommendation. There must be accountability for the withdrawal, but also for those who are now lying to cover it up. Americans deserve the truth.

This is a very personal issue to me. My team and I are continuing to work around the clock to rescue abandoned American citizens who want to get out. We have had tremendous success, but we are not done yet. Just this Sunday, we were able to get seven people out of Afghanistan and into safety. Unfortunately, there are a handful, a 2-year-old and 3-year-old included, who did not make it due to the State Department's refusal to help.

Where the Biden Administration has shown weakness, the American people have shown true strength. I cannot begin to tell you of the number of veterans who have contacted me, some from all the way back to the Vietnam War, and offered to assist our cause in any way they could. Brave patriots, ex-Special Forces, and caring civilians who want to step up and answer the call to help have made their voices known. I also want to recognize those who have opened their countries and helped innocent Afghans escape Taliban rule. We cannot stop until every American is home.

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](#).

**Faith
WORD of the DAY
SANCTUARY**

Sanctuary is a protecting place or person where we are sheltered from harm. Sanctuary starts with God and his Son and as we reflect that same sheltering love it spread out to family, friends, community, the nation, and to the whole world. We are to love ourselves and our neighbors. But it is not always easy to give sanctuary, to share that sanctuary. The Bible, God's word, gives us the best examples as to how we share shelter with others. Christ says in Matthew Chapter 5, that LOVE is the ANSWER, and it should also be shared especially with those that hate or despise us. Next time, when seeing a contrary situation, answer it with sanctuary.

Obituaries

Bill "Pete" Eli

July 22, 1940 – October 2, 2021

Bill "Pete" Eli was born July 22, 1940, in Stilwell, Oklahoma to George Soap and Lillie Eli and departed this life on October 2, 2021, in Stilwell, Oklahoma at the age of 81 years, 2 months, and 10 days.

He was a loving father. Bill was a member of Salem Baptist Church and taught Cherokee Sunday School class for many years. He loved playing guitar and spending time with his family and friends when he was able. He loved watching sports and westerns on T.V.

He was preceded in death by his mother: Lillie Eli; his father: George Soap; sisters: Annetta Pettit, and Lydia Sawney; brother: Felix Duncan; his niece: Linda Duncan; and a special friend: Claude Livers.

Bill is survived by his daughters: Norma Eli-Proctor and husband Robbie of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, and Neoma Flynn and husband Gary of Sallisaw, Oklahoma. His grandchildren: Candace Proctor, Courtney Grayson and husband Buddy, Letecia Flynn, Josiah Flynn and wife Brittani, all of Sallisaw, Oklahoma, Chelsey Harvey, and Micah Harvey, both of Roland, Oklahoma. Great-grandchildren: Presley and Paizley Proctor, Sunni, Silas, Emily, Kaylee, Grayson, Hayden, Tayley, Tae, Talon, Koda, Josi, Miko, and Kiah Flynn. His brother: Frank Duncan of Stilwell, Oklahoma; and sister: Malinda Whitener of Hulbert, Oklahoma.

A special "Thank You!" to Mary "Sudie" Rodriguez and Bobby Soap.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm on October 7, 2021 at Salem Baptist Church, Stilwell, OK with Br. Leo Duncan and Pastor Gary Flynn officiating. Interment followed at Salem Cemetery, Stilwell, OK under the direction of Roberts/Reed-Culver Funeral Home, Stilwell, OK.



Chip Dillard

January 31, 1986 – September 29, 2021

Chip Dillard was 35 years old. He was born January 31, 1986, in Stilwell, Oklahoma. A resident of Stilwell his whole life. Chip passed from this earth September 29, 2021, in Stilwell, Oklahoma.

He is preceded in death by his mother: Rhonda Ann Dillard; grandparents: Alfred and Pauline Harrison, and Buford and Margaret Dillard; aunt: Cathy Harrison; and uncles: Thomas, Steve, and Jackie Harrison.

Surviving his passing are his two children: Katie and Marcus Casados of Springdale, Arkansas; his siblings: Gretchen and husband Wayne Anderson of Stilwell, Oklahoma, and Lori Smith of Stilwell, Oklahoma; and nephews: Shawn and Christopher Lovejoy, and Jasper and James Smith, all of Stilwell, Oklahoma. As well as many aunts, uncles, cousins, and dear friends.

At the age of 17 Chip started his adult journey working at Mrs. Smith, where he met Sonja, the mother of his two beautiful children. After some time, he left there and tried his hand at pole barns. Not long after he went to work for KATS, where he stayed for 8 years making lots of people smile.

He grew up playing whatever sport he could get his hands on, basketball, football, baseball, and soccer. Whether it was school, summer leagues, or just shooting hoops with his buddies. Chip lived for times like that. He also loved watching his favorite teams, the 49ers or the Bluejays on T.V.

He loved children. Especially his two little ones: Katie and Marcus. He loved being a daddy more than anything in this world. He was so proud of them and cherished every moment with them.

Funeral services were held at 1 pm on Friday, October 8, 2021 at Roberts/Reed-Culver Chapel, Stilwell, OK with Bro. B. J. Latta and Sister Theresa Latta officiating. Interment followed at Stilwell City Cemetery, Stilwell, OK.



Our Readers' Voice...

"Shut up." "Get out of here."
"Thank y'all for coming."

By Concerned Citizen

The October 4, 2021 Commissioner Meeting began with the perfunctory, apparently inauthentic, "welcome everyone" salutation. The friction wasn't far behind.

"Old Business" included considering William Eckstein, again not present, for the Eastern Oklahoma Library Board of Trustees. Hoping to preempt a premature vote, and disturbed by recent revelations of pornographic material in children's libraries, a Citizen stated they had a question. Commissioner Mike Wininger sought recourse to his recent rule, stating: **"You can ask it during New Business."** The Citizen properly stated: **"It's now business. It's not new business. Furthermore, how**

can you possibly incorporate our input in the decisions that you've already made? If you vote on this now, and then I ask my question at the end of the meeting, how's that relevant?"

Unable to counter the irrefutable, Wininger sat silent for 12 seconds before permitting the question. The Citizen then asked the obvious: **"Can we meet him? Wouldn't it be better to cover this topic when he's here? Other people come in here and make their pitches. Mike, you had County workers here for show & tell on the day that they were talking about the premium pay. It just seems like it's obvious that we would get a chance to meet him. I've had two different people ask me if I know who he is, and I don't."** Wininger fortified the Citizen's point in a knee-jerk confession: **"I don't either."** The



Citizen responded: **"Great, can we get him in here? Can we cover this Agenda item when he's here then? That just seems logical."**

Wininger, displaying emotion over reason, stated: **"If you would hold off and SHUT UP for a minute, we will take care of the business."** The Citizen corrected: **"No, I'm not going to shut up. I'm going to ask relevant questions, which is: Wouldn't it be more elegant to cover this when he's here?"**

The Citizen's question was not only relevant, but also timely. Indeed, they moved swiftly to vote and dispose of the Agenda item. Commissioner Sam Chandler, likewise unknowledgeable, wondered if Eckstein even lived in the County. Ironically, Eckstein's absence could result from inconvenient

(See Our Readers' on Page 4)



David Hardin, State Representative, Dist. 86 (left) and Blake Stephens, State Senator, Dist. 3 (right) had a great time recently helping the Watts FFA raise money to send their Poultry Judging Team, along with Watts FFA Instructor Rick Stanislaus, to Indianapolis, Indiana, where they will represent the great State of Oklahoma in the National Competition.

Excise Board Approves Fiscal Year 2021-22 Budget

Commentary by John Bankel

On October 6 at 8 am at the Adair County Courthouse Board meeting room, the Adair County Excise Board met to discuss and possibly approve the Adair County Operating Budget for fiscal year 2021-22.

The Excise Board has 3 members. Each member is appointed. One by the State Senator, one by the District Judge, one by the Commissioners. The members are: senior member Russell Turner, Dan Collins and S. Joe Crittenden.

The budget had been given pre-approval by the Board of Commissioners on an earlier date. It was now up to the Excise Board to give final approval.

During the discussion, Mr. Turner raised 2 vital issues: the incomplete funding of the Sheriff's Department and the pay raises for the County Department heads, among which are the Assessor, Treasurer, County Clerk, and the Commissioners. His objection to the pay raises was focused on the fact that the average citizens have had to tighten their belts under the present economic climate and thus a pay raise was very untimely and, in Mr. Turner's words, "It is just wrong." His

objections fell on deaf ears. A motion to approve was made,

Free Medicare Educational Meeting to be Held at American Legion Post 102

seconded and passed 2-1.

Legion.

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ADAIR COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL ROUNDUP

Commentary by John Bankel

WESTVILLE WINNING WAYS WITHER AFTER LINCOLN CHRISTIAN ASSAULT

In a battle of 2 unbeatens on Friday night October 8, the Westville Yellowjackets took on the #2 ranked Tulsa Lincoln Christian Bulldogs. Both teams came into the game with perfect 6-0 records. One would expect this game to be a high scoring but close game. It was not. The Bulldogs put on an astounding offensive display and tore the Yellowjackets apart by a score of 56-14. To put this in perspective, Westville had allowed opponents a scant 11 points per games coming into this one. The Bulldogs remain undefeated at 7-0. Westville is at 6-1 and next plays Checotah on the road for a Thursday, October 14 contest. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

CAVE SPRINGS CAVES IN WATTS

In an ongoing Adair County 8-man football rivalry between the Watts Engineers and the Cave Springs Hornets, its latest edition played out on Thursday, October 7, under the lights on the Hornets' turf. Cave Springs came out, convincingly, on top as they stung the Engineers and hung a 36-6 derailment on the now winless, 0-5, Watts squad. Cave Springs improved to 3-3. Watts will be looking for their first win when they square off against Gans at home on Thursday, October 14 in a district contest. Kickoff is at 7 pm. Cave Springs next travels to Arkoma for a Thursday, October 14, district contest. Kickoff is at 7 pm.

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

Commentary by John Bankel

Today the Trail Travels to the

WESTVILLE-STILWELL BATTLE FOR THE ADAIR COUNTY SEAT: PART 2

The White Man Cometh: Westville Designated As The Adair County Seat

Whites venturing into the Nation after the Civil War, also changed the "Political Flavor" of the two communities. It is my understanding that with them many, if not most, of the early white settlers in Stilwell came from Tennessee, bringing with them the culture of that area. Many of the early whites to the south and west of Stilwell were from Kentucky. (There was even a school by that name in the area.) Whereas many of the early white settlers to the Westville area came from the Arkansas Ozarks region!

So by 1900 the ground work had been laid, the two communities were different, and a spark of rivalry may have already been lit

between them! But it would take statehood to fan that spark into a full fledged flame!

At first the people of Indian Territory (I.T.) tried to form their own state. Delegates from I.T. met in Muskogee in 1905 and drew up a constitution to form a state to be called Sequoyah. The U.S. Congress rejected this and said I.T. and O.T. (Oklahoma Territory) would be one state: Oklahoma!

The Delegates from both territories met in Guthrie and drew up a Constitution; it was ratified (approved) by the people on Sept. 17, 1907. This paved the way for Oklahoma to become a state on Nov. 16, 1907. Article XVII, Sec. 8 of that very constitution defined the boundaries of each county and designated the County Seat for each county. To quote, "Westville

is hereby designated the County Seat of Adair County."

(To be continued in the next issue as Part 3.)

For today the Trail has come to an end, and as Roy Rogers and Dale Evans were fond of singing, "Happy Trails to you, until we meet again." May your trail end up on the right side of the fence.

The foregoing has been excerpted from a book, "Trivia and Vignettes of Oklahoma History" by Terry Rose, a local historian and is intended for educational purposes only.

John Bankel is a freelance journalist and retired high school math teacher and can be reached at: writerwright@journalist.com.

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Domestic Violence Awareness Glow Walk Set for October 21

There will be a Domestic Violence Awareness Glow Walk on Thursday, October 21 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on the Adair County Courthouse Square.

Live Music will be provided by

Movin' On with Savana D.

Free hotdogs, chips and drinks will be served. There will be games for all ages.

Bring your lawn chairs and make sure to wear Purple.

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Our Readers' (Contd. from Page 3)

Monday morning Commissioner Meetings, a concern Citizens have repeatedly delivered on deaf ears. The Commissioners unanimously appointed this unknown person. Apparently Wininger's idea of "take care of the business" is to impetuously rubber stamp a stranger into leadership. With no known deadline or emergency forcing this vote, two Citizens objected.

Settling the process of Citizens adding Meeting Agenda items was no more rational or successful. Wininger now claimed Citizens had to lobby the district attorney, who would wordsmith Agenda items.

However, Wininger previously refused to discuss a Citizen Agenda item, it being imprecisely worded by a still unidentified party. Thus, a Citizen shared concern about fatally-drafted Agenda items Commissioners could legally defeat. Chandler declared: "You're wasting our time." The Citizen corrected: "No, you're wasting my time by not just dealing with it." Chandler added: "I'm not here to listen to your DAMN NONSENSE!" The Citizen, minus profanity, matched: "I'm not here to listen to yours either."

Chandler, escalating, stated: "Well GET OUT OF HERE then." The Citizen countered: "You get out of here."

Matter still unsettled, Chandler and Wininger nevertheless sought to adjourn. The Citizen objected. Chandler then contradicted Wininger, claiming Citizens must

instead petition their secretary, with Wininger making final decisions on Agenda item inclusion! Chandler, however, admonished: "Don't be wasting her time." The Citizen replied: "Don't accuse me of wasting people's time when I'm doing my civic duty." "You should be grateful, not resentful, that I'm here." Chandler confirmed: "I'm not grateful." The issue was STILL unresolved, as two Citizens together quietly acknowledged! The hopelessly incompatible instructions had Chandler labeling Wininger omnipotent, with Wininger instead pointing to the DA!

The meeting ended, perfectly punctuated consistent with the disingenuous opening greeting: "We thank y'all for coming."

Mullin Highlights Importance of Study on Big Streamers' Impact on Rural Broadband

Congressman Markwayne Mullin (OK-02) highlighted the need for the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to study the impact edge providers have on rural broadband networks, consumer costs, and other general consumer impacts during a House Energy and Commerce Communications and Technology Subcommittee hearing today. Earlier this year, Mullin introduced H.R. 1650, which would create this study and examine the possibility of requiring edge providers to contribute to the FCC's Universal Service Fund.

H.R. 1650, the Rural Broadband Network Study Act, would study the impact big streamers like Netflix, Hulu, and Disney + have on rural broadband network costs and availability. Specifically, this bill would require the FCC to launch a study into the current projected demands on rural broadband networks associated with services offered by edge providers.

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