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WEEKEND GAZETTE

Volume 3 • Issue 42

Serving Stilwell & Adair County, Oklahoma

Friday April 26, 2024

Stilwell Community Choir Spring Concert

LET THERE BE SONG

By John Bankel



Stilwell Community Choir with Youth Choir directed by Mary Catherine Worsham... Practice for Christmas program starts May 28th. No experience is necessary. Please join us if you like.

"God Bless America" signed by members of the Youth Choir. Signers are from left to right: Eden Dieffenbach, Natalie Brown, BrayLee Vann, and Zoey Corwin.

On Tuesday, April 23, on the evening of a "Pink Full Moon,"* at the Stilwell First United Methodist Church, a revived Stilwell Community Choir performed its Spring Concert. It was the first Spring Concert in several years. The Choir got its start around 2006 when the late Damon Hall, a career Stilwell Middle School English teacher as well as a gifted piano player paired-up with long-time music teacher and well known vocalist, Mary Catherine Worsham to form the Stilwell Community Choir. The Choir received support from the City of Stilwell. In those days, the Choir met weekly and soon grew to over 30 voices. Their repertoire consisted of a broad spectrum of musical genres with a marked emphasis on Gospel holding 4 concerts per year. The Christmas and Strawberry Festival concerts became the highlights. The Christmas Concert played to packed houses at the

Stilwell Methodist Church until 2016. It was in that year that the Choir lost its much needed support. In 2018, Damon Hall passed away. The Choir appeared to be history. Yet not so fast. The interest among the members was still keen to re-boot the Choir. Then COVID hit. Another setback. Still Mary Catherine was undaunted. She forged ahead with practices at her home. Then, after COVID subsided, continued with practices at the Methodist Church. Instead of weekly sessions, the Choir met on the 4th Tuesday of each month. While not an ideal amount of practice, the Choir was revived. The turnout at the Spring Concert spoke volumes for a successful turnaround, with the auditorium filled almost to capacity. The enthusiasm of the audience was evident as they sang along to many familiar songs including the Armed Services theme songs, "God Bless America" which

was sung and signed by 4 members of the Youth Choir. After a medley of familiar American songs like "Oh Susanna" the last segment was filled with Gospel hymns like "Dig A Little Deeper," "Roll On Jordan," "I Surrender All" and "Total Praise" as the closing number. With the addition of the Youth Choir, consisting of Ben Brown, Lucas Brown, Natalie Brown, Mercy Bruner Zoey Corwin, Adaya Dieffenbach, Eden Dieffenbach, Lilly Newberry, Lucy Newberry and BrayLee Vann, this Concert was a special event indeed, a successful evening of LET THERE BE SONG. *Note: The "Pink Full Moon" was so named by some Native American tribes because the April full moon brought out pink flowers.

P.S. The Choir is open to anyone interested in singing. No previous experience needed.



Choir Director Mary Catherine Worsham

Dreamstar Connections
Photo Album Page 3 - 4

PROVERB POWER

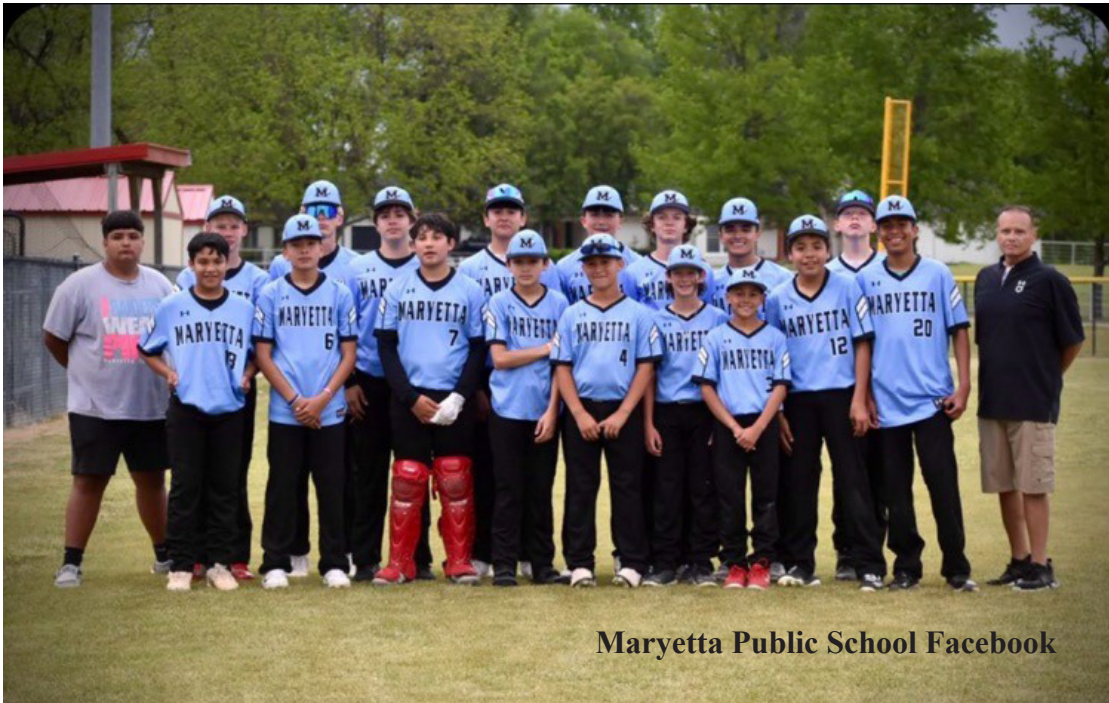
Proverb 18:5 KJV

It is not good to accept the person of the wicked, to overthrow the righteous in judgment.

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is now ONLINE on Google!
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Check it out and enjoy!



Maryetta Public School



Maryetta Public School Facebook


Maryetta returned to baseball this year in a big way! These boys finished off the season this evening with just 1 loss on their record and they were the 2024 Charlie Jordan Memorial Tournament Champions! We are very proud of our Raiders for such a successful season and excited for the future! Go Raiders!

WHAT'S SO PUNNY? PUN FUN

Howdy to all the PUNFUNSTERS within earshot of this week's PUN FUN. Without puns, life could easily become a drag. Well, today we will drag in some new funnies from the old dustbin. Even old puns are new if you have not heard them for a while. Today we will get a load of some dad jokes for your knee slapping, funny bone jangling and rib-tickling pleasure.

1. Dadamatazz: Dad: What is the difference between a piano, a tuna and a pot of glue?
Me: I don't know.
Dad: You can tuna piano but you can't piano a tuna.
Me: What about the pot of glue?
Dad: I knew you would get stuck on that.
2. No Yolk: Why did the egg have a day off? Because it was Fryday.
3. Shortstop: What word can you make shorter by adding two letters? Short
4. Apples To Apples: How many apples grow on an apple tree? All of them.
5. Free Fall: You do not need a parachute to go skydiving. You need one if you want to go skydiving twice.

Look up in the sky. It's a bird, it's a plane. Splat! It's a bird. There is a place for laughter. That place happens to be on your face. Keep it going until the next episode of PUN FUN! So long!

The
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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.
Publisher: Golden Crown Publishing LLC

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

PROVERBS 29:2-"When the righteous are in authority, the people rejoice: but when the wicked beareth rule, the people mourn."

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Vocabulary Word:

- **recline**—To lean back or lie down on one's back.
- Ex. I like to recline on the front porch swing after a hard day's work.

Into the Hills

By Donna Boecher

I could tell Spring was here, the Downy Mock Orange was blooming. Didn't sound like a good name; the blossom looked like a blackberry bloom. But then, I hadn't been out of the Ozarks yet. Mama called it Mock Orange and that was fine. Bart continues to come by with his parents on Sunday. Occasionally, he drops by mid-week. Mama says she thinks he's "sweet" on me. Meanwhile, we're still cautious - taking a rifle with us when we go outside 'cause Turko con-

tinues to bray at odd times. I know he isn't hungry or restless because I've been ridin' him every day to stretch his legs. Perhaps, I'll stake him out near the house during the day to ensure our safety. One kick from Turko would send a drifter down the mountain. I laughed at that. Personally, I think Turko is our own angel. Ask and you shall receive! What better choice against predators. Our prayers continue to be answered.

Poetry Portal

Beneath The Oak

By Rose Maxim

"How sweet it is in solitude to be,
A little while away from worldly care,
Reclining calmly 'neath the spreading tree
Where odors sweet are wafted on the air."

Westville Junior Trinity Duncan Championship Shot Put



Associate Head Coach Travis Cloud poses with Westville Junior Trinity Duncan. She won the championship in the shot put in her conference. Duncan won with a toss of 35-07. Congratulations Trinity.

**I can do all things through Christ
which strengthens me.
Philippians 4:13.**

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Dreamstar Connections

Dreamstar Connections founders and directors: Lora, and Rosita Gallardo

Photo by: Dreamstar Connections



2024 Strawberry Shortcake Court age Division 6-8 years
left to right Shortcake King, Isaac Brewer, Shortcake Queen, Anastasia Turner, Shortcake Supreme, Anthony Rivas, Shortcake Supreme Girl, Alyssa Einsele, Princess Jabrie Leach, and Shortcake Sweetheart, Anna Duvall.



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

2024 Strawberry Choice Kenley Buckner, Age Division 3-5 years. She was also the Dreamstar Connections Quilt Winner.



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Strawberry Host & Fashionista,
Adalynn Smith
Age Division 0-2 years



Strawberry Model Shyloh Einsele
Boys Division 3-5 years

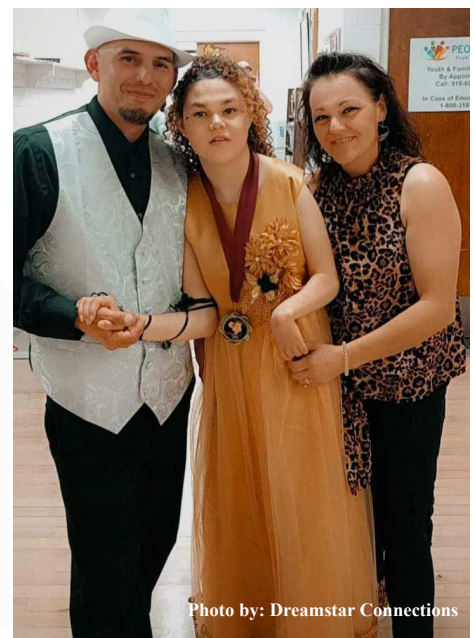


Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Empowering Woman Winner & Prom Queen,
Addison Rivas Teen division.
Rey Rivas her dad, Prom Escort,
and her mom Shantel Rivas.

Dreamstar Connections

Dreamstar Connections founders and directors: Lora, and Rosita Gallardo



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Most Beautiful Queen,
Mia Pritchett
Age Division 0-2 years



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

2024 Strawberry Choice Finalist left to right
Preslee Hammer, Alyssa Einsele, and Avery Yoakum.



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Most Beautiful Queen
Navy Sue Buzzard
Age Division 6-8 years



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Prettiest Hair,
Strawberry model Hospitality.
Faith Cochran
Age Division 3-5 years.



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Thank you to the Dreamstar Pageant Judges for the 15Th
Annual Strawberry Spring Pageant
Donna Boecher, Strawberry Host, Neveah Small,
Jen Boecher, and Janice Clinton.



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

2024 Miss Hospitality
Avery Yoakum
Age Division 6-8 years



Strawberry Model Division 3-5 years
Briella Crittenden.



Photo by: Dreamstar Connections

Prettiest Hair, Teen Division
Scarlett Vizueth.



At the 2024 TSA State competition in Norman, OK, held from April 17th to 20th, 11 Stilwell TSA students showcased their skills. And guess what? ALL 11 students made it to the finals round in one event or another! Now that's impressive! But wait, it gets even better! 9 out of those talented students not only won in their respective events but also secured their spots to compete in Orlando at the National TSA contest in June!

A huge round of applause to all these talented students, Mr. Kimble, and our amazing Stilwell STEM!

- Let's give a special shoutout to the high school champions:
- Catapult Design/Tournament: Elijah Wright and Isaac Denny (1st Place), Tucker Ridge and Milo Turman (2nd Place)
 - Flight Challenge/Glider: Tony Davidson (2nd Place), Harris Cook (3rd Place)
 - Dragster Design: Tony Davidson (1st Place), Wyatt Newsom (2nd Place)
- And the middle school stars:
- Structural Engineering Team/Bridge: Carter Ogden and Boone Talbot (1st Place)
 - Flight Challenge/Gliders: Carter Ogden (3rd Place)
 - Dragster Design: Carter Ogden (3rd Place)

We're all cheering for you as you head to Nationals! Go Stilwell TSA!

History of TSA
 The Oklahoma Technology Student Association got its start in 1977 when it was granted a charter as a state affiliate of the American Industrial Arts Student Association (AIASA) with just 4 chapters and 96 members. By 1988, when AIASA would change its name to the Technology Student Organization (TSA), membership had grown to 117 chapters and nearly 3,000 members. Today, with more than 18,000 members, Oklahoma TSA is the Career and Technology Student Organization (CTSO) dedicated exclusively to students enrolled in STEM classes.

Information from TSA online

Searching for Word.....

sprawl –sit or lie spread out.

Ex. After loading hay bales in the barn, the teenage boys would sprawl on the back porch steps drinking cool lemonade.

THE CONSERVATIVE VIEW

By Russell Turner

CAST OF FOOLS

We all need to remember how our current administration occupying the White House has declared war on the oil and gas industry in this country. When Biden first occupied the White House, our nation was energy independent and on the verge of being energy dominant in the world. He also inherited a Strategic Oil Reserve that was full thanks to the previous president. It was Joe Biden and his cast of fools that sold off that reserve during the mid-term elections in 2022, he used that reserve to play politics and to keep his party in power instead of what it was intended for. That reserve was basically a rainy-day fund to protect our economy and way of life in the event of a natural disaster or any emergency; we Americans are about to face an emergency that will have a huge impact on our bottom line as a nation.

The current war in the Middle East is about to get a lot hotter because of the Iranian missile attack on Israel over the past weekend. The people of Israel have no choice, they will retaliate against

the nation of Iran. How and when they choose to retaliate is anyone's guess; if they target the oil infrastructure of Iran, like the old saying goes you ain't seen nothing yet. Right now, approximately one-fifth of all oil used in the world goes through the Strait of Hormuz. If a major war develops in the region, it could potentially close the Strait of Hormuz until the conflict is resolved. Oil infrastructure could be destroyed in Iran and other nations in the Middle East as the fighting rages, and that could substantially reduce global oil production for an extended period. Our way of life depends on cheap oil; a major regional war in the Middle East will cause the price of oil to skyrocket which will deeply affect all of us. Last week the average price of a gallon of gasoline in the United States was \$3.63; one expert is warning that the average price of a gallon of gasoline in the U.S. could hit \$5.40 this summer. The same expert also warned that if the price of crude oil reaches \$125 a barrel it could push the U.S. economy into a recession.

If the war between Israel and Iran escalates, the price of oil could surpass \$150 a barrel, and it is likely that the average price of gasoline in the U.S. would shoot past \$7.00 a gallon.

If the price of gasoline jumps to record levels, many people across the world will blame the nation of Israel; we need to remind ourselves that the ones who started all this trouble is Hamas and the Iranians who sponsored the raid on Israel on October 7th. If the Iranians would have used their wealth on peaceful pursuits, the Iranians could have lived in luxury. Iran could have been one of the most prosperous countries on the entire planet. The Iranians are a bunch of fools, but we Americans are just as foolish as they are. The Biden administration has foolishly crippled our own energy sector and foolishly emptied our Strategic Oil Reserve. I hope things do not escalate in the Middle East, but I believe that we average Americans had better be ready for the storm.

Stilwell Lady Indians Wrestling



Stilwell Indians Wrestling Facebook

Congratulations to Adrianna Chronister who became a 3x National Qualifier at the freestyle tournament held at Union High School.

She will get to represent our state at Junior Nationals at Fargo, North Dakota in July. We are proud of you Adrianna. She is Stilwell's first ever female 3x qualifier.

Zion Public School

ON THE CAMPAIGN TRAIL

COMMENTARY BY JOHN BANKEL

Today's Trail Treks To..... K.O. - The Only Way To Go

More often than not, in a twist of irony, it is not the one who starts the fight that gets the blame; rather it is the one who retaliates who is found at fault. Israel is finding that out on a grand scale on the world's stage. Hamas threw the first punch on October 7 in a most brutal and barbaric way, inflicting a grievous wound on peace loving Israelis with their ambush. Any chance of a two state solution went out the window along with this sneak attack. Israel's resolve to defend itself by a systematic campaign to eradicate the scumbags that had perpetrated this heinous act has been looked upon by their enemies as genocide, thus making Israel the villain. There are plenty of haters of Israel to go around; what is surprising is that among those are plenty of folks who reside in America. Venturing a guess, they are all of the left-wing persuasion who, in their insane zeal desire to take down America along with Israel. The Biden regime turns out not to be a

friend and ally after all. Instead, Biden and his left-wing cronies are putting pressure on Israel to capitulate with a "cease-fire," a move that will only help Hamas to re-load and continue their genocidal campaign to rub-out Israel forever with their battle cry of "from the river to the sea." Israel is staying the course working diligently to land that knock-out punch. In a fight, K.O. is the only way to go.

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

John Bankel is a freelance journalist, retired High School Math teacher, football and wrestling coach who can be reached at: writewright@journalist.com
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2024 ORES Division II Track State Champions!!! Congratulations to our Jets!! We are so proud! Keep working hard! (Not pictured: Trey Kester, Cale Crittenden and Kade Sanders)



Congratulations to our Lady Jets!! They won 3rd place at the 2024 ORES Division II State Track Meet with 7 girls!! We are so proud of all of you and your hard work!! (Not pictured: Mariah Wolfe, Bristol Green and Macie Brown)



STILWELL SPORTS SPOTLIGHT

Commentary by John Bankel

The 2023-24 school year is rapidly coming to an end; so it goes each and every year. Following is an update on the seasons for Boys Baseball, Girls Softball, and Boys and Girls Soccer:

BOYS BASEBALL

The Indians found themselves in a re-building year and as such had a rough start to their season. After a dismal 1-13 start, the Indians have battled back to an 8-12 record, having won 5 out of their last 6 games; included in that streak is a 3rd place finish in the Checotah Tournament. Regional competition starts Wednesday, April 23.

GIRLS SLOW PITCH SOFTBALL

The Lady Indian's season comes to an end as they fall short to Perkins-Tryon in the regionals, 4 to 3. Great job this season Lady's and coaches. We are proud of you!

BOYS SOCCER

The Indians are enjoying a winning season so far having garnered an 8-5 record. In their most recent contest on April 23, they defeated the Grove Ridgerunners 2-1 on Grove's home turf.

GIRLS SOCCER

The Lady Indians soccer team have had their share of nail biters this season plus a few blowouts by their opponents. Their record, as of this writing, is 5-7. On April 23, they faced Grove. The score was not available at press time.

OSU Extension Office - Adair Co. Oklahoma



Oklahoma 4-H'ers recently took part in the 25th annual 4-H Day at the Capitol where they learned about the governmental process and shared the positive impact 4-H has on communities across the state. Sam Patterson and Suzy Stone represented Adair County. (Photo by Mitchell Alcala, OSU Agriculture)



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1 John 5:13 KJV

13 These things have I written unto you that believe on the name of the Son of God; that ye may know that ye have eternal life, and that ye may believe on the name of the Son of God.

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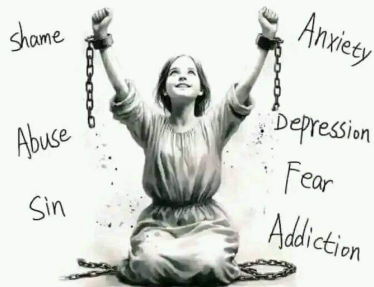
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WASTE MANAGEMENT

This is a generic list of things that are generally accepted as recyclable. These items change based on what your municipality has contracted the local recycler to collect and the technology employed by the local recycler. This differs from city to city, state to state. Please contact your local recycler for the exact information on what is accepted in your specific location.

<p>RECYCLING ACCEPTABLE ITEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aluminum cans • Brown paper bags • Cardboard • Catalogs, magazines and phone books • Chipboard (cereal boxes, shoe boxes, etc.) • Colored paper • Computer paper • Envelopes • Glass bottles and jars • Newspapers and junk mail • Plastic bottles and jugs • Tin and steel cans • Empty aerosol cans • White ledger paper 	<p>Recycle Day Schedule</p> <p>May 18th June 15th July 20th August 17th Sept 21st Oct 19th Nov 16th Dec 14th (2nd Saturday)</p> <p>Cathy Unger</p>
<p>RECYCLING NON-ACCEPTABLE ITEMS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aluminum foil • Auto glass or ceramics • Batteries • Film canisters • Light bulbs • Painted wood • Paper towels • Plastic grocery bags (Please return to your supermarket) • Plastic wrap • Porcelain • Styrofoam • Treated wood 	

Ephesians 2:8-10 KJV
8 For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God: 9 Not of works, lest any man should boast. 10 For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus unto good works, which God hath before ordained that we should walk in them.