



Out of the Blue

by Kate Duchamp

Route 66 Small Town Comparisons

As the Route 66 Centennial approaches, it's a good time to make sure Vinita shines as bright as, or brighter than, other towns along America's most famous highway.

Places such as Tulsa or Amarillo aren't appropriate to compare with Vinita because they are so much bigger and they each have one big iconic landmark... Tulsa's Blue Whale and the Cadillac Ranch outside Amarillo.

So, choosing a town for pur-

poses of helpful comparison, two things are needed: 1. approximately the same population and 2. some friendly tourist attractions.

Needles, California meets

both those requirements. So

let's see how Vinita holds up.

First, Vinita's name, while not as memorable as Needles, is certainly more elegant.

Each town has a museum (admittedly there is some bias here), and Vinita's history museum has a much more at-

tractive presentation.

Both towns have one major

downtown mural each. The

mural that graces the corner

of Illinois and Wilson (at

the dogleg turn of Rte 66) gives

more historic information

than the one in Needles.

Needles definitely has us

beat when it comes to train

travel. Amtrak stops in Ne-

edles for passengers traveling

west and east. Jealously

abounds on this issue. When

a train stops in Vinita, it's un-

scheduled and a nuisance to

drivers.

Vinita's sign at the entrance to town on the east side is charming and welcoming. Needles landmark sign is colorful and, unlike Vinita's, is easy to reach for taking photographs but it's a little on the oddball side.

Vinita's Bull Creek is no

match for the beautiful Colo-

rado River which runs along-

side the town of Needles and

offers amazing recreational

opportunities. But how about Grand Lake? Not that far.

While not considered tourist

attractions, grocery stores are

handy for travelers who want

to have a picnic or snack on

a fresh apple. There is no

grocery store in Needles! No

Walmart!

On the other hand, Vinita

has a hometown grocery store

since 1952 with a beautiful

produce department and a

wide range of dairy and gro-
cery items. And Walmart, of course.

Many other comparisons exist between these two Route 66 small towns. But just one more difference remains for today's balancing act: Needles average high temperature in July is 110 degrees. Average high temperature in July for Vinita is a mild (comparatively) 92.



Welcome signs in Vinita (inset) and Needles, California.

LEGALS

PUBLIC NOTICE
(Published in the Vinita Daily Journal November 5, 12 and 19, 2025)

Anybody interested in a 2014 Hyundai KMHDH4AHEU162166 call Tim

417-396-0906

PUBLIC NOTICE

(Published in the Vinita Daily Journal November 19 and 26, 2025)

In order to satisfy a contractual lien, the contents of the following storage units will be sold on Saturday, November 6, 2025, 10:00 a.m. at Langleys Storage Center, 1650 N. 3rd St. Vinita, OK 74301. 918-418-0792

#A2 Patrick Rogers PO Box

3594 Altyn OK 74331

#A5 Robert Lowe PO Box 514

3594 Altyn OK 74331

#A4 & E8 Kenneth Legg 1166

Hickory Lane Vinita OK 74301

#A18 Destiny Smoot 832 Elm

272 Ketchum OK 74145
#43 Kenneth Rosicka PO Box 272 Ketchum OK 74145

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Hickory Lane Vinita OK 74301

#A18 Destiny Smoot 832 Elm

Vinita OK 74301
#A36-A37 Jerry & Joyce Sinor

498 S Park Ave Vinita OK 74301

#A38-A39 Dennis & Silvia 1058 N.

429th Pryor OK 74361

#A42 Bonnie Carpenter 360

Leisureland Drive Big Cabin OK

74301. 918-418-0792

#A44 & A47 Rodney Swank

1209 N Cedar Ave Tahlequah OK

74446. 918-423-2604

#A49 Glenna Guirro 2604 S

Sheridan Apt 3 Tulsa OK 74129

#E47 Jason Tilley 10930 245th

Steeleoks OK 74421

#F50 Shirley Morris 32768 S

4480 Vinita OK 74301

#F16 Benjamin Brasher PO

Box 14 Ketchum OK 74331

#F17 Alvin Hodges 1213 E

380 Rd Big Cabin OK 74332

#G1 Roy & Julie Fincel PO Box

108 Big Cabin OK 74332



Murals in the downtowns of Vinita (inset) and Needles, California.



Interior view of the museums in Vinita (inset) and Needles California.

BOOST YOUR BUSINESS!

ADVERTISE With us
Great Rates - Great Service!
We ensure that your ad looks great and gets the attention it deserves!

Contact Janet Link
918-256-6422

THE JOURNAL

C R O S S W O R D

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12				13			14		15	
16				17			18			
19				20			21			
23				24						
25	26	27		28			29	30	31	
32				33			34			
35				36			37			
38				39			40			
41				42			43			
47	48	49		50			51			
54				55	56		57			
58				59			60			
61				62			63			

S U D O K U

7	8	5	1	3	2	6	9	4
2	3	6	9	8	4	5	1	7
1	9	4	5	6	7	2	3	8
3	6	7	8	5	1	9	4	2
5	2	1	7	4	9	8	6	3
8	4	9	3	2	6	7	5	1
9	7	3	2	1	5	4	8	6
6	1	2	4	9	8	3	7	5
4	5	8	6	7	3	1	2	9

ACROSS

- 1. Ignore socially
- 5. Admit frankly
- 9. Govt. corps
- 12. Ankara dollar
- 13. City in India
- 15. A sweeping success
- 16. Playing of hostility
- 18. Before a battle or mat
- 19. A relative
- 20. Barker of filmstars
- 21. Small stream
- 23. Charisma
- 24. Equine sport
- 25. Vein in the center of a leaf
- 28. Humiliating error
- 32. Actor Stoltz
- 33. Block of type metal
- 34. Fix, in a sense
- 35. Cal or Georgia
- 36. Strokes on the green
- 37. Addition column
- 38. Against, prefix
- 39. Civil unrest
- 40. Battle the clock
- 41. Made of animal hide
- 43. Quenches
- 45. Pebble or boulder
- 46. Had down pat
- 47. Laundry covering
- 50. Breakfast cereal
- 51. Big heart
- 54. Kingly Norse name
- 55. Concluding section of an oration
- 58. Crossfire group
- 59. Group of three
- 60. Contract variety
- 61. Author's last word
- 62. Address word
- 63. Hard to handle

Down

- 28. Pretended
- 29. Like raised oars
- 30. Cyclist Armstrong
- 31. Cell destructions
- 33. Idiosyncrasy
- 36. Principle
- 42. Barnyard critter
- 43. Trapped
- 44. Al Capp's hyena
- 46. Reykjavik cash
- 47. Church head
- 48. A dash of dash
- 49. Come down to earth
- 50. Verve, Italian style
- 51. Celts' land
- 52. Target
- 53. Exclusively
- 55. Drop the ball
- 57. Bearing pivot

Sudoku uses pure logic and requires no math to solve. It is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the number 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once.

7	8	5	1	3	2	6	9	4
2	3	6	9	8	4	5	1	7
1	9	4	5	6	7	2	3	8
3	6	7	8	5	1	9	4	2
5	2	1	7	4	9	8	6	3
8	4	9	3	2	6	7	5	1
9	7	3	2	1	5	4	8	6
6	1	2	4	9	8	3	7	5
4	5	8	6	7	3	1	2	9