

# The All About HENNESSEY POST

Volume 7 • Number 9 • Wednesday, February 28, 2024

-HENNESSEY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER-

# MAJOR FIRE WEST OF HENNESSEY

Hennessey Firefighters were dispatched to an out-ofcontrol brush fire at about 12:30 pm on Saturday, February 24th, about 2 miles southwest of Lacy. The fire burned hundreds of acres of brush and pasture land between NS2740 and NS2730 Rd, north of E630 Rd.

High winds gusting to 20 mph out of the southwest made it difficult to gain control of the massive fire that looked like a wall of flames and smoke at times.

Only one home was in the direct path of the fire and in imminent danger. Pene Cline's home had the fire come right up to the house before it was put out. Several local farmers helped with discing and Kingfisher County sent 2 graders to cut fire blocks.





Hennessey Firefighters set up a command base about 1-1/2 miles south on NS 2730 Rd on an oil well location. Kingfisher County Emergency Management helped coordinate efforts for support from Kingfisher, Major, and Blaine Counties for taskforce help. Firefighters who assisted Hennessey came from Ames, Loyal, Dover, Okeene, Isabella, Cleo Springs, Waukomis, and Meno. Later that evening additional help arrived when Weatherford and Custer County sent firefighter task forces to the scene.

Kingfisher County Sherriff helped with traffic control and the American Red Cross arranged for food for the crews. Tony Blackburn, owner of Golden Chick brought out 100 meals for the firefighters along with several others who brought out food and supplies for the crews.

The crews got the fire under control and cleared the scene at about 10:30 pm Saturday night. Hennessey sent two trucks out Sunday morning to check on things to be sure there were no hotspots or flareups. Photos & Story by AAH Jack Quirk

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## **SIGNING DAY**

Last Tuesday, February 20th, was signing day for Joseph Davis, a Hennessey Student heading off to college. In most cases, this celebration is sports-related. That's not the case for Joseph; he is the first Hennessey student to sign on to the Garden City Kansas Community College in the Ag Tech program. Joseph will receive a full scholarship through Western Equipment to attend the John Deere Tech program.

Joseph has had a lot of experience working on a farm. Not only did he enjoy working with his hands, he discovered he was pretty good at it. Joseph is currently an intern with Circle B Diesel in Hennessey. Joseph found this internship through the Hennessey School Career & Internship Program, directed by Kim Hallmark. This program matches students with businesses, allowing them to experience real-life dayto-day operations in a career field they are interested in.

Last summer, Joseph was accepted into an eight-week paid internship with Western Equipment in Alva, Oklahoma. A lot of time was spent learning about John Deere equipment. At that point, he decided to become a John Deere Technician. When he completes his two years at GCCC he will have an Associate in Applied Science along with certifications in hydraulics, wiring, and welding. Story and Photos by AAH Jack Quirk





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#### THE ALL ABOUT HENNESSEY POST FEATURES STUDENTS FROM THE HENNESSEY HIGH SCHOOL INTERN PROGRAM EACH WEEK. THIS WEEK'S STUDENT IS JIMENA MIER AND JAEL TORRES

**Jimena Mier**, a senior at HHS has chosen nursing as her career choice and is interning at Pulmonology Associates in Enid, OK. Her mentor is former HHS graduate, Dr. Sarah Matousek.

Jimena was born in Vail, Colorado, but has lived in the Hennessey most of her life. She has been active in volleyball both as a player and manager of the team. She is a member of the National Honor Society, YAHL, and served on the yearbook staff for one year, and is a member of the youth group at St. Joseph's Catholic Church. In her personal time, she loves helping her dad take care of their horses.



Jimena originally had ambitions of being a

respiratory therapist but later changed her mind and decided on a nursing career. Her mentor, Dr. Matousek is a pulmonary and critical care doctor at Integris in Enid. Jimena is spending her internship on the critical care side of things. She starts morning rounds with Dr. Matousek in the ICU area and has observed nurses in action as they dispense medication, check vitals, and help patients with breakfast.

One of the more exciting things that she observed was a patient having a biopsy done. She has seen a lot of things in ICU that might cause the average person's stomach to turn, however, she understands these uncomfortable situations are part of the job of a critical care nurse. She also knows that some of the patients in ICU will not recover and she has had experience with death while interning in the ICU area. When asked if she was comfortable removing the IV lines from a deceased patient she didn't even hesitate.

Jimena is so appreciative of Dr. Matousek and Integris for letting her take part in this experience. She had to go through the same protocol that college interns go through to participate in an internship there. It took some time before she was able to start, but in the end, Jimena said the experience had been worth it. After graduation, Jimena plans on attending the University of Central Oklahoma to earn a B.S. Degree in Nursing.



Jael Torres was born in Kingfisher, Oklahoma and he has lived in the Hennessey area all of his life. He is an intern at Kenyon Chiropractic and Red Earth Animal Chiropractic in Enid. Dr. Arnold Kenyon is his mentor. Jael has stayed busy the last four years playing basketball for the HHS Eagles and last year received recognition for reaching the 1000 points mark in his high school career. In addition to receiving a trophy for his remarkable fete, he also became a member of the 1000 Point Club. In his free time, he likes to spend time with his friends and play basketball.

Jael recently started his internship with Dr. Kenyon and has been enjoying every minute of it. As much research as he has done on this particular field of interest, he has discovered that there is still a lot he doesn't know. Dr. Kenyon has shared with him how he identifies the pain in patients by going through a six-point system and how he uses this to identify the target area that needs to be treated.

What Jael finds most interesting about his mentor is Dr. Kenyon's second business, Red Earth Animal Chiropractic. It is here that Dr. Kenyon treats animals. He treats dogs, cats, cattle, hogs, horses, and this time of the year, show animals. Jael made a trip with him out to a nearby farm one day to check on a horse. Jael is considering becoming an animal chiropractor as well. He appreciates the time that Dr. Kenyon has spent by explaining everything to him step by step and how he has also guided him to research a couple of colleges he can consider for pursuing his degree.

After graduation, Jael is considering UCO or Northwestern for his basics. He will then apply to a postgraduate college to receive his Doctorate of Chiropractic degree.

Jimena Mier and Jael Torres are part of the Hennessey School Career & Internship Program. This program, directed by Kim Hallmark matches students with business allowing them to experience real-life day-to-day operations in a career field they have an interest in.

-HENNESSEY'S HOMETOWN NEWSPAPER-

### Lady Eagles Regional Matchup!

The Lady Eagles faced off against the Pawnee Lady Bears Friday, February 23rd for their first regional game. The Bears are a good team, so the Eagles would have to play their best to drive home victorious. Pawnee got out to an early lead, but the girls stayed within striking distance. They hit a 3 to cut the lead to just 4 at the end of the first. Gaining even more ground early in the 2nd, before Jaslene Garcia-Howell started firing on all cylinders down low, and the Bears would take a 10 point lead into half. That of which they would not give up. Garcia-Howell and Emoree Fields would combine for over 40. Pawnee would take home the win 49-26. PM.





### HEARTBREAKINTHEFINALMINUTES..

The Lady Eagles had their season on the line last Saturday afternoon against the Minco Lady Braves. They established a defense presence early, and took hold of a lead. Once again led by senior Kadee Meeker. There wasn't much scoring between either teams in the first half, with the tally coming to a close at 16-13, lady eagle lead. The scoring picked up in the 2nd, with the Lady Eagles grabbing a double digit lead at one point. As the 4th quarters minutes ticked down, it looked as if they were headed to area. But in the last 2:56 of the game (with took 23 minutes to complete), the tone shifted. Both teams yielded to foul trouble, and as the Eagles struggled from the free throw line, the Braves pounced. The clock hit .6 seconds with the Eagles clinching a 1 point lead, but Minco converted on both of their free throw attempts. The Lady Eagles would go on to lose 37-36.

Stories by Taylor Ladwig, photos by Jude Hestand

## **Eagles Regional Scare!**

The 4th ranked Eagles took on the Morrison Wildcats, though unranked the wildcats possessed weapons that made them a viable upset candidate. The boys took that into account, jumping out quick in the first quarter and taking an early lead. They'd climb to a 9 point lead at the end of the 1st. In the 2nd though, the Wildcats began to creep back into the game. Eventually, when the final buzzer sounded the Cats were tied with the Birds at 29. Coming out of half, it became a back and forth shootout. With James Sims and Camdyn Richardson leading the Eagles with tough scoring. Once again, a tie game headed into the 4th. Morrison simply could not keep up for that long. The trio of Sims, Richardson, and Jael Torres was too much. All 3 going for double digit points. The Eagles would walk away with the W 74-62.



## **REGIONAL CHAMPIONS EAGLES AND A 1000 POINT SCORER.**

The #4 ranked Boys had a ranked matchup against the #11 ranked Riverside Braves. Riverside tacked on a 5-0 lead in the first minute, and would proceed to be virtually shutout the rest of the first quarter, as Camdyn Richardson and Jael Torres led the eagles to a double digit first quarter lead. Richardson scored 7, which was enough to reach the millennium mark in points. The Eagles continued to pile it on the 2nd, getting up to a 23-6 lead before the Braves woke up. They'd go into halftime down 27-14. The Riverside attempted a comeback, but the Eagles didn't back down and pulled away once again. The Braves made it interesting again at the end, but it proved meaningless. Led by their new 1000 point scorer, the Eagles won regionals 53-44.

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### **Sourdough Crackers**

We see you. We see you guys loving your sourdough and we love to see it! This here is a handy little recipe for when you have some extra sourdough starter and you don't want it to go to waste. It's called 'Discard' but you don't have to actually discard it! This recipe is so easy and so forgiving. You add whatever your favorite cracker fla-



vors would be and bake to your desired crispness and voilà! You have a delicious, homemade cracker that you can feel good about. Summer's favorite additions are Cavendar's seasoning, rosemary, thyme, garlic powder, and cheddar cheese. Autumn's favorite seasoning addin would be dry ranch seasoning! The possibilities are endless, really. If you think it might taste good as a cracker, try it!

**Recipe:** 

1 cup sourdough starter (unfed is totally fine, expected even)

3 Tbsp butter, melted

1 tsp salt (and add in your seasoning choices)

(I used  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp rosemary,  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp thyme, 1 tsp Cavendar's seasoning,  $\frac{3}{4}$  tsp garlic powder

Shredded cheese, however much or little you like

Wet a baking sheet with a little water to help your parchment paper stick to it.

Place parchment paper (or nonstick foil) on the damp baking sheet.

Pour your cracker mix on top of parchment paper and spread out thin. Bake at 325\*F for 10 minutes

Take them out of the oven and score into small squares using a rolling pizza cutter. Don't worry about it being perfect, just make it look like a bunch of little squares. It will work!



Return to oven and continue baking for another 30 minutes at 325\*F until desired crispness. Allow to cool completely before storing in an airtight container.

We recently posted a blog post about discard crackers on the website www.okseasonedsisters.com

And there's a video on TikTok

and Facebook @okseasonedsisters if you like a visual aid. We hope you try this recipe out. It is so very good and so very easy! If you love baking bread, keeping sourdough, cooking, keeping chickens, a garden; canning food, maybe even knitting, sewing, or crochet... you weren't born in the wrong generation, perhaps you were born in this one to keep the spirit of the older generations alive. It's a beautiful thing. Keep up the work, pass on the love.

## **FEEDING HUNGRY EAGLES SINCE 2005**



Hennessey High Schoolers have been enjoying great meals at the Church of Christ during school years for a very long time. It's a heartwarming mission by the Church of Christ to provide free, homecooked meals to Hennessey High School students.

A group of 7-9 dedicated church ladies come together every other week during the school year to prepare delicious meals for 30 to 75 students, depending on school activities. This mission has been running since 2005, bringing joy to both the volunteers and the students they serve.

The Eagle Eatery menu offers a variety of meals including tacos, chicken strips, hamburgers, and more, making it a popular choice among the students.

Beyond the delicious food, it's a source of community kindness for the high school students who enjoy the meals and the warm atmosphere created by the church and volunteers.



pictured Eagle Eatery ladies Sandy Ferrell, Ida Orozco Jana Wright, Liz Miser, and Ginny Bruner



# OATH OF OFFICE

Newly appointed Dakota Semrad did his official oath of office Wednesday, February 21, in front of a notary to meet the requirement of being appointed as a School Board member with 60 days of vacancy. The next regular scheduled board meeting is after the 60day requirement. Dakota is filling the Board of Education seat of David Tillman, who resigned last month. Dakota will do another oath of office at the March 11 board meeting for ceremonial purposes.



pictured are Luke Lough, current school board president and Dakota Semrad newly appointed school board member.



### **POLICE REPORT January 20-26**

Speeding 11-15 Over	\$212.00
Eckroat-Feuerborn, Carrie Lynn of Oklahoma Cit	y, OK
Failure to Yield to Emergency Vehicle	\$265.00
Eckroat-Feuerborn, Carrie Lynn of Oklahoma Cit	•
Failure to Use Turn Signals	\$197.00
Eckroat-Feuerborn, Carrie Lynn of Oklahoma City, OK	
Reckless Driving	\$365.00
Eckroat-Feuerborn, Carrie Lynn of Oklahoma Cit	•
No Insurance	\$180.00
Eckroat-Feuerborn, Carrie Lynn of Oklahoma Cit	•
Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Fahlenkamp, Kyle Tyler of Kingfisher, OK	•
Speeding 11-15 Over	\$212.00
Rader, Kelli Dee of Stillwater, OK	•
Speeding 16-20 Over	\$227.00
Pospisil, Frank Jude of Hennessey, OK	•
Failure to Stop at Stop Sign	\$197.00
Vargas Meraz, Bonifacio of Hennessey, OK	·
Expired Drivers License	\$146.00
Vargas Meraz, Bonifacio of Hennessey, OK	
Speeding 11-15 Over	\$212.00
Segura, Alfredo of Kingfisher, OK	
Operating a Motorcycle Without Endorsement	\$224.00
Faircloth, Clayton Turner of Yukon, OK	
Speeding 1-10 Over	\$185.00
Wilhite, Lane Ryan of Enid, OK	
Expired Tag/Failure to Pay Taxes Due to State	\$265.00
Rodriquez, Donjuan of Hennessey, OK	
No Driver's License Issued	\$365.00
Rodriquez, Donjuan of Hennessey, OK	
Failure to Stop at Stop Sign	\$197.00
Molina, Angel Alan of Hennessey, OK	
Animal at Large	\$235.00
Olivas, Jesus Bernardo of Hennessey, OK	
2/25/24 - Domestic	

2/24/24 - Skunk Removal



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### Gladys "Deanie" Geraldine Smith Obituary

Graveside services for Gladys "Deanie" Geraldine Smith, 95 of Medford will be at 1:30 PM Thursday February 29, 2024 at Hennessey Cemetery Pavilion officiated by Jimmy Berkenbile. Arrangements are by Cordry-Gritz Funeral Home.

Deanie was born at Lacy on September 30, 1928 to Gerald and Ella Rose Smith LaPorte and died Wednesday February 21, 2024 at her home in Medford. She was the second oldest of nine children. Deanie graduated from Hennessey High School in 1946. She married Ray L. Smith in Enid on November 5, 1955.



Her husband had worked for the government and had job transfers that crisscrossed the state. They lived in Nowata, Sayre, Vinita, Morris, and Cherokee Oklahoma. In 2006 Deanie moved to Claremore to live with her daughter Cindy. then in 2022 she and Cindy moved to Medford to be closer to Deanie's grandson Cody Melton.

Deanie is survived by two daughters Cindy Smith of the home, Jo Carol Nelson of Leesburg, Florida; three grandchildren Kira Kitchens, Laremy Nelson, Cody Melton; seven great-grandchildren; three brothers, Curt LaPorte, Pat LaPorte, Charlie LaPorte, and one sister Connie Wallace. She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Ray, her son Gerald Ray, granddaughter Courtney Ann; one sister, Jaunita Valtr, and three brothers Ed LaPorte, Richard LaPorte, and Larry LaPorte.

Memorial donations may be made in her name to Hospice Circle of Love with the funeral home serving as custodian of the fund.





### On March 8th, at 7pm, First Christian Church will host Voice of the Martyr's virtual "I am N" event.

This event is to raise awareness and, hopefully, support for Christians living under persecution. There will be 3 speakers who have experienced persecution first hand and worship music led by Steven Curtis Chapman.



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Dover Christian Church & Hennessey Christian Church

**@ noon** Memorial Park



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# UPCOMING EVENTS

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# <u>Calendar</u>

Wednesday, February 28 OSSAA District Band Contest 10 – 11am Littlest Patron Playtime (ages

Thursday, February 29 HS Basketball Area (Day 1/3) 5th/6th All-Area Honor Band 12 – 1pm Lions Club Meeting at Family Cafe

Friday, March 1 HS Basketball Area (Day 2/3) JH Softball Hennessey Tournament (Day 1/2) First Day of Women's History Month 10am Library opens late (in-house training)

Saturday, March 2 HS Basketball Area (Day 3/3) JH Softball Hennessey Tournament (Day 2/2) OSSAA District Solo/Ensemble Contest

Monday, March 4 HS Basketball State (Day 1/6) 4:30 – 6:30pm HS Baseball vs Pioneer (A) 4:30 – 5:30pm JH Softball vs Glencoe (H) 5:30 – 7:30pm JH Baseball vs Alva (A) 6 – 7pm HS Softball vs Glencoe (H)

Tuesday, March 5 HS Basketball State (Day 2/6) Chorus District Solo/Ensemble Contest

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 angie@kjfilmworks.com Amy Smith for Advertising 405-853-1270 Lisa Quirk Office Manager





OKLAHOM*i* 

## **CELL PHONE SERVICE INTERRUPTION**

On the morning of February 22nd, many individuals were surprised to discover that their cell phones were not functioning properly, highlighting our reliance on these devices in our daily lives. AT&T reported that the outage was likely the result of errors made during network expansion rather than a cyberattack.

The disruption began around 3:30 am ET and impacted more than 73,000 customers at its peak. While Verizon and T-Mobile users were also affected, the impact was less severe compared to

AT&T customers. Public safety officials recommended refraining from testing phone connectivity by calling 911 and instead advised reaching out to friends or family. Additionally, they suggested utilizing landlines for emergency calls, though the prevalence of landlines has decreased significantly in recent years. This incident prompts a reevaluation of the importance of maintaining landline connections for emergencies.

# **WAYFINDER SIGNS**

I know that's a silly name, but according to the Oklahoma Department of Transportation, that is the proper name for these signs that help visitors find their way around town. The three new signs are located at the intersection of Hwy 51 & 81 and Hwy 51 & North Mitchell Rd. They direct visitors to the Schools, Aquatic Center, Rodeo Grounds, Main St, and parks. The Royal Signs crew installed the final signs with the help of Bryan Burch and Town Auger.



These are the final pieces of the sign project, which is almost five years old. These originally started way back when

Curtis Turner proposed the idea to the board. Although the board approved making the signs, it got stuck along the way with various delays, such as where to install them, meeting ODOT requirements, and other issues that delayed the project.

About a year and a half ago, it became part of the Discover Hennessey rebranding campaign, a partnership between The Town of Hennessey and Jack Quirk's All About Hennessey.

The two major delays were working with ODOT to get location approvals. This got further delayed due to the Hwy 51 E resurfacing project, and we had to wait until they were done. The other challenge was getting electricity to the lighted signs. There were a lot of moving parts that had to come together to complete this project. Royal Signs of Hennessey created all of the signs and has been installing them as permission allowed.

More branding and signage improvements are in the works and will be unveiled once the design concepts are finalized. All this helps to elevate the appearance of our proud little town.

# HENNESSEY LISTINGS



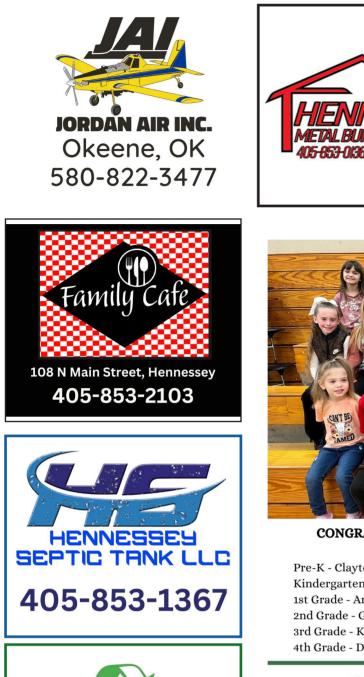
# HIRING A COOK & SERVERS!

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CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE STUDENTS OF THE WEEK 2/23

Pre-K - Clayton Woods, Ethan Ramirez, Lilian Humes, Diego Duran Kindergarten - Elighe Harris, Ava Ashcraft, Joshua Stribel 1st Grade - Anilu Meraz, Alondra Becerra, Camila Renteria, Jane Matousek 2nd Grade - Giovanni Valles, Anzli Cooper, Anastasia Bohnstedt 3rd Grade - Kevin Reyes, Fernanda Perez, Kassidy McFeeters, Crew Charmasson 4th Grade - Dayana Luevanos, Chelsea Sanders, Dia Patel, Keetan Gardner



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