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Vol. 103 • No. 29

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SUNDAY, AUG. 6, 2023

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Geskes win July 28 LOTW honor

The Rochelle Chamber presented its July 28 Lawn of the Week award to John and Jennifer Geske. Page 7

WEATHER

SUNDAY HIGH 81 LOW 64
MONDAY HIGH 80 LOW 63
TUESDAY HIGH 80 LOW 61
WEDNESDAY HIGH 81 LOW 58

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OBITUARIES

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- GAVYN NATHANAEEL JAYMES SCHUTZ
- JIM HILL
- KEVIN SANDERSON

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Law enforcement officials react to cash bail ruling VanVickle: 'The repeat offenders are definitely going to be a concern'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OGLE COUNTY — Local law enforcement recently reacted to a Tuesday, July 18 ruling by the state's Supreme Court that the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform legislation that eliminates cash bail is constitutional.

An individual's wealth will no longer play a role in whether they are incarcerated while awaiting trial. Judges can still order someone to be detained as they await trial, but the new system will instead be based on an offender's level of risk of reoffending or fleeing prosecution. The change will take effect Sept. 18. Illinois is the first state to fully eliminate cash bail.

The SAFE-T Act also reformed police training, certification and use-of-force standards, expanded detainee rights, and gave the attorney general's office authority to investigate alleged civil rights violations by law enforcement. It also required body cameras at all police departments by 2025.

Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle has been outspoken against the elimination of cash bail, and



(PHOTO BY BRAD JENNINGS)

Local law enforcement recently reacted to a Tuesday, July 18 ruling by the state's Supreme Court that the SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform legislation that eliminates cash bail is constitutional.

said July 26 that he was disappointed, but not surprised, by the Supreme Court's ruling. He said his office will be ready for the Sept. 18 change, as it was before the original Jan. 1 implementation date before the legislation went through the court system.

The sheriff called the

elimination of cash bail "a change in the way law enforcement does business." The "majority" of people will be processed and then released immediately, VanVickle said, and will go before a judge at a later time rather than the next day. He said he has concerns about how likely the accused will

be to show up to their court appearances.

"While a judge can issue an order for them to show up to court, it's not detainable," VanVickle said. "We just would make contact with that person and issue them a new date. There's concerns of, 'How effective is the judiciary going to be

if people aren't showing up to court?' That not only taxes our folks by having to provide additional paper service, but it taxes the state's attorney by multiple court dates that don't yield any resolution as well as additional docket dates."

See BAIL page 5

RPD hosts 2023 National Night Out event Rochelle Police Chief Pavia: 'It's been a huge, record turnout'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Tuesday, the Rochelle Police Department hosted its National Night Out event at Atwood Park.

The event, which is hosted by law enforcement organizations across the country, included music, free hot dogs, a helicopter landing, police and fire demonstrations, dancing, games and giveaways. Dance performances were made by Ballet Folklorico Xochiquetzal and Studio C Dance. RPD put on taser and K9 demonstrations.

"So far it's been fantastic," RPD Chief Pete Pavia said. "It's been a huge, record turnout. I'm very happy with it. I'm happy with the new setup we did. Last year we spread it out more. I wanted to bring it in and I wanted the community together. It's been great. This is exactly what we wanted."

RPD plans throughout the year to put on the event. Pavia has taken the lead on organizing the event in his six years with the department and had a history of organizing the event at his



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Tuesday, the Rochelle Police Department hosted its National Night Out event at Atwood Park. The event, which is hosted by law enforcement organizations across the country, included music, free hot dogs, a helicopter landing, police and fire demonstrations, dancing, games and giveaways.

previous employer. He's seen RPD's event grow "exponentially" from the parking lot near its building to Atwood Park.

Pavia said the event allows for officers to get to know the community, and

vice versa.

"People can come up to us and see us like everyone else," Pavia said. "We talk and it's an opportunity to interact with the community outside of a call of policing. And we have over

30 businesses here this year. I make sure I go around and meet everybody. It's good getting everyone together. We can just meet everyone here tonight all at one time."

Businesses and organizations set up booths and

did giveaways and played games with community members in attendance."

"Having everyone participate is fantastic," Pavia said.

See NNO page 8

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LOCAL NEWS

Quiet zone work discussed, public meeting could be held Creston board approves ordinance for raffle licenses during Tuesday meeting

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

CRESTON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Creston Village Board of Trustees again discussed quiet zone work at railroad crossings that would alleviate train horns in Creston.

Last year, the board unanimously voted to spend \$10,400 on engineering to start the process of possibly getting the village's railroad crossings turned into quiet zones. Options will include putting medians at the intersections, if possible, that prevent vehicles from going in between train gates, and having train horns at the crossings rather than have the trains use their horns through the village.

Bunge said preliminary work on the project is done and a diagnostic meeting on the project may be done that costs \$13,000, but that is just recommended and not required.

"I know the quiet zone is something the board has wanted to proceed with for a while," Bunge said. "We're at the point now where we just need to pull the trigger if that's what the board wants to do. Because we're about to set up a meeting with these different agencies. We'll skip the diagnostic meeting to save the money and go right to the joint meeting. I don't want to set up that meeting if the board isn't still 100 percent behind it."

Due to the potential high cost of the project,

which is unclear, Village President Tom Byro expressed a desire to hold a public meeting in the future to see how much desire there is among residents for quiet zones.

Bunge said plans for crossing improvements have been made. The current plan is the cheapest possible route and would involve a curb median on Main Street. Bunge, Byro and Village Trustee Curt Ward plan to meet in the future regarding the topic and set up plans for a public meeting.

"There are so many rumors out there and speculation about this quiet zone project," Ward said. "That's why we need to have this public meeting so we can get the facts out there."

Library

During his engineering update, Bunge said the Creston-Dement Library District is currently trying to work on its plans as it recently received high bids for construction as



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Creston Board of Trustees again discussed quiet zone work at railroad crossings that would alleviate train horns in Creston.

it works to build a new library in Creston.

"They're trying to find things that they can change to save some money," Bunge said.

Properties

Village Attorney Dave Tess said legal work is ongoing on cleaning up properties that are aban-

doned and in disrepair in Creston. The village has now seen a number of the property owners default in court. What comes next will be up the village.

"We're going to need to work with the village and [Village Building Inspector Casper Manheim]," Tess said. "What do you want to do? We have them

defaulted. We can go back in and say we want to demolish. Who's going to pay for it? You can clean it up. But who's going to pay for it? You can pay for it and you can lien the property now."

If the village does pay for demolitions or clean-ups, it may not recoup its money, Tess said. Trustees expressed a desire to rectify the issues with properties, even if it comes at a cost.

"We want to clean them up," Village Trustee Mike Kerns said. "Absolutely. Take them down or do whatever we have to do."

Well

Bunge said maintenance on Creston's Well 3 is around 2-4 weeks out. The well rehabilitation project is being done because Well 3 hasn't been pulled for maintenance since it was installed in 1980.

See CRESTON pg 3

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Chad, Derek, Don, Mike and Annette

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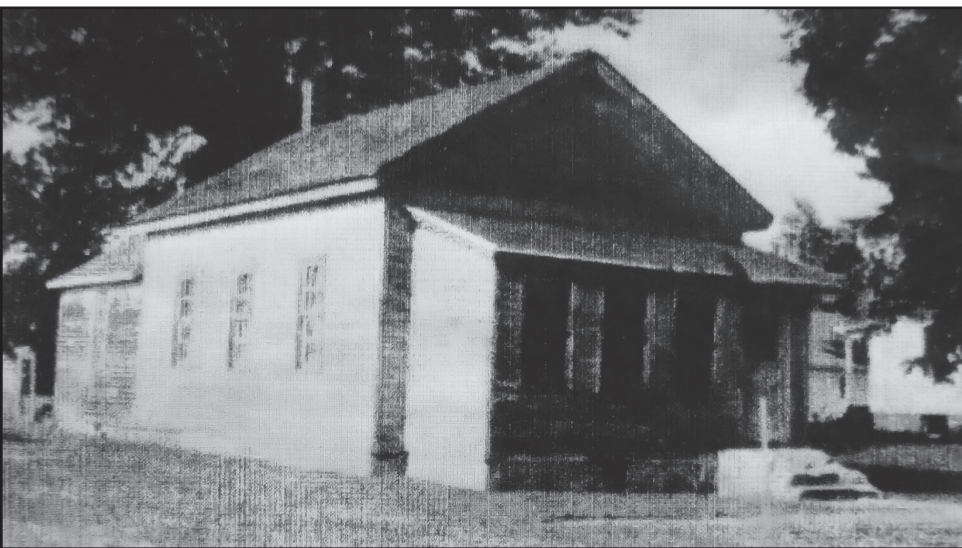
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News-Leader

LOCAL NEWS



Kings School alumni picnic scheduled for Sunday, Aug. 27

(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Kings School is having an Alumni Picnic. We are celebrating over 140 years of educating students. It is open to all current and former Kings School students or staff and their families. We are providing one grilled pork chop with bun, potato salad, coleslaw and cake. We ask everyone to bring their own table service and non-alcoholic drink, a dish of their choice to share, and lawn chairs. And bring memories and any memorabilia they would like to share. It will be held at Kings Consolidated School, 100 First St., Kings, IL, Sunday, Aug. 27, 12:30-5 p.m. If anyone would like to donate money for our event, there are several posters around the area that give information where to donate.

CRESTON: Village board approves payment for drainage work



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The board unanimously approved a payment of \$2,700 to Mark Hill to aid him in work to alleviate drainage issues he's been seeing on property he farms across Illinois Route 38.

From page 2

The village plans to have a new pump motor on site when the well is pulled for maintenance to use while repairs take place.

Raffle

The board unanimously approved an ordinance that will allow for the issuance of licenses to host charitable raffles.

The request came from the Rochelle Township High School Education Foundation and the Moose Knuckle Bar & Grill. The ordinance would allow for the RTHSEF to host a Queen of Hearts drawing at the Moose Knuckle.

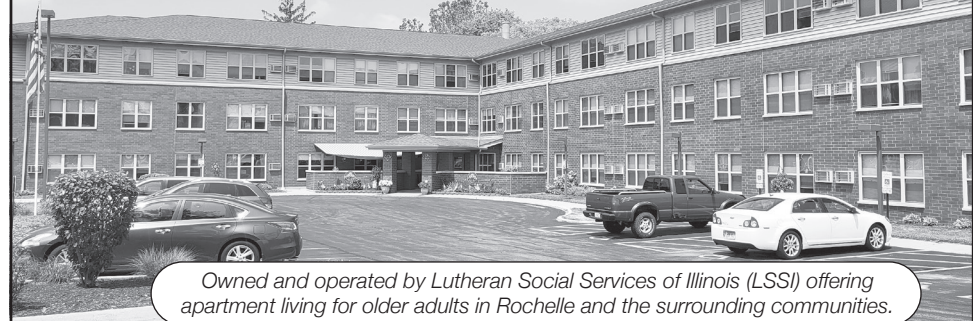
The ordinance allows for charitable raffles hosted by 501c3 non-profits only and provides for fees to be paid to the

village to host one and requirements on winning amounts.

Drainage

The board unanimously approved a payment of \$2,700 to Mark Hill to aid him in work to alleviate drainage issues he's been seeing on property he farms across Illinois Route 38. The money will be put towards an upsizing fee for drainage tile.

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6-7 PM LITTLE MISS PEANUT
8-10 PM - NAUTI NAUTI

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19, 2023

11 AM - 8 PM - MAGIC MATT'S FAMILY FUN SHOW

NOON - 1 PM - LYNX

2-4 PM - BLUE STEAM

5-7 PM - JERRY CRISS BAND

8-10 PM - NEVERLY BROTHERS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023

11 AM - 6 PM - MAGIC MATT'S FAMILY FUN SHOW

1-3 PM - NEAL WOOLBRIGHT - MUSIC WITH JOHN BROWN

4-6 PM - VODKA BOYS

CAR SHOW - SATURDAY 8AM-3PM

ICE CREAM SOCIAL

SUNDAY 3PM-6PM

HAUNTED MAZE AT MOOSE LODGE

SATURDAY 4PM-9PM

SUNDAY 2PM-5PM

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SATURDAY 7:30AM-11AM

SUNDAY 7:30AM-11AM

KID ZONE

SATURDAY 11AM-3PM

CHURCH SERVICE FIRST GENERAL BAPTIST

SUNDAY 9:30 AM - 10:30 AM

PARADE

SUNDAY 1PM

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Janet Elaine (Kissack) Hart

ROCHELLE — Janet Elaine (Kissack) Hart of Rochelle, formerly of Heyworth, passed away on Aug. 2, 2023, at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon with her loving family by her side. She was born on Jan. 17, 1950, in Carbondale to Harold G. and Emma Ruth (George) Kissack. She was the eldest of four children. She married Howard “Jim” Hart of Rochelle at St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Rochelle on June 8, 1974.

Jan was a teacher in the Rochelle School District for almost 10 years before becoming the special education director for the Rockford School District. She left Rockford and became the director of religious education for St. Patrick’s Church in Rochelle and later went to work for Hope of Ogle County. She recently retired from Northern Illinois University in DeKalb

after spending over 20 years as a supervisor of student teachers in the education department.

She is survived by her husband, Howard J. Hart Jr. of Rochelle; daughters: Jorie (Brian) Jackson of The Woodlands, Texas, Jodie Hart of Rochelle, and Jill (Eric) Parsley of The Woodlands, Texas; grandsons: James Hart, Jadon Exantus, and Benjamin Jackson; granddaughter Emma Jackson; brothers: Jay (Karen) Kissack of Algonquin and Joe Kissack of Chattanooga, Tennessee sister-in-law, Wendy Kissack of Rochelle and many nieces, nephews, and cousins. Jan is preceded in death by her parents and her brother, Jeff.

“Mama” was a superhuman. She was Fierce. She had no limits. From coaching youth for many years, to running a half marathon at 60, to running around with her

grandkids, you would always find her active and involved. Mama loved hard. She was an advocate for those she loved and anyone she educated and mentored, always making sure people’s voices were heard and they were treated right and well.

Her support was unwavering, and you would always find her at the events of her children and grandchildren. She thrived seeing people be their best and celebrated their successes with them. Her legacy will live on in her children and grandchildren, in the people she mentored, the kids she coached, the students she taught, and the lucky many who had the privilege of knowing her.

Jan’s family would like to thank all the staff and nurses at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon for all the wonderful care she received while there. Funeral services have



been scheduled for 10:30 A.M., Aug. 8, 2023 at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, 244 Waterman Street, Sycamore, IL. A visitation will be held from 5 - 7 P.M., Monday, Aug. 7 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle.

Jan will be laid to rest following the funeral service at St. Patrick’s Cemetery in Rochelle, IL. Memorials may be made to Serenity Hospice and Home or HOPE of Ogle County.

Visit www.ungerhorn.com to sign the online guest book.

Kevin Sanderson

CRESTON — Kevin Sanderson, passed away peacefully at the age of 74 on August 4, 2023 at his home in Creston, IL.

He was born in Rochelle, IL on June 17, 1949. His childhood in Creston, IL instilled a lifelong passion for agriculture and fishing, and he loved to speak about it with anyone who would listen. He was an alumnus of the University of Illinois and was passionate about U of I basketball.

He leaves behind his beloved spouse; Debbie Sanderson, his children: Jessica (Jeff) Mahaffey, Jodi Sanderson, and Jamie Sanderson. He also leaves behind his mother Margaret, siblings Gary (Linda), Paul (Cheryl), Iona (David), as well as five grandchildren



(Corday, Jaelyn, Isaiah, Kiayah, and Taya) and many grand dogs. He was proceeded in death by his father Sanford Sanderson, and two sons Eric Sanderson and Micah Mahaffey.

Visitation will be Tuesday Aug. 8th, from 4-7 PM at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle. Funeral will be Wed. August 9th, at 10:00 AM with Pastor David Rogula officiating. Memorial to be established. Online guest book and video tribute will be available at www.ungerhorn.com

Banks joins Stillman Bank as senior VP and commercial loan officer

ROCKFORD – Stillman Bank is pleased to welcome Donald J. Banks as senior vice president and commercial loan officer, according to Thomas R. Hughes, president & CEO.

In his position, Don will primarily be involved with new business development and commercial lending. He will work from the Rockford office at 8492 E. State St.

With 36 years of banking experience, Don earned his bachelor’s degree in business management from Western

Gavyn Nathanael Jaymes Schutz

Gavyn Nathanael Jaymes Schutz passed away on July 10, 2023, while visiting family in Arkansas. Gavyn was born on Oct. 5, 2006, to parents Wayne Schutz Jr and Kim-

berley Hintzsche, and was the big brother of Airael and Alyna Schutz from Oregon. A Celebration of Life will be held at White Pines State Park on Sunday Aug. 13, 2023 at 1 PM.

Jim Hill



WAUCONDA — Jim Hill, a longtime resident of Wauconda, passed away suddenly on the evening of July 27th, 2023. He was a devoted family man who loved his community and his church. Jim graduated from Rochelle Township High School in 1957. He received a bachelor’s degree from Illinois State University and a master’s degree from Northern Illinois University. In addition to being a teacher in the Wauconda and Addison school districts, Jim started his own construction business, which he enjoyed for many years. He served the Wauconda community in many ways over the years, as a village trustee, on the township board, as a member of the Police Commission board, and usher and greeter at the Wauconda Federated Church.

Jim is survived by his wife of nearly 62 years, Joyce; son, Steve (Jennifer); grandchildren, Christopher and Kate; brother, Ron (Betty); sister-in-law, Joan (Ron); brother-in-law, Gene;

nephews, Jeff, Jon, and Dan; niece, Susan. He was preceded in death by his parents Webb and Alice, his sister Betty, his nephew, Rob, and his niece, Brigitte.

A Celebration of Life will be held on August 10th at The Federated Church of Wauconda. Visitation begins at 10am with the service starting at 11am. Inurnment to follow at Wauconda Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests donations be made to the Federated Church of Wauconda.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Kisselburg-Wauconda Funeral Home. For more information, call 847-526-2115 and sign the guest book at www.kisselburgwaucondafuneralhome.com

Ogle County Sheriff’s Department Deputies investigate vehicle

OREGON — On Aug. 2, deputies conducted a traffic stop at Pilot truck stop in Rochelle. After a brief investigation, Wesley Meadows, 28, of Rochelle, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Meadows was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a return court date. Meadows was also issued a citation for suspended

registration.

On Aug. 3, deputies investigated a parked vehicle with the engine on at 700 West Blackhawk Drive (Casey’s General Store) in Byron. After an investigation, deputies placed Duane A. Pinkston, 42, of Oregon, under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Pinkston was transported to the Ogle County Jail.

Joyce McGee Bialas of Rochelle will be celebrating her 80th Birthday on August 6th.

To help her celebrate, the family will be having an open house at Faith Lutheran Church, 14206 E. Flagg Road in Rochelle on Sunday 8/6 from 1-5.

Joyce is a retired nurse and would love to see patients that she has helped take care of over the years. All are welcome!

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Illinois University. He is also a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking Madison, the Community Bankers Association of Illinois Community Bankers School, and the American Bankers Association Commercial Lending School.

Don also earned his Executive Leadership Certificate through the Wisconsin School of Business Center for Professional and Executive Development.

“We are thrilled to welcome Don to Stillman Bank,” Hughes said. “With his industry experience and expertise, he is committed to helping local businesses grow and succeed. Don is also passionate about serving our communities through his involvement and volunteerism and understands what it means to be a true community banker.”



Donald J. Banks

Don is very active in the community serving on several boards of local organizations. Currently, he serves as a board member for the Rockford Symphony Orchestra and the Community Building Complex of Boone County. He also sits on the Rockford Local Development Corporation (RLDC) and Flora Cemetery boards. Additionally, Don is the Flora Township clerk and a member of the IOU Club of Belvidere.

Report policy

Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from

the Rochelle Police, the Ogle County Sheriff’s Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.

LOCAL NEWS

BAIL: Law enforcement officials discuss new state legislation

From page 1

“Those are some of what I feel are going to be unintended consequences of this, on top of the fact that people that offend are going to be back out on the street immediately. The repeat offenders are definitely going to be a concern. That’s a concern they’ve had in New York and New Jersey. Why would we think that Illinois is going to be any different?”

VanVickle said the elimination of cash bail will result in the loss of about \$150,000 per year in income that’s used to supplement the operations of the judiciary. That shortfall will have to be made up for through budget reductions or increased taxes, he said.

The sheriff has reservations about what decision-making authority judges will have under the

new system.

“What I think they’re missing is that this takes decision making out of the judges’ hands,” VanVickle said. “That’s something I appreciate, living in a smaller area, that the judge has that ability to decide if somebody needs to stay in jail because they’re a threat to whatever it may be. This decision-making process is essentially taken out of their hands. We have elected officials who are judges who have a job and now they’ve been removed of the responsibility of maintaining that safety for our community.”

The elimination of cash bail will not immediately change the circumstances of current inmates in the Ogle County Jail. Current inmates would need to petition the court to be considered under the new bond-type of system. If

every current inmate did that and was granted the change, about 50 percent of them would be eligible to be released, VanVickle said.

When asked what guidance he has given deputies on policing following the change on Sept. 18, VanVickle said the core mission of their work will remain the same.

“I expect our deputies to go out and do their jobs,” VanVickle said. “Keep the people that we serve safe. Make those arrests. Whether it’s repetitive arrests, arresting the same people over and over again, we’re still going to do our job. We still have a job to do and that’s what I’ve stressed to our deputies, is our job is to keep the citizens safe. I fully anticipate that our call volume will certainly increase and the number of arrests we have will increase. But we’re not

going to let up. We’re still going to make those arrests and take those people to be processed and go through the process.”

Ogle County State’s Attorney Mike Rock released a statement on July 20 following the Supreme Court ruling expressing his disappointment with it and his office’s stance going forward.

“From its inception this legislation was irresponsibly passed during a lame duck legislative session at 4 a.m. without meaningful debate,” Rock said in the statement. “My office will continue to do everything within our power to ensure dangerous offenders remain in custody. Unfortunately, I believe once this law goes fully into effect, it will have a negative impact on the safety of communities throughout the state.”

Rochelle Police De-

partment Chief Pete Pavia reacted to the ruling by remarking concern for the safety of his community.

“I get the arguments on both sides of no cash bail,” Pavia said. “But I am concerned that certain individuals are going to be out rather quickly and commit a crime again pretty quickly. My priority is the safety of our community and that’s my concern with it.”

Pavia said the biggest change for RPD from the SAFE-T act will be implementation of body cameras. His department will be required to implement them by the start of 2025. The Ogle County Sheriff’s Office was required to implement body cameras by 2024 and officially put them in place earlier this summer.

RPD will have the body cameras in place sooner than required as well, and

Pavia said the city received a grant for four body cameras that will cover part of the total cost. For cameras and storage for 25 officers, the total cost is about \$173,000.

Like VanVickle, Pavia said the advice given to officers going forward post-SAFE-T Act remains the same.

“Really nothing has changed as far as what we tell them,” Pavia said. “My best advice and what I tell all of my officers is just to do what’s right. That’s what it comes down to. If you’re doing what’s right, you really don’t have anything to be concerned with. But in today’s modern age of policing, you’re always on camera. Whether it’s a body camera or a cell phone, there’s cameras everywhere. Just act professional, do what’s right and pretend you’re always on camera anyways.”

Rochelle Area

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Ashton Bible Church, corner of Main and Paddock in Ashton. Pastor Farrel Stauffer, church phone is (815)453-2190, church website www.ashtonbible.org. Sunday School for all ages 9:00-10:00am, Morning Worship 10:15am, Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm.

The Bridge Church, Pastor Greg Duncan, 11038 E. IL Route 38, Rochelle, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-7750. Sunday School: 9:00 am; Sunday Service: 10:00 am; Nursery & Children’s ministry during am service; Bible Study Tuesday 10:00 am and Wednesday 7:00 pm. Web: thebridgechurchrochelle.com Email: thebridgechurchrochelle@gmail.com

Calvary Lighthouse Church, Assemblies of God, Senior Pastor, Dr. James Horvath. 14409 Hemstock Rd., Rochelle. Sunday Morning: Sunday Worship & Children’s Church 10:00 A.M., Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M. – Adult Teaching, Missionettes & Royal Rangers Childrens Classes, Nursery available for all services. HE-Brews Cafe is open before and after services. For further information, please call the CLC office at 815-562-7701, or email us at staff@calvarylighthouse.com

Calvary Lutheran Church, LCMC - “To Know Christ and to Proclaim Christ in Word and Deed” -19 Perry Road, Lee, IL 60530 (the intersection of Perry Road and W. County Line Road). Rev. Martha Uecker Nelson, Pastor. Coffee Hour starts at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study are at 9:15 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. and is broadcast live on Facebook. Go to our website is at www.Calvarychurchlee.org and click on the link there. A Grief Support Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call or text (815) 824-2825 or email CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com with questions or for more information. Also check us out at www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church.

Rochelle Church of Christ, Keeping Christ at the center in the Hub City. We meet Sundays at 9:00am for Bible Study and 10:00am for worship. We also have a Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00pm. 206 Erickson Rd, Rochelle, IL 61068. You can call us at (815) 562-6572 or visit us on the web at rochellechurch.com. We also have a radio program Sundays just after 8am on WRHL 1060AM. Minister Dominic Venuso.

Creston United Methodist Church and Steward United Methodist Church - Rev. Ilhan You, Creston: 126 West South Street, P.O. Box 209, Creston, Illinois 60113. Sunday morning worship 9:00am. Coffee fellowship at 10:15am. Steward: 507 Main Street, P.O. Box 80, Steward, IL 60553. Adult Sunday School, 10:00am. Sunday morning worship and Children’s Sunday School 11:00am. Contact the church office at 847-730-4370 for more information. facebook.com/crestonumcil facebook.com/stewardilumc

Elim Reformed Church, 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-6811. Email goelimchurch@gmail.com Website www.goelimchurch.org Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 Rev. Marv Jacobs

Faith Lutheran Church - (14206 E. Flagg Rd.) - “Making Christ Known Through Lives of Faith.” In-person worship is available each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or online at “Faith Lutheran Social” on YouTube. Worship resources are also available on our Facebook page - ‘Faith Lutheran Church ELCA.’ You may also e-mail Pastor Joy Alsop at Pastor@faithlrochelle.org for more information. All are welcome to join us!

First Baptist Church of Rochelle, First Baptist Church of Rochelle invites you to experience our practical Bible services which have nurseries provided in every service along with a wide range of children’s and teen ministries. Sunday School is at 9:30 am with regular church services at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm. Wednesday Family Night starts at 6:30 pm with AWANA for the 5 yr. olds thru 6th grade. The Omega Teen Ministry also starts at 6:30 pm for 7th – 12th grades and the Adult Bible Study at 7:00 pm. First Baptist Church is located 6 blocks west of Hwy 251 at the corner of Woolf Ct. and 8th Ave. in Rochelle. Call 562-4168 for more information. Listen at 8:30 am Sunday mornings on WRHL 1060 AM for the Sunday morning “Bible Message.” www.firstbaptistrochelle.org

First General Baptist Church, 500 S. 12th St, Rochelle. Phone: 815-562-5221. Email: fgbcrchelle@gmail.com. Website: www.fgbcrchelle.org. Facebook: www.facebook.com/fgbcrchelle. Pastor: Rev. Angelo Bonacquisti. **Sunday worship services:** 8:30 am, 11:15 am and 6:00 pm. **Sunday school:** 10:00 am. We’d be honored to have you join us as we worship JESUS and continue to grow in truth and love for God and each other. A nursery, children’s church, youth group and small groups are available. If you need a ride please contact our church bus driver, John, at (815) 262-4275 by 8:30 am on Sunday. “For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9

First Presbyterian Church - An Amazing Place for Amazing Grace-Rev. Doug Forsberg, Senior Pastor. 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle. Email: info@placeforgrace.com. Sunday morning worship 9:00am & 11:00am. In person or streamed online. On our Website and Facebook Live. www.placeforgrace.com / www.facebook.com/placeforgrace

Grace Fellowship Church — Pastor Jeff Ardisson, 2128 Il Route 38, Ashton, 815-453-7464. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 9:45 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

Harvest Baptist Church 241 Scott Ave. (Hillcrest). Rev. Duane Boehm, pastor. Email duane712@hotmail.com, cell 815-757-3427. Visit us on Facebook! Service times: Sunday morning worship with Children’s Church at 10 am. Wednesday night worship at 7 pm.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Missouri Synod 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049. Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock. Church Phone 393-4500. Church Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Christian Education Hour at 10:30 a.m.

Living Water Community Church 405 N. Main St, Downtown Rochelle. Phone 815-561-6249, Website: www.lwccr.com, Like us on Facebook. We are Non-Denominational, Christ Centered, Casual dress, Christ Centered Live Band Worship. Chris Bender- Teaching Pastor, Brent Braski- Administrative Pastor, Adrian Daugherty- Lead Worshipper, Joe Mortimer- Youth Director, Amanda Barnes- Office Manager. Sunday Worship Service- 10:00am. Nursery/Toddlers Ages 0-5 available during the service in the Splash building. Swim- Grades 1st-5th worship with the adults then break out for age appropriate teaching. Youth groups, Small groups, Life Groups and Workshops meet throughout the year for Bible teaching. 7C’s Mission- serves the community physically & spiritually each month from 1135 Lincoln Hwy, providing lightly used clothing, Hygiene items, a light lunch and Elder Prayer open the second Saturday from 10am-2pm and the 4th Thursday from 4pm to 7:00pm and by appointment.. [f](#)

New Hope Fellowship (Church of God - Anderson, IN), 1501 10th Ave., Rochelle, IL 61068. Service: Sunday at 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m., (815)561-8400, www.NHFchurch.net Pastor: Dan Sergeant and Pastor Nick Tornabene. (Classes for children through age fifth grade during service.)

Rochelle United Methodist Church invites everyone to come to hear the stories of some heroes in the Bible as we consider how God is calling heroes to serve today! This is our worship series beginning July 30 and extending through August! Our stories are Jesus building a team (John 1: 35-51), God’s Wonder Women in Exodus (Exodus 1:8-2:10), The Magnificent Magi (Matthew 2: 1-12), and Unexpected Heroes who give Paul a basket ride (Acts 9: 1-25). Worship will include storytelling with some drama, music and fun! Our children will remain in worship for this inter-active series, and may help in some of the storytelling dramas. **Sunday worship is at 9:00 am.** Recorded services are available on our YouTube channel and our website at www.rochelleumc.com. Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Our facebook page is www.facebook.com/rochelleumc. **Rev. Dr. Katherine Thomas Paisley, pastor.** 709 Fourth Ave. (815) 562-2164. admin@rochelleumc.com. Everyone is welcome and loved!

St. Patrick Catholic Church Rev. Jesus Dominguez; Deacon Fermin Garcia; Deacon George Schramm; 244 Kelley Dr. (Corner of Kelley & Caron Rd.), PO Box 329, Rochelle, IL 61068. **Office Hours:** 9:00 AM-4PM Monday-Thursday, Phone: 815-562-2370. **Mass times:** 8:00 AM Monday-Thursday, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM English, 7PM Spanish, Sunday Mass 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM in English and 11:00 AM in Spanish. **Confessions:** Monday 8:30AM & 6:30PM, Tuesday 8:30AM, Saturday 8:30am & 4:00-4:45 PM Or by appointment. **Religious Education:** Deacon George Schramm, Director of Religious Education. 903 Caron Road, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815-561-0079; Website: stpatricksrochelle.com Email: stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org Facebook.com/StPatrickRochelle

St. Paul Lutheran Church “Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever!” Pastor-Rev. Greg Hoffmann, Steven Hall, Principal, Parish Nurse-Marcia Schnorr. 1415 Tenth Ave., Rochelle. Church Office-562-2744. Worship times: 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday. Our service is broadcast over WRHL 1060AM at 10:00 a.m. Sunday. Sunday School 10:15-11:15 a.m. Call 562-6323 for more information about the school.



LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Reinvesting in our community and staff

SINCE 2020, the city has been working on implementing a new Enterprise Resource Planning software package. The largest aspect of the new package includes the management of the city's HR & payroll functions, accounts payable & accounts receivable and utility billing. Our team lead by Jenny Thompson, Chris Cardott and our new Utility Billing Manager Autumn Hernandez is rolling out a new public education campaign aimed at signing more customers up to our Rochelle Municipal Utilities utility billing web-based

portal. The portal allows customers to get real-time usage for their electric and water consumption. Customers can also compare usage month-to-month and eventually year-to-year. You are also able to sign up for text alerts, paperless billing, and automatic payments. If you are interested in learning more, please visit www.rmu.net/bill. You can also call 815-562-4155 or stop by the utility billing office at 333 Lincoln Highway. Our staff will be happy to assist you in setting up your account. If you sign up for autopay, your name will be entered into a drawing for an apple

watch, iPad or Fitbit.

Our team was honored last week to host a public power summit in conjunction with the Illinois Municipal Electric Agency and the communities of Princeton, Rock Falls and Geneseo. Over 30 people attended the meeting to learn more about the benefits public power plays in community and economic development. The most important topic discussed was the continued affordability of municipal power compared to our investor-owned counter-

parts. In fact, based on May data from the US Department of Energy, the average residential rate across the US was 17.86 cents per kWh. This is the highest on record. RMU's summer residential summer rate is well below this at 13.5 cents per kWh. We can maintain lower rates due to long-term low-cost energy purchase contracts, the implementation of demand response programs and our ability to lower transmission capacity costs through RMU's behind the meter genera-

tion facilities. Our team at RMU will continue to work to maintain lower power rates and reinvest in system reliability.

Lastly in 2022, the city council authorized funding for a new partnership between the city and Kishwaukee College known as Rochelle University. The program offers college-level courses to our employees who are pursuing an associate degree or who want to grow their leadership and management skills. Some of the courses that are offered include supervisor basics, intro to business, communication in the workplace and computer

concepts & applications. Thus far over 10 employees have participated in the program. Reinvesting in your staff is the most important thing you can do as a leader within your organization.

"We should invest in people, not ideas. A good idea is often destroyed by bad people and good people can always make a bad idea better."-Simon Sinek

"I am worried about our tendency to over invest in things and under invest in people."-John Kenneth Galbraith

Jeffrey A. Fiegenschuh, ICMA-CM, MPA, is the city manager of the City of Rochelle.

Consider this: How old is too old?

HOW old is too old? Is there such a thing? Old in what way? Physical weakness? Mental weakness? Senator Mitch McConnell had something happen to him during a speech in Washington recently. It was a very scary thing to watch. At 81, is he considered too old? Did the incident change the minds of those around him, now feeling that he is too old to hold office?

Take Mick Jagger of the Rolling Stones. He gets up on the stage to perform and he seems to do well. Even at 80 years old. Likewise, take Keith Richards of the same group. At 79, he seems to be going strong. Although they are "up there" in age, they are still performing, making music, apparently feeling well.

Senator John Fetterman had some mental health issues while he was running for office. This certainly does not make him old, unless you feel that mental health equates to age. If this is something you feel, then what about Senator Smith and Representative Moulton? They have also spoken about their mental health issues.

Or, what about our two front runners for president for the 2024 election.

Former President Trump will be 78 on election day. President Biden will be 81 at the same time. Are either one or both leaders too old for the job? If age is the only thing we take into consideration, then are we ageist? Wouldn't this be against the law if we take this into account?

So where are the younger politicians now in our government? There are many running for president against Former President Trump. The problem here is that they are all so far behind him in the polls that they seem to have no chance (please take that with a grain of salt). Of those running against President Biden for the nomination, there are only two, one appears to be way off based on the agenda of the party. The other, it seems, is far behind the president.

It is a good time for young people to start getting involved in politics. To get out and vote. To get in and run. I truly think our current citizens that are 18 to 25 years of age are getting more involved in the running of the country. But they need to hurry. Things are getting out of hand. If you believe the polls, the country seems to be looking at the older candidates without ageism

in mind. Maybe we are looking at party agendas rather than age or even the person running. This may be good. I personally think we should look at any voting records they have.

If we are looking at the agendas, hopefully we understand them. Biden's agenda seems to be focused on citizen's needs. Better roads, women's health, climate change, trade policies to support American workers, affordable housing, economics that

strengthen Americans not leaving them holding the bag. There is much more information at ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY AGENDA: The Progress We've Made and the Road Ahead to Lower Costs, Fight Inflation, and Grow the Middle Class (sanity.io)

On the Republican side, it is much harder to pinpoint particulars in any agenda they may possess. I don't usually see much in the way of what they may want to do in the coming Presidential term. The former president doesn't seem to talk about many changes he'd make. In fact, he talks about his indictments most of the time, doesn't

he? He talks about what he calls the "witch hunt" by Democrats. Does the more he talks about this make you get mad that it is happening? Or does it make you feel that there must be something to it since he focuses on it so much? Maybe you are just getting tired of it.

One thing that I wonder about is why he continues the "witch hunt" theme? A grand jury of his peers were the ones who indicted him. We don't know

whether he would ever be convicted at this point. Shouldn't he be touting his agenda and ignoring these indictments? Well, maybe not. He recently said he would still run for president from jail if he had to. Many have said, this is perfectly legal. But why would he do this? If he is a prisoner, isn't he guilty in the eyes of our laws? Why would anyone vote for him behind bars?

The only people I've ever heard of who ruled from behind bars were the syndicates and other bad actors. This can't be the type of person he wants to be, right? Again, maybe not. He does seem to be one who wants to



Jeff Fiegenschuh



Reed Harris

How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Darin LaHood
1424 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C.
20515
(202) 225-6201

IL Sen. Win Stoller
Stratton Office Bldg
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-1942

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@rochelle-news-leader.com)

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

* Denotes Chairman/President

Rochelle City Council

*John Bearrows	jbearrows@rochelleil.us
Kathryn Shaw-Dickey	kshaw-dickey@rochelleil.us
Bil Hayes	bhayes@rochelleil.us
Rosaelia Arteaga	rarteaga@rochelleil.us
Dan McDermott	dmcdermott@rochelleil.us
Tom McDermott	tmcdermott@rochelleil.us
Benjamin Valdivieso	bvaldivieso@rochelleil.us

Rochelle Elementary School Board

*Trisha Vaughn	tvaughn@d231.rochelle.net
Dave Casey	dcasey@d231.rochelle.net
Steve Builta	sbuilta@d231.rochelle.net
Ashley Jackson	ajackson@d231.rochelle.net
Stephanie White	swhite@d231.rochelle.net
Javier Zepeda	jzepeda@d231.rochelle.net
Jennifer Thompson	jthompson@d231.rochelle.net

Rochelle Township High School Board

*Tom Huddleston	tom.huddleston@rthsd212.org
Bill Ravnaas	bill.ravnaas@rthsd212.org
Jeff Tilton	jeff.tilton@rthsd212.org
Bobby Chadwick	bobby.chadwick@rthsd212.org
Brent Ohlinger	bohlinger@rthsd212.org
Laurie Pillen	lpillen@rthsd212.org
Joel Thompson	jthompson@rthsd212.org

Flagg-Rochelle Park Board

Brent Carmichael	bcarmichael@rochelleparkdistrict.org
John Dobbs	jdobbs@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Dale Wells	dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org
*Tim Hayden	thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Jodie Hart	jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Joe Lenkaitis	jlenkaitis@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Kristi Gonzales	kgonzales@rochelleparkdistrict.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 3

Austin Gillis	agillis@oglecounty.org
Dan Miller	dmiller@oglecounty.org
Joseph Simms	jsimms@oglecounty.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 4

Jackie Ramsey	jramsey@oglecounty.org
Skip Kenney	skkenney@oglecounty.org
David Williams	dwilliams@oglecounty.org

Creston Village Board

*Tom Byro	tommyb_47@yahoo.com
Greg Hopkins	ghopkins522@comcast.net
Steve Katzman	skatzman@essex1.com
Mike Kerns	ac.kerns@comcast.net
Curt Ward	caward92@comcast.net
Mark Hibshman	
Reid Elliot	
Jennifer Payton	

Hillcrest Village Board

*Richard Rhoads	rrhoads@hillcrestil.us
Pam Pittman	ppittman@hillcrestil.us
Dan Potter	dpotter@hillcrestil.us
Tim Ball	tball@hillcrestil.us
Jose Huerta	jhuerta@hillcrestil.us
Eileen Braski	ebraski@hillcrestil.us
Joe Thompson	jthompson@hillcrestil.us

Flagg Township

Sue Messer	flaggtwp@rochelle.net
Joanna Patrick	flaggtwpclerk@rochelle.net
Susan Rothenberger	assessor@rochelle.net
Scott Seebach	scottseebach@gmail.com

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Eric Gruben	egruben@comcast.net
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Flagg-Rochelle Library

*Jaqueline Dickow	dickow@comcast.net
Teresa Haggstad	haggstads@comcast.net
Michael Scanlan	scanlan@comcast.net
Lanning Nicoloff	nicoloff118@comcast.net
Sheri Klindera	alwayslefty2@gmail.com
Susan Sevedge	nit1prl22@yahoo.com
Darci Waltrip	doobs12@comcast.net

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

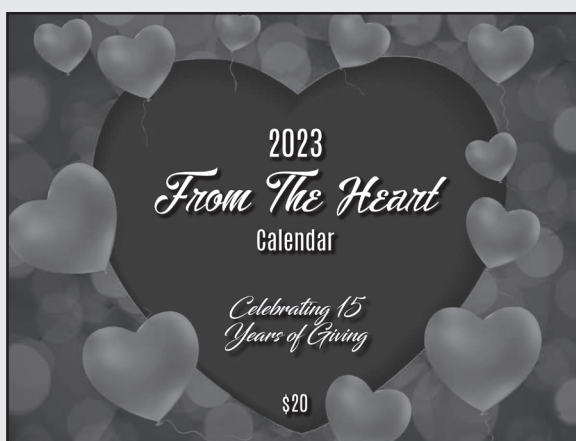
legibly handwritten, and no anonymous letters will be published. Any letters from boards or organizations must include at least one name of an individual. Any criticism of public officials should be limited to issues related strictly to their position or actions made in office, as personal attacks will 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.

Geskes win July 28 Chamber Lawn of the week

A photograph of three people standing on a sidewalk in front of a house. On the left, a man in a red polo shirt and jeans is handing a small object to a man in a black t-shirt and jeans. A woman in a black top and jeans stands between them. They are holding a sign that reads "LAWN of the WEEK" and "ACE". The house has white siding, a dark roof, and a large window. An American flag and a red flag are hanging from the porch. The yard is green and well-maintained.

chance to showcase the hard work and dedication they put in to making our city look great.”



Aug. 6 - James Stuckey, Rochelle, \$50

Aug. 31
James O'Brien

LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Officer Ryan Kovacs put on a taser demonstration for the community. Officer Noah Knight volunteered to act as the perpetrator in the exercise. Officer Trevor Owen and K9 Odie put on a K9 demonstration for the community where Odie's skills in item searches, tracking and combat abilities were showcased. Owen and Odie were assisted by City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh in the exercise.

NNO: RPD holds annual event at Atwood Park on Tuesday night

From page 1

"We have so much support here in this town and we're such a blessed department. We put out the invitations and everyone just comes. They all want to be part of this. And it's all free for the community. They're here because they want to be here. That's what this is about."

Officer Ryan Kovacs put on a taser demonstration for the community. Officer Noah Knight volunteered to act as the perpetrator in the exercise. Officer Trevor Owen and K9 Odie put on a K9 demonstration for the community where Odie's skills in item searches, tracking and combat abilities were showcased. Owen and Odie were assisted by City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh in the exercise.

Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh in the exercise.

"It's important that we do those types of demonstrations," Pavia said. "I want people to see what it's all about. If they were to unfortunately have to see something like this out in public, this is what to expect."

Pavia said every single officer and dispatcher in the department attended the event, and that it's enjoyable for them to take part in. Tuesday's National Night Out was Pavia's first as RPD chief.

"It's been fantastic to do this for the first time as chief," Pavia said. "It's very special to me. We've seen record numbers and a record turnout. This is exactly the vision of National Night Out for me."



BEAT THE HEAT



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NOMINATION PHASE

Starts 8/1
Ends 8/14

Gotta be in it, to win it!

NATIONAL FRIENDSHIP DAY

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

Rochelle Little League

All-Stars battle at state

11U boys travel south for Illinois Little League State Championship in Salem

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

Salem — The Rochelle Little League 11U Baseball All-Stars traveled south for the Illinois Little League State Championship tournament in Salem over the weekend, finishing 0-2 over two games. Rochelle fell 7-3 against Mt. Carmel in the first round before conceding a 15-1 loss to Champaign East in the opening round of the consolation bracket to bow out of the tournament.

Mt. Carmel

Rochelle fell behind 1-0 after Mt. Carmel scored one run on two singles and a passed ball in the top of the second inning. Mt. Carmel extended its lead to 7-0 in the top of the third inning, where the team scored six runs on six singles, one walk and one RBI groundout. Rochelle avoided the shutout in the bottom of the fifth inning, where Reed Dougherty doubled and scored on an RBI single from Jaxson Olsen. Eli Thompson also singled in the frame, but he was left on base.

Rochelle finished strong with two runs in the bottom of the sixth inning. Kam Kessen drew a lead-off walk and Maddex Jackson reached on an error to put two runners on base for Jaxon Quinonez, who drove Kessen home with an RBI groundout to second. Jackson made the score 7-3 after crossing home plate on a wild pitch, which preceded a two-out single from Grange Kissack to keep the Rochelle offense moving. Mt. Carmel sealed the win with a strikeout.

Kessen reached base twice in the loss, while Chase Brown and Garrett Miller each drew walks. Teddy Millard started on the pitcher's mound for the Rochelle All-Stars, throwing four innings and striking out six batters. Olsen fired the final two frames, contributing three strikeouts.

Champaign East

Rochelle trailed 5-0 after the bottom of the first inning, where Champaign East tallied five runs on one double, three singles, one walk and one dropped third strike. Grange Kissack drew a hit-by-pitch and Reed Dougherty singled in the top of the second inning, but both runners were stranded. Champaign East blew the game open in the bottom of the second inning, rallying for 10 runs on five singles, one double, three walks, two hit-by-pitches and an RBI groundout.

Garrett Miller walked and scored on an RBI single from Kam Kessen in the top of the third inning, where Rochelle scratched its first and only run of the game. Maddex Jackson reached on a two-out walk, but was unable to advance further. Rochelle held Champaign East off the scoreboard in the bottom of the third inning, but the All-Stars were unable to capitalize on a lead-off walk to Dominic Escatel in the top of the fourth inning. A flyout to left ended the game.

Chase Brown along with Kessen and Jackson each pitched one inning in the loss. Brown struck out two batters to lead Rochelle on the mound, while Kessen and Jackson combined for two innings pitched without allowing a walk. The All-Stars finished with only two hits in the game.

(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Little League 11U Baseball All-Stars traveled for the Illinois Little League State Championship tournament in Salem. The team includes Eli Thompson, Chase Brown, Kam Kessen, Quentin Ansteth, Teddy Millard, Maddex Jackson, Garrett Miller, Jaxon Quinonez, Grange Kissack, Noah Hayden, Dominic Escatel, Jaxson Olsen and Reed Dougherty. The team is coached by Mike Thompson, Tim Hayden and Jerry Kessen.

Rochelle Rays

Swim team concludes 2023 season at Spring Lake

Summer season ends with three-team meet July 25, awards banquet July 27

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

Rochelle — The Rochelle Rays concluded their 2023 season with their final home meet against the Dixon Dolphins and Catch the Wave South Beloit on Tuesday, July 25. The Rays also held an awards banquet at Spring Lake Pool on Thursday, July 27 to cap off the season.

Owen Haas, Caleb Johnson, Nolan Johnson and Kaenan McDevitt set a new 15-18 Boys 200-yard medley relay record with a time of 2:04.19 to eclipse the previous record set in 2017. Haas also set a new 500-yard freestyle record with a time of 6:45.07, surpassing the previous mark that was established in 2022.

Lastly, Olivia Sergeant broke the 500-yard freestyle record for the girls, clocking in with a time of 6:52.65 to shatter the previous record of 7:06.00.

The Rays saw high school senior graduates Emma Hilleson, Caleb Johnson, Owen Haas and Olivia Sergeant all swim their final meets as members of the team. Head coach Tori Johnson thanked the seniors for their efforts not only this season, but throughout their swim careers.

“They have all swam with the Rays for many years and we are sad to see them leave but are so excited to see all of their next accomplishments in life,” Johnson said. “We had a group of swim team parents band together and make bag tags for the heat winners of the meet and also with everyone’s personal best times for the season to pass out at the banquet. These were a huge hit and the swimmers all loved them. We’d like to thank all of those parents for their support.”

See RAYS page 3

(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Rays concluded their 2023 season with their final home meet against the Dixon Dolphins and Catch the Wave South Beloit on Tuesday, July 25. The Rays also held an awards banquet at Spring Lake Pool on Thursday, July 27 to cap off the season.



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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO COURTESY OF KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE)

Former Rochelle student-athlete Forrest Gerber worked his way into a starting role in the outfield for the Kishwaukee College baseball team this past season.

Gerber works into starting role at Kishwaukee College

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

FORMER Rochelle student-athlete Forrest Gerber worked his way into a starting role in the outfield for the Kishwaukee College baseball team this past season. Motivated to elevate the program to the next level, Gerber is setting high marks for his upcoming sophomore season.

Gerber appeared in 23 games during his freshman campaign this past school year, recording a .213/.260/.277 slash line with one home run and three RBIs along with five runs and two stolen bases. The RTHS alum totaled 10 hits over 47 at-bats and brought most of his value on defense, where he earned his starting role in right field as the 2023 season moved forward.

"It's been a great experience," Gerber said. "It's very different from high school, but the season was really enjoyable and I made a lot of new friends... I came in not knowing where exactly I would fit in, but I finished the season as our starting right fielder. It was a big change from high school, where I didn't play as much

and I was used mostly as a pinch runner. I wanted to make the most of my college experience, so I worked really hard to be a starter and it paid off for me."

Gerber blasted his first collegiate home run during Kishwaukee College's home series against Southeastern Illinois College on Feb. 19, where he logged two RBIs and went 2-for-2 at the dish. Gerber finished his freshman season with only two errors in the field, resulting in a fielding percentage of .931. Gerber said his goals for next season are to be a team captain for the Kougars, who will welcome two recent RTHS graduates in Noah Lara and Aidan Rodriguez.

"The pitching we face is a lot quicker and there's a lot more speed and tempo," Gerber said. "A lot of the pitchers we faced are going on to play at the Division I and Division II levels. It was a shock at the beginning of the season, but I slowly got into a groove and it made me a better baseball player. I'm hoping that I can continue playing at a high level in the near future."

See GERBER page 7

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SPORTS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The Rochelle Rays concluded their 2023 season with their final home meet against the Dixon Dolphins and Catch the Wave South Beloit on Tuesday, July 25. The Rays also held an awards banquet at Spring Lake Pool on Thursday, July 27 to cap off the season. Above are photos of the Rochelle Rays in action.

RAYs: Swim team concludes season with home meet, awards banquet

From page 1

The Rays saw 11 and 12-year-old girls Sydney Burke, Savannah Goodrich, Daphne Wise, Madisyn Ruthe and Megan Johnson all competed in

the 50-yard butterfly on Tuesday evening. Johnson also said Rochelle's 9, 10, 11 and 12-year-old boys and girls swam close to record times during the event, with nearly all of the swimmers racing in

the 100-yard individual medley. Olivia Sergeant and Josie Slattengren each swam the 500-yard freestyle, with Sergeant dropping close to 30 seconds off her previous time and Slattengren losing over 10

seconds.

"Everyone had a great year and ended the season with awesome times, beautiful swimming and overall major improvements," Johnson said. "We had many returning swim-

mers and many first-time swimmers. We are already excited for next season and can't wait to see who joins our team next year. A huge thank you to coach Hannah Schlosser and coach Carol Winterton. They

both put a lot of work into building the kids' strokes, endurance, confidence, and overall love for competitive swimming. All their hard work made this season's accomplishments all possible."

NIU Football

PFF names eight Huskies to 2023 Preseason All-MAC Team

Three NIU players including wide receiver Rudolph receive preseason honors

DEKALB — Northern Illinois University's football team has had eight student-athletes named to the 2023 Pro Football Focus Preseason All-Mid-American Conference Teams.

The Huskies had three members named to the first team in wide receiver Trayvon Rudolph (Crete, Ill./Crete-Monee), guard John Champe (Brookfield, Wis./Brookfield East) and

defensive tackle James Ester (Detroit, Mich./Cass Tech). Offensive Tackle Nolan Potter (Cedar Rapids, Iowa/Washington) and defensive tackle Devonte O'Malley (Midlothian, Ill./Bremen) were part of the PFF preseason all-second team. Running Back Antonio Brown (Savannah, Ga./Beach), guard Logan Zschernitz (Spencer, Wis./Spencer) and edge rusher Raishein Thomas (Racine,

Wis./ Washington Park) were the three Huskies named to the third team.

Rudolph, a First Team All-MAC selection in 2021, did not see action in 2022 due to injury but was named to the preseason Biletnikoff Award and the Paul Hornung Award watch lists prior to the 2022 season. In 2021 Rudolph led the Huskies with 892 receiving yards on 51 catches and seven

touchdowns. He set the NIU and Mid-American Conference single-game receiving yards record with 309 at Kent State on Nov. 3, 2021. Ester was named to the first team after an impressive 2022 season. He started all 12 games for NIU and recorded 28 tackles, six tackles for loss and two sacks while also forcing two fumbles. Ester was named the Huskies' 2022 team MVP and was

a second team All-MAC selection. O'Malley is coming off a 2022 season where he was named to the All-MAC second team and recorded 36 tackles. He tied for the team lead in sacks with 5.5 and was second on the team with seven tackles for loss. Thomas led NIU in 2022 with nine total tackles for loss.

Champe, Potter and Zschernitz anchored an NIU offensive line that

led the MAC and was 10th in the nation with sacks allowed at just 1.0 per game. Potter was a first team All-MAC honoree by the league's head coaches last season with Zschernitz named to the third team. NIU was second in the MAC in rushing yards per game in 2022 with 190.4. Brown is NIU's leading returning rusher after posting 701 yards and seven touchdowns last year.

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I, Christina Cardott, Treasurer of the City of Rochelle, Ogle County, Illinois, affirm that the following is a correct statement of the revenues and expenditures of the City of Rochelle for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.

CITY OF ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS TREASURER'S REPORT					
	GENERAL FUND	OTHER GOVERNMENTAL FUNDS	ENTERPRISE FUNDS	PENSION FUNDS	GOVERNMENTAL INTERNAL SERVICE FUNDS
OPERATING REVENUES:					
Taxes	6,913,637	4,406,674	63,417		
Licenses & Permits	251,708	43,065			
Intergovernmental Revenue	2,424,338	668,917			
Charges for Services	1,500,227	1,464,644	49,949,197		2,625,314
Fines & Forfeitures	83,419				
Investment Income	(92,081)	97,935	47,149	(3,582,755)	1,902
Miscellaneous	71,504	322,307	101,083		18,728
Insurance Premiums					
Member Contributions				290,487	
Employer Contributions				1,717,802	
Other Revenue					
Gain On Fixed Assets					
Amortization of Bond Premium					
TOTAL REVENUE	11,152,752	7,003,542	50,160,846	(1,574,466)	2,645,944
DISBURSEMENTS:					
General Government	1,946,050	460,776			2,431,361
Public Safety	7,306,005	320,851			
Public Works	1,776,645	773,346	711,748		
Conservation & Development	11,802	543,329			
Public Service Enterprise	150,231	21,853			
Environment			1,178,106		
Capital Outlay		4,194,395			
Utilities			46,013,573		
Pension Benefits				1,641,599	
Loss on Disposal of Capital Assets					
Debt Service					
Principal	171,441	1,560,932			
Interest	2,688	233,506	671,693		
Administrative				27,091	
Other					
TOTAL EXPENSES	11,364,862	8,108,988	48,575,120	1,668,690	2,431,361
OTHER FINANCING SOURCES (USES)					
Debt issued	491,101				
Loss of Defeasance of Debt					
Grants			494,772		
Capital Contributions					
Transfers In	2,807,428	4,360,170	535,000		
Transfers Out	(810,000)	(4,105,234)	(2,787,364)		
Proceeds on Sale of Capital Assets		152,764	163,046		
Issuance of Lease Liability	24,420	119,255			
INCREASE (DECREASE) IN FUND BALANCE	2,300,839	(578,491)	(8,820)	(3,243,156)	214,583
FUND BALANCE-BEGINNING OF YEAR	\$ 9,431,696	\$ 8,578,625	\$ 113,292,858	\$ 26,871,705	\$ 7,100
FUND BALANCE-END OF YEAR	\$ 11,732,535	\$ 8,000,134	\$ 113,284,038	\$ 23,628,549	\$ 221,683

Subscribed and sworn to this 1st day of August, 2023. *Christina Cardott*

I, Rose Hueramo, Clerk of the City of Rochelle, Ogle County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2022.

Rose Hueramo
Rose Hueramo, City Clerk

TREASURER'S VENDOR REPORT - JAN-DEC 2022

2 FROGGY JUMPS LLC	\$ 4,844.96	ELECTRIC PUMP	\$ 19,066.17
8390 - DIMOND BROS. - ROCHELLE	\$ 9,430.00	ELLEN BURGESSON, INC	\$ 25,393.91
926 CUSTOM EMBROIDERY	\$ 4,911.00	ENTERPRISE FM TRUST	\$ 218,430.73
ABC SUPPLY CO. INC.	\$ 27,808.22	EQUIPMENT DEPOT	\$ 5,051.31
ACUSHNET COMPANY	\$ 4,148.62	ERRETT WAREHOUSING LLC - SERIES TWO	\$ 25,000.00
ADVANCE AUTO PARTS	\$ 3,189.45	ESRI, INC.	\$ 29,000.00
ADVANCED DRAINAGE SYSTEMS	\$ 2,857.46	ESSCOE, L.L.C.	\$ 4,721.67
ADVANCED TURF SOLUTIONS	\$ 10,022.76	EXLINE, INC.	\$ 34,673.69
AED ESSENTIALS, INC.	\$ 6,764.00	EXPRESS EVALUATIONS	\$ 4,500.00
AERZEN USA CORPORATION	\$ 4,064.71	FAIRBANKS MORSE ENGINE	\$ 97,536.59
AG VIEW FS, INC.	\$ 4,247.50	FARWEST LINE SPECIALTIES	\$ 4,068.49
AIR ONE EQUIPMENT, INC.	\$ 189,563.42	FASTENAL	\$ 6,282.21
AIRGAS USA, LLC	\$ 15,680.64	FEHR-GRAHAM & ASSOC.	\$ 244,386.88
ALFA LAVAL INC.	\$ 89,527.00	FERGUSON WATERWORKS #2516	\$ 663,203.81
ALTORFER INDUSTRIES, INC	\$ 21,577.06	FISCHERS, INC.	\$ 48,238.55
ALTORFER, INC.	\$ 51,819.85	FIXIN FERAL FELINES	\$ 4,510.67
AMAZON CAPITAL SERVICES	\$ 70,379.66	FLAGG TWP MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY	\$ 8,000.00
AMERICAN BANKERS COMPANY OF FLORIDA	\$ 9,942.00	FLETCHER & SIPPEL LLC	\$ 3,382.50
AMERICAN LEAK DETECTION	\$ 3,600.00	FLOW-TECHNICS, INC	\$ 6,715.37
AMERICAN PUBLIC POWER ASSOCIATION	\$ 6,852.14	FOSTER COACH SALES, INC	\$ 5,986.49
AMERICAN PUBLIC WORKS ASSOCIATION	\$ 5,370.00	FROM THE HEART	\$ 3,300.00
ANDERSON PLUMBING & HTG, INC	\$ 62,416.05	FRONTIER	\$ 14,344.93
ANIXTER, INC	\$ 242,421.20	FRONTIER NORTH INC	\$ 13,669.44
APPLE INC.	\$ 4,618.00	FS.COM INC.	\$ 20,044.60
AQUATIC INFORMATICS	\$ 5,865.00	GARRATT-CALLAHAN COMPANY	\$ 9,256.16
ARC IMAGING RESOURCES	\$ 2,895.72	GASVODA & ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$ 58,869.33
ARCHIVE SOCIAL, INC.	\$ 5,988.00	GERARD, MATTHEW	\$ 4,283.84
AREA MECHANICAL	\$ 3,326.71	GETZ FIRE EQUIPMENT	\$ 4,053.40
ARTHUR J GALLAGHER	\$ 11,368.00	GIBSON-STINNETT, LEE ANN	\$ 5,000.00
ASCENT AVIATION GROUP, INC.	\$ 315,396.73	GLYNN DEMOLITION	\$ 8,500.00
AUTO HUB	\$ 4,053.50	GRAINGER, INC.	\$ 22,422.06
AXON ENTERPRISE, INC.	\$ 3,027.47	GREDCO	\$ 712,762.66
BAECORE GROUP, INC.	\$ 129,141.00	GROVERS SERVICES, LLC	\$ 233,855.00
BANK OF NEW YORK	\$ 202,443.75	HACH COMPANY	\$ 31,686.37
BARBECK COMMUNICATIONS	\$ 9,582.59	HACKBARTH TRUCK & EQUIPMENT LLC	\$ 5,100.38
BARNHART	\$ 6,520.00	HAGEMANN HORTICULTURE LLC	\$ 45,940.72
BAXTER & WOODMAN, INC.	\$ 65,761.04	HAMILTON, MITCH A.	\$ 2,520.47
BERG-JOHNSON	\$ 16,802.30	HANSON PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$ 23,143.92
BERG'S MOBILE FABRICATION & REPAIR	\$ 6,645.00	HARRINGTON ENVIRONMENTAL SVCS	\$ 6,116.74
BHMG ENGINEERS	\$ 725,710.63	HARTNETT, THOMAS	\$ 10,000.00
BINGHAM COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION	\$ 10,016.00	HAWKINS, INC.	\$ 76,248.09
BIRKEYS	\$ 6,066.76	HELFRIK TRUCKING EXCAVATING, LLC	\$ 6,555.00
BLACKHAWK HILLS REGIONAL COUNCIL	\$ 25,723.15	HELM CIVIL	\$ 152,171.83
BLACKHAWK WATERWAYS	\$ 8,000.00	HELM ELECTRIC FACILITY SOLUTIONS, INC.	\$ 89,487.25
BLAKE OIL COMPANY	\$ 45,472.28	HELM MECHANICAL	\$ 12,151.00
BLUE GATOR GROUND PROTECTION MATS	\$ 4,840.00	HELM SERVICE	\$ 22,370.96
BONNELL INDUSTRIES INC.	\$ 24,154.00	HELM TRUCK AND EQUIPMENT	\$ 5,608.11
BOUND TREE MEDICAL	\$ 14,749.34	HEWITT & WAGNER, ATTORNEYS AT LAW	\$ 45,000.00
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BRIDGEWELL RESOURCES LLC	\$ 40,756.00	HINKLEY SPRINGS	\$ 7,609.91
BROOKS, SARAH	\$ 2,570.18	HITCHCOCK DESIGN, INC.	\$ 6,400.00
BROWN'S TIRE SERVICE	\$ 15,437.75	HOFFMAN, DAVE	\$ 5,000.00
BRUNS CONSTRUCTION, INC.	\$ 539,722.98	HOLCOMB BANK	\$ 342,491.26
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BUCKEYE POWER SALES CO., INC.	\$ 17,467.48	HOPE OF OGLE COUNTY	\$ 3,100.00
BURLINGTON JUNCTION RAILWAY	\$ 4,810.32	HP ROCHELLE REAL ESTATE LLC	\$ 25,164.15
BUSS BOYZ CUSTOMS, INC.	\$ 6,444.75	HUB CITY SENIOR CENTER	\$ 25,000.00
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CAMPION, BARROW & ASSOCIATES	\$ 3,155.00	IL DEPT OF PUBLIC HEALTH	\$ 14,432.00
CAMPLIN ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES, INC.	\$ 5,750.00	IL MUNICIPAL INSURANCE COOPERATIVE	\$ 429,545.00
CAN-DUIT ELECTRIC, LLC	\$ 12,710.00	IL MUNICIPAL UTILITIES ASSOC	\$ 24,271.27
CAPITAL ONE - WALMART	\$ 4,119.95	IL PUBLIC RISK FUND	\$ 292,652.00
CAPPEL'S COMPLETE CAR CARE	\$ 13,024.95	IL PUBLIC SAFETY AGENCY NETWORK	\$ 3,360.00
CARDMEMBER SERVICE	\$ 103,662.81	IL STATE POLICE	\$ 4,225.56
CARUS LLC	\$ 184,586.91	ILLINOIS COUNTIES RISK MANAGEMENT TRUST	\$ 83,988.50
CDW GOVERNMENT	\$ 15,125.64	ILLINOIS FINANCE AUTHORITY	\$ 23,453.50
CENTRAL BANK OF ILLINOIS	\$ 91,713.30	ILLINOIS MUNICIPAL RETIREMENT	\$ 170,431.15
CGS-NU	\$ 8,150.00	ILLINOIS OFFICE SUPPLY	\$ 2,731.16
CHASE PAYMENTECH	\$ 28,636.94	INMAN ELECTRIC MOTORS	\$ 18,373.86
CHEM DRY KISHWAUKEE	\$ 2,677.40	INMAN, TERRY	\$ 12,900.00
CHRISTMAS DESIGNERS	\$ 3,852.00	INSIGHT MOBILE DATA INC.	\$ 5,171.65
CINTAS	\$ 32,539.20	INSITUFORM TECHNOLOGIES USA	\$ 10,332.36
CIVIC SYSTEMS, LLC	\$ 30,104.00	INTERSTATE BATTERIES OF ROCKFORD	\$ 2,742.90
CIVICPLUS, LLC	\$ 14,266.04	INTERSTATE BILLING SERVICE	\$ 15,931.60
CLARKE MOSQUITO CONTROL	\$ 5,179.05	IP COMMUNICATIONS, INC.	\$ 10,873.68
CLEAN SWEEP	\$ 3,150.00	ISC, INC	\$ 254,100.00
CLEARGOV INC.	\$ 9,500.00	ISLEY, TIM	\$ 3,311.27
CLESENS INC.	\$ 4,991.73	J.F. AHERN CO.	\$ 8,296.09
COLONIAL FLOWERS & GIFTS	\$ 2,932.00	JEFF PERRY CHEVROLET	\$ 7,879.70
COMCAST	\$ 7,684.27	JM TEST SYSTEMS	\$ 33,695.06
COMPASS MINERALS AMERICA	\$ 23,584.71	JOE COOLING & SONS, INC.	\$ 4,710.00
CONSERV FS	\$ 64,646.21	JOHNSON TRACTOR	\$ 72,992.28
CONSTRUCTION SAFETY COUNCIL	\$ 4,860.00	JONAS MARTIN WELL DRILLING CO.	\$ 33,632.91
COOPERATIVE RESPONSE CENTER, INC.	\$ 31,942.26	JSN CONTRACTORS SUPPLY	\$ 2,761.91
CORDOGAN CLARK & ASSOCIATES, INC.	\$ 48,990.82	JULIE, INC.	\$ 2,773.08
CORE & MAIN LP	\$ 195,094.89	KALEEL'S CLOTHING	\$ 15,209.00
CRESCENT ELECTRIC SUPPLY	\$ 53,128.71	KARA COMPANY, INC.	\$ 27,555.50
CROSSROADS MOBILE MAINTENANCE	\$ 96,785.90	KENNAI FARMS DISTILLING	\$ 21,025.29
CULTIVATE GEOSPATIAL SOLUTIONS, LLC	\$ 150,000.00	KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE	\$ 4,980.00
CUMMINS SALES & SERVICE	\$ 4,917.38	KNOWBE4, INC.	\$ 11,016.00
CURRAN MATERIALS CO.	\$ 13,557.52	KOMLINE-SANDERSON	\$ 3,760.51
DAHME MECHANICAL INDUSTRIES, INC.	\$ 7,700.00	L&K ELECTRONICS	\$ 40,395.63
DATA CENTER SERVICES	\$ 2,790.00	LARGE CAR REBUILDERS, INC.	\$ 3,837.26
DATA VOICE INTERNATIONAL, INC.	\$ 45,582.69	LARSON & LARSON BUILDERS, INC.	\$ 1,108,217.07
DECATUR INDUSTRIAL ELECTRIC	\$ 246,829.74	LAUTERBACH & AMEN, LLP	\$ 10,220.00
DELL MARKETING L.P.	\$ 84,708.17	LAWSUN PRODUCTS, INC.	\$ 12,076.93
DENNIS W. MARTINEZ	\$ 73,597.03	LEE JENSEN SALES CO INC	\$ 5,350.08
DFC FENCE, INC.	\$ 33,396.00	LEIBOLD IRRIGATION INC	\$ 20,600.00
DIAMOND BLADE WAREHOUSE	\$ 4,084.69	LENNY BRYSON AUCTIONEER	\$ 18,500.00
DIEDRICH CONCRETE INC	\$ 2,850.00	LEXIPOL LLC	\$ 12,060.92
DINGES FIRE COMPANY	\$ 19,531.64	LIGHTHOUSE DISPENSING CO, LLC	\$ 5,000.00
DLT SOLUTIONS, LLC.	\$ 2,635.48	LINCOLN HWY HERITAGE FESTIVAL	\$ 10,000.00
DORNER CO	\$ 2,869.00	LINK MEDIA OUTDOOR	\$ 6,250.00
DOTS	\$ 95,000.00	LOVE'S TRAVEL STOPS & COUNTRY STORES	\$ 150,000.00
DUVAL, DANE	\$ 3,800.00	MACLIN INCORPORATED	\$ 62,355.64
DUVAL, RONALD L.	\$ 2,533.34	MACDON COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING	\$ 9,560.04
DYNAMO POWER	\$ 7,450.00	MADDOX INDUSTRIAL TRANSFORMER	\$ 10,026.00
EJ EQUIPMENT, INC.	\$ 6,707.30	MARTIN & CO EXCAVATING	\$ 500,626.61
		MARTINEZ, STEVE	\$ 7,625.00

MASTERBLEND INTERNATIONAL	\$ 5,591.50
MCCL, LLC	\$ 5,128.50
MCDONAGH DEMOLITION	\$ 345,908.90
MCMASTER-CARR SUPPLY CO	\$ 8,391.03
MEDICARE PART B	\$ 3,425.98
MENARDS - SYCAMORE	\$ 3,309.21
MERITCORP GROUP LLC	\$ 10,000.00
MICHELS POWER	\$ 135,242.72
MICHIG ENERGY, LTD.	\$ 438,735.76
MID-CONTINENT SALES	\$ 4,690.42
MIDWEST ENGINEERING CONSULTANTS, LTD.	\$ 21,778.50
MIDWEST MAILWORKS, INC	\$ 43,980.57
MIDWEST SAFE DRIVER	\$ 4,920.00
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NAPA AUTO PARTS ROCHELLE	\$ 19,222.80
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NEXTERA ENERGY MARKETING, LLC	\$ 2,351,242.80
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NORTH EAST MULTI-REGIONAL	\$ 4,465.00
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NORTHWESTERN UNIVERSITY	\$ 4,300.00
NSI LAB SOLUTIONS	\$ 2,902.00
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OGLE COUNTY COLLECTOR	\$ 4,061.02
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PACE ANALYTICAL SERVICES, LLC	\$ 16,875.88
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PHILLIPS, VERONICA	\$ 31,750.00
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PROGRESSIVE PARK ROCHELLE LLC	\$ 5,100.93
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REDFORD DATA SERVICES LLC	\$ 17,673.21
REED IRRIGATION SERVICES, INC.	\$ 4,290.00
RK DIXON CO.	\$ 4,596.13
ROADSAFE TRAFFIC SYSTEMS, INC.	\$ 3,800.00
ROADWAY ASSET SERVICES, LLC	\$ 36,595.00
ROCHELLE ACE HARDWARE	\$ 38,592.59
ROCHELLE AREA COMMUNITY FOUNDATION	\$ 5,762.00
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ROCHELLE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	\$ 101,865.10
ROCHELLE ENERGY LLC	\$ 1,685,375.67
ROCHELLE FIRE PENSION FUND	\$ 258,601.20
ROCHELLE HOSPITALITY, LLC	\$ 100,000.00
ROCHELLE IL CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	\$ 13,325.00
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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on July 17, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:
Joyous Voice Music Studio
108 S. Main St.
Rochelle, IL 61068
Dated July 17, 2023
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0741
(July 23, 30 and Aug. 6, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on July 14, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:
Hickory Ridge Farm
5254 W. Edgewood Rd.
Dixon, IL 61021
Dated July 14, 2023
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0742
(July 23, 30 and Aug. 6, 2023)

NOTICE
A Mini Storage, LLC, a storage facility located at 117 Quarry Road, Rochelle, IL hereby announces that the possessions of the following lessees will be disposed of by means of auction on August 15th 2023 at 8:00 AM. Disposal of personal property shall conform to the terms of the certified notice previously mailed to the lessee. The contents of the units can be previewed immediately prior to the sale. The preview and sale will take place at each individual unit listed below; in the order they appear.
Unit#220: Micheal Williams: Home items, Bed frame, table, cooler, chair, tool box, mattress, boxes, speaker box.
Unit#179: John Goluska: Vacuum, Fridge, boxes, tool box, chairs, sofa.
No. 0753
(July 30 and Aug. 6, 2023)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

113 FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815-761-9619. Please leave a message will return call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

301 ANTIQUES

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

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307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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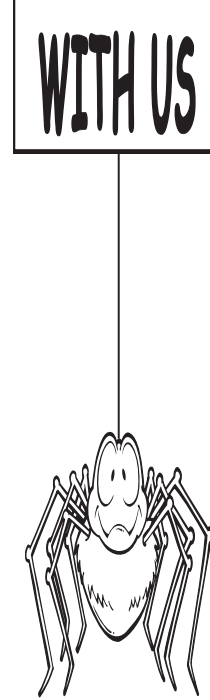
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9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Rochelle First

- 1 Youth programs, schools and non-profit groups look to our businesses first when fundraising.** These community-minded businesses donate faithfully to local youth sports programs, community clubs, nonprofit groups and churches – just to name a few. Shouldn't we look to those same businesses first when we need goods and services? Of course we should!
- 2 High rate of return.** For every \$100 spent in independently owned stores, \$68 returns to the community through payroll, taxes and other expenditures. Online orders return absolutely nothing to Rochelle, IL.
- 3 Seeking health care in your hometown brings the comforts of receiving qualified care from people you know and trust.** Whether it be a trip to the dentist, regular health care screenings, a visit to a specialist or an emergency, you need not travel. It's all right here.
- 4 Banking with people who know you is a luxury found only in hometowns.** You don't have to show your ID every time you go in. You can get a loan from people who know you and understand your needs, whether it be money for your first car or to help your business grow. Local banks believe in the value of community members helping one another.
- 5 No one wants to have to make an insurance claim, but it's painless when your agent is your neighbor.** You don't have to convince them that there was a hail storm, or that the wind nearly took your roof off. They know because they live
- 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?
- 6 Time is money.** It's simple math (especially when you figure in gas mileage.) Shopping locally can actually save you both time and money!
- 7 Customer service after the sale is invaluable.** Local retailers not only take responsibility for the product they sold, they will often fix it or replace it – no questions asked. Appliances, furniture, computers and electronics sometimes have glitches. Would you rather box yours up, send it to who knows where, and wait six to eight weeks, or just go back to the nice guy that helped you when you bought it?
- 8 Keeping it local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally, you help maintain Rochelle's diversity, charm and appeal; which attracts new community members.
- 9 One word: Jobs.** When you do business of any kind in Rochelle, it creates and maintains jobs for others in our area. A healthy employment rate is the cornerstone of all economies. How can you help the economy recover? Start at home.

SPORTS

Rochelle Junior Tackle

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



Rochelle Junior Tackle teams kick off first week of fall practices at Helms Park for 2023 season

The Rochelle Junior Tackle teams kicked off the 2023 season with their first week of fall practices at Helms Park. Rochelle Junior Tackle will field four teams between fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade. The teams will play an eight-week schedule featuring seven games as well as one bye week. Rochelle will start the season with home games against Stillman Valley on Saturday, Aug. 12. Above are photos from the first week of practices on the north end of Helms Park.



Forrest Gerber

GERBER: RTHS alum reflects on freshman season

From page 2

Some of Gerber's most memorable moments from his freshman season include facing off against RTHS alum and former teammate Owen Angell when Kishwaukee College battled Sauk Valley Community College from April 24-25. Gerber said he also enjoyed the team's spring trip to St. Petersburg, Florida, where the Kougars played a series of tournament games. Gerber is currently studying criminal justice and intends to transfer to Western Illinois University after concluding his career at Kishwaukee College in order to complete his education.

"It was cool to see Owen and to see how much we've grown since high school," Gerber said. "The Rochelle coaches know what they're doing and they really care about the kids... Some goals I'm setting for myself are to hit a little over .300 and to be a captain of the team. I want to be a good role model for the new kids like Noah and Aidan. I really want to win and I want to take this seriously. I want to show everyone that Kishwaukee has a great baseball program."



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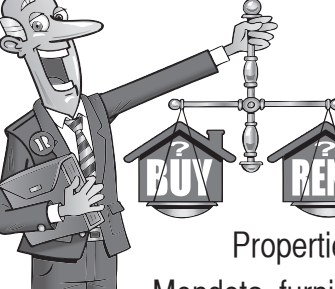


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SPORTS

RTHS Football

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



Rochelle Township High School football program celebrates end of summer with team activities

The Rochelle Township High School football program celebrated the end of its summer with a series of team-oriented games and challenges this past week. The Tug-O-War champions included head coach Kyle Kissack as well as Carson Lewis, Cayden Moore, Jordan Spears, Corbin Harris, Krew Sullivan, Gabe Montes, Andrew Johnson and Omar Hueramo (below right). Co-champions of the Five-Man Sled challenge were coach Justin Otte's team (middle left) of Elijah Harley, Xavier Villalobos, Roman Villalobos, Alex Pemberton, Frank Nasca and Alex Foster as well as coach Brett Zick's team (middle right) of Brock Metzger, Ethan Goodwin, Van Gerber, Markell Pogue and Brandt Waters, who were also the Relay Race champions. Overall champions of the summer competition were coaches Noah Mershon and Johnny Gonzales as well as Grant Gensler, Brode Metzger, Jack Tilton, Wyatt Worthington, Riley Damask, Gavin Neale, Nick Novak and Parker Slattengren (below left).

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