HENNESSEY SET TO ENTER NATIONAL STAGE WITH FIRST U.S. IODINE EXTRACTION PLANT

By Ruth Ann Replogle



Coming in August, Hennessey residents will notice changes west of town.

Iodine Star Inc., a Texas-based company with Jewish and Ukrainian roots focused on creating an iodine national reserve for the United States, will open its first-ever iodine extraction plant five miles west of Hennessey.

Dr. Nick Sakharov, who is one of Iodine Star's vice presidents responsible for business development and investment, recently sat down with All About Hennessey to discuss what this means for Hennessey, the state, and even the nation.

Dr. Sakharov said one of their goals is build several iodine extraction plants in Oklahoma, which will allow the U.S. to become self-sufficient in iodine and lithium rather than importing it from other countries like the nation does now.

Iodine is commercially used in pharmaceuticals for cancer screening, wound treatment and to regulate metabolism, disinfectants, LCD matrices, printing inks and dyes, catalysts, animal feed supplements, and photographic chemicals to name a few.

And it's one of the components found in the oil and gas by product called

DISCOVER HENNESSEY PROJECTS APPROVED

The Hennessey Board of Trustees voted to approve 3 of the 6 proposed items that Jack Quirk presented at the regular meeting last Thursday, June 15th. Quirk said, "This has been a lot of work and a long time coming." The six items Quirk proposed included, a new Downtown Pavilion, Oklahoma Street lighting, new park signage, curb clean-up, drilling the sidewalks for flags, and banner frames.

The first item the board approved is the new Pavilion that will be built on the old lumber yard site on West 1st Street. The Pavilion will be built in stages. Stage one will include a 50x100 structure with a roof and no sides at this time. This will be built with all-new steel and will be constructed by Hennessey Metal Building at no charge, but for naming rights. It will be called "The John Deutschendorf Memorable Pavilion."



 $This is a \ rendering \ of \ what \ The \ John \ Deutschendorf \ Memorable \ Pavilion \ could \ look \ like \ when \ all \ phases \ are \ complete.$

Quirk said, "This would not be possible without the support from several individuals and companies that are donating to make this happen, in addition to Hennessey Metal Buildings." Richard Simunek is donating the adjoining land south of the site, and Lightle Sand & Construction has donated the fill dirt needed to elevate the site. Daniel Concrete Construction will be building the concrete piers.

Additional phases to the pavilion may include 25-foot shed extensions on each side creating a 100 X 100 finished structure, concrete floors, walls, concessions, restrooms, and HVAC system. Quirk said, "Some of these additional phases may be considered with private donations."

continued on page 4

continued on page 5

This paper

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TOWN VOTES TO IMPROVE FIELD USED FOR SOCCER

During Thursday's meeting, June 15th, the board discussed the field located at the intersection of West Oklahoma Street and Cemetery Road, which is the former Hennessey dump that was reclaimed and is now a recreational area. Harold Shaw proposed that the area be mowed, rid of weeds, and improved for those who play soccer on the field. A group of young men attended the meeting to explain their specific needs for the area. The idea of leveling the field was also suggested. The board approved the proposal to brush hog, mow, weed, and level the area to make it more suitable for the young soccer players.



CELEBRATING 70 YEARS

Last Saturday afternoon, June 17th, was a special day for Dale and Billie Melendy, who celebrated their 70th wedding anniversary surrounded by their loved ones. The Hennessey First Christian Church fellowship hall was abuzz with excitement as family and friends flocked to congratulate the couple on their momentous milestone.

Guests were treated to a delightful sight as they entered the hall, with a stunning table filled with photos of the Melendy's life journey together. From their early years as newlyweds to their golden years, every photo was a testament to their love and dedication to each other. A full-size wedding photo took center stage, reminding everyone of the beautiful beginning of their love story.

The event was a true celebration of love, commitment, and the beauty of a long-lasting marriage. Dale and Billie Melendy are an inspiration to us all, and we wish them many more happy years together!





FIRST CONCRETE POUR AT FIREHOUSE



The Hennessey Fire Station improvements are in full swing with demo complete the first concrete for the foundation was poured on Thursday, June 16th. The construction company has been dealing with all the rain lately but appears to be on schedule.

damage was reported.

-HENNESSEY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER-

MORE CRAZY WEATHER L

So far this summer, Hennessey has experienced its share of severe weather. It seems like we have had a severe storm almost daily this month and Last Saturday night (June 17, 2023) was no different. Hennessey was pounded by 80 MPH winds when a fast-moving severe thunderstorm moved through the area at about 10:30 pm. There was some minor small tree damage and flooding. A boat blew into the road at 436 N Oak and a truck spun out of control and ended up in a ditch near 7th St and S Mitchell Rd. Other than that no major



Lightning captured during the storms June 17th by Libby Seiger





Lakin the Snake Hunter!



It was a tale of bravery and quick thinking last Friday, June 16th, as 11-year-old Lakin Smith became a true snake hunter when he saved the day at the town pool. As he was at the pool, he spotted a massive snake slithering towards the water.

Without missing a beat, Lakin sprang into action and caught the huge serpent before it could cause any mayhem. The lifeguards were in awe of his bravery and hailed him as a hero for his quick thinking. But Lakin wasn't done yet - he knew this snake needed to be released back into the wild, so Lakin let the snake go out by the softball fields. Everyone was thankful to Lakin for his snake hunting skills.

-HENNESSEY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER-

POLICE REPORT

JUNE 12-20, 2023

Speeding 16-20 Over	\$227.00
Shrout, Daniel Edward of Drummond, OK Speeding 11-15 Over	\$212.00
Loudermilk, Derek Austin of Norman, OK Failure to Yield to Emergency Vehicle	\$265.00
Dershem, Jessy Leann of Enid, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Dershem, Jessy Leann of Enid, OK	
Speeding 1-10 Over Juarez Avila, Victor of Chickasha, OK	\$185.00
Improper Equipment Lopez Velaquez, Edi Bladimir of Rosewell, NM	\$90.00
Driving Left of Center Hankins, Lamarr DeQuawn of Oklahoma City,	\$197.00
No Drivers License in Possession	\$165.00
Hankins, Lamarr DeQuawn of Oklahoma City, Speeding 21-25 Over	\$267.00
Hankins, Lamarr DeQuawn of Oklahoma City, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Grant Jr., Walter of Ada, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Lopez, Anthony Lee of Enid, OK	
Following too Closely Pulliam III, Randal Wayne of Tulsa, OK	\$197.00
Speeding 1-10 Over Mangiantini II, Christopher Louis of Elk City, OK	\$185.00
Speeding 11-15 Over Negrete Serralde, Manuel Hiram of Ames, OK	\$212.00
Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Ford, Valerie of Sutton, NE Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Snyder, Nykolaus James of Hennessey, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Leard-Means, Ethan Robert of Houston, TX Seatbelt (Adult)	\$20.00
Ousley, Matthew Dale of Carson City, NV	
Speeding 1-10 Over Ousley, Matthew Dale of Carson City, NV	\$185.00
No Insurance Ireland, Weston Marty of Bison, OK	\$180.00
Expired Tag/Failure to Pay Taxes Due to State Ireland, Weston Marty of Bison, OK	\$265.00
Failure to Devote Full Time Attention	\$265.00
Ireland, Weston Marty of Bison, OK Seatbelt (Adult)	\$20.00
Ireland, Weston Marty of Bison, OK Failure to Maintain Proper Lane	\$197.00
Ireland, Weston Marty of Bison, OK Improper Equipment	\$90.00
Note, Fred of Enid, OK	
Improper Equipment Jones, Zonthomas Denton of Enid, OK	\$90.00
Failure to Maintain Proper Lane Aboite-Lopez Javier Fernando of Hobbs, NM	\$197.00
Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Liserio Jr, Adam Paiz of Oklahoma City, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Lopez Gomez, Jose DeJesus of Enid, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Guzman, Hector of Oklahoma City, OK No Drivers License in Possession	\$165.00
Guzman, Hector of Oklahoma City, OK	
Speeding 1-10 Over Arambula Arambula, Marcos of Enid, OK	\$185.00
Speeding 11-15 Over Calzadillas Villalba, Josue of Hennessey, OK	\$212.00
Improper Equipment Delonge, Auston Michael of Enid, OK	\$90.00
No Drivers License Issued Delonge, Auston Michael of Enid, OK	\$365.00
Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Koehn, Cristine Marie of Texhoma, OK Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Briley, Linzie Rae of Hennessey, OK Expired Tag/Failure to Pay Taxes Due to State	\$265.00
Horton, Austin Marc of Ponca City, OK Speeding 16-20 Over	\$227.00
Purcell, Evan Clayton Gerlinger of Oklahoma City, O	K
Speeding 11-15 Over Thompson, Ethan Kole of Fairview, OK	\$212.00

COMMUNITY COMES TOGETHER FOR THE BEST FAMILY



The community came together in a big way last Saturday, June 17th, to support the Best family at a fundraising event organized by the Community Action Team. With around 100 people in attendance, the event was a huge success and a true testament to the power of community.

Guests were treated to hamburgers served with all the fixings. The highlight of the event was the silent and regular auction, which raised an impressive \$8500 for the family. The funds will be used to help cover utility and medical bills, providing muchneeded relief for the family during a difficult time.

If you would like to contribute to this worthy cause, donations can be made at CSB with "Best family" written in the memo line. Every little bit helps. Thank you to the Community Action Team, for organizing such a successful and heartwarming event, our community and local businesses for making it a success!



Continued Discover Hennessey Plans

The second item approved is new signage for Bullfoot and Memorial Parks. Quirk said, "These new signs will carry the new branding look that we have established using the town's new logo."

After quite a bit of discussion, the board approved several items that will essentially cost nothing if the town crews do the work. These include drilling holes in the sidewalks in front of all the businesses that will allow flags to be inserted without using buckets and stands. On a side note, the Hennessey Lions Club is wanting to place American flags on Main St during special holidays and events. This will be a fundraiser for the club.

Quirk proposed hiring a construction company to clean off all of the curbs along Main St. that have dirt build-up making it difficult to mow and keep neat. The board discussed many options but concluded that the town now owns the equipment and can do this work in-house.

Two items were passed on. They included the Oklahoma St. lighting improvement and banner Frames. The proposed lighting project included stringing LED lights across West Oklahoma St., between Main St. and the alley. This was passed on because the lights needed to be attached to the buildings and permission was not yet cleared from the Meises building on the south side of the street. The final item that was passed on was frames that would properly hold event promotional banners.

ennessey

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-HENNESSEY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER-

BERT GRITZ RESIGNS AS FIRE CHIEF

Bert Gritz, who has served as the Hennessey Fire Chief since 1986 and as a firefighter since 1978 has retired effective June 30, 2023. The new chief position will be applied for and filled by one of our current firefighters. Bert stated in his resignation letter, "I have full confidence in the capabilities of Assistant Fire Chief James Matousek along with Captains Brandon Scott, Dustin Munroe, Terry Berkenbile, Jake Streck and Logan Macy, along with the rest of our dedicated firefighters to continue to excel as one of the best volunteer fire departments in the state. Please accept my gratitude in allowing me to serve this amazing community!"





saltwater or oilfield brine. Millions of gallons of this hazardous waste produced from fracking are then meant to be safely discarded at a saltwater disposal wells (SWD).

lodine Extraction continued

The wastewater contained in a SWDs is of no benefit to humans or to the land in its disposal form; in fact, if spilled, it can result in contamination as recently seen near Hillsdale, Oklahoma.



The second goal Iodine Star has, Nick said, is when they extract the iodine from the saltwater previously disposed at their wells, after the water flowback they will purify the water, making it usable again. This demand for fresh potable water will make it a commodity just like the iodine.

SO WHY HENNESSEY?

Iodine Star surveyed iodine levels in Texas and Oklahoma and found "Oklahoma has the best iodine," Dr. Sakharov said. Despite Texas being a leader in oil and gas, the Lone Star State only has a concentration of 60-100 micrograms of iodine per liter. Whereas Oklahoma has over 200 micrograms per liter.

In addition, Nick said, Oklahomans are much more interested in protecting the environment, finding fresh water solutions from saltwater disposal, and being cost-efficient in the process.

For over a decade, there has been a saltwater disposal site west of Hennessey that several area oil and gas companies utilize called Red Hawk SWD. That is the site Iodine Star is up to acquire; it will be handling saltwater disposal there hopefully later this summer.

As companies dispose of their saltwater, lodine Star will be testing that water to determine the concentration of iodine and come up to them proposing better pricing. And hopefully, by Christmas, Dr. Sakharov said, the company should be able to extract iodine from the saltwater being disposed. The last piece of equipment, he said, is en route across the Atlantic Ocean. He explained it will take five to six months to finish construction of the iodine extraction plant.

lodine Star will stand up a base of operations within Kingfisher County to manage this inaugural iodine extraction plant. Nick said he will temporarily live in the area—he hails from Houston—to oversee the Hennessey plant and the second proposed plant slated to open outside of Dewey County's tiny town of Oakwood, nearly 60 miles southwest of Hennessey. His office eventually will be at the Oakwood site.



The third goal of Iodine Star is these iodine extraction plants will boost the local economies, Dr. Sakharov said, by creating jobs both through the construction and the hiring and training of the workforce. Plus, as word gets out about their sustainable water purification, he said companies from across the region will seek to do business in Hennessey and Oakwood.

The company's owner, Mrs. Lia Neumann, strongly believes in partnering with local businesses and schools and strengthening America's rural communities as part of her vision to keep the U.S. an economic global leader. Learn more about Iodine Star at iodinestar.com.

UPCOMING EVENTS



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EAT IT UP
FARMSTEAD FURNITURE
MAIN STREET LIQUOR STORE
HENNESSEY MERCANTILE
TURKEY CREEK MERCANTILE
EAGLE SNOW

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, June 21 10 – 11am Littlest Patron Playtime (ages

Thursday, June 22 12 – 1pm Lions Club Meeting at Family Cafe

Saturday, June 24 6 – 9pm Wine, Dine and Shop Main Street

> Tuesday, June 27 4 – 5pm Teen Funtivities Club Hennessey Public Library

Wednesday, June 28 10 – 11am Littlest Patron Playtime

Thursday, June 29
Youth Golf tournaments Turkey Creek Golf Course
12 – 1pm Lions Club Meeting at Family Cafe

Saturday, July 1 8 – 9am Men's Breakfast First Christian Church 500 E 3rd St,

Tuesday, July 4
Hennessey 4th of July
Independence Day Starts at
the Aquatic Park

Wednesday, July 5 10 – 11am Littlest Patron Playtime

Thursday, July 6
12 – 1pm Lions Club Meeting at Family Cafe
6:30 – 7:30pm OK2A Meeting Vernost

Friday, July 7 10am Library opens late

Monday, July 10 4:30 – 5:30pm Library Board 7 – 8pm School Board Meeting

Tuesday, July 11 4 – 5pm Teen Funtivities Club Hennessey Public Library

Wednesday, July 12 10 – 11am Littlest Patron Playtime

Thursday, July 13
12 – 1pm Lions Club Meeting at Family Cafe
6 – 7pm Town Board Meeting

Monday, July 17 6:30 - 7:30pm JH/HS Softball Pictures

HENNESSEY LISTINGS

TOWN OF HENNESSEY IS NOW HIRING

The Town of Hennessey is looking for qualified candidates to apply for the position of "Accounts Payable/Payroll clerk". Applicants should have a positive "can do" attitude and work well with others. This position has deadlines to meet, so being able to handle some stress is a BIG plus. Candidates must have skill and experience with computer programs used in accounting practices, as well as balancing cash drawers. An exciting benefits package includes, insurance - paid holidays -2 weeks paid vacation after the first year, and sick days

Applications can be acquired at Hennessey Town Hall







Have something for the paper? contact

angie@kjfilmworks.com

GAVIOTAS MEXICAN RESTAURANT IS HIRING

There are still a few positions left for the new Gaviotas Mexican Restaurant opening soon. They are looking for Servers and Cooks. For more information you can contact them at 405-642-2969 from 9AM - 5PM.

Morning Shift 8AM - 3PM Afternoon Shift: 3PM-10PM

Monday - Saturday & Off Sundays

If you're interested in applying you can visit

Gaviotas Taco Bus at 112 N Main St at the south end of the restaurant. There will be applications available.

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Dietary – full-time position **Contact Reda for more information.** 405-853-4390



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THE ALL ABOUT HENNESSEY POST PUBLISHED WEEKLY ON WEDNESDAY BY KJ FILMWORKS **AT PO BOX 332 HENNESSEY, OKLAHOMA 73742**

Jack Quirk Publisher, CEO **Angela Bruner Managing Editor** Libby Seiger Multi-media Journalist To put something in the paper, contact Angela Bruner at angie@kjfilmworks.com Amy Smith for Advertising 405-853-1270 Lisa Quirk Office Manager







FOURTH OF JULY CELEBRATION!



HENNESSEY LION'S CLUB PRESENTS
IT'S 2ND ANNUAL CARDBOARD & DUCT TAPE BOAT RACES!

Tuesday, July 4th, at the Hennessey Aquatic Park (Hennessey Pool) To enter the Cardboard & Duct tape race, it is \$20 for a 4 man team.

The first launch is at 6:00pm.

Check in is at 4:00pm & Closes at 5:00pm

Ping pong ball race will follow boat race with balls costing \$1 each!

So start gathering your cardboard boxes

and planning your boat!













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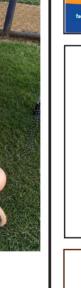
High School Softball Camp

Front row: Kelie Choate, Milly Cassel, Leah Dickens, Jaryn Dowell, McKayla Henning, 2nd row- Kyra Smith, Tayler Franklin, Clare Munroe, Joselyn Roman, Esme Calderon, Valeria Villareal 3rd row - Kallie Rapp, Katie Kennedy

Coaches: Lee Linsenmeyer & Lisa Bossa Mom help was Randi Franklin and Chelli Rapp



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-HENNESSEY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER-

HENNESSEY TAKEDOWN CLUB SUMMER THROWDOWN

On Saturday, June 17th, the Hennessey Takedown Club held its Summer Throwdown event and welcomed participants of all ages. The event was originally planned to take place on the football field, but with the threat of severe weather, was moved inside the Eagle Event Center. Seventy-one competitors, ranging from 2 to over 50 years old, competed in wrestling matches. Not only did locals join in but people traveled from outlying towns like Kingfisher and even came from Kansas for a chance to



participate. The stadium was buzzing with about sixty people, all cheering on the participants. Kona Ice and Antojitos Oasis had stands ready to serve snow cones and other food for everyone who'd come out to watch.

Each wrestling coach was involved, with Coach Ryan Kelly getting the chance to compete against the Kingfisher Youth Coach. He joked afterward, "It was funny because normally we're the ones teaching and yelling at these kids, but this time they were cheering me on from around the mat."

As a fundraiser for the youth wrestling club, Coach Kelly reported that a "good amount" was raised that will go back into helping the program.













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