Tracy speaks at American **Legion meeting**

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Hub football team wins on **Senior Night**

SEE SPORTS

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18, 2023

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4-H clothing winners named

Winners of the 2023 Ogle County 4-H clothing contest were recently named. Page 2

WEATHER



BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

> **ROCHELLE**—At its monthly meeting Monday, the Flagg Rochelle **Community Park District Board of Commissioners** heard an update from Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger on the concept design for changes to Helms Park.

The park district has been looking at changes to the park over the past year as it looks to convert it to more of a park district-like use. The grounds were acquired by the park district in 2002 after it was no longer utilized by **Rochelle Township High** School. Ohlinger said the goals of the new concept will be health & wellness, inclusivity & accessibility, family friendliness & social cohesion, and open green space.

The park district circulated a survey locally on what the community would like to see at the site, which received around 700 responses. The concept plan for the site shown Monday included the football, baseball and softball fields remaining with continued enhancements, a fitness area on



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting Monday, the Flagg Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners heard an update from Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger on the concept design for changes to Helms Park.

the southern corner of the property near The REC Center, a multi-sport court with a rubber surface for soccer, volleyball and basketball, a universal play space, a skate park on the northeast corner of the property, three tennis courts and two pickleball courts, a pavilion and restrooms, new parking, batting cages, a walking path and green space.

The park district recently submitted an Open Space Lands Acquisition Development (OSLAD) grant application for the project for matching funds of \$600,000. The grant application process will take 6-8 months. Much of the project's timeline will be dependent on that. Some work could be done in 2024, but the larger projects will likely take place in 2025.

Park officials said Monday that the plans for Helms Park "are not set in stone," and public informational meetings

will be held locally on the project for residents to provide feedback in the next month or two.

"We wanted to provide a starting point," Ohlinger said. "It's sometimes hard to envision what something can be, so I wanted to be able to provide some information from the direction we were given from the survey as well as what our capital committee identified as needs."

See PARK page 8



Enrollment update presented

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its monthly meeting Monday, the Rochelle Township High School District Board of Education heard an update on current and future enrollment numbers at RTHS and in the district.

District Superintendent Jason Harper said that RTHS currently has 869 students enrolled, and it is down 19 students from last year's 888 students in October 2022. The numbers are as of Oct. 1. The district previously projected 903 students for this year. There are 189 students in RTHS's current senior class. For this fiscal year as of Oct. 1, a decline is being seen in the enrollment sum of all six of RTHS's feeder schools combined, Harper said.

See RTHS page 3

Pink Patch Project fundraiser enters third year 'To get that support back and have the department behind me... warms my heart'



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OBITUARIES

 RICHARD 'DICK' EDWIN OSBORNE CHARLES EDWARD 'ED' FOLTZ HERBERT JOSEPH SONDGEROTH CARLA N. SINGLEY

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INSERTS

FARM & FLEET

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BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The

Rochelle Police Department is again hosting its Pink Patch Project fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness Month during October.

The department is selling pink RPD patches for \$10. To purchase one, call or visit RPD at 416 N. 6th St. 815-562-2131 (cash/ check only, payable to Rochelle PD Pink Project) or 926 Custom Embroidery at 404 Lincoln Highway 815-561-9500 (cash/credit card).

All proceeds will be donated to the Living Well Cancer Resource Center in Geneva, in honor of Officer Ryan Kovacs' late mother, Tammy Kovacs, who passed away from breast cancer in December 2015. Kovacs started the fundraiser in 2021. About \$10,000 was raised that year and just over \$5,000 was raised last year. T-shirts won't be sold this year due to Kovacs having a busier schedule with a child on the way and six new trainees at RPD.

"This year it's been a lit-



The Rochelle Police Department is again hosting its Pink Patch Project fundraiser for Breast Cancer Awareness Month during October. The department is selling pink RPD patches for \$10.

tle bit slower, but we're not selling t-shirts, which are a huge seller," Kovacs said. "Next year we're planning on bringing that back in full force. We're still doing

well. People are still wanting to support it. Seeing the support has been amazing. Everyone is buying patches and asking about it. It's great to see it. I try to help

out the community as much as I can in my job. To get that support back and have the department behind me really warms my heart. I can't put into words how

much it means to me." Kovacs called the fundraising effort "a labor of love."

See PINK page 2





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David Eckhardt Vice President/Loan Officer NMLS#454387



LOCAL NEWS **PINK:** Rochelle Police Department raising money to combat breast cancer

From page 1

He spends time during October each year spreading the word about the fundraiser and selling patches and t-shirts. He meets with local small businesses and organizations that support the fundraiser.

"At the end of the month I'm tired, but it's worth it every year to be able to donate that money and see the support and know it's going to help out people that struggled with it just like my mom struggled with it," Kovacs said. "It's exhausting, but worth it in the end. I still plan on doing it every year until I retire and I hope somebody takes it over when I leave."

Tammy Kovacs spent time at Living Well Cancer Resource Center during her cancer fight. The center offers resources including counseling, group activities such as exercise, cooking and art classes, and takes those fighting cancer to doctor's appointments.

Kovacs wanted to support an organization that was good to his mother and help people going through the same thing. He doesn't want to see anyone fighting cancer alone.

When Kovacs has gone to the Living Well Cancer Resource Center in the past two years to present the donations, he looks at the remembrance tree in the building that has his mother's name on one of its leaves.

"It's a place I know and a place that I've been," Kovacs said. "I know they're good people. It's not just making a donation to a random corporation where you don't know where the money ends up. I've seen what it does. I

All proceeds will be donated to the Living Well Cancer Resource Center in Geneva, in honor of Officer Ryan Kovacs' late mother, Tammy Kovacs, who passed away from breast cancer in December 2015. Kovacs started the fundraiser in 2021.

mom passed away I was

know where the dollars go. That's why it means that much more to me to spend the month raising the money and trying to help out versus just cutting a check to a random organization. I've seen what it does and how it affects people. I've seen where the money has been spent and it means a lot to me. I know it's going to a good place."

During October, RPD's administration, officers, dispatch and staff help with the Pink Patch Project fundraiser sales. Having that support from the rest of the department "means the world" to Kovacs.

"I remember when my

in my first year here, but guys that I'd never even worked with reached out and said they were here for me," Kovacs said. "A lot of them donated time so I could take time away to take care of things for my mom. To see the same support now is great. They ask how they can help and use their connections to help spread the word. We've sold patches in Washington, Oregon and California and essentially coast to coast. I've sold patches to pretty much every state. And that's all because of the connections and support I have from my fellow officers and our administration."

Tammy Kovacs was known for giving back and "Be kind" was a phrase she often used.

"This is my way of being kind," Kovacs said. "My mom was a caring person. She'd give you the shirt off her back. She was always willing to help out with anything. This is kind of a way of honoring her memory. 'Be kind' is something I always remember. I'm being kind to the people that were kind to my mom and supported her and hopefully it keeps her memory alive and hopefully she's looking down on me and she's proud of me."

MANAGED CARE

(COURTESY PHOTO) Ogle County 4-H member, Addison Yordy.

2023 Ogle County 4-H Fair clothing show winners announced

OREGON — This year's Ogle County 4-H clothing show was held on Saturday, July 22 at the Ogle County Farm Bureau Auditorium in Oregon. 4-H members participated in the Sewing and Fashion Review at the Ogle County Fair before the queen pageant. Please see below for the

results of the show.

Sewing Classes

Rochelle. Reserve Grand Champion Sewn Clothing Exhibit, Ella Beran, Dixon. Grand Champion Sewn Non-Clothing Exhibit, Addison Yordy, Leaf River. Reserve Grand Champion Sewn Non-Clothing Exhibit, Landon Zabran, Byron.

Shopping

Top of Class Shopping in Style Beginning, Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle. Grand Champion Shopping in Style, Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle. Reserve Grand Champion Shopping in Style, Ulta Zabran, Byron.







Top of Class STEAM Clothing 1 – Sewn Non-Clothing Exhibit, Addison Yordy, Leaf River. Top of Class STEAM Clothing 1 - Sewn Clothing Exhibit, Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle. Top of Class STEAM Clothing 2 – Sewn Non-Clothing Exhibit, Bethany Akins, Polo. Top of Class STEAM Clothing 2 -Sewn Clothing Exhibit. Elizabeth Kennedy, Davis Junction. Top of Class STEAM Clothing 3 -Sewn Clothing Exhibit, Ella Beran, Dixon, Grand Champion Sewn Clothing Exhibit, Sawyer Stockton,

Visual Arts

Top of Class Visual Arts Quilting - You Can Quilt, Emily Harbaugh, Chana. Top of Class Visual Arts Quilting – Quilting the Best Better, Shelby Harbaugh, Chana. Grand Champion Visual Arts Quilting, Emily Harbaugh, Chana. Reserve Grand Champion Visual Arts Quilting, Shelby Harbaugh, Chana.





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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting, the Rochelle Township High School District Board of Education heard an update on current and future enrollment numbers at RTHS and in the district. District Superintendent Jason Harper said that RTHS currently has 869 students enrolled, and it is down 19 students from last year's 888 students.

RTHS: High school board resolves to bid for new vans

From page 1

That was expected by the district's projections. Both the high school and elementary school districts watch current and future enrollment numbers closely. The district forecasts 783 in enrollment in the 2031-2032 school year when current third graders will be graduating.

"That roughly shows a 90-100-student drop," Harper said. "That's over the long haul. Every year we have students coming and going throughout the year, so we pick a static date of Oct. 1 to give the board a comparison."

Communication

Harper provided an

update on the district's parent and community communication efforts as it looks to improve its systems on that front.

The district recently entered into an agreement with a company called Apptegy, which has provided both RTHS and the elementary district with an updated website, an app, and software. The fully-integrated system provides unified messages on all platforms. Apptegy is widely used by other school districts.

The new website and app have been put into use by the district and the app is available for download by RTHS families.

"Whether you like to receive your information via an app, social media, a website or by push texts and notifications, we're trying to unify our communication," Harper said. "I think like any implementation plan, we're learning throughout the process. But so far it's been pretty good. We'll continue to do that throughout this semester and into next year."

Vans

The board resolved to go out to bid for new vans. After meeting with **District** Transportation Director Sheila Herrmann, Business Manager Kevin Dale determined the district needs to replace three minivans. The district will now let bids to purchase

three passenger vehicles as soon as possible. The vans are needed for driving special needs routes. Bid recommendations will be brought to the board for review and approval. Repairs have been costly to the district's current vans, Dale said, and some are over 10 years old.

Levy

Dale presented a preliminary levy update at the meeting. The district has seen an 8.75-percent increase in equalized assessed value (EAV), before tax appeals.

"We're looking at an estimated gross EAV of about \$548 million," Dale said. "We'll take these numbers now and try to figure out the levy."

The levy does not have to be approved until the December board meeting. Dale said more detailed levy numbers will be provided at the board's November meeting.

Employment The board unanimously approved employment changes including the resignations of Teresa Ricketts (attendance secretary) and Kayla Rios (substitute bus aid).

The high school board also approved the employment of Charity Prose (assistant girls basketball coach) and Tyler Baker (volunteer assistant wrestling coach) and the transfer of Josie Kuss (shared district business office executive assistant to shared district executive assistant).

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Kish College to offer Therapeutic Massage continuing education classes

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College Continuing Education department will offer six Therapeutic Massage classes during the 2023-2024 school year. The classes provide Continuing Education Units (CEUs), which measure professional development.

Each class is taught by Julie Kimpan-Freeman on the Kishwaukee College campus, Room B1244. Three-hour classes are \$75, and six-hour classes are \$150.

Pregnancy Massage

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 27, and Friday, March 8 — six CEUs. Enhance your knowledge and skills as a massage therapy practitioner in the benefits, guidelines and precautions for prenatal and perinatal massage.

Forearm Massage Techniques

9 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 17, and Friday, April 19 — six CEUs. Develop safe clinical massage practices and enhance the knowledge and skills of massage therapy practitioners in forearm techniques and body mechanics.

Kinesiology Taping 9 a.m. to noon on Friday, Feb. 16, and Friday, May 3 — three CEUs. Learn the framework for using tape to help stabilize or decompress body parts while understanding the mechanics of body movement.

For additional information, contact Melissa Gallagher at mgallagher1@kish.edu or 815-825-9466. To register, visit kish.edu/massage.

	•		•	
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LOCAL NEWS **OBITUARIES**

Richard 'Dick' Edwin Osborne

FRANKLIN GROVE

 Richard "Dick" Edwin Osborne, 84, passed away Sunday October 15, 2023, at his Franklin Grove home after a brief battle with cancer. Just like he dealt with all experiences in life, Richard managed his illness with strength and grace, and on his final day, he was surrounded by his children, who he adored more than anything else in the world.

Richard was born November 17, 1938, to Glenn and Mary (Grubb) Osborne in Rochelle, IL. The family of three welcomed Richard's two baby brothers Charles "Larry" Osborne (Billie) and Wayne Osborne (Judy) a few years later to complete the loving family of five.

Richard joined the Air Force and proudly served in the Strategic Air Force Command as a Firefighter in South Dakota. After his honorable discharge he moved to Library, PA with his wife Ella and fathered four wonderful children who he loved dearly, Terry Reynosa (Bobby), Richard "Bub" Osborne (Kim), Denise Wallingford (Charlie Becker) and Mary Davis (Lester).

He relocated back to Rochelle with his four children in tow as a single parent. In 1977, he met the love of his life, Jacqueline (Jackie) Pickle. And on Dec 9, 1977, they married, and his family of four grew to eight with Richard being a loving stepfather to Catherine Knight (Jim), Vaughn Buck(Nancy), Candy Koch (Douglas), and Christina Pickle (Jay Taft). Richard and Jackie were married for 35 years and were always stealing kisses from each other and lovingly referred to each other as 'Babe'. They spent every moment together and cared for one another deeply. They loved each other like no other.

Richard was a welder by trade. He was a self-taught master gardener and always had the most beautiful yard in the neighborhood. Richard was a true outdoorsman and loved mother nature. He was so creative and incredibly talented and made the most beautiful custom wood furniture. He recycled everything and his motto was to 'improvise'; he could figure out a way to tackle any challenge. He was also a cowboy at heart as he loved John Wayne and western movies which he watchednon-stop.Butmost of all he loved his family, and you could see his heart warm when he spoke of the people



Richard is survived by his two brothers and sisters-in-law, eight children, 15 grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his parents, Glenn and Mary Osborne, his father and mother-in-law, Sam and Edna Romano, father and mother-in-law, Edward and Ethel Phillips and his wife, Jacqueline.

Richard will be remembered for his kind and gentle loving soul. Visitation to be held Friday, October 20, 2023 from 9 am - 11 am at Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle followed by Funeral service at 11 am and then burial at Lawnridge Cemetery where he will be laid to rest with his wife, Jackie.

In lieu of flowers, please plant a tree in remembrance or donations can be made to the Wounded Warriors association. Visit www. ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Charles Edward 'Ed' Foltz

ROCHELLE Charles Edward "Ed" Foltz, 79, of Rochelle, passed away Sunday, October 15, 2023, at his home surrounded by his loving family. He was born August 29, 1944 in Memphis, TN, the son of Cecil and Artie (Williams) Foltz. He married Betty Kay Hasty on March 9, 1968 in Rochelle. She preceded him in death on February 16, 2005.

Ed worked for Caron International until it closed. He then worked for Ideal Industries in Sycamore until his retirement.

Ed enjoyed spending time with his family whetherit was camping or having a fish fry from the fish he had caught. Ed loved to fish and attend stock car races. In his younger years, he even raced at Bob Joe's Speedway in Sycamore. After the races, he and his family would stop and en-

joy pizza at Pizza Villa, one of his favorite places. He enjoyed going to watch his grandkids' sporting events and got so involved, he was sometimes kicked out for expressing his opinion. He never had a problem with speaking his mind. That's what we loved about him.

Ed is survived by four children: Shawn (Scott) Windsor of Rochelle, Rhonda Foltz of Arkansas, Dawn Sage of Rochelle, and Rick (Sue) Sage of Kentucky; eleven grandchildren: Brandon (Julia) Nalley, Tyler Nalley, Lindsey Cooper, Chloe Baker, Dustin Tapp, Hunter and Hayden Jones, Amanda Sawlsville, Felicia Sage, David Sage, and Ashley Brown; several great-grandchildren; sisters-in-law: Donna and Judy Foltz; several aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces, and nephews and many friends; and a special friend, Nancy



Brown.

Ed is preceded in death by his parents, wife, Betty and two brothers, Don and Dave Foltz.

Visitation will be from 4-7 P.M. Thursday, October 19, 2023, at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St. in Rochelle.

The funeral service will be at 2 P.M., Friday, October 20, 2023, at the funeral home with Chaplain Judy Williams officiating. Interment will follow in Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle.

Please visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Herbert Joseph Sondgeroth

ROCHELLE — Herbert Joseph Sondgeroth, 84, passed away at his home in Rochelle, Illinois Friday, October 13, 2023. Herb was born on September 4, 1939 to Herbert J. and Ruth (Dieder) Sondgeroth in Mendota, IL. He proudly served with the United States Army. On September 17, 1993, he married Carol Cipolla Armesto in Rockford, IL.

Herb was a loving, loyal husband, father, grandfather, great grandfather. He was a man of his word with a generous heart. Herb grew up in west Brooklyn Illinois, with 13 siblings and was a lifetime member of St. Patrick Catholic Church. He was the founder and operator of Sondgeroth Pool Construction for 40 yeas. His passion for pools led him to lifetime friendships. He was always putting a smile on

mobile, attend NASCAR and travel, which included great food. He also had the pleasure of going up north with his son and family. Herb took great pride in taking care of his yard. He loved life and his family.

Herb is survived by his wife, Carol of Rochelle; his son, Christopher (Kristine) Sondergoth of Rochelle; two stepchildren: Garrett (David) Egland-Rock of Lombard, IL and Tiffany Baker of Villa Park, IL; four grandchildren: Zackery (Ariana Lodico) Sondgeroth, Lexie (Mike Henry) Sondgeroth, Mitchell Baker and Carl Baker; four great grandchildren: Gianna and Miles Henry, and Elijah and Jett Sondgeroth; three brothers: Maurice Sondgeroth of Ashton, IL, Ron Sondgeroth of Rochelle and Terry Sondgeroth of Dixon, IL; and five sisters: Pat Malach of Sublette, IL, Barbara (Dave) Hershberger of Mendota, IL, Sharon Eckhardt of Ft. Myers, FL, Jeanette (Paul) Sereg of Dixon, IL and Kathy (Tom) Pozzi of Rockford, IL.



ents, Herb was preceded in death by his daughter, Jennifer Lynn Reints; brother, Kevin Sondgeroth and three sisters: Marietta Sondgeroth, Norma Wendt and Theresa Flynn.

There will be a memorial service at 8:30 A.M., Saturday, October 21, 2023 at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 236 Kelley Drive, Rochelle with Father Jesus Dominguez officiating. Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home. Following the service, there will be an open house celebrating Herb's life at 10419 E. Flagg Rd., Rochelle. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Herb's memory to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

POLO — Carla N. Singley, 75, of Polo, passed away Monday, October 16, 2023, at Freeport Hospital. Carla was born September 23, 1948, in Dixon, Illinois, the daughter of Richard and Dorothy (Dennis)Kjolsing. On March 25, 1967, in Polo, she married

Michael Singley. Carla was a well respected school teacher for 30 years with Polo Community School District. She was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother. Carla was a devoted follower of Christ and a great woman of faith. She loved her work

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comfort and quality of life.

and the children she was so blessed to teach. Carla and her husband started Singley Construction in 1969 and still operates today.

Survivors include husband Michael Singley; mother Dorothy Kjolsing; sons Steven (Cheryl) Singley of Vernon Hills, IL, Jeffery (Dawn) Singley of Forreston, IL; brother Wyman(Cindy)Kjolsingof Fort Dodge, IA; grandchildren Jordan (Jason) Piske of South Elgin, IL, Michael Singley and Hayden Singley both of Forreston, IL; great grandchildren Hudson and Collins. She is preceded in death by her father Richard.

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Visitation will be Friday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. with family present from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at Polo Family Funeral Home, 110 E. Dixon St. Polo. Private family

who he loved the most. Carla N. Singley

services will be held with burial at Fairmount Cemetery in Polo. Visit www. polofamilyfuneralhome. com to send condolences.

faces by joking and pulling pranks. During off pool season, Herb snow plowed residential and business areas. He loved to snow-

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LOCAL NEWS



Kish College nursing students receive stethoscopes from 3M

Five Kishwaukee College students in the Registered Nursing program received the Littmann Stethoscope Award from DeKalb's 3M Community Support Group for the fall 2023 semester. The students who received the award (pictured left to right) are Michele Lidren, Melissa Huneke, Leslie Hernandez, Keyle Brown and Foluke Esan. The 3M Community Support Group in DeKalb has awarded Littmann stethoscopes to Kish nursing

students each semester since 2010. The Littmann stethoscopes are manufactured by 3M and are considered high-end equipment in the health care field. To learn more about the Kish Registered Nursing program, visit kish.edu/nursing. For information on the 3M Corporation, visit www.3m.com.

Kish College, Knodle's appliance repair partnership addresses community need

MALTA — A collaboration between Kishwaukee College and Knodle's Appliance Service Company Inc. has helped address the need for qualified appliance repair technicians in the region.

Kish discovered appliance repair technicians were in high demand through one of the college's advisory committees, which are composed of professionals who offer insight on how Kish can improve its programs. Several local businesses showed support for the development of an appliance repair program.

"It was a collaborative effort. Kishwaukee College approached us and other local businesses to ask if it was a need. They picked our brains to see if the College should proceed with it," Katherine McLaughlin, co-owner of Knodle's, said. "Everyone said, 'Absolutely.' We needed hires, and we were having a hard time finding them."

Kish was tasked with building an appliance repair program from the ground up. The cost of tools and equipment posed a challenge, but the collaboration with Knodle's provided the opportunity to offer the short-term program in just a few months. The college first had talks of starting the class in the summer of 2022, and by early 2023, Kish had lined up its partnerships.

"We were very reactive. Kish got on top of it right away, found the instructor and partnered with Knodle's," LaCretia Konan, associate vice president of college relations, said. "Kish's goal with these programs is to meet the needs of our local employers and help train our future workforce."

The inaugural appliance repair technician cohort started in July and wrapped up at the end of August.

The class held lectures at the college, with hands-on training taking place in Knodle's shop. McLaughlin said the business was happy to provide the space for the program to develop.

"This is a need within our community and the whole region. This class is the only hands-on appliance repair class I've seen anywhere," McLaughlin said. "We're grateful this class was able to move forward. We're happy to help in any way and would really love to see it continue. We have a new technician we were able to hire because of it."

Jonathan Doty, the student hired as a technician by Knodle's, said he found the appliance repair program to be a good fit after considering other trades.

"I think of the trades as noble and stable professions. There is job security," Doty said. "There were a lot of businesses requesting this class, so there is a lot

of opportunity."

Ruben Vicencio, who also completed the program, said he previously worked in construction and warehousing and wanted a new opportunity.

"I was looking for a trade where I could learn something new - something where I could work with my hands," Vicencio said. "Appliance repair got my attention because all the jobs are a little different. It allows you to think."

Kishwaukee College will continue its appliance repair program during the spring 2024 semester. Classes are from 5:30-9 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays from Jan. 22 to April 24.

To learn more about the appliance repair program, visit kish.edu/appliancerepair. To learn more about Kish's workforce development opportunities, visit kish.edu/workforcepartnerships.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

A GoFundMe fundraiser has been established for the family of a Rochelle two-month-old child for his fight with hydrocephalus.

GoFundMe established for Rochelle baby with hydrocephalus

ROCHELLE — A GoFundMe fundraiser has been established for the family of a Rochelle twomonth-old child for his fight with hydrocephalus.

Remy Mancinas has already undergone two major surgeries in his two months of life. Hydrocephalus is a life-altering, life-threatening condition caused by an abnormal accumulation of cerebral spinal fluid, resulting in pressure on the brain, his father, Rafael Mancinas said.

"The most common treatment for this condition is brain surgery to implant a medical device called a shunt, which has a 50-percent failure rate in children within the first two years," The GoFundMe page said. "A shunt is not a cure as many patients endure multiple brain surgeries throughout their lifetime,

ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ROCHELLE — On Oct. 14 at 11:55 a.m. Michael Z. Usmiller, 22, of Belvidere was arrested on an outstanding Winnebago County warrant. He was released on an I-Bond with an Oct. 30 Winnebago County court date.

On Oct. 15 at 10:23 a.m. Jordan Brake, 28, of Rochelle was cited for operating a vehicle with expired some more than 100. Imagine life knowing that the next brain surgery lurks around the corner because vour shunt could fail at any moment. No one should have to live like this. This is why I have created this fundraiser and also why I need your support. Please donate and help my family reach this goal. Your donation is greatly appreciated and will go far in helping us find a more sustainable solution and improve the life of our son, Remy, living with hydrocephalus."

The fundraiser has a \$5,000 goal and can be found online at: https:// www.gofundme.com/f/ little-ralfy-with-hydrocephalus?member=29914357&sharetype=teams&utm_campaign=p_na+sharesheet&utm_medium=copy_link&utm_source=customer

registration. He was given

a notice to appear. On Oct. 17 at 1:17 a.m. OscarA. Izcano, 39, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. He paid \$248 and was released. Izcano was also arrested for no valid driver's license.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF 'S DEPARTMENT

OREGON — On Oct. 13 at approximately 8:06 p.m. deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident with injuries near the intersection of Twombly Road and Illinois Route 251. After investigation, deputies

learned Denise Reisinger, 67, of Rochelle, was traveling southbound in a black Ford SUV just north of the intersection. The vehicle then failed to negotiate a curve before traveling across the north-

bound lane and off into the west side ditch. The vehicle then struck two signs and an electrical box before coming to rest in the southeast ditch of the intersection. The back seat passenger, Frederick

Reisinger, 82 of Rochelle, was transported to Rochelle Community Hospital for non-life threatening injuries. The driver was issued a citation for too fast for conditions.

On Oct. 14 at 10:27

p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of East Illinois Route 64 and South Woodlawn Road. As a result, Jacob C. Doyle 33, of Kingston was arrested for driving while license revoked.

Doyle was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



Be included in the Antiques & Collectibles spotlight!

Call: Andrew Heiserman 815-561-2123 Christel Ackland 815-561-2153 Chris Grimm 815-561-2125

LOCAL VIEWS

GUEST COLUMN Net farm income expectations drop

SDA's most recent Farm Sector Income Forecast dropped net farm income expectations for 2023 lower than initial February estimates to \$141.3 billion, down 23% from 2022's \$183 billion. This \$41.7 billion decline nearly erases the \$42.9 billion increase that was forecast between 2021 and 2022 but is smaller than the \$46 billion gain between 2020 and 2021 following the COVID-19 pandemic. When adjusted for inflation, net farm income, a broad measure of farm profitability, is expected to decrease \$48 billion (25.4%) in 2023. The forecast also shows farm and ranch production expenses continuing to increase, rising by \$29.5 billion (7%) in 2023 to \$458 billion, following a record increase of \$56 billion in 2022.

Direct government payments are estimated to decrease by \$3 billion, or 19%, between 2021 and 2022 to \$12.6 billion. This marks the third consecutive decrease in government payments for producers since the peak of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 but is higher than the \$10.2 billion in payments forecasted in February. The decrease corresponds to near total reductions in both USDA pandemic assistance, which included payments from the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program and other pandemic assistance to producers, and non-USDA pandemic assistance programs, such as the Small Business Administration's Paycheck Protection Program.

Commodity insurance indemnities were adjusted down slightly for 2023 for lion. This a 9%, or \$1.79 billion, increase over 2022's \$20.06 billion, marking the highest payout of indemnities since the data series began in 2005. This increase is likely the result of increased crop insurance enrollment by those who received a Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program-Plus or ERP payment and are required to purchase crop insurance or Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program coverage (when crop insurance is not available) for the next two available crop years.

The largest decrease in net farm income is tied to a projected fall in cash receipts from livestock due to lower prices for all major categories except cattle and turkeys. The value of livestock production (in nominal dollars) is expected to decrease nearly 5%, or \$11.9 billion, in 2023. This is a slightly smaller drop than forecasted in January when a 6%, or \$14.7 billion, decline was estimated. Chicken eggs, broilers and milk are responsible for the largest percentage decreases, with cash receipts for chicken eggs projected to slip by \$6.26 billion or 32%. Highly pathogenic avian influenza has affected nearly 59 million birds in commercial and backyard flocks in the U.S., including over 43 million egg layers, pressuring supplies and pushing up prices. As the flock continues to recover, egg production increases and consumer demand fundamentals recalibrate prices lower. A similar dynamic has resulted in a \$6.52 billion, or 13%, drop in expected cash receipts for broilers. Milk receipts are expected to decline nearan expected \$21.85 bil- ly \$12 billion (21%) as milk prices have faltered throughout the year.

Cash receipts for cattle and calves are estimated to increase by \$15 billion or 18%. Tighter cattle supplies have pulled both cash and futures prices higher, leading to continued growth in cash receipts. Notably, weather conditions continue to be a problem for cattle operations. Excessive heat in the Southwest and along the Gulf Coast has contributed to the direct deaths of livestock associated with heat exposure as well as forced liquidations and early calf weaning due to forage problems. These conditions only push cattle prices up further.

Cash receipts for hogs are estimated to decline

by 10% or \$3 billion. It is important to note that hog farmers have experienced considerable losses in 2023. Losses for farrow-to-finish farms in Iowa were estimated to be \$18.81 per head in June, the

eighth consecutive month of losses in these operations. Lower hog prices have been the main cause for negative returns but prices have recovered and provided farmers with better profitability in July.

On the crops side, receipts for major row crops like corn, soybeans, cotton and wheat are expected to decline while receipts for vegetables, melons and hay are expected to increase. Receipts for corn are expected to fall by 10% (\$8.4 billion), while soybeans are expected to be down 8.6% (\$5.4 billion). Both commodities have faced declining prices since their peaks in 2022. Cotton receipts from \$7.5 billion to \$5.4 billion. Wheat is expected to be down \$420 million to just over \$13 billion. Fruits and nuts are expected to hover close to \$26 billion in receipts, while vegetables and melons are poised to rise from \$22.4 billion to \$25.9 billion (+27%). Hay receipts are expected to increase for the fourth consecutive year as livestock producers continue to recover from drought-impacted low-quality forage in the central part of the nation. As always, weather and climate conditions will have strong impacts on the true outcome of this year's price outlook. Global political factors continue to cast a shadow on commodity markets.

> Flare-ups in the Russia-Ukraine conflict could affect farm-level prices. High production out of competing suppliers to our south, such as Brazil and Argentina, further contribute to price volatility.

On the cost side, production expenses, including operator dwelling expenses, are forecast to increase for a sixth consecutive year, growing in 2023 by \$29.5 billion, or 7%, to reach a record \$458 billion. And while it's little consolation, some major input items such as cumulative fertilizers and fuels and oil are expected to decline from record highs.

Fertilizers, lime and soil conditioners are expected to decrease \$420 million, or 1%, from \$36.85 billion to \$36.43 billion. Fuels and oils are expected to experience the largest percent decline -13% – from 2022, moving from \$18.46 billion to \$16.07 billion. These drops, however, are easily outpaced by increases in other expense categories including marketing, storage and transportation, which are forecast to increase 5%. Feed costs, which represent the largest single expense category, are expected to increase \$2.71 billion to \$86.37 billion (+3%). Labor costs are expected up across all subcategories with cash labor forecast to move from \$41.16 billion to \$43.35 billion (+5%). Heightened periods of inflation have pressured interest expenses. Between 2022 and 2023, interest expenses, including operator dwellings, are expected to jump 38%, going from \$24 billion to \$33.28 billion, making it more difficult for farmers and ranchers to acquire lines of credit to purchase inputs and equipment this year. Livestock, seed, electricity, and repair and maintenance are among the other categories expected to increase in price.

USDA's Farm Sector Income Forecast also provides expectations of farm financial indicators that can give insight into the overall financial health of the farm economy. During 2023, U.S. farm sector debt is projected to increase \$24 billion, or 5%, to a record \$520 billion in nominal terms. Nearly 70% of farm debt is in the form of real estate debt, for the land to grow crops and raise livestock. Real estate debt is projected to increase \$19.6 billion to a record-high \$354 billion, largely due to an increase in land values across the country. Non-real estate debt, or debt for purchases of things like equipment, machinery, feed and livestock, is projected to increase by \$4.5 billion to a record \$165.7 billion

Based on 2023 debt and asset levels, USDA expects the debt-to-asset ratio to be 12.72% for 2023, which sits marginally below the prior five-year average (13.5%), meaning farmers are borrowing slightly less to finance the purchase of assets. Higher interest rates will likely act as a barrier for farmers to finance new assets moving forward.

Another metric that highlights the concern about farmer profitability in 2022 is the rate of return on assets. For 2023, the rate of return on assets is projected at 9.1%. This is a drop from 2021 and 2022 when returns were up over 12.5% but remains above returns experienced between 2014 and 2020. Compared to 2021 and 2022, farmers and ranchers are seeing smaller revenues or returns for the investments made in the cost of production and in assets used to produce a farm product.

For 2023, USDA anticipates a 23% decrease in net farm income, moving from \$183 billion in 2022 to \$141 billion in 2023. Much of the forecasted decline in 2023 net farm income is tied to lower crop and livestock cash receipts, continued increases in production costs and a decrease in ad hoc government support. At the very least, these estimates show the relationship between, on average, falling commodity prices and rising production costs and the ultimate impact on farmers' bottom lines.

"A billion here, a billion there, and pretty soon you're talking about real money." - Everett Dirksen

Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County



Kern

are expected to fall 27%

bmit a letter to the News-Leader

HE News-Leader would like to remind the public and our readers that responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers are encouraged. Letters to the editor must

Rochelle City Council

abide by the guidelines that you will find at the bottom of this page. Those that want to make

their voice heard can send their letters via email to news@rochellenews-leader.com, in the mail to

PO Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068 or drop them off at 211 Illinois Route 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068. Ques-

Hillcrest Village Board

tions? Call 815-561-2151

Jeff Helfrich Managing Editor

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IL Rep. Bradley Fritts Stratton Office Bldg Springfield, IL 62706 (217) 782-0535

Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to (news@rochellenews-leader.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Rochelle News-Leader encourages responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Neither the street address nor phone number will be printed. Letters should

be typed or legibly handwritten, and no anonymous letters will be published. Any letters from boards or organizations must include at least one name of an individual. Any criticism of public officials should be limited to issues related strictly to their position or actions made in office, as personal attacks will not be published. Letters involving private disputes between the writer and a business will not be published. Political endorsements will be

published, however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed. Letters may be dropped at the News-Leader office (211 IL Route 38 East), mailed to the News-Leader (P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068) or e-mailed (news@rochellenews-leader. com.) The News-Leader reserves the right to edit or reject any letter to the editor for any reason, and letters chosen for publication do not necessarily reflect the views of this newspaper.

OMMUNITY



RCH's Tracy presents at October Legion meeting

Members of the American Legion Post 403 attended the October 2023 meeting at the Petro Truck Stop. Karen Tracy, CEO of Rochelle Community Hospital, gave a presentation on the status of the hospital and her vision for the future. From left to right: Steve Korth (adjutant), Eric Wells (finance officer), Gary Tarvestad (sergeant at arms), Tracy, Paul Bearrows (chaplain), Chuck Roberts (senior vice-commander), Paul Hardcastle (junior vice-commander) and John Gruben (commander).

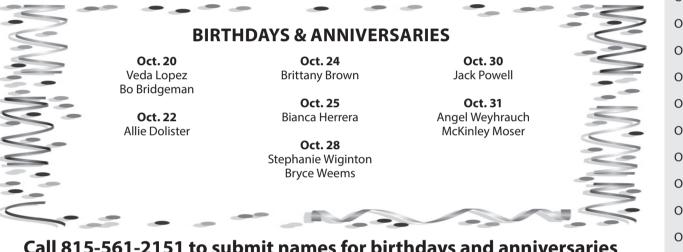
THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

October 17 – (Tuesday) – Beef Brisket over Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Gravy October 19 – (Thursday) – Fundraiser Night – BBQ Baby Back Ribs, Roasted Veggies, Rice October 24 - (Tuesday) - Pork Chops, Roasted Potatoes, Peas October 26 - (Thursday) - Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes, Green Beans, Corn October 31 – (Tuesday) – Happy Halloween!! - Chili, Hot Dogs, (Sauerkraut for hot dogs)

November 5 – NO SUNDAY BRUNCH

KIDS MENU: Chicken Nuggets w/Fries

**All menus are subject to change. If you would like to check before coming out, please call us at 815-561-9074 www.KitchenTableRochelle.org



Call 815-561-2151 to submit names for birthdays and anniversaries





Sept. 22 - Teresa Schlesinger, Compton, \$25
Sept. 23 - Mark - Meyers Furniture, Rochelle, \$25
Sept. 24- Thelma Geske, Steward, \$50
Sept. 25 - Brenda Bickerman, McNabb, \$25
Sept. 26 - Dave Pest, Rochelle, \$25
Sept. 27 - Steve Howell, Dixon, \$25
Sept. 28 - Jodi Jacobs, Panama City, Florida, \$25
Sept. 29 - Juan Martinez, Rochelle, \$25
Sept. 30 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
Oct. 1 - Caring Friends, Dixon, \$50
Oct. 2 - Shawn Meyers, Keokuk, Iowa, \$25
Oct. 3 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25
Oct. 4 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
Oct. 5 - Rochelle Police Dog, \$25
Oct. 6 - Linda Alderks, Chana, \$25
Oct. 7 - Rochelle Fire Fighter Social, \$25
Oct. 8 - Calvin M. Jacobs, Rochelle, \$50
Oct. 9 - Mic Brooks, Rochelle, \$250
Oct. 10 - Jessica Mueller, Rochelle, \$25
Oct. 11 - Jason Burdin, Rochelle, \$25
Oct. 12 - MeLisa Young, Rochelle, \$25
Oct. 13 - Jasmine Sarabia, Rochelle, \$25
Oct. 14 - From the Heart, \$25
Oct. 15 - Michele Perez, Rochelle, \$50
Oct. 16 - From the Heart, \$25
Oct. 17 - City of Rochelle, \$25

Oct. 18 - Erica Walton, Moline, \$25

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

King Crossword **ACROSS** 10 111 1 Apple tablet 12 13 14 5 Dispensed candy 15 16 17 1980s 8 Chrysler line 18 19 20 21 12 – bene 22 23 25 24 13 King, in Cannes 29 27 28 30 26 14 British noble 31 32 33 15 Diner employee 36 35 34 16 Gerund ending 37 38 39 17 Pub potables 40 41 42 43 44 18 Candy bar nut 48 47 49 45 46 20 Stoic philosopher 50 51 52 22 Baseball 54 55 53 film starring Robert 8 Reeves of lunch? Redford terer 26 Kathmandu's 49 "Doing mv "Speed" 28 Helter-skelter best" 9 Dieters count 32 Squad car land 33 Dracula, for 50 Vogue rival them 29 Census stat 10 "Right you 30 Chemical suf- 51 Brit. record one 35 College URL fix label 52 April forecast 11 "Kidnapped" ender 31 Exploits 53 D.C. insiders monogram 36 Vegas lead-in 32 LPs' succes-54 Squealer 19 Stanley Cup 38 Minnesota's sors 55 North Sea 10,000+33 Air outlet org. feeder 21 Paris summer 39 Custom 34 – de mer 42 List-ending 23 Consumer 35 Before DOWN 36 Rodeo rope crusader abbr. 1 Bygone Ralph 43 First bed 37 Baseball film starring Kevin Peruvian 24 Curry and 44 Emmy-2 Betting group Landers winning Daly Costner 40 Hawaiian 3 Teensy bit 25 Jared of 45 Zing 4 Stately duo? "Panic Room" 46 "Xanadu" island 5 A deadly sin 26 Feeling no band 41 Phase 45 Quick look 6 Long time 48 Ms. Thurman pain 47 Extended 7 Slaloms 27 Birthright bar-© 2023 King Features Synd., Inc.

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9-box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: <

Moderate Challenging ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: C equals K

LNNC WLNYQ W VFJYIAWO DWUAJWI CAZUEND AZ SPAJP QPF WQDNBVPFOF РWВ LFFZ

EFVIFQFE:

"WAOIFBB AZ SNZEFOIWZE."

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LOCAL NEWS

PARK: Ohlinger discusses revenue numbers at district facilities

From page 1

"We'll have informational meetings and have people come in and get community involvement and talk about the design before we move forward."

Numbers

Ohlinger said Monday that the park district's revenue numbers at the Skare Park driving range and Spring Lake Pool were the highest they've been in the past three years.

From Jan. 1 to Oct. 15 of last year, member usage and drop in numbers at The REC Center totaled about 79,000. For this year during that time period, the number was about 89,000. For the entire calendar year of 2022, that number totaled around 100,000. Ohlinger anticipates that 2023's total number will be higher.

The enrollment for fall youth athletic programs in the park district is slated to be 353, compared to 135 last year, a 161 percent increase, Superintendent of Recreation Andrew Murray said. The programs will see kids participating from 24 different towns.

Holiday events

The park district will be hosting a Halloween Safehouse on Oct. 26. It will also be hosting its first annual Christmas at The REC event on Dec.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger said Monday that the park district's revenue numbers at the Skare Park driving range and Spring Lake Pool were the highest they've been in the past three years.

22. The free event will take place from 4:30-6:30 p.m. and will offer a va-

riety of activities for the public including Santa & Mrs. Claus, a letter-writing station, cookies & hot chocolate, a Santa's workshop crafting area,

an indoor snowball fight, a gift wrapping station and a fieldhouse activity.

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WEDNESDAY, OCT. 18, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1



TENNIS SEASON ENDS

The Rochelle Lady Hub tennis team took fifth in the IHSA 1A Sectional on Friday.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Football



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Hub football team honored its senior players before Friday's game against Plano. Above from left to right are Brandt Waters, Tommy Tourdot, Arnette Washington, Chris Rittschof, Brock Metzger, Isaac Lopez, Landon Mickley, Reiley Bonilla, Omar Hueramo, Abel Huerta, Andrew Clark and Riley Damask.

Hubs secure Senior Night win Rochelle shuts out Plano 16-0 to clinch automatic playoff berth on Friday night

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Several members of the Rochelle Hub varsity football team used the field like a slip-and-side after securing Friday evening's Senior Night victory over the Plano Reapers.

With heavy rain pouring down from start to finish. the Hubs leaned on their defense, which recorded a shutout for the fourth time

defeated Plano 16-0. The Hubs (6-2, 5-0 Interstate 8/ Kishwaukee River Blue) limited standout running back Waleed Johnson and the Reaper offense to 129 total yards while forcing two fumbles in their home finale.

"We pulled through and the conditions were tough tonight," senior lineman Landon Mickley said. "Our defense played great and they balled out for us. We

this season as Rochelle treat this sport like we're a big family and I thought we stuck together and made sure everybody had their heads up. It feels amazing to go back to the playoffs and I think it shows how hard we've all worked to get there."

Rochelle will face Richmond-Burton on the road next Friday for a chance to win a conference title for the first time since 2004, when the Hubs finished first in the NCIC Southwest Division.

Rochelle also clinched an automatic playoff berth Friday evening, securing a postseason trip for the third consecutive season and the fourth time in six seasons under head coach Kyle Kissack.

"We struggled during the COVID season when I was a freshman, but we came back and made the playoffs after that and we've been consistently making the playoffs ever since,' said Mickley, who's one of only two three-year varsity seniors on the roster. "It shows how hard our team has worked and how tight we've become. Winning the conference would show how hard we've worked since the summer... If we play our best next week, I think we can make history."

The Hub defense stopped Plano on its opening drive, limiting the Reapers to one first down before a punt gave Rochelle its first possession early in the first quarter. The Hubs moved the ball effectively on their opening series, with freshman Dylan Manning gaining 26 yards on two carries while junior Grant Gensler added a 15-yard run to help Rochelle reach the red zone.

The Hubs were unable to finish their drive with points, however, as a fumble in the end zone on a firstand-goal carry led to a Plano recovery.

See HUBS page 3



Steward Eagles complete undefeated season with 2023 Meridian Conference Volleyball Championship

Eswood School hosted the 2023 Meridian Conference Volleyball Championship tournament, with the Steward Eagles defeating the Kings Comets in the finals to win the title and finish the season with a 10-0 record. The tournament began with No. 3 seed Eswood defeating No. 5 seed Cornerstone and No. 2 seed Kings winning over No. 4 seed Creston in the first round on Wednesday. No. 1 seed Steward then topped Eswood on Thursday in the semifinal round to reach the championship match. The Steward team includes Morgan DeLille, Ryley Ginn, Chris Lopez, Janitza Perez, Ben Hayes, Molly Kedzie, Diana Lopez, Evi O'Rorke, Barbara Palmer, Jamie Riddell and Mayson Smardo. The team is coached by Calla Stroh.



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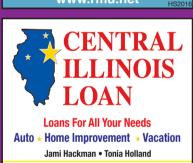






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HUB SPOTLIGHT



The Rochelle Lady Hub tennis team finished fifth out of 10 teams at the IHSA 1A Rochelle Sectional on Friday. Above from left to right are head coach John Michael Loggins, Kara Martinez, Macenzie Glosser, Allison Dickey, Elin Zheng, Riley Doyle, Annaleigh McKinney and assistant coach Jeff Truckenbrod.

Lady Hubs finish fifth in **IHSA 1A Rochelle Sectional**

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCKFORD — A change of scenery didn't hold the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team back from turning in a strong performance in the IHSA 1A Rochelle Sectional on Friday.

With rainy conditions forcing a relocation to the Boylan Indoor Tennis Center, the Lady Hubs didn't begin sectional play until the late afternoon, with matches running until almost midnight. Rochelle (6-9, 0-5 Interstate 8) managed to score four victories, however, with seniors Elin Zheng and Kara Martinez each reaching the quarterfinal round of the singles competition.

Martinez won two matches despite entering the tournament without a top-6 seed. Martinez dominated her first-round match against Keith Country Day's Gianna Epperson, cruising without dropping a single game for a 6-0, 6-0 win. The senior then battled No. 6 seed Chase Helm from Rockford Christian in the second round, sweeping the first set and taking the second set while losing only one game to earn a 6-0, 6-1 win and a spot in the singles bracket quarterfinals. "I'd describe Kara as a warrior," head coach John Michael Loggins said. "She never wants to give up and I thought that showed during the sectional. She played a really strong match in the first round and she beat a seeded player handily in the second round. She faced a giant in the quarterfinals, but she made her earn it and I thought she played her best tennis all year." With a berth in the IHSA State Championship on the line. Martinez faced No. 3 seed Addison Arjes from Dixon in the quarterfinals, claiming two games in the first set but falling short in a 2-6, 0-6 loss. On the other side of the bracket, Zheng started her singles run as the No. 4 seed, earning a first-round bye before cruising 6-0, 6-0 over Rockford Christian's Hannah Flickinger.

terfinal round, where she battled No. 5 seed Jordyn Tilstra from Sycamore for a chance to reach the state meet. Zheng played a strong first set against Tilstra, taking four games but ultimately falling in the match with a 4-6, 0-6 loss.

"Elin fought so hard in this tournament," Loggins said. "She won handily during the second round and was really getting into the match. She was hitting her shots and she was even practicing some shots she would need for her next match. The first set took an hour and 20 minutes and even though she lost 4-6. there were points that would last for minutes. It was a cat-and-mouse game until someone pulled the trigger. Elin fought hard and she never gave up.'

Junior Riley Doyle and senior Macenzie Glosser earned Rochelle's lone doubles victory in the sectional tournament. After receiving a first-round bye in the doubles bracket, the Lady Hub duo hung tough and took down Rockford Christian's Cameran Groenwold and Taylor Powell 6-3, 6-4 in the second round. Doyle and Glosser faced No. 2 seeds Elizabeth Fitzgerald and Isabelle Grisanzio from Rockford Boylan in the quarterfinals with a state bid on the line, falling 0-6, 0-6. Seniors Allie Dickey and Annaleigh McKinney opened the tournament with a first-round bye before conceding an 0-6, 0-6 loss against No. 3 seeds Katelyn de Guzman and Megan Hillman from Rockford Lutheran in the second round. Rochelle scored 12 team points to finish fifth out of 10 teams in the sectional tournament. "Annaleigh and Allie had the hardest draw of the first round," Loggins said. "They went to deuce three times in the first set and if we had pulled out one or two of those deuces, we would have taken one or two games. They stayed positive and fought to the end... Riley and Macenzie earned their first win. They found ways to fight through their low moments and they found a way to close out the match, which was something they struggled with this year."

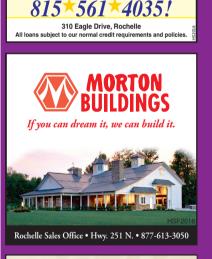














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SPORTS HUBS: Rochelle celebrates Senior Night with win over Plano

From page 1

Thewetconditionsmade ball security difficult for both teams Friday evening, as the Reapers fumbled the ball right back on their next series, with sophomore linebacker Brode Metzger making a recovery for the Hubs.

Rochelle capitalized on the Plano turnover, breaking the scoreless tie on a 4-yard rushing touchdown from Manning, who led the Hub offense with 125 rushing yards on 13 carries, to help the Hubs take an 8-0 lead late in the first quarter. Rochelle extended its lead late in the second quarter, where sophomore Roman Villalobos rumbled up the middle for a 3-yard touchdown run.

Plano had its biggest offensive play of the game negated by a penalty, as an illegal man downfield midway through the second quarter axed a 26-yard pass from quarterback Kaiden Schmindale to wide receiver Nick Serio. The second half was a battle in the trenches, with the rain continuing to pound the field as both teams struggled to find much running room.

The Rochelle defense forced a punt and a turnover on downs over Plano's first two possessions. The Reapers nearly scored early in the fourth quarter, but a pass breakup by junior cornerback Xavier Villalobos on a fourth-and-goal snap ended Plano's chance to avoid the shutout. The Reapers fumbled away their final drive, as senior cornerback



Junior Grant Gensler evades a tackle from a Plano defender during the Rochelle Hub varsity football game against the Reapers on Friday. Gensler rushed for 95 yards as the Hubs defeated Plano 16-0 to move to 6-2 on the season and 5-0 in the conference.

Tommy Tourdot forced a fumble that junior lineman Kaiden Morris recovered near the Plano sideline.

Gensler rushed for 95 yards on 18 carries, while Villalobos added 67 yards on 16 carries in the win. Metzger's seven tackles led the way for the Rochelle defense, which also saw Morris total six tackles and one sack while senior

linebacker Brock Metzger and junior linebacker Ethan Goodwin added five tackles each. Junior linebacker Brandyn Metzger finished with four tackles.

Rochelle honored its senior class before kickoff on Friday evening. The seniors honored include Tommy Tourdot, Brandt Waters, Riley Damask, Reiley Bonilla, Isaac Lopez, Brock Metzger, Chris Rittschof, Landon Mickley, Andrew Clark, Arnette Washington and Omar Hueramo.

Fresh/Soph

The Rochelle Hub freshsoph football team remained undefeated with a 38-6 win over Plano on Friday evening. Rochelle (7-0, 5-0 Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue) will conclude its season with a road game against Richmond-Burton later this week.

Sophomore Brenden Voight rushed for a 3-yard touchdown and a 35-yard touchdown in the victory. Freshman Brody Bruns recorded six tackles as well as three tackles for loss including one that resulted in a fumble recovery and touchdown for sophomore

Ryder Stombaugh.

Sophomore Van Gerber fired a 55-yard touchdown pass to sophomore Keagam Albers to aid the Rochelle offense in the win. Sophomore Freddie Hernandez recovered a fumble and sophomore Wyatt Worthington totaled five tackles including two tackles for loss to assist the Rochelle defense.

RTHS Boys Soccer Freeport edges Rochelle in IHSA 2A Regional Quarterfinals Hubs shut out for first time since Aug. 25 as Pretzels earn 1-0 win on Saturday

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

FREEPORT — A dethe Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team kicked off the IHSA 2A Rochelle Regional Quarterfinals with a road match against the Freeport Pretzels. Rochelle recorded nine shots including five shots on goal, but the Hubs were unable to find the back

of the Freeport net. The said. "We just didn't have Pretzels allowed Freeport eighth-seeded Hubs were shut out for the first time since Aug. 25, falling 1-0 make sure we're taking fensive battle ensued as to the seventh-seeded Pret- quality shots. The goal they zels and finishing the season with a 5-13-2 overall record. Sophomore goalkeeper Antonio Hueramo totaled eight saves for the Hubs in the loss Saturday.

as many shots on goal as they did and we need to scored was unfortunate as we had a player go down while colliding with one of theirs and ultimately that's what cost us the goal in that situation." Junior Alberto Casillas fired Rochelle's first shot on goal during the 17th minute, but a save by the

to clear the ball away. The Hubs briefly lost junior minute, but the Pretzels were unable to capitalize on the foul made, with Rochelle holding Freeport scoreless as the match remained tied 0-0 at halftime. "I didn't think we were working very well as a team toward the beginning of the season, but were a

completely different team over our last three games," Male said. "It's unfortunate defender Luis Milan to a that we couldn't score the 49th minute. Freeport took yellow card during the 28th timely goals when we advantage of the Rochelle needed to and the main point for our kids is that we have to continue to work as a team for all 80 minutes. If we can do that, we'll progress well." Rochelle lost another key player to a yellow card early in the second half, when sophomore

midfielder Heilly Zepeda was forced off the field after a foul made in the mistake this time around, scoring the first and only goal of the contest in the 52nd minute to take the 1-0 lead. Casillas and senior Diego Salazar each had shots on goal over the final 20 minutes, but the Pretzel defense proved too strong to crack.

"I was pleased with how we played and I thought we moved the ball well," head coach Brad Male

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ASHTON NEWS



AFC students travel to Rockford for Stateline Quiz Bowl

On Sunday, Oct. 1, students from Ashton-Franklin Center High School traveled to Rockford to compete in the Stateline Quiz Bowl against Pecatonica. This is the second year that AFC has participated in this televised event and their episode will be the first one aired from Season 10! Tune in on Oct. 21 and/or 22 to watch the match. Team members included were: Colin, Zayne, Lauren, Kate, Ethan and Ayden.

Kish College celebrates National Adult Education and Literacy Week

MALTA — Kishwaukee College is proud to celebrate National Adult Education and Literacy Week, Sept. 18-24. Kish's Adult Education programs provide skills and credentials to adult learners, expanding economic opportunity for the region. Kish partners with community organizations and social services to provide resources for education, workforce development, health, life and wellbeing. Kishwaukee College is one of 72 adult education providers funded through the Illinois Community College Board. Programs offered at Kish include English as a Second Language, Illinois High School Diploma, and bridge and transitions courses.

Kish's English as a Second Language (ESL) program allows students to develop the reading, writing, listening and speaking skills needed for college and career success. Kish adult education students noted how the classes have helped in personal and professional settings.

The programs and courses offered by Kish's Adult Education department assist students with the knowledge and training needed for in-demand careers locally and nationally. Full-time workers with a high school diploma earn almost \$10,000 more per year than those without a diploma, according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Registration for Kish's

second eight-week adult education classes will be available Oct. 9-12. To register or learn more, contact adulted@kish. edu or 815-825-9420 or visit kish.edu/adulteducation.

Kishwaukee College Foundation announces local fall 2023 scholarship recipients

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College Foundation is pleased to announce the student scholarship recipients for the fall 2023 semester. The foundation awarded 207 scholarship awards totaling \$167,133.

Scholarship funds are madepossible through generous gifts from members of the community, local businesses and industry, and area agencies and associations. Students are selected on a competitive basis, according to each scholarship's specific requirements.

Local Kishwaukee College students received the following awards:

Bud & Kay Stocking Rochelle Rotary Endowment — Emily Garcia of Rochelle.

Charles & Mary Roberts Memorial Endowment for Nursing—Kendal Ansteth of Rochelle.

Dean & Betty Burgemeister Endowment — Marili Cervantes of Rochelle, Sarah Snow of Rochelle.

Diane McNeilly Education Endowment — Nayeli Ramirez of Rochelle.

Howard & Martha Mullins Memorial Endowment for Nursing — Cheryl Bialas of Rochelle.

Kishwaukee College College Foundat Employee Give Scholarship — Grace Barnes of kcfscholarships.

Rochelle. LaVerne "Dutch" Johnson Memorial Fund — Emma Hilleson of Lee, Hannah Seaworth of Lindenwood, Jessica Van Etten of Esmond.

Law Enforcement Lifelong Learning Scholarship—Damen Harrington of Rochelle.

Pat Humo Nursing Scholarship — Johnathan Nguyen of Rochelle.

Ruth I. Hall Nursing Endowment — Michele Lidren of Rochelle, Carly Summers of Esmond, Carly Summers of Esmond.

Tom & Nancy Roberts Theatre Endowment — Jessica Van Etten of Esmond, Asher Wiegartz of Rochelle.

Vernon & Dorothy Smith Memorial Endowment — Olivia Ramos of Rochelle, Carly Summers of Esmond, Ceci Vargas of Rochelle.

Students who wish to remain anonymous are omitted from this list.

The Kishwaukee College Foundation scholarship application period for the spring 2024 semester will run Friday, Sept. 15, through Monday, Oct. 16. For more information on foundation scholarships, contact the Kishwaukee College Foundation at 815-825-9803 or visit kish.edu/ kcfscholarships.

Fehr Graham hires Titus Williamson as survey technician

ROCHELLE — Fehr Graham, a leading Midwest engineering and environmental firm, is proud to announce the hiring of Titus Williamson as a survey technician. Williamson is responsible for completing topographic surveys and documenting an as-built design once a project is completed. He shares project information with clients, site managers, contractors and municipal leaders and ensures accuracy and expediency.

Williamson earned a bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies at NIU.



McClain and Dobson win first and second Ashton Lawn of the Month awards for October

Tammy McClain of Cartwright Avenue was recently given the October Lawn of the Month in Ashton (left). The second Lawn of the Month for October in Ashton was awarded to Alex & Crystal Dobson of First Street.





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here. Which do you want when you've had a bad day: A face-to-face meeting with your local agent, or a machine answering the phone at that big national insurer that advertises on TV?

Time is money. It's simple math (especially when you figure in gas mileage.) Shopping locally can actually save you both time and money!

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The daytime deliveries would be two or three days per week (including weekends) and consist of approximately 4-5 hours per shift depending on the route usually 10-15 hours per week.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, possess a valid driver's license, proof of insurance and a safe driving record. Drivers will use company vehicles when delivering, and will be trained on the respective routes.

Candidates must be able to load, unload and carry multiple bundles of 5 to 10 pounds each. Driver applicants must be reliable, personable and have a general knowledge of area streets and roads.

This position is perfect for someone looking to supplement their income or retirement.

Interested individuals must fill out an application in person at the Rochelle News-Leader office at 211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle. 03262023 No phone calls please.

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Thursday) 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. (Friday) Phone: 815-562-4171 **Fax:** 815-562-2161 Address: 211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle Mail: P.O. Box 46 Rochelle, IL 61068

DEADLINES: Sunday News-Leader: Thursday, 2 p.m. Wednesday News-Leader: Monday, 4 p.m. (Deadlines subject to change during holiday times)

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AUCTIONS

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LARGE ESTATE AUCTION

In Order to Settle the Estate of Gerald "Buster" Latimer, The Following shop items furniture, collectibles, Country and Farm primitives, and Cadillac Car Will Be sold at no reserve to the highest bidder At Auction Located at 6222 Rich Road, just 4 miles west of DeKalb, Illinois.

Saturday October 21st Starting at 10:30 a.m. * Car, Pop-Up Camper, Forklift, Jet Ski, Farm & Country

collectibles

2001 Cadillac DeVille car, 141,634 miles, very good condition, garage kept. This was Busters every day driver. Clark LP gas 4.000lb lift fork lift, Hard tire, runs and lifts great. Brakes are weak however; 2005 Fleetwood Sea-Pine Pop-Up camper. Very good condition, Always stored inside. 2004 Sea-Doo Jet Ski, was in the water 2 years ago, will need to be checked over before running. The Sea Doo Jet Ski sells with Karavan double trailer. Owner does

not have a title for the Sea-Doo or trailer, Covered Buckboard wooden wagon, Restored and usable. Very nice quality wagon. Would make a great parade or show piece. Double Pony cart with rubber tire rims on wooded wheels. Vintage Gilbarco Gas pump, Non working, but a great patina and look. Lots of Country collectibles & farm primitives from lanterns, to wood boxes, horse & harness equipment, vintage hand tools; Lots yard & garden tools; Weber Silver Gas Grill; 3 ton Cherry picker; Drill press, Horizontal band saw; 30ton hyd press; 28ft aluminum ext. ladder,

Furniture * Glassware * Sleighs Buster enjoyed wood working and has made several display sleighs over the years. We have a couple to sell, these are great for the holidays and can be set up inside or out in the yard. Several tables loaded with nice glassware, dish and kitchen ware, kitchen appliances, decorative nick-knacs, figurines, Christmas items, vintage toys and games. La z boy chair; leather Sofa and love seat; Nice Dining table w/ 6 chairs; Vintage 50's dinette table w/ 4 matching red & white vinyl chairs; Glider Rockers, like new; Antique Oak round pedestal coffee table; Wrought iron Patio set, table & 4 chairs. And many more items of interest and usability.

Terms: Not Responsible For Accidents, Injury or Theft. Announcements made day of sale take precedence over all other advertisement. Bring your truck and a friend. Buster moved to this farm in 1958, he was a great neighbor, respected businessman, farmer and friend to the FFA. Join us for this great Estate Auction.

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Estate of Gerald "Buster" Latimer, owner All Our Auctio



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SPORTS

RTHS Tennis

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



RTHS hosts retirement party for longtime assistant coach Truckenbrod on Sunday afternoon

Rochelle Township High School held a retirement party on Sunday afternoon for longtime assistant tennis coach Jeff Truckenbrod, who will be retiring after 25 years of coaching. Truckenbrod received a special award from the RTHS tennis program for his years of dedication and service to the program and its student-athletes. Truckenbrod is pictured above with his family as well as RTHS tennis coaches Kristy Eckardt, Lizzie Cartwright and John Michael Loggins.



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SPORTS

RTHS Cross Country



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Five members of the RTHS cross country team earned awards during the Interstate 8 Conference meet at Morris High School on Saturday. Senior Luis Hernandez (left) received All-Conference honors for the second straight season, while sophomore Declan McGee (middle) won the fresh-soph race. For the Lady Hubs, sophomore Rose Luxton and junior Brisa Zepeda (right) took home JV ribbons for their respective performances in the meet. Not pictured is sophomore Mary Chadwick.

Hernandez earns All-Conference honors at Interstate 8 meet McGee wins fresh-soph race as three Lady Hub runners earn ribbons on Saturday

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

MORRIS — Senior runner Luis Hernandez earned All-Conference honors for the second consecutive season on Saturday afternoon, when the Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub cross country teams raced at the Interstate 8 Conference Championship meet at Morris High School.

Hernandez was one of four boys who represented Rochelle in the varsity race, medaling in 10th out of 39 runners with a time of 17:08.21. Senior Caleb Wyssbrod finished 34th with a time of 20:28.52, while juniors Chris Beckman and Cash Budde took 38th and 39th with respective times of 24:02.64 and 24:13.69. Hernandez was one of five RTHS runners awarded Saturday.

"It felt great because I wasn't sure if I would earn All-Conference," Hernandez said. "I was a little lost during the first half of the race, but I started working my way toward the front near the end and I knew

I was going to earn All-Conference at the end. My confidence is pretty high going into regionals and I've been able to pass the mental barriers I had over the weekend like the hills and the wind. I'm hoping to qualify for sectionals again and I feel confident I can do that."

Sophomore Declan McGee received ribbon honors after winning the fresh-soph boys race on Saturday. McGee clocked in with a time of 17:40.64 to finish first out of 27 runners in the fresh-soph

competition. Sophomore Levi Waddle took 16th with a time of 20:15.54, while freshman Hadley Losoya and sophomore Elijah Mayen placed 17th and 18th in 20:18.15 and 20:40.83. Rochelle did not record a team score in either of the two boys races on Saturday.

"I think my time shows how much I've grown and I felt really good about my performance," McGee said. "I was in the 17-minute range last season, but I wasn't able to run in that range during this race last season. I thought I showed up and had a good time, even though the conditions were tough. It helps confidence a lot because I did well in tough conditions and I know I can do even better under better conditions. My goal is still to run under 17 minutes."

The Lady Hubs finished third out of four teams in the JV race, with sophomores Rose Luxton and Mary Chadwick as well as junior Brisa Zepeda earning ribbon honors. Luxton took seventh out of 28 JV runners with a

time of 25:10.08, while Chadwick and Zepeda placed 10th and 11th with times of 25:29.43 and 25:36.39. Freshman Vivian Worthington and junior Bridgett Ramirez finished 16th and 20th with times of 26:13.74 and 27:50.58 to round out the top five JV runners.

Rochelle will race in the IHSA 2A Kaneland Regional at Kaneland High School this Saturday. Advancing teams and individuals will then compete in the IHSA2AWoodstock Sectional.



The 2024 From The Heart Cash Calendars

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: **Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian** Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star **Children's Advocacy**



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