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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

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Patel earns Service Award

Zalak Patel of RTHS was
named a winner of the
Resource Bank Centennial
Service Award. **Page 2**

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81 60

THURSDAY
HIGH LOW
84 61

FRIDAY
HIGH LOW
84 63

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OBITUARIES

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• FARM & FLEET

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Pavia appointed to RPD chief

Hiring, training, body cameras among priorities

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its July 24 meeting, the Rochelle City Council saw the appointment and swearing in of Pete Pavia as full-fledged Rochelle Police Department Chief. Pavia had served as interim chief of the department since March following the retirement of Chief Eric Higby.

Pavia has over 25 years of law enforcement experience at various levels of leadership including as a school resource officer, field training officer, detective, first-line supervisor and acting chief. He holds a degree in criminal justice and is currently completing his master's degree in business administration and organizational leadership. He's a graduate of the Northwestern University School of Police Staff and Command.

"Pete and his team have accomplished so much since March," City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said at the July 24 meeting. "He's overseen the hiring of five additional full-time police officers. He's instituted a community



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its July 24 meeting, the Rochelle City Council saw the appointment and swearing in of Pete Pavia as full-fledged Rochelle Police Department Chief.

resource officer program, worked to extend the SRO program at the high school and has ensured delayed equipment and capital purchases have proceeded. He's committed himself to learning about and embracing our organization and community. I have 110 percent faith in Pete's leadership capabilities and I know he's the right person for this job."

On Aug. 1, Pavia said the appointment and swearing in was "a whirl-

wind" for him, and the day saw members of the department and his family and friends attend.

"I just wanted to get through it," Pavia said. "I had been interim for months and I knew that was kind of the direction we were going. It just felt good to finally get that stamp and then we were ready to go. Honestly, nothing's really changed. I came right back to doing the same job I've been doing. It is kind of nice to

hear that 'chief' and get a little bit of that interim off of there."

Pavia's priorities since March have been topped by staffing, as the department has seen a large number of recent retirements. Much of his time has been spent recruiting, hiring and sending new officers to the academy. RPD also made two lateral hires of officers with police training and experience already.

See PAVIA page 8

Rochelle
Community Hospital
Your Local Healthcare Resource.

RCH hosts 2023 Back to School event

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Thursday, Rochelle Community Hospital hosted a back to school kickoff event for youth in the community.

The event included health booths, tips and demos, free backpacks to the first 150 attendees, free Kona Ice treats, representatives from Sinissippi Centers and the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District, and giveaways and games. RCH Marketing, Foundation & Organizational Development Manager Michelle LaPage said the event is in its second year after the hospital saw similar events being done at other critical access hospitals like RCH.

"We want to be proactive with the younger people in our community and try to get the word out," LaPage said.

See RCH page 2

Grand reopening, ribbon cutting held for Rosati's

'... you're here and you're invested and our community is supporting it'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Thursday, a grand reopening event and ribbon cutting were held for Rosati's at 1233 Caron Road in Rochelle, which recently completed an expansion.

Owner Phil Lascola said the business that formerly occupied the space next door decided to close and leave, which allowed Rosati's to construct a new dining area.

"I want to thank all of you for coming," Lascola said. "We couldn't have done it without my business partner Joaquin, my fiancé, our awesome employees and my parents. Luckily, the business next door decided to leave and we were able to take over that space. Our contractor has been great. It was a big ordeal and I'm glad that it's here and thank you all for coming."

The event Thursday was led by the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rochelle. Chamber Executive Director Tricia Herrera and City Councilwoman Kate Shaw-Dickey made speeches along with Lascola.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

A grand reopening event and ribbon cutting were held for Rosati's at 1233 Caron Road in Rochelle, which recently completed an expansion. Owner Phil Lascola said the business that formerly occupied the space next door decided to close and leave, which allowed Rosati's to construct a new dining area.

Herrera said Rosati's isn't new to the chamber, but it plans to be more involved in the community in the future.

"With the expansion, we're so glad you took over this space that was

not seeing use next door," Herrera said. "You got to expand and we hear great things about your business and your pizza and all of the things you do within the community. We love that and we love to have

members that are very community-based and very involved. We thank you for choosing to expand here. We understand that you can take your business and expand to different communities and we're

always grateful when you do that here."

Shaw-Dickey welcomed Rosati's to its new expansion on behalf of the city.

See ROSATI'S pg 5

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Rochelle Community Hospital hosted a back to school kickoff event for youth in the community. The event included health booths, tips and demos, free backpacks to the first 150 attendees, free Kona Ice treats, representatives from Sinnissippi Centers and the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District, and giveaways and games.

RCH: Hospital holds annual Back to School event Thursday

From page 1

"We've tried to work with the schools on some other programs as well, so this is just another extension where we're able to invite the kids to come here and

learn a little bit about the hospital and just be exposed to it."

LaPage said RCH appreciates community organizations like the library and Sinnissippi Centers joining it, and some RCH depart-

ments joined in on the festivities as well Thursday.

"We just like to make sure that the kids are prepared for school," LaPage said. "I know quite a few things are being done in the community to help

with that, so we thought the backpacks would be nice and there are some school supplies and fun things here too from the different tents."

LaPage said community outreach events like

Thursday's are important to RCH's mission.

"We're the community hospital," LaPage said. "I think that says it all. It's just been really nice for our staff to be able to do this again and not have to worry about

wearing masks and things like that. It's been a long time. We were at National Night Out this week trying to support the community in that way, too. It's just nice to be able to be back doing that again."



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(COURTESY PHOTO)

Included among the 11 students, chosen from over 90 applicants, was Zalak Patel of Rochelle Township High School.

Patel earns Resource Bank Centennial Service Award

DEKALB – Now in its 22nd year, the Resource Bank, N.A. Centennial Service Award is a scholarship presented by Resource Bank to local area high school graduates who demonstrate a commitment to their communities through participation in volunteer and civic activities during high school. Resource Bank is pleased to have awarded each of these recipients \$1,000 towards their continued education. Included among the 11 students, chosen from over 90 applicants, was Zalak Patel of Rochelle Township High School.

Patel has spent hundreds of hours volunteering at the Hope Chest thrift store for the last four years,

which supports HOPE, a domestic violence agency. Being heavily involved with her school, she would tutor students in math during study hall and assist a foreign exchange student over the course of the school year with whatever they needed. Over the last four years, Zalak has also been volunteering at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library and the RTHS library as a library monitor, where she would check books in and out, deliver books, and answer students' questions. She also volunteered with "All About Me", a cancer program in Rochelle, that raises money to provide patients with "care bags" to assist during their treatment.

BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY

How families can start preparing for school now

AFTER a summer of relaxation, the start of a new school year generates mixed emotions among students. Many children look forward to being back on campus with their friends but may not revel in the idea of waking up early or doing homework each night.

While summer break is a much needed-respite from the rigors of school, it doesn't mean school should be forgotten entirely. In fact, doing some preparatory steps before a new school year begins can make the year go much more smoothly. Here's how students and parents can direct their focus during the final countdown.

According to Scholastic, summer slide is a concept that was first acknowledged by researchers in 1996. Many comprehensive studies have come out since then and indicated that kids lose significant knowledge in reading and math over summer break, which can have a cumulative effect and lead to skill loss each year. Some research says up to 20 percent of school year gains in reading and 27 percent in math are lost during summer break. Children should be encouraged to read as much as possible during summer break, particularly since many schools require summer reading and subsequent essays or book reports upon returning to the classroom. Let kids read what they want, whether it's comics, magazines, the newspaper, or



even books they've read before.

School may not be on the radar early in summer, but it's wise to purchase supplies early. Right before school starts there is a mad dash to grab notebooks, pens, clothing, and more, which can make for a stressful shopping experience for all involved. Shopping early helps families avoid

that outcome.

It can't hurt for students to do a few math problems over the summer. Practice keeps skills fresh and any mathematical formulas prominent in their minds. All it takes is one or two problems per day to stay on top of math skills.

Families can include museums, art exhibits, animal sanctuaries, li-

braries, science centers, and similar attractions in the list of places they visit over the summer. This way students can learn and be entertained simultaneously.

School-aged children (six to 13 years) need nine to 12 hours of sleep every night, according to KidsHealth.org. During the summer, late nights can easily be rectified

by sleeping in the next day. But when school resumes, the alarm clock will be ringing earlier than expected. Parents can gradually implement earlier bedtimes as summer winds down so that kids are getting the rest they will need.

Parents can begin to pay closer attention to emails and social media posts from schools as

they'll likely contain information about upcoming school calendars, bus routes (or transportation registration), changes in personnel, or any additional updates. This will help alleviate any surprises on the first day of school.

Families can take several steps to get ready for school as the first day draws near.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Carol June Friestad

ROCHELLE—Carol June Friestad, 93, was called home by her Lord and Savior Jesus Christ on Monday, Aug. 7, 2023, at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center in Franklin Grove. Carol was born on June 9, 1930, the second eldest of 10 children born to Wendell and Hiskea “Carrie” (Harms) Furman.

She attended Rochelle Township High School and graduated in 1948. Carol married the love of her life, Wayne Friestad, on July 2, 1950, who predeceased her on March 25, 2020. They were blessed with two sons, David and Jay.

Carol worked in the office of Caron Spinning Company from high school to the birth of her first son, David. After the birth of her second son, Jay, she worked as a seamstress for the Personality Shoppe for over 35 years. After the store closed in 1997, she continued doing alterations for many years, making close friends along the way.

Wayne and Carol loved to dance, play cards, and spent many enjoyable evenings doing both. Carol enjoyed attending all her sons’ sporting events,

school and church activities, as she watched them grow into fine young men.

Carol was a member of St. Paul Lutheran Church. She loved attending Sunday Service and Bible class. She was active in the St. Paul Women’s Guild and taught Kindergarten Sunday School for over 30 years.

In addition to her husband, Wayne, and her parents, Carol is preceded by her son, Jay on Nov. 16, 2019; brothers: Keith and Curtis Furman and sisters: Rita Meling, Doris Hardy and Joyce Gittleson.

Carol is survived by her son, David (Kate) Friestad of Rochelle; daughter-in-law, Debra Friestad of Allen, Texas; six grandchildren: Katie (Nate) Alonge of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, Ryan (Jessica Hueramo) Friestad of Buffalo Grove, Addison Friestad of Rochelle, Jay Michael Friestad of Addison, Texas, Melissa (Brandon) Porath of Katy, Texas and Brent Harrolle of Flower Mound, Texas; sister, Kay Clark of Mt. Morris; three brothers: Loren (Ruth) Furman of Rochelle, Wayne (Connie) Furman of Belleville and Wendell Furman of Rochelle and seven great



grandchildren: Brandon, Austin, Isaac and Julia Porath, Daniel Harrolle and Mia and Archer Alonge.

Carol’s family would like to thank Serenity Hospice and Home for all the wonderful care she received for the last six months. Visitation will be from 2 - 5 P.M., Sunday, Aug. 13, 2023 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 10 A.M., Monday, Aug. 14 at St. Paul Lutheran Church, 1415 10th Ave., Rochelle with Pastor Michael Wolff officiating.

Carol will be laid to rest following the funeral service at Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Carol’s memory to St. Paul Lutheran Church or Serenity Hospice and Home.

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

Two concerts coming to Mt. Morris Band Shell

MT. MORRIS — Brass From the Past “Rock & Soul Revue” A Tribute to the Legends of Rock & Soul make their long awaited return to perform a free concert from 7-9 p.m. on the Mt. Morris Band Shell on Aug. 11, opening night of Encore’s eighth annual Straw Sculpting Competition.

Brass From the Past will take our audience on a musical journey from late 60s into the early 80s... touching on a few 90s and 2000s to end the show. Featuring an unstoppable six-piece horn section, tight four-piece rhythm section, and four powerful singers who command the stage. This is no ordinary band! Brass from the Past plays the music of Stevie Wonder, Four Tops, Temptations, Michael Jackson, Chicago, Doobie Brothers, Prince, Aretha Franklin, James Brown, BS&T, Pattie LaBelle, Bruno Mars, Chaka Kahn, O’Jays, Tower of Power and more.

Concessions for the evening will be provided by the Mt. Morris Fire Department, serving walking tacos and Pepsi products. Berryview Orchard will have their famous Aronia Berry Lemonade Slushie’s, Grandpa’s and Just 4 Fun Ice Cream will be there as well, so will Mike’s Famous Lemonade stand, all starting at 6 p.m. Ewe and Me Acres will have a fresh produce stand with a variety of fruits, vegetables, baked

goods, jams, jellies and dog treats on the Campus too, from 4:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The campus will be extra festive that evening as the Eighth Annual National Straw Sculpting Competition begins, with new sculptures and many winners from the past on display all around the south end of the campus until the end of August. People’s choice voting begins that afternoon.

Please bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy the new benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Illinois Route 64 on Wesley Avenue and enjoy the free classic rock and soul concert. In the event of rain, the whole show moves to the old Mt. Morris High School, located at 105 W. Brayton Road at the same times.

Aug. 12

Local rockabilly band, Dirty Fishnet Stockings make their triumphant return to Mt. Morris for a free two-hour concert on Aug. 12 starting at 7 p.m.

DFS first started as a group that was to be a rockabilly Christmas band called “Ted & The Mistletones.” The idea exploded into something much bigger, wanting to take the band further than playing just the holidays. A setlist of ten was made, then twenty and so on, now they play over 50 songs every show

for you to swing to all night long! The band is made up of four gents that love and live the rockabilly lifestyle, including Lead Singer Ted O’Donnell, Harry Euhus on lead guitar and vocals, Rick Nolting on upright bass and vocals and Bill Englund on drums. DFS was proud to be inducted into the Rockford Area Music Industry’s Hall of Fame.

This high energy band brings a show of rousing favorites from the 50s, 60s and more. Always a good time, make sure you don’t miss this event!

Concessions for the evening will be provided by the Mt. Morris Moose Lodge, who will be serving chicken strips, french fries, cheese fries, onion rings, cheese curds and fried mushrooms, with pop and water to drink. Grandpa’s and/or Just 4 Fun ice cream trucks will be there as well as Bill’s Famous Lemonade stand, all starting at 6 p.m.

The campus will be extra festive that evening as the 8th Annual National Straw Sculpting Competition continues, with new sculptures and many others from past years on display all around the campus. Please bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy the new benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic Campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Illinois Route 64 on Wesley Avenue and enjoy the free Rockabilly concert.

Ogle County Sheriff’s Department

Deputies conduct stops

OREGON—On Aug. 6 at approximately 4:13 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of North Illinois Route 251. After brief investigation, deputies arrested Jose Torres, 55, of Rockford, for no valid driver’s license. Torres was issued an additional citation for operating an uninsured

motor vehicle. Torres was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and released on scene.

On Aug. 7 at approximately 6:45 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 700 block of North River Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Franklin Munoz-Tejeda, 24, of

Rockford, for no valid driver’s license. Munoz-Tejeda was issued an additional citation for suspended registration. Munoz-Tejeda was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he is held in lieu of bond.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

Jandak named to dean’s list at Washington University in St. Louis

ST LOUIS — Charlie Jandak of Rochelle was recently named to the dean’s list for the spring 2023

semester at Washington University in St. Louis. To qualify for the dean’s list in the McKelvey School of

Engineering, students must earn a GPA of 3.6 or above and be enrolled in at least 12 graded units.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers issue citations and arrests

ROCHELLE — On July 31 at 4:14 p.m. Bilal Al Khaneqeeni, 25, of Aurora was arrested for disorderly conduct.

He was released on an I-Bond with a Sept. 1 Ogle County court date. On Aug. 1 at 1:28 p.m. Rogelio Hueramo, 65, of

Rochelle was cited for failure to yield. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 2 at 4 p.m. Israel Contreras, 23, of Rochelle was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

On July 30 at 9:17 p.m. Hezekiah V. Jefferson, 22, of Rochelle was cited for no insurance and failure to yield. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 4 at 9:32 a.m. Damesis E. Carrillo Valdez, 22, of Rochelle was cited for speeding. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 5 at 1:08 a.m. a 17-year-old juvenile of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

On Aug. 5 at 2:34 p.m. Diego Garcia Salinas, 24, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 75 miles per hour in a 55-miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 5 at 2:55 p.m.

Catalina Reyes, 19, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 71 miles per hour in a 55-miles per hour zone. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 3 at 5:53 p.m. Dontre M. Robinson, 29, of Martinez, Georgia was cited for improper lane usage. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 6 at 1:51 p.m. Jordan Albright, 25, of Rochelle was arrested for failure to register and transferred.

On Aug. 6 at 5:04 p.m. Adrian Flores, 30, of Rochelle was arrested for retail theft. He was released on an I-Bond with a Sept. 8 Ogle County court date.

On Aug. 6 at 5:04 p.m. Ashley Wheeler, 26, of Rochelle was arrested for retail theft. She was released on an I-Bond with a Sept. 8 Ogle County court date.

On Aug. 7 at 10:27 p.m. a 17-year-old juvenile was cited for no insurance. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

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Rochelle Lions Pancakes in the Park is Aug. 19-20

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Lions will host Pancakes in the Park on Aug. 19 and 20 from 7:30-11 a.m. The cost is adults is \$8 and

the cost for kids over five is \$5. Kids five and under eat free. The breakfast will include all-you-can-eat pancakes and sausage.

LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The event Thursday was led by the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce and the City of Rochelle. Chamber Executive Director Tricia Herrera and City Councilwoman Kate Shaw-Dickey made speeches along with Lascola. Herrera said Rosati's isn't new to the chamber, but it plans to be more involved in the community in the future.

ROSATI'S: Ribbon cutting and reopening ceremony held Thursday

From page 1

"Thank you so much for reinvesting in our community," Shaw-Dickey said. "I think people always kind of laugh a little bit when we do ribbon cuttings for expansions

of businesses. But from the city's perspective, it's just as important as a new business. Because it means you're here and you're invested and our community is supporting it. Those are all good things. On behalf of the

city, welcome to your new expansion, and it looks amazing. Thank you so much for being here."

Lascola said he's enjoyed doing business in Rochelle and talked about the support he's seen from the community, including

during the COVID-19 pandemic that forced his doors to close.

"I love Rochelle," Lascola said. "I'm from a much bigger city, so I love the small-town feel, atmosphere and loyalty that everyone has. Even

the surrounding towns. When I took over at this location, two weeks later COVID-19 hit and the inside dining was shut down and it was the lovely loyalty from local Rochellians that kept us alive. Because we luckily still had pickup

and delivery options, and the loyalty of our regular customers was amazing. Otherwise, we might not have been able to make it through. Just like a lot of other companies, unfortunately. That's an amazing thing."

Justice Lannerd launches campaign for full term

QUINCY — Fourth District Appellate Court Justice Amy Lannerd has officially launched her campaign for a full term. Illinois Supreme Court Justice Lisa Holder White and her colleagues on the Supreme Court unanimously assigned Lannerd to the Illinois Appellate Court and she was sworn in on Dec. 5, 2022. She filled the vacancy created by the decision of Justice John W. Turner to not seek retention.

Lannerd has been a trial court judge since 2016 when the Illinois Supreme Court unanimously appointed her to the Eighth Judicial Circuit Court. She was elected to that position in 2018. Prior to her Appellate Court assignment, she was presiding over a felony docket in Adams County. Lannerd began her legal career in private practice nearly 22 years ago in Quincy.

She became a partner in the law firm of Lewis, Longlett & Lannerd, LLC. She also served as a family and divorce mediator and guardian ad litem.

She has been actively involved in legal education. She has been presenter at the 2020 and 2022 Educational Conference for judges. Over the years, Lannerd also taught various courses for continuing legal education for attorneys.

"This assignment to the appellate court has been the honor of a lifetime," Lannerd said. "Since my first day on the bench as a circuit judge, my goal has been to serve with integrity, fairness and a strong work ethic. I want to continue those values on the Illinois Appellate Court where I have sworn to faithfully uphold the Constitutions of the United States and the State of Illinois."

Supreme Court Justice

Lisa Holder White said, "Justice Lannerd is a bright, hardworking community-minded person who is highly respected by her colleagues and the legal community. She has extensive experience in the law and has handled a multitude of different types of cases since taking the bench in 2016. I have every confidence that she will use her experience, common-sense reasoning, and knowledge to faithfully follow the rule of law as written and not legislate from the bench."

The Fourth District Appellate Court is composed of 41 counties in Illinois: Adams, Boone, Brown, Calhoun, Carroll, Cass, Ford, Fulton, Greene, Hancock, Henderson, Henry, Jersey, Jo Daviess, Knox, Lee, Livingston, Logan, Macoupin, Marshall, Mason, McDonough, McLean, Menard, Mercer, Morgan, Ogle, Peoria, Pike, Putnam, Rock Island, Sangamon, Schuyler, Scott, Stark, Stephenson, Tazewell, Warren, Whiteside, Winnebago and Woodford.



Justice Amy Lannerd

O'Reilly Auto Parts to host car show Aug. 26

ROCHELLE — O'Reilly Auto Parts in Rochelle will host a car show on Saturday, Aug. 26 from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. All cars are welcome and

entry is free. There will be giveaways and prizes. El Senor De Los Tacos will be on site as a food vendor. Come out Aug. 26 for fun for all ages!

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Guebert Jr.: Drought poses challenges for farmers

THIS summer growing season has brought a whirlwind of challenges for Illinois farmers, from severe drought to a devastating derecho and flash flooding. When it comes to how farmers are faring under such conditions, my friend and colleague said it the best: “It depends on what cloud you’re under.” Every farmer’s situation is different. How drought affects profitability and yield depends on numerous variables, including crop variety and location, making it difficult to generalize how farmers will end up after this rollercoaster ride of weather patterns.

In a single county one farmer’s field of corn or soybeans might look

completely different from another’s 5 miles down the road.

Illinois closed July with some of the warmest temperatures so far this year with drought conditions spottily disrupted by pop-up thunderstorms across the state. While some areas were lucky enough to see rain, we’re not out of the woods yet. To quote the Illinois State Climatologist office, “drought is a complex physical and social phenomenon, usually with no clear beginning or end.”

At the end of the day, farmers want to produce a good crop. Drought and unpredictable weather are discouraging for farmers planning for a bountiful harvest, but we are still a long way from the bin.

We are hopeful for good, timely rains in the coming weeks.

While we wait for the upcoming harvest, now is a good time to remind consumers to take full advantage of their local farmers markets. Illinois ranks second in the nation for the number of farmers markets, which offer fresh, locally produced vegetables, meat and other food products at affordable prices.

Sweet corn, a summertime favorite, is now available so be sure to grab a few ears to grill on your next farmers market visit.

It’s hard to believe the dog days of summer are nearly over. I am eagerly

looking forward to another lively Illinois State Fair. Some of my favorite memories are the years I spent showing dairy cattle owned by family friends. Now as a spectator, I am energized watching the youth exhibitors take to the ring during the Master Showmanship competition, which Illinois Farm Bureau proudly sponsors.

Ag Day at the Illinois State Fair is an annual event celebrating all that Illinois agriculture has to offer. This year’s celebration will take place on Aug. 11 and is a great opportunity for Illinoisans to connect with agriculture at every level, whether it’s stop-

ping by the commodity pavilion for a pork chop sandwich or grabbing a refreshing cup of frozen apple cider and other fresh produce from the Illinois Specialty Growers tent.

Amid the excitement of fair activities, however, Ag Day is also an opportunity for farm leaders to work collaboratively on agricultural issues. Such conversations are increasingly important as lawmakers hammer out the details of the next Farm Bill, which extends beyond the farm by protecting our nation’s food supply, access to nutrition and advancing conservation efforts.

Later this August hundreds of farmers and agribusinesses from across the globe will travel to

Decatur for the 70th annual Farm Progress Show. This event will showcase the latest agricultural innovations and emerging technologies.

There is no better way to end a busy summer than celebrating Illinois agriculture, whether it is at the State Fair or Farm Progress Show. I encourage everyone to take a day or two to spend at the fair and learn more about how Illinois agriculture touches their everyday life.

Richard Guebert Jr. is the president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. This op-ed was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.



Richard Guebert Jr.

Finding candor, compassion and fun in politics

IT’S a curious sign of our times that one of the best places that I’ve found to witness candor, compassion, and fun in American politics is the Illinois State Archives’ website. I suspect it is not the first place that most people would go to feel good about politics.

The Archives celebrated Illinois’ bicentennial in 2018 with an online exhibit called, “The 100 Most Valuable Documents at the Illinois State Archives.” It was created to inform, stimulate and even provoke discussion about Illinois history and is still available on its website.

The documents are a wonderful blend of the profound and the prosaic, the uplifting and the disappointing. For example you can view Illinois’ 1818 Constitution, the first Black Law which in 1819 severely limited the rights

of African Americans in Illinois, one of the first maps for what became the Illinois & Michigan Canal, an 1840 House resolution announcing that William Ewing of Vandalia defeated Abraham Lincoln of Springfield to be Illinois House speaker, the Illinois Central Railroad’s 1851 charter, the Suffrage Act of 1913 which made Illinois the first state east of the Mississippi River to give women the right to vote for president, and a December 1941 resolution convening a special session of the General Assembly following the attack on Pearl Harbor.

This exhibit could — and I think should — be the basis of a terrific college or high school class on our state’s history. Two documents in particular caught my attention. Not because of their gravity and consequence, but because they remind us

that politics can be human and fun.

The first is a March 1858 letter from Abraham Lincoln to Illinois Governor William Bissell requesting that he pardon a man and his son who had been convicted of stealing six small hogs. The convicted man, Samuel Jones, was a widower with seven children.

It’s worth recalling that 1858 was a busy year in Lincoln’s life. He was building the Republican Party, delivered his “House Divided” speech, and later crisscrossed Illinois by train and coach for seven historic debates with his opponent for the U.S. Senate, Stephen Douglas. Though he had a lot on his mind, Lincoln took the time to write a brief letter that is a master class in candor,

concision, and compassion. He acknowledged that he did not know the man convicted nor had he reviewed the evidence from the trial. However, he observed that Samuel Jones’ neighbors “appear more anxious that he and his son should be pardoned, than I have known in any other case. This is really all I can say.” The note is a modest and gentle request for mercy and common sense. Governor Bissell pardoned the man and his son.

The second uplifting document is a 1949 veto statement by Governor Adlai Stevenson. The Illinois General Assembly had passed a bill, presumably playfully, requiring Illinoisans to keep their outdoor cats on leashes to prevent them from

killing birds. Stevenson decided to veto the bill but not without having some fun. “I cannot agree that it should be the declared public policy of Illinois that a cat visiting a neighbor’s yard or crossing the highway is a public nuisance. It is in the nature of cats to do a certain amount of unescorted roaming,” he wrote, no doubt with a smile on his face.

“The problem of cat versus bird is as old as time. If we attempt to resolve it by legislation who knows but what we may be called upon to take sides as well in the age-old problems of dog versus cat, bird versus bird, or even bird versus worm. In my opinion, the State of Illinois and its local governing bodies already have enough to do without trying to control feline delinquency. For these reasons, and not because I love birds the less or

cats the more, I veto and withhold my approval from Senate Bill No. 93.”

I cannot imagine there exists a more delightful veto message in Illinois history.

Lincoln’s letter and Stevenson’s veto message provide small examples of candor, compassion, and delight in public life. We need more of these qualities in person and now, not just online and from history.

John T. Shaw is the director of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute at Southern Illinois University in Carbondale. Shaw’s monthly column explores how Illinois can work toward better politics and smarter government. Editor’s Note: This op-ed was distributed by Capitol News Illinois on behalf of the Paul Simon Public Policy Institute. The opinions expressed in this article are the author’s own.



John T. Shaw

Letter: Golf outing a success thanks to many

DEAR editor,

On behalf of Sinnissippi Centers, I would like to thank all our sponsors, golfers, Sinnissippi staff and board members, the staff and management of

Deer Valley Golf Club and Deer Valley Banquets, and others who made the 31st Annual Sinnissippi Centers’ Golf Open a success!

It’s a long list of individuals and organizations

who played a part that we can’t list in its entirety here, and it shows how no one can ever achieve such success alone but can do much with the help of their community members.

While we can’t mention

them all, we would like to put the spotlight on a few of the organizations and individuals who played a part in the golf open: Ken Nelson Auto Group, Sauk Valley Bank, Boss Carpet one Floor & Home, CGH

Medical Center, Arthur J. Gallagher & Co., Genoa Healthcare, Pinney Printing, Larry & Ann Prindaville, Sauk Valley Community College and Jim Grot, and Sterling Federal Bank. Thanks to

everyone who came and helped us raise funds to support veteran services at Sinnissippi Centers.

Andrew Jackson,
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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.

LOCAL NEWS

PAVIA: New full-time police chief details goals for the future

From page 1

The department also recently started a community service officer program to help supplement its sworn officers.

Pavia said three new officers will be graduating from the police academy Aug. 11 and another will be departing for the academy on Aug. 24. Upon graduation, those officers will be trained by RPD's two field training officers, who have been busy lately training new hires. This fall, the department will send two more of its officers to become certified in field training.

"The city has been very supportive and the city manager has told us to do what we need to do to get the department going back where it needs to go," Pavia said. "That's what I've focused on since day one. Recruitment was huge. We were able to make a couple of lateral hires for future retirements and now we're ahead of it. It looks good. This time next year we will be solid. The officers have been fantastic this year. They've worked to fill vacation holes. We were running bare bones and so thin. But they all have stepped up and done a great job and helped each other out. I can't wait until this time next year

when everyone is putting in for their vacations and there won't be any issues. Morale is up. I don't think you'll find an officer here who hasn't felt that and loved the direction we've sent the department in."

Pavia called the work on hiring "very challenging" and said the pool of candidates was small. He recalls years ago when he was testing for officer positions and would see 100-200 applicants show up for a test. The recent hiring saw RPD "lucky to get 12" applicants testing. That has caused him to think about how to attract more candidates, including having better equipment and talking with current officers on what would attract new hires.

Streamlining various processes within the department has been another priority of Pavia's since he took over.

"I want everything streamlined," Pavia said. "I want the officers trained and developed. These young officers are the future of the department. I have to make sure that they're ready to take over when the time comes. Things were kind of all over the place. And everything that I've touched now, I want to streamline. So in the future when the



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

RPD Chief Pete Pavia said three new officers will be graduating from the police academy Aug. 11 and another will be departing for the academy on Aug. 24. Upon graduation, those officers will be trained by RPD's two field training officers, who have been busy lately training new hires.

next person comes in or when I tell someone to do something, there it is and it's clear on what we do here at RPD. That was the goal and that's the direction I've gone with everything."

As part of the recent SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform legislation,

RPD will be required to implement body cameras by Jan. 1, 2025. The city received a grant to pay for four body cameras and Pavia said the department is moving towards acquiring and implementing them for all officers in the near future.

RPD also recently took

delivery of a new fleet of police cars, which are being put into service when scheduling allows.

"There's new cameras in the cars as well," Pavia said. "It's just more of the technology stuff and getting the best bang for our buck. We have cameras in the cars, but there's newer


technology that hooks up to the body cameras, so maybe we need to go that route. It's just making sure that as we're making these big changes, we're only doing it once. If we have to take a little extra time to make sure we're doing it properly, that's what we'll do."



Legion donates to Girl Scout Troop 277

On July 17, Girl Scout Troop 277 received a donation check from the Rochelle American Legion Post 403. From left to right, Steve Korth (adjutant), Anna Blanton (Troop 277) holding the donation check, Taylor Popp (Troop 277) and Chuck Roberts (senior vice-commander)

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5-7 PM - JERRY CRISS BAND
8-10 PM - NEVERLY BROTHERS

SUNDAY, AUGUST 20, 2023

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4-6 PM - VODKA BOYS

CAR SHOW - SATURDAY 8AM-3PM

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SPORTS



GOLFERS CROWNED

The 11th Annual Fairways Club Championship was held Aug. 4-6.

See page 8 for more details

RTHS Football

Hubs kick off 2023 season

Rochelle opens season with road matchup against Woodstock on Aug. 25

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Head coach Kyle Kissack said relentless effort will remain an integral part of the Rochelle Hub varsity football team’s identity for the 2023 season. Having clinched IHSA playoff berths with winning records over each of the last two seasons, the Hubs are well positioned to make another postseason trip with a core group of returning juniors and seniors this season.

Rochelle held its first official practice of the season Monday morning. The Hubs are looking to build on a successful 2022 season in which the team finished 9-3 while taking second in the Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue Division and reaching the quarterfinal round of the IHSA playoffs. Senior lineman Landon Mickley and linebacker Brock Metzger are among the several varsity starters from last season who are back in the fold.

“We had a great summer, but we talked with our kids about having a great season as well,” Kissack said.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Jack Pavlak (left) and senior Landon Mickley (right) are two key returners for the Rochelle Hub varsity football team, which held its first practice of the 2023 season Monday morning.

See HUBS page 4

RTHS Girls Tennis

Loggins takes the helm for Lady Hub netters

Zheng, Doyle highlight Rochelle’s returning varsity players for 2023 season

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Former Rochelle Township High School tennis standout John Michael Loggins held his first practice as interim head coach of the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team on Monday. Loggins, who has served as a volunteer assistant coach in recent years, takes over from head coach Lizzie Cartwright, who steps away from the program for a one-year absence.

The Lady Hubs are looking to fill several varsity roles vacated by a large senior class that included six starters. Junior Riley Doyle and senior Elin Zheng are two notable returning varsity players for the Lady Hubs, who will open the 2023 season with a road match against Harlem on Monday, Aug. 21 and a home match against Rockford Lutheran on Tuesday, Aug. 22.

“Our girls had a great attitude today and that’s all you can ask for as a coach,” Loggins said. “We had a lot of new girls come out today and we’re going to learn a lot. We created a document of progressions to share with our girls so they can see themselves grow as tennis players this

season. We want our girls to keep getting better, no matter what their records is.”

Rochelle finished with a 5-10 record last season, but the Lady Hubs went winless in the Interstate 8 Conference, going 0-5 over five tries. Rochelle will open its conference schedule this season with a home match against Kane land on Tuesday, Aug. 29. Among the program’s returning players are seniors Allie Dickey, Annaleigh McKinney and junior Kitty Williams.

“Elin has been our strongest player and I’m looking forward to seeing what she can do in singles,” Loggins said. “I’m looking for Allie and Riley to take on a leadership role for us this year and I’m excited to see what they can do. Kitty and Annaleigh are two more players who can step up for us this year and I’m excited to see what happens over our next few weeks of practice.”

The Lady Hubs welcomed several new upperclassmen including senior Macenzie Glosser along with juniors Abby Metzger, Kendyl Darby and Erin Murphy. Rochelle will look to improve on its sixth-place finish in the Interstate 8 and its fifth-place showing in the IHSA 1A



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Elin Zheng (left) and junior Riley Doyle (right) are both back in action for the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team this season. Rochelle will face Harlem on Monday, Aug. 21 for its first match of the season.

Sectional.

“We really stressed that it’s not about where we start the season, it’s where we finish,” Loggins said. “I

want the girls to see their growth and I’m hoping that growth will transfer over into their matches. I’m excited to watch our

girls compete at our bigger tournaments and to see how they carry themselves. It’s exciting to watch the parents come to our meets

and I’m looking forward to making some of those connections this year. We want to see our team grow as a family.”



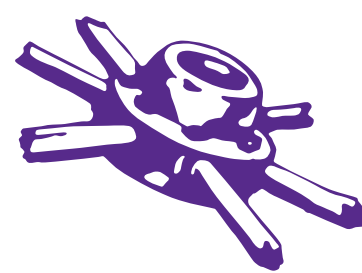
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HUB SPOTLIGHT



Owen

Carmichael

Year: Freshman

Sport: Golf

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

A: Seven years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: The time it takes to play a round.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Math because I want to be an engineer.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: Jon Rahm because of his swing.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be an engineer or a golfer.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Top of the Rock in Branson, Missouri.

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

A: Having great teammates.

Alex

Dyer

Year: Freshman

Sport: Golf



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

A: Two years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Competing against friends and the dedication it takes.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: History because I like learning about the past.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Rory McIlroy because he always works hard and tries to get better at his craft everyday.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My dad because he always tries his hardest each day, he supports his family and he never gets down on himself.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a sports coach because I want to teach kids to get better at the sport.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Hawaii because the beaches look cool.

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

A: Doing well in school and sports.

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SPORTS

RTHS Volleyball

(PHOTOS BY MARCY DELILLE)



Rochelle Township High School volleyball program holds sand volleyball fundraiser at Flight Deck

The Rochelle Township High School volleyball program held its annual summer fundraiser at Flight Deck Bar & Grill on Saturday, Aug. 5. Current and former RTHS student-athletes took to the sand volleyball courts for a day of competition and fun, with proceeds from the event benefiting the RTHS volleyball program. The Lady Hubs held their first practice of the 2023 season on Monday and will begin the season with a road match against Dixon on Thursday, Aug. 24.

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SPORTS



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior safety/running back Grant Gensler returns after earning All-Conference honors in the Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue Division last season.

HUBS: Rochelle football team returns for start of fall practices

From page 1

"We have some returning seniors in Landon and Brock who are in their third varsity seasons. Anytime we have kids like that coming back, we expect a lot from them in terms of how they handle themselves in the locker room and on the field. We're looking forward to seeing how those kids step into those leadership roles and how they perform on Friday nights."

The Hubs are also returning a stout junior class that features multiple All-Conference honorees from last season including two-way standouts Grant Gensler, Erich Metzger and Kaiden Morris. Junior Carson Lewis appears primed to step into the quarterback role for the Rochelle offense, while junior Elijah Harley could

be a breakout candidate for the varsity team this season.

"We have a number of juniors who were starters as sophomores," Kissack said. "Grant will take more reps on the offensive side of the ball this season and Erich will be back at full-back and inside linebacker. Elijah didn't get a lot of playing time last season, but he had a great summer and he can do a lot of different things because of his athleticism. Carson had the luxury of being thrown into the fire last year during the preparation process in getting the 2022 season off the ground. He's really acclimated nicely to the attention to detail necessary to play quarterback."

The Hub offense rolled through opponents last season, averaging 36.1 points per game on well over 300 rushing yards

per game. But with several starters back this season, Rochelle could see a substantial improvement on defense, where the Hubs return multiple upperclassmen at all three levels. Rochelle totaled 11 interceptions and five forced fumbles during the 2022 season.

"It ultimately comes down to what we do well and that's being physical up front offensively and putting our kids in a number of different sets to get our kids the ball," Kissack said. "The tradition remains the same at Rochelle that we're going to be relentless and put as many hats on the football as possible. I think we have some expectations, but we do our best as a staff to communicate to our kids that we need to stay humble, ignore the noise and protect the team."

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ASHTON NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Dr. Mark D. Griffith was promoted to brigadier general, U.S. VSHOC on Saturday, June 24. Dr. Griffith graduated from Ashton High School in 1973 and Illinois Wesleyan University 1977. He then attended the University of Illinois College of Medicine, graduating in 1981 and completed residency training in rehabilitation medicine.

Ashton native Griffith promoted to brigadier general

LAFAYETTE, Ind. — Dr. Mark D. Griffith was promoted to brigadier general, U.S. VSHOC on Saturday, June 24.

Dr. Griffith graduated from Ashton High School in 1973 and Illinois Wesleyan University 1977. He then attended the University of Illinois College of Medicine, graduating in 1981 and completed residency training in rehabilitation medicine. He joined the US Navy Reserve in 1983 and

was discharged in 1989 with rank of Lt. commander, medical corps. In 2008 he joined the Indiana National Guard Reserve and advanced to colonel. He was commander of the 19th Medical Regiment for four

years then transitioned to the General Staff as division surgeon. He retired in 2022 to take the position of national medical commander, U.S. VSHOC, a disaster relief veteran organization working with

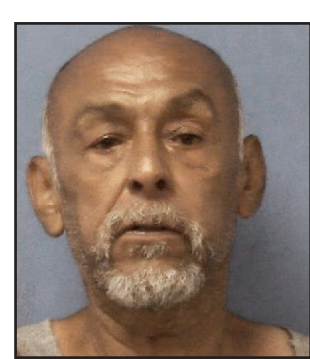
Homeland Security and FEEMA. Dr. Griffith is medical director of Advanced Wound Healing Center in Lafayette, Indiana. He was more recently national community chair for wound

medicine for his parent specialty board, the American Academy of Physical Medicine & Rehabilitation. He currently lives in Lafayette Indiana with his wife Ann. He is the son of Frances Griffith of Ashton.

Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrest man for fifth DUI

DIXON — On Saturday, Aug. 5, Lee County Sheriff's deputies arrested 63-year-old Martin Marin of Chicago, after conducting a traffic stop for traffic violations. At the time of the traffic stop, it was found that Marin had an active arrest warrant in Lee County for failure to appear for a driving while license revoked charge, said charge being a class four felony.

the influence of alcohol, a class two felony; driving while license revoked (subsequent offense), a class four felony; driving under the influence of alcohol, a class A misdemeanor; driving while license revoked, a class A misdemeanor; illegal transportation of alcohol as a driver; improper turn signal; and improper traffic lane usage.



Martin Marin

Marin was taken to the Lee County Jail, processed, and awaited a bond hearing. It was further learned that this is Marin's fifth arrest for driving under the influence and seventh arrest for driving while license is suspended or revoked. Citizens are reminded to

call the Lee County Sheriff's Office at (815) 284-6631 or Crime Stoppers at 1-888-Caught-U. Callers can remain anonymous and receive rewards of up to \$1,000 if their information leads to an arrest. All charges are merely an allegation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Freezer meal fundraiser orders due on Sept. 17

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation is hosting its semiannual freezer meal fundraiser on Oct. 5 from 1-4:30 p.m. at the Lee County Farm Bureau, 337 S. East Ave., Amboy. Members of the community are invited to purchase a set of 10 prepared and frozen meals for \$190.

Allow us to help your family with meal preparation. It's as easy as it sounds — stop by the Lee County Farm Bureau office and pick up 10 delicious meals that have been prepared and frozen for your convenience. All you will need to do is thaw and cook them! Each meal will serve 3-5 people. Proceeds

go to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation to fund agriculture education efforts for the youth of Lee County.

Registration and payment are due to the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation by Sept. 17. To register, visit www.lcfbfoundation.org or contact us at 815-857-3531.

Davis Junction man arrested for felony counts of child pornography

DAVIS JUNCTION — On Aug. 2, Stephenson County Sheriff's Office investigators, assisted by personnel from the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, arrested Daniel Sheets, 37, of Dakota, without incident at a residence in the 100 block of S. Elm St. in Davis Junction. The apprehension of Daniel Sheets was for a Stephenson County felony arrest warrant that was issued on Aug. 2 for three counts of child pornography and two counts of unauthorized videotaping; all of which are alleged to have occurred in October of 2021. Sheets is currently being held at the Ogle County Jail until he is transferred to Stephenson County.



Daniel Sheets

The investigation which resulted in the arrest of Daniel Sheets was initiated on July 11, 2023, when a report was filed by an official with the Dakota School District (#201) regarding a teacher/athletic coach who was believed to have engaged in inappropriate communications with multiple female students. After the police report was filed, Daniel Sheets, a teacher/athletic coach with the Dakota School District, was placed on administrative leave.

At this time, we believe that there may be additional current or former Dakota School District students who have yet to be interviewed who may have information pertinent to this investigation. We would ask that any

current or former Dakota School District students who would like to speak with someone from our Investigations Division to please call 815-235-8252.

The Stephenson County Sheriff's Office would like to thank the Ogle County Sheriff's Office for their assistance with the Aug. 2 apprehension.

On Aug. 3, Sheets, 37, of Dakota, was served with a felony arrest warrant for nine counts of child pornography, which are alleged to have occurred in December of 2021. These charges are the result of a Stephenson County Sheriff's Office investigation

that has been ongoing since July 11th, 2023. At the time of the warrant service, Sheets was already in-custody at the Stephenson County Jail on felony charges that were filed on Aug. 2nd. Sheets remains in the custody of the Stephenson County Jail in lieu of bond, and the investigation which has resulted in the issuance of two felony warrants remains active.

The public is reminded that the defendant is presumed innocent and is entitled to a fair trial, at which the government has the burden of proving guilt beyond a reasonable doubt.

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

The City of Rochelle Illinois will receive sealed bids for a project entitled Rochelle Municipal Utilities Building Improvements Project until 3:00 o'clock P.M. local time on the 30th day of August 2023, at the Rochelle City Hall located at 420 North 6th Street, Rochelle, Illinois 61068. Immediately following said time all bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at the same address. The proposed work for which the City of Rochelle is soliciting bids consists of, but is not limited to, the following: the demolition of existing interior construction, the construction of a new 1,635 SF mezzanine, the new buildout/renovation of 3,080 SF of interior space and other associated work. The Bid and Contract Documents, including Drawings, Specifications, Project Requirements and form of contract, are on file at the office of the Project Engineer, Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc., 809 East 2nd Street, Dixon, Illinois 61021 and at the Rochelle City Hall, 420 North 6th Street, Rochelle, Illinois 61068. Bid and Contract Documents may be obtained after August 9, 2023. Copies of the Bidding Documents shall be obtained electronically in PDF format from the Willett, Hofmann & Associates, Inc. website at www.WillettHofmann.com. Bidders shall click on "Bid Login" on the homepage of the website and follow instructions. The eBid-Doc# (project number) is 8623822 for this project. Contract Documents can be downloaded in PDF format from the website by depositing Twenty-Two Dollars (\$22.00) by credit card. A bid security in an amount equal to not less than five percent (5%) of the total base bid shall be submitted with each bid. Bids may be held by the City of Rochelle for a period not to exceed sixty (60) days from the date of the opening of bids for the purpose of reviewing the bids and investigating the qualifications of bidders, prior to awarding the Contract. A Non-Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference has been set for August 16, 2023 at 3:00 PM at the Project Site located at 1030 South 7th Street, Rochelle, Illinois 61068. Attention is called to the fact that not less than the minimum salaries and wages as set forth in the Contract Documents must be paid on this project, and all Contractors must insure employees and applicants for employment are not discriminated against because of their race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The City of Rochelle, Illinois is an equal opportunity employer and does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. The City of Rochelle, Illinois reserves the right to reject any or all bids or to waive any informalities in the bidding and also reserves the right to reject any non-responsive bid and/or non-responsive bid. BY ORDER OF THE CITY OF ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS
Date: August 9, 2023
No. 0808
(Aug. 9, 2023)

NOTICE

NOTICE OF FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT & NOTICE OF INTENT TO REQUEST A RELEASE OF FUNDS AUGUST 9, 2023
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CHICAGO, ILLINOIS 60601
(312) 836-5398
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On or about August 25, 2023, the above-named Illinois Housing Development Authority (the Authority) will authorize the Springfield Housing Authority to submit a request to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Office of Public Housing, for the release of Federal funds under the Project Based Voucher (PBV) Program under CFR 983.58 for the following project:
Project Name/I.D. Willis Senior Lofts PID 12110
Project Location: 400, 410 & 420 Willis Ave., Rochelle, IL 61068
Propose: The proposed project involves the acquisition and new construction of a 69-unit independent senior housing development in the City of Rochelle. The proposed development will include a mix of one- and two-bedroom units contained within a four-story elevator building. The building will various amenities and services that will keep residents independent and active, including a fitness room, and community room for resident events. Ogle County Housing Authority will be providing 15 Project Based Vouchers (PBVs) to the new development. The 15 PBVs will consist of two-bedroom units. Three (3) of the subsidized two-bedroom units will be designated for Statewide Referral Network (SRN) referrals and the remaining twelve (12) units will be undesignated. The proposed new construction will be Type VA with a concrete foundation, slab on grade, wood framing, with a combination of masonry, vinyl/fiber cement siding, fiber cement panels, and a flat roof. The exterior work will include landscaping, playground with playground equipment, and parking including accessible parking stalls. The proposed development will include designated areas for garbage collection. The proposed interior work will include painted drywall finishes in most areas, with carpet and vinyl floors. Units will have premanufactured cabinets, laminate tops, wood and composite doors, residential hardware in the units and commercial in the common areas. All units will feature Energy Star appliances, energy efficient lighting, and HVAC equipment and water conservation type plumbing fixtures.
Total Estimated Cost: The estimated total project cost is \$21,207,934. In addition to the \$3,063,000

in PBV rental subsidy, the proposed project will be funded with an IHDA Trust Fund Loan, CAHGP Chase Bridge Loan, and LIHTC Mitigation Measures and Conditions: The average radon level for the zip code is 4.1 pCi/L. The action level is 4.0 pCi/L. Therefore, a passive radon system will need to be installed. System must be tested prior to occupancy. If the results come back in at or above 4.0 pCi/L an active system will need to be installed. Please provide in architectural plans and drawings.
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
The Authority has determined that the above project will have no significant impact on the human environment. Therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) is not required. Additional project information is contained in the Environmental Review Record (ERR) on file at IHDA Multifamily Financing Department, 111 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 1000, Chicago, IL 60601. The ERR will be made available to the public for review either electronically or by U.S. Mail. Please submit your request by U.S. Mail to Amy Coyne IHDA, Multifamily Financing Department, 111 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 1000, Chicago, IL 60601 or by email to acoyne@ihda.org.
PUBLIC COMMENTS
Any individual, group, or agency may submit written comments on the ERR to the Authority's Multifamily Financing Department, 111 E. Wacker Dr., Suite 1000, Chicago, IL 60601. Comments may also be sent via email to acoyne@ihda.org. All comments received by August 24, 2023 will be considered by the Authority prior to authorizing submission of a request for release of funds.
ENVIRONMENTAL CERTIFICATION
The Authority certifies to HUD that the Authority and Ms. Kristin Faust, in her official capacity as Certifying Officer consents to accept the jurisdiction of the Federal courts if action is brought to enforce responsibilities in relation to the environmental review process and that these responsibilities have been satisfied. HUD's approval of the certification satisfies its responsibilities under the NEPA [National Environmental Policy Act of 1969] and related laws and authorities and allows the Illinois Housing Development Authority to use Program funds.
OBJECTION TO RELEASE OF FUNDS
HUD will accept objections to its release of fund and the Authority's certification for a period of fifteen days following the anticipated submission date or its actual receipt of the request (whichever is later) only if they are on one of the following bases: (a) the certification was not executed by the Certifying Officer of the Authority; or (b) the Authority has omitted a step or failed to make a decision or finding required by HUD regulations at 24 CFR Part 58; (c) the grant recipient or other participants in the development process have committed funds, incurred costs or undertaken activities not authorized by 24 CFR Part 58 before approval of a release of funds by HUD or (d) another Federal agency acting pursuant to 40 CFR Part 1504 has

submitted a written finding that the project is unsatisfactory from the standpoint of environmental quality. Objections must be prepared and submitted in accordance with the required procedures (24 CFR Part 58, Sec. 58.76) and shall be addressed to William O. Dawson III, Director, Illinois State Office of Public Housing, Region V, 77 West Jackson Boulevard, Suite 2414, Chicago, Illinois 60604 at William.O.DawsonIII@hud.gov. Objections to the release of funds on bases other than those stated above will not be considered by HUD. No objection received after September 11, 2023 will be considered by HUD. Potential objectors should contact HUD via email to verify the actual last day of the objection period. Ms. Kristin Faust, Executive Director
No. 0810
(Aug. 9, 2023)

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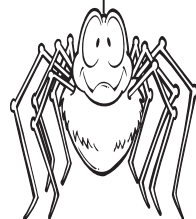
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SPORTS

NIU Football

Summer changes provide jump start to preseason camp Huskie football program holds second split squad workout Thursday morning

DEKALB – The second day of the Northern Illinois University football team's preseason camp followed a similar script to day one as the Huskies split the squad into two segments again on Thursday morning at Huskie Stadium. The veteran group was on the field first, followed by the developmental players, with a 30-minute overlap dedicated to special teams.

To the casual observer, the first two days of practice appeared similar to the way previous camps have started. However, according to NIU head coach Thomas Hammock, NCAA rule changes that allowed coaches to work with players using a foot-

ball during the summer have put the Huskies ahead of schedule already.

"They changed the rules where you can have an opportunity to work with the young men in the summer with a football and we took full advantage of that," Hammock said. "We took a lot of time working on techniques, on fundamentals and how to be an expert at your position throughout the summer, which allowed us to be ahead of the game. We saw guys make tremendous jumps in the summer, from a football standpoint, from a football IQ, from a technique and fundamental standpoint that allows them to be in better position to make

plays."

On the first and second day of practice, the Huskies were able to run plays in 11-on-11 situations and make accurate calls on defense – both during the veteran and young guy sessions – while in shorts and helmets.

"We've come out here the first two days and there are not really many errors because guys have been through it," Hammock said. "The only way to get good at football is by playing it, so we wanted to put a program in place in the summer to allow guys to continue to develop with the understanding that when we get to August, you will be a lot further ahead. I can see that they

understand it, they understand what we're trying to get accomplished. Now it's about doing it against other people."

With the team putting on shoulder pads and practicing together for the first time on Wednesday, Hammock was pleased with the split squad approach and mentioned that there will be periods over the next several practices when the developmental group will have opportunities.

"We wanted to get guys valuable reps and I think we accomplished that [in the first two days]," Hammock said. "It's hard when you're not getting a lot of reps in practice. When you bring players into your program, you



want to give them an opportunity to put plays on tape so that they can be evaluated and get better. I think that's important

for the long term of our program. Over the course of a long season, you don't know who you're going to need."

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SPORTS

Fairways Golf Course

(PHOTOS BY JEFF LEON OF SUPERHITS 93.5)



11th Annual Fairways Club Championship held Aug. 4-6

Fairways Golf Course held the 11th Annual Club Championships from Aug. 4-6. Jon Woeppel (above left) won the Championship Flight with a 7-over-par 205, shooting 18-hole rounds of 70, 69 and 66. Tony Turner (above middle) won the A Flight with a 228 and Ray Kannheiser (above right) won the Senior Flight with a 151 over 36 holes. Joanna Sharp (below left) won the Women's Flight with a 177 over 36 holes and Bob Johns (below middle) won the Super Senior Flight with a 156 over 36 holes.

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