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The University of Illinois Extension is offering online gardening training. Page 7

## WEATHER



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## **OBITUARIES**

JOANNE AGNES ROGDE PATRICIA 'PAT' HALL

See page 4

## INSERTS

SCHNUCKS MENARDS





# Tilton School in need of improvements District to utilize new communication program

**SUNDAY, AUG. 13, 2023** 

**BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE**—At its monthly meeting Tuesday. the Rochelle Elementary School District Board of Education gave its permission to District Business Manager Kevin Dale to begin the borrowing process to finance facilities improvements after it was recently found that Tilton School is in need of \$8-12 million in work to bring it up to code and date.

The board began discussing and assessing its facilities' needs in fall 2022 and has had a specialized committee meeting on the topic for several months. Tilton School's 10-year health life safety evaluation was moved up a year early due to the district anticipating needed improvements. The board also heard a presentation recently on its bond capacity to see its borrowing options for the financing of improvements.

Dale said the findings on Tilton's needs are nearly finalized and the district should have the final report by the board's September meeting.

"There were potential things flagged that we weren't aware of," Dale



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting, the Rochelle Elementary School District Board of Education gave its permission to District Business Manager Kevin Dale to begin the borrowing process to finance facilities improvements after it was recently found that Tilton School is in need of \$8-12 million in work.

said. "Some of those concerns kind of add more costs for repairs than we were originally thinking with regards to Tilton School. Numbers are now roughly estimated at anywhere from \$8-12 million into the existing building to bring it up to code and bring it up to date."

Tilton School is nearly 80 years old. Dale said issues include asphalt around the whole building, the roof, windows, HVAC and brick work. The full

extent of needed repairs will be seen and prioritized in the final report that will be received in the coming weeks.

"We're probably going to have to look at issuing some sort of borrowing to help offset and make those repairs," Dale said.

The district could opt to not make the improvements to Tilton School and instead put funding towards another option for its students at either that site or the sites of May School

or Lincoln School. There is no additional room at the Central School site, Dale said. Alternatives would include a new building or an addition at another site.

If the board does opt to go forward with repairs at Tilton and wants to start them by summer of 2024, which would be soonest they could start, it would have to start the bidding process in October or November.

See SCHOOL page 5



Water main project moving forward

**BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

**HILLCREST**—At its monthly meeting Wednesday, the Hillcrest Village Board of Trustees unanimously voted to move forward with its priority 1A water main project that plans to replace mains along portions of Scott Avenue. Errett Road and Erickson Road in the southern and oldest part of the village.

The current construction estimate on the project is \$2.68 million and that IEPA loan amount is being reserved for the village. Hillcrest is eligible for 50-percent principal forgiveness of as much as \$1.25 million. The project is planned to go out for bids in December, sign a loan agreement in March, start construction in April and be completed by fall of 2024. The project has been on the village's radar for a number of years. A greater water main replacement project was considered in the past, but was trimmed down to

the areas of greatest need. See HILLCREST p. 3

# Seebach's Sweet Corn open for business 'It's great seeing the customers and we're very appreciative...'

**BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Seebach's Sweet Corn recently kicked offits 2023 season of sales at 11594 E. Kyte Road

just outside of Rochelle. The Seebach family has grown and sold sweet corn at the location for over 40 years. The tradition of selling sweet corn was started by the late Jerry Seebach, and it has since been carried on by his sons, Jeff and Scott, their stepmother, Christy and other family

members and seasonal help. Jeff Seebach heads up the sweet corn operation and has participated in the tradition for as long as he can remember. What's been out of the ordinary this year for him is the drought the area has seen, which has made the sweet corn crop inconsistent at times.

"Some of the ears look like they're not ready yet, but they are," Jeff said. "And some of the ears look like they're ready, but they're not. You can even see it in the corn stalks where it just gets lower and then the corn gets to a



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Seebach's Sweet Corn recently kicked off its 2023 season of sales at 11594 E. Kyte Road just outside of Rochelle. The Seebach family has grown and sold sweet corn at the location for over 40 years.

normal height. But there's a lot of valleys and stuff in it. Just due to a lack of moisture, it's just been kind of inconsistent."

The drought and inconsistency has caused

occasional gaps between plantings and varieties when the family doesn't have corn on hand to sell. It can also impact the consistency of the kernels in the ears of kern.

"With that lack of moisture, the plant is only looking to survive rather than actually produce the fruit," Jeff said. "It may be back to 1988 when it was this dry last. The last couple

of years it was kind of dry, but it never affected how the corn was because there was already moisture in the ground."

See SEEBACH'S p. 2



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# SEEBACH'S: Family sweet corn business open for 2023 season

From page 1

"This year, we didn't have much snow in the winter to get the moisture base down there. It just seems like it was a lot drier at the beginning of this season and then it stayed dry pretty much through the growing process of it."

Jeff said Aug. 8 that Seebach's Sweet Corn was about halfway through the season and he expects to sell for about 2.5 more weeks, depending on how fast the corn reaches readiness to sell and how fast it's sold. He expressed some disappointment in the drought's impacts, but said he felt lucky that the family does have a crop to sell this year and that he's appreciative of late rains it got to help later plantings

Seebach's Sweet Corn went through its first planting fast, Jeff said, due to lower yields and a little higher volume of sales, which he said could be due to Rainwater Farms not selling sweet corn this year as it usually does in Rochelle.

"It can be tough to see a year when we have higher demand and it's a drought," Jeff said. "I wish we had the yield that we normally would. We try to pick the day and let people know when we'll have more corn next. It's great seeing the

customers and we're very appreciative that they keep coming back. As long as they keep coming and they appreciate it, we'll keep selling it."

Christy Seebach, who usually runs the stand, said more sales have been seen this year than usual.

"Once we open up, everybody is hungry for sweet corn," Christy said. "We were really busy the first week. After that, it kind of tapers off. But then people like to freeze it, too. Some call ahead. I have 10 dozen waiting for one lady. We hate to disappoint people. We put up signs that say when we'll have more corn. We're seeing some new faces this year. And a lot of repeat customers from years' past. A lot of people from town. It's great seeing them."

While the drought has been out of the ordinary this year, the work itself has not. Because that's the way it's always been done at Seebach's Sweet Corn.

"The work has gone well this year," Jeff said. "We have a few more people to help out. We have Gage working for us, who's nine years old. He drives the tractor and for us and helps us. We don't have to hop on and off the tractor to move it. We pick everything by hand. We can just pick and put everything in the cart while he drives along. It



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The tradition of selling sweet corn was started by the late Jerry Seebach, and it has since been carried on by his sons, Jeff and Scott, their stepmother, Christy and other family members and seasonal help. Jeff Seebach heads up the sweet corn operation and has participated in the tradition for as long as he can remember.

helps us out. I'm just used to picking by hand. It's how we've always done it. If we ever had to grow more for more demand, we'd try and figure out options. We wanted to see how it went this year with how much

volume we'll need to see if we need to plant more next year or not."

Seebach's Sweet Corn is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The stand can be reached by phone with questions about daily availability,

which is recommended, especially for customers coming from out of town, at 815-213-5229 or 815-562-7561. Available corn is left over at the stand after hours and can be purchased via a money drop box at the

stand. If customers would like to buy more than five dozen ears, they're asked to call ahead. Fresh vegetables are sold at the stand regularly as well, even if it's not on a day when sweet corn is available.



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# HILLCREST: Work underway to repair village water tower damage

From page 1

## Infrastructure

Baxter & Woodman, the village's engineering firm, made another presentation on Hillcrest's infrastructure needs after one last month. Engineer Kaitlin Wright said the water system improvement process started in 2017 when one of the village's wells showed a nitrates exceedance which brought on an IEPA violation. Hillcrest got back in compliance by mixing water from that well and its other well, but agreed to rectify the issue permanently in the future with an additional source of water or treatment.

A water main break occurred in July 2018 that caused the village to run out of and shut off water to homes while repairs took place. That further pushed Hillcrest to look at its aging water system, Wright said. In January 2019, the village tasked Baxter & Woodman with looking at addressing the system as a whole along with other infrastructure like roads and sewer.

Baxter & Woodman then made designs for a shallow well, a deep well, a water treatment plant, water treatment plant sewers and an elevated tank as well as new water mains throughout town. In April 2020, the village requested that work stop due to the community's financial hardships from

taminated.

Connecting to RMU would include the options of an emergency connection, or acting as a retail or wholesale customer to RMU. The village would pay to connect at different levels depending on which of those options it chose. Trustees were in agreement Wednesday that connecting to RMU is not something they want to pursue.

#### Water tower

Pittsburg Tank & Tower Group has begun work to repair the village's water tower after a leak was noticed in recent months. Rhoads said the village has no specific time frame

Wright revisited those needs again Wednesday, as the nitrate issue will need to be resolved to be in compliance with the IEPA. The village's options to get in compliance include constructing a new shallow well, constructing a new deep well, and various options that would involve it connecting to Rochelle Municipal Utilities. Cost estimates that dated back to 2020 showed a new shallow well costing \$3.2 million, a new deep well costing \$3.15 million and a new elevated tank costing \$2.24 million. The village has looked in the past at the abandoned asphalt plant site in Hillcrest for a new well, which the IEPA would allow after determining it's not con-

during the work have been placed at Village Hall and the Masterbend building. The cost for the leak

for the work's completion.

Two pressurized tanks

to maintain water pres-

sure for village residents

repair will be \$26,605 and Pittsburg will be performing some of the other work to the tower it recommended in the past. The estimate on the total amount of the rest of the work needed for the water tower is \$384,370, but not all of it will be done by Pittsburg. The village

approved money for water tower repairs at its April board meeting.

Errett Road and Erickson Road in the southern and oldest part of the village.

At its monthly meeting Wednesday, the Hillcrest Village Board of Trustees unanimously voted to move

forward with its priority 1A water main project that plans to replace mains along portions of Scott Avenue,

## Loader

The board unanimously approved the purchase of an articulating loader to replace its current skid steer for its public works operations. The cost will be \$20,500, on top of the skid steer being traded in on the purchase.

Rhoads said the move was made due to the negative effects of salt on the skid steer in the winter. The loader could be used in the future to clean up the former asphalt plant in the village in the future, Rhoads said.

## Officer

Trustees and Rhoads discussed the idea of getting an ordinance officer or police officer to enforce the village's ordinances and rules in the future during the meeting.

Rhoads said Ashton recently hired a retired police officer on a parttime basis as an ordinance officer and he would like to see something similar

in Hillcrest.

"I think we need to hire somebody here that can actually do the ordinances on a more regular basis that has knowledge of law enforcement and stuff like that and what they can and can't do," Rhoads said. "I'm going to look into that hopefully this month."

(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Issues brought up by trustees that an officer could work on include illegal parking, tall grass, immobile cars and UTVs driving illegally on village roads.

#### Nominations being taken for 2023 Cederholm Community Service Award **CRESTON** — Nomment Library by Aug. The award ceremony Booster Days at Booster ed for a nomination is as community, why they

inations are now being taken for the 2023 Cederholm Community Service

The person you nominate should be from Creston. This person should be nominated for their contribution to the betterment of the Village of Creston as a good citizen.

Please submit your nomination at any of these locations in Creston: Casey's, Headon's Fine Meats, or the De-

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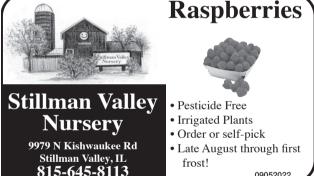
will be directly after the community worship service during Creston

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follows: The name of the individual, their number of years in the Creston

should be considered, and the name of the person making the nomination.



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#### **Obituaries**

# Joanne Agnes Rogde

anne Agnes Rogde, 89, was called home to be with the Lord on Thursday, Aug. 9, 2023. She was born in Rochelle on Dec. 7, 1933, the youngest of five children born to Paul and Lucille Lower. Joanne attended St. Patrick's Catholic Grade School and Rochelle Township High School, graduating in 1952. On Jan. 2, 1954 she married Donald Rogde, who preceded her in death on Aug. 25, 2017. They were blessed with 63 years of marriage and four children, Robert, Barbara, Bonnie and Brenda.

Joanne worked at Caron International from 1955 to 1963 until the arrival of their first child. As their family grew, she stayed home devoted to raising their children. In 1972, she began a long career with First National Bank of Rochelle until 1991 when she retired. After that, she spent her time working for the local schools and thoroughly enjoyed spending Saturdays in the auction trailer assisting her nephew, John Bearrows.

Joanne was a lifelong member of St. Patrick's Church. She happily devoted countless hours and resources teaching Sunday School, lecturing, commentating, delivering communion and selflessly doing anything else she was called to do to serve the Church and the Lord. Together Joanne and

Don loved walks, spending evenings sitting outside on their swing, attending auctions, fishing, and of course, being with their children, grandchildren and very special fourlegged friends. She loved spending her

time knitting, crocheting, working crossword puzzles, and anything arts and craft related. She was an avid reader and would read anything she could, often buying boxes of books from sales not knowing what was inside and reading them all. However, what brought her the greatest pride and joy was creating her own greeting cards for special friends and family. She spent endless hours picking out just the right pictures and



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sentiment for each individual person.

In addition to her husband, Don, and her parents, Joanne is preceded by her brother, John, sisters: Pat Esterday and Rita Bearrows, and an unborn child.

She is survived by her four children: Robert (Amanda) of St. Charles, Barbara (Eric) Bell of Rochelle, Bonnie Moore of Rochelle and Brenda (Clint) Garner of Spanish Fort, Alabama; eight grandchildren: Jessica (Paul) Mueller of Kings, Andrew (Brittney) Rogde of Rochelle, Jacob Bell of Edwardsville, Anthony Rogde Hinderliter of Rochelle, Samuel Moore of Rochelle, Justin and Joshua Rogde of St. Charles and Lauren Garner of Spanish Fort, Alabama; brother, Paul Lower of Rochelle and five great grandchildren: Sophia, Bentley, Xavier, Stella and Gabriel.

Visitation will be from 5 –7 P.M., Monday, Aug. 14, 2023 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6 th Street, Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 11A.M., Tuesday, August 15 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 244 Kelley Drive, Rochelle.

Joanne will be laid to rest following the funeral service at St. Patrick's Catholic Cemetery. Memorials may be made in Joanne's memory to Focus House of Rochelle.

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

# Patricia 'Pat' Hall

ROCHELLE — Patricia "Pat" Hall, 79, of Rochelle, passed away on Monday, Aug. 7, 2023, surrounded by her loving family and friends. She was born on Nov. 21, 1943 in Rochelle to Francis and Gertrude (Mertel) Connolly. Pat graduated from Ro-

chelle Township High School in 1961. She married Ken Hall and they were blessed with five children: Patrick, Timothy, Christopher, Sara and Carrie. Her children were the joy of her life. Pat would load up the old Ford station wagon and be off to many activities from sporting events, school programs, graduations and more. She corralled the children for weekly Religious Education classes and Sunday Mass at St. Patrick's Catholic Church. You were guaranteed a pinch under your upper arm if you were caught messing around during Mass. That time was for prayer and faith. Pat was a lifelong member of St. Patrick's Church of Rochelle.

Pat was always doing side jobs from painting to housekeeping while the kids were in school. Keeping a large family fed, clothed, and involved in extracurricular activities was a task. Tuna, Spam, grilled cheese, and soup were considered kitchen staples. Hand-me-down clothing articles were a given, including snow boots. By the time the youngest children recycled the oldest child's snow boots, they had to put Wonder Bread bags over their socks because the boots had holes in them. Nonetheless, all the children would still venture outside to play in the snow.

With time, her family grew to include grandchildren. Once again Pat attended many events at the same location she once brought her children to. She cheered the next generation on to success. Rain, sleet or snow, Pat would bundle up and go. She was proud of each grandchild and would often share how many years she sat in the same seat at

**OREGON**—On Aug.

8 at approximately 10:23

a.m. deputies initiated

a traffic stop on Illinois

Route 64 near Mulford

Road. After a brief inves-

tigation, deputies arrested

Nicholas Adams, 41, of

Rockford, for no valid

driver's license. Adams

was released on scene with

a return court date. Adams

was additionally cited for

deputies conducted a traf-

fic stop on East Royster

Road at the intersection

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On Aug. 9 at 7:13 p.m.

expired registration.

the Little League field or football fields years ago. Just when she thought her heart was full, she became a great-grandmother. Her great-grandchildren enriched her life more than words can say and added an extra sparkle to her blue eyes. They were her treasures. Patricia enjoyed trav-

eling with her sister, Kay Morrison, across Europe, Canada, and the United States. Her favorite destinations included Ireland, Budapest, and Paris. Pat enjoyed spending time with her sister-in-law, Judy Connolly, and reminiscing about how the family has grown over the years and sharing many stories. Judy always said Pat was the life of the party and enjoyed her Scotch on the rocks.

Pat traveled every fall season to Notre Dame football games to cheer on her beloved Irish. She cheered on the Fighting Irish football team either on the field in South Bend, Indiana or, later in life, in front of her TV. She enjoyed all things Irish and her Irish heritage. She made sure everyone in the family had some green Notre Dame attire. Pat never wavered from

her constant sidekick, a hot cup of coffee. Pat enjoyed coffee with others, including lifelong friends, Judy Messer and Pauline Brass and lunches with Sandy Hall. Pat's conversations would always stay with you as she would not hesitate to give you the third degree or provide you with her opinion. She was loyal and always showed up. If you were lucky, you even got a hug. Better have the coffee on.

Even in her final days, Pat loved family events. Most recently, the Connolly Family Reunion was held the Saturday prior to her passing. People came to see her from all over. She could not attend in-person, so people visited her. Those gathering around her bedside shared many memories, shed many tears and all left stating they were her favorite sibling, grandchild, nephew, niece or friends. Ogle County Sheriff's Department



Pat had many favorites. Pat went home on Mon-

day to have coffee with those that preceded her in death. Patricia was preceded in death by her husband, Kenneth Hall; parents, Francis and Gertrude Connolly; brother, Jack Connolly; sister, Mary Ann Hall; and sons, Patrick and Timothy Hall.

Patricia is survived by her sister, Kathryn (Jim) Morrison of Toronto, Canada; son, Christopher (Joan) Hall of Clare; daughters: Sara Hall and Carrie Hall both of Rochelle; grandchildren: Carter (Lacey Jackson) Hall of Carlisle. Pennsylvania; Jacob (Brittany)Delano of Greenwood Lake, New York; Whitney (Brett) Demetruk of Stephenville, Texas; Cassandra (Ryan) Grover of Oregon; Ouinn Hall of Charlotte; Tim Hall of Oak Lawn; Ryan Wiese of Rochelle; Nick Wiese, PRAN, U.S. Navy of San Diego, CA; Zach Wiese of Woodstock; and Nolan Wiese of Normal. She is also survived by nine great-grandchildren: Hayden and Gunnar Hall, Irelin and Halston DeLano, Cillian and Willow Demetruk, Grady and Ridge Grover, Sadie Hall and many nieces, nephews, cousins, and friends.

Visitation will be held from 9:30 - 10:45 A.M., Saturday, Aug. 19, 2023 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 236 Kelley Dr., Rochelle, IL with a Memorial Mass following at 11A.M. with Father Jesus Dominguez officiating. Burial at St. Patrick Cemetery in Rochelle will immediately follow. Memorials may be made in Pat's memory to St. Jude Children's Research

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with North Kilbuck Road. As a result, Victor M. Alcalde, 55, of Monroe Center was arrested for driving while license revoked. Alcalde was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 10 at approximately 10:39 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 near mile marker 109. After investigation, deputies arrested Justin Smith, 41, of Galesburg, for driving while license suspended. Smith was issued an additional citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Smith was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and released on scene. Passenger Amanda Wil-

**Deputies conduct traffic stops** son, 41, of Galesburg, was also arrested for an active Warren County warrant. Wilson was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 10 at 7:07 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on East Illinois Route 72 near the intersection with North Moulton Road. As a result, Joseph W. Szymanski, 24, of Lockport was arrested for driving while license suspended. Szymanski was additionally cited for operating a vehicle with expired registration and loud muffler. Szymanski was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

## **Rochelle Police Department**

# Officers make arrests

**ROCHELLE** — On Aug. 9 at 7:31 a.m. a 16-yeaer-old juvenile of Rochelle was cited for speeding. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 9 at 4:01 p.m. Domingo C. Mancilla, 46, of Dixon was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

On Aug. 9 at 11:50 a.m. a 17-year-old juvenile of Rochelle was cited for improper lane usage. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Call (815) 561-2112 or Visit our website at www.rochellenews-leader.com



# SCHOOL: Rochelle elementary board approves bus contract

From page 1

Health life safety evaluations for the district's other buildings will take place next summer, but Dale does not anticipate any of them will have needs to the level of Tilton's, and he believes they will only include "normal, preventative maintenance."

Giving Dale permission to begin the borrowing process did not commit the board to spending the money at Tilton versus another site, but the Tilton issues would still need to be addressed in some way in the future if the board spent the money elsewhere.

Board President Trisha

Vaughn asked Dale to bring the board numbers on the cost of a new building or an addition at another site. Dale said he would work to get the numbers by the September meeting.

## **Communication**

Superintendent Jason Harper provided an update to the board on parent and community communication. Survey responses caused the district to assess how it communicates information to students, their families and the community, and that resulted in a new service it will be utilizing called Apptegy.

The Apptegy service will be used by both dis-

tricts, and will include a main platform hub where district employees can simultaneously share information across different platforms and groups. The service will also include an app and a unified, connected website, Harper said. The direct communication service the district has through Infinite Campus will still be used.

"Essentially what this

new service allows us to do is communicate in more global, macro senses like at the district levels or by building more cleanly with push notifications right to an app," Harper said. "Also if a building or a district is using social media it can go to that social media and the website all as the same message and all at the same time. Or we can bring that down to the micro level and it can be communication by a group of teachers, a single teacher or a program or sports team within our district."

Harper said the service is still being implemented and more information will soon be provided to district employees and families.

## **Buses**

The board unanimously approved a contract with Illinois Central Bus to continue transportation services for preschool and

Ogle County Educational Cooperative students within the district. ICB has provided the service for around the past 10 years. The contract improves a 5.3 percent increase and is for a term of one year.

## NIU

The board unanimously

approved a memorandum of understanding with the Illinois Tutoring Initiative to continue its tutoring program that involves Northern Illinois University College of Education students coming to tutor Rochelle Middle School students. The program began last year and the new agreement included no changes.

## **Personnel**

The board unanimously approved personnel changes including the resignations of Carol Deutsch (sixth grade science, RMS) and Katelyn Kalata (sixth grade English language arts, RMS), the employment of Megan Monfils (third grade, Central), Alexa Ochoa (bilingual interventionist, Lincoln) and Kate O'Neil (sixth grade ELA, RMS) and the transfers of Jackie Cruz (special education teacher at Tilton to special education teacher at Lincoln) and Kimberly Lumzy (fourth grade dual language teacher at Tilton to language and culture coordinator at Central).

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. org0. 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 <a href="www.Calvarychurchlee.org">www.Calvarychurchlee.org</a> 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 <a href="CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com">CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com</a> with questions or for more information. Also check us out at <a href="www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church">www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church</a>.

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.comcrestonumcil faccebook.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@faithlcrochelle.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: fgbcrochelle@gmail.com.Website: www.fgbcrochelle.org. Facebook: www.facebook.com/fgbcrochelle.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 Ardissone, 2128 Il Route 38, Ashton, 815-453-7464. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 9:45 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

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.

Harvest Baptist Church 241 Scott Ave. (Hillcrest). Rev. Duane Boehm,

**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..

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, <a href="https://www.NHFchurch.net">www.NHFchurch.net</a> 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!" 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** 

## The railroad and the growth of Rochelle HERE can be no Grain storage units and mills

mistake. The peo-. ple of Rochelle all have an opinion about the railroad and trains. Before the overpass there were even stronger opinions. The truth is that without the railroads, Rochelle might not exist. When word spread that a

rail line would pass through Lane (Rochelle), things began to happen. Horace Coon built a large fashionable hotel. The Lane House, constructed in 1853, stands today on Main Street. Housing, which had primarily been a few cabins along Kyte creek, spread toward the north and a new business district on Cherry Street (Avenue) was developed.

The Dixon Airline Railroad was a branch of the Galena & Chicago Union Railroad. This was to be a rail line from Chicago to Dixon and later all the way to the Mississippi River.

In 1853, train traffic was considerably different than today. The track was not the rails that we see today, there were four-inch by six-inch oak beams set on wooden cross ties. The oaken beams were then topped with a steel strap which was four inches wide and three quarter inches thick. For the first three years this was the track the trains ran on. Later these partial wood and steel rails were replaced with the solid steel rails of today.

The first official train to Rochelle was scheduled to arrive Jan. 14, 1854. The Lane House was ready to welcome the Iron Horse as it steamed into town. The festivities included local dignitaries and a feast of home-cooked foods. The time for the train to arrival came and passed. Soon a telegraph message was received, the train was broken down and sitting near Creston. Not to be dissuaded, the Rochelle, welcome committee, loaded the party into horse drawn wagons and moved the party from the hotel to the train. Not the most auspicious beginning but things quickly improved.

In Rochelle new buildings began to spring up. were some of the first arrivals. The predominant crop for this area was oats. Rolled oats was common basic food and those oats had to be grown, processed, packaged and then shipped to Chicago. Rochelle became a regional leader in milling, storage and shipping. Almost every available foot of land along the railroad was covered with grain storage. In 1870 a sec-

ond major line was developed through Rochelle. The Chicago & Iowa Railroad ran through Shabbona and Steward to Rochelle and then on to Oregon and the Rock River. Spur

tracks spread to Rockford, Davis Junction, Flagg Station, Kings, Holcomb and many other communities. By 1881 train traffic had grown to the point where Rochelle passed an ordinance requiring that the crossings on Main Street and Washington Street be manned with a flagman to warn street traffic of train traffic, later gates were added. These were manually lowered and raised by the flagmen.

The railroads were a part of everyday life in the community. When the high school football and track teams traveled to other towns to compete, they traveled by train. If one looks at early football games they are in a straight line from the Chicago

was also a major factor in the safety of the communities they crossed. Tom In 1887 the Village **McDermott** of Kings was threatened by a roaring prairie fire. Wind-driven

suburbs to Iowa,

that line is the rail

line. The railroad

flames threatened to overrun the community. A call for help was telegraphed to Rochelle and Dixon. The communities loaded shovels, buckets and more than 100 citizens onto flat cars and were delivered by the railroad to Kings in time to stop the fire at the village limits. When Ashton lost 28 businesses to fire in 1889, it was once again the railroads that delivered equipment and volunteers from the surrounding communities. As an aside, it was in

1880 that the train whistle stuck on a Rockford train. The train whistle was so similar to the fire alarm whistle that Rochelle firefighters responded and spent much of the night searching for the mysterious fire.

Dignitaries such as Franklin Roosevelt, Harry Truman, Warren Harding (although deceased) and Theodore Roosevelt all stopped in Rochelle thanks to the railroads. Although it was commented that for Truman (a Democrat) no one showed up at the train. The conductor was quoted as saying, "This is Ogle County, so what could be expected."

The first church services in Rochelle were held in an abandoned boxcar on a railroad side track. The Presbyterians held the service in 1854. Other church groups followed the Presbyterian example and the boxcar saw many a varied church service as permanent structures were constructed.

From oats to sheep, from wood burning to coal engines, the railroads have kept up with the change of demands for more than 175 years. Gone are the days when the train would pull into the Rochelle station on Main Street and the passengers would disembark and begin helping the train crew load wood for the boilers. The brakeman, who frequently was missing more than one finger, would hand pull pins from couplers to drop off cars. The flagman has been replaced by electronic gates. Passenger service has come and gone.

But one thing has never changed. Love them or hate them, the railroads are here to stay and have had a continuing influence on Rochelle and so many other communities in our area.

Tom McDermott is a Flagg Township Museum historian and Rochelle city councilman.

# Advocate for a new

gress out on its August Recess it would be a good opportunity to find time to visit with your Congressman or Congresswoman to advocate for a new Farm Bill. Of all the things that are critical to agriculture's survival, this ranks at the top of the list.

Managing risk on the farm is critical to keeping food on our tables. We all depend on the success of American agriculture, so it's important for America's farmers to be supported by strong farm programs as they face weather disasters, high supply costs and inflationary pressures.

America's public investment in agriculture through farm bill programs helps secure our food supply and keep our country strong with sustainable food, fiber and renewable

The farm bill impact extends beyond the farm by protecting our nation's food supply, providing access to nutrition for families facing hunger, advancing conservation

efforts and spurring innovation through agricultural research.

Illinois Farm Bureau priorities:

Illinois Farm Bureau members believe the farm bill must be WTO-compliant, provide price and revenue protection for farmers, and link nutrition and commodity programs. Maintaining the current

crop insurance program remains IFB's top priority in the upcoming farm bill debate. Farm Bureau supports maintaining both SNAP and TEFAP (The Emergency Food Assistance Program) in the farm bill in their current form.

In 2013, USDA calculated that roughly eight cents of every dollar spent on food purchases (including purchases made by SNAP recipients) returns to the farmgate.

Why does the Farm Bill matter for everyone?

Food security: America's public investment in agriculture through farm bill programs helps secure our domestic food supply and keep our country strong while consumers get the benefits of high-quality, affordable food.

Jobs: The food and agriculture industry supports nearly 21.5 million U.S. jobs (that's more than 14 percent of U.S. employment) and contributes more than \$1 trillion to U.S. gross domestic product.

The food and agriculture sector is critical to our economy, making up roughly one-fifth

of U.S. economic activity, directly supporting nearly 23 million jobs — 15 percent of total U.S. employment. When looking across the entire food and agriculture supply chain, agriculture's im-

pact is even more striking, supporting more than 46 million jobs.

The vibrancy of our rural communities relies on farm bill programs that support rural infrastructure and other investments, including broadband, a "must have" to ensure career opportunities as well as access to quality education and health care.

Conservation: The farm bill's investment in ag research and conservation programs are critical to ensuring the productivity and sustainability in our farms and domestic food supply.

Farm bill conservation programs recognize farmers as partners in sustainability and provide resources to help them care for environ-

mentally sensitive land and employ climate-smart practices in their fields to help preserve wildlife habitat, soil and water.

Through the farm bill, farmers have voluntarily enrolled 140 mil-

lion acres in conservation programs—that's equal to the size of California and New York combined.

The farm bill's investment in agricultural research and conservation programs is critical to reaching sustainability goals as we work to feed a growing population using fewer resources.

Thanks to advances in

climate-smart farming, farmers are producing more with fewer resources. To put this in perspective, it would have taken 100 million more acres 40 years ago to produce the same amount of food, feed, fiber and fuel we are growing today.

Risk Management: We all depend on the success of American agriculture so it's important for America's farmers and ranchers to be supported by strong farm programs as they face down weather disasters, high supply costs and inflationary pressures. Managing risk is critical to keep food on our tables.

Farmers and ranchers are proud to grow and raise the safe, sustainable food, fiber and fuel we all rely on, and the farm bill gives them the tools they need to keep our farms and food supply secure in all seasons.

We buy insurance to prepare for tough times, and similarly, crop insurance through the farm bill provides an important tool to help farmers and ranchers weather storms beyond their control.

In light of global events, supply chain challenges and inflation, it is critical that the U.S. make it a top priority to protect our food supply for the well-being and security of our nation.

Addressing Hunger: The farm bill includes nutrition programs intended to ensure the most vulnerable among us have access to healthy, affordable food.

This is more accurately a food and farm bill, as funding provides a comprehensive package of programs for farmers, as well as access to safe and nutritious food for families in need.

America's farmers and ranchers are proud to grow the food that helps supply more than four billion meals annually through the farm bill's nutrition programs, which ensure the most vulnerable among us have access to healthy, affordable food.

"You can make a small fortune in farming - provided you start with a large one." -Anonymous

Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.

## 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@rochellenews-leader.com

## **KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS**

\* Denotes Chairman/President

Rochelle City Council \*John Bearrows Kathryn Shaw-Dickey Bil Haves Rosaelia Arteaga Dan McDermott Tom McDermott Benjamin Valdivieso

ibearrows@rochelleil.us kshaw-dickey@rochelleil.us bhayes@rochelleil.us rarteaga@rochelleil.us dmcdermott@rochelleil.us

Rochelle Elementary School Board \*Trisha Vaughn

Dave Casev Steve Builta Ashley Jackson Stephanie White Javier Zepeda Jennifer Thompson

Rochelle Township High School Board \*Tom Huddleston Bill Ravnaas Jeff Tilton Bobby Chadwick

Brent Ohlinger Laurie Pillen Joel Thompson

tmcdermott@rochelleil.us bvaldivieso@rochelleil.us tvaughn@d231.rochelle.net dcasev@d231.rochelle.net sbuilta@d231.rochelle.net ajackson@d231.rochelle.net swhite@d231.rochelle.net izepeda@d231.rochelle.net jthompson@d231.rochelle.net

tom.huddleston@rthsd212.org bill.ravnaas@rthsd212.org jeff.tilton@rthsd212.org bobby.chadwick@rthsd212.org bohlinger@rthsd212.org lpillen@rthsd212.org jthompson@rthsd212.org Flagg-Rochelle Park Board Brent Carmichael bcarmichael@rochelleparkdistrict.org John Dobbs Dale Wells

\*Tim Havden Jodie Hart Joe Lenkaitis Kristi Gonzales

Ogle County Board Dist. 3 Austin Gillis Dan Miller Joseph Simms

Ogle County Board Dist. 4 Jackie Ramsey Skip Kennev David Williams

Creston Village Board \*Tom Byro Greg Hopkins Steve Katzman Mike Kerns Curt Ward Mark Hibshman Reid Elliot Jennifer Payton

jdobbs@rochelleparkdistrict.org dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org  $ilenkait is \overleftarrow{@} rochelle park district.org$ kgonzales@rochelleparkdistrict.org

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skenney@oglecounty.org

dwilliams@oglecounty.org

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Hillcrest Village Board \*Richard Rhoads Pam Pittman Dan Potter Tim Ball Jose Huerta Eileen Braski Joe Thompson

Flagg Township Sue Messer Joanna Patrick Susan Rothenberger Scott Seebach

Board of Trustees Lance Noggle Eric Gruben Susan Hager Jim Kenney

Flagg-Rochelle Library \*Jaqueline Dickow Teresa Haggestad Michael Scanlan Lanning Nicoloff Sheri Klindera Susan Sevedge Darci Waltrip

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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.

# COMMUNITY

# U of I Extension Master Gardener online training offered

OGLE COUNTY — Are you ready to take your love of gardening to the next level?

University of Illinois Extension Master Gardeners will be offering a self-paced online training course this fall starting on Monday, Oct. 2. Whether you want to better your gardening knowledge or become an Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteer, this training is for you. The course is open to the public.

The course will offer

in-depth horticulture content including soils and fertilizers, plant disease, entomology, pest management, organic gardening and more. This course can be completed in 14 weeks and includes training videos, a manual, reading materials and quizzes. A strong internet connection is recommended.

After training is completed, participants may apply to become an Illinois Extension Master Gardener volunteer. These volunteers participate in community education programs which may include speaking at garden clubs, civic groups, or schools; answering calls or emails at the garden help desks; establishing demonstration gardens that serve as educational tools; and educating citizens on how to establish community gardens.

The course is costs \$300 and registration is open through Monday, Sept. 11. For more information, contact Illinois Extension Program Coordinator in

your county. Please call or email Cindy Jankiewicz at 815-732-2191, cjankie@ illinois.edu in Ogle County; Judy Hodge at 815-544-3710, hodg@illinois. edu in Boone County; or Connie Handel at 815-758-8194, cahandel@illinois. edu in DeKalb County.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this program, please contact your local county Extension office. Early requests are encouraged so that we may meet your needs.

Aug. 29 – (Tuesday) – Beef and Broccoli over Rice,

Potstickers, Egg Rolls

Aug. 31 – (Thursday) – BBQ Chicken (Breast, Leg Or Thigh),

Coleslaw,

Sept. 3 - (Sunday Brunch) - No Sunday Brunch - Enjoy

Labor Day Weekend

KIDS MENU: Chicken Nuggets w/Fries

www.KitchenTableRochelle.org

Aug. 25

Megan South

Kevin & Amie Eggenburg

(anniversary)

Aug. 26

Derek & Christy Oleson

(anniversary) Mandi Ferrari

Aug. 27

Quade Dickey

Aug. 29

**Brad Arnold** 

Aug. 31



July 18 - Melissa Drafall, Monroe Center, \$25

July 19 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25

July 20 - Jessica Mueller, Rochelle, \$25

July 21 - Kathy Pfeiffer, Rochelle, \$25

July 22 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25 July 23 - Rocio Belmonte, Rochelle, \$50

July 24 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

July 25 - Rochelle Firefighter Social, \$25

July 26 - Tom McDermott, Rochelle, \$25

July 27 - Margaret Daner, Kings, \$25

July 28 - Rochelle Police Dog, \$25

July 29 - T-Byrd Lanes, \$25

July 30 - Zekelman Employee, \$50

July 31 - Max Sulzberger, Dwight, \$25 Aug. 1 - Tracey Johnson, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 2 - Aubrey Meinen, Davis Junction, \$25

Aug. 3 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

Aug. 4 - The Kitchen Table, \$25

Aug. 5 - Jesse Johnson, Cambridge, \$25

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

Aug. 7 - Margaret Villatoro, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 8 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25

Aug. 9 - Bob Aubry, Rochelle, \$25 Aug. 10 - Trevor Owen, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 11 - Matthew Browder, Waterman, \$25

Aug. 12 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

Aug. 13 - Benjamin O'Rorke, Rochelle, \$50

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#### THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

Aug. 15 - (Tuesday) - Lasagna, Garlic Bread, Salad Aug. 17 - (Thursday) - BBQ Baby Back Ribs, Coleslaw, Macaroni and Cheese

**Aug. 18** – (Friday) – "Fundraiser Night" – We won't be holding a Friday night dinner anymore. This was put in place for an extra boost in revenue and it no longer works that way.

Aug. 22 - (Tuesday) - Chicken Fettuccini with Broccoli and Garlic Bread

Aug. 24 - (Thursday) - Burgers (Beef or Venison), Fries, **Baked Beans** 

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

Windy Turner

Carter Johnson Aug. 15 Alana Rodriguez

**Haley Simmons** 

Corey Gilliam

Aug. 14

Aug. 16 Kenzi Perkins **Brian Smith** 

Aug. 17 Josh Perkins Jr. Jensen South

Aug. 18 Kelise O'Brien Dyandre O'Brien

## **Birthdays & Anniversaries** Aug. 19

Eddie & Melissa Villalobos

(anniversary)

Aug. 20 Jose & Amanda Avila (anniversary) Kim Patrick Oaklyn South Benjamin Navejas

Aug. 22 Larry & Teresa Baker (anniversary)

> Aug. 23 Lyle Allen



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

# Coffee Break

#### HIGH **MAGIC MAZE** $\mathbf{H}$ $\mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{C}$ $\mathbf{O}$ $\mathbf{R}$ $\mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{E}$ $\mathbf{F}$ $\mathbf{E}$ O $\mathbf{P}$ S $\mathbf{O}$ $\mathbf{O}$ N $\mathbf{L}$ K J Н G $\mathbf{F}$ D

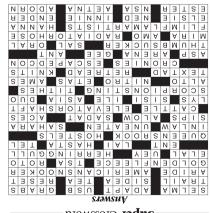
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all backward Unlisted clue hint: Rise and Fall of the Sea Level

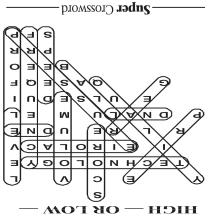
Ball Calorie End

Land Level Pressure Profile Quality

Technology Volume

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**HOCUS-FOCUS** HENRY BOLTINOFF Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Birdhouse is missing. 2. Arm is moved. 3. Lawn mow 4. Fence is shorter. 5. Head is tilted. 6. Tennis racket is missing.

#### **Super** Crossword 49 Wife's father, 95 Inmate who's DOWN 38 Lerner's

## 1 Alabama city 6 Change to fit 11 Kind of port 14 Seizes the

attention of 19 Follow behind 20 First half of an album 21 Salada drink

22 Roll back to 0 23 "Hitchin" (1970 hit) 24 U.S. version of a cue sport

27 Argonauts quest 29 Screening airport gp

30 Lead-in for Rooter or tiller 31 Israel's main

airline 32 Motorist's 180. slangily

33 Common seabird with black wingtips

36 Doc wielding a penlight 38 Chou En-

**40** "— la vista!" **41** — Aviv

42 Chess piece four squares from the king at the start of

the game

47 Alternatives

to inns

27

122

126

84 Iowa city 86 Printed notice with no

89 Newly capped

e.g. **50** Left on the

expanse

profile

58 Egypt's

61 Experts

in it

68 Fleur-de-

Spain

Yvette

**64** Cars move

57 Keep

56 Small drinks

dinner table

91 Makes a sock, say 92 Old buddies

123

bellybutton **125** Rearbenzoate

127 Secret U.S govt. group 128 Big name in insurance 129 Deck out

4 Iraq's locale 5 Sheltered from the wind 6 "Have - trip 7 How faint

a pacifier, 106 Actor Mineo 108 Spoken 112 Sorvino of

113 I love. to a car

71 Land in the ocean, to 72 Irag's locale

74 Certain injury arachnid 78 Gives 10% to the church

80 See 96-Down 81 Dragster fuel 82 Guesses at JFK or SFO

broken out 97 African cobra 1 Rocket part 2 Flynn of old

100 Staples 101 "Aw. shucks!" 102 Pantry pest 103 Baby who doesn't need

62 Mooing herd up and down

69 "Yes, yes!," in 114 It connects engine's water pump

118 People who do what's at the ends of nine answers in this puzzle

121 Barbera's collaborator in cartoons 122 Borden's "spokescow"

123 Actor Romero 124 Common

(car accident) 126 Banana oil or 28 Granola bits (1965 hit) 35 Fancy party 37 Boise-to-

16 Invite on a date 17 Scarab, e.g. 18 Leisurely walk 25 2.0 grade 26 French edict

Spokane dir.

quantities 66 Jacob of 67 Roosted 68 Exam for 70 "Here

border city 45 Gives a iudament about 46 "Dogtown singer Yoko 47 Paradise 48 Persian king

collaborator

in musicals

for Quarry'

circus prop

wheeled

44 U.S.-Mex

59 Week-

65 Petrol

-glance **60** Mexican

39 Wanted-

43 Single-

51 "The Hollow 80-Across Men" poet Silicon Valley 53 Scholastic 97 PIN money? 54 Simply won't 55 Apropos of **57** Et — (and others)

98 Hucksters helpers 99 Stickle **101** The "g" of e.g. 104 lke's wife 105 Screw up

**TAKEN IN** 

75 Campus mil.

group **76** Hair highlight

77 Gaggle birds

combat

Airport

85 IRS form info

87 Iraqi, for one

88 Back fish fin

90 Singer Des

Hangover"

the LPGA 94 Revenues

93 Liselotte of

91 Jeong of

"The

83 Sea- -

106 Glossy fabric 107 Bewildered 109 Concerto part

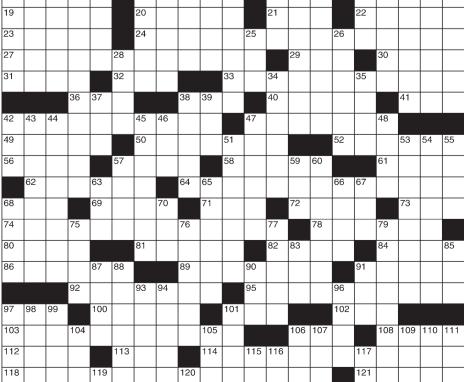
63 Baking qty. 110 Actor Ed 111 Get versed in 115 Sup stylishly

future attys 116 Lacks being 17 Emu relative 119 Slangy suffix with "two" Comes the Hotstepper

120 Gp. for tooth Kamoze drillers 16 | 17

125

129



124

# HERITAGE FESTIVAL



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The annual Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival is planned for the weekend of Aug. 18-20 in downtown Rochelle. The event is celebrating its 26th anniversary, and this year's theme is "Hometown Spirit". There will be a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event.

# Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival returning for 26th year

**ROCHELLE** — The annual Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival is planned for the weekend of Aug. 18-20 in downtown Rochelle. The event is celebrat-

ing its 26th anniversary, and this year's theme is "Hometown Spirit". There will be a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, a vendor basket raffle, craft, vendor, and business booths, a food court and various local talents performing each

Friday, Aug. 18 will feature the Little Miss Peanut competition from 6-7 p.m. and Nauti Nauti from 8-10 p.m.

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On Saturday, Aug. 19, the Hub City Cruisers Car and Motorcycle Show will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., with the raising of the flag at noon. There will be a pancake breakfast and then a free kid's zone from 11 a.m.-3p.m. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show from 11 a.m.-8 p.m. Lynx from noon- 1p.m. Blue Steam from 2-4 p.m. The Moose's Haunted Maze will be open from 4-9p.m. Jerry Criss Band from 5-7 p.m. and closing out the night is Neverly Brothers from 8-10 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 20, will start with a pancake breakfast and church service. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show from 11 a.m.-6 p.m. The parade begins at 1

p.m. Neal Woolbright-Music with John Brown from 1-3 p.m. There will be an old-fashioned ice cream social at the gazebo. The Moose's Haunted Maze will be open again from 2-5 p.m. Closing out the night is Vodka Boys from 4-6 pm.

"We hope everyone enjoys the festival just as much as we enjoy putting it together and seeing everyone," LHHF President Lisa Schwarz said. Also, a huge thank you to the committee members for the hard work they do. We always need volunteers and if anyone wants to volunteer, they can reach out at facebook.com/ lincolnhighwayheritagefestival or LHHFest.com.





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SUNDAY, AUG. 13, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

# SPORTS



## **RUNNERS TAKE FLIGHT**

The Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub cross country teams began practices Tuesday.

See page 6 for more details

**RTHS Boys Soccer** 

# Hubs back on the field

RTHS opens 2023 season with Aug. 21 road match against Genoa-Kingston

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team bounced back with a winning season last fall and will look to continue its recent success this season. Rochelle held its first practice of the

2023 campaign Monday afternoon, with several returning players back on the varsity roster.

The Hubs kick off their season with a nonconference road match against Genoa-Kingston on Monday, Aug. 21 at 4:30 p.m. Rochelle returns several of its attacking forwards including senior Diego Salazar, who scored 22 goals and added four assists during the 2022 season. Junior Alberto Casillas also returns this fall after leading the Hubs with 25 goals last season.

"It's always good to be back and see what we have," head coach Brad Male said. "I'm looking forward to putting our roster together and seeing where we're at. Diego is someone I'm looking to see step into a leadership role and I'm hoping that our team the way he did that he can pick up where Jarett Milan and All-Con- on defense during the

during our summer conditioning. It's exciting to see who returns and who steps up."

Junior Fernando Diaz and sophomore Kevin Orozco will provide an offensive punch for the Hubs after combining for 18 goals and nine assists last season. Junior Bryan Garcia and sophomore Heilly Zepeda are back and could be leaders in the midfield for the Hubs, who are looking to replace two Interstate 8 All-Conference midfielders in Jace Whitehead and Jared Montano. Senior Nathan Sergeant returns after serving as a starting center back in 2021.

"I think we're going to see what Bryan can do in the midfield for us," Male said. "Bryan and Diego are a good combination and we're excited to have Heilly and Fernando back as well. Those four players work well together and we're excited to see what they can do. We're going to shuffle some players around defensively and I think that'll be a work in progress. I'm happy to have Nathan back on the he can continue to lead team and we're hoping year varsity goalkeeper command larger roles. Aug. 25-26.

(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Diego Salazar is one of multiple starters returning for the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team this season. Rochelle opens the season against Genoa-Kingston on Aug. 21.

he left off."

Rochelle will need to replace three starting defenders including four-

ference center back Christian Harding. Juniors Luis

2023 season. The Hubs will once compete in the Milan and Alex Alvarado Colin Smith Invitational team continuity going and are two players who could at Stillman Valley from to keep improving in that

"We always want to go forward," Male said

as far as we can, but my main goals are to get the area as the season moves

**RTHS Volleyball** 

# Lady Hubs eager to build on winning season All-Conference setter Ohlinger headlines returning varsity players for RTHS

BY RUSSELL HODGES

**SPORTS EDITOR** 

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team tipped off the 2023 season with its first practice of the semester Monday morning. Rochelle returns several upperclassmen from last season, when the Lady Hubs finished with an 18-15-3 overall record while taking fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference and reaching the championship round of the IHSA 3A Regionals.

The Lady Hubs will look to replace key starters from last season including back-row defender Macy Ramos along with frontrow attackers Addie Friestad and Payton Hale, who earned All-Conference and was Rochelle's Most Valuable Player Award winner. Among Rochelle's returning upperclassmen will be junior setter Ali Ohlinger, who was a unanimous All-Conference selection after leading the offense with 591 assists and 71 service aces during the 2022 season.

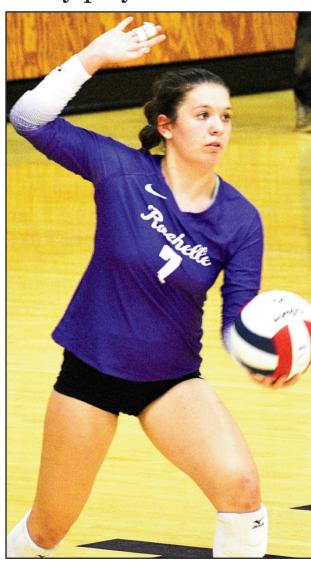
"It's always fun to see the girls and they showed up to the gym ready to play," head coach Molly Sly said. "Our seniors stepped up to lead our first practice which was really nice to see... Ali runs a fantastic offense and I'd love to see our passers get the ball up so we can run offense for all three of our hitters. Ali's serving is great and she's an all-around fantastic player for us."

The Lady Hubs return multiple front-row hitters from last season including senior middle blocker Kennedy Adamski and junior outside hitter Taelynn Rodeghero, who are each entering their third varsity seasons at Rochelle. Junior defender Dempsey Atkinson is also a third-year varsity player who could command a leadership role for the Lady Hubs, who open the 2023 season with a nonconference road match against the Dixon Duchesses on Thursday, Aug. 24.

"Kennedy and Taelynn are in their third seasons and I'm excited to see them get a lot of touches on blocks and put a lot of balls away," Sly said. "Dempsey has shined during our summer activities and she's really vocal on the floor, which is what we want from a back-row player. We have two positions that need to be filled and we're excited to see

who steps up for those





(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Juniors Taelynn Rodeghero (left) and Dempsey Atkinson (right) will each enter their third seasons with the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team this fall.

Rochelle will start conference action with a home match against Sycamore on Tuesday, Sept. 12. The Lady Hubs will travel

for the Jefferson Invitational on Saturday, Aug. 26 before hosting their annual home tournament at Rochelle Township High School on Saturday, Sept. 2

"We always step onto the court thinking we're going to win," Sly said. "Volleyball is a game of momentum swings and I'm looking forward to

seeing our girls rise up to those challenges. Our goal is that our girls walk off the court thinking they gave it their all, regardless if we won or lost."



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# **HUB SPOTLIGHT**

**Preston Borris** 

Year: Freshman

Sport: Golf

Q: How many years have you been playing this sport? A: One year.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: You don't have to be rushed and it's fun to walk the course. Q: What is your favorite school

subject and why? A: Math because paramedics give medicine and they need to know how much to give.

> Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Rory McIlroy because he's a

really good golfer. Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My uncle Andrew because he inspired me to want to be a firefighter.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a firefighter or a paramedic because it's a lot of work and I don't like to be still. Q: What is your favorite thing

about being a student-athlete at RTHS?

A: Being very nimble and athletic.



**Bryson Stewart** 

Year: Freshman Sport: Golf

Q: How many years have you been playing this sport?

A: I've been playing golf for three years.

O: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: I enjoy golf because it can take multiple hours to play and it's relaxing.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: My favorite subject is science because it can teach you how things work and what they do. Q: What is your dream job

and why?

A: My dream job is a nuclear

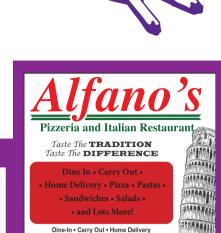
engineer because I've always been interested in nuclear power and other things like that.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: My dream vacation is Washington D.C. because there is a lot of history and there are a lot of museums there.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a student-athlete at RTHS?

A: The thing I enjoy most about being a student-athlete at RTHS is that I get to hang out with people who enjoy the same sports that I do.



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# **SPORTS**

**RTHS Golf** 

# Hubs return mixture of youth and experience IHSA sectional qualifier Metzger headlines Rochelle players back this season

**ROCHELLE** — Head coach Glen Mehrings will lean on a mixture of upperclassmen and underclassmen to fill varsity roles as the Rochelle Township High School golf team tees off the 2023 season. RTHS held its first practice of

the season at Fairways on

Monday. The Hubs will look to improve on a 5-9 record and a 2-5 finish in the Interstate 8 Conference last season. Rochelle will also seek to replace four varsity starters from last season including All-Conference First Team honoree Griffin Ohlinger as well as IHSA sectional qualifier David Wanner and four-year varsity player Damen Harrington. Sophomore Ian Metzger, who was an All-Conference Honorable Mention and an IHSA sectional qualifier last sea-

team this fall. "We have some pretty good golfers back this year," Mehrings said. "Ian played a lot of golf over the summer and he's doing really well. I expect him to be one of our top players and we're excited to have him for three more years... We have three players returning who will

son, headlines Rochelle's

returning players who could

see increased roles on the

be in our top-6 spots and then we'll have to sprinkle in some other players. We have some talented freshmen who have tournament experience and have been playing a lot of golf this summer."

Junior Jacob Ost as well as seniors Cale Workman and Parker Lenkaitis are all back for the Hubs this season. Rochelle also returns senior girls Elise Horner and Haley Bozinovich, who will travel this week for the Belvidere Invitational at Timber Pointe on Friday morning. Junior Chris Hickey along with seniors Chandler Cunningham and Owen Messer are all newcomers this fall.

"Chris has been working hard this summer," Mehrings said. "We have some experienced players returning and it'll be interesting to see how our roster blends together. I think we'll know a lot over the next few weeks... I know Ian wants to return to the sectional and make a run at the state meet this season. Jacob wants to get better and I know Cale wants to have a good senior year. We have some freshmen who really like to golf and I think they'll help the team out."

Incoming freshmen Owen Carmichael, Alex Dyer and Bryson Stewart are three more players to





(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Ian Metzger (left) and senior Cale Workman (right) are two returning players back in the fold for the Rochelle Hub varsity golf team this season. Rochelle will compete against Dixon and Freeport on Aug. 15.

keep an eye on this season. Rochelle will travel for a triangular meet at Freeport with Dixon on Tuesday before hitting the road for an  $Interstate\,8\,matchup\,against$ Morris on Wednesday. The

Hubs will compete in two tournaments next week including the LaSalle-Peru Invitational at Senica's Oak Ridge on Thursday as well as the Rocket Invitational at Deer Valley on Saturday.

"We may not be where we were last season in terms of depth or experience, but I think with some lineup changes and more exposure, our kids will learn how to handle pressure," Mehrings

said. "We want to compete in every tournament and we'd like to finish close to .500 on the season, but we'd really like to see more individual success from both the boys and the girls."

**NIU Football** 

# Transfers making an impact through first week of camp Head coach Hammock pleased with Huskies' progress in first five practices

Five practices and one week into the Northern Illinois University football team's 2023 preseason camp, it is quickly apparent that even with the presence of 17 returning starters, this is a new Huskie team whose newcomers, specifically transfer newcomers, will make a significant impact.

"I've been very pleased with some of the new guys we've been able to add to

the team," said head coach Thomas Hammock following the Huskies' fifth practice Sunday morning. "Number one, they've helped the competition and number two, they've helped the depth. I'm really excited about what those guys have been able a competitive standpoint

Offensively, the Huskies welcomed back quar-

and we'll continue to as-

sess them as we go."

terback Rocky Lombardi and wide receiver Trayvon Rudolph, who missed some (Lombardi) or all (Rudolph) of the 2022 season due to injury, along with running back Antario Brown, receiver Kacper Rutkiewicz and five experienced starters on the to add to our team from offensive line. Transfers, along with players who reshirted or saw limited action a year ago, have

stepped up. 'Offensively, we have a couple backs in Gavin Patterson (Notre Dame Williams (Iowa) and Kendrell Flowers (S.C. State) who have done a nice job," Hammock said. "At the tight end position, Grayson Barnes (American River [Calif.] CC) has done a nice job and Chris Carter (Howard) has done an excellent job as a big threat at the tight end position. At the receiver position, we have some guys that are really stepping up with Davis

College) and then Cam Thompson (Eastern Illinois) is a young man that has really flashed the first week of preseason camp."

Williams, Barnes and Patterson joined the team in January, while Flowers, Carter and Thompson are eight players with signew additions. Flowers nificant game experience, came to NIU after two seasons, one active, at South Carolina State, Thompson redshirted the 2022 campaign at Eastern

Illinois, while Carter, a 6-7, 240-pound junior, brings skill as both a blocker and receiver to the tight end group.

Similar to the experience returning on the offensive line, the Huskie defensive line brings back while transfers are set to contribute at linebacker and cornerback.

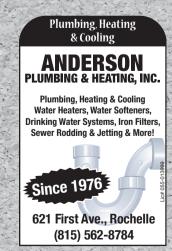
See HUSKIES pg 5

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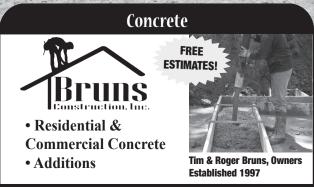
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ation Ordinance for Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District, Ogle County, Illinois, at 7:00pm on September 21, 2023 at the Library District building located at 619 Fourth Avenue, Rochelle, Illinois 61068. Notice is further given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be available for inspection at the Library, August 11, 2023 to the day of the public hearing, during normal

Dated this 20th day of July 2023 Susan Sevedge, Secre-

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#### NOTICE OF PUBLIC **HEARING** NOTICE IS HEREBY

GIVEN by the Board of Education of School District Number 144, in the County of OGLE, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 will be on file and conveniently available to public inspection at 100 First Street, Kings, Illinois 61068 in this School District from and after 8:00 AM, on the 16th day of August, 2023. Notice is further hereby given that a public hearing on said budget will be held at 6:00 PM, on the 20th of September 2023, at the Library in this School District Number 144, in the County of OGLE, State of Illinois. Board Secretaray Dave Schabacker No. 0811 (Aug. 13, 2023)

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby giv-

en by the Board of Education of the Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD#275 in the County of Lee, State of Illinois, Regarding Repair of School Grounds to the Ashton-Franklin Center Elementary School, that a Public Hearing will take place on Monday, August 21st, at 6:45pm at 611 Western Avenue, Ashton Illinois 61006 in the High School Library. The purpose of this

Hearing is for the Board of Education to determine the need to undertake repairs to the sidewalks and wheelchair ramps of the Ashton-Franklin Center Elementary School located at 217 South Elm, Franklin Grove, II 61031, and to receive any public comment regarding such repairs. Chad Murphy, Presi-

dent Tiffany Willstead, Secretary

Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD#275 Board of Education 611 Western Avenue,

Ashton Illinois 61006 No. 0814 (Aug. 13, 2023)

#### **PUBLIC NOTICE NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING**

Notice is hereby given by the Board of Education of the Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD#275 in the County of Lee, State of Illinois, that a tentative budget for said School District for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2023 and ending on June 30, 2024 will be on file and conveniently available for public inspection at 611 Western Avenue, Ashton, Illinois in the School District Office from 8:30

a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on

the 21st day of August,

2023 and thereafter until September 18, 2023. Notice is further given that a Public Hearing on said budget will be held

at 6:45 p.m. on Monday, September 18, 2023 in the Jr./Sr. High school Library, 611 Western Avenue, Ashton, Illinois. No. 0815

(Aug. 13, 2023)

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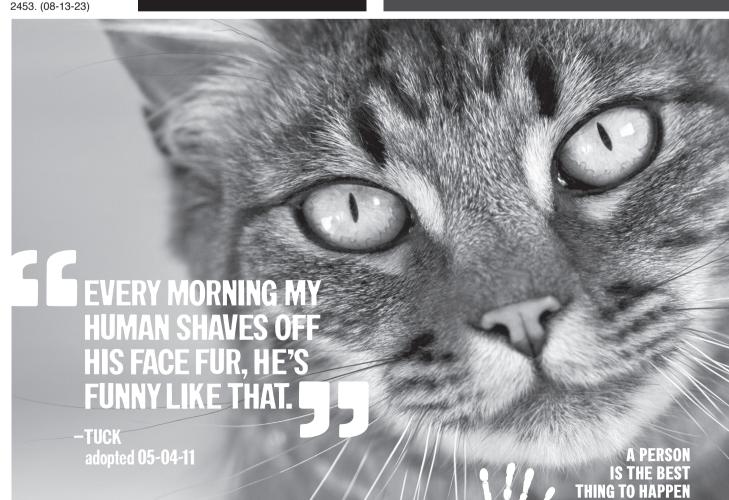
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# **SPORTS**

# **HUSKIES:** NIU football team begins second week of fall camp Tuesday

From page 3

"Defensively, both of the new corners - Shaad Dabney (Kansas) and Gabe Amegatcher (Nebraska-Kearney) – are playing well," Hammock said. "Then at linebacker, DaRon Gilbert (Lafayette) and Tyler Jackson (Lamar), have been phenomenal.'

The Huskies will have the first "off" day of preseason on Monday following a twoplus hour practice Sunday morning at Huskie Stadium and the third consecutive day in pads. After seeing the Huskie defense own the edge in the first two days in pads, Hammock was happy to see NIU's offense respond Sunday.

"There was a response [by the offense] and that's what you want to see," Hammock said. "In the team meeting, we talked about the response. How are we going to respond to a bad play, a bad game, a bad situation. The offense has been having an uphill battle the first few days and today they had a chance to respond. To me the mark of a good team is when you have that back-and-forth competition because everyone gets better."

## **Practice**

The Northern Illinois University football team was back on the practice field at Huskie Stadium Tuesday morning after an off day Monday. It was the first time in full pads for the Huskies as the second week of training camp got underway.

"I liked the intensity," said head coach Thomas Hammock. "Today was very spirited, very competitive.



The guys got a lot of quality work in which is very important. Our defense is playing at very high level right now. They're showing great communication, great urgency and great energy. Offensively we have to match that tempo."

The defensive backfield made their presence known in the team periods of practice Tuesday. Redshirt-freshman cornerback Amariyun Knighten (Hollywood, Fla./Stranahan) had an interception early in practice while Jacob Finley (Birmingham, Ala./Hoover) made a tackle for loss in a third down drill. "The first day in pads

was very physical, but it's what we've been waiting for especially on defense,' said junior linebacker Jaden Dolphin (Des Plaines, Ill./ Maine West)... We're at the point now where we're working through different zones on the field," Hammock said. "Today it was third down, tomorrow it'll be red zone. We want to put

them in all the different situ-

ations they will be in before we scrimmage on Saturday. This is an opportunity, like a preseason game, to get through those situations so guys can execute in critical moments."

The offense had some bright spots on third down as well on Tuesday. The offensive line created running lanes for running backs Antario Brown (Savannah, Ga./Beach) and Billy Dozier (New Lenox, Ill./ Lincoln Way West). Rocky Lombardi (Clive, Iowa/ Valley) combined for a pair of conversions with wide receiver Trayvon Rudolph (Crete, Ill./Crete-Monee), one of which went for 70 yards and a touchdown.

"The energy goes up when the pads come on,3 said redshirt-sophomore offensive lineman Pete Nygra (North Indianapolis, Ind./ Brownsburg). "Ithought we had a really good day. It was very competitive and that was the goal. Iron sharpens iron and we're getting each other ready for that first game September 2."



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The Zinger folds to a mere 10 inches

ZINGER

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# **SPORTS**

**RTHS Cross Country** 

# Rochelle harriers back in action for 2023 season IHSA sectional qualifier Hernandez headlines returning RTHS runners this fall

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Senior Luis Hernandez headlines a crop of returning runners that are back in action for the Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub varsity cross country teams this season. Rochelle held its first practice of the 2023 season on Tuesday, with the Hub and Lady Hub

harriers scheduled to run

their first races at the Mor-

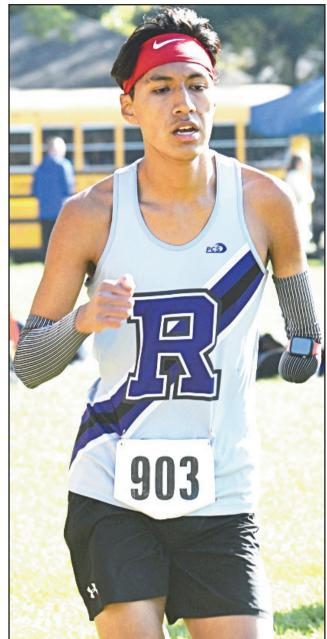
ris Early Bird Invitational

on Wednesday, Aug. 23. The Hubs are looking to improve on notable finishes from last season including a second-place performance at the Rochelle Invitational and a fourth-place performance at the Matt Walter Invitational. The Lady Hubs, who return several underclassmen including sophomores Annaliese Koziol, Rose Luxton and Mary Chadwick, will need to replace a key leader from last season in Interstate 8 All-Conference honoree and IHSA sectional quali-

fier Yuelma Ortiz. "I think we're going to have a decent group of runners this year," head coach Mark Zilis said. "We're hoping that we can have a few individuals advance we have runners like Luis and Annaliese who have shown a lot of potential. One of our major goals is to advance from the regional to the sectional as a team. We'd also like to finish in the top half of our conference and advance a few of our individuals from the sectional to the state meet."

Hernandez, who was an All-Conference honoree and an IHSA sectional qualifier last season, will look to lead a young Hub roster that includes sophomore standout Declan McGee. Freshman Vivian Worthington is a new runner who could be a key contributor on the girls side. Rochelle will compete in the Sycamore Invitational at Kishwaukee College on Tuesday, Aug. 29 before continuing on with the Oregon Invitational at Oregon Park West on Saturday, Sept. 2.

"I'm not too worried about early-season meets," Zilis said. "Our main focus is getting all of our runners in shape and not sustaining any injuries. Our goal is that, by the time we reach late September, we start to become more competitive on both the boys side and the girls side."





Senior Luis Hernandez (left) and sophomore Mary Chadwick (right) are two key runners returning for the Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub cross country teams this season.

Voting Ends Wednesday, September 13th at 10am

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