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Vol. 103 • No. 36

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30, 2023

\$1.25

Fire training site bid approved

Lease agreement for van for RMU approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its meeting Monday, the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved an ordinance accepting and awarding the proposal of Porter Brothers, Inc. for site development of the Rochelle/Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District Joint Training Facility for \$370,248.72. That is half the cost of the work and the other half will be paid by the OLFPD.

The fire training facility will be located at 920 S. Main St. in Rochelle on land that was donated to the city. In November 2021, the city approved a resolution to execute an intergovernmental agreement with the OLFPD for the training facility.

The work will include earth excavation, the construction of water detention, base layer stone and gravel, the construction of two cement pads, asphalt paving and grass seeding. Porter Brothers, Inc. was the low bid. The OLFPD board approved its half of the bid at its Aug. 8 meeting. In November 2022, the Ogle County Board awarded the project



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Mayor John Bearrows read a proclamation making September 2023 National Service Dog Month in the city. The proclamation was accepted by Aubrey Headon and her service dog, Humphrey.

a \$50,000 grant to help offset the cost of the two cement pads.

Following site development, the training structure will be placed at the site and training will begin.

"I'm certainly proud of the fact that the city has gotten behind this along with the OLFPD," Mayor John Bearrows said. "It's been a great collaboration between the two. We can't in any way provide too much training. This facility is going to provide

training that we can't currently do here locally, not only with fire but other things. It will truly be an original training facility for fire, police, SWAT, K9 and whoever else needs training as well as potentially Rochelle Municipal Utilities in the future. We appreciate everyone's hard work to bring this to fruition."

Van

The council unanimously approved a reso-

lution authorizing a lease agreement with Enterprise Fleet Management for a 2023 Ford Transit van to be used by the RMU water reclamation department for a total of \$13,200 in monthly payments.

In the fall of 2022 the water reclamation department ordered a 2023 Ford Transit for the newly-created pretreatment lab tech position through the Enterprise program.

See CITY page 5



City plans to repaint water tower

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle plans to repaint and perform maintenance on the large water tower near the overpass in 2024, City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh and RMU Assistant Superintendent of Water/Water Reclamation Jay Mulholland said.

Fiegenschuh said the cost of the project will exceed \$1 million. It will include sandblasting and painting of the tower and planned maintenance will include replacing corroded items inside of it and a ladder being installed inside.

"If you look at it, it really needs the painting badly," Mulholland said. "It's obviously a few years behind schedule. But with the way costs have been it's been hard to get it done and other projects have pushed it off to the side."

See TOWER page 3

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Brick engraving deadline Sept. 15

The deadline to have a brick engraved at the Veterans War Memorial will be Sept. 15. **Page 3**

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
75 52	80 49
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
83 52	89 59

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OBITUARIES

• JOHN WILLIAM 'BILL' STOCKING

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INSERTS

• FOOTBALL GUIDE

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Creston couple raising money for family impacted by Lahaina, Hawaii fires

'Everything that happened broke our hearts completely...'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

CRESTON — A Creston couple is raising money through a t-shirt fundraiser for a family impacted by the Lahaina, Hawaii fires in Maui. Lahaina is the site of the deadliest U.S. wildfire in more than a century and thousands of buildings were damaged.

After watching social media and news reports of the fires, Creston's Jeni and Jason Hardin wanted to find a way to help. The couple spent a vacation in Hawaii and Lahaina. They didn't want to donate to a large organization and wonder whether the funds would get to those in need, so they chose a more personal approach.

While on vacation, the Hardins spent time listening to Brant Quick The Music Man perform in Lahaina. Quick and his family live safely away from Lahaina, but he lost all of his work opportunities due to the fire and Jeni saw that he was in need of



(COURTESY PHOTO)

A Creston couple is raising money through a t-shirt fundraiser for a family impacted by the Lahaina, Hawaii fires in Maui. Lahaina is the site of the deadliest U.S. wildfire in more than a century and thousands of buildings were damaged.

donations on social media.

"I told my husband that he's the one we should help," Jeni said. "Of

course my husband was like, 'Yes, let's do it.' Brant is a good guy. He plays music down there

and made a huge impact on our vacation. He helps the tourism industry down there because people look

forward to seeing him. It was just sad."

See FIRES page 2

LOCAL NEWS

FIRES: Creston couple raising money for family in Hawaii

From page 1

“Everything that happened broke our hearts completely. We wanted to do something.”

Through Jeni’s business, Kind Creations, people can buy t-shirts custom designed by her in two styles. 100 percent of the proceeds will be donated to Quick and his family.

Shirts can be purchased online through Etsy at <https://www.etsy.com/listing/1550360627/>. Two designs are available and shirts come in a total of seven colors. Sizes range from youth small to adult extra large. The cost is \$20 each. Orders can be made through email at kindcreations815@gmail.com.

“I started really small,” Jeni said. “I wanted to sell like 20 shirts and raise \$400. I’d like to do a lot

more and spread the word. I’m going to keep going until orders stop. I don’t really have a goal set. I think right now every single dollar helps everybody in Maui and Lahaina. Whatever I can help him and his family with is better than nothing.”

The Hardins have already met their initial goal. As of Aug. 25, 23 shirts had been sold.

“Orders are coming in, which just makes me so happy that people are like me and want to help,” Jeni said. “Some people may not know how to help in a way that will get to people. People know me here, so they know that their money is going to the right place. I would love to just keep the orders coming. We have the most amazing and supportive community. Just to see people

ordering is great. Some are people I don’t even know. The word of mouth and knowing that people want to help, even if it’s just a \$20 shirt, has been great. Maybe \$20 doesn’t mean a lot to some people, but \$20 means a great deal to someone who has nothing. Our community is the best in many ways.”

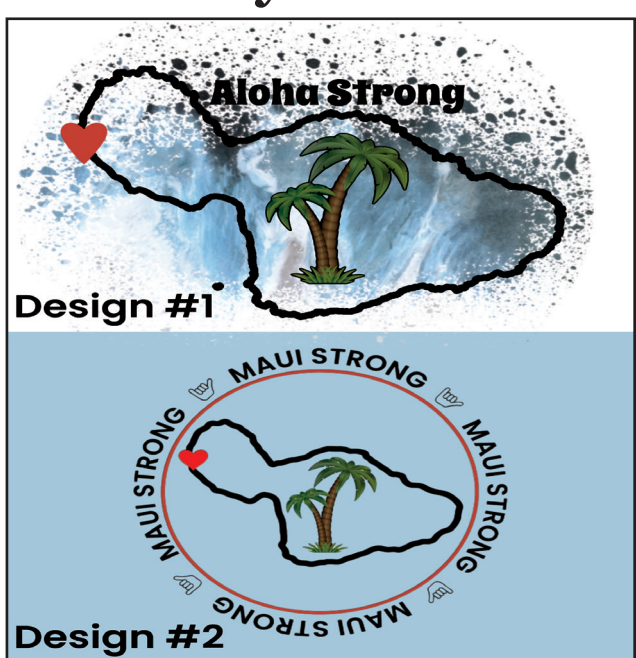
The Hardins have found it difficult to see a place that they spent a happy vacation years ago now ravaged by the wildfires.

“It makes me cry,” Jeni said. “It’s absolutely heartbreaking. It was the best week of our lives and we have so many memories. It’s so heartbreaking because those people love their culture, land and tourism. They take so much pride in all the little shops, cafes, restaurants and history. It’s such an

amazing town. It’s absolutely heartbreaking. We obsessively watched it on the news and social media. Everything is just gone.”

After she got the idea for the fundraiser, Jeni reached out to Quick via social media to let him know. Quick has two young daughters and is now actively seeking out new work in surrounding towns.

“I saw he was taking donations and I got a hold of him on Facebook and he was good with it,” Hardin said. “He was very appreciative. His mom thanked us and ordered some shirts. The people there don’t need millions of dollars. They just need enough to get themselves back on their feet. With him being a musician he’s desperately looking for gigs now. Any way to



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Through Jeni Hardin’s business, Kind Creations, people can buy t-shirts custom designed by her in two styles. 100 percent of the proceeds will be donated to Brant Quick and his family.

raise money to support his family, because they lost all of their income in one day. I can’t imagine how devastating that would be for somebody over there.”

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2023 HOME SCHEDULE

SEP. 9
SOUTHERN ILLINOIS

SEP. 23
TULSA

OCT. 14
OHIO

OCT. 21
EASTERN MICHIGAN

NOV. 7
BALL STATE

NOV. 14
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News-Leader

TOWER: City targeting 2024 for work to repaint water tower

A photograph of a street scene in Rochelle, Illinois. In the background, a large white water tower stands prominently, with the word "ROCHELLE" painted across its middle section. The tower is supported by a lattice of metal legs. The street in the foreground is paved and has several vehicles, including a silver pickup truck and a dark car, driving away from the camera. On the right side of the road, there is a speed limit sign that reads "SPEED LIMIT 35". The street is lined with lush green trees, and utility poles with power lines are visible on the left. The sky is clear and blue.

with the Hubs like what's on there now with the purple colors. We want to make sure we incorporate the new look while remembering the past look. I know that's important to people. We're working on a couple of logo ideas that we'll take to the city council. It won't be the new red and gold city logo. We're going to incorporate purple and black into this one, I believe."



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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

John William 'Bill' Stocking

ROCHELLE — John William "Bill" Stocking, 78, passed away after a short illness, Monday morning Aug. 21, 2023 at Franklin Grove Nursing Home in Franklin Grove, Illinois, under the care of Serenity Hospice.

Bill was born to Clair and Lillian (Lovig) Stocking Oct. 3, 1944 in Rochelle. He was baptized at St. John's Lutheran Church in Creston.

He is survived by his sister, Dorothy Lockard of Creston; brother, Lee (Pat) Stocking of Mendota; godchild, Jonathan William Clair Coulter; numerous nieces and nephews and great nieces and nephews, cousins and many friends.

In addition to his parents, Bill was predeceased by his paternal grandparents, George and Emily (Manager) Stocking; maternal grandparents, John

and Louisa (Erickson) Lovig; brothers: Clair Jr., David Lynn and George Robert Stocking; his sisters: Gladys Mildred and husband, Wayne Bogle, Mary Louise and husband, Leonard Mars; nephews: Jeffrey, Gary and Bruce Bogle and great nephew, Jamie Coulter.

Bill helped farm with his dad until his dad retired from farming. He continued to work at the Rochelle Park District until he retired after 40 years.

Bill loved helping people in their yards, attending local youth baseball games, coffee and lunch with his friends at the Rochelle Community Hospital and playing slots. He also liked antiquing and spent many hours at the Flagg Township Historic Society attending their different events. The last few years, he enjoyed driv-



ing around town, with his famous license plate, "I'm Bill3", visiting whomever was out in their yard.

As per Bill's request, there will be no service. If anyone wishes to donate in Bill's memory, you may do so to either the Flagg Township Historic Society in Rochelle or to Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon. Thanks to all who cared for Bill the last two months. Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.



Rochelle DAR Chapter installs new officers for 2023-2025

The Rochelle Chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution recently installed new officers for the 2023-2025 term. Shown right to left: Debby Katzman, regent; Rena Burgess, vice regent; Judy Schermerhorn, chaplain; Therese Dickey, recording secretary; Bea Chaplin, corresponding secretary; Sarah Flanagan, registrar; Jean Kroupa, treasurer; Holly Campion, historian; and Becky Danner, librarian. The chapter's next meeting will be held on Sept. 2.

RVCU named "2023 Best Credit Unions to Work For" for 2nd consecutive year

LOVES PARK — Rock Valley Credit Union (RVCU), a local and independent financial institution that offers personal solutions for individual and family banking needs, has been recognized for the second consecutive year as a "2023 Best Credit Unions to Work For" organization announced by Credit Union Journal (part of American Banker).

"It is thrilling to be recognized for the second year in a row for the Best Credit Unions to Work For award," Darlyne Keller, CEO of RVCU, said. "Our entire team deserves the recognition for this award. It is due to their dedication to a positive culture, the willingness to adapt, their collaborative spirits, and unwavering commitment to each other and our

members that made this possible. Together, we have achieved outstanding results in the past, and I look forward to seeing what we will accomplish in the future."

Best Credit Unions to Work For is a research-driven program from Best Companies Group (BCG) that examines the company's practices, programs and benefits and surveys employees for their perspective.

To participate in the process, RVCU had to complete two surveys. The first was an employer questionnaire that detailed the company policies, practices, benefits and demographics. The second survey was an employee engagement and satisfaction questionnaire which included an in-depth set of

79 statements that employees responded to on a scale of and open-ended and demographic questions.

Winners of Best Credit Unions to Work For were announced by American Banker on Monday, Aug. 28 and included in a special issue of Credit Union Journal. The full list of recipients can be viewed at Best Credit Unions to Work For, ranked 1-35.

According to American Banker, 70 credit unions made the list this year. The institutions range in size from just 22 employees at PAHO/WHO Federal Credit Union in Washington, D.C., to as large as 3,258 team members at America First Credit Union in Riverdale, Utah. RVCU was ranked fourth among the 70 credit unions to receive the recognition.

Donald Arthur Walter

ROCHELLE — Donald Arthur Walter of Rochelle, Illinois passed away at his home on Tuesday, August 29, 2023.

Services are pending with the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make several arrests

ROCHELLE — A 16-year-old male juvenile of Rochelle was arrested for a public fight on Aug. 18

at 8:56 p.m. In the same incident, another 16-year-old male juvenile of Rochelle and a 14-year-old male juvenile of Rochelle were arrested for a public fight.

On Aug. 26 at 12:26 a.m. Timothy J Odell of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for unlawful use of a weapon and transferred.

On Aug. 25 at 8:39 p.m. Destiny Y. Banner, 21, of Rochelle was ar-

rested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. She paid \$300 and was released with a Sept. 13 Ogle County court date.

On Aug. 25 at 4:11 p.m. a 16-year old male juvenile of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

On Aug. 26 at 3:02 p.m. Angelica A. Jiles, 28, of North Aurora was cited for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Oct. 6 Rochelle court date.

Caitlin L. Holt, 26, of Rochelle was arrested for theft on July 19 at 9:49 p.m. She was released on

an I-Bond with a Sept. 29 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 26 at 3:10 p.m. Elser Garcia-Moreno, 25, of Theif River Falls, Minnesota was arrested for no valid driver's license or registration. He was released on an I-Bond with an Oct. 6 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 27 at 8:46 p.m. Melissa F. Porter, 45, of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

On Aug. 28 at 3:13 p.m. Chiffon Felix, 45, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



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

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

LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The Rochelle City Council unanimously approved an ordinance accepting and awarding the proposal of Porter Brothers, Inc. for site development of the Rochelle/Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District Joint Training Facility for \$370,248.72. Rochelle Police Department Chief Pete Pavia (left) introduced the council to his department's newest employees, Community Service Officers Damen Harrington and Evan Dickson. Following the meeting, RMU electric department personnel made a demonstration utilizing their electric safety trailer (below).

CITY: RMU demonstration held after conclusion of council meeting

From page 1

Almost a year later the city had not received the vehicle and there was no design that it would soon. Prescott Ford had a comparable model in stock, so

RMU moved to purchase the vehicle before it was sold.

Introduction

Rochelle Police Department Chief Pete Pavia introduced the council to

his department's newest employees, Community Service Officers Damen Harrington and Evan Dickson. The new program is designed to take workload off of sworn police officers by utilizing CSOs to respond

to non-emergency calls and things that don't require a responding certified officer.

Demonstration

Following the meeting, RMU electric department personnel made a

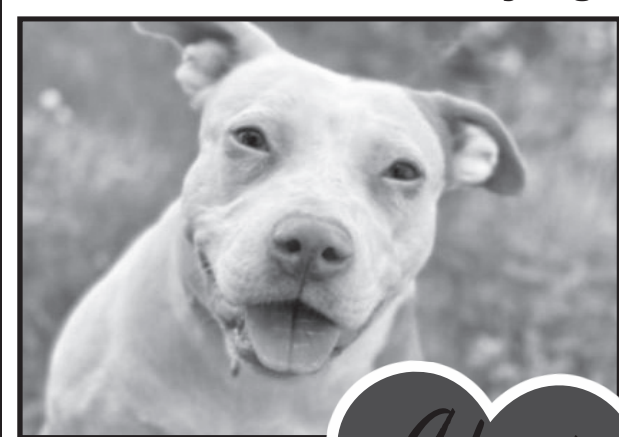
demonstration utilizing their electric safety trailer. The trailer has been used around the community recently to show the dangers of electricity and how linemen stay safe on the job.

Proclamation

Bearrows read a proclamation making September 2023 National Service Dog Month in the city. The proclamation was accepted by Aubrey Headon and her service dog, Humphrey.



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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

A time to celebrate labor's successes and acknowledge its challenges in Illinois

THIS has been a long, hot labor summer for workers across Illinois, and climate change cannot be blamed.

This Labor Day, we take time to remember the sacrifices made over many decades by the thousands of working men and women across Illinois. We thank our policymakers in Springfield and Chicago for consistently stepping up to support working families.

We must acknowledge that our gains have come with continued challenges.

After voters approved last year's Workers Rights Amendment to enshrine

worker protections in our constitution, Illinois has partnered with organized labor to improve wages and working conditions for temporary workers, created legal protections for freelancers, increased transparency in wage rates, and ensured the emerging clean energy industry has an equally strong, diverse workforce. Illinois has a new AFSCME contract to ensure the dedicated state employees in our agencies and facilities are appropriately compensated and protected.

We never take these advancements for granted. We see neighboring states attacking working families through mis-

guided policies such as right-to-work or loosening child labor protections. We remain diligent and resilient, even in our victories.

We see some of these struggles right here.

Just this year, labor has found itself at the center of a number of worker strikes and actions to demand better. Nurses have hit the picket line at Chicago-area hospitals. Professors and staff have followed suit at universities across the state. Cannabis dispensaries and a major shipping company have not been immune.

Even Hollywood is facing a new storyline. The workers who provide the backbone for the television, movie and streaming productions that we cannot get enough of have stood up to say paltry salaries and three cent residuals must improve. They have yet to persuade the mega-bucks producers, but we remain hopeful they will make progress soon.

This Labor Day, we encourage you to take a moment to think about the teachers, nurses, plumbers, set riggers, drillers, entertainment profes-

sionals and so many more men and women who sacrifice every day to make our lives better. We have included here a list of labor-sponsored events this Labor Day to support our brothers and sisters. Please come out and join us to send the message that Illinois is union strong and growing stronger every day.

Belleville: Aug. 31, Southwestern Illinois CLC 55th Annual Labor Award Dinner; Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade and Picnic

Bloomington-Normal: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade Champaign-Urbana: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade and Picnic

Danville: Sept. 4, La-

bor Day Parade
Decatur: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade and Picnic
Galesburg: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade
Granite City: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade and Picnic

Peoria: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade

Quad Cities: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade (40-year anniversary)

Quincy: Sept. 2, Labor Day Picnic

Rockford: Sept. 4, Labor Day Parade, Picnic and Pageant

Southern Illinois: Now through Sept. 4, Du Quoin State Fair

Tim Drea is president and Pat Devaney is secretary-treasurer of Illinois AFL-CIO in Springfield.



Tim Drea

This Labor Day, if seeded properly grain safety can flourish in Illinois

FOR many Illinois farmers, Labor Day signals time to prepare for the fall harvest.

Illinois farms lead the nation in soybean production and boast the nation's largest yield per acres in both soybeans and corn. People here are well-acquainted with the hard work farming demands and the risks it can bring when common-sense safety guidelines are not followed.

Having investigated injuries and deaths suffered by too many people employed in grain operations, I have witnessed the impact of these incidents on family members, co-workers and employers.

As farmers prepare to harvest millions of acres of corn and soybeans this

fall, mechanical equipment such as augers and conveyors, will be used to clear grain storage structures. The risks to workers involved in these operations cannot be overlooked, especially since the Purdue University Agricultural Safety and Health Program reported that in 2022 at least 59 workers were injured and 24 others died in confined spaces, such as bins, elevators and silos, a nearly 41 percent increase from 2021.

In Illinois, the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration's Peoria office has investigated three serious injuries this year in the grain handling industry, including a 27-year-old who lost his leg after being caught in an Atlanta

grain bin paddle conveyer last August, a worker trapped in a grain bin for five hours in Westfield in February and another worker whose foot was amputated after being caught in a screw auger while entering a Westfield bin entry in July.

Deaths and injuries like these are preventable. In concert with industry leaders, OSHA has developed the following seven critical steps for grain safety:

Never allow a worker to enter the bin to walk-down grain to make it flow.

Always turn off and lock out equipment such as bin augers to avoid workers getting caught and suffering severe in-

juries or worse. While augers turn to keep grain flowing, they can engulf workers under thousands of pounds of stored products.

Test the atmosphere inside the bin before entering to check for deadly gases caused by decaying matter.

Equip workers with safety harnesses and anchor lifelines and have attendants outside the bin to assist if an emergency occurs.

Be aware of the dangers of grain dust, which is highly combustible. Remember, mere tablespoons of grain dust can cause an explosion if ignition sources, such as power tools or conveyer belts that emit energy, exist.



Edward Marshall

To help promote grain safety, OSHA and the Illinois Grain and Feed Association renewed their alliance focused on grain and other safety issues. The alliance includes year-long efforts to educate industry employers and workers and includes participation in the annual Stand-Up 4 Grain Safety Week each spring, a collaboration between the National Grain and Feed Association, Grain Handling Safety Council, Grain Elevator Processing Society, OSHA and other stakeholders.

As we look forward to the changing season and enjoy the bounty that the Illinois grain industry puts on tables across the nation, we should not overlook the safety and well-being of the people who make it

possible. Federal law protects their right to a safe and healthy workplace, and they should expect to end each day free of harm. We at OSHA want employers to make safety and health a core value in their workplaces and we call on Illinois' farm operators to do their part to ensure OSHA protections are applied equally to all workers so that this harvest season is a safe one.

Learn more about OSHA and industry-recognized safety rules for agricultural operations at <https://www.osha.gov/agricultural-operations/hazards>

Edward Marshall is the Peoria Area Director for the U.S. Department of Labor's Occupational Safety and Health Administration serving central Illinois.

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20515
(202) 225-6201

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

COMMUNITY

Kessens win Aug. 25 Chamber Lawn of the Week

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of Aug. 25 to Ron and Kim Kessen. The couple received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card.

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 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."



(COURTESY PHOTO)
The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of Aug. 25 to Ron and Kim Kessen. The couple received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card.



- 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
- Aug. 24 - FTH Event Auction, \$25
- Aug. 25 - City of Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 26 - Cahoy Pump, \$25
- Aug. 27 - Karen Marsh, Stillman Valley, \$50
- Aug. 28 - Terry Hatfield, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 29 - Steve Barron, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 30 - Debbi Ramsey, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 31 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club holding Bat Walk

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club will host a Bat Walk on Friday, Sept.

15 from 7-8:30 p.m. The Illinois Department of Bat Conservation will lead a guided tour

where you will get to see and hear the bats' behaviors in the wild. Kids crafts and snacks

start at 7 p.m. The event is free. Call Wacey to sign up at 815-761-9808.

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Aug. 31
James O'Brien

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



Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 "Waterloo" group
- 5 Director Craven
- 8 Kilt wearer
- 12 Borscht base
- 13 Chop
- 14 Ginormous
- 15 Baltimore seafood treat
- 17 Congers
- 18 " – Little" (film)
- 19 Sweet-sounding
- 21 Toe count
- 22 Jazzy Fitzgerald
- 23 Lobbying org.
- 26 Stir-fry pan
- 28 Succinct
- 31 "American –"
- 33 Peruke
- 35 June 6, 1944
- 36 Casual shirts
- 38 Ran into
- 40 Fr. holy woman
- 41 Unhappy destiny
- 43 Arrest
- 45 Yell, "You're not funny!"
- 47 Believes (in)
- 51 Regrettably
- 52 Unambiguous
- 54 Marathon fraction
- 55 Bee follower

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18								19	20			
			21					22				
23	24	25		26		27		28			29	30
31			32		33		34		35			
36				37		38		39		40		
		41			42		43		44			
45	46						47			48	49	50
51					52	53						
54					55				56			
57					58				59			

- 56 Judicial garb
- 57 Shopper's delight
- 58 Be sick
- 59 "Closer" actor Clive
- 60 Leer at
- 61 Try out
- 62 Ship's staff
- 63 Last (Abbr.)
- 64 "Great Expectations" lad
- 65 Fuss
- 66 Telemarketer's tactic
- 67 Kipling hero
- 68 Perched
- 69 Needle hole
- 70 Quick glance
- 71 Refined
- 72 Costa del –
- 73 O'Hara estate
- 74 Pilgrimage site
- 75 Small pack animal
- 76 Easter entrees
- 77 Director Kazan
- 78 Garbage barge
- 79 Toothpaste holder
- 80 British gun
- 81 Floral neck-lace

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

1				5	9	6		
	5		2				1	
		6			3			4
		3			4			2
8		7	6				5	
	2			3		7		1
		5	4		1			9
	7			8		2		
6			9				8	

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

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

Clue: **X** equals **U**

IMPW ZUX YQCKP UW V NPQEV CW
NVQCGGPVW COTVWY VWY ZUXQ
NVQ NUWHO UXE, IUXTY ZUX
MVKP V WPKCO GQPVHYUIW?

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Answer

5	8	1	7	1	2	6	4	3	9
9	4	2	5	8	3	1	7	6	
6	7	1	3	1	9	4	5	8	2
1	9	1	8	3	5	6	2	4	
3	4	5	2	2	6	9	7	1	8
2	6	8	4	7	1	3	9	5	
4	5	2	4	3	1	8	6	9	7
1	7	6	9	4	2	8	5	3	
3	8	6	9	5	2	7	1	4	

Solution time: 24 mins.

N	E	N	O	E	L	L	A	I	L	E	S	A	L	E	
M	O	B	E	C	E	E	M	I	L	E	S	M	I	L	E
A	L	S	A	L	S	A	L	S	A	L	S	A	L	S	
H	E	C	K	L	E	T	R	A	S	T	H	E	C	K	L
D	O	C	R	A	S	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T	R	A
P	O	L	O	S	M	E	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T	R
I	D	O	L	O	S	M	E	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T
P	A	C	K	E	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T	H	E	C
S	T	U	A	R	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T	H	E	C
C	H	A	R	A	B	E	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T	H
S	O	L	O	T	H	E	C	K	L	E	T	H	E	C	K

When you drive on a certain Caribbean island and your car conks out, would you have a Nevis breakdown?

September

HUB NEWS

What Is Happening @ RTHS

Welcome Back, Hubs!

Sept 4	Labor Day No School		6 pm kicks off at Rochelle City Hall
Sept 5	Summertime Silver Service claims are due in the office.		7pm Pep Rally & Coronation in the RTHS gym
Sept 9	1st marching band competition - LaSalle Peru Invite		8pm Powder Puff football at the RTHS stadium
Sept 8	RTHS Athletic Hall of Fame Induction before Rochelle HUBS football	Sept 29	Renaissance study hall release day No KEC PM classes
Sept 18	RTHS Board of Education 5:30 pm It's Homecoming Week in HUBLAND!		Homecoming football at the stadium vs Marengo
Sept 20	Purple bus routes PM	Sept 30	8-10:30 pm Homecoming Dance in the Commons
Sept 21-23	Fall Play - PUFFS - Harry Potter Parody/Comedy	Oct 1	File a FAFSA form https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa . If you plan to file for financial aid in college or trade school
Sept 28	5:30 pm HC Parade lineup downtown Sixth Street. The homecoming parade		



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Please Note: All loans offered by ISL Education Lending are subject to credit approval. Before applying for a private loan, we encourage you to first complete the FAFSA, or Free Application for Federal Student Aid. You should also work with your college financial aid office to explore and exhaust all sources of student financial aid before seeking a private student loan.

*Northern Illinois Federal Credit Union is compensated by ISL Education Lending for the referral of student loan customers.

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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 30, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS

SOPHOMORES WIN TITLE

The RTHS sophomore volleyball team won the Jefferson Invitational.

See page 8 for more details

RTHS Football

Hubs silence Blue Streaks

RTHS forces three turnovers in 40-0 shutout win over Woodstock on Friday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

WOODSTOCK — Junior linebacker Ethan Goodwin saw the football and a wide open lane to the end zone after an errant pass attempt during the first quarter of the Rochelle Hub varsity team's season-opening game against the Woodstock Blue Streaks on Friday evening.

With his team needing a big play on defense after turning the ball over on its first offensive possession, Goodwin swooped in and snagged a misfired pass from Woodstock quarterback Caden Thompson, returning the ball 25 yards for the first touchdown of the evening. It was one of three interceptions recorded by the Rochelle defense, which held the Blue Streaks to 131 total yards as the Hubs cruised over Woodstock 40-0 to start the 2023 season with a victory.

"We read that it was a pass and I dropped back into my zone," Goodwin said. "When he threw the ball, I was able to tip it up into the air and catch it. I froze for a second, but I just ran straight for the end zone and it felt amazing because

I saw two defenders coming at me, but I reached the ball over the goal line and scored. It was a great feeling because the team was hyped up and it was a great way for us to start the game. I felt like our defense started off strong."

Unlike the contest against Woodstock last season, where Rochelle narrowly escaped with a 14-7 win and went without a single rushing touchdown, the Hubs were in firm control on Friday from start to finish. Leading 8-0 after Goodwin's defensive touchdown early in the first quarter, Rochelle surged ahead after junior free safety Grant Gensler intercepted a deep pass from Thompson late in the first quarter. The turnover led to a 5-yard touchdown rush from Gensler, who scored on a fourth-and-4 down and added the 2-point conversion to put the Hubs up 16-0.

"It feels great to come out here and get a big win," Gensler said. "We've worked for this all summer and that work paid off tonight. We knew that they were going to stuff the box against us and we had to run hard, but our guys up front got the job done

Junior Grant Gensler leaves a Woodstock defender in the dust during the Rochelle Hub varsity football game against the Blue Streaks on Friday. Gensler totaled 191 all-purpose yards as the Hubs won 40-0.

and I was able to get some yards. We feel like we have something very special and we're all really close with each other. We're like brothers and we're looking

to become the best version of ourselves this year."

The Hub defense commanded a three-touchdown lead midway through the second quarter, where Ro-

chelle forced a Woodstock punt and strung together an eight-play, 50-yard drive capped off with a 4-yard rushing score from Gensler, who totaled 191 all-purpose

yards and led the offense with 108 rushing yards on 11 carries in the win. Rochelle led 24-0 at halftime.

See HUBS page 3

RTHS Volleyball

Rochelle takes second at Jefferson Invitational

Lady Hub varsity team scores four wins during tournament action on Saturday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCKFORD — Juniors Ali Ohlinger and Taelynn Rodeghero have emerged as a dynamic one-two punch for the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team this season. The two were an integral part of their team's success at the Jefferson Invitational on Saturday, when Rochelle won four consecutive matches before conceding a narrow loss to earn a second-place trophy.

The Lady Hubs started the tournament strong, defeating Stillman Valley 25-19, 26-24 before cruising over Rockford East 25-19, 25-15. Rodeghero was Rochelle's go-to weapon on the offensive end throughout the tournament, recording 32 kills and 15 digs. Ohlinger effectively commanded the offense, compiling 64 assists along with 25 digs, 17 kills and 15 aces.

"We came in with a mindset that we wanted to win and we wanted to be there," Rodeghero said. "We were really aggressive, we put up some great passes and we finished each game really strong... We've just started the season, but I think we've already seen how good we can be

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team took second place in the Jefferson Invitational on Saturday afternoon, finishing 4-1 over five matches. Pictured above from left to right are Dempsey Atkinson, Alivia Henkel, Kendell Frankenberry, Sydney Carmichael, Payton Cesarone, Makenzie Liezert, Anna Blanton (front row), Emma Kennay, Kennedy Adamski, Ali Ohlinger, Taelynn Rodeghero, Audyn Kemp, Lauren Dyer, head coach Molly Sly and assistant coach Katie Roush.

and we're putting in a lot of work at practice. We want to continue showing our strengths, hiding our weaknesses and improving the weaker parts of our game so we can be a really strong team."

Rochelle remained unbeaten in the tournament with a 26-24, 27-25 win over Woodstock and a

25-18, 25-4 win over North Boone to clinch a berth in the championship match. The Lady Hubs battled against Rockford Christian for the tournament title, fighting hard but falling just short in a 21-25, 19-25 loss to settle for second place. Senior Alivia Henkel complemented Rodeghero on the

offensive end, totaling 20 kills and nine aces while adding 26 digs on defense for the day.

"I thought we came in with really great energy and we had the attitude that we were going to play our game and do the best that we could," Henkel said. "We're really starting to come together as a

team, which gives me a lot of hope for the season. I'm hoping that I can be a leader as a senior and help pull the team together. We've been doing great and I think we'll continue to improve. It's only the start of the season, but we've already seen a lot of positives."

Junior Dempsey Atkin-

son led the defense with 41 digs and three aces in the tournament. Junior Emma Kennay followed with 30 digs and four aces over the five matches, while senior Kennedy Adamski finished with 17 kills and sophomore Audyn Kemp chipped in nine kills.

See VBALL page 8

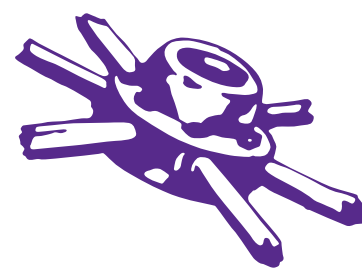


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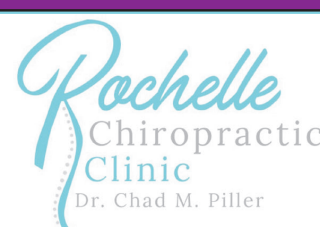
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HUB SPOTLIGHT



Emma
Heller

Year: Freshman

Sport: Volleyball

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

*A: I played rotational volleyball
from sixth through eighth grade.*

**Q: What do you enjoy most
about this sport?**

*A: I love the energy the team
brings. It makes the sport so fun.*

**Q: What is your favorite school
subject and why?**

*A: I really like world geography.
It's not a necessary class but
they make learning maps and
history so much fun.*

**Q: Who is your favorite
athlete and why?**

*A: Kat Sandercock because she's a
softball pitcher and a really*

inspiring person.

**Q: What is your dream job
and why?**

*A: I'd love to be in the medical
field. I love meeting new people
and creating bonds with people I
work with.*

**Q: Where would your dream
vacation be and why?**

*A: I'd love to head somewhere
warmer. A nice area with loads of
stores to shop in is perfect.*

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

*A: I enjoy how you make so many
more friends by putting yourself
out there.*

Ella

Thompson

Year: Freshman

Sport: Volleyball



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

A: Two years.

**Q: What do you enjoy most
about this sport?**

*A: I've always practiced hard in
this sport and I just love the team.*

**Q: What is your favorite school
subject and why?**

*A: Algebra or biology since I've
always been good at math and I
love my biology class.*

**Q: Who is your favorite
athlete and why?**

*A: Elena Scott and Zoe Fleck
because they play the same
position as me and they're
super awesome.*

Q: Who is your biggest

role model and why?

*A: Elena Scott and Zoe
Fleck because I want to be
as good as them.*

**Q: What is your dream job
and why?**

*A: A veterinarian because of
my love for animals.*

**Q: Where would your dream
vacation be and why?**

*A: Hawaii because I've heard it's
so pretty there and Mexico
because that's where my family is.*

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

*A: Having games and practices
after school and feeling a part of
something at my new school.*

SPORTS



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Hub varsity football team won 40-0 over Woodstock on Friday. The Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football team also emerged victorious with a 46-0 shutout win during the evening. Above, senior Tommy Tourdot runs behind junior teammate Kaiden Morris (left) and junior Ethan Goodwin works behind lead blocker Jack Carmichael (right). Below, freshman Dylan Manning breaks outside for a 40-yard touchdown run during the second half of the fresh-soph game.

HUBS: Rochelle football teams kick off season with road wins

From page 1

"We talked before the game about watching their screens and making sure they didn't get any yards on those," Goodwin said. "They ran the ball more than we thought they would and we weren't expecting that, but I thought we handled that well. Our group is really close and we've known each other for a while. We're like brothers and I look at every guy on this team like he's my brother. I would do anything for these guys and we've all sold out for each other."

Woodstock slowly moved the ball early in the third quarter, but the Hubs (1-0, 0-0 Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue) were up to the task, forcing an incomplete pass on a fourth-and-short scenario to end a promising Blue Streak drive. Despite completing 399 total yards including nearly 300 yards and five touchdowns on the ground, Rochelle committed three turnovers, with one coming on an interception by Woodstock's

Charlie Walrod late in the third quarter.

Rochelle answered right back by forcing a turnover of its own. Junior linebacker Elijah Harley, who fumbled after a reception earlier in the game, made up for his earlier mistake with an interception on defense near the end of the third quarter. The Woodstock turnover led to a 4-yard touchdown run from junior Erich Metzger, who iced the victory with a 60-yard touchdown run midway through the fourth quarter. Metzger rushed for 98 yards on eight carries in the win.

Junior quarterback Carson Lewis completed 8-of-13 passes for 102 yards in the game, while four players including senior Issac Lopez as well as juniors Jack Pavlak and Brandyn Metzger totaled four tackles. Rochelle will host Morton for a non-conference game Friday, Sept. 1.

Fresh/Soph

The Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football team kicked off the 2023 season



with a dominant showing against Woodstock on Friday evening, shutting out the Blue Streaks 46-0. Sophomore Gavin Neale recorded a 7-yard touchdown run and a 12-yard touchdown run,

while sophomore Reece Harris intercepted a pass and returned the ball for a 37-yard touchdown. The Hubs (1-0, 0-0 Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue) will host Morton on Friday, Sept. 1 at 5 p.m.

Sophomore Van Gerber and freshman Warren Schweitzer connected on a 12-yard touchdown pass early in the game, while freshmen Dylan Manning and Angel Argueta had touchdown runs of 40 and

2 yards late in the win.

Sophomore Mark Green totaled six tackles and two tackles for loss in the win, while sophomore Ryder Stombaugh had five tackles and two tackles for loss.

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ASHTON NEWS



Meadows of Franklin Grove hosts Barbie Pink Waffle Day

(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Barbie Mania recently hit the Meadows of Franklin Grove Assisted Living. The facility hosted a Barbie Pink Waffle Day. Delicious pink waffles were enjoyed that were made fresh to order with delicious toppings of fruit and cream and laughs as photos were taken in Best Barbie Pink. Photos featured Grandma Barbies and Grandpa Kens. Seniors and staff enjoyed and shared their memories of the doll back in their day.

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PRIME TIME

How to handle selling a home when moving into an assisted living facility

FAMILIES must make a number of important decisions when an aging relative decides the time is right to move into an assisted living facility. Such facilities help older individuals who are having troubling living independently. In addition to finding the right facility for a loved one, many families have to decide what to do with their aging loved one's home.

Aging individuals with companions such as a spouse or a live-in partner may not need to sell their house if that person will not be moving to the assisted living facility with them. However, many partners choose to move as well, and family members may need to sell their current home in order to pay for their loved one to stay at an assisted living facility.

The senior care experts at Caring.com note that selling a home when a loved one decides to move into an assisted living facility can present some emotional aspects that will not necessarily be present when selling one's own home. In recognition of that and some additional difficulties associated with this unique situation,

Caring.com offers the following tips to help families navigate the process as smoothly as possible.

- Consider assigning someone power of attorney. Individuals move into assisted living facilities for a number of reasons, so not everyone will do so because of diminishing cognitive abilities. However, Caring.com notes that selling the home of a loved one diagnosed with dementia can present unique challenges, as only a homeowner can transfer a home to a new owner. In such instances, someone may need to step in and assume power of attorney. Contact an elder law attorney to facilitate that process, if necessary. Such professionals also can provide insight into laws that can help families determine if it's best to sell the home or hold onto it if proceeds from a potential sale are not needed to pay for a facility. Arrange for power of attorney or even a guardianship prior to putting a home on the market.
- Discuss the situation and the sale. Aging individuals should be given ample time to process the idea of selling their homes before moving into an assisted living facility. Homeowners make un-



told sacrifices to buy and maintain their homes, so the decision to sell could elicit a range of emotions that aging individuals have a right to process before a "For Sale" sign is erected in the front yard. Caring.com recommends maintaining an open and honest dialogue about what can be achieved by selling the home and how their quality of life will benefit from moving to the assisted

living facility.

- Sort through belongings. Caring.com notes the significance of allowing aging relatives to take special items with them into the assisted living facility. It will be impossible to take a lifetime's worth of possessions into such a facility, but sort through belongings with your aging family member and do everything possible to ensure that especially

meaningful items can make the move. Remaining items can be donated, sold, given to younger loved ones, or discarded.

- Make sure all relevant parties remain in the loop. If one person accepts power of attorney or a similar level of responsibility, that person should ensure all interested parties remain in the loop about the sale process. Aging adults without diminished

mental faculties should be routinely updated on the sale process. Keeping all interested parties in the loop reduces the risk of objections or other problems when the sale is set to go through.

Selling a home before moving into an assisted living facility presents some unique challenges that families can tackle together to ensure the process goes smoothly.

Signs it could be time to move to an assisted living facility

ASSISTED living facilities provide a vital service to families across the globe. In fact, more than 800,000 people in the United States are currently living in assisted living facilities, according to a 2023 report from Zippia, an online recruitment service that gathers information from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and its own internal data.

The decision to move oneself or an aging relative into an assisted living facility is complicated. Though such facilities typically offer an excellent standard of care, it can still be bittersweet for an individual to leave his or her home. It also can be difficult to identify when is the best time to make such a transition. Though each individual case is unique, the following are some indicators that the time might be right to move oneself or an aging loved one into an assisted living facility.

- Emotional challenges: The National Council on Aging notes that certain emotional challenges may indicate the time is right for an individual to move into an assisted living facility. The NCOA encourages individuals making such a decision independent of others to ask themselves if they are experiencing feelings of loneliness or depression. Assisted living facilities can provide much-needed social interaction that seniors may not be getting at home. If feelings of loneliness or depression are present, then the time might be right to make the move to an assisted living facility.
- Physical challenges: Many individuals move into assisted living facilities because the physical challenges of daily life have become too significant to handle alone. The NCOA notes that individuals who are feeling

overwhelmed by tasks such as buying groceries, cooking and cleaning may benefit from moving into assisted living facilities that handle such tasks for them.

- Issues with hygiene: The presence of additional challenges related to hygiene also may suggest a move to an assisted living facility may be beneficial. Staff at assisted living facilities can help adults who are struggling to bathe, dress themselves or use a restroom on their own. Family members can look for signs that a loved one's personal hygiene has taken a turn for the worse. Issues with hygiene can be a byproduct of depression, and poor hygiene also can increase risk for infection and illness.
- Injuries: The NCOA notes that falls or near-falls are another potential sign that a person can benefit from moving to an assisted living facility. Falls can hurt anyone, but they can be especially damaging to aging adults. For example, the National Institutes of Health report that falls may result in loss of independence, chronic pain and reduced quality of life. Assisted living facilities are often equipped with features to



reduce risk of falls, such as grab bars in showers and bathrooms and even along corridor walls. In addition, assisted living facilities may be housed in single-story buildings or equipped with elevators, which means residents won't be forced to navigate potentially dangerous

staircases at any point during the day. Staff also can respond quickly if residents experience a fall, providing much-needed

assistance that seniors living alone or with an aging spouse may not get at home.

Various signs may indi-

cate that the time is right for individuals to move into an assisted living facility so they can more safely navigate daily life.



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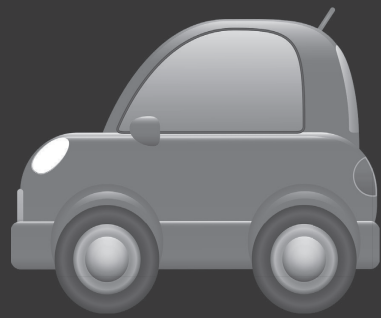
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SPORTS

Rochelle Junior Tackle



(PHOTOS BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams hosted Byron on Saturday at Helms Park, finishing 1-2-1 over four games. Above, eighth-grader Andrew Eyster (left) runs for a big gain and seventh-grader Riley Smith (right) breaks away from two Byron defenders. Below, sixth-grader Jaycob Hammer (left) stiff arms a Byron defender and fifth-graders Charlie Chadwick and Aiden Blomberg (right) combine to tackle a Byron ball carrier.

Junior Hubs battle with Byron at Helms Park

Eighth-graders remain unbeaten as Rochelle finishes 1-2-1 over four games

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams hosted Byron at Helms Park on Saturday, with the Junior Hubs finishing 1-2-1 over four contests with the Junior Tigers. Rochelle will continue the Big 14 Conference schedule against Sterling on the road Saturday, Sept. 2 beginning at 10 a.m.

8th Grade

Caiden Redlarczyk sparked the offense with a 17-yard rush early in the first quarter. Presented with a fourth-and-23 scenario later in the quarter, Rochelle scored its first touchdown of the game after quarterback Cohen Haedt launched a 31-yard pass to tight end Holden Liebhaber. With the contest tied at 6-6 in the second quarter, the Junior Hubs retook control of the

lead when Redlarczyk returned a kickoff down the Byron sideline for a 78-yard touchdown.

Rochelle held a 14-12 advantage late in the second quarter, where Redlarczyk added a 22-yard rush and Haedt completed an 11-yard pass to Andrew Eyster. The Junior Hubs extended their lead after Haedt fired a 12-yard touchdown pass to running back Bo Lundquist near the end of the first half. Eyster ignited the Rochelle offense with a 31-yard rush during the third quarter.

Redlarczyk's 21-yard touchdown run enabled the Junior Hubs to command a 28-12 lead over the Junior Tigers, who scored two late touchdowns but were unable to come back as Rochelle hung on for a 28-26 win. Eyster rushed for 79 yards on 12 carries for the Junior Hubs (3-0), while Redlarczyk totaled 64 rushing yards on nine carries. Eyster led

the Rochelle defense with eight tackles and Zach Johnson followed with five tackles. Luke Chadwick had four tackles.

7th Grade

A defensive battle resulted in a 6-6 tie between Rochelle and Byron on Saturday. The Junior Hubs (2-0-1) took the lead during the second quarter, where quarterback Riley Smith rushed for a 4-yard touchdown. Byron tied the score with a fourth-quarter touchdown, but neither squad was able to convert a 2-point rush. Joey Chadwick rushed for 37 yards on eight carries for the Junior Hubs, while Mikey Chadwick followed with 36 rushing yards on six carries in the game.

Smith completed 2-of-3 passes for 7 yards, hitting tight end Vinny Tornabene for an 8-yard gain during the game. Braxton Bruns carried the ball 10 times for 25 yards

and Kyler Rowe added three carries for 9 yards. Rowe led the defense with five tackles as well as one sack in the tie.

6th Grade

Byron defeated Rochelle 26-8 on Saturday to hand the Junior Hub sixth-graders their first loss of the season. First-quarter highlights included a 10-yard rush from Korbin Milos along with a defensive interception from Vaughn Manning with Byron leading Rochelle 14-0. Milos broke loose for a 28-yard rush in the third quarter, where quarterback Maddex Jackson launched a 30-yard touchdown pass to tight end Austin Sarver for Rochelle's lone score of the game.

Jackson connected with Milos on an 18-yard pass later in the third quarter. Byron held a 14-0 lead after a 62-yard touchdown pass and a 73-yard touchdown run in the first quarter. The Junior Tigers followed with

a 54-yard touchdown run in the second quarter to go up 20-0. Byron sealed its win on Saturday with a 51-yard touchdown run during the fourth quarter.

Milos rushed for 44 yards on nine carries for the Junior Hubs (2-1), while Quentin Ansteth added five carries for 11 yards and Eli Underwood finished with six tackles to spearhead the defensive charge. Zachary Waddle and Sean Hudzik each compiled two tackles in the loss to Byron.

5th Grade

Byron won 30-8 over Rochelle to hand the Junior Hub fifth-graders their first loss of the season. The Junior Tigers held a 14-0 advantage after touchdown runs of 38 yards and 41 yards during the first quarter. Dominic Escatel's 12-yard and 18-yard rushes headlined Rochelle's offensive effort in the opening half, while Landon Johnson

added a 7-yard touchdown rush for the team's lone score of the afternoon. Escatel also recovered a fumble on the defensive side of the ball.

Johnson recorded a 14-yard carry and Grange Kissack recorded a 12-yard carry in the second quarter for the Junior Hubs, who also saw Noah Hayden carry the ball for 18 yards near the end of the first half. Third-quarter highlights included a 15-yard rush from Johnson and a 16-yard run from Brayson Boulard. Byron sealed the win with two rushing touchdowns in the third quarter.

Johnson finished with 59 rushing yards on six carries, while Escatel had 48 rushing yards on 13 carries and Hayden had 34 rushing yards on four carries. Boulard totaled 29 rushing yards on eight carries and Escatel led the defense with six tackles, while Charlie Chadwick had three tackles for the Junior Hubs (2-1).



RTHS Boys Soccer

Rochelle wins one match at Colin Smith Invitational

Hubs defeat Stillman Valley and concede losses to Richwoods, Genoa-Kingston

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

state 8) will host Morris on Wednesday.

Richwoods

Rochelle's defense was under duress all match long against Peoria-Richwoods, with the Knights outshooting the Hubs 26-3 and 21-1 in shots on goal. Sophomore Antonio Hueramo totaled 11 saves and sophomore Kevin Orozco recorded the only shot on goal for the Hubs, who battled to a 0-0 draw at halftime before Peoria-Richwoods took the lead with a goal in the 54th minute.

The Knights followed

with another second-half goal during the 66th minute to clinch the first-round win over Rochelle. Junior Fernando Diaz and senior Diego Salazar each had one shot for the Hubs in the loss. Peoria-Richwoods held a 2-0 advantage in corner kicks.

G-K

The Hubs and Cogs played an evenly-fought match on Saturday, with Rochelle edging Genoa-Kingston 15-13 in shots while the Cogs owned a 10-8 advantage in shots on goal. Sophomore Antonio

Hueramo recorded five saves for the Hubs, who struck first after junior Fernando Diaz assisted junior teammate Alberto Casillas for a goal during the fourth minute.

Rochelle held a 1-0 lead at halftime, but the Cogs found the equalizer in the 50th minute to tie the score. The score remained tied at 1-1 after the final buzzer, resulting in a penalty-kick shootout that Genoa-Kingston won to advance further along the consolation bracket. Senior Diego Salazar had a team-high six shots, while Casillas

added four shots and Diaz compiled three shots. Junior Bryan Garcia and sophomore Kevin Orozco each had one shot in the match.

Stillman Valley

Rochelle closed out the tournament with a victory over the Cardinals, outshooting Stillman Valley 22-5 and 11-1 in shots on goal. The Hubs surged ahead after senior Diego Salazar connected with junior Alberto Casillas for a goal during the seventh minute. Another goal during the 11th minute, this time from Salazar, allowed

Rochelle to take a 2-0 lead over the Cardinals.

The Hubs iced their win after sophomore Danny Garcia found senior Alex Garcia for a goal during the 52nd minute. Sophomore Antonio Hueramo had one save in the shutout win for the Hubs, who saw Salazar record five shots including four shots on goal. Casillas notched a team-leading seven shots and four shots on goal, while junior Bryan Garcia had four shots including two shots on goal. Senior Jesus Mondragon chipped in two shots during the win.

SPORTS

RTHS Volleyball

(COURTESY PHOTO)



Rochelle Lady Hub sophomores win four consecutive matches to take first at Jefferson Invitational

The Rochelle Lady Hub sophomore volleyball team went 4-0 over four matches to win the Jefferson Invitational on Saturday. Rochelle defeated Rockford Christian 25-18, 25-9 before holding off Marengo for a 25-21, 25-20 win. The Lady Hubs clinched the crown with a 25-17, 25-21 win over Rockford East and a 25-16, 25-22 win over Rockford Jefferson. Pictured above are Jaicee Ramos, Angel Perez, Kyler Dickson, Rylin Tabor, Rylie Thomas (front row), Katie Toczyłowski, Keirra Clark, Reese Kissack, Emori Mickley, Kyrie Cragin, Briel Metzger, Meredith Bruns, Jaydin Dickey and head coach Lindsay Suess (back row).

VBALL: Varsity team takes Dixon to three sets on Thursday

From page 1

Junior Sydney Carmichael added five aces for the Lady Hubs (5-2, 0-0 Interstate 8), who face

Oregon on Tuesday before continuing action at Stillman Valley on Wednesday.

Dixon
The Rochelle Lady Hub

varsity volleyball team went down to the wire against the Dixon Duchesses in nonconference action Thursday evening. Junior hitter Taelynn Rodeghero

recorded a team-leading 23 kills, while junior setter Ali Ohlinger dished out 30 assists as the Lady Hubs fought to the finish during their 25-22, 23-25, 25-27

loss to the Duchesses. Junior libero Dempsey Atkinson compiled seven digs and three service aces for the Lady Hubs (1-1, 0-0 Interstate 8), while

Ohlinger chipped in five kills and four digs during the match. Junior hitter Lauren Dyer added four kills and Rodeghero totaled four digs.

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