

Henryetta Free-Lance

MIDWEEK

Proudly serving
Henryetta,
Oklahoma
since 1902



Volume 121 • Issue 39 | Wednesday, May 22, 2024

www.henryettafree-lance.com

3 Sections | 16 Pages | \$1.00



JOSHUA JACKSON | REPORTER

'Music Man' Captivates Audiences

"Superb!" "Broadway quality..." Do not miss this!!!! You will be amazed!" Those were just of the few of the words used to describe Henryetta High School's Theater Department production of "Music Man" which ended its four-day run Sunday afternoon at the Alice Ghostley Theater. From the music, dancing, sets and definitely the costumes, this latest production was top-notch entertainment. Pictured is Cavryn Foster, who captured the lead role with an outstanding performance, along with a whole group

of talented students. Thanks to the students, cast members, supporters, Director Justin Been and Liz Bealko, and the immense talents of the performers, it was a show not to be missed. Also, thanks to the many community partners, businesses, individuals, organizations and volunteers for their work in bringing the production to life. See additional photos on page A6.

Courtroom to receive upgrades

County storm siren grant amended

JOSHUA JACKSON
REPORTER

The Okmulgee County Board of Commissioners held a meeting on Monday morning, discussing and approving several grants and other financial matters, beginning with the minutes from the previous meeting.

More courthouse construction is on the way fol-
SEE COURTROOM, PAGE A3

Candidate Profile

Tonya Day seeks to retain County Clerk post

Editor's Note: June 18 is the election for Okmulgee County Clerk. Candidates are incumbent Tonya Day and challenger Tiffany Withrow.

Experience Matters

I am Tonya (Longnecker) Day, the current County Clerk. I was appointed in April of 2022 after the previous Clerk resigned.

My professional journey began 22 years ago, when Becky Thomas gave me the opportunity to join the County Clerk's office. I started



Tonya Day

in land records where I learned the understanding of legal documents and familiarized

SEE CANDIDATE PROFILE, PAGE A3

Preparations underway for Memorial Day

This Saturday, May 25, at 10 a.m., VFW Post 539 members and volunteers will be placing flags on the graves of veterans in 12 cemeteries in Henryetta and the surrounding towns.

If you or your group would like to help them complete that mission, please call Tricia Bear at 479-414-0952. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Then, on Monday, May 27, at 10 a.m. at Westlawn Cemetery, the Post will conduct a Memorial Day Service for our fallen heroes to remember their dedication, loyalty, and sacrifice to our country.

Cavryn Foster will be present at the ceremony, singing "Letters from War." Breanna Bevenue Clark will sing "The National

Anthem" and "Loyal, Brave and True" at the ceremony as well.

Cavryn and Breanna are both 1st place winners at VFW Post 539 level and at the state of Oklahoma level in the VFW National Anthem singing competition.

Flags will be picked up at 4 p.m. on Monday, May 27, unless it rains.

Rural Water District #13 awarded \$800,000 grant

McIntosh County Rural Water District #13 has been awarded the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) "Loan Forgiveness" loan in the amount of \$800,000.

Water District #13

serves approximately 1,465 residents, with approximately 610 connections, which includes parts of Hughes, Okfuskee, Okmulgee and McIntosh Counties. The office is located north of Ryal School.

Making the presentation on May 16th was Kretchen Olmeda, Loan Analyst from Oklahoma Water Resources Board. She presented the check to Brock Barber, vice chairman.

The funds will be used

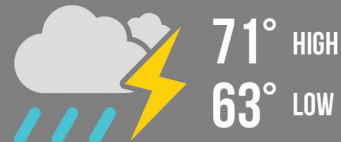
to upgrade the district's system by installing a booster pump, replacing all water meters with new Electronic Meters and repainting the clear well and four water storage tanks.



PATRICK FORD | NEWS EDITOR

McIntosh County Rural Water District #13 has been awarded the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) "Loan Forgiveness" loan in the amount of \$800,000. The presentation was made May 16th at District #13 office in Ryal. Pictured from left are District #13 board members and office staff David Berry, Rocky Kisse, Rhonda Roberts, OWRB Loan Analyst Kretchen Olmeda, Brock Barber, Jamie Long and Wyatt Secor.

WEDNESDAY
MAY 22, 2024



A2 • OBITUARIES | A3 • NEWS | A4 • COLUMNS & OPINION | A5 • RELIGION
B1 • SPORTS | B2 • COMICS | B3 • LEGALS | B6 • CLASSIFIEDS | C1 • NOTICE OF RESALE