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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

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KNOW IT

Little Miss Peanut

held Friday night

The annual Little Miss

during the Lincoln

Page 3

WEATHER

Peanut contest was held

Highway festival Friday.

THURSDAY

HIGH LOW

100 76

SATURDAY **HIGH LOW**

Today's RNL issue

Chiropractic

Clinic

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OBITUARIES

BARNES

INSERTS

INSIDE

FARM & FLEET

KENNETH WAYNE

TODAY

KISHWAUKEE College

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23, 2023

Splash pad open through Sept. 5
Update provided on membership numbers

BY JEFF HELFRICH

News-I

MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEW

MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At the monthly meeting of the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners on Monday. Park District Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger said the splash pad at Spring Lake will be open through Sept. 5 and high use is expected this week with high temperatures. The splash pad is free to the community 7 a.m. to 9 p.m. daily.

Spring Lake Pool recently closed for the season and final numbers will be seen next month. Park District Superintendent of Recreation Andrew Murray said the season was "very successful" with daily dropin swimmers, members, community swims and private rentals.

Membership

Ohlinger said during her director comments portion of the meeting that fitness center membership numbers for the month of February were 288. August fitness center numbers currently are over 350.

"There probably aren't a lot of fitness centers that have summer numbers that



At the monthly meeting of the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners on Monday, Park District Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger said the splash pad at Spring Lake will be open through Sept. 5.

surpass winter," Ohlinger said. "And I think that just shows our continued growth here at the REC Center."

The REC also has about 338 members that have their membership covered by their insurance providers. The REC Center is a certified location for many insurance plans that coverfitness memberships. People can contact their insurance representative to find out if they're eligible.

The park district currently has 141 ENGAGE program members. EN-GAGE is the park district's financial assistance program that's available to anyone who qualifies. Those eligible can get a membership or recreational dollars throughout park dis-

trict programs and facilities. Closure

Ohlinger discussed The REC's recent planned yearly closure for preventative maintenance.

"That's an essential closure for us to complete a multitude of projects so we can reduce risk and unforeseen closures," Ohlinger said.

Projects during the closure included work on the pools, a deep clean of the entire building, painting, carpet cleaning, turf repair, floor work and computer technology upgrades.

See PARK page 5



District gives improvement plan Monday

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE—At its monthly meeting Monday, the Rochelle Township High School District Board of Education heard a presentation by Principal Chris Lewis and Assistant Principal Alison Vrana on the district/school improvement plan for 2023-2024.

Student profile and attendance are the district's main two goals in the SIP, Lewis said. The student profile is a tool the district uses for students to map out their goals for after high school throughout their four years. The district would like to increase the numbers of students that are considered college

and career ready. Attendance is the other facet of the SIP.

See RTHS page 3

Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival held 'It's heartwarming to know that the community can come together...'

BY JEFF HELFRICH

MANAGING EDITOR

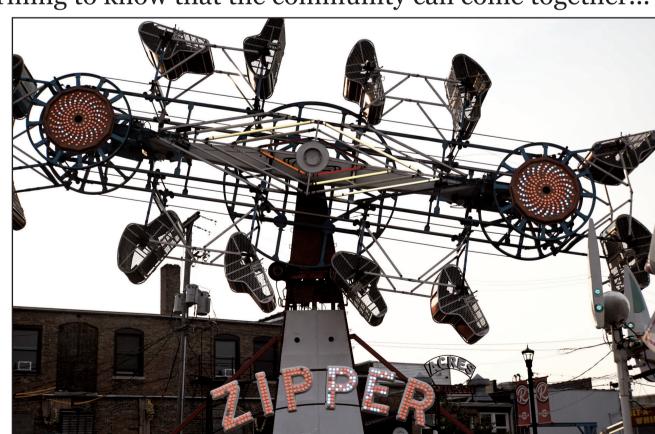
ROCHELLE — Over the weekend, the 26th Annual Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival was held in downtown Rochelle.

The festival's theme this year was "Hometown Spirit". The LHHF included a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event. There was also a 50/50 raffle, a vendor basket raffle, craft, vendor, and business booths, a food court and various local talents performing each day.

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

On Saturday, Aug. 19, the Hub City Cruisers Car and Motorcycle Show took place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m., with the raising of the flag at noon. There was a pancake breakfast and then a free kid's zone from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show ran from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. Lynx was on stage from noon to 1 p.m. and Blue Steam played from 2-4 p.m. The Moose's Haunted Maze was open from 4-9 p.m. Jerry Criss Band played from 5-7 p.m.

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Over the weekend, the 26th Annual Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival was held in downtown Rochelle. The festival's theme this year was "Hometown Spirit". The LHHF included a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event.

and the night was closed out by Neverly Brothers from 8-10 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 20, started with a pancake breakfast and church service. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show ran from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The parade took place at 1 p.m. Neal Woolbright Music with John Brown was on stage from 1-3 p.m. There was an old-fashioned ice cream social at the gazebo. The Moose's Haunted Maze was again

open from 2-5 p.m. The Vodka Boys closed out the night on stage.

"It is a lot to bring together,"LHHF Board President Lisa Schwarz said. "We just have a group of dedicated volunteers that no matter

what, we get it done. It's very enjoyable for us to be able to offer something for the community and bring everyone together in a nice way instead of a bad way."

See LHHF page 2

ENDS



Local News.....2, 3, 5, 8

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In a week and a half, the LHHF committee will begin planning for 2024. The festival is bolstered each year by sponsorships and donations from local businesses and organizations. If anyone wants to volunteer in the future or get involved, they can reach out at facebook.com/lincolnhighwayheritagefestival or LHHFest.com.

LHHF: 26th annual festival held in Rochelle over the weekend

From page 1

"We have the kid's zone on Saturday, which is all free. It doesn't always cost money to do something fun. What I enjoy most is seeing the happy people."

Schwarz said the LHHF organization only has about nine volunteers that work to put on the festival. The group meets every month of the year, and meets weekly as the festival approaches.
"With so few volun-

teers, it just spreads us even thinner because it's a lot of work," Schwarz said. "Alot of people don't realize how much work it is until they get to be a part of it. It's heartwarming to know that the community can come together when it's needed. That's always good to see and hear about things that we do."

If anyone wants to volunteer in the future or get involved, they can reach out at facebook.com/ lincolnhighwayheritagefestival or LHHFest.com. "It really is enjoyable to volunteer here," Schwarz said. "It's a lot of work. Honestly we can't wait for the festival weekend to be over, but it's just because we put in so much hard work throughout the year and then we just say, 'Yes. It went well and we did at least a little bit better than last year.' And we just try

to keep improving it every year."

In a week and a half, the LHHF committee will begin planning for 2024. The festival is bolstered each year by sponsorships and donations from local businesses and organizations

"We get a lot of businesses that not only do

a monetary donation or sponsorship, but also donate gift bags and baskets and gift certificates that we can raffle off during our 50/50," Schwarz said. "It's really nice. Even with the economy the way it is, we still have businesses that give something. And that's nice for a small community."





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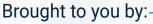


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News-Leader

2023 Little Miss Peanut Contest held at LHHF Friday night

MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The 2023 Little Miss Peanut Contest was held Friday night at Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival.

The event was sponsored by Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K. It was hosted by Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera and Debbie Katzman. Judges included Mayor John Bearrows, Lanet Erickson and Don Romes.

Contestants in the event included Layla Jensky (Jasmil & Richard Bowman), Addison Kuehl (Rob & Carinne Kuehl, Deandra Granna), Eleanor Kulwicki (Sarah & Josh Kulwicki), Olivia

K. Parisi (Nicole & Dalton Pyne, Jordan Hefel), Lily Schroll (Jen Schroll, Jimmy Hurst), Clara Simo (Heather & Andy Simo) and Lucy Spartz (Cristel Pullin-Spartz & Tony Spartz).

Simo was crowned 2023 Little Miss Peanut at the close of the event. The runner up was Parisi.

"There are a lot of things I love about my job at the chamber of commerce," Herrera said. "Doing this is easily top three. We want to thank these girls and their parents. It's a lot to get up in front of a crowd of people. It's not easy to do, especially at 6-8 years old."

Little Miss Peanut sponsors included



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The 2023 Little Miss Peanut Contest was held Friday night at Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival. The event was sponsored by Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K.

Quinn's Jewelry, Colonial Flowers, First State Bank, Central Bank, Holcomb Bank, Stillman Bank, Rosati's, Country School and Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K. Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K raises money

in the community for a number of local organizations.

(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

RTHS: High school board approves personnel changes

From page 1

Lewis said that since the COVID-19 pandemic, RTHS student attendance has been "hit drastically."

"It's gotten a lot better,

but we're still not really back to where we should have been to pre-pandemic numbers,"Lewis said. "We want to get to 92.9 percent attendance. Last year we were at 90 percent. Our high year mark pre pandemic was 95.8 percent."

The district wants to get its chronic truancy rate to 19 percent. Last year, it was 24 percent. Chronic truancy is defined as a student who misses 10 percent (18 days) or more of school days within an academic year for any reason.

RTHS students with 95-percent-or-higher attendance have an average grade point average of 3.0. Students with 90-94-percent attendance have an average GPA of 2.7. Students with 60-89-percent attendance have an average of a 2.18 GPA. Better attendance is correlated with nigher SAI scores as well.

"The point here is that student attendance impacts everything," Lewis said.

"It impacts on-track readiness, assessment scores, academic behaviors, SAT scores and student profile. We want to really have a targeted approach to the group in need. That's going to be a strong focus this year, how do we get these chronically-truant students at school more?"

Vrana said the approaches to the goal will include sit-down meetings with chronically-truant students and letters to families at the beginning of the semester and after five absences.

Communication

District Superintendent Jason Harper provided an update to the board on parent and community communication efforts as the district looks to improve its systems on that front. Harper said the district

has entered into an agreement with a company called Apptegy, which will provide both RTHS and the elementary district an updated website, an app, and software. The "fully-integrated" system will provide a unified message on all platforms, Harper be able to contact families directly with its text and email system.

The district will be working to drive families in the district to download the app in coming weeks. Harper said Apptegy is widely used by other school districts.

"We're trying to do a better job of creating multiple avenues to share the same message," Harper said. "So that people or multiple people aren't sharing across different avenues. We hope in a week or a couple of weeks to have a big drive in communication with our parents and community to get this app downloaded or to use our communication services as such."

Personnel

The board unanimously approved personnel changes including the resignations of Carly Watson (paraprofessional) and Katie Roush (assistant girls basketball coach), the employment of Steven Cohrs (long-term/ full-time substitute), Staci Harvey (counseling center secretary/career coordinator), Marina Lawrence

Cathy Belmonte (substitute bus aide), Abby Wagner (volunteer assistant cross country coach) and Matt Rosenwinkel (assistant boys basketball coach) and the transfers of Scott Stevens (paraprofessional at Focus House to special education teacher at Focus House) and Elizabeth Nazario (counseling center

secretary to paraprofes-

(paraprofessional), Dawn

Winters (library aide),

date from District Business Manager Kevin Dale on its budget. The board will hold a budget hearing at



Shining Star partners with Shell for Giving Pump program

DIXON — Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center is proud to partner with Johnson Oil for the Shell USA (Shell) "The Giving Pump" as part of its Force For Good initiative to drive positive change in local communities by giving back. Running through Sept. 30, a portion of the purchases made by consumers who use the designated pump at Shell stations at 1250 Franklin Grove Road/Illinois Route

38, Dixon will support Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center.

said. The district will still

"The Giving Pump" at Shell station at 1250 Franklin Grove Road in Dixon will be specially marked with colorful signage to inspire consumers to fuel up and support this local charity. It's easy to participate in the program, and it costs customers nothing

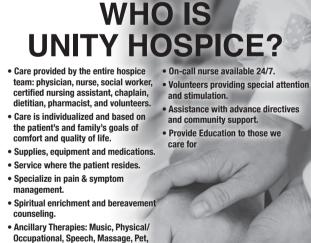
"We appreciate the support of Johnson Oil Shell station to help us continue our mission of transforming victims of child abuse into survivors," Jessica Cash, executive director, Shining Star CAC, said.

More than 7,500 Shell stations across the U.S. are participating in this twomonth Giving Pump initiative. Those looking to find a participating station can visit shell.us/givingpump.

Since launching Force for Good, Shell has highlighted the impacts its

wholesalers have made in the communities in which they operate, going beyond fuel quality and loyalty. Through The Giving Pump, Shell wholesalers and retailers have donated over \$4.7 million and supported over 500 charities.

Visit shell.us/givingpump to find additional program details, participating sites and content on local charity partners, and follow @ShellStationsUS to keep up with the latest news.



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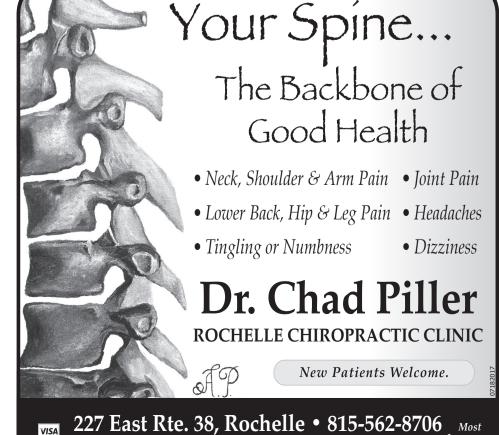
Monday 7:30-6:00pm, Tuesday 1:30-7:30, Wednesday 7:30-6:00, Thursday 8:00-7:30, Friday 7:30-4:00, and some Saturdays 8:00-12:00



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Obituaries

Kenneth Wayne Barnes

ROCHELLE - Kenneth Wayne Barnes, 71, passed away unexpectedly Friday, Aug. 18, 2023 at his home. Ken was born on Nov. 7, 1951 to James C. and Gladys D. (Bowman) Barnes in Greenville, Tennessee.

Ken is survived by his sisters: Elizabeth (Rex) Johnson of Rochelle and Elaine (Ron) Hamilton of Loves Park and his brother, J.C. Barnes of Morris Town, Tennessee.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by infant sister, Patricia, two brothers: Albert and Tony Barnes and sister, Janet Taylor. There will be a memo-

rial visitation from 10 - 11 A.M., Saturday, Aug. 26, 2023 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. Graveside service will follow at 11:45 A.M., Saturday at Ashton Cemetery in Ashton, IL with Pastor



Duane Boehm officiating. A memorial has been established.

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

Ogle County 4-H Foundation accepted a \$3,000 donation made to the 4-H program from CHS Rochelle, a global agribusiness cooperative owned by farmers and local cooperatives across the United States.

Ogle County 4-H Foundation receives

City of Rochelle awarded \$1 million Community Development Block Grant

SPRINGFIELD Governor JB Pritzker and the Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity recently announced the recipients for the Community Development Block Grant for Public Infrastructure and Housing Rehabilitation. The City of Rochelle

received \$1,052,200 for public infrastructure. A total of \$56.9 million will be awarded for 54 projects, which will support housing rehabilitation projects and enable communities in non-metropolitan areas to make critical repairs to water, sewer, and drainage infrastructure to enhance safety and quality of life for residents.

"Since day one as Governor, it has been my priority to ensure that every family, individual, and child in Illinois has access to safe and healthy water, housing, and infrastructure," Pritzker said. "That's what my administration's Rebuild Illinois capital plan is all about and now, in further partnership with the federal government, over 50 projects across Illinois will receive grants to support projects that will

better our communities for years to come."

"Communities in every corner of the state should have access to resources to keep Illinois families safe and healthy with a proper roof over their heads," DCEO Director Kristin Richards said. "The Community Development Block Grants will provide critical assistance to rehabilitate dozens of homes and improve infrastructure in the areas that need it the most without placing the sole burden of funding costly projects on local entities.

"Every Illinoisan deserves access to safe drinking water sources, proper sanitary management, and stable housing," U.S. Senator Durbin said. "With this substantial federal Community Development Block Grant, we are one step closer to delivering on that promise."

"Illinoisans deserve access to clean drinking water, no matter their zip code," U.S. Senator Duckworth said. "This federal support is critical to help Illinoisans have the access to safe, sanitary and accessible housing all

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throughout our state to keep themselves and their families healthy, and I'll keep advocating to help ensure all Illinoisans can access quality housing and clean water."

Public infrastructure grants are designed to provide communities with funding to improve public infrastructure and eliminate conditions detrimental to public health, safety, and public welfare. As part of the annual CDBG program funded by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, DCEO is awarding \$48.5 million for 41 infrastructure projects.

State-administered CDBG funds must be utilized in areas that do not receive their own funds directly from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD), with the majority of funds benefitting smaller communities and rural areas. Local governments are receiving grants between \$425,000 and \$1.5 million with an average grant size of \$1 million. Preference was given to projects located in underserved areas, opportunity zones and those which proposed a non-state matching component to drive the maximum investment to the area.

When matched with other local funds, the grants will generate repairs valued over \$55.1 million.

\$3,000 donation from CHS Rochelle OREGON - Ogle cepted the check from CHS County 4-H Foundation accepted a \$3,000 donation made to the 4-H program from CHS Rochelle, a global agribusiness cooperative owned by farmers and local cooperatives across the United States. CHS supports programs to highlight an emphasis on creating strong partnerships

"CHS invests in programs that strengthen hometown communities and develop future generations of ag leaders," Samantha Zaccaria, CHS Rochelle, said.

and making investments

that will enrich communi-

ties and inspire tomorrow's

leaders.

Jeannette Mingus, 4-H foundation treasurer, ac-

Rochelle representatives at a presentation held at the Ogle County fairgrounds. Other attendees included Lauren Carlson, 2023 Ogle County Fair queen, Maggie Eden, 2023 Ogle County miss congeniality and Ogle County 4-H Ambassadors Grant Johnson and Gracie

The sole purpose of the Ogle County 4-H Foundation is to support 4-H in Ogle County. 4-H focuses on positive youth development, building life skills, leadership and community service. Illinois 4-H is the flagship youth development program of University of Illinois Extension and administered through the College of Agriculture,

Consumer, and Environmental Sciences.4-H grows true leaders, youth who are empowered for life today and prepared for a career tomorrow. The hands-on approach in 4-H gives young people guidance, tools, and encouragement, and then puts them in the driver's seat to make great things happen. Independent research confirms the unparalleled impact of the 4-H experience, demonstrating that young people are four times more likely to contribute to their communities; two times more likely to make healthier choices; two times more likely to be civically active; and two times more likely to participate in STEM programs.

Kishwaukee College students finish as medalists in SkillsUSA competitions

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College SkillsU-SA chapter had a strong showing in competitions this year, including champions and medalists at the state and national levels. SkillsUSA is a national organization helping prepare students for trade professions. SkillsUSA annually hosts competitions for career and technical education (CTE) students to showcase their hands-on training and

In April, Kish's SkillsU-

SA chapter had 19 students qualify for the SkillsUSA Illinois State Leadership & Skills Conference Championships in East Peoria, competing in Heavy Equipment Operation, Power Equipment Technology and Diesel Equipment Technology with finalists in each field. In Heavy Equipment Operation, Tyler Faber finished in first place to earn the state title. In Power Equipment Technology, Jacob Schmidt earned first place and a state title, Faber finished in second place, and Ethan Gieseke earned third place. In Diesel Equipment Technology, Warren Flink earned fifth place.

Faber and Gieseke qualified to compete with more than 5,000 students in the week-long SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference Champi-

onships in Atlanta, Georgia, in June. Faber earned the gold medal and national championship in the Heavy Equipment Operation category, and Gieseke earned fourth place in the Power Equipment Technology category. The Kish team was coached by Assistant Professor of Diesel Power Technology Don Flink.

"We are proud of all the hard work and dedication our team showed throughout the year in competition," Flink said. "These are fantastic results for our students and showcase the skills you can learn and build upon at Kishwaukee College."

Kish's SkillsUSA team includes members from the various Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs the College offers. To learn more about CTE opportunities at Kish, visit kish.edu/cte.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make arrests

ROCHELLE — On Aug. 15 at 3:47 p.m. a 16-year-old juvenile of Creston was arrested for retail theft and released.

On Aug. 16 at 8:21 a.m. Theron N. Moton, 29, of St. Louis, Missouri was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 22 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 17 at 1:25 p.m. Cole H. Smith, 35, of Rochelle was arrested for aggravated battery and transferred.

On Aug. 17 at 9:19 p.m. Evan M. White, 27, of Rochelle was arrested for driving under the influence, obstructing/resisting a peace officer and leaving the scene of a property damage accident and cited for improper lane usage. He paid \$100 and was released with a Sept. 22 Ogle County court date.

On Aug. 18 at 10:07 p.m. a 17-year-old juvenile of Rochelle was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. He was released on an I-Bond with a Sept. 22 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 20 at 8:52 p.m. Robert J. French, 48, of Rochelle was arrested for driving under the influence and cited for illegal transportation of alcohol. He was released on an I-Bond with a Sept. 22 Ogle County court date.

On Aug. 21 at 8:20 p.m. Katie M. Macadam, 35, of DeKalb was arrested for retail theft and an outstanding DeKalb County warrant. In the same incident, Marivel Leal, 52, of Elgin was arrested for retail theft and released on an I-Bond with no court date listed.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23, 2023



New Habitat partner signs mortgage documents On July 28, Ashlie, Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County partner, signed her mortgage documents and became

an official homeowner. Congratulations to Ashlie, who put in 200 hundred hours of sweat equity, to help build her home. She will now have an affordable mortgage thanks to the many hours of volunteer labor, in-kind donations, and grants that support Habitat programs. Habitat Board Member Joanne Carr of Holcomb Bank joins Habitat Board President Gail Tuttle in the photo of Ashlie signing her mortgage papers.

Order meals for an easy supper from Extension

OREGON — Meals made easy and for a great cause! Have you been searching for a way to make dinner preparation simple?

We have a great opportunity for you to take a night off from cooking. This is also a great gift idea as well.

Order 10 delicious meals that have been prepared and frozen for your convenience. Each meal serves 3-5 people, meals include: pulled pork, BBQ meatballs, pulled pork mac & cheese, chicken bacon ranch pasta, smoked pork loin, smoked pork chops, meatloaf with sweet potatoes, lasagna, chicken & biscuits, and broccoli cheese soup! Is your mouth watering?

Cost for the 10 meals is \$195! Proceeds to benefit the Ogle-Carroll Ag in the Classroom Program. There are two ways to order:

Mail your name, phone number, number of meal sets (they come in a set of 10 meals), and payment to: 811 S. Clay St., Mt. Carroll,

IL 61053. Make checks payable to: Ogle-Carroll Ag Partnership (OCAP).

You can order online at go.illinois.edu/freez-

Place your order by Monday, Sept. 11! Meal pick-up is Sept. 26 from 3-5 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension office, 421 W. Pines Road, Oregon. Please contact the office at 815-732-2191 or e-mail charbm@illinois.edu with any questions.

Agriculture in the Classroom (AITC) is a statewide educational program with lessons offered to kindergarten through eighth grade. Its goal is to help students, teachers, and the general public gain greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society.

Ag in the Classroom is offered through the University of Illinois Extension Ogle County in partnership with Ogle County Farm Bureau, Carroll County Farm Bureau, Ogle County Soil & Water, and Carroll County Soil & Water.

PARK: Public comment made regarding recent rule changes

From page 1

During the meeting, the board unanimously approved a \$15,400 payment to Bowne Painting & Decorating for work done during the closure. The board also unanimously approved the purchase of three Tommy Gates and a salt spreader for \$13,279.

Rules

During the public

comment portion of the meeting, the board heard from parents and members Chuck and Christy Kessen about recent changes in age and supervision requirements for patrons at The REC. The changes took effect Aug. 1.

To supervise, patrons nowneed to be 18 years old or older instead of 16. For the REC Center, children ages 10 or younger must be directly supervised by an adult 18 or older. During the final two hours of the weekday, anyone under 16 years of age must be directly supervised by an adult 21 or older. For the REC Fitness Center, patrons must be ages 16 or older. Adults 21 and older are allowed to directly supervise 1-2 guests 13-15 years of age during building hours.

"To have a child that can't come during the last two hours of the day is very disappointing," Christy Kessen said. "I know that there are troublemakers that come. I don't know why we can't address those troublemakers instead of the good kids that are here and want to use the facilities to get better. How can they come the whole afternoon unsupervised and can't come the last two hours of the evening?"

Park officials said at last month's meeting that the

changes were made in part due to "many challenges" with youth over the winter and staff spending approximately 30-40 hours in the three months of winter (three hours a week) on conversations, documentations and meetings with parents about behavior.

"We understand your concern," Board President Tim Hayden said Monday. "We're trying to juggle as many stakeholders and

programs and all of those things to be fair to as many age groups as possible. I don't think that this hasn't been a frequent and agonized-over topic or a decision that was come to swiftly without a lot of consideration. And it's an ongoing consideration. We have to be respectful to the facility we have and all of the people that are in it. I think it's an ongoing topic and it's not taken lightly."



nicorgas.com/safety

Smell Gas? Act Fast!

Natural gas is a colorless and odorless fuel. For safety reasons, a chemical odorant called mercaptan is added for easy detection of a suspected natural gas leak. This odorant has a distinctive "**rotten egg**" type odor. Natural gas odors should be reported immediately.

¿Hay olor a gas? ¡Actué rápido! El gas natural es un combustible incoloro e inodoro. Por razones de seguridad, se le agrega un aromatizante químico llamado mercaptano para que se pueda detectar fácilmente. Este aromatizante tiene un olor característico a "huevo podrido." Los olores a gas natural deben informarse de inmediato.

If you detect even a small amount of this odor in the air:

Si detecta este olor en el aire, por mínimo que sea:

- Do not try to locate the source of the smell.

 No intente localizar la fuente del olor.
- Leave the area immediately and alert others. Abandone el área inmediatamente y alerte a los demás.
- Avoid using any sources of ignition, such as cell phones, cigarettes, matches, flashlights, electronic devices, motorized vehicles, light switches or landlines.
 Evite usar cualquier fuente de ignición, por ejemplo, teléfonos celulares, cigarrillos, fósforos, linternas, aparatos electrónicos, vehículos a motor, interruptores de luz o teléfonos fijos.
- you are out of the area and in a safe place.

 Llame a Nicor Gas at 888.Nicor4U (642.6748) o al 911 una vez que esté fuera del área y en un lugar seguro.

Call Nicor Gas at 888.Nicor4U (642.6748) or 911 once

LOCAL VIEWS

The memory of certain politicians moving him from office,

A I stood on the Australian shore last month, I pondered the majesty of the Pacific but when I looked down, I couldn't help but think of Rod Blagojevich.

There at Rex Lookout in the Australian state of Queensland stood a plaque that once identified the politician who made the scenic overlook possible.

But an acetylene torch had been used to melt away the name of that elected official. After 35 years of covering politics, I didn't need a tour guide's explanation to figure out what had happened.

Nonetheless, our guide informed us that the fellow whose name was obliterated was an Aussie pol who was mired in scandal in the 1980s. His name was Martin Tenni. He didn't go to prison but a number of his buddies did. Despite this, someone in power removed his name.

This is a lousy practice. Take a walk on the Illinois Capitol's second floor and you'll see 42 portraits of the state's chief executives. All but one of the state's past governor's stares out onto the marble hallway. At least three of the men represented there went to prison: George Ryan, Dan Walker and Otto Kerner.

Others such as William Stratton and Len Small, were indicted but never convicted. And more than likely there are others who should have gone to prison - but were never caught.

And then there is Rod Blagojevich. He served eight years in prison on corruption charges and is the only Illinois governor to be removed from office. His portrait is the one missing from the statehouse.

Why? Shortly after re-

Illinois lawmakers passed a measure prohibiting the state from spending money to create a portrait for Blago. So, portraits in the hall of governors skips from No. 39 to No. 41.

It's as if Blagojevich never led the state for six years. His

absence ignores that Illinois voters twice selected him as their leader. He did some bad things while he was governor, but he also did some good things. No one is all good = or all bad. For the record, I wasn't

a fan of Blagojevich while he was in office. This column frequently criticized him. I never voted for him.

But denying him a place in the hall of governor's is petty. Little is accomplished by scraping his name off of the state's collective memory.

Please note there is a difference between honoring someone and acknowledging their role in history. I talked to Blagojevich

about this recently. He said he has had several potential donors approach him about paying for the creation of a por-

> he is holding off. "The question is going to be what color my hair will be," he said of his helmet-like mane that turned snow white during his period of incar-

trait. But he said

ceration. Hair dye is not allowed in federal lockups.

Reeder

"Well, I don't want the white hair. It was never black, by the way. It was sable brown, No. 47D. ... I'm not pushing for it. It's not a priority. It is true people have come up to me and offered to actually pay for it. And I think my portrait will be up there. I do believe there will be a time where I'll be vindicated. I do believe there will be a time where the truth will be exposed on what was happening. And I think these things are happening now."

Blagojevich's archnemesis Mike Madigan faces corruption charges of his own. Madigan, who led the Illinois House longer than any leader of any state legislative chamber in the history of the United States, also does not have a portrait hanging in the statehouse.

Even Paul Powell, the corrupt speaker who hid \$800,000 in shoeboxes in his hotel closet, has a painting hanging in that building. Whether he is convicted or not, Madigan should be recognized as well. It's about history, not canonization.

In the wake of the Commonwealth Edison scared voteless on the matter.

Over the years, I've taken family members and friends on tours of the state Capitol. When I walk by the paintings of governors, I point out the ones that went to prison – and the others who probably should have.

I remember taking my then 19-year-old niece up into the balcony of the House and pointing out Powell's portrait. I told of how his closet was full of ill-gotten loot and how he died of a heart attack in a Minnesota hotel room he was sharing with a woman not his wife.

As we walked away, I reached out and gave the frame a nudge. Some politicians just deserve to be remembered crooked. Scott Reeder, a

staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at sreeder@illinoistimes.

Letter: Thank you, Mrs. Blomberg EAR editor,

As school starts my thoughts go back to my elementary school teachers and the great influence that they had on my life. It is impossible to review all of them, so I will emphasize the influence that my eighth grade teacher, Mrs. Marvel Blomberg, had on me when she taught at the Chana Elementary School. She later taught in the Rochelle School District for many years. The following are just three of many instances when she had a significant impact on my life.

coming into the classroom after lunch, three of us eighth-grade boys tried to go through the door at the same time. She was helping a student with an assignment while eating her lunch and called me out for causing the disturbance.

One spring day when

My response was, "We were all doing the same thing and yet I am the only one spoken to so why are youpicking on me?" She indicated that she would talk to me after school. Since we were studying civic as our history requirement I spent the next two hours building my defense case and had many instances where I was disciplined and others were not.

When the other students had left the room after school she pulled up a chair and said, "You are right, I pick on you, do you know why?" I was befuddled because I hadn't had the chance to present my case. Furthermore, she was smiling and in the next five minutes she indicated that she liked me, that when she was teaching over 35 students in four grades she had to maintain "classroom management skills." That meant she usually had to relate first to the "leader," and "Dale you are a leader and the others are followers."

We talked for another four minutes and I began to understand the need for her behavior and even accept it. So I tried to be a role model the next eight weeks.

However, during the last two weeks the eighth grade boys were asked to move desks from the old wooden schoolhouse to the new brick elementary school. The distance between the two buildings had small pea gravel and my male classmates started picking up small handfuls and throwing at each other. Even though I was consistently hit I resisted the temptation of participating. During the fourth trip she came to visit our progress and there I was with a handful of pebbles just like the others. We had a scheduled softball game the next day and the principal decided that he could not discipline the whole group because that would cause a cancellation, so I again was singled out.

While the upper grades (fifth through eighth graders) left joyfully for the afternoon I was left at school wondering my fate. Mrs. Blomberg rejected the principal's suggestions of writing sentences of misconduct or doing janitorial work and asked me to supervise grades one through four during recess. So I su-

pervised grade one and two students, helping them on the playground equipment and noticed that she would periodically watch us from the windows. However, the third and fourth graders came out with bats, balls, and gloves and wanted to play baseball. This was going to be much more difficult since the main behaviors were throwing the bat, arguing who was going to be the batting team, and breaking almost all established baseball rules. So establishing order had to come first and we set rules and began to play. (And yes, I looked for and convinced the "leaders.") It went well and we played ball the rest of the day, naturally under the watchful eye from the classroom.

When the students went back into the classroom their request was, "Can he supervise all of our recesses after this?!"

That was satisfying, but even more so was that Mrs. Blomberg spent time interacting with me. She knew the others had participated,

that the discipline was not fair, that she appreciated how I had positively responded, and gave me some personal perceptions on who she thought I was and what I could do in life.

One of the highlights of the last few days of school was that she gave us a yearbook that she had helped edit and had published. So we were allowed after finishing assignments to write in them to express our thoughts and she took our yearbooks home a couple of evenings and wrote in them. Most of her comments to my fellow classmates were, "You were a good student," "I enjoyed being your teacher, "Good luck in the future" and so forth. I was cautious and concerned about what she might say so waited until she had signed almost all of the seventh and eighth grade students' annuals.

Her comment to me was different and included the following:

"Dale, A good thing to remember, and a very good thing to do, is to belong to the construction gang, and not to the wrecking crew."

Mrs. Blomberg had the research characteristics of the effective teachers which include a good knowledge base of the curriculum and subjects that are taught; She knew how to teach the subject matter so students could learn to a high degree.

She had positive relationships with parents and the community; She had a high degree of "moral integrity" that included acceptance, respect, and fairness; and she worked "extra hard" on providing student activities to make sure school and learning were enjoyable. But even more than that she cared for, believed in, and inspired students to be the best that they could be in serving

I have tried to follow that advise during my lifetime. Thank you, Mrs. Blomberg for having a major influence on my life. Blessing to you,

> Dale Johnson, College Place, Washington

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

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*Trisha Vaughn Dave Casey Steve Builta Ashley Jackson Stephanie White Javier Zepeda Jennifer Thompson

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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@rochellenewsleader.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

Browns win Aug. 11 Chamber Lawn of the Week

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of Aug. 11 to Rod and Karla Brown. The couple received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card, presented by Rochelle Ace Hardware Manager Jesse Lopez.

The chamber has partnered with Rochelle Ace Hardware to award gift cards to the winners.

The 2023 Lawn of the Week program has begun for the summer and will run through September. Nominate a neighbor/yard each week by submitting a name and address on the Rochelle chamber's website, http:// therochellechamber.com/ lawn-of-the-week. Submissions can also be made by emailing rochellechamber@gmail.com. "We are proud to recognize our residents that display community pride in Rochelle," Chamber Executive Director Tricia



The Rochelle Chamber recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of Aug. 11 to Rod and Karla Brown. The couple received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card.

Herrera said. "We love that this program gives us the

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

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

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

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

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



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



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

Aug. 14 - Lucas Dobson, Davis Junction, \$25

Aug. 15 - Rebecca Berkeley, Rochelle, \$25 Aug. 16 - Joan Bakken, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 17 - James Ptucha, Dix Hills, \$25

Aug. 18 - Ed Messenger, Oregon, \$25

Aug. 19 - Roberto Olazagasti, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 20 - Judy Erickson, Rochelle, \$50

Aug. 21 - Brandon and Julia Nalley, Dubuque, \$25

Aug. 22 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25

Aug. 23 - Genevieve Stoll, Rochelle, \$25

Coffee Break

ACROSS

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- 33 Tennis tactic
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- tion? 37 Expected
- compiler
- 41 Drone

- 45 Awestruck

48 Actress Gilpin

46 "We should discuss this"

- 19 Rowing need 20 Road curves
- 21 Schlep
- 23 Everglades wader
- 30 Bump into
- 32 Astronaut
- 35 Tea biscuit
- 38 Thesaurus
- 42 Airline to
- Sweden

- **King** Crossword

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- 51 Adolescent
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- 53 Inlets
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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

numbers from one to nine. DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

Challenging HOO BOY!

CryptoQuip

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

XFJRZBRS NXPP QAMSRDXLBXFJ HNR PXFLAPF, OCHB OAMPS вснв DIAUXSR OXBC?

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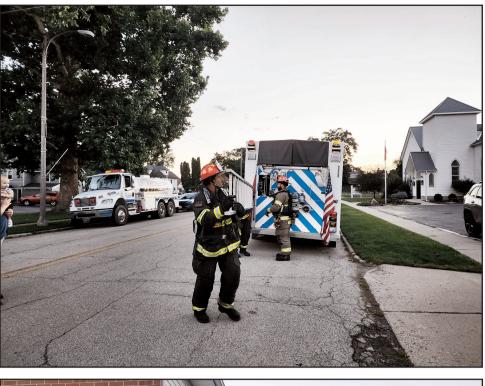
Answer Weekly SUDOKU

SIÐMSUA

— King Crossword —

Dietary fiver. wonld that provide you with? depicting Abe Lincoln, what Ilid s bətsəgni uoy tl SUSMEL

ASHTON NEWS









(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Ashton Fire Protection District holds training exercise

On Aug. 17, the Ashton Fire Protection District held a training night that included team drills, team building and the practice of firefighting skills.

Upcoming University of Illinois Extension events announced LEE COUNTY—The sil? Explore a variety of duce | Growing Hort in longer shelf life. Register Winfred Knox Library in Training, Tuesdays Sept

area University of Illinois Extension offices recently announced their upcoming events.

Before the Build: Con-

Before the Build: Considerations for Backyard Greenhouses | Four Seasons Gardening, Aug 22 | 1:30 p.m., online

Have you ever thought of going outside to your backyard greenhouse during the cold weather months to pick fresh lettuce or plant some babudget-friendly backyard greenhouses, what can be grown in them, and how to extend a growing season. Four Seasons Gardening sessions led by Extension's horticulture experts are free to attend, and registration is required at go.illinois. edu/FourSeasons. Considerations for Backyard Greenhouses will be offered at 1:30 PM online on Aug 22.

Using Garden Pro-

duce | Growing Hort in NW Illinois, Aug. 24 | 3:30-4:30 p.m., Lee Extension Office

Horticulture in Northwest Illinois is for anyone interested in learning more about gardening, growing food in a home or community garden, or looking for ideas for the upcoming growing season. The fourth session will be on Aug. 24 from 3:30-4:30 p.m., where we will learn some simple ways of storing produce for

longer shelf life. Register for one or more of the sessions at go.illinois.edu/ LeeGrowingHort

Potpourri 101 | Big and Small Gardening, Sept, 5 | 4 p.m. - Winfred Knox Library, Franklin Grove

Wouldn't it be terrific for all ages to learn more about gardening? The Lee County Master Gardeners have started their gardening series again, "Big and Small Gardening." This series will be held at the Winfred Knox Library in Franklin Grove the first Tuesday of each month with alternating months offering a youth program at 4 p.m. or an adult program at 6 p.m. The first program will be Potpourri on Sept. 5 at 4 p.m. where youth will learn how to make potpourri using dried flowers and herbs. One may register for these programs by calling the library at 815-456-2823.

Master Gardener

Training, Tuesdays Sept. 12-Nov. 28 | 9 a.m.-noon, online or county office options

Take your love for gardening to the next level by joining the Master Gardeners of Carroll, Lee, and Whiteside counties. Training begins Sept. 12! Find complete details and how to register by September 1 at go.illinois. edu/CLWmgtraining. For questions, contact Bruce Black at 815-632-3611.

Educator helps youth discover passions through 4-H experiences

STERLING — After serving as a 4-H program coordinator in Bureau County, Danielle Gapinski transitioned to the 4-H youth development educator role, serving Carroll, Lee and Whiteside counties earlier this year. Previous po-

sitions in event marketing, graphic design and dance direction all positioned Danielle to gain invaluable experience coordinating, marketing, and executing youth programming. Her participation in 4-H during her youth helped her recog-

nize the program's value and cultivate a passion for helping others learn about the opportunities

"I hope to provide new and diverse opportunities, in a safe and nurturing environment, for youth throughout the counties where I serve,"
Gapinski said. "I hope that through these offerings, youth will be able to explore new subjects and find their own passions that could turn into new hobbies or even career

pathways."
Gapinski has a Bache-

lor of Science in graphic design with a minor in business management and administration from Bradley University and a Master of Science in agricultural leadership, education, and communications from University of Illinois Urbana-Cham-

paign. She has served on the Princeton Bicycle and Pedestrian Commission, Bureau Valley Brainstorm Advisory/Sustainability Committee and is a member of the University of Illinois Extension 4-H Professional Development Committee.

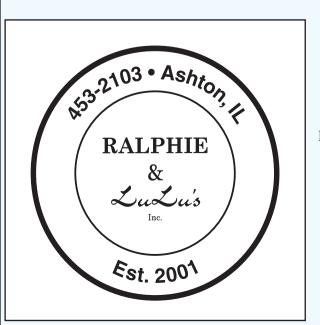
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in the months of October, December, February and April on the first Tuesdays from 6-7 p.m. Adults will learn about potpourri, ice cream, African Violets and milk jug salsa gardens. Call the Winifred Knox Memorial Library in Franklin Grove at 815-456-2823 to register for any of these classes.

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SENIOR LIFESTYLES

What to know about atrial fibrillation

HE heart has been characterized as the engine that makes the human body run. If that metaphor is not exactly spot-on, it still serves as a good indicator as to just how vital a healthy heart is to the human body.

Despite the importance of a healthy heart, diseases that affect the heart remain the single greatest cause of death across the globe. According to the World Health Organization, cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) are the leading cause of death globally, claiming roughly 18 million lives each year. Various factors can adversely affect how well the heart functions, and that includes irregular heart beat, also known as arrhythmia. Atrial fibrillation (AFib) is the most common form of arrhythmia, and it behooves anyone to gain a greater understanding of this condition.

The Cleveland Clinic notes that AFib is an arrhythmia that begins in the upper chambers of the heart known as the atria. When a person has AFib, these chambers beat irregularly, and the American Heart Association reports that, when this occurs, blood pools in the area because not enough blood is being pumped out of the atria. That pooled blood can clot and pose a serious threat.

The AHA notes that, if a clot forms, the blood can be pumped out of the heart to the brain, which blocks the blood supply to the brain and ultimately results in stroke. In fact, AHA data indicates between 15 and 20 percent of people who have strokes have AFib. In addition, the Heart and Stroke Foundation of Canada reports that one-fourth of all strokes affecting people 40 and older are caused by AFib. The Cleveland Clinic notes that some people with AFib experience no symptoms. Such is the case in people whose ventricles are beating at a normal or slightly elevated pace. When ventricles begin to beat faster, then individuals may experience symptoms that can include:

- Extreme fatigue
- Irregular heartbeat
- Heart palpitationsFeeling of butterflies
- or fish flopping in the chest
 Dizziness or light-
- headedness
 Fainting
 - Shortness of breath
 - Chest pain

The AHA notes that adopting and maintaining a heart-healthy lifestyle is the best way to control AFib risk. Such a lifestyle includes:

- Regular physical activity
- Adherence to a hearthealthy diet that is low in salt, saturated fats, trans fats, and cholesterol



- Controlling blood pressure, including management of high blood pressure
- Avoid excessive consumption of alcohol and caffeine
 - Avoid smoking
 - Maintain healthy cho-

lesterol levels

 Maintain a healthy weight Researchers behind a 2021 study published in

2021 study published in the journal Progress in Cardiovascular Diseases note that AFib has sometimes been characterized as the cardiovascular epidemic of the twenty-first century. Such a characterization underscores how significant a global health threat AFib can be.

More information about AFib can be found at heart.org.

Funeral pre-planning with a professional eases anxiety THE death of a include viewing, burial, to customize pre-planning be a lot of unknowns. loved one's final wishes. periods when determin-

HE death of a loved is difficult to confront. Emotions are elevated and grief is prominent. which can make it hard to make important decisions. Quite often several people need to come together to make decisions necessary for a family member's funeral arrangements. There also is a financial component to consider.

According to Lincoln Heritage Life Insurance Company, the average funeral costs between \$7,000 and \$12,000, which may or may not

include viewing, burial, transport, casket, and other fees. Surviving family members responsible for planning a funeral may be asked to contribute a portion of these expenses if other arrangements have not already been made, which can exacerbate stressful feelings during an already difficult time.

Funeral pre-planning is a good way for individuals to make a difficult time a little more manageable for their survivors. Funeral homes frequently work hand-in-hand with individuals and families

to customize pre-planning packages and facilitate the process. Here's a rundown of pre-planning as individuals consider their options.

Pre-planning a funeral enables people to consider all of the options without the time constraints of making funeral arrangements directly after the passing of a loved one. A knowledgeable staff member at a funeral home, can explain the offerings and answer any questions.

Unless an individual has planned a funeral in the past, there could

be a lot of unknowns. Funeral homes handle these events every day and can guide families through the intricacies of the process with ease. Most have pre-planning kits that include all of the essentials of the process, such as choosing caskets, deciding on prayer cards and designing floral arrangements.

Working directly with a professional also helps alleviate the burden on family members, who may not agree on arrangements or concur on what they believe would be a When pre-planning a funeral, individuals can spell out in their own words exactly what they desire and even finance the funeral in advance.

A funeral home staff member can go over the various ways to fund funeral expenses, and may work out a payment schedule to spread out the expense over a period of time. He or she also may explain how funeral prearrangement can be a way to "spend down" assets in a way that protects those monies from look-back

periods when determining eligibility for certain assisted living or nursing facilities should that be required in the future. Very often a funeral home is a conduit that facilitates all facets of the funeral process. They may reach out to a preferred house of worship to organize a mass or other religious service, and will also contact the cemetery and work with them to secure a plot and deed. This also alleviates pressure down the line on grieving family members who need time to mourn.





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SENIOR LIFESTYLES

Great part-time jobs for retirees to enjoy

nearing re-Ltirement age count down the days until they can bid adieu to the daily tasks of commuting and working so they can enjoy much more time for recreation, travel or whatever is they aspire to do.

As enticing as unending free time may seem, some retirees find it is not ideal to be entirely free from the responsibility of working. As current seniors can attest, inflation can drive up the costs of living, meaning that seniors who were once able to afford a certain retirement lifestyle may no longer enjoy that hard-earned luxury.

Others may miss the daily opportunities to socialize that working provides, or the way problem-solving on the job stimulates the brain. But even retirees who miss working may not be ready to return to the workforce full-time. That can make part-time employment an ideal fit for mature workers.

Here's a look at some part-time positions that could be a good fit for older adults reentering the workforce.

Working in retail opens seniors up to a wide array of responsibilities and scenarios. Jobs may include greeting customers, making sales, putting out inventory, and helping customers select merchandise. Being personable and having good customer service skills are necessary traits to have when working in retail. Many stores offer part-time employees flexible hours so schedules can be customized.

Retirees who loved their job but wanted to spend less time doing it can return as consultants. According to The Balance: Money, individuals often find they earn more per hour working as consultants than they did as full-time staff members. Consulting is a way to share expertise and experience without making a full-time commitment.

A customer service representative is tasked with helping customers solve problems and ensuring customer satisfaction. He or she may work ain a traditional office or store location, or answer calls and resolve issues from

Retirees may want to consider jobs working in schools or in related capacities. Driving a school bus is an option if people are willing to undergo the proper training and licensing to operate this type of vehicle. Seniors also may consider working as lunch-

room aides or lunch service providers, crossing guards, substitute teachers, and paraprofessionals. School employees will only work a few hours during the day. They'll also enjoy many holidays off as well as

summer vacations.

Receptionists greet patients or customers in office settings. According to AARP, they are the welcoming faces of organizations. Answering phones and light clerical work also may be required of receptionists. Those who want

to work off-peak hours can think about working nights and weekends in hospitals or skilled nursing facilities.

Seniors have many different options if they decide they want to return to the workforce in a parttime capacity.

or-made

NIORS and older adults did not seem to get the memo regarding inflation. As the world continues to navigate a cost-of-living increase, internal data from Bank of America indicates that Baby Boomers (people born between 1946 and 1964) and Traditionalists (individuals born between 1928 and 1945) are spending more while younger generations are cutting back. Between May 2021 and May 2022, spending by Traditionalists increased by more

Boomer spending rose by 2.2 percent. That uptick occurred while younger generations' spending fell by 1.5 percent.

Seniors seem to be on the go, and that's something holiday shoppers can keep in mind as they look for gifts for their aging parents, grandparents and others. With that in mind, shoppers can consider these gifts that align well with the lifestyles of seniors who are out and about and making the most of their free time.

 Golf clubs or additional golf gear: Data from the **National Golf Foundation**

indicated that more than 34 million people in the United States played golf in 2019, and 15 percent of those players were 65 and over. A new set of custom-fit clubs can help seniors take their game to the next level. Such clubs can be expensive, so they make a great tandem gift from children and grandchildren who pool their resources. If new clubs are not necessary or too costly, a single club, such as a new driver or putter, makes for a great gift as well. Gear like a new golf bag, new spikes

attire also makes a great gift for seniors who love the links.

• Travel gifts: The 2023 AARP Travel Trends survey found that 85 percent of older travelers rank travel in their top three priorities for discretionary spending. The appeal of travel has not worn off for modern seniors, and shoppers can keep that in mind this holiday season. New luggage, travel miles earned through a credit card, unique experiences at senior travelers' next destination, airtags that can

a world travel adapter that can convert plugs in any country across the globe are just a few of the many travel gifts shoppers can give on-the-go seniors this December.

• Exercise gear: The National Council on Aging notes that adults who exercise after turning 65 continue to reap the same rewards that improve quality of life among younger men and women. In addition to boosting immunity, exercising after 65 continues to improve mood so long as seniors stay the course. Exercise gear, including

attire and appropriate footwear, can reduce injury risk and help seniors feel more comfortable while breaking a sweat. Spasession: All that ac-

tivity is good for the body, but so is a little post-activity rest and relaxation. A day at the spa, where seniors can get a massage, take a mental break and address minor aches and pains can be just the thing seniors need to recover in time for their next excursion. Any number of gifts can make this holiday season special for seniors who continue to get up and go each day.

Interesting facts about Alzheimer's disease

F the roughly 55 million people around the world living with dementia, 60 to 70 percent are estimated to have Alzheimer's disease, reports the Mayo Clinic.

than 5 percent while Baby

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive brain disorder marked first by mild memory loss that can worsen and lead to problems with communication and an inability to perform the activities of daily life. The condition is named for Dr. Alois Alzheimer. In 1906, Alzheimer noticed changes in the postmortem brain tissue of a woman who had died of unusual mental illness, which included symptoms of language problems, memory loss and unpredictable behavior. Her brain showed many abnormal clumps and tangled bundles of fibers. According to the National Institute on Aging, doctors now know those clumps are amyloid plaques and the tangles are hallmarks of the disease.

The National Institutes of Health says Alzheimer's disease is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States and is the most common dementia among older adults. While most people are familiar with Alzheimer's, there is much more anyone can learn. The following are some interesting facts about Alzheimer's.

- The most common symptoms of Alzheimer's involve a gradual decline in memory, reasoning, language, coordination, mood, and behavior.
- The Cleveland Clinic says the buildup of plaques and tangles from an overabundance of amyloid and tau protein production block the communication between nerve cells and cause brain cells to die,

- thus contributing to Alzheimer's. Nerve cell death starts in the hippocampus, the area of the brain that controls memory. Doctors are not entirely sure what causes this protein build-up.
- Many times family members are the first to recognize a friend or loved one forgetting newly learned information, especially recent events, places and names.
- Changes in the brain can begin years before initial symptoms appear, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Age is the biggest risk factor for Alzheimer's. Researchers believe that genetics may play a role, but a genetic predisposition to Alzheimer's does not make it an inevitability.
- A healthy lifestyle, which includes adequate physical activity, a nutritious diet, limited alcohol consumption, and not smoking, may help people avoid Alzheimer's.
- Alzheimer's can rob a person of his or her personality. As the disease becomes more severe, mood swings, anger, depression, and anxiety may occur. This is combined with the patient forgetting who family members are and potentially lashing out or being disinterested in visitors.

 There is no cure for Alzheimer's, but doctors use medical management to improve quality of life for patients and their caregivers. Treatments may help maintain brain health and manage behavioral symptoms.

Alzheimer's disease was first diagnosed at the start of the 20th century. Now, 117 years later, it remains a major health issue affecting millions of people

worldwide.



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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 23, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



PURPLE VS. WHITE

The RTHS football team held its annual Purple vs. White scrimmage on Friday.

See page 6 for more details

RTHS Boys Soccer

Hubs outduel G-K on the road

Rochelle kicks off 2023 season with 8-6 nonconference win Monday evening

SPORTS EDITOR

GENOA — Senior Diego Salazar scored three goals and added two assists to lead the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team to a season-opening victory over Genoa-Kingston on Monday night. Junior Alberto Casillas and senior

Alex Garcia each scored two goals, while junior Fernando Diaz notched one goal and one assist as the Hubs outdueled the Cogs 8-6 on the road.

Rochelle (1-0, 0-0 Interstate 8) showed tremendous aggression early in the match, with Salazar connecting on two unassisted goals during the eighth and 11th minutes to push the Hubs ahead 2-0. The senior forward, who's entering his fourth varsity season at Rochelle Township High School, will look to take on a leadership role and build on a strong junior campaign, where he earned an Interstate 8 All-Conference Honorable Mention after compiling 22 goals at forward.

"I think we have a lot of good players and we can compete against some good teams," Salazar said. 'I think we can make it far this season if we continue to practice hard and give it our all... I wanted to give it

(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Diego Salazar scored three goals and added two assists to lead the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team to a season-opening victory over Genoa-Kingston on Monday night.

communicated well and I a lot of goals." thought we saw the field well. We were moving into

wanted to start strong. We which allowed us to score

The Hubs extended their lead midway through

the 20th minute. Rochelle

match of the season and I ing the ball to each other, Garcia took a pass from nerkick from Diazresulted assisted Casillas in the 31st Salazar inside the Genoa- in a header from Casillas minute, allowing the Hubs Kingston box and lofted a that found the back of shot over the goalkeeper in the Genoa-Kingston net during the 25th minute.

my all since it was our first the open space and pass- the opening half, where went ahead 4-0 after a cor- Sophomore Kevin Orozco to command a 5-0 lead.

See SOCCER page 3

Rochelle Junior Tackle

Junior Hubs take three victories over Oregon All four Rochelle teams remain unbeaten with 2-0 overall records this season

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

OREGON — The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams remained unbeaten on the season Saturday afternoon, with all four teams earning road victories against the Oregon Junior Hawks. Rochelle will look to continue its winning ways against Byron at home on Saturday, Aug. 26.

8th Grade

Quarterback Cohen Haedt gave the Junior Hubs an early lead over Oregon on Saturday, rushing for a 9-yard touchdown during the first quarter. Kicker Xzavier Cepeda booted the extra point through the uprights to put Rochelle ahead 7-0. Cepeda went 4-for-4 on extra-point attempts for the Junior Hubs, who took a two-score lead after Haedt fired a 20-yard touchdown pass to tight end Holden Liebhaber on a first-and-10 play late in

Running back Bo Lundquist extended the Rochelle lead in the second quarter, breaking loose off the right side for a 52-yard touchdown rush.

the opening quarter.



(PHOTO BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

See HUBS page 3



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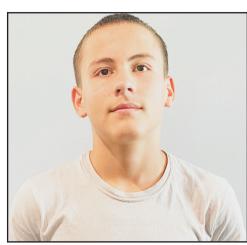
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HUB SPOTLIGHT



Hadley Losoya

Year: Freshman

Sport: Cross Country

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

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: The mental toughness you need.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Science because it's very compelling and hard to understand, which makes it fun to learn.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Abraham Lincoln because he became a Hall of Fame wrestler. Q: Who is your biggest role

model and why?

A: My dad because he never gives up even when he's hurt. Q: What is your dream job

and why? A: To be in the Army because not

many people want to do it and I could serve my country. Q: Where would your dream

vacation be and why? A: Canada because the people

seem nice there and I could do castle tours.

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

A: The community is very nice and supportive.

Vivian Worthington

Year: Freshman

Sport: Cross Country

Q: How many years have you

been playing this sport?

A: This is my first year.

O: What do you enjoy most

about this sport?

A: I like that I get to stay fit and

bond with my teammates.

Q: What is your favorite school

subject and why?

A: Art because it's fun and I

get to learn new techniques to

advance my artistic skills.

Q: Who is your favorite

athlete and why?

A: My brother because I

see how hard he works to achieve

his goals.

Q: Who is your biggest role

model and why?

A: My parents and my middle school art teacher because he's an

amazing artist and a good man. Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a writer and an artist because I love reading and drawing.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Scandinavia because it has amazing views and history.

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

A: I think most of us have matured to the point where it's easy to be friendly and still listen to instructions and run hard.





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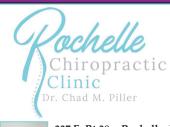




















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SPORTS





The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams went 3-0 over Oregon on Saturday. At left, fifth-grader Bentley Etes (right) hands the ball to running back Quaid Heitz (left). At right, seventh-grader Braxton Bruns runs away from an Oregon defender. The seventh-graders won 38-0 and the fifth-graders won 16-6.

From page 1

Lundquist followed with an interception on the defensive side of the ball, picking off an Oregon pass attempt on a third-and-11 play midway through the second quarter. The Junior Hubs continued to move the ball effectively, with Haedt tossing a 24-yard screen pass to running back Andrew Eyster on Rochelle's next drive.

Haedt and Liebhaber connected on a goal-line touchdown pass to help the Junior Hubs take a fourscore lead at halftime. With Rochelle ahead 28-0, Eyster forced another Oregon turnover late in the second quarter, recovering a fumble that stymied a Junior Hawk

HUBS: Junior Tackle teams record three-game sweep over Oregon drive. Rochelle iced the win Hawks. during the fourth quarter, where Lundquist rushed for a 4-yard touchdown and running back Caiden Redlarczyk added a 25yard touchdown rush on a second-and-10 down.

> The Junior Hubs emerged victorious 42-6 to improve their record to 2-0. Haedt completed 3-of-3 passes for 45 yards in the game, while Lundquist rushed for 66 yards on three carries and added 1.5 tackles on defense. Cepeda totaled three tackles and Dominick Joyce followed with two tackles. Zachary Johnson rushed for 40 yards on four carries and Luke Chadwick compiled a team-leading five tackles to lead the Junior Hub defense in the victory over the Junior

7th Grade

Running back Braxton Bruns sparked the Rochelle offense in the first quarter, breaking off a 28-yard rush to the left side that led to a 9-yard touchdown rush from running back Joey Chadwick. Bruns followed with a 61-yard touchdown run on a second-and-13 play midway through the first quarter, maneuvering through the Oregon defense to help Rochelle command a 16-0 lead. Running back Nolan Zick added a 10-yard touchdown run during the second quarter.

Quarterback Riley Smith helped Rochelle extend its lead in the third quarter, rolling left and firing a 28-yard

touchdown pass to tight end Vinny Tornabene. Running back Kyler Rowe's 12-yard rush led to a 43-yard rush from running back Kayl True, who then scored on a 19-yard touchdown rush during the fourth quarter to help the Junior Hubs ice their second victory.

Rochelle shut out the Junior Hawks 38-0 to remain unbeaten at 2-0 this season. Bruns rushed for 89 yards on three carries, while True carried the ball three times for 68 yards. Tornabene shined for the Junior Hub defense, recording a team-high two sacks and finishing with five tackles. Rowe compiled a team-leading 6.5 tackles and Bruns followed with 3.5 tackles. Joey Chadwick rushed five times for 50 yards and Mikey Chadwick added 26 yards on three

6th Grade

Rochelle received a forfeit due to the Junior Hawks not rostering a sixth-grade team this season. The Junior Hubs are now 2-0 and will look to stay perfect against Byron on Saturday.

5th Grade

Running back Brayson Bouland gave the Junior Hubs an early lead over Oregon, rushing for a 20yard touchdown during the opening quarter. Jack Olson recovered a fumble soon after, allowing the Junior Hubs to take over possession. With Rochelle leading 8-6 in the third quarter, quarterback Grange Kissack kept the ball and escaped two defenders for a 24-yard touchdown run. The Junior Hubs held on for a 16-6 win to remain undefeated at 2-0 on the season.

Running back Dominic Escatel led Rochelle on the ground, rushing 10 times for 44 yards while Bouland carried the ball seven times for 33 yards. Running back Noah Hayden added 22 yards on five carries for the Junior Hubs, who saw Bentley Etes record a team-leading three tackles on defense. Four players including Hayden and Olson as well as Charlie Chadwick and Brycen Williams finished with two total tackles in the victory over the Junior Hawks.

SOCCER: Rochelle wins season-opener over Genoa-Kingston

From page 1

The Cogs refused to back down, however, taking advantage of two defensive miscues for back-toback goals during the 33rd to be in control after 40 minute to bring the Hubs within three goals late in emerged with a new wave the first half. Rochelle answered in the 35th minute, when Garcia connected

with Salazar for his third goal of the match, which enabled the Hubs to hold a 6-2 lead over the Cogs at

While Rochelle seemed minutes, Genoa-Kingston right-footed shot into the of energy during the second half, where the Cogs scored four of their six

goals in addition to putting several shots on net. After conceding a goal during the 45th minute, Rochelle fired back when Diaz took an assist from freshman Alexis Nava and blasted a Genoa-Kingstonnetto give the Hubs a 7-3 advantage during the 48th minute.

"Our communication

was important during the second half," Salazar said. "We told each other who we needed to guard and we couldn't let them pass us by. I thought we worked as a team and we didn't allow them to come back... I think my role on the team this year is to help all of us work together and not play selfishly. We all want

to score, but we don't want to be selfish."

The Cogs executed a pair of headers into the Rochelle net midway through the second half, with one coming on a corner kick in the 61st minute while another came on a cross into the Rochelle box during the 62nd minute. Both teams exchanged goals as

the match expired, with Garcia scoring on an assist from Salazar during the 76th minute before Genoa-Kingston capitalized on a Rochelle foul and fired right back with a goal off a free kick in the //th minute.

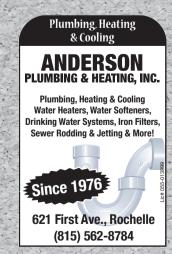
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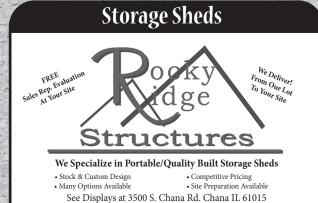
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101 LEGAL NOTICE

> **NOTICE Annual Treasurers Report** 2022-2023

Revenue Summary: Property Taxes - \$137,085; Licenses \$6,937; Franchise Income \$9,419; Building Permits \$3,213; State Income Tax \$156,246; Replacement Tax \$33,935; Sales & Use Tax \$87,459; Cannabis Tax \$1,522; Video Gaming \$35,696; Fines \$76; Penalties \$4,984; Infrastructure Maintenance Fees (Excise) \$9,097; Interest \$3,155; Interest NB&T \$14,528; Summer Camp \$5,940; Donations \$3,695; Grants \$139,241; Library State Grant \$4,653; Library Fines \$302; Library Card Fees \$680; Rental Income \$4,714; Garbage

Fees \$77,176; Water and Sewer Sales \$147,546; Debt Service Fees \$131,155; Cemetery Lot Sales \$14,901; Grave Openings \$13,245; Miscellaneous Income \$37,379; Motor Fuel Tax Allotment \$39,366; FB&T Investments \$514,944; Other Proceeds \$158,556. Total Revenues: \$1,792,226 Expenditure Summary: Compensation: \$0.00 to \$2,000; Alexandria Cardot, Art Cardot, Rhonda Cardot, David Chapman, Denise Coffman,

Charles Ellis, Martha Holder, Nathan Hollinger, Kolton Morgan, Susan Larson, Jakiah Muntean, Kyle Ranken, Terry Stinnett: \$2,000 to \$5,000; Tim Henert, Rodney Young, \$5,000 to \$10,000; Janet Arroyo, Mason Munroe, Suzanne Paul, Carson Rueff, Dorthy Van Dam: \$10,000 to \$20,000; Jeff Larson, Nathan McBride, Monetta Young: \$20,000 to \$30,000; Linda Dallam: \$30,000 to \$40,000; Steve Garrison, Total Compensation: \$180,443

Vendors Paid over \$2,500

42 Tech Solutions \$2,824; AEP Energy \$32,150; Baker & Taylor \$3,434; Card Services \$29,349; Casey's General Stores \$7,349; Casper's Home Inspection \$10,428; Central Bank Loans \$76,357; ComEd \$14,967; Comcast \$5,183, Compass Minerals America, Inc \$7,052; Engel Electric \$2,518; Eric Grover \$2,800; Ferguson Waterworks \$10,000; Steve Garrison \$3,137; Helm \$3,694; IEPA \$42,353; Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund \$11,321; Illinois Public Risk Fund \$7,254; Internal Revenue Service \$13,804; Catherine Koks \$11,915; Adam Lanning \$11,017; Dena McCoy \$14,143; Menards \$3,075; Newkirk & Associates \$14,200; Nicor Gas \$9,781; Northern Illinois Disposal \$57,624; O'Brien Civil Works \$42,065; RAMAKER & Associates \$3,596; Schmitt Plumbing \$29,928; Security Lock \$3,414; Star Media \$3,302; Sterling Vault \$8,780; Tess & Crull \$3,371; Test Inc \$2,910; TJS Excavating \$2,625; Utilly LLC \$2,999; Viking Chemical \$6,729: Wyatt Pavement \$6,443; FB&T Investments \$485,318. All other vendors less

Total Vendors: \$1,277,631 Total Expenditures: \$1,458,074

than \$2,500 - \$268,422

Special Total General Revenue Enterprise Beginning Fund Balance 120,730 2,345,300 0 237,629 2,703,659 666,261 673,847 452,118 1,792,226 -408,877 -638,859 -410,338 -1,458,074 Expenditures Other Financing Source 0 0 Other Financing Uses 3,037,811 **Ending Fund Balance** 378,114 2,380,288 279,409

, Dorthy S Van Dam, certify that I am duly acting municipal Treasurer of the Village of Ashton, Lee County, Illinois. I further certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending April 30, 2023. This report was presented to the Village Board of Trustees August 14, 2023. Subscribed and sworn to this 14th day of August, 2023 Dorthy S Van Dam, Village Treasurer

No. 0827

(Aug. 23, 2023)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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113 **FINANCIAL**

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

NOTICE Advance Fee

119 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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127 **SERVICES AND** REPAIRS

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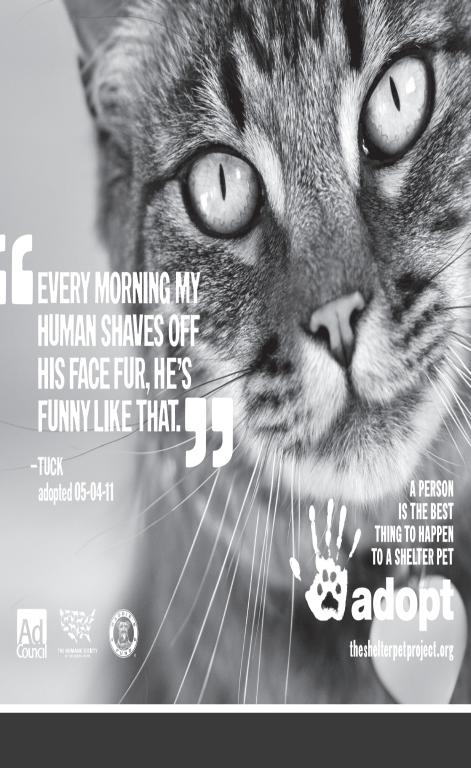
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RTHS Athletics

SPORTS

RTHS Boys Golf



Sophomore lan Metzger receives his third-place medal after the Rocket Invitational at Deer Valley on Saturday. Metzger fired an 81 to lead Rochelle to fifth in the Large Division.

Metzger medals at Rocket Invitational RTHS sophomore finishes third in Large Division

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCK FALLS—The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team competed in the Rocket Invitational at Deer Valley on Saturday, finishing fifth out of six schools in the Large Division and 10th overall out of 12 schools with a team score of 377. Sophomore Ian Metzger was the low scorer for the Hubs (0-3, 0-1 Interstate 8), shooting an 81 over 18 holes to take sixth overall and third in the Large Division. Freshman Alex Dyer followed with an 84 to finish fifth in the Large

Senior Owen Messer and freshman Owen Carmichael totaled 18-hole rounds of 105 and 107 to round out the top four scorers for Rochelle. Junior Chris Hickey carded a 122 and senior Chandler Cunningham totaled a 146 to finish as the No. 5 and No. 6 golfers for the Hubs.

L-P Invite

The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team battled in the LaSalle-Peru Invitational at Senica's Oak Ridge on Thursday afternoon. Rochelle (0-3, 0-1 Interstate 8) scored 371 to finish ninth overall in the tournament, with sophomore Ian Metzger shooting a teambest 84 to take 10th out of over 40 players in the event. Freshman Alex Dyer fired an 89 to take 21st overall in the tournament, while freshman Owen Carmichael followed with a 93 to place 31st overall for the Hubs.

Seniors Parker Lenkaitis and Owen Messer carded

respective scores on 105 and 106, while junior Jacob Ost added a 120 to round out the six varsity players for the Hubs in the event.

Morris

The Rochelle Hub varsity golf team went headto-head against the Morris Redskins to start its Interstate 8 Conference schedule on Wednesday. Sophomore Ian Metzger led the Hubs with a 42 over nine holes. while freshman Alex Dyer added a 43 as the Redskins defeated the Hubs 156-186 at The Creek.

Junior Jacob Ost carded a 50 and senior Parker Lenkaitis totaled a 51 to round out the varsity lineup for the Hubs on Wednesday.



Tabor named 2023 Hub Power Female Weightlifter of the Year

Rochelle Township High School senior Sydney Tabor was presented with the 2023 Hub Power Female Weightlifter of the Year Award during the annual Meet the Hubs Fall Family Night on Friday evening.





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SPORTS

RTHS Football





Purple vs. White scrimmage highlights Meet the Hubs event

The Rochelle Township High School football team took the field Friday evening for its annual Purple vs. White scrimmage game. The scrimmage highlights Rochelle's Meet the Hubs Fall Family Night, where senior Brock Metzger (right) was presented with the 2023 Hub Power Male Weightlifter of the Year Award. Rochelle will kick off the 2023 season with a road game against the Woodstock Blue Streaks on Friday, Aug. 25 at 7 p.m. The Meet the Hubs event included team meetings and introductions for each of the fall athletic programs.





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