

Sondgeroth wins Chamber LOTW award

PAGE 7



Senior League team takes second at state

SEE SPORTS

ROCHELLE News-Leader

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Officials discuss vehicle prices

City of Rochelle officials discussed the rising costs of vehicles due to inflation and supply chain issues.  
**Page 2**

**WEATHER**  
SUNDAY HIGH 82 LOW 59  
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WEDNESDAY HIGH 85 LOW 64

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**OBITUARIES**  
• PAUL D. ISLEY JR.  
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City purchases Lincoln Avenue property  
‘We wanted to clean it up and make it look nicer for the downtown area’

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The City of Rochelle recently closed on the purchase of the former bank drive up facility property at 509 and 509.5 Lincoln Highway downtown for \$165,000. The structures on the land will be demolished and a parking lot will be constructed.  
The city was recently awarded an Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity Rebuild Illinois Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Grant for \$1.15 million to fund improvements to city parking lots, construction of two new parking lots and the construction of a new public restroom facility. The Lincoln Avenue location will be one of the new lots, along with one at the intersection of 2nd Avenue and Washington Street.

At its June 26 meeting, the city council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the retention of Willett, Hofmann & Associates for engineering services for the grant-funded project



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**The City of Rochelle recently closed on the purchase of the former bank drive up facility property at 509 and 509.5 Lincoln Highway downtown for \$165,000. The structures on the land will be demolished and a parking lot will be constructed.**

for \$204,600.

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said the grant will pay for demolition, site preparation, assessments and the parking lot project, which includes curb and gutter, lights, banners and landscaping.

The city had been in conversations to acquire the Lincoln Avenue property for “the better part of four years,” Fiegenschuh said. “Part of our match for the grant was to purchase the property, which we’ve done and have already

paid for,” Fiegenschuh said. “The grant will cover some of the demolition and all of the redevelopment costs of the parking area. We’re also talking about doing a little bit of open green space and trying to tie it in with The

Spark Shop on the other side of the street for additional parking and maybe having food truck vendor fairs and things like that in that space. It will primarily be used for parking.”

**See PROPERTY pg 3**

Ogle County Sheriff’s Office implements body cameras  
VanVickle: ‘The cameras have proved to be a great tool for the deputies’

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**OREGON** — In mid-June, the Ogle County Sheriff’s Office officially implemented body cameras for its deputies.  
The wide-ranging SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform legislation in the state required law enforcement organizations of the sheriff’s office’s size to have body cameras by Jan. 1, 2024.

Sheriff Brian VanVickle called the implementation “quite the process,” due to in-car cameras deputies had before body cameras that had to be integrated with the new system.

“Once that happened, then the car cameras didn’t work until the body cameras were implemented,” VanVickle said. “So we had a very short window of implementation. We really had two days to get about 25 vehicles or so switched over. Once we did that, the integration was seamless and it was ready to go. But getting all the equipment changed over was the difficulty.”

When the legislation came out, law enforcement had concerns over how



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**In mid-June, the Ogle County Sheriff’s Office officially implemented body cameras for its deputies. The wide-ranging SAFE-T Act criminal justice reform legislation in the state required law enforcement organizations of the sheriff’s office’s size to have body cameras by Jan. 1, 2024.**

the cost of body cameras, software and data storage would be covered. The sheriff’s office received a camera grant from the Illinois Law Enforcement Training and Standards Board, which will fund 80 percent of expenses for the

cameras. The rest of the cost will be paid for by federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds that Ogle County has.

At its July 18 meeting, the Ogle County Board approved \$32,381 of ARPA funding for the Motorola

body cameras, which it will be reimbursed for from future grant funds once they’re received.

VanVickle said the body cameras turn on when a deputy activates their emergency lights or siren or reaches a certain speed,

or the deputy can activate it by pushing the button on the camera. By statute, the cameras must be activated when a deputy is having a “law enforcement-type interaction with the public.”

**See SHERIFF page 4**

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# LOCAL NEWS

## City officials detail vehicle purchasing difficulties

‘You used to pay \$200,000-250,000 for a truck and now they’re \$400,000+’

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Before the COVID-19 pandemic, Rochelle Municipal Utilities could order and receive a new bucket truck over a span of 10 months. Now, that process takes four years.

The City of Rochelle has been dealing with supply chain and inflation issues in its vehicle purchasing operations over the past three years, including lengthy lead times and skyrocketing prices. The News-Leader spoke with RMU Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver, Rochelle Fire Department Chief Dave Sawlsville and Public Works Director Tim Isley on July 19 about their experiences.

Toliver called the market changes “difficult” and said RMU tries to stay on a 10-year rotation with its bucket and digger trucks. At the city council’s meeting on July 10, the purchase of a new digger truck was approved for \$399,911. Due to supply shortages, the new truck has a four-year delivery time. RMU budgeted for the truck to cost \$295,000.

The RMU superintendent of electric operations said the longer lead time will allow for more time to budget for the higher cost, but will require the utility to keep its current truck in service for 14 years. Toliver said that will cause the city to be more proactive and order new trucks even earlier.

“As far as budgeting goes, it’s going to definitely be a challenge,” Toliver said. “Because when you used to pay \$200,000-250,000 for a truck and now they’re \$400,000+, it’s a totally different ballgame in the budgeting side of things. That just takes away from the money that you can put towards other expenses. You have to have the trucks to be able to perform the maintenance, so it just takes away from some of the maintenance things that we can do or street lighting projects we can do or whatever else. You have to make that money work with the budget.”

Isley said he’s seen the same difficulties in trying to get new vehicles for the city’s street department. He ordered two new Kenworth dump trucks back in 2021, and delivery kept getting pushed back before the decision was made by the city to cancel the order due to time and rising prices. Isley found three used trucks that were ready to be purchased in Indiana as a replacement for the canceled order.

“That turned out to be a good deal, but we needed trucks then,” Isley said. “Our trucks, we’re trying to get them on a 16-year rotation, and that was pre-pandemic. As old as some of our trucks are and the kind of shape they’re in, it just doesn’t make sense to keep dumping money into them because we’re not going to ever get that money back out



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**The City of Rochelle has been dealing with supply chain and inflation issues in its vehicle purchasing operations over the past three years, including lengthy lead times and skyrocketing prices. The News-Leader spoke with RMU Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver, Rochelle Fire Department Chief Dave Sawlsville and Public Works Director Tim Isley on July 19 about their experiences.**

of them. We had to do something and that was the best option we had at the time.”

Also at its July 10 meeting, the city council unanimously approved the purchase of a new 2024 Horton ambulance from Foster Coach for \$356,285, which will be similar to an ambulance that RFD has that it purchased in 2021. The new model will replace a 2001 ambulance for the city.

Sawlsville said that his fire crews have unanimously enjoyed the 2021 ambulance, so the design was mirrored for the 2024

purchase. However, the price went up \$72,000 in three years.

Sawlsville said he’s felt frustration with bid numbers changing after the fact due to manufacturing costs exceeding the bid.

“I believe in the bid process and we should go out for bids and be completely transparent,” Sawlsville said. “If we’re going to jump through all those hoops to be transparent, then the manufacturer should be bound by that same process. You accepted this bid at this price, but you’re saying that if manufacturer costs

exceed that, then this bid doesn’t mean anything? I don’t think that’s very fair. It’s not fair to our taxpayers and it’s certainly not fair to us, having to go through that whole process and then have it not mean anything.”

The city is also limited in where it can purchase and have maintenance done on its specialized vehicles and equipment. Toliver said all RMU’s specialized trucks require specific parts and a certified mechanic to work on them.

“It’s not only purchasing these trucks, but now

repairing these vehicles,” Toliver said. “Parts are getting less and less available, so now it’s the worry of, ‘Am I going to have a truck that’s down?’ because you have something that breaks or are you going to be waiting six months for a part to come in to repair the truck to get it back on the road?”

RFD recently blew a motor in an ambulance, and it took four months to get it back on the road. The cost for the repairs was \$30,000, which Sawlsville called “ridiculous.”

See **VEHICLES** pg 5

**Rochelle Community Hospital**

# BACK TO SCHOOL KICK-OFF

**August 3rd from 2-4pm  
at Rochelle Community Hospital**  
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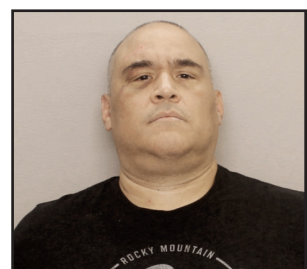
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- Giveaways & Games

## Dixon man arrested for aggravated battery to a police officer

**POLO** — The Ogle County Sheriff’s Office recently arrested a Dixon man for felony aggravated battery to a police officer, a July 26 press release said.

On July 22 at approximately 11:23 a.m. deputies responded to 2667 South Galena Trail Road in rural Polo for the report of an unwanted subject. Upon arrival, they attempted to convince Jamin M. Soria, 46, of Dixon that he needed to leave the residence or be arrested for trespassing. Soria then attacked several deputies and subsequently resisted arrest. Soria was eventually subdued and taken to KSB Hospital by Polo Ambulance for treatment of minor injuries.

Two deputies also went to KSB Hospital for treatment of injuries. Soria was charged with four counts of aggravated battery to a police officer (class two



**Jamin M. Soria**

felony), two counts of aggravated battery to a police officer causing great bodily harm (class one felony), criminal trespass to a residence (class four felony), and domestic battery (class A misdemeanor).

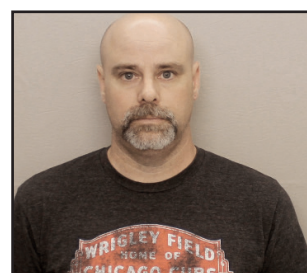
Upon being discharged from the hospital, Soria was taken into custody on the warrant by Ogle County deputies without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail. Soria is being held on a \$150,000 bond.

All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

## Morrison man arrested for aggravated criminal sexual abuse in Oregon

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Sheriff’s Office recently arrested a Morrison man for aggravated criminal sexual abuse that allegedly occurred in Oregon, a July 26 press release said.

On July 25 at approximately 9:30 a.m. the Ogle County Sheriff’s Office arrested Jason L. Endress, 44 of Morrison, for aggravated criminal sexual abuse, a class one felony. The arrest stems from an investigation in which Endress is alleged to have sexual contact with a minor in rural Oregon. Endress was held in the



**Jason L. Endress**

Ogle County Jail without bond and was scheduled to appear in court on July 26. Ogle County Sheriff’s detectives were assisted by the Illinois State Police Zone 2 Investigations.

All subjects are presumed innocent until proven guilty.



# LOCAL NEWS

## PROPERTY: City makes purchase for future parking lot downtown

From page 1

The Spark Shop is a retail incubator for local small business owners housed in the historic filling station downtown and is a collaboration by the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce, Rochelle Retail Advisory Board and the city.

Fiegenschuh said the city worked for years to acquire the Lincoln Avenue property due to its condition and an effort to reduce blight.

“The mayor and council have spent a lot of money over the past five years to beautify the downtown,” Fiegenschuh said. “It’s a blight and we wanted to clean it up and make it look nicer for the downtown area. With a lot of business improvements and new businesses going downtown, we have a lack of parking. This is just another opportunity to provide free public parking, so when people come down for festivals or they’re downtown shopping or whatever brings them to our downtown, there’s additional places for them to park.”

Fiegenschuh said that small events could be held

at the parking lot once constructed, including outdoor markets.

“We’re open to anything,” Fiegenschuh said. “If it’ll fit on that space, I think the mayor and council have always been good about allowing events on other public properties, so I wouldn’t see any reason why we wouldn’t do that there. The whole point is to have more places for people to congregate.”

A shortage of parking has been a recent issue downtown, especially during festivals and events in the area, Fiegenschuh said. He said that can be a good problem to have, with it likely meaning increased patronage of downtown businesses and festivals. The city manager said it’s important to the city to have ample parking downtown.

The former bank drive up was among certain properties that had been vacant and in disrepair for years, Fiegenschuh said.

“If you’re going to reinvest in a community, removing blight is important,” Fiegenschuh said. “And it’s not just the city reinvesting. Look at how our businesses



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**The city was recently awarded an Illinois Department of Commerce & Economic Opportunity Rebuild Illinois Downtowns and Main Streets Capital Grant for \$1.15 million to fund improvements to city parking lots, construction of two new parking lots and the construction of a new public restroom facility.**

downtown have reinvested significant dollars into their buildings. What can the city do to help them?

Part of that is providing a beautiful downtown that people want to come and visit. We’ve done that,

but if there’s an opportunity to clean up blight and redevelop it for other purposes, the council has

been willing to look at that in the past and I hope they continue to do so in the future.”

## Ogle County Solid Waste recycling event scheduled for Aug. 12

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a recycling event for used motor oil, anti-freeze, used oil filters, liquid latex paint, aerosol spray cans, single-use propane cylinders, alkaline batteries and child car seats on Saturday, Aug. 12 from 8 a.m. to noon at the County Annex Building located at 909 Pines Road in Oregon. No permits are required for this recycling event.

Liquid latex paint will be accepted for recycling. There is a fee per container of \$1/quart, \$2/gallon, and \$10/pail for the first 10 containers. Paint should be brought to the event in its’ original container and not be bulked together so it can be properly recycled. The OCSWMD will subsidize a portion of the cost to recycle your latex paint up to 10 containers. The full cost of \$3/quart, \$6/gallon, and \$20/pail will be charged for additional

containers over the first 10. Oil-based paint and stains can be recycled for \$6/quart, \$10/gallon, and \$25/pail. Cash, credit card or checks payable to “EarthPaint” will be accepted for payment of paint recycling.

Aerosol spray cans and single-use propane tanks will also be accepted at this event. Aerosol products such as paints, lubricants, cleaners, insecticides, personal care products and food products can be

recycled, along with the single-use (14-16-ounce) propane cylinders. The first 10 items are fully subsidized by the OCSWMD and any additional aerosol cans will be charged at \$1/can and \$3/propane cylinder. Not all aerosol products will be able to be accepted. Please call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020 for specific questions or see the county website. Flatcan Recycling is also accepting alkaline batteries for recycling for \$4 per

pound and one child car seat at no charge. Additional child car seats will be \$20 per seat.

Used oil, anti-freeze and used oil filters will also be able to be recycled at the event. There is no fee for this service. Small containers of used oil and/or anti-freeze will be bulked together and your containers returned to you for future use. Large drums also accepted and will be vacuum-pumped out. Limit 200 gallons, if you

have more than 200 gallons please call the number above for recycling options. No fuels, cooking oils or other automotive fluid will be accepted.

This event is for Ogle County residents only and there are no permits required. Please call the number above, visit, or see the OCSWMD on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept. for more information about this recycling event.

## 9th annual DeKalb County Barn Tour arrives in August

**DEKALB** — Every barn has a unique story to tell. It’s waiting to be discovered during the annual DeKalb County Barn Tour! The ninth annual barn tour will take place from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 12, in the Pierce Township area. This unique event allows visitors to take in the history, sights and sounds of DeKalb County’s historical farmland. This opportunity to tour local barns is sponsored jointly by and benefits both the DeKalb Area Agricultural Heritage Association (DAAHA) and the J.F. Glidden Homestead and Historical Center in DeKalb.

The self-driving event includes a guided tour at each of seven barns: Whiskey Acres, Faivre Barn, Klotz Barn, Pritchard Farm, Johnson Barn, Wicked Witch Pottery Barn, and the Hepler Barn. Admission is \$40 per carload. Visitors can move at their own pacing, and photography is encouraged.

“The DeKalb County Barn Tour is a must-do of the summer,” said Jessi Haish LaRue, Glidden Homestead executive director. “Come out and enjoy a beautiful day exploring the best of DeKalb County’s agriculture and architecture.”

The souvenir guide-

book, which serves as your ticket, can be purchased on the day of the tour at the starting point, Whiskey Acres, 11504 Keslinger Road, DeKalb, or in advance online at dekalb-countybarntour.com. Tickets purchased online can be redeemed at the starting point.

Illinois artist David Alan Badger has once again provided hand-drawn sketches of each of the seven barns for the guidebook, which also contains a history of each barn, a map of locations, a list of activities at each site, and educational articles about barns.

Besides a guided tour of

each barn, events include a geo-caching activity, a children’s activity tent, and information on the Glidden Homestead, DAAHA and the North Grove School Association.

Various vendors will sell a variety of unique wares, including local soap and honey, engraved stones, pottery and items from The Country Store Thrift Shop. Ironwork made by volunteer blacksmiths from the Glidden Homestead will also be available for purchase.

“What a wonderful day to get out and see how beautiful DeKalb County is,” said Sue Breese, Barn Tour committee



(COURTESY PHOTO)

**The Klotz Barn, 16355 Keslinger Road in Maple Park, is featured on the ninth annual DeKalb County Barn Tour on Aug. 12. This farm was purchased by current owner Brad Cessna’s great grandfather Edwin Klotz in 1920.**

member. “Enjoy learning about farming in 2023 and the ‘out of the box’

thinking that it takes to run a successful farming operation.”

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Obituaries

### Kenneth Fredrick Schafer

**FREEPORT** — Kenneth Fredrick Schafer, 78, formerly of Franklin Grove, passed away Thursday, July 20, 2023 at Walnut Acres - Stephenson Nursing Center in Freeport. Ken was born on Nov. 4, 1944, the son of Herman A. and Helen W. (Smith) Schafer in Sterling.

On Oct. 24, 1971, he married Irene M. Wede in Franklin Grove. She preceded him in death on July 18, 2002. Ken served with the United States Air Force during the Vietnam Conflict. He was a Mason

and a member and organist of the St. Paul Lutheran Church in Franklin Grove for many years.

Ken is survived by his sister-in-law, Arlene Hansen of Rochelle; five nephews and nieces: Wayne (Fay) Hansen of Moulton, Alabama, Garry (Lisa) Hansen of Waukesha, Wisconsin, Diane (Randy) Monson of Rochelle, Karen (Marty) Feldhaus of Davis Junction and Glenn Hansen of Rochelle; several cousins and many friends.

There will be a Cele-



bration of Life service at a later date. Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle. Burial will be at Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle.

Visit [www.ungerhorner.com](http://www.ungerhorner.com) to sign the online guest book.

### Paul D. Isley, Jr.

**LEXINGTON, S.C.** — Paul D. Isley, Jr., passed away at his home on July 20, 2023 after his fight with cancer. He was born May 31, 1950 to Paul and Betty Isley. Now he is with his dad, mom and brother, Joe.

He retired from Woodward Governor in Rockford and moved to Lexington, South Carolina. He loved riding his Harley, golfing, woodworking

and his annual fishing trip with his buddies.

Survivors include his wife of 49 years, Rose; two daughters, Michelle (Jeff) of Georgia, Melanie (Greg) of South Carolina; and three grandchildren, Jordan Jensen, Xander Schnake and Loudon Schanke; brothers, Jim (Diane) of Tennessee, Bob (Kathy) of Ohio; sisters, Cindy Sims and Sharon Hicks from Ro-



chelle; and many nieces and nephews.

Celebration of life will be held at VFW in Rochelle on Sept. 20, 2023 between 5-8pm.

## Rochelle Police Department

### Officers make several arrests

**ROCHELLE** — On July 24 at 5:34 p.m. Brenda J. Florin, 60, of Mt. Morris was arrested for driving while license suspended. She was released on an I-Bond with an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

On July 26 at 9:33 a.m. Timothy J. Odell, 27, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

On July 26 at 2:02 p.m. William Kuehl, 58, of Rockford was cited for no valid registration. He signed a promise to com-

ply and was given an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

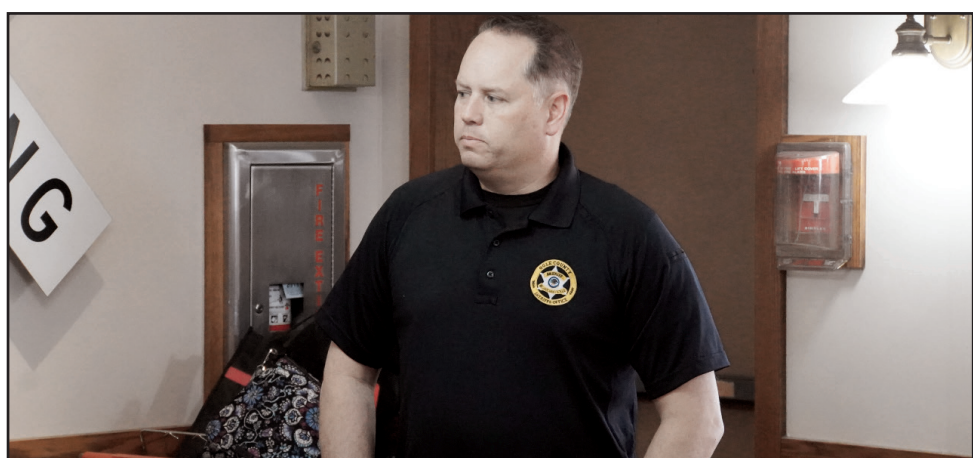
On July 26 at 3:40 p.m. Lorena Filobella-Garcia, 26, of Rochelle was arrested for no valid driver's license and cited for operating a vehicle with suspended registration. She was released on an I-Bond with an Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.

On July 27 at 7:06 p.m. Eric F. Perez, 23, of Donna, Texas was cited for operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. He was released on an I-Bond with Aug. 25 Rochelle court date.



On July 28 at 12:18 a.m. Josh Hurtado, 20, of Rochelle was arrested for driving while license suspended. He was released on an I-Bond with a Sept. 8 Rochelle court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle said the cameras have proved to be "a great tool" for deputies. Previously, they were only equipped with an audio microphone, and the change has been "a learning curve," he said.**

### SHERIFF: VanVickle discusses implementation of body cameras

*From page 1*

"So if the deputy is out having lunch at the grade school with the kids, their camera doesn't have to be activated," VanVickle said. "Now if something would happen at the school and they were starting to take law enforcement action, at their earliest convenience they need to activate the camera. There are some good guidelines there and we've given that to our staff. It's been very positive. It's been a good process for us. I think that it does nothing more than help our deputy prove not only their cases in court, but also negates a lot of complaints because the camera sees everything."

VanVickle said the cameras have proved to be "a great tool" for deputies. Previously, they were only equipped with an audio microphone, and the change has been "a learning curve," he said.

"The nice part is we've used it as a training tool," VanVickle said. "Not that anybody has been reprimanded for their actions, but we can take it as a teaching moment. I think that's been one big benefit that wasn't realized early on, the ability to use it as a

teaching moment."

The sheriff said he believes the current biggest unanswered question with the body cameras is redaction in the case of parts of video that will have to be digitally removed before it can be seen by the public. A special software to do video redaction had to be purchased by the sheriff's office.

"I think that's going to be the biggest hurdle we have, just the amount of time that the redaction piece takes," VanVickle said. "It's not an easy topic to broach. You could think about going into a bar where there's a lot of people there and you have to get consent from all of those people to provide the video. If you don't get their consent, then they need to be redacted out of the video. Things like that will be very difficult and very time-consuming."

VanVickle said he's spoken to other agencies with body cameras that have had to spend about 40 hours of an employee's time to redact video in a similar situation where body camera footage had a deputy working in a crowded place.

So far, the body camera work has required extra time of sheriff's office staff

to import the data and send it to the state's attorney for court cases. No additional staff has been hired for the work, and barring an increase in hours for something like video redaction work, there are no plans to hire additional staff due to the body cameras, VanVickle said.

The sheriff said the data storage aspect of the body cameras will be manageable, due to technology improving and storage limits in the legislation changing after its inception. Early on, VanVickle had issues with since-changed pieces of the body camera legislation, but never had issues with Ogle County deputies wearing them.

"Because quite honestly we have some of the best-trained deputies and law enforcement professionals around," VanVickle said. "I see them day in and day out working in a professional manner, so I'm very comfortable with what they do and I knew all along that there weren't going to be issues with doing inappropriate things on the cameras. They're true professionals and very highly-trained. It shows the great job that they do for the most part more than anything."

### The Jimmys to play Mt. Morris Band Shell Aug. 4

**MT. MORRIS** — The Jimmys make their triumphant return to the Mt. Morris Band Shell on Aug.

4 at 7 p.m.

One of the hottest tickets on the summer festival circuit and recent recipients of

many more Madison Area Music Awards, Jimmy and his stellar group bring their high-energy show back to the Mt. Morris Jamboree for a two-hour performance starting at 7 p.m.

The Jimmys have been ripping up stages with their unique blend of blues, soul, funk and R&B for 11 years. Award-winning keyboardist/singer/songwriter Jimmy Voegeli has put together an all-star lineup: Perry Weber, veteran blues guitarist/singer/songwriter; Chris Sandoval on drums; John Wartenweiler with

his powerful bass lines and deep groove; Amateur Horn Stars - Pete Ross, saxophone; Mike Boman, trumpet; and Joe Goltz on trombone.

With multiple awards under their belts, and a growing legion of fans, the band will give everyone a good time to remember for a good long time. Get yourself to this next performance and see what all of the fuss is about. Be sure to arrive early to get a good spot for the night and remember to bring a chair or blanket as the

new benches will fill up fast as this band always sets or matches a record attendance for our program. Concessions for the evening will be provided by the LFR Committee, who will be serving sloppy joes, hot dogs, chips and drinks and the Oregon Lion's Club will be serving their famous, delicious grilled pork chops, brats, chips, water and soda.

Grandpa's and Just 4 Fun ice cream trucks will be there as well as Dynasty Concessions serving lemonade, all starting at 6 p.m. Ewe and Me Acres will

have a fresh produce stand with a variety of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams, jellies and dog treats on the campus too, from 4:30-8:30 p.m.

Please join the fun on our beautiful, historic campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Illinois Route 64 on Wesley Avenue and enjoy the free blues concert.

In the event of rain, the whole show moves to the old Mt. Morris High School, located at 105 W. Brayton Road at the same time.



## For Sale or Rent Options

Properties available in Mendota, furnished or unfurnished

Efficiency apartments, houses with 1-4 bedrooms and factory space available. Personal and corporate rentals. Short term leases, prices negotiable, utilities included and credit application. Call or e-mail for appointment. 708-380-7010 or [cott811@yahoo.com](mailto:cott811@yahoo.com)

## Ogle County Sheriff's Department

### Deputies dispatched to motorcycle crash

**OREGON** — On July 27 at 1:19 a.m. deputies were dispatched to the intersection of East Illinois Route 72 and North Marrill

Road for a single-vehicle motorcycle crash with injuries. After a brief investigation, it was determined that a westbound motorcy-

cle operated by Jacob R. Ellenby, 27, of Byron was attempting to negotiate the curve when he lost control and exited the north side of the roadway. The motorcycle then struck a guardrail on the north side of East Illinois Route 72 before ejecting the driver and coming to a rest in the roadway. Ellenby was transported to Swedish American Hospital with serious injuries. Additionally, Ellenby was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol. El-

lenby was additionally cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, improper lane usage, registration expiration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Ellenby was released on an I-Bond with a future court date. The incident is still under investigation, and additional charges are pending. Deputies were assisted on the scene by Byron Fire/EMS as well as the Byron Police Department.

All individuals are innocent until proven guilty.

## Report policy

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

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

## ROCHELLE News-Leader



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# LOCAL NEWS

## VEHICLES: City officials discuss rising costs for purchases

**From page 2**

As a longtime RFD chief and member of the department, he remembers when an entire ambulance could be purchased for \$80,000.

Vehicles costs and lead times are not the only impacts the city has seen from supply chain and inflation issues. RFD attempted to budget for dorm improvements at its fire station in recent years and struggled to get numbers to line up. After finally getting the project approved, it heard from its contractor recently that building material costs are starting to decrease. Sawlsville doesn't believe that will happen with vehicle costs.

"I'm afraid the vehicle manufacturers are not going to follow suit," Sawlsville said. "I think they're up there now and they're going to stay. For forever, they told us that fire trucks increase in price about three percent a year, but now that's out the window. You hope that it will maybe level off a little, but it's never going to go down and it's never going to be completely level. But you hope that increases at least get a little more reasonable. Otherwise, how do you budget? We budget for projects and vehicles and it seems like we still miss the mark, even taking crazy inflation into consideration."

Isley said similar issues are being seen when trying to purchase equipment like loaders and tractors, to a less-extreme extent lately than with vehicles. Bonnell Industries, the city's truck parts supplier, has told Isley that it's still having trouble keeping its workers busy due to waiting on chassis to build truck bodies.

Before the pandemic, government entities like the City of Rochelle would get "pretty significant" discounts on vehicles, Isley said. Those discounts are gone, and now the city is paying "pretty much what anyone else would pay," he said.

Due to not being able to acquire new vehicles, city departments are keeping older vehicles in service longer, and seeing higher repair costs for them as a result. Because other municipalities and companies are being forced to do the same thing, repair shops are busier, Isley said.

"We've had a couple of trucks that were like four weeks out from even being able to get into the shop to get fixed," Isley said. "Just because there's such a pile of them out there from everybody else having these same issues. And some of our Internationals, by the time they're 16 or more years old, those old trucks aren't really worth much of anything. If you go and drop \$10,000 on one repair, then you're already upside down on your truck and you're guaranteed nothing. You could go out the next day and have something totally different break on you. There's definitely still issues out there with that and it affects all parts of the industry."

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh praised Isley, Toliver and Sawlsville for their work on acquiring vehicles in difficult markets. He's enjoyed seeing them think outside the box to solve problems. He believes that will have to continue for the city to operate efficiently.

"At the end of the day, we're in an industry that provides service," Fiegenschuh said. "People expect their power to be on and to have an ambulance come when they dial 911. When it's snowing outside, they expect the streets to be plowed. We can't ever say, 'Well, we've got equipment that's six months out, so we're not going to be able to provide that service.' I applaud these guys for all thinking outside the box. They understand we sell service and have to provide it no matter what."

## Rochelle Area CHURCH DIRECTORY

- Ashton Bible Church**, corner of Main and Paddock in Ashton. Pastor Farrel Stauffer, church phone is (815)453-2190, church website [www.ashtonbible.org](http://www.ashtonbible.org). Sunday School for all ages 9:00-10:00am, Morning Worship 10:15am, Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm.
- The Bridge Church**, Pastor Greg Duncan, 11038 E. IL Route 38, Rochelle, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-7750. Sunday School: 9:00 am; Sunday Service: 10:00 am; Nursery & Children's ministry during am service; Bible Study Tuesday 10:00 am and Wednesday 7:00 pm. Web: [thebridgechurchrochelle.com](http://thebridgechurchrochelle.com) Email: [thebridgechurchrochelle@gmail.com](mailto:thebridgechurchrochelle@gmail.com)
- Calvary Lighthouse Church, Assemblies of God**, Senior Pastor, Dr. James Horvath. 14409 Hemstock Rd., Rochelle. Sunday Morning: Sunday Worship & Children's Church 10:00 A.M., Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M. – Adult Teaching, Missionettes & Royal Rangers Childrens Classes, Nursery available for all services. HE-Brews Cafe is open before and after services. For further information, please call the CLC office at 815-562-7701, or email us at [staff@calvarylighthouse.com](mailto:staff@calvarylighthouse.com)
- Calvary Lutheran Church, LCMC** - "To Know Christ and to Proclaim Christ in Word and Deed" -19 Perry Road, Lee, IL 60530 (the intersection of Perry Road and W. County Line Road). Rev. Martha Uecker Nelson, Pastor. Coffee Hour starts at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study are at 9:15 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. and is broadcast live on Facebook. Go to our website is at [www.Calvarychurchlee.org](http://www.Calvarychurchlee.org) and click on the link there. A Grief Support Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call or text (815) 824-2825 or email [CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com](mailto:CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com) with questions or for more information. Also check us out at [www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church](http://www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church).
- Rochelle Church of Christ**, Keeping Christ at the center in the Hub City. We meet Sundays at 9:00am for Bible Study and 10:00am for worship. We also have a Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00pm. 206 Erickson Rd, Rochelle, IL 61068. You can call us at (815) 562-6572 or visit us on the web at [rochellechurch.com](http://rochellechurch.com). We also have a radio program Sundays just after 8am on WRHL 1060AM. Minister Dominic Venuso.
- Creston United Methodist Church and Steward United Methodist Church** - Rev. Ilhan You, Creston: 126 West South Street, P.O. Box 209, Creston, Illinois 60113. Sunday morning worship 9:00am. Coffee fellowship at 10:15am. Steward: 507 Main Street, P.O. Box 80, Steward, IL 60553. Adult Sunday School, 10:00am. Sunday morning worship and Children's Sunday School 11:00am. Contact the church office at 847-730-4370 for more information. [facebook.comcrestonumcil](http://facebook.comcrestonumcil) [facefacebook.com/stewardilumc](http://facefacebook.com/stewardilumc)
- Elim Reformed Church**, 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-6811. Email [goelimchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goelimchurch@gmail.com) Website [www.goelimchurch.org](http://www.goelimchurch.org) Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 Rev. Marv Jacobs
- Faith Lutheran Church** – (14206 E. Flagg Rd.) – “Making Christ Known Through Lives of Faith.” In-person worship is available each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or online at “Faith Lutheran Social” on YouTube. Worship resources are also available on our Facebook page - ‘Faith Lutheran Church ELCA.’ You may also e-mail Pastor Joy Alsop at [Pastor@faithlrochelle.org](mailto:Pastor@faithlrochelle.org) for more information. All are welcome to join us!
- First Baptist Church of Rochelle, First Baptist Church of Rochelle** invites you to experience our practical Bible services which have nurseries provided in every service along with a wide range of children's and teen ministries. Sunday School is at 9:30 am with regular church services at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm. Wednesday Family Night starts at 6:30 pm with AWANA for the 5 yr. olds thru 6th grade. The Omega Teen Ministry also starts at 6:30 pm for 7th – 12th grades and the Adult Bible Study at 7:00 pm. First Baptist Church is located 6 blocks west of Hwy 251 at the corner of Woolf Ct. and 8th Ave. in Rochelle. Call 562-4168 for more information . Listen at 8:30 am Sunday mornings on WRHL 1060 AM for the Sunday morning “Bible Message.” [www.firstbaptistrochelle.org](http://www.firstbaptistrochelle.org)
- First General Baptist Church**, 500 S. 12th St, Rochelle. Phone: 815-562-5221. Email: [fgbcrchelle@gmail.com](mailto:fgbcrchelle@gmail.com). Website: [www.fgbcrchelle.org](http://www.fgbcrchelle.org). Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fgbcrchelle](http://www.facebook.com/fgbcrchelle). Pastor: Rev. Angelo Bonacquisti. **Sunday worship services:** 8:30 am, 11:15 am and 6:00 pm. **Sunday school:** 10:00 am. We'd be honored to have you join us as we worship JESUS and continue to grow in truth and love for God and each other. A nursery, children's church, youth group and small groups are available. If you need a ride please contact our church bus driver, John, at (815) 262-4275 by 8:30 am on Sunday. “For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9
- First Presbyterian Church** – An Amazing Place for Amazing Grace-Rev. Doug Forsberg, Senior Pastor. 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle. Email: [info@placeforgrace.com](mailto:info@placeforgrace.com). Sunday morning worship 9:00am & 11:00am. In person or streamed online. On our Website and Facebook Live. [www.placeforgrace.com](http://www.placeforgrace.com) / [www.facebook.com/placeforgrace](http://www.facebook.com/placeforgrace)
- Grace Fellowship Church** — Pastor Jeff Ardissonne, 2128 Il Route 38, Ashton, 815-453-7464. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 9:45 a.m. [www.graceisforyou.com](http://www.graceisforyou.com)
- Harvest Baptist Church** 241 Scott Ave. (Hillcrest). Rev. Duane Boehm, pastor. Email [duane712@hotmail.com](mailto:duane712@hotmail.com), cell 815-757-3427. Visit us on Facebook! Service times: Sunday morning worship with Children's Church at 10 am. Wednesday night worship at 7 pm.
- Immanuel Lutheran Church** Missouri Synod 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049. Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock. Church Phone 393-4500. Church Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Christian Education Hour at 10:30 a.m.
- Living Water Community Church** 405 N. Main St, Downtown Rochelle. Phone 815-561-6249, Website: [www.lwccr.com](http://www.lwccr.com), Like us on Facebook. We are Non-Denominational, Christ Centered, Casual dress, Christ Centered Live Band Worship. Chris Bender- Teaching Pastor, Brent Braski- Administrative Pastor, Adrian Daugherty- Lead Worshipper, Joe Mortimer- Youth Director, Amanda Barnes- Office Manager. Sunday Worship Service- 10:00am. Nursery/Toddlers Ages 0-5 available during the service in the Splash building. Swim- Grades 1st-5th worship with the adults then break out for age appropriate teaching. Youth groups, Small groups, Life Groups and Workshops meet throughout the year for Bible teaching. 7C's Mission- serves the community physically & spiritually each month from 1135 Lincoln Hwy, providing lightly used clothing, Hygiene items, a light lunch and Elder Prayer open the second Saturday from 10am-2pm and the 4th Thursday from 4pm to 7:00pm and by appointment.. 
- New Hope Fellowship (Church of God - Anderson, IN)**, 1501 10th Ave., Rochelle, IL 61068. Service: Sunday at 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m., (815)561-8400, [www.NHFchurch.net](http://www.NHFchurch.net) Pastor: Dan Sergeant and Pastor Nick Tornabene. (Classes for children through age fifth grade during service.)
- Rochelle United Methodist Church invites everyone to come to hear the stories of some heroes in the Bible as we consider how God is calling heroes to serve today! This is our worship series beginning July 30 and extending through August!** Our stories are Jesus building a team (John 1: 35-51), God's Wonder Women in Exodus (Exodus 1:8-2:10), The Magnificent Magi (Matthew 2: 1-12), and Unexpected Heroes who give Paul a basket ride (Acts 9: 1-25). Worship will include storytelling with some drama, music and fun! Our children will remain in worship for this inter-active series, and may help in some of the storytelling dramas. **Sunday worship is at 9:00 am.** Recorded services are available on our YouTube channel and our website at [www.rochelleumc.com](http://www.rochelleumc.com). Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Our facebook page is [www.facebook.com/rochelleumc](http://www.facebook.com/rochelleumc). **Rev. Dr. Katherine Thomas Paisley, pastor.** 709 Fourth Ave. (815) 562-2164. [admin@rochelleumc.com](mailto:admin@rochelleumc.com). Everyone is welcome and loved!
- St. Patrick Catholic Church** Rev. Jesus Dominguez; Deacon Fermin Garcia; Deacon George Schramm; 244 Kelley Dr. (Corner of Kelley & Caron Rd.), PO Box 329, Rochelle, IL 61068. **Office Hours:** 9:00 AM-4PM Monday-Thursday, Phone: 815-562-2370. **Mass times:** 8:00 AM Monday-Thursday, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM English, 7PM Spanish, Sunday Mass 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM in English and 11:00 AM in Spanish. **Confessions:** Monday 8:30AM & 6:30PM, Tuesday 8:30AM, Saturday 8:30am & 4:00-4:45 PM Or by appointment. **Religious Education:** Deacon George Schramm, Director of Religious Education. 903 Caron Road, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815-561-0079; Website: [stpatricksrochelle.com](http://stpatricksrochelle.com) Email: [stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org) Facebook.com/StPatrickRochelle
- St. Paul Lutheran Church** “Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever!” Pastor-Rev. Greg Hoffmann, Steven Hall, Principal, Parish Nurse-Marcia Schnorr. 1415 Tenth Ave., Rochelle. Church Office-562-2744. Worship times: 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday. Our service is broadcast over WRHL 1060AM at 10:00 a.m. Sunday. Sunday School 10:15-11:15 a.m. Call 562-6323 for more information about the school.





# LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

## Lowell Harp: Memories of kids marching in the halls

I tried to make it a habit, in my days as a school psychologist, to observe children in the halls during passing times whenever I could. This was especially entertaining when the youngest students — kindergarten through second — came by, bringing with them smile-provoking scenes of cuteness and mischievousness.

Some dutifully followed like ducklings in a row close behind their teacher. Others dawdled and allowed gaps to open up between themselves and those ahead. A few engaged in horseplay and failed to maintain a straight line. A surprising number of the children, always boys, trudged or shuffled with untied shoelaces flopping on the ground, and yet somehow never fell on their faces. Often girls and boys whom I did not know would smile at me or wave and I would respond in kind.

Here, I thought, in this parade of innocence and hope, I go future doctors, workers, homemakers, teachers — the stone and mortar of a strong and good society. But here among them also march another cohort of a darker tomorrow, those who will bring pain and loss to others and to themselves. We like to think that we can guide all children into the first trajectory and away from the second, but, for some of them, something like destiny may be at work.

That possibility, fraught with meaning for parents even more than for educators, comes easily to mind when I think of a boy whom I'll call Jason. I met him as a second grader, a vigorous, sturdy boy with alert brown eyes. Upon seeing me in the halls, he would greet me with delight and come to me with a big smile and an

affectionate hug. Perhaps she was drawn to me because I was one of the few males in the building, a surrogate for his missing father who was doing time in an out-of-state prison. Jason and his father had little contact with each other, but I noticed that he mentioned his father's life in prison with a tone of approval, as if it were a desirable career path in Jason's eyes.

Perhaps it should be no surprise, then, that students and aides complained of Jason's bullying and mind games on the playground, and that in the classroom he drew teachers into contests for control, engagements that he often won and appeared to enjoy. Punishments and rewards had little effect on his relentless rule-breaking and intimidation.

His testing of the rules and quest for dominance did not apply to me, however, perhaps because I was a male and yet not a disciplinary figure. I suspect that in Jason's eyes my maleness made me a symbol of power, something that he would want to be associated with. As we met in my office one day, he noticed that a teacher's car sat in my usual parking spot outside my window. Incensed at this apparent infringement of my prerogatives, Jason immediately set to making a poster that he taped to my office window. With underlining, exclamation points and blunt language, the poster proclaimed that this was Mr. Harp's parking space, and that teachers were to stay away.

I watched Jason's progress through the following years, and had direct involvement with him off and on. He became less open to influence from adults, more of a problem, more

uncontrollable with each year. Even the junior high principal, a former Marine captain with impressive skills at intimidation, failed to subdue his disrespect for authority.

His mother demanded that the school send him to the county-wide behavior disorder program, and he himself repeatedly expressed a desire to go there. Finally, in junior high school, he got his wish. After that, I saw little of Jason until the end of his senior year, when the behavior disorder program conducted his final annual review meeting. He was involved with the legal system and the odds were that he would be sent to the state prison for juveniles.

When it was my turn to speak, I looked at Jason and, aiming to avoid ineffectual pleading, made a stab at understatement. I know the path you're on, and I don't agree with it," I said dryly, and then described the dead end that awaited him. Others joined in, but our words fell on barren soil. Jason smiled in a self-satisfied way and didn't bother to argue. It was clear that he was looking forward to prison, perhaps seeing it as a rite of passage, like boot camp for a Marine recruit.

I often wish that I could somehow have turned our early relationship toward something better for Jason, but it is, I think, not a realistic sentiment. Even when Jason was a second grader hugging me in the halls, I sensed that the twig had been bent and would not be straightened.

Just as a twig grows in the quest for light, so it was that another student in Jason's school — let's call her Nancy — reached for a different sun. I met her when she was in the special education preschool program, and

watched as she progressed through the following years. Nancy was a little elf, short, thin and frail-looking, with pale skin, reddish hair and a thready voice. She followed the rules and worked hard in spite of her lack of aptitude. I rarely saw her smile.

Her mother could have passed for a hippie from the long-ago '60s, with her long reddish hair, often braided into pigtails, and accessories like boots and headbands — an attractive young woman with a cheerful, carefree air. Optimistic to a fault, she had no doubt made some mistakes along the way. Her mostly-absent second husband supported her in poverty until the end of their marriage, when even she could no longer overlook his infidelity and irresponsibility. Meanwhile, she was experiencing health problems that would inexorably advance through the coming years.

She faithfully attended Nancy's special education conferences, as well as those of her younger brother and older sister, and affably acknowledged their teachers' concerns. But as charming as she was, Nancy's mother had little aptitude or inclination for imposing the structure needed for academic success for her children, a structure that was indeed missing from her own life. Her small, run-down old house was a monument to clutter. I would weave through obstacles and move things in order to find a place to sit during home visits. Nancy's little corner of their home, on the other hand, was an island of orderliness amidst the surrounding chaos.

Nancy's brother and sister reflected their mother's ethos at school in that they routinely failed to

complete assignments, and occasionally their impulsivity got them into trouble. Even as she admitted their shortcomings, Brenda spoke warmly about them. She sometimes complained, though, about her youngest daughter. Nancy, it seemed, was rebelling against her mother's easygoing ways, and they often clashed.

As Nancy's mother's health worsened through the years, she aged and weakened prematurely, and her complexion took on an ominous pallor. Her speech became slow and effortful, and lost its customary exuberance. Eventually, she stopped attending school conferences. She died when Nancy was in middle school.

Her mother's illness and death did not change Nancy, at least in terms of her attitudes and behavior at school. She worked her way out of the special education program and plowed on to graduation on her own. Years later, I saw her at a restaurant, working in her characteristically serious and diligent manner, and I reflected that, although her future may not always be easy, she will meet her challenges as they come, and do her best. Nancy was one of the kids I had watched in the halls years before, trying to imagine their futures. Jason was another. Perhaps I'm wrong to think that their pathways were already marked and cut at such an early age. Perhaps I'm too pessimistic about Jason, too optimistic about Nancy — after all, children often surprise us on their way to tomorrow. But I do know that they are not blank sheets of paper for scripts written by well-meaning adults.

We make many mistakes as parents and as teachers. Anyone who has given him

or herself over to nurturing the minds and bodies of children has plenty to regret, even when there is also much to rejoice about. It was part of my job as a school psychologist to listen to parents who were in despair and to watch their tears as they described their feelings of frustration and failure. I was able to tell them from my own experiences as a parent that they should hold on to hope, that if they didn't give up, things could get better for them and for their children, that children who are full of problems can grow into good, caring, responsible adults.

It seems to me that many of the mistakes and much of the pain that often surrounds parenting comes when we see our children as reflections of our worth, and believe that we can and should mold their hearts and minds. As a result, we may try too hard, often in the process causing the thing we most fear. At times I entertain the not altogether fanciful proposition that we might best treat our children as if they had been left on the doorstep, as if they were not extensions of ourselves in any way.

Our job, then, would be to nurture and love these precious creatures, and to try not to hurt them. An old country song by Don Williams says, "I guess we're all gonna be what we're gonna be." The outcome, then, is up to them, to all the kids in the hall who are every day marching into the future.

*Lowell Harp is a retired school psychologist who served school districts in Ogle County. His column runs monthly in The Ogle County Life. For previous articles, you can follow him on Facebook at <http://fb.me/lowellharp>.*

## Ogle County Farm Bureau's Ron Kern: What is a farmer?

So what is a farmer? Well the dictionary defines it as a husbandman or agriculturist; one who cultivates a farm, whether the land be his own or another's. USDA defines a farm as any place that produced and sold — or normally would have produced and sold — at least \$1,000 of agricultural products during a given year. The Illinois Farm Bureau for membership purposes defines a farmer as anyone who has a gross income of \$2,500 or more annually from farm income.

Paul Harvey defines it as: And on the eighth day, God looked down on his planned

paradise and said, "I need a caretaker." So God made a farmer. God said, "I need somebody willing to get up before dawn, milk cows, work all day in the fields, milk cows again, eat supper and then go to town and stay past midnight at a meeting of the school board." So God made a farmer.

"I need somebody with arms strong enough to rustle a calf and yet gentle enough to deliver his own grandchild. Somebody to call hogs, tame cantankerous machinery, come home hungry, have to wait lunch until his wife's done feeding visiting ladies and tell the ladies to be sure and come

back real soon — and mean it." So God made a farmer.

God said, "I need somebody willing to sit up all night with a newborn colt. And watch it die. Then dry his eyes and say, 'Maybe next year.' I need somebody who can shape an ax handle from a persimmon sprout, shoe a horse with a hunk of car tire, who can make harness out of haywire, feed sacks and shoe scraps. And who, planting time and harvest season, will finish his 40-hour week by Tuesday noon, then, pain'n from 'tractor back,' put in another 72 hours." So God made a farmer.

God had to have some-

body willing to ride the ruts at double speed to get the hay in ahead of the rain clouds and yet stop in mid-field and race to help when he sees the first smoke from a neighbor's place. So God made a farmer. God said, "I need somebody strong enough to clear trees and heave bails, yet gentle enough to tame lambs and wean pigs and tend the pink-combed pullets, who will stop his mower for an hour to splint the broken leg of a meadow lark. It had to be somebody who'd plow deep and straight and not cut corners. Somebody to seed, weed, feed, breed and rake and disc and plow and

plant and tie the fleece and strain the milk and replenish the self-feeder and finish a hard week's work with a five-mile drive to church.

"Somebody who'd bale a family together with the soft strong bonds of sharing, who would laugh and then sigh, and then reply, with smiling eyes, when his son says he wants to spend his life 'doing what dad does.'" So God made a farmer.

And Jeff Foxworthy says you might be a farmer if: Your dog rides in your truck more than your wife. You have ever had to wash off in the back yard with a garden hose before going in the house. You have never

willingly thrown away a five gallon bucket. You have used a chainsaw to remodel your home. You have used a velvet leaf plant as toilet paper. You have driven off the road examining your neighbor's crops. You have buried a dog and cried like a baby. You have used the front end loader on your tractor as scaffolding when remodeling your house. You have used baling wire to attach a license plate. And so.... I guess I'll leave it up to the readers to decide who is correct, but my guess is they all hit the mark!

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

### How to contact government officials

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

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

**IL Rep. Bradley Fritts**  
 Stratton Office Bldg  
 Springfield, IL 62706  
 (217) 782-0535

Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to [news@rochelle-news-leader.com](mailto:news@rochelle-news-leader.com)

### KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

\* Denotes Chairman/President

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 Reid Elliot  
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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](mailto: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

## Sondgeroth wins July 21 Chamber Lawn of the week

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of July 21 to Ron Sondgeroth. He and his dog, Lucy, 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](mailto:rochellechamber@gmail.com).



(COURTESY PHOTO)

**The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of July 21 to Ron Sondgeroth. He and his dog, Lucy, received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card, presented by Rochelle Ace Hardware Manager Jesse Lopez.**

“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.”

## Rep. Fritts invites constituents to take legislative survey

**DIXON** — State Rep. Bradley Fritts (R-Dixon) invites constituents in District 74 to fill out his recently-released 2023 Legislative Survey.

“This survey is a tool for me to better understand the unique needs and

challenges of District 74,” Fritts said. “The legislation that I work on should be a direct reflection of the issues my constituents are facing, and this survey will show me exactly what policy areas I should be focusing on.”

The survey asks for general feedback on which issues are most important to the constituent, as well as questions focused specifically around policy areas such as gun bans and tax increases.

To fill out the survey,

visit his website at [Rep-Fritts.com](http://Rep-Fritts.com) and select Legislative Survey under the Resources Tab.

Constituents with specific concerns are encouraged to reach out to Rep. Fritts’ District Office at 815-561-3690.

### THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

7034 S. Klondike Road | Rochelle, IL 61068 | 815-561-9074  
If you would like to volunteer with us, please email us at [volunteer@kitchentablerochelle.org](mailto:volunteer@kitchentablerochelle.org)

Links

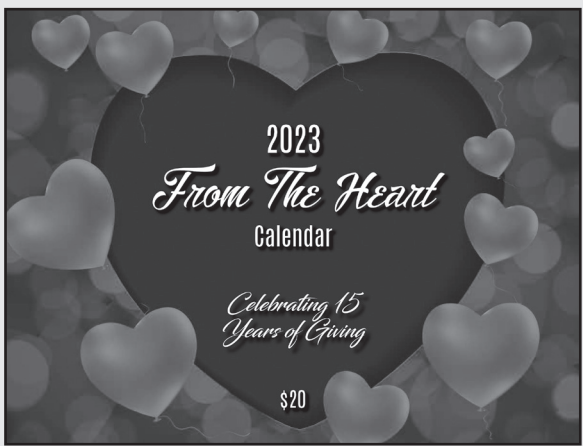
KIDS MENU: Chicken Nuggets w/Fries

**\*\*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](http://www.KitchenTableRochelle.org)**

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

**July 30**  
Spencer Kulwicki

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



- July 4 - From the Heart, \$1,000
- July 5 - Calvin Jacobs, Rochelle, \$25
- July 6 - Ashley Anderson, Mt. Morris, \$25
- July 7 - Tami Rhea, Esmond, \$25
- July 8 - RACF, \$25
- July 9 - Aaron Samp, Palos Heights, \$50
- July 10 - Kevin Koch, Bozeman, Montana, \$25
- July 11 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- July 12 - Will Reis, Worthington, Ohio, \$25
- July 13 - Dorothy Lockard, Creston, \$25
- July 14 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- July 15 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- July 16 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$50
- July 17 - Rayanne Hibshman, Rochelle, \$25
- July 18 - Melissa Drafall, Monroe Center, \$25
- July 19 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25
- July 20 - Jessica Mueller, Rochelle, \$25
- July 21 - Kathy Pfeiffer, Rochelle, \$25
- July 22 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25
- July 23 - Rocio Belmonte, Rochelle, \$50
- July 24 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- July 25 - Rochelle Firefighter Social, \$25
- July 26 - Tom McDermott, Rochelle, \$25
- July 27 - Margaret Daner, Kings, \$25
- July 28 - Rochelle Police Dog, \$25
- July 29 - T-Byrd Lanes, \$25
- July 30 - Zekelman Employee, \$50



## Coffee Break

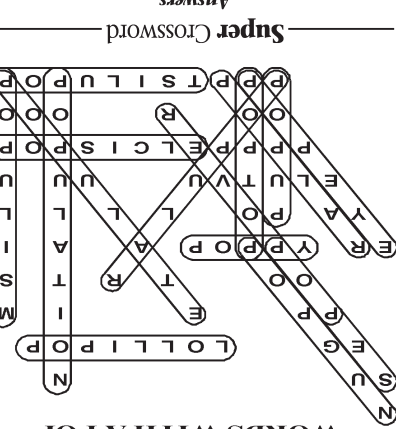
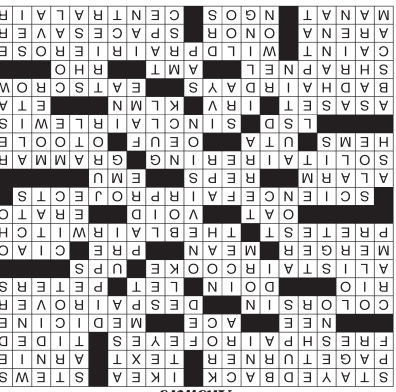
### MAGIC MAZE • WORDS WITH A POP

N B Y V S N Q N K H E B Y W T  
S U R O L J R G E B Y W N U R  
P E G N K I L O L L I P O P G  
D B P P Z X V E C S Q O I M M  
K I G O O E C A T P R Y T W S  
E R U Y P P O P S A O Q A P I  
N Y A L P O J H L F L P L E L  
C A E L U T V U Y X V U U U U  
S Q P P P P P E L C I S P O P  
N M K J O O H F R E C B O O O  
Z Y X V P P P T S I L U P O P

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: MOVIE SNACK

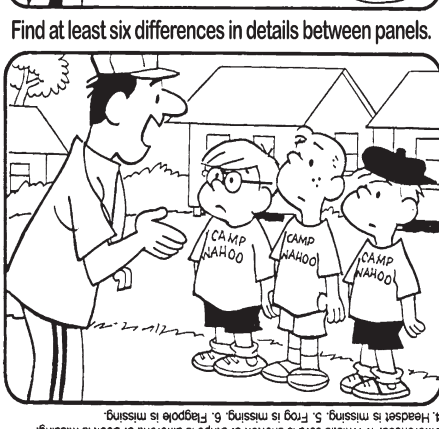
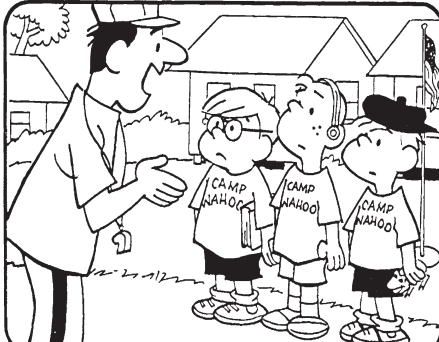
Lollipop Popeye Poppy Population  
Pop-top Popgun Popsicle Populism  
Pop-up Poplar Popular Populist  
Popes Popover Populate

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### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Differences: 1. Whistle cord is missing. 2. Stripe is different. 3. Book is missing. 4. Headset is missing. 5. Frog is shorter. 6. Backpack is missing.

## Super Crossword

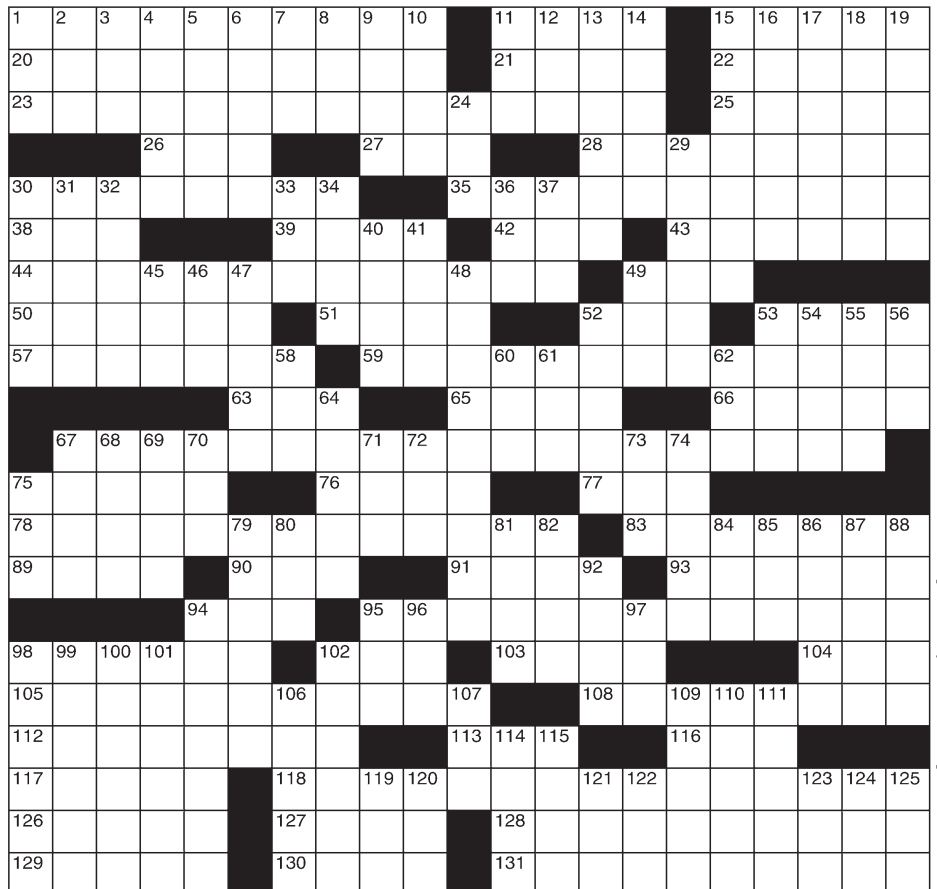
COOLING TREND

### ACROSS

- 1 Didn't move any closer
- 11 Swedish retail giant
- 15 Frets
- 20 Book you can't stop reading
- 21 Pupil's book
- 22 Palmer of golf, to fans
- 23 Additional person called on to peruse something
- 25 Ebb and flowed, as water
- 26 Premarital named
- 27 Rarity in golf
- 28 Curative stuff
- 30 Fills with a crayon, say
- 35 Feel hopeless about
- 38 — Grande
- 39 Bring to ruin
- 42 Authorize to
- 43 Tony winner Bernadette
- 44 Longtime "Masterpiece Theatre" host
- 49 Increases
- 50 Corporation combination
- 51 Malicious
- 52 Start for historic
- 53 "I'm out!"
- 57 Practice exam, maybe
- 59 Legendary title figure of a 1999 horror film
- 63 Granola bit
- 65 Invalidate
- 66 Bards' Muse
- 67 Some schoolkids' judged constructions
- 75 Startle
- 76 D.C. VIPs
- 77 Outback bird
- 78 Bit of jewelry with a single diamond
- 83 English class concern
- 89 Skirt borders
- 90 Hagen of the stage
- 91 Egg, in Paris
- 93 "Lawrence of Arabia" star
- 94 '60s hallucinogen
- 95 "Main Street" novelist
- 98 How silverware is often sold
- 102 Hip-hop producer Gotti
- 103 String after J
- 104 O'Hare abbr.
- 105 Times of trouble with tresses
- 108 Has a helping of humble pie
- 112 Explosion fragments
- 113 Qty.
- 116 Pi-sigma link
- 117 "I — Say No" (song from "Oklahoma!")
- 118 State flower of Iowa
- 126 Sporting site
- 127 — about (circa)
- 128 Foldaway bed or table, e.g.
- 129 — -arms (old soldier)
- 130 Gps. such as Oxfam and CARE
- 131 Ducted cooling system (and what nine answers in this puzzle have)

### DOWN

- 1 UV ray-blocking stat
- 2 Sticky sealant
- 3 Cake candle count
- 4 Like some simple questions
- 5 Old anesthetic
- 6 Swindles
- 7 Lingerie top
- 8 Darth Vader, as a boy
- 9 "Juno" actor Michael
- 10 McDonald's honcho Ray
- 11 Suffix with Gotham
- 12 Essential
- 13 Off the hook
- 14 Really baffled
- 15 Lampons
- 16 Ribbed cloth for dresses
- 17 Option for bitter greens
- 18 Frankfurter
- 19 Jewish feasts
- 24 Nourished
- 29 Ladle
- 30 Runner's pain
- 31 OPEC vessel
- 32 Tours' river
- 33 Dictator Amin
- 34 Average
- 36 Wapiti
- 37 Witness
- 40 "Rhyme Pays" rapper
- 41 Ark "captain"
- 45 Mil. bigwig
- 46 Masters peg
- 47 Fiery felony
- 48 A unified goal for the future
- 49 Mentalist Geller
- 52 GI's chaplain
- 53 Mag. sales stat
- 54 "Leave — that"
- 55 Doesn't delay
- 56 "Well now!"
- 58 Tic-toe link
- 60 Div. of NYC
- 61 Cup's edge
- 62 Minuscule
- 64 — cotta
- 67 Gin flavored
- 68 Not flustered
- 69 Camera part
- 70 CPR teacher, maybe
- 71 Service cost
- 72 Rainy mo.
- 73 "U can't b serious!"
- 74 Hearer of court evidence
- 75 Fire residue
- 79 Texas capital
- 80 "— be a pleasure"
- 81 Guitar part
- 82 Aquatic bird
- 84 Ocean off Fla.
- 85 A Stoooge
- 86 It cuts grass
- 87 Samuel of justice
- 88 Cut again, as lumber
- 92 Star status
- 94 Pounced on
- 95 Lady of Sp.
- 96 Climbing vine
- 97 — funk (sad)
- 98 1978-80 FBI sting
- 99 African desert
- 100 Best Actor winner Brody
- 101 "Pacific Blue" actress Moakler
- 102 Like engines in neutral
- 106 Took back, as one's title
- 107 Sticky stuff
- 109 Hearer of court evidence
- 110 Tom Jones' "— Lady"
- 111 Reef material
- 114 Richie's mom, to Fonzie
- 115 Sticky stuff
- 119 John, across the pond
- 120 OR workers
- 121 John, across the pond
- 122 Sales check: Abbr.
- 123 Female cells
- 124 Six, in Italy
- 125 Go astray



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# LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County organization recently presented a \$7,500 donation to Foundation for Focus House.

## 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County donates to Foundation for Focus House

**OGLE COUNTY** — The 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County organization recently presented a \$7,500 donation to Foundation for Focus House.

Foundation for Focus House and Community Programming exists to receive and administer contributions, gifts, memorials and bequests for the exclusive purpose of enhancing programming at Focus House, and offering community programs that enhance, enrich and supplement youth involved in court services. The foundation also allows court

services to apply for grants and participate in forms of fundraising otherwise not available.

The funds raised go completely to enhance the programming at Focus House. The youth that reside there often come with little clothing and often they have to be given clothes and provided with shoes and seasonal appropriate items. Funds are also used for training materials needed for the counseling team who does individual, group, and family counseling with each of their residential youth as well

as outpatient youth.

Funds are also used to keep their Alternative to Suspension program running as well. The youth get counseling and help with homework.

100 Women Who Care exists to donate funds to charities in Ogle County. It currently has 75 members who each generously donate \$100 four times a year to a deserving charity within the county.

For more information about 100 Women Who Care, contact Deanna Forrest at forrestdede5@gmail.com

## Mother and son-owned business instructs 3,500 total students

**OGLE COUNTY** — Northern Illinois CPR and First Aid, co-owned by the mother-and-son team of Lori Jasper and Zach Oltmanns, has successfully taught over 3,500 students CPR.

For every minute that CPR is not done the chance of survival can go down as much as 10 percent. With no bystander CPR and no AED, a person has a less

than 10 percent of survival. However, when local citizens are empowered to do bystander CPR and have access to an AED the chance of survival is close to 40 percent.

"We have traveled to many counties throughout Northern Illinois and Southern Wisconsin and we are proud to provide this service," Jasper said. "My daughter was saved

by CPR and I am happy to provide this service to the community."

"Since coming into business in 2017 it has been our pleasure to get out in the community to give people the tools, they need to help save a life," Oltmanns said.

The statistics are from the American Heart Association. Northern Illinois CPR and First Aid is a for-profit business.



# T-BYRD LANES BOWLING

AND THE PIT STOP BAR & GRILLE

Serving Lunch & Dinner  
Family Friendly • Great Food • Cold Beer

**2023 Fall Bowling League Registration going on now!**

Why do millions of people all over the country join leagues each year?

"To have FUN!" "To become a better bowler" "To meet new people"  
"To get out of the house" "For the competition" "To relieve stress" "An excuse to drink beer with friends"

## Get Your Family & Friends Together & Join The Fun!

### 2023 Mixed Women and Men

**Sunday** 6:00pm Every other Week (4-person) **OPENING'S \$14**  
New season meeting at 5:30pm September 10<sup>th</sup> Bowl same night at 6:00pm

**Monday** 7:00pm Monday Majors (5-person) **OPENING'S \$15**  
Meeting August 21<sup>st</sup>, at 6:30pm League Begins same night, 7:00pm

**Tuesday** 7:00pm Service League (5-person Teams) **\$15**  
Meeting August 22<sup>nd</sup>, at 6:00pm League Begins August 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00pm  
**OPENINGS FOR NEW TEAMS**

**Thursday** 7:00pm Classic League (5-person Teams) **\$15**  
Meeting August 17<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm League begins August 24<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00pm  
**NOTE:** Meeting site to be determined

### Women Only Leagues

Openings for New Bowlers

**Monday** 1:00pm Monday Freedom League (3-person Teams)  
Meeting August 28<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00pm League Begins September 11<sup>th</sup>, at 1:00pm

Everyone is "Good Enough" for a Bowling League. Here's WHY!

Bowling Leagues use a Handicap Scoring System, to allow for bowlers of all different ability levels to compete fairly within the same league.

For More Information Please Call T-Byrd Lanes at 815-562-4822

\*\* Start Your Own Business League, contact Dan @ T-Byrds 815-562-4822 \*\*  
Can be weekly, one or two times monthly, 8, 12, 16, or 24 weeks long

RNLSPC

## 5th Annual



Nominate Your Favorites Now!



Businesses & People!  
NEW CATEGORIES for 2023!

Nomination Phase

August 1<sup>st</sup> - August 14<sup>th</sup>

## You've got to be in it to win it!

Special Thanks to Our Core Sponsors:

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Pizzeria and Italian Restaurant



**State Farm**  
TERRI SCHAEFER

Brought to you by:

OGLE COUNTY  
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ROCK VALLEY SHOPPER

ROCHELLE  
News-Leader





COMING SOON!

BEST OF OGLE COUNTY 2023



Rochelle Little League

# Second in the state

Senior League All-Stars medal at Illinois Little League tourney in Burbank

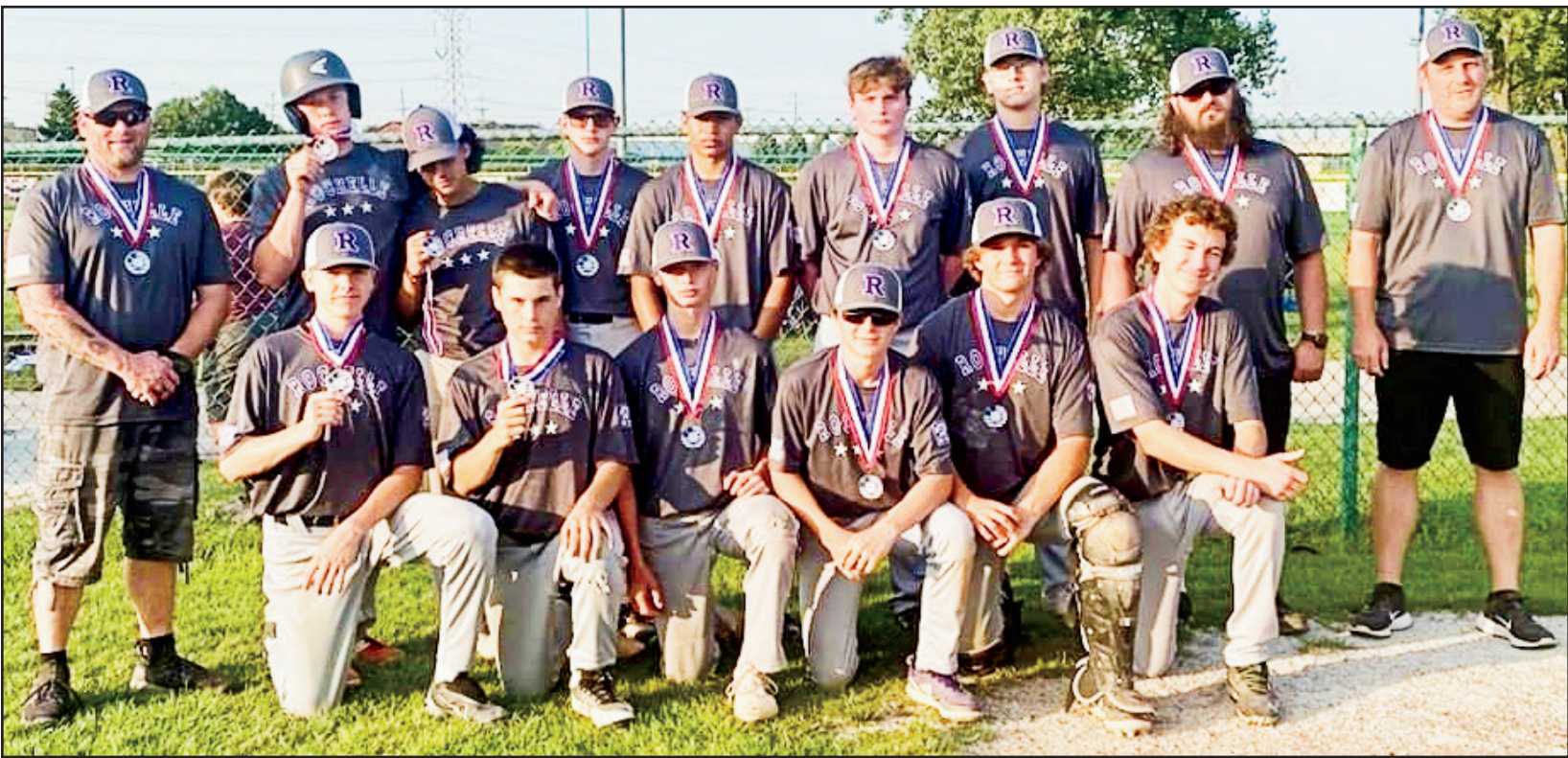
BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BURBANK** — The Rochelle Little League Senior League All-Stars shined at the Illinois Little League State Championship tournament in Burbank earlier this month, medaling in second place after finishing 3-2 over five games.

Rochelle started the tournament with a 5-1 win over Bartlett and a 16-6 win against Moline before conceding an 18-1 loss against eventual state champion Burbank. Rochelle defeated Bartlett 8-4 in a rematch to earn its way into the finals, where the Senior League All-Stars fell 16-0 in a championship rematch against Burbank.

## Bartlett 1

Rochelle held a 1-0 lead after the first inning, where Daniel Betancourt doubled and scored on an RBI triple from Ethan Goodwin. After a scoreless second inning, Rochelle surged ahead 3-0 on a two-run double from Brody Ellis in the third inning, where Goodwin singled and Reece Harris reached on a hit-by-pitch.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Little League Senior League All-Stars went 3-2 over five games to take second at the Illinois Little League State Championship. The team includes Brody Ellis, Caden Goodwin, Seth Ramos, Reece Harris, Brock Needs, Declan McGee, Tony Milburn, Daniel Betancourt, Ethan Goodwin, James Hook, Mason Moore and Ryan Senne. The team is coached by David Needs, Bill Ellis and Jason Goodwin.

Scoreless fourth and fifth innings preceded a two-run fifth inning, where Goodwin's RBI single and Ryan Senne's RBI double put Rochelle ahead 5-0.

Bartlett avoided the shutout with one run late in the game, but Rochelle's early lead was enough to secure the win. Ethan Goodwin threw

three scoreless innings for the All-Stars, striking out five batters over 45 pitches. Caden Goodwin fired the final four innings, striking out six batters.

## Moline

Rochelle exploded for six runs in the fourth inning against Moline. After loading the bases

on a single from Mason Moore as well as a walk to Tony Milburn and a hit-by-pitch drawn by Brock Needs, Seth Ramos and Caden Goodwin each drew run-scoring walks. Daniel Betancourt plated another run on a hit-by-pitch before Ethan Goodwin delivered a two-run double.

Rochelle held a 6-2 lead

after four innings and blew the game open with a nine-run sixth inning, where the All-Stars drew five walks and Declan McGee's RBI double ignited the rally. Betancourt added an RBI single in the frame for the All-Stars, who led Moline 15-6 after six innings before tallying one run on base hits from Milburn and

James Hook in the seventh inning.

Ryan Senne took the ball on the mound for Rochelle, striking out six batters and allowing only two runs in the win. Seth Ramos entered in relief and added two strikeouts to clinch the victory.

See STATE page 7

Forge Wrestling Club

## Rochelle athletes travel for 2023 Freestyle & Greco-Roman Nationals

Four area wrestlers represent Team Illinois at tournament in Fargo, North Dakota

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**FARGO, N.D.** — Five members of the Forge Wrestling Club, including four student-athletes from Rochelle, earned the chance to test their skills against the elite wrestlers in the country during the 2023 USA Wrestling Freestyle & Greco-Roman National Championships earlier this month.

Kaiden Morris and Tommy Tourdot wrestled in the Junior Boys Division, while Cammyla Macias and Dempsey Atkinson competed in the 16U Girls Division. All four athletes represented Team Illinois at the annual tournament, which features the best freestyle and greco-roman wrestlers from across the United States. Illinois won the combined team title with 767 points while earning both the 16U Greco-Roman Championship and the Junior Women's Freestyle Championship.

Tourdot wrestled in the Junior 120 Greco-Roman Division, finishing 2-2 over four matches. The Rochelle Township High School senior and one-time IHSA state qualifier conceded a loss to Tennessee's Chase Creque before scoring back-to-back victories by fall over Florida's Elijah

Lowe and Arizona's Diego Camarillo in the consolation bracket. Tourdot bowed out in the First Consolation Round of 32, conceding a 17-9 technical fall against Virginia's Colin Martin.

"Fargo was an amazing experience," Tourdot said. "We wrestled against the best athletes in the country and I really enjoyed wrestling with other partners in the state. I'm glad I had the chance to see where I'm at in the country. I felt like I did well in all positions and I was able to score. I really controlled my matches when I could and I learned a lot from this experience. My goals for the upcoming winter season are to be a state champion, not only individually but as a team."

Morris competed in the Junior 220 Greco-Roman Division, finishing 3-2 over five matches and reaching the First Consolation Round of 8. The Rochelle Township High School junior opened the tournament with a 9-0 technical fall over California's Andre Saravia and a 13-3 technical fall over Kansas wrestler Pierce Cunningham. After a loss to Oklahoma's Oscar Williams in the quarterfinals, Morris defeated New York's Yiorgos Georgas with a 8-0 technical fall before ending the tournament

with a loss against Texas wrestler Jarrett Stoner in consolation action.

"It was a great experience being able to meet new people and coaches," Morris said. "I enjoyed wrestling people from all over the country. I thought I performed well because it was my first time going to Fargo and I didn't really know how I would match up against the best guys in the country. I felt like I did a good job of not forcing things and waiting for my positions to come to me. I learned that no matter how hard I train, there's always room for improvement."

One of two girls on the RTHS wrestling team to compete at Fargo, Atkinson wrestled in the 16U 152 Freestyle Division, finishing 2-2 over four matches. The junior bounced back from a second-round fall against Virginia's Eleanor Dean, scoring consecutive wins over Kansas wrestler Brandie Brown (9-7 decision) and California's Natalin Hout (11-0 technical fall) in the consolation bracket. Atkinson's run ended with a loss by fall to Missouri's Breanne Gibbs.

"Fargo was an amazing experience where I got to meet new friends and coaches," Atkinson said.

See FARGO page 3



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Rochelle wrestlers Dempsey Atkinson (left) and Cammyla Macias (right) were two of the four athletes from the Hub City who represented Team Illinois at the 2023 Freestyle & Greco-Roman National Championships in Fargo, North Dakota.





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## HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Rochelle Township High School senior graduates Noah Lara (left) and Aidan Rodriguez (right) have signed to play baseball at Kishwaukee College next year.

## Lara, Rodriguez sign with Kishwaukee College

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

TWO Rochelle Township High School student-athletes will be continuing their academics and their baseball careers at Kishwaukee College next year. Senior graduates Noah Lara and Aidan Rodriguez each signed with the Kougars after successful high school seasons in the spring.

Lara played four years of baseball at RTHS, with two years coming at the varsity level. Lara earned an All-Conference Honorable Mention in the Interstate 8 during his senior season, where the starting catcher slashed .352/.468/.505 with 32 base hits including 24 singles, five doubles and a team-leading three home runs. Rochelle's Ricker Award winner this past season, Lara totaled 21 RBIs and nine runs scored over 29 starts, helping the Hubs to a 10-win season.

"Choosing Kishwaukee College was easy for me because it's the closest option and they have a baseball program that's trending in the right direction," Lara said. "I'm excited to see what college baseball is all about and to compete at a higher level. Playing at Rochelle has prepared me for this because coach [Jarrod] Reynolds always pushed everyone to work

hard and play to the best of their ability. I've talked with the incoming coach about catching in college."

Rodriguez earned several starts in the outfield during his senior season, where he recorded a .467 on-base percentage with 12 RBIs and 10 hits. Rodriguez spent four years with the RTHS baseball program, with two years coming at the varsity level. Rodriguez also spent four years with the RTHS football team, earning All-Conference First Team honors this past season.

"I chose Kishwaukee College because it's close to home and I thought it would be a great opportunity to play baseball for two more years," Rodriguez said. "I'm looking forward to competing at the next level, meeting new teammates and helping them and myself get better. Playing baseball at Rochelle prepared me to compete because the best nine play. We also played in a difficult conference and I think that will help prepare me to play at the next level."

Rodriguez intends to study forensic sciences at Kishwaukee College in hopes of transferring to finish his education at a four-year school. Lara also intends to earn his associate's degree at Kishwaukee College before transferring to a four-year school to study sports medicine.

"I'm excited to see what college baseball is all about and to compete at a higher level."

Noah Lara

"I chose Kishwaukee College because it's close to home and I thought it would be a great opportunity..."

Aidan Rodriguez

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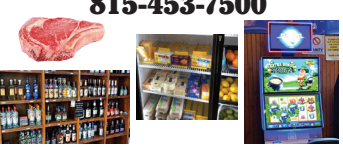
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# SPORTS

Rochelle Rampage

(COURTESY PHOTO)



## Rochelle Rampage 8U baseball team wins Sandwich Summer Slam with 5-0 record

The Rochelle Rampage 8U baseball team showed dominance during the 2023 Sandwich Summer Slam this past weekend. The 8U team went 3-0 in pool play with victories by scores of 17-11, 15-5 and 12-1 to enter the championship bracket as the No. 2 seed. Rochelle knocked off the CDBL Rockets 8U team 12-11 in the semifinal round before defeating the Sandwich 8U team 7-5 to clinch the tournament title. The team includes Bryce Adolph, Paul Martinez Jr., Jacob Chadwick, Noah Carter, Connor Isley, Elliot Huff, Quade Dickey, Xander Gonzales, Wells Millard and Rowen Villalobos. The team is coached by Justin Adolph, Jason Carter and Tim Isley.

## FARGO: Rochelle-area wrestlers compete at national championships

From page 1

“My favorite part was hanging out with hotel roommates and walking around with them... I lost my first match and came out of it knowing I could’ve beaten her, which is the worst feeling to have after a match. I changed my mentality for the next two matches and ended up winning both of them. I felt very proud of myself for winning two matches at Fargo in my first year of doing freestyle wrestling. I know now where I’m at compared to the best wrestlers in the nation.”

Macias, who will be a sophomore at RTHS

this coming school year, wrestled in the 16U 117 Freestyle Division and finished 0-2 over two matches. Macias opened the tournament against Kansas wrestler Stella Segura, conceding a 10-0 technical fall before bowing out with a 10-0 technical fall loss to Arizona’s Larisa Cota. Oregon High School’s Landyn Windham also went to Fargo with the Forge team, going 1-2 over three matches in the 16U 182 Freestyle Division.

“I really enjoyed that I got to meet new wrestlers and practice with them, but Fargo was also filled with a lot of amazing and powerful women,” Macias said.



Rochelle wrestlers Kaiden Morris (left) and Tommy Tourdot (right) wrestled in the Junior Greco-Roman Division at the 2023 Freestyle & Greco-Roman National Championships in Fargo, North Dakota this month.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

“This experience will help me in the winter because I’ve learned more tech-

niques and I’ve been working harder during practice. I know now what I need to

work on and what I need to clean up. My goal for the winter is to have a better

record than last year and to gain the self confidence that I didn’t have last year.”

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Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
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Board of Trustees of Community College District No. 523 in the Counties of DeKalb, Ogle, Lee, Boone, Kane, LaSalle, and Winnebago, State of Illinois.  
Robert Johnson, Chair  
Kathleen Spears, Secretary  
No. 0748  
(July 30, 2023)

### NOTICE Special Meeting Notice

The Kings CSD#144 Board of Education will hold a Public Hearing on August 16, 2023, at 5:45 pm for the purpose of the Limitation of Administrative Costs. This hearing will be held in the library of Kings School located at 100 1st St, Kings, Illinois, prior to the regular monthly meeting.  
Niki Adamski, Board

President  
Kings Community  
School District 144  
No. 0751  
(July 30, 2023)

### NOTICE

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

## 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

## 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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

## 113 FINANCIAL

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

## 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

## 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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

## 201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family

Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

## 301 ANTIQUES

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

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

## 305 GARAGE SALE

ROCHELLE - 1107 N 3rd Street, August 3-5, 8am to 5pm. Kids clothes ranging from 14-16, adult clothes, board games, baby items, household items, shop smith with accessories toy and misc. (08-02-23)

## 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BUNDLED Newspaper - \$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday 815-562-4171 (8AM-NOON ONLY) Rochelle News Leader.

FOR SALE 5X8 UTILITY TRAILER, All new rebuilt tires, hubs, bearings. New 4 Inch sides and lights. \$450 815-384-6221. (08-2-02-23)

## 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

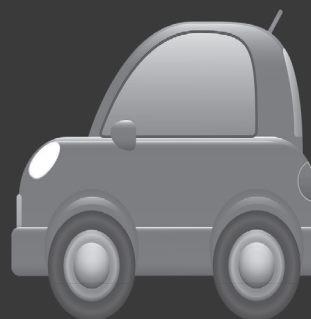
## 509 HOUSE FOR RENT

HOUSE FOR RENT: Three bedroom house near Franklin Grove, no pets. Call 815-456-2453. (08-13-23)

## 305 GARAGE SALE

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**HUGE ESTATE & MOVING SALE**  
**ROCHELLE**  
**10135 E. Hickory Ridge Drive**  
**Thursday 8/3 through Sunday 8/6**  
**9 AM to 5 PM**  
Home Goods, Crystal, Glassware, Furniture, Tools, Collectibles (Beanie Babies, Boyds Bears, Elvis, Porcelain Dolls), Gardening Items, Lawn Mower, Snow Blower, Indoor & Outdoor Christmas Decor & More.  
Too Much to Mention!  
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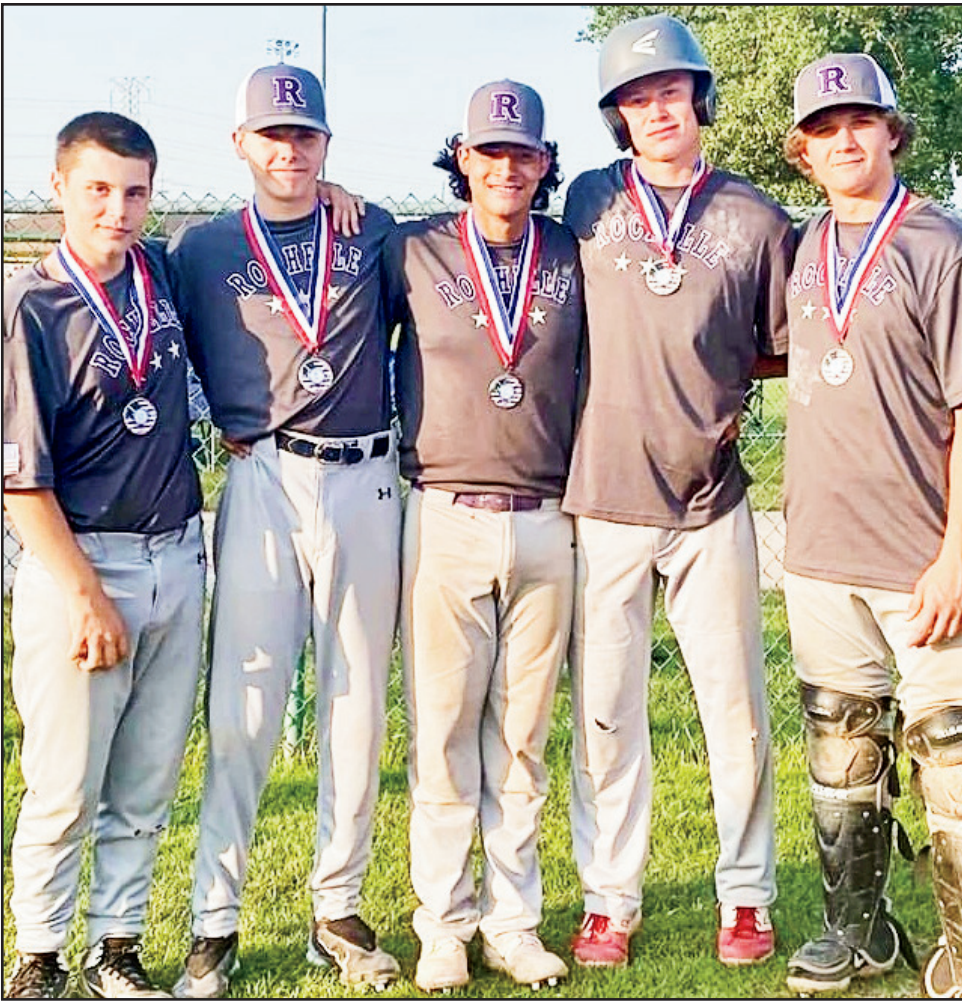
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# SPORTS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Five members of the Senior League team played their final Little League games at the Illinois Little League State Championship. Above from left to right are James Hook, Mason Moore, Daniel Betancourt, Ethan Goodwin and Ryan Senne.

## STATE: Senior League All-Stars record second-place finish

From page 1

### Bartlett 2

Ryan Senne's RBI double scored Daniel Betancourt in the first inning. Betancourt and Seth Ramos each singled for Rochelle in the third inning, with both players scoring on Ethan Goodwin's two-run double. Goodwin came home on an RBI single from Senne, who then stole second and scored on Reece Harris' RBI single. Ramos brought home Tony Milburn with a sacrifice

fly in the fourth inning, which preceded scoreless fifth and sixth innings for Rochelle.

Mason Moore drove Harris home with an RBI single in the seventh inning, where the All-Stars secured their berth in the state championship series against Burbank. Goodwin pitched six and one-third innings in his final Little League outing, striking out eight batters and allowing only three runs. Caden Goodwin closed the game for Rochelle, striking out

three Bartlett batters.

### Burbank 1 & 2

Ethan Goodwin, Seth Ramos and Mason Moore combined for three strikeouts in the 18-1 loss against Burbank early in the tournament. Rochelle was held to three hits in the 16-0 loss in the state finals to close the tournament, with Brock Needs, Daniel Betancourt and Goodwin each hitting singles. Betancourt, Ramos and James Hook combined to pitch for the All-Stars.

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free to walk in a normal fashion. Its easy-adjust height system allows it to be the perfect fit/height for anyone from 4'10" to 6'1" and supports up to 300 pounds. The new stand-assist handles enable you to distribute your weight across your arms and shoulders, not your hands and wrists to help reduce back, neck, wrist pain and discomfort. It features comfortable arm pads, hand brakes, a fold-down seat, a backrest and two storage bags. It's built

with aircraft-grade aluminum to be sturdy yet lightweight, and its sleek design and oversized wheels make it perfect for tight spots in the house or walking in the yard.

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# SPORTS

RTHS Football

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



**Hubs hold annual Lift-A-Thon fundraiser at RTHS**  
The Rochelle Hub football program held its annual Lift-A-Thon fundraiser at the RTHS north parking lot this past week. Players ranging from freshmen through seniors participated, completing max lifts in the bench press, squat and hang clean. Spectators were also invited to attend and participate in raffles and games.

# BEAT THE HEAT

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