

62nd Annual Strawberry Festival Stilwell, OK • May 9, 2009



*Strawberry Festival Queen
Jessika Baird*



Blake, Jason
 Brown, Liz, *President*
 Carson, Drew
 Carson, James
 Carson, Lynn
 Collins, Dan
 Crawley, Matt
 Crozier, Charles, *Treasurer*
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 Green, Marty
 Hallford, J.L.
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 Howe, Fred, *Secretary*
 Howe, Lillian
 Hoyt, Becky
 Hoyt, Matt, *Past President*
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 Jackson, Sharon
 Keen, Ralph
 Keen, Teresa
 Latta, Robert
 Knight, Nikki
 McCullem, Robert
 McCully, JoAnne
 McFarland, Hiram
 McPhearson, Collette
 Panter, Jim
 St. Pierre, Robert
 Winger, Mike



greetings and welcome to the 62nd Annual Strawberry Festival. On behalf of the Stilwell Kiwanis, I extend to each of you a warm welcome. The Strawberry Festival has again been voted the best festival in Oklahoma by the readers of the Oklahoma Living Magazine.

The festival was started to promote the strawberry industry in Adair County, and its continued success is the result of our strawberry growers, the Kiwanis and other civic and private organizations. It is one of Oklahoma's oldest festivals and has been held annually on the second Saturday in May since 1948.

The festivities begin Tuesday with a street dance on the courthouse square, the Miller Spectacular carnival on Wednesday through Saturday, and an IPRA rodeo is held on Friday and Saturday nights. Saturday is an event-filled day beginning with the 5K run, parade, live entertainment from City Moon and local musicians. Festival attendees will enjoy arts & crafts vendors, delicious foods, the prize winning strawberry auction, free strawberries and ice cream, and the all-school reunion.

Your attendance completes the festival and makes it a success. The proceeds of the festival are used by Kiwanis to continue their support of our children and our community. We are dedicated to changing the world one child at a time.

Have a wonderful time, enjoy the festival and God Bless til next year.

Liz Brown

President, Stilwell Kiwanis

Special Thanks

Stilwell Fire Department
Stilwell Police Department
Stilwell EMS

Adair County Sheriff Dept.
CN Marshal Service

For their valuable service in preparing city streets, controlling traffic and assisting us for parade line-up each year.

Eric Lathrop

For taking care of tents.

Rita Christie Photography

Our official photographer of the Strawberry Queen Pageant.

Schwan's
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For their contributions of free strawberries and ice cream served to the public on festival day.

AD-CO Kiwanis
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For their assistance in making festival day a success.

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Director of the Queen Pageant

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On behalf of the City of Stilwell, I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to the 62nd Annual Strawberry Festival.

The Kiwanis Club puts in a lot of hard work and many hours to put the Strawberry Festival together. I think this is one of the best, if not the best, festival in the state of Oklahoma or anywhere. This is a time to see old friends and make new ones.

If you need information, help, or if there is anything we can do to make the festival more enjoyable for you, see myself, any of our police officers, or any one of the members of the Kiwanis Club. We are here to help you have a wonderful time and enjoy your day. Also come and visit us often during the year.

Please come again,

James Collins, Mayor
City of Stilwell



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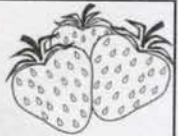
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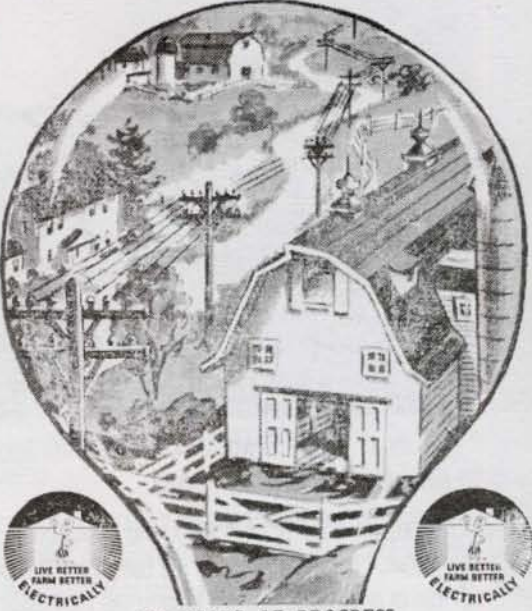


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Brad Henry
Office of the Governor
State of Oklahoma

May, 2009



Dear Friends,

It is my pleasure to welcome you to the Stilwell Strawberry Festival. This is one of Oklahoma's most popular and tasty outdoor festivals and an annual tradition that cannot be missed.

The Strawberry Festival is a wonderful opportunity for families to enjoy Oklahoma's amazing spring weather and a chance for the whole community to gather for good times and good food.

Thanks to all those who make this festival possible. Every year it's bigger and better than the year before. I hope you and your family enjoy this year's Stilwell Strawberry Festival

Sincerely,
Brad Henry
Brad Henry
Governor

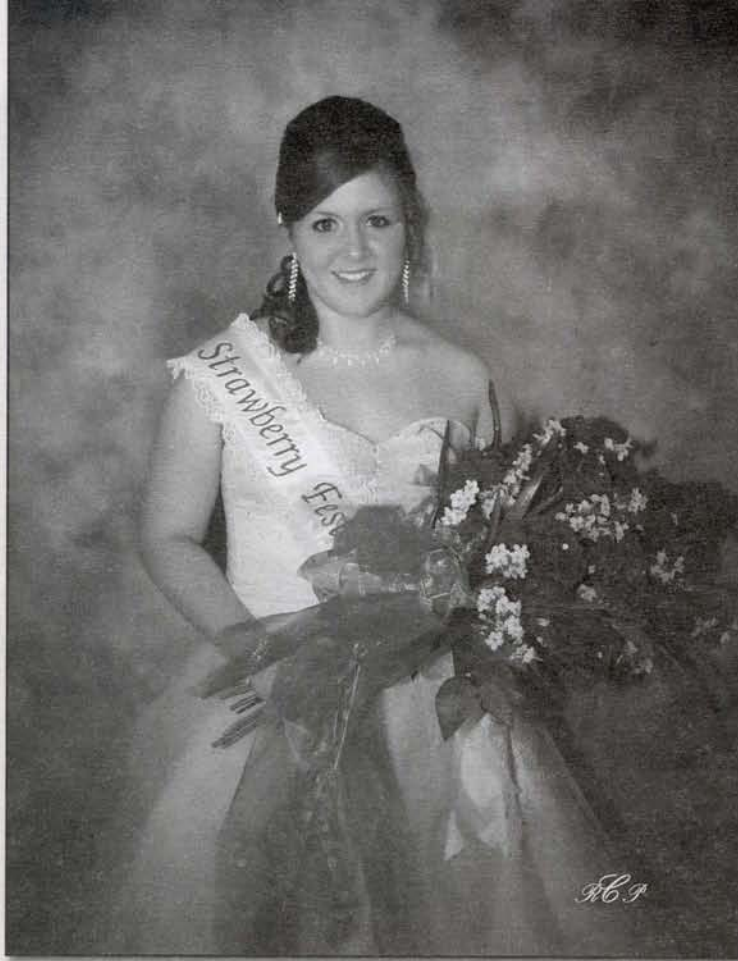
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Miss Jessika Baird

Queen Miss Jessika Baird is a senior at Stilwell High School and in the top 10% of her class. She is the 18-year-old daughter of Lisa and Scott Baird and the granddaughter of Billye (Baird) Scott and the late Leonard Baird and Lucille and the late Lester Kimble.

She loves to sing, dance and perform with the Reflections Show Choir. Jessika's talent was a vocal solo "Heaven, Heartache & the Power of Love" by Trisha Yearwood. She is also active in FFA, Key Club and Beta Club. She enjoys working with the Service and Leadership Class to help make her community a better place. Jessika plans to attend Northeastern State University and pursue a career in Pharmacy. She attends Lighthouse Church.

"I am genuinely thankful and flattered for the opportunity to serve as the 2007 Strawberry Festival Queen. As an ambassador for Stilwell, I promise to represent not only the town, but Adair County and my family as well, with eagerness and pride. I will take this task as a very serious responsibility, and look forward to serving and being able to give back to the community and its people who have provided me with so much throughout my life. I am sincerely thrilled about the year ahead of me and I know that this will be an experience that I will treasure for many years to come."



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2009 Festival Royalty

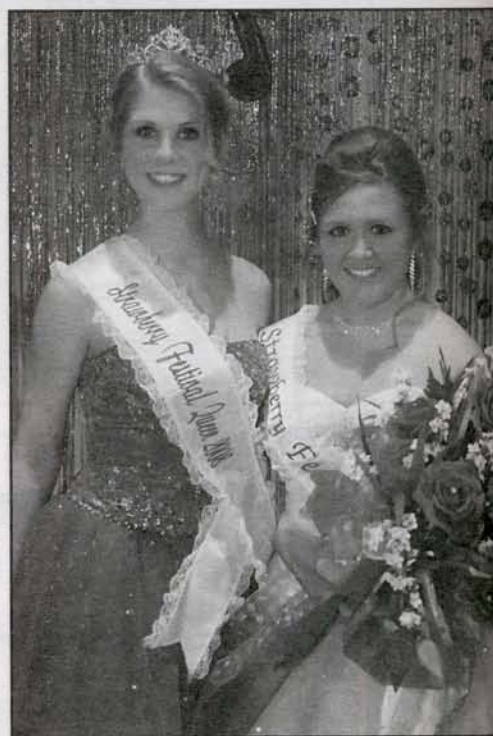


Kelsey Meyer

Kelsey Meyer is a 17 year-old junior at Stilwell High School. She is the daughter of Chris and Patty Meyer. She is active in many organizations at SHS that include FFA, FCCLA, Beta Club, and a member of the Lady Indians Basketball and Golf teams. She enjoys showing cattle and public speaking. Kelsey plans to attend college and become an orthodontist. Her talent was a humorous monologue entitled, "What! No Prom!"

Macy Goodwin

Macy Goodwin is the daughter of Mike and Lela Goodwin and is a 16 year-old sophomore at Stilwell High School. Macy loves singing and dancing, but her first love is sports. Every free moment she has she is involved in some kind of sport. She attends New Life Church and enjoys all the youth activities there. She plans to attend Northeastern State University and the University of Oklahoma to major in interior design. Her talent was a hip-hop dance to a remix of hip-hop music.



Special Thanks:

Melinda McGee, Pageant Director • Nikki Knight, Pageant Co-Director

Betty Barker, Kiwanis Liaison & Pageant Assistant

Teresa Keen, Laura Lundberg Pageant Assistants



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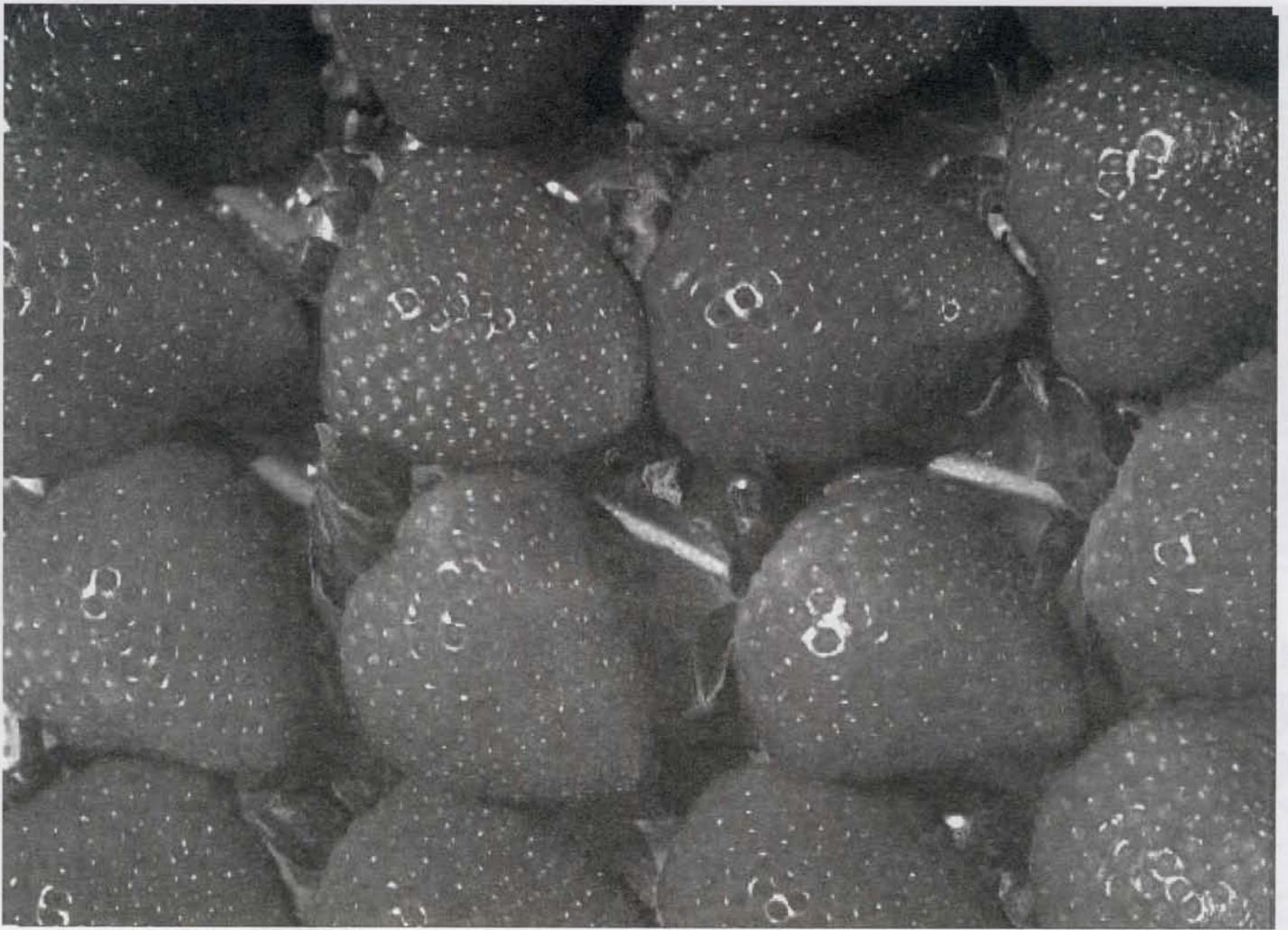


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1st Runners up

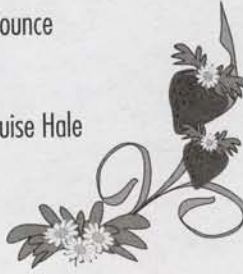
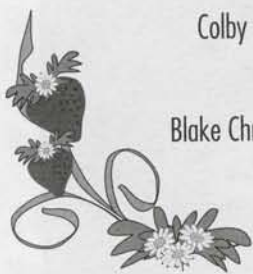
Colter Lee Keebler & Maddie Thurber

Prince and Princess

Colby Philpott and Ella Grace Mounce

2nd Runners up

Blake Christian Crozier & Kalen Louise Hale



Strawberry Prince & Princess

- 1982 Arnie Guffey & James Ex
- 1983 Heather Stilwell & Shane Garrett
- 1984 Deana Louise Martinez & Jason Kelly
- 1985 Joshua Eubanks & Lee Ann Mahaney
- 1986 Chad Jackson & Dala Dyan Kelley
- 1987 Kelley O'Neal & Timothy Nettles
- 1988 Susan Hill & Patrick O'Neal
- 1989 Matthew Terrell & Melissa Dawn Henson
- 1990 Jamie Lou Owen & Christopher (Cody) Willis
- 1991 Robin Owen & Travis Jon Thomas
- 1992 Jennifer Kookan & Joshua Kuykendall
- 1993 Holly Crittenden & Nicholas Pfeiler
- 1994 Tandy Ritchie & Zachary Taylor
- 1995 Tamara Thirsty & Caleb Taylor
- 1996 Keisha Worley & Ory Hoffman
- 1997 Samantha Butler & Cody Lee Killer
- 1999 Taylor Garrett & Landon Decker
- 2000 Hailey Cochran & Micah Hatchett
- 2001 Gabrielle Hope Bolin & Benjamin Scraper
- 2002 Breydon Hammer & Kaitlyn O'neal
- 2003 Maegan Fletcher & Logan Brack McPhail
- 2004 Tabitha Fishinghawk & Seth Fritts
- 2005 Tayler Fishinghawk & Joshua Noisewater
- 2006 Kanean Catron & Sydneigh Ray-Ruth Forkiller
- 2007 Cheyten James Sims & Blair Noblin
- 2008 Austin Cox and Zoe Nicole Beaumont-Scudder

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James Family Farm: (918) 696-3076

Doyle's Farm: (918) 696-2824

Andrew Cain: (918) 696-2652 & Rick Longshore (918) 696-9720

Baird's Farm: (918) 696-7850

Doyle' Country Garden: (918) 696-5369

Mikinzi Mathews: (918) 696-2021 & (918) 575-0516

Rudy Manon: (918) 507-1515

Dave Guevara & Antansio Reynaga: (918) 696-6960

The Strawberry growers pick the strawberries daily. Therefore, there are a limited number of berries to be sold on the actual festival day. If you wish to purchase berries, you must make arrangements with one of the growers to hold berries for you if you will not be able to make it into town until later in the day.

WELCOME TO THE FESTIVAL

This is a gala occasion for our community and Kiwanis Club—a day toward which we have been looking and planning for many months. We hope that our program will please you and the people you meet will give you a fair impression of our city.

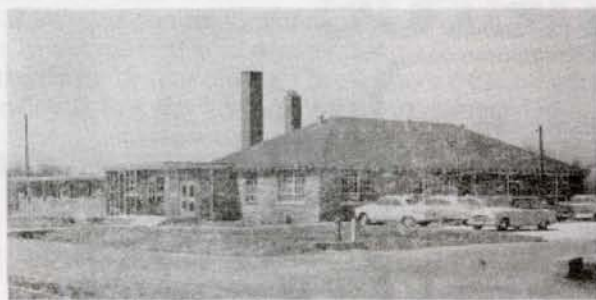
For all of my colleagues, I bespeak the sincerity of our greeting and the warmth of our hospitality. We welcome you most heartily to our Twelfth Annual Strawberry Festival.

JAMES H. DeJARNATT, President
Kiwanis Club of Stilwell

Kiwanis Club of Stilwell

James H. DeJarnatt
President
Jack Barham
Vice-President
Tobe O'Neal
Past-President

John Hedges
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Norman Bond
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Past Lieutenant-Governor



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Stilwell Oklahoma Coverlet

OUR PAST MIRRORS OUR FUTURE

BY
J.L. HALLFORD

The 62nd Annual Strawberry Festival being celebrated today here in Stilwell and surrounding areas has brought together probably the largest crowd ever assembled for a single event in the history of Adair County.

Long before the Festival was conceived in the minds of the civic leaders of Stilwell 62 years ago, the delicious red berry put in its appearance in the rich soil so perfectly suited to the production of the beautiful and tasty fruit.

No official record can be found of how and when strawberries were first brought into the area. Probably a few plants were grown in the gardens of the first settlers or even by the natives of Indian Territory long before statehood.

The earliest record found naming individuals growing berries on a commercial level was in the year of 1924. That year only three growers were living near Stilwell and two others were listed a short time later. The total acreage of these three growers could not have been more than 10 or 15 acres combined. The only market for these early growers was the market afforded by the local stores.

The first strawberry growers of the Stilwell district were: J.W. Auffet, J.W. Lewis and Mr. Sapp, whose given name or initials were not found. These growers were joined in a few years by nearby neighbors: R.N. "Bud" Fletcher and Floyd Starr. The only varieties grown in that time were the Klondyke and Aroma varieties. In later years, at the peak of strawberry production in Adair County, over 600 acres were harvested and many other varieties were developed.

For the first several years J.W. Auffet was the largest grower in the area and was the first from this district to ship and propagate plants for sale throughout Oklahoma and adjoining states. He very well should be given the title of "The Pioneer Promoter of the Stilwell Strawberry."

It is interesting to note that four of these first five strawberry growers and promoters still have family members living in this area. Two of those four families have members that are either actively growing berries today or helping to promote the Strawberry Festival.

John Auffet, grandson of J.W. Auffet, is currently Adair County's representative in the Oklahoma Legislature. He is also manager of the Adair County Orchard and has on at least three different occasions in the past won first place in the strawberry auction on festival day. He also is an active member of the Stilwell Kiwanis Club, sponsor of the Annual Strawberry Festival.

Betty Starr Barker, daughter of Floyd Starr, is no longer in the berry production business, but is a valuable and active member of the Stilwell Kiwanis Club and several other civic organizations of the city. She can always be found serving on one or more committees promoting the festival and the tremendous asset it is to Stilwell, Adair County and all of Eastern Oklahoma.

Loraine Lewis Clevenger, daughter of J.W. Lewis, is now retired but still lives in Stilwell and is willing to lend her support to promoting the festival in any way possible...

Several grandchildren and other relatives of R.N. "Bud" Fletcher live in and near Stilwell at the present time and are active in several community affairs. Several live in the rural areas and may or may not be still involved in growing and marketing strawberries at this time.

How true it is that our past tells us a lot about what our future will be.

**Welcome to the
62nd Annual
Stilwell Strawberry
Festival**



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Best of Oklahoma - Best Festival: Stilwell Strawberry Festival

When it comes to Oklahoma festivals, co-op members know to head to the strawberry capital of the world: Stilwell. Adair County's blushing freckled fruit has won the hearts of festival goers for 60 years. In fact, this is the second time Oklahoma Living readers have voted the Stilwell Strawberry Festival their favorite festival in the state.

Each year since 1948 the Stilwell Kiwanis Club has hosted the strawberry festival in Stilwell on the second Saturday in May. It all began as a way to promote the strawberry industry in Adair County, which in its prime was home to 30 strawberry growers. The slightly rocky soil of the region keeps the strawberries off the ground enough to allow them to ripen without rotting, making for perfectly delicious strawberries. Although the number of growers in Adair County has now dwindled, the festival continues to grow each year.

"After a long hard winter, it's just nice to get outside on a good sunny day and eat some strawberries," said Charles Crozier, an employee of Ozarks Electric and treasurer of the Stilwell Kiwanis.

Each year close to 30,000 visitors flock to Stilwell for the festival and stand in line for free ice cream and strawberries. The summertime treat is so popular that the line has been known to stretch three or four blocks, Crozier says. Festival goers can also enjoy a full day's worth of entertainment including a

parade, 5K run, carnival, vendors, live music and the crowning of the strawberry festival queen.

The strawberries from each grower are also judged and a champion is chosen. The champion strawberries are then auctioned off, with all proceeds benefiting the Kiwanis Club. Crozier said the winning strawberries are so good that people have been known to pay \$200 a berry for the winning box. Visitors can also buy strawberries to take home from the Adair County growers at more affordable prices. However, there is always a limited supply and Crozier says you should plan to buy your strawberries early.

"Usually the berries are in town by 10:30 or 11 a.m.," Crozier said "So as soon as you see berries, buy them and take them to your car. Don't wait until you get ready to leave that afternoon, 'cause I can guarantee if you do, there won't be any."

The strawberry festival provides one of the few opportunities for out-of-towners to get a taste of Stilwell berries. The strawberries are usually eaten close to home, Crozier says. They are believed to all be consumed within a 100-mile radius of Stilwell, making Tulsa the farthest they ever go. Despite the centralized reach of its fruit, the festival's reputation has become Stilwell's claim to fame.

"It's one of the things that Stilwell is known for that's in a positive light," Crozier said. "The Strawberry Festival is known east coast to west coast, north border to the south border of the United States."

To find out more about the Stilwell Strawberry Festival and the Stilwell Kiwanis Club, visit their Web site at:
www.strawberrycapital.com.

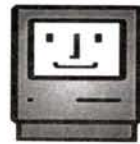


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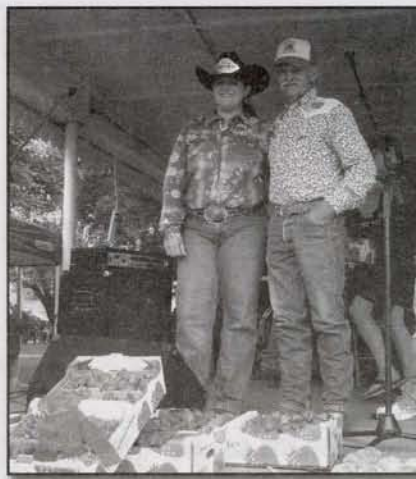
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2008 Auction Winners

Place	Auction Winner	Price	Buyer
1st	James Family Farm	\$ 3500	Cherokee Nation Enterprises
2nd	Harold Brannon	\$ 2500	Armstrong Bank
3rd	Bobby & Jane Doyle	\$ 2000	Bank of Commerce
4th	Andrew Cain	\$ 1700	Armstrong
5th	David Guevara	\$ 1200	Means Furniture
6th	Rudy Manon	\$ 1000	Freedom Finance



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List of Growers/Winners

The festival records indicate that competition among the growers was always present but it was not until 1957 that the festival booklet lists the name of the winner in the berry judging. It was not until 1961 that a winner is given, the amount the prize berries brought and who purchase the prize-winning berries was found.

Year	Winner	Price by whom
1957	Carlos Brannon	No record
1958	Carlos Brannon	No record
1959	No record	
1960	No record	
1961	Earl Woodward	\$145.00-??
1962	W.E. Luethje	\$150.00-??
1963	Edward Wolf	No record
1964	Edward Wolf	\$150.00-Vanderherden Oil
1965	No record	
1966	Willie Means	\$300.00-Vanderherden Oil
1967	Bob Cain	\$305.00-Stilwell Canning
1968	No record	
1969	Jack Wright	\$350.00-no record
1970	Bruce Wheeler	\$350.00-Stilwell Foods
1971	Leonard Baird	\$375.00-Stilwell Foods
1972	Leonard Baird	\$400.00-Stilwell Foods
1973	Gene Brannon	\$400.00-Stilwell Foods
1974	Leonard Baird	\$400.00-Stilwell Foods
1975	Leonard Baird	\$400.00-Stilwell Foods
1976	Johnny Auffet	\$675.00-James Leake
1977	Gene & Harold Brannon	\$1,025.00-James Leake
1978	O.D. Hooper & Son	\$1,350.00-James Leake
1979	Robert Bennett	\$-???-James Leake
1980	O.D. Hooper & Son	\$3,100-Razor Clam
1981	Boyd Holiman	\$3,600.00-Razor Clam
1982	O.D. Hooper & Son	\$3,000.00-Razor Clam
1983	Bill Auffet	\$2,750.00-James Leake
1984	O.D. Hooper & Son	\$2,500.00-Big B. Deli
1985	Andrew Cain & Sons	\$2,900.00-Bank of Commerce
1986	Andrew Cain & Sons	\$2,150.00-Big B. Deli
1987	Homer Hignite	\$2,000.00-Reasor's Foods
1988	O.D. Hooper	\$1,250.00-Stilwell Foods
1989	Baird's Stoney Point Farms	\$2,000.00-Bank of Commerce
1990	Darryl Lockard	\$2,100.00-Bank of Commerce
1991	Darryl Lockard	\$2,800.00-Bank of Commerce
1992	Darryl Lockard	\$3,000.00-Bank of Commerce
1993	Harold Brannon	\$-?- Only Crate Shown
1994	Leonard Baird	\$2,200.00-Bank of Commerce
1995	John Auffet	\$4,700.00-Vian State Bank
1996	Leonard Baird	\$4,500.00-Bank of Commerce
1997	Darryl Lockard	\$5,000.00-Bank of Commerce
1998	John Auffet	\$4,800.00-Armstrong Bank
1999	Dave Guevara	\$4,500.00-Stilwell Foods
2000	James Family Farm	\$5,000.00-Mrs. Smith's
2001	Baird's Stoney Point Farm	\$4,000.00-Armstrong Bank
2002	Adair County Orchard	\$4,200.00-Bank of Commerce
2003	Adair County Orchard	\$4,050.00-Rowan's IGA
2004	Adair County Orchard	\$3,000.00-Armstrong Bank
2005	Adair County Orchard	\$3,500.00-Royal Filter, Inc.
2006	James Family Farm	\$2,700.00-Bank of Commerce
2007	Baird's Stoney Point Farm	\$2,600.00-Armstrong Bank
2008	James Family Farm	\$3,500.00-Cherokee Nation Enterprises

FEATURED ENTERTAINMENT



CITY MOON is an Oklahoma country band whose broad musical background keeps them in the forefront representing today's country music. Using their outstanding instrumentation, vocal skills, and creative song writing for country hits, continuously proves that CITY MOON will not take a back seat to Nashville's best!

CITY MOON's current record label Rockin V Records released their latest CD "DOWN OUR ROAD". It's a collection of originals that were danced tested at many of the dance halls and festivals in Oklahoma, Texas and Kansas. It also contains covers of several of the musicians that have influenced their music over the years. It is currently in rotation in several radio stations in Europe, Australia and the online community around the world. You can purchase your own copy of this limited supply disc at www.cdbaby.com/cd/citymoon or at one of their many shows.

At a CITY MOON show you can hear music from Hank Sr. to Stevie Ray Vaughn and Lester Flat to Earl Scruggs. They'll play favorites from Classic Country, New Country, Original Country, Country Bluegrass and Classic Rock. You might just catch yourself tapping your foot to an Elvis tune. You can catch City Moon at many festivals in the Southwest and casino's in Oklahoma

CITY MOON's resume reads like a who's who of today's radio hit makers, which include: Trace Adkins, Mark Chestnut, David Ball, Lee Roy Parnell, Daryle Singletary, Wade Hayes, Asleep At The Wheel, The Texas Playboys...

CITY MOON has also had the opportunity to perform for many Celebrities like Roland Martin - Professional BASS Fisherman & Joe Hutchinson - Former State of Oklahoma House of Representative and Larry Adair - Former Speaker of the House for State of Oklahoma. In July 2000 & July 2004, CITY MOON performed at a major country music festival in Schleusingen, Germany www.ratscher.de/country/startseite.htm.

November 2004 CITY MOON had the honor of performing at the Oklahoma Music Hall of Fame www.oklahomamusichalloffame.com induction ceremony backing up native Oklahoman and legendary songwriter Merle Kilgore / Co-writer of Johnny Cash's big hit "Ring Of Fire".

CITY MOON's first CD was released on the Lunacy Records label, titled "WAY TOO HOT". It has become very popular among the country fans in Europe. Several songs have reached the .. 1 position and others continue to climb toward the top as well as being placed into heavy rotation by several European and Australian country radio stations. After joining the Lunacy Records label, CITY MOON completed a 13 city tour in support of "WAY TOO HOT!" The tour, sponsored by participating Wal Mart stores brought CITY MOON a status that is normally reserved for national label artists. Performing multiple tour dates with Nashville's hottest acts.

Members of CITY MOON are * Virgil Bonham - Lead Guitar/Vocals * Clifford Parrett - Bass/Vocals * Cory Wyatt - Drums/Vocals * Jim P. Blair - Rhythm/Banjo/Vocals *

You can keep up with them by visiting their Web site at www.citymoon.net and become a friend of theirs at their MySpace page www.myspace.com/citymoonband. Of course you can always stay in touch through their Email at: citymoon@citymoon.net

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May 6-9, 2009
Miller's Spectacular Carnival
located on Hwy 59 North

CARNIVAL TIMES:

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Stilwell, OK

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"A Run For the Berries"

Proceeds benefiting Stilwell Area Youth Programs

**Saturday, May 9, 2009
5K & Fun Run at 7:30 a.m.**

Stilwell, Oklahoma

Race begins on 2nd Street North of CV's Family Foods

USATF Certified and Sanctioned

Awards to top overall male and female winners

Top 3 male and female standard age group

1st 200 registered will receive a t-shirt

Contact information:

Michelle Sweeney • 918-696-8875

Registration begins at 6:30 a.m.

Pre-Registration \$15 - Race Day \$20

Timed by Glen's Road Racing Service

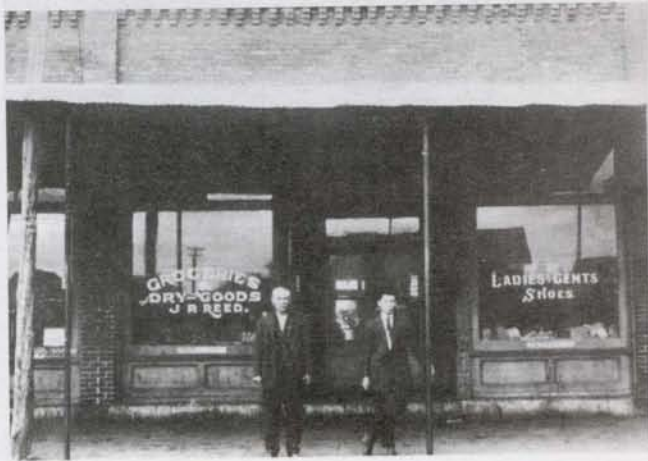


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Reed's Hardware

by Quentin M. and Gene Reed

Below: Ca. 1916: J.R. Reed (on left) and Lowery M. Reed (on right), grandfather and father of Quentin M. and Welch E. (Gene) Reed.



In the early 1900s, J.R. Reed started a business located on the property where the Bank of Commerce is now located, selling, according to the sign on the windows, "Dry Goods, Groceries, and Ladies' and Gents Shoes". Others in the business with him were his son, Lowery M. Reed and his wife, Sarah, and B.F. (Fay) Reed and his wife, Lillus.

Mr. J.R. Reed was a successful and prosperous businessman and pioneer in the early days of Stilwell. He was president of the First National Bank of Stilwell, chartered in 1911.

About 1932 Lowery M. Reed, C.J. Carson and R.L. Reese bought the Rogers Hardware & Furniture Company from W.M. Rogers. It was located across the street from the J.R. Reed business. They renamed the store Reed-Carson Hardware & Furniture Company and sold groceries, furniture, and John Deere farm equipment. The John Deere farm equipment was shipped from St. Louis, and some were shipped in "pool cars" with Lewis Brothers in Fayetteville, Arkansas.

After Lowery's death in 1934 until 1946 Sarah Reed, C.J. Carson, and B.F. Reed were partners in the business. Slogans for the hardware store were "Buy your hardware from a Hardware Store — the House of Quality Merchandise for Farm & Home" and "Quality remains long after the price is forgotten". Working in the business with Sarah Reed were B.F. and Lillus Reed, parents of Emma Dean Panter.

After returning from service in 1946 Quentin M. and Welch E. (Gene) Reed bought C.J. Carson's part of the business. The name was changed to Reed's Hardware & Furniture Company with Sarah Reed Bragg and her two sons as partners. After Sarah's death, Quentin Reed, Jr. became a partner.

Today Reed's Hardware is a franchised Servistar Dealer, selling plumbing, electrical supplies, hardware, paint, and floor covering. None of the success that Reed's Hardware has enjoyed in the past would have been possible without the help and support of B.F. Reed, Ross Reed, and Leonard Poor.

The following have also worked for Reed's Hardware at different times: Carl Reed (B.F.'s brother), Naomi (Sis) Reed, Doris Jo Reed, Austin Johnson, Dollie Sharp, Pauline Ray, and Jack Eubanks.

STILWELL HISTORY

Once a red haw thicket

Between two low-lying foothills of the Ozarks, lies the greatest little town on earth, Stilwell. These two foothills, worn down by the hand of time, still rock-ribbed and majestic, lie like lion's paws to protect this town with such an interesting history.

Stilwell, of course, was named for Arthur Stilwell, the man who built the Kansas City Southern Railway and served as its president.



Stilwell

He had envisioned the railroad line for years after having acquired a flair for railroading from his grandfather, Hamblin Stilwell, who had been one of the founders of the New York Central, as well as a builder of the Erie Canal.

The hill east of town (where the cross stands) is known as the Davis Mountain, named after the grand old man, Uncle Kenny Davis, who lived in a log cabin on its top for so long. He now lies buried within its shadow East of the mountain. This was a mecca for young people on Sunday afternoon when they could walk from town across the hill to the Davis cave and spring East of the mountain.

In 1895, when the Kansas City Southern Railway bought a right-of-way from Mrs. Martha Johnson and Mrs. Elizabeth Freeman, the present site of Stilwell was a red haw thicket interspersed with persimmon trees. Very soon lots were offered for sale and a town plat laid out.

Front street (which parallels the railroad tracks) had everything in the early days. The street consisted of a few grocery stores, one or two mercantile stores, a drug store and several restaurants. The residences were within radius of about a block around the town. The business district later expanded to Division and other streets.

Yes, there were board walks, covered over and supported by posts. The streets were lighted by kerosene lanterns hung on these posts. Between these same posts were boards which were originally intended for hitching racks but were occupied by the town's loafers.

In the early days of Stilwell, a trip by wagon to Evansville, Ark.—nine miles by highway today—took all day. As means of travel became more modern, one might get to the college at Tahlequah—24 miles now—by spending the day on the road.

A passenger could leave Stilwell at 5 a.m. on the Kansas City Southern, get off in Westville, walk across town to the Frisco depot where he could board a Frisco motor (a one-car train) later in the morning, and get to Tahlequah about the middle of the afternoon—by Mrs. Lucy Jane Makoske.



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Free strawberries and ice cream were served to thousands of Strawberry Festival visitors last year. Between 20,000 and 23,000 persons attended the Festival. Skies were clear, but the weather was comfortably cool.

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**6:30am-6:30pm
Monday-Saturday**

**9:00am-4:00pm
Sunday**

2009 Stilwell High School Outstanding Alumni

Rex Earl Starr & Mary Margaret Fletcher Starr



Rex Earl Starr

Rex Earl graduated in 1961 and Mary Margaret graduated in 1962. They married in the summer of 1966 and have two children, both of whom are graduates of Stilwell High School. Elaina graduated in 1994 and Rex Alan in 1995. Elaina is a graduate of Northeastern State University and Rex Alan is a graduate of the University of Arkansas. Rex Alan currently serves as a Navigator on the C-130's in the United States Air Force.

Rex Earl left Stilwell High School to attend Northeastern State College (NSU) and after one & one-half years went to Oklahoma State University where he graduated with a Bachelor's and subsequently a Master's degree in Agriculture Education. After spending several years on active duty in the military, he graduated from the University of Tulsa School of Law in 1972.

Rex Earl began his military career at OSU in the Air Force ROTC. He then joined the US Naval Reserve in Stillwater until receiving a commission as a Second Lieutenant in the US Army. While in the Naval Reserves he spent time in San Diego, California, Galveston, Texas, New Orleans, Louisiana, and San Francisco, California.

He then entered the Army and was able to complete a wide variety of schools. His Army assignments included stints at Fort Sam Houston, Fort Wolters, and Fort Rucker. During this period of active duty he spent a year in Vietnam as a helicopter pilot in the Medical Service Corps as a Combat Helicopter Medical Evacuation Pilot.

After release from active duty he transferred to the Army Reserves. In all, he put in over 40 years of service in the military. He has a wide variety of training and other experiences including 2 short tours of duty in Korea. He received various medals and awards during his time of service and was awarded the Master Army Aviator designation. He retired from service in 2004 with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel.

Since graduation from the University of Tulsa Law School, Rex Earl has had a vast career in law. He served as Assistant District Attorney for Adair County from 1975-1983. After that he was an Assistant United States Attorney. He currently has a private practice in Stilwell. He has served as General Counsel for the Cherokee Nation, and is currently Municipal Judge for the cities of Stilwell and West Siloam Springs. He represents a number of school districts and other public entities.

Rex Earl is an active member of the First Christian Church where he has served as a Elder, Deacon and member of the church board.

Mary Margaret Fletcher Starr

Mary Margaret went to Northeastern State College (NSU) for one year after graduating from SHS. She then attended Oklahoma State University where she graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in Home Economics Education. While Rex Earl was stationed in Texas, she taught Home Economics at Mineral Wells High School. Upon returning to Oklahoma, she worked as a home service advisor for Public Service Company of Oklahoma for a number of years.

When Mary Margaret and Rex Earl returned to Stilwell after he completed law school, she became a full-time homemaker with a multitude of side interests. She has contributed greatly to the needs of the community by maintaining a large number of low-income rental properties thus serving those who might otherwise be disenfranchised. She is an active owner and buyer for Fletcher Hardware, the longest family owned business in Stilwell and is the owner of a small loan business. She currently serves on the Arvest Advisory Board of Directors where she has served since they opened.

Mary Margaret has been a Sunday School teacher at the First Christian Church for over 36 years. As a member of the church she serves in a wide variety of capacities and seems to fill any hole that needs to be filled. She quietly goes about her world looking for ways to show compassion and care for the young and the elderly alike. There are a number of elderly people who will tell you that Mary Margaret is always there to take them to doctor's appointments, make sure they are being taken care of and in general, seeing to their needs. This she does with no expectations nor hidden agendas. She simply does it because she sees the need and cares. By the same respect, there are a number of little ones who know and love Mary Margaret because she has been available for them, too. She represents a true picture of the Proverbs 31 woman.



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The Origin of Strawberries

When first man was created, he lived with the mate Creator gave him. When they began to quarrel, first woman left her husband. The man followed, sad and crying, but first woman kept going and never looked behind. Unetlanv, the Creator, took pity on first man and asked him if he was still angry with his wife. He said he wasn't, so Unetlanv asked him if he would like to have her back. He answered, "yes!"

Unetlanv put a patch of the finest ripe huckleberries in the path of first woman, but she passed right on by. A little further, he put a big clump of blackberries, but she didn't notice these, either. One by one, Unetlanv put fresh fruits in her path, but these she also refused to see. Suddenly, she saw a patch of large, ripe strawberries in front of her. She had never seen these before. She bent down to gather a few to eat, and as she picked them up, she thought, "My husband would love to eat these!" She gathered a bunch of the finest berries and started back along the path to give them to him. He met her with joy, and together they went home.

Today, strawberries are often kept in traditional homes. They remind us not to argue, and are a symbol of good luck.

Welcome to the Annual Stilwell Strawberry Festival!



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CHEROKEE NATION®
Common Values. Common Ground.



Chad Smith
Principal Chief

Joe Grayson, Jr.
Deputy Principal Chief



2006



1998



1978



1979



1980



1981



1982



1983



1964



1968



1965



1969



1966



1970



1967



1971



2001



2002



2003



2004



2005



1976



1977



1978

62ND ANNUAL STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Tuesday, May 5, 2009

7:00 - 10:00 p.m. Adair County Street Dance on the Courthouse Square.
DJ and concession - Everyone is Invited.

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Strawberry Day at the Capital

Wednesday, May 6 - Saturday, May 9

The Miller Spectacular Carnival will be set up on Highway 59 North.

Friday, May 8, 2009

8:00 p.m. Stilwell Roundup Club sponsors the Strawberry Festival Rodeo.
The rodeo grounds are one mile north of Stilwell on Highway 59.

Saturday, May 9, 2009

7:00 a.m. Second street from North end to Highway 100 West will be closed &
Division Street from First Street to Fourth Street will be closed. NO THRU TRAFFIC.

7:30 a.m. 5-K Run for the Berries: Check in will be on 2nd Street,
North of CV's Family Foods

8:00 a.m. Farmers market at the Public Library. Market will be at 8 a.m. every
Saturday and Wednesday through October.

8:00 - 9:00 a.m. Stilwell High School Reflections Show Choir
Middle School Choir will be performing on the bandstand.

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Stilwell Community Choir performing at the Bandstand.

9:00 a.m. Parade Check in begins at Ed's Auto Parts, 1020 N. Second Street.

10:00 a.m. Strawberry Festival Parade on Second Street

**BY CITY ORDINANCE - NO THROWING OF ANY OBJECTS
FROM ANY PARADE ENTRY- VIOLATORS MAY BE CITED**



IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE PARADE: THE 2009 STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL QUEEN JESSIKA BAIRD WILL BE CROWNED AT THE BANDSTAND & PARADE WINNERS WILL ALSO BE ANNOUNCED.

- 12:00 p.m. Live Entertainment at the Bandstand: City Moon
- 12:00 - 4:00 p.m. Adair County Depot will be open for visitors.
- 1:00 p.m. Horseshoe Throwing Contest at 3rd & Olive.
- 2:00 p.m. Berry Awards and Auctioning of the Champion Berry Growers & Strawberry Recipe Auction at the Bandstand.
- 3:00 p.m. Free Strawberries and Ice Cream will be served courtesy of the Stilwell Kiwanis, Schwan's, CV's Family Foods and Hiland Dairies.
- 3:00 - 4:00 p.m. Live Entertainment at the Bandstand: Watts Praise Team
- 4:00 - 5:00 p.m. Live Entertainment at the Bandstand: Liberty Band
- 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. Live Entertainment at the Bandstand: Hinge Band
- 6:30 p.m. All School Reunion at the High School
- 8:00 p.m. Stilwell Roundup Club presents the Strawberry Festival Rodeo and Rodeo Queen Coronation.
Rodeo grounds are 1 mile north of Stilwell on HWY 59 North.

ALL DAY: Arts and crafts booths will be open on Division street and surrounding areas. Food booths and merchandise vendors will also be open.



Serving the
Children
of the World



1972



1994



1973



1995



1974



1996



1975



1999



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Float from Cherokee Nation Industries won first



Stilwell Roundup Club standard bearers



Prize-winning Bank of Commerce float



Stilwell Foods' entry was a prize winner



Serving the
Children
of the World

The Stilwell Democrat Journal



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&

The Westville Reporter

122 S. Williams Street • P.O. Box 550
Westville, OK 74965
(918) 723-5445 • Fax (918) 723-5511



Stilwell Democrat - Journal & Westville Reporter Staff:

Publisher - Gary Jackson, Editor - Keith W. Neale, Westville Editor - Ramona Brown,
Ad Manager: Melissa Garris, Office Manager - Betty Neale, Typist - Brittany Tatum,
Composing - Christina Fuson, Delivery - Keith S. Neale

Kiwanis
is a proud sponsor
of the Annual Stilwell
Easter Egg Hunt



O.D. Hooper and William Hooper display their crate of strawberries that won the grand championship at the 1978 Strawberry Festival. Each quart contained about 16 huge berries.



William Hooper, right, shakes hands with Bob Hower, representing KTUL-TV, Tulsa, after Hower successfully bid \$1,350 for the Hoopers' champion strawberries.



New Life Church
and
Pastors Max & Karen Ford

Welcome You to The
62nd Annual Strawberry Festival

www.nlcstilwell.org

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Stilwell, OK
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Fax (918) 696-2070

E-mail: colelaw@windstream.net

Lloyd - Melissa - Gloria



2008 Strawberry Queen Tawnie Goodwin with Sophia Duch



ADAIR COUNTY DISTRICT COURT

220 W. DIVISION
STILWELL, OK 74960

JEFF PAYTON
DISTRICT JUDGE
Adair & Sequoyah

LIZ BROWN
ASSOCIATE
DISTRICT JUDGE

"Enjoy the Festival"

Welcome to the Festival



JERRY S. MOORE

DISTRICT ATTORNEY
DISTRICT 27

**Adair
County
Court Clerk**

Paula
"Sam"
McCarter

696-7633

**Adair
County
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Rhonda Pritchett

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for over 20 Years.*

Carrie Philpott

696-7198

At mid-afternoon, the strawberry auction was on the bandstand. The auction brought \$8,550 for 10 crates.

AUCTION RESULTS

Auction results are listed with the placing, exhibitor, address, strawberry variety, buyer, and price:

- 1st- O.D. Hooper, Stilwell, Cardinal, Stilwell Foods, Inc., \$1,250.
- 2nd- Adair County Orchard, Stilwell, Cardinal, Means Furniture, \$750.
- 3rd- Darryl Lockard, Stilwell, Cardinal, Rowan's IGA, \$1,250.
- 4th- Baird's Stoney Point, Stilwell, All Star, Bank of Commerce, \$900.
- 5th- Bob Cain, Stilwell, Cardinal, Reasor's \$750.
- 6th- Homer Hignite, Stilwell, Cardinal, MidFirst Savings and Loan, \$1,050.
- 7th- Harold Brannon and Son, Stilwell, Atlas, Bank of Commerce, \$1,000.
- 8th- W. O. Pierson, Prairie Grove, Ark., Cardinal, Guy Strickland Chevrolet and Olds, \$500.
- 9th- James Woodward, Tahlequah, Cardinal, Guy Strickland Chevrolet and Olds, \$550.
- 10th- Gladys Woodward, Stilwell, Cardinal, Stilwell Foods, Inc., \$650.

62nd Annual Rodeo Friday & Saturday 8 p.m.

Located on Highway 59 • North of Stilwell



2008 Rodeo Queen
Tessa Mays



2008 Rodeo Sweetheart
Shawna Hamlin



Sooner Supply

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Mike L. Ketcher - Broker/Owner
Carolyn Walkingstick
Broker Associate/Owner

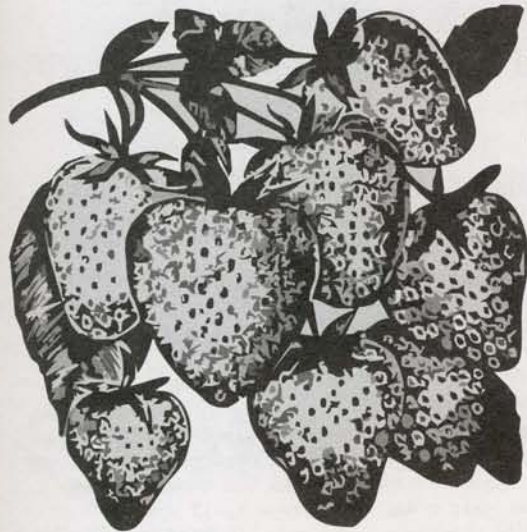
www.unitedcountry.com/stilwellok



Stilwell High School band



Cherokee Nation's float in 1978 parade



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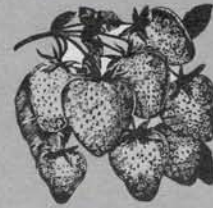
Serving Adair & Cherokee Counties



Queen and her court with Lt. Gov. Jari Askins

STRAWBERRY DAY

at
the



STATE CAPITOL



Kiwanis at Strawberry Day at Capitol



Kiwanis with Lt. Gov. Jari Askins



Betty Barker and Larry Adair at the State Capitol for Strawberry Day



House of Representatives

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

SHAWNEE'S BEST SHORTCAKES

2 cups Shawnee Baking Mix
2 Tablespoons Shortening
2 Tablespoons, Sugar
Scant 2/3 cups Water

Mix all the above ingredients together.
Roll out about 3/4 inch thick. Cut with biscuit cutter or cut in squares to preferred size. Brush tops with melted butter. Bake in 450 degree oven 10-12 minutes.
Serving suggestion: Serve with *STILWELL* strawberries and whipped cream.

State Representatives Larry E. Adair, D- Stilwell and Robert H. Henry, D- Shawnee, submitted this recipe which is officially recorded in the Oklahoma House of Representatives official proceedings of the Fortieth Legislature, May 15, 1985.

2008 HORSESHOE PITCHING WINNERS

SINGLES

- 1st Bobby Harjo
- 2nd Jerry Daniels
- 3rd Ronnie Livers



DOUBLES

- 1st Gary Littledave, Billy Vann
- 2nd Leon Bell, Jody Vann
- 3rd Donald Qualls, Bobby Harjo



2009 Mr. Fabulous is Tyler Davis

HARRIS LAW OFFICE

Barrett Harris
Attorney and Counselor at Law

401 West Division - Stilwell, OK 74960

Phone (918) 696-4725

Fax (918) 696-4735

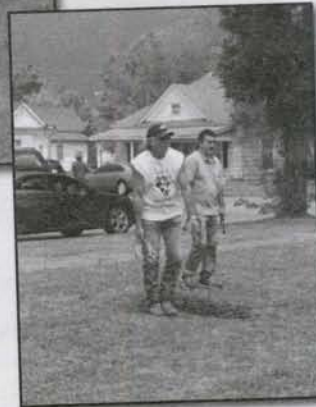
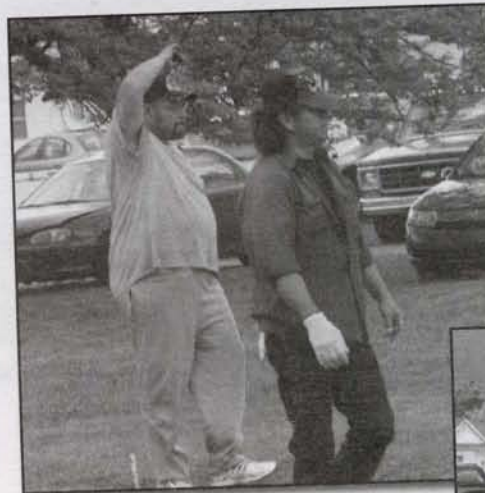
harrislawofficepc@yahoo.com

Stilwell Smoke Shop

119 W. Cedar
Stilwell, OK

696-5096

Kiwanis Club Sponsored Events
Applications online @ www.strawberrycapital.com



Horseshoe throwing contest at 3rd & Olive Street.

Entry Fee \$10 single, \$10 doubles

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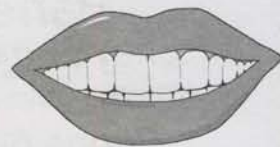
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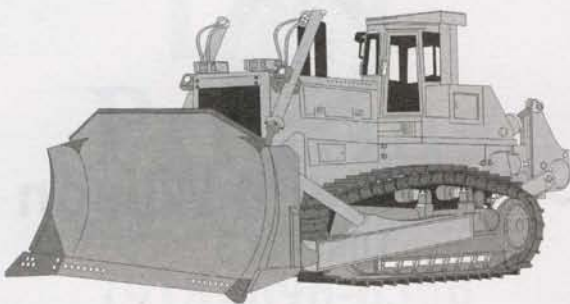
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AdCo Kiwanis recently adopted Bell Schools as an honorary member of the organization. AdCo will sponsor several Kiwanis programs at Bell during the next year including Kiwanis One Day, Young Children Priority One, Read Around the World, and Bringing Up Grades. Present for the adoption ceremony were (left to right): Penny Dotson, president; Lynda Hagar, secretary; T.J. Mankiller, secretary; Oddette Saxon, Bell School librarian; Nancy Oosahwe, Bell School Superintendent; and Delois Buckner, president elect.



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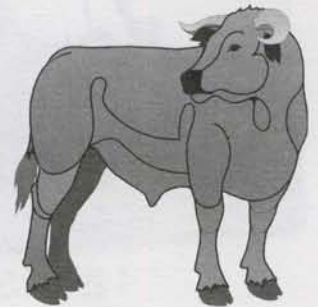
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Betty Starr Barker

A Stilwell native, born January 26, 1929 to Floyd and Ada Starr, Betty was the youngest of 12 children. She was a 1945 graduate of Stilwell High School and completed the requirements for a BS Degree in Education from NSU in 1949. She and Bill Barker were married in 1950 and were the parents of a daughter, Dianne Barker Harrold and a son Billy Barker. They have three granddaughters, Angela Jones, Melinda Cookson, and Leah Harrold, as well as 10 great grandchildren and 1 great-great granddaughter.

Betty was an educator for almost 40 years, of which the last 31 1/2 years were at Stilwell Elementary School. Although she retired in 1989, she continued to teach adult literacy and GED Classes for several years and still teaches Sunday School, and AWANAS and directs Vacation Bible School at Stilwell First Baptist Church.

After her husband Bill died she began active participation in various civic and community organizations which includes Adair County Retired Educators, Stilwell Area Chamber of Commerce, Kiwanis, and several historical organizations. She was privileged to chair the committee that published the History of Adair County in 1991 and was a member of the committee that in 2003 published The Cherokee Adairs, a family history.

The project of which she is most proud is the restoration of the Kansas City Southern Railroad Depot, a joint effort of the Adair County Historical and Genealogical Association and the City of Stilwell. With an Oklahoma Department of Transportation Grant and matching funds from other sources the five-year project was completed and the depot was dedicated on May 7, 2004. Today it houses the offices of Kibois Area Transit System, Stilwell Area Chamber of Commerce and The Adair County Historical and Genealogical Association. Betty can be found at the Depot several days a week and considers it her home away from home.

Betty was recently honored in NSU's Centennial Ceremonies and Events on March 6, 2009, as one of 100 Centurions who were graduates of Northeastern State University. An honor bestowed on 100 folks who have made a difference in their world and community and have carried forward the traditions of NSU.

She believes that God would have her to be a participant of life not a spectator.



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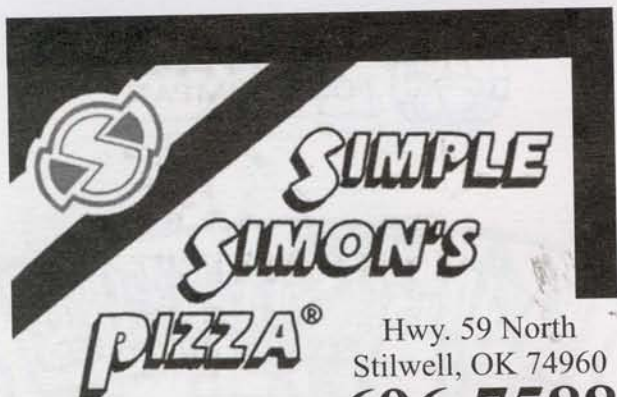
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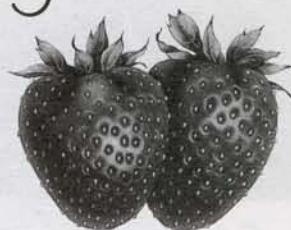
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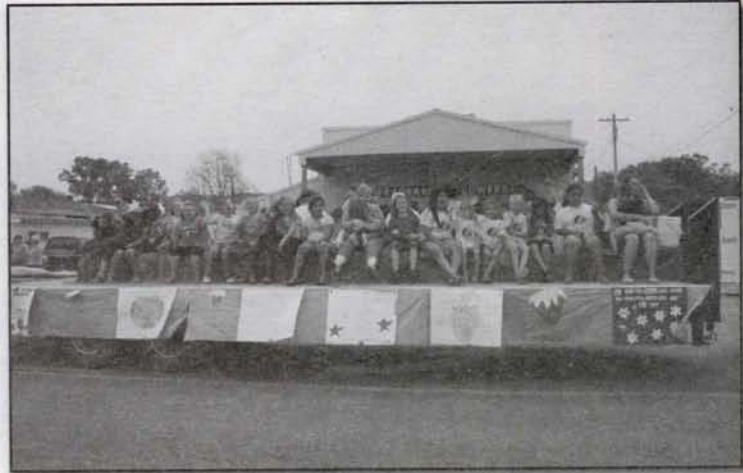
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2. Otto Anderson 1947

3. Jack Chaffin 1948

(1st Strawberry Festival organized under his leadership)

Queen - Miss Patsy Reed
(Mrs. Bob Leatherwood)

4. Joe H. Carson 1949

Queen - Miss Patsy Prock

5. Jean R. Reed 1950

Queen - Miss Carline Emerson

6. Barnes Pemberton 1951

Queen - Miss Patsy Lee

7. Norvell Henley 1952

Queen - Miss Norma Lee Latta

8. Gene L. Gray 1953

Queen - Miss Delores Steddum

9. Kenneth Rains 1954

Queen - Miss Barbara Caviness

10. John McGinnis 1955

Queen - Miss Bessie Phelps

11. Jack K. Holt 1956

Queen - Miss Annetta Johnson

12. Berry A. Ferguson 1957

Queen - Miss Mary Jane Cabe

13. D.C. (Tobe) O'Neal 1958

Queen - Miss Deloris Nofire

14. Jim DeJarnett 1959

Queen - Miss Monaray Stanfill

15. Jack Barham 1960

Queen - Miss Shirley Tate

16. Kenneth Carleton 1961

Queen - Miss Deveryl Butler

17. Colbert Starr 1962

Queen - Miss Marilyn Todd

18. Ben Briley 1963

Queen - Sandy J. Goodall

19. Julius H. Thomas 1964

Queen - Miss Deanna Briggs

20. Wade Zumwalt 1965

Queen - Miss Calene Green

21. W. Neil Morton 1966

Queen - Miss Rita Kay Carson

22. L.T. Spray - 1967

Queen - Miss Karen Nichols

23. J.L. Hallford 1968

Queen - Miss Carolyn Carson

24. H.D. Gound 1969

Queen - Miss Beverly Green

25. H.D. Gound 1970

Queen - Miss Margaret Couch

26. Phil Ketter 1971

Queen - Miss Donna Padgett

27. Jack Perry 1972

Queen - Miss Kathy Rosebeary

28. Larry Roberts 1973

Queen - Miss Lydia Lewis

29. Charles O. McFarland 1974

Queen - Miss Nina Reagan

30. Jack Smay 1975

Queen - Miss Karen Baublitt

31. E.R. Kirkbride 1976

Queen - Miss Dalana Hudgins

32. Larry Strauss 1977

Queen - Miss Tammy Smothers

33. Jim Young 1978

Queen - Miss Betsy Cox

34. Larry Eubanks 1979

Queen - Miss Donna Terrell

35. John Freeman 1980

Queen - Miss Vicki Guthrie

36. Tom Todd 1981

Queen - Miss Stephanie Goodall

37. Charles W. Crozier 1982

Queen - Miss Monico Martinez

38. Jack E. Kay 1983

Queen - Miss Brenda Lawrence

39. Dean Jackson 1984

Queen - Miss Shellie Cureton

40. Bobby Ray 1985

Queen - Miss Cheryl Tackett

41. Jim Carson 1986

Queen - Miss Charlene Green

42. Andy Innman 1987

Queen - Miss Stephanie Cain

43. Hiram McFarland 1988

Queen - Miss Jamie Johnson

44. Mike Doublehead 1989

Queen - Miss Angela Brewster

45. Robert Crozier 1990

Queen - Miss Angela Ross

46. David West 1991

Queen - Miss Skye Hume

47. Reggy Cox 1992

Queen - Miss Rachelle Ritchie

48. Lynn Carson 1993

Queen - Miss LaNetta S. Green

49. Drew Carson 1994

Queen - Miss Michelle Clifton

50. Jim Panter 1995

Queen - Miss Nikki Knight

51. Clyde Enlow 1996

Queen - Miss Jamie Taylor

52. Charles W. Crozier 1997

Queen - Miss Sara Cox

53. Alan Adams 1998

Queen - Miss Kristy Marlin

54. Chad Catron 1999

Queen - Miss Sarae Janes

55. Nason Morton 2000

Queen - Miss Crystal Dooley

56. Gary Johnson 2001

Queen - Miss Susan Hill

57. Michael L. Taffer 2002

Queen - Miss Breanna Walker

58. Robert St. Pierre 2003

Queen - Miss Laura Ketcher

59. Robert St. Pierre 2004

Queen - Miss Leslie Ketcher

60. Ralph Keen, Jr. 2005

Queen - Miss Megan Eubanks

61. Ralph Keen, Jr. 2006

Queen - Miss Holly Crittenden

62. Larry E. Adair 2007

Queen - Miss Charbrace Rhea

63. Matt Hoyt 2008

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64. Liz Brown 2009

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