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RACF launches Plant-A-Seed fund

The Rochelle Area Community Foundation has started a new Plant-A-Seed field-of-interest fund.

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WEATHER

SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
67 53	70 48

TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
78 56	86 56

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OBITUARIES

- JOHN C. TOMPKINS
- RICHARD A. OVERBY
- THOMAS E. THOMPSON
- SHIRLEY JEAN (JOHNSON) FIELDS
- JAMES OTTO KLOEPPING

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- MENARDS

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RPD holds 2023 Torch Run

Pavia: '... every year it just gets bigger and bigger'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Wednesday morning, the Rochelle Police Department hosted its annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, raising money for Special Olympics Illinois.

Employees of the department, their family members and community members participated in the run that stretched from Illinois Route 38 to Lincoln Avenue along Lincoln Highway. RPD has spent recent months raising money for Special Olympics Illinois and raised over \$4,500 at its Cop on a Rooftop event at Dunkin Donuts last month for the cause, setting a record and doubling last year's amount.

"It's a statewide effort to raise money," RPD Interim Chief Pete Pavia said. "From what I've heard, this year has seen record numbers. This is just another leg of the fundraiser this year. Our run seems to grow every year. Since we started this year



On Wednesday morning, the Rochelle Police Department hosted its annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, raising money for Special Olympics Illinois.

ago, every year it just gets bigger and bigger and our donations get bigger and bigger. I think it's because we've consistently stayed on these programs."

RPD has taken part in the Torch Run since the early 1990s. The department keeps busy with fundraisers and events in the summers, and it will host the community for

National Night Out on Aug. 1 at Atwood Park.

Pavia said the run Wednesday was enjoyed by members of the department and community alike.

"I love these events," Pavia said. "As we're running the route, people came out to support us and say things like, 'Go, Rochelle!' It's just great for

people to see us out here in the community. And It's good for department unity and something to do together. With the different shifts, some of our night staff were unable to attend, but we had a big turnout. A lot of the officers came out today, even on their days off. Some are on vacation right now and still came out to run. It was great."

Ribbon cutting ceremony held for AmKrom Services

'... thank you for allowing us to become part of this community'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Wednesday, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held for AmKrom Services at Page Park in downtown Rochelle.

The business is owned by Anthony and Andrea Kromwell and offers house cleaning, office cleaning and apartment cleaning. The business offers free estimates and can be contacted at www.AmKrom.com, by phone at 779-276-2743 or by email at Amkromservices@gmail.com.

"We just want to say thank you for allowing us to become part of this community," Anthony said. "It seems like everyone is pretty much family here. We do commercial and rental property cleaning. Feel free to reach out to us. We'd be glad to give you an estimate. Thank you."

The event Wednesday marked AmKrom Services' official membership with the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce. The event was attended by chamber and city officials and friends and family of the Kromwells, and included speeches by Chamber Executive Director Tricia Herrera



On Wednesday, a ribbon cutting ceremony was held for AmKrom Services at Page Park in downtown Rochelle. The business is owned by Anthony and Andrea Kromwell.

and Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows.

Herrera thanked those in attendance for coming out to celebrate AmKrom Services.

"A while back, I got to meet the Kromwells," Herrera said. "They came into my office and said they'd relocated and wanted to start a business in Rochelle and they were really excited about join-

ing the chamber. We're really excited about that as well. They've been very supportive and positive about the chamber in their short time with us. We just want to welcome you and thank you for providing your services here in our community and let you know that we're here if you need something."

Bearrows welcomed AmKrom Services on be-

half of the city and talked about partnership in his speech.

"It means a lot that you're here," Bearrows said. "As a successful business, you need to develop partnerships. Today, you officially started two partnerships with the chamber and the city. Think of us as your partners, because we are here to help local businesses. The next step

in your success is continuing that partnership, and your business will be built on relationships. I encourage you to reach out to other businesses in town and talk to them and build relationships. That's what the success of a lot of small businesses relates to, is cross-selling and helping each other. Welcome to Rochelle and we're glad you're here."

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LOCAL NEWS

Kishwaukee College holds spring 2023 commencement ceremonies

MALTA — Kishwaukee College held its spring 2023 commencement on Saturday, May 20, in the gymnasium, with 245 students attending ceremonies to commemorate their achievements.

Kish held a 9 a.m. ceremony for 136 students graduating with associate in applied science degrees, certificates of completion, short-term training or Illinois High School diploma credentials, followed by an 11 a.m. ceremony for 109 students graduating with associate in arts, associate in science, associate in engineering science, or associate in general studies degrees. Overall, 483 students applied to graduate and were eligible to participate in the spring 2023 commencement ceremonies.

Ashley Villalpando, who graduated with an associate in science degree with an emphasis in biological and physical sciences, served as the

student speaker for both ceremonies. Villalpando emphasized the importance of pursuing life goals and encouraged her fellow graduates to continue to make a difference.

“Your journey is just beginning, and I hope that wherever you go, you find comfort and safety in the people around you. Don’t be a bystander to your own life. Pursue your life’s greatest passions. Don’t let doubt stop you, and give yourself room to learn and grow,” Villalpando said.

Along with Villalpando, students heard remarks from Dr. Laurie Borowicz, president of Kishwaukee College; Bob Johnson, Kishwaukee College Board of Trustees chair; and Sherry Haley, assistant professor of nursing. Haley offered inspiration in overcoming life’s challenges.

“Remember, only you decide how the rest of the pages of your story will



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Kishwaukee College graduate Dylan Kostecki crosses the stage after receiving an associate in applied science degree at the college’s commencement ceremony on Saturday, May 20. Overall, 483 students applied to graduate and were eligible to participate in the spring 2023 commencement ceremonies.

be written — through the chances you take, the choices you make, and the

responses to the challenges you face,” Haley said. “Go live your story.”

Both ceremonies were livestreamed on Kish’s social media channels

and website. To view the ceremonies, visit kish.edu/commencement.



Tina Mollet, RN
OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH
SERVICES COORDINATOR



To read Tina's nomination, go to the RCH Facebook page or RochelleHospital.com

NIU STEM Café explores neutrinos, the building blocks of the universe

DEKALB—The Deep Underground Neutrino Experiment (DUNE) will be one of the world’s largest and most fascinating scientific investigations — and it’s happening in our own backyard.

Learn more about it at the next Northern Illinois University STEM Café with Mike Eads, Ph.D., NIU associate professor of physics, and Leo Bellantoni, Ph.D, staff scientist at Fermi National



Northern Illinois University

Accelerator Laboratory.

The event will take place on Wednesday, June 14 at 6:30 p.m. at Fatty’s Pub and Grille (1312 W. Lincoln Highway, DeKalb). The STEM Café is free and open

to the public, with food and drinks available for purchase from Fatty’s. Learn more and register at go.niu.edu/stemcafe.

The international DUNE project will consist of two neutrino detectors at either end of the world’s most intense beam of neutrinos. One detector will be located near the neutrino beam-line source at Fermilab in nearby Batavia, Illinois. The other, much larger detector will be installed deep underground at the Sanford Underground Research Laboratory in Lead, South Dakota — 800 miles downstream of the source and nearly a mile underground.

The goal of this experiment is to better understand neutrinos, one of the fundamental particle building blocks of our universe, and one of the least understood. Neutrinos may hold the key to answering fundamental questions about the universe in which we live, such as why the universe today is made up almost entirely of matter with very little antimatter present.

Professor Eads says, “We’re hoping to introduce the audience to some of the fundamental questions and curious discoveries of contemporary particle physics. Particle physics is all about understanding the world around us at the most basic level. There is a lot we understand about the fundamental particles that make up the universe and how they interact with each other, but there are also some very important things we don’t know.”

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LOCAL NEWS

Blackhawk Waterways CVB announces Lenox as newest executive director

POLO — The Blackhawk Waterways Convention and Visitors Bureau is pleased to announce the appointment of Matthew Lenox as its new executive director.

Known for his innovative and community-focused strategies, Lenox brings an energy to the role that pairs beautifully with his deeply-rooted connection to the region. Having successfully driven the Discover Dixon brand and cultivated significant community engagement, Matthew's unique approach to marketing has resonated with both residents and visitors alike. His innovative efforts, including an award-winning national commercial, have consistently raised the bar in regional promotion.

"Matthew's regional familiarity and commitment to our community will be instrumental in representing Northwest Illinois," Board President Sherry Vidinich said. "We are eager to see how his perspective and fresh ideas will inspire our tourism narrative."

In his new role, Matthew will collaborate with local tourism partners and the Illinois Office of Tourism, working collectively to boost the region's tourism appeal. He steps into the shoes of Executive Director Diane Bausman, who retires after nearly 20 years of dedicated service to the Bureau. Lenox will officially assume his new role Aug. 1, promising a



Diane Bausman (left) and Matthew Lenox (right)

fresh outlook for the BW-CVB.

During her 19-plus years as the head of the CVB, Bausman became well-known as an advocate for tourism as an economic development tool and worked hard to promote the Blackhawk Waterways region as a destination. She was a featured speaker at many area civic organizations and also had regular segments on area radio stations where she promoted events and festivals.

Diane brought awareness to the area by serving in leadership roles on the Great Rivers Country Tourism Office Board of Directors and the Illinois Lincoln Highway Coalition Board of Directors. She also served on the boards of Rock River Trail Initiative, Blackhawk Hills Regional Council, Ronald Reagan Trail Association, Tri State Tourism Council and was a member of the Illinois Council of Convention & Visitors Bureaus.

Bausman navigated state funding challenges, instituted a local tourism partner grant and was on the forefront of online advertising and the use of social media to promote the region via Facebook and worked with her staff to utilize other platforms like Twitter, Instagram and TikTok. Her leadership helped make Northwest Illinois a popular tourist destination and the regional economic impact of tourism statistics reflect an 85 percent increase during her tenure.

The BWCVB is the state-certified destination management organization representing Carroll, Lee, Ogle and Whiteside Counties for the Illinois Office of Tourism. The CVB provides marketing and public relations support for tourism businesses, attractions & events in the four-county region and is governed by a 16-member board of directors comprised of representatives from each county.

(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)



RPD holds 2023 Torch Run on Wednesday

On Wednesday, RPD hosted its annual Law Enforcement Torch Run, raising money for Special Olympics Illinois. Employees of the department, their family members and community members participated in the run that stretched from Illinois Route 38 to Lincoln Avenue along Lincoln Highway.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Area Community Foundation (RACF) is thrilled to announce a new field-of-interest endowment fund called Plant A Seed fund.

Rochelle Area Community Foundation reveals new Plant A Seed field-of-interest fund

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Area Community Foundation (RACF) is thrilled to announce a new field-of-interest endowment fund called Plant A Seed fund. It provides funding to promote the science or practice of farming, agribusiness systems, animal systems, environmental service systems, natural resource systems, plant systems and power, structural and technological systems.

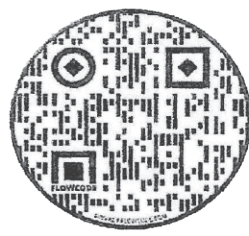
Emily Anaya, RACF executive director, stated, "After 17 years we thought it was only natural to start an agriculture fund here at RACF. We have been working with Donna Page at Rochelle Township High School, and some of the FFA students, on how this fund would be utilized through our competitive grants process. The students even named the fund-Plant A Seed." Anaya is

excited to see how this fund grows to support the programs and ideas of our agriculture community.

If you want to help grow the Plant A Seed fund, you can do so by donating online at rochellefoundation.org, click Donate and it is located under the Field of Interest section. You can also call the RACF at 815-561-3600 or email Anaya at director@rochellefoundation.org.



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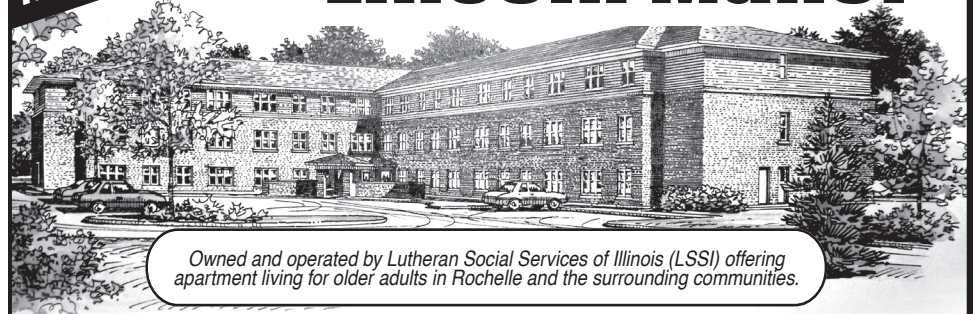
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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

John C. Tompkins

TUCSON, Ariz — John C. Tompkins, 69, of Tucson, Arizona passed on June 2, 2023. Born Aug. 2, 1953 in Greensboro, North Carolina. John attended Culver Military Academy, Illiana Christian High School, and Calvin College.

John grew up in a newspaper family and at the young age of twenty-one purchased *The Rochelle News-Leader* in 1975. For the next forty-eight years John grew News Media Corporation to over seventy-five publications spanning across nine states. John was not only a newspaperman, he was a visionary entrepreneur and gifted strategist who was not afraid to take risks. John loved his "business family" and the unique communities that NMC serves.

Anyone who knew John would concur that he was larger than life and an

extremely generous man. John was also a man of great faith and spent many years teaching Sunday school at City First Church and mentoring young men. He was a voracious reader with a wealth of knowledge on copious topics. If you ever met with John you likely left with a book in hand.

John had many hobbies; he loved rodeo, Kung Fu, sailing, and his beloved dog, Roscoe. John spent his final years "Out West"—where he felt most at home. John taught his children God's Word, to walk in faith, and to trust in the finished work of the cross—this is his greatest legacy.

John is survived by his children Trina (Stephen) McNeilly, J.J. (Lindsay) Tompkins, and Amy Tompkins; former wife and life-long friend Cindy Tompkins; grandchildren Ella, Luke, Liam, and Roc-



co McNeilly, Grace Wolfe, Hope and Lily Tompkins; sister Patricia (Bob) VanTil; brother Michael (Mary) Tompkins; cousins, nieces, and nephews. He is pre-deceased by his parents John Edward Tompkins and Hilda Tompkins and nephew David Tompkins.

A memorial service will be at held at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 15th 2023 in the City First Church Chapel, 5950 Spring Creek Road, with Pastor Dan Qualls officiating. Visitation will be from 9:30 a.m. until the start of the service on Thursday at the church.

To express condolences online, please visit: www.

Richard A. Overby

ROCHELLE — Richard A. Overby, 71, passed away Friday, June 9, 2023 at Central DuPage Hospital in Winfield. Richard was born to Walter and Leta (Fleenor) Overby on April 1, 1952 in Sandwich.

In 1970, he graduated from Shabbona High School and from Illinois Wesleyan in 1974. On March 24, 1984, he married Marilyn Meier at the First Presbyterian Church in Rochelle. Richard enjoyed gardening, traveling, reading and spending time with his grandchildren.

Richard is survived by his wife of 39 years, Marilyn; two daughters: Liz (Chad Sarver) Overby and Katie (Steven) Peterson; four grandchildren: Lexi Sarver, Logan, Allie and Carly Peterson; and siblings: Phyllis Jones, Anita Rogers and Brian (Shinobu) Overby.

The memorial visitation will be held from 4 - 6 P.M., Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The memorial service will be held at 2 P.M., Thursday, June 15 at the First Pres-



byterian Church, 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle. Memorials may be made in Richard's memory to the First Presbyterian Church. Burial will be at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Thomas E. Thompson

DIXON — Thomas E. Thompson, 79, formerly of Shabbona and Rochelle, passed away Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at his home in Dixon surrounded by his family. He was born Nov. 1, 1943, in DeKalb, the son of Emory and Elinor (Vandre) Thompson. He married Rita Merriman on March 14, 1964, in Shabbona.

Tom graduated from Shabbona High School in 1961. He worked as a farmer and later drove a semi-truck for numerous local companies. He was an avid baseball fan. Tom loved fishing, riding his motorcycle, and taking long drives with Rita. He loved his family above all, especially spending time and playing cards with his

grandkids. Tom is survived by his wife of 59 years, Rita, of Dixon; two children, Jeff Thompson of Rochelle and Julie (Scott) Lovett of Steward; two grandchildren, Nate and Emily Lovett; sister, Judy Jacobson of Norway, Illinois; and numerous nieces, nephews, and cousins.

In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by sister, Gwen (Don) Walters.

The family would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon for their wonderful care of Tom.

Cremation care has been provided by the Jacobson-Torman Funeral Home in Shabbona. Due to funeral home availability, a me-



morial visitation will from 2-5 P.M. Sunday, June 11, 2023, at the Torman Funeral Home, 510 Flagg St. in Paw Paw with a Masonic Service at 5 P.M. Private interment will be in First Lutheran Cemetery in Lee at a later date. Memorials in

Tom's name may be made to Jacobson-Torman Funeral Home c/o The Thompson Family, P.O. Box 184, Shabbona, IL 60550.

James Otto Kloepping

CHANA — James Otto Kloepping, age 72, of Chana, passed on to be with his Lord on Thursday, June 8, 2023. He was born July 29, 1950, in Freeport, the son of Samuel and Luella (Dreibelbis) Kloepping. He graduated from Pearl City High School and Illinois State University. He married Patricia Wieck on July 27, 1973.

Jim and Pat have three sons: Chris (Keri) of Gilbert, Arizona, Tim (Andrea) of Murphy, Texas, and Jason of Chana. They have four grandchildren: Emma, Elijah, Payton and Aubrey.

Jim was a carpenter. He was very active in the Ashton Lions Club and served as District

Governor from 2014-2015. He was a member of Chana United Methodist Church.

Jim was preceded in death by his parents, Samuel and Luella. He is survived by three sisters: Elizabeth, Patricia and Annette, and brother, William, as well as several nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held 4 - 6 P.M., Monday, June 12, 2023 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St. in Rochelle. A celebra-



tion of Life service will be held at Chana United Methodist Church, 606 N. Main St., on Saturday, July 8, 2023. Memorials may be made in Jim's memory to the Chana United Methodist Church or the Ashton Lions Club. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers issue two arrests

ROCHELLE — On June 7 at 11:30 a.m. a 17-year-old male juvenile of Delavan, Wisconsin was

cited for failure to yield turning left. He signed a promise to comply and was given a July 7 Rochelle

court date.

On June 7 at 5:59 p.m. Iceana N. Ellis, 34, of Rockford was arrested for two counts of aggravated battery to a police officer, obstructing and possession of ammunition and was transferred.

On June 7 at 9:14 p.m. Paul Merritt, 39, of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

All individuals are innocent until proven guilty.

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ROCHELLE — Shirley Jean (Johnson) Fields, 84, passed away Monday June 5, 2023 at OSF St. Anthony Hospital in Rockford. Shirley was born on Nov. 3, 1938 to Jess and Alfreda Johnson in the Sikeston, Missouri area.

Shirley worked at several local businesses in her 60 plus years as a resident of Rochelle. Hornsby's, Delmonte, Hope, and Focus House to name a few. She enjoyed Blue-Grass music and could often be found at weekly bluegrass sessions tapping her feet, clapping and singing along. Faith was important to Shirley. She was a devout Christian and raised her family to love the Lord and to put Faith at the center of their lives.

Shirley enjoyed country living and the farmlands of the midwest. She loved to visit small towns and festivals and would often take long drives to soak up the

country air and farmlands. She especially loved the fields of grazing cows and rows of cornfields, expressing how they brought her happiness and comfort.

In addition to her parents, she is preceded in death by her infant daughter Debra Kay Fields, brothers; Jess Johnson, Gale Johnson, Jim Johnson, and sisters; Thelma Grace, Vernita Patterson and Diana Kime.

Shirley is survived by her four children; Sherrie (Steve) Ripp of Morris, Madonna (Jeff) Olson of Nixa, Missouri, James (Shelly) Fields of Girard, Kimberly (Hersel) Hicks of Rochelle. Fifteen Grandchildren; Raymond Danekas, Shane Danekas, Steven Ripp, Jacob Olson, Jessica (Olson) Whiteman, Logan Fields, Jamie (Fields) Hicks, Amanda (Emrick) Schildmeier, Tiffany (Emrick) Rodriguez, Ashley (Emrick) Bick, Kyle Emrick, Elizabeth (Hicks)



Williams, Kristina (Hicks) Jackson, Timothy Hicks and Jonathan Hicks. And 33 great grandchildren.

She is also survived by her siblings Carl (Earlene) Johnson of Rochelle, Faye Knutson of Rockford, Pat-sy (Lanning) Nicoloff of Rochelle and Ray Johnson of Fredericktown, Missouri along with numerous nephews and nieces.

A special thank you to Lincoln Manor of Rochelle and the medical staff at OSF St. Anthony's for their watchful and compassionate care. A private memorial service will be held at Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle.

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Deputies conduct traffic stops

OREGON — On June 5 at approximately 12:05 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate

39 southbound at mile marker 104. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Osvaldo Manuel Rosales Blandon, 30, of Aurora, for driving without a valid license. Blandon was released on a \$2,500 individual bond. Blandon was also issued a citation for an inoperable taillight.

On June 5 at approximately 6:53 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 251 and Illinois Route 72. After an investigation, deputies arrested Fidel Torrez-Perez, 27, of Rockford, for driving with no valid license and speeding 26-34 miles per hour over the speed limit. Torrez Perez was given an I-bond and released on scene.

On June 5 at approximately 10:28 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in

the 14,000 block of West Coffman Road. Upon further investigation, deputies arrested Brian Edwards, 39, of Lanark, for driving while license revoked. Edwards was transported to the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond.

On June 6 at approximately 6:40 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop at the intersection of East Illinois Route 38 and Mulford Road. Upon further investigation, deputies arrested Miguel Loza Espinoza, 28, of DeKalb, for no valid license and a DeKalb County warrant. Espinoza was released on an Ogle County individual bond and was later taken into custody by DeKalb County Sheriff's Office.

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

ROCHELLE News-Leader

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LOCAL NEWS

CRESTON: Landfill agreement still awaiting EPA approval

From page 1

Village Attorney Dave Tess said he is prepared to make any desired changes to the solar ordinance and to fit it to Creston’s specifications. The ordinance would include a permit fee structure for small panels on residents’ roofs all the way up to large solar developments.

The solar ordinance will be on next month’s agenda.

Raffle

The board opted not to put a raffle ordinance into place at this time at the advice of its attorney. The Moose Knuckle Bar & Grill recently asked the village whether it would be willing to put a raffle

ordinance into place and grant it a raffle license so it could offer a Queen of Hearts program to raise money for charity.

Tess said that he did not recommend a raffle ordinance due to it being adverse to state law.

“We don’t recommend it for the bar owners or the village,” Tess said. “Illinois wants to regulate video gaming, and that means no other kinds of gaming. Nobody will have a deck of cards or a dice cup in a bar anymore. We can’t recommend giving a raffle license to someone for this purpose.”

Library

Byro said that the new Creston-Dement Library building process was re-

cently put out for bid by the library’s board and bids came back too high. Byro said the library is currently reassessing its budget and desires for the project.

“I was notified and Casper was notified of that,” Byro said. “I’m not sure what they’re going to cut back on. I’m waiting to hear more on what’s going on with that. But the library is now talking about cutting back on things like black topping and some of the fancier things that are inside.”

Landfill

Tess said that a deal made between Creston, the Rochelle Landfill and City of Rochelle back in 2021 still has not

been finalized due to not receiving EPA approval. The deal would result in the closing of the Rochelle Landfill by or on Dec. 31, 2040. The landfill would close earlier if there is no remaining capacity. In order to ensure that there is no remaining capacity, the annual limit for waste that can be disposed of at the landfill would increase to 650,000 tons per year.

The agreement is conditioned upon the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency granting a final and non-appealable order to eliminate the need to exhume cell one of the Rochelle Landfill.

“They did a dry run application to the EPA and it came back with a multitude of issues,”

Tess said. “Most of them surround the redirecting of the creek. That has been a very slow process to get that returned. The landfill reapplied in May and there’s been no response. The EPA has 90 days to make a response.”

Byro said delays in finalizing the agreement have not been ideal for the village.

“It’s just an ongoing, frustrating thing,” Byro said. “I want to get this thing wrapped up. We haven’t given up by any means.”

Tess said the process has taken 8-9 months longer than originally anticipated.

Properties

Tess and the board

discussed village properties in disrepair and in violation of ordinances and the legal work being done to bring them up to code. Tess said a number of the property owners have been served and court proceedings are moving along and some could result in defaults. Some property owners are cleaning up their issues to avoid litigation.

Committees

Byro appointed Elliot, a new trustee, to the committee assignment of subdivision trustee after it was vacated when Trustee Wayne Williams resigned. The remainder of the trustee committee positions will remain the same following April’s election.

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. Sunday School for all ages 9:00-10:00am, Morning Worship 10:15am, Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm.

The Bridge Church, Pastor Greg Duncan, 11038 E. IL Route 38, Rochelle, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-7750. Sunday School: 9:00 am; Sunday Service: 10:00 am; Nursery & Children’s ministry during am service; Bible Study Tuesday 10:00 am and Wednesday 7:00 pm. Web: thebridgechurchrochelle.com Email: thebridgechurchrochelle@gmail.com

Calvary Lighthouse Church, Assemblies of God, Senior Pastor, Dr. James Horvath. 14409 Hemstock Rd., Rochelle. Sunday Morning: Sunday Worship & Children’s Church 10:00 A.M., Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M. – Adult Teaching, Missionettes & Royal Rangers Childrens Classes, Nursery available for all services. HE-Brews Cafe is open before and after services. For further information, please call the CLC office at 815-562-7701, or email us at staff@calvarylighthouse.com

Calvary Lutheran Church, LCMC - “To Know Christ and to Proclaim Christ in Word and Deed” -19 Perry Road, Lee, IL 60530 (the intersection of Perry Road and W. County Line Road). Rev. Martha Uecker Nelson, Pastor. Coffee Hour starts at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study are at 9:15 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. and is broadcast live on Facebook. Go to our website is at 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 with questions or for more information. Also check us out at 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. 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.com/crestonumcil facebook.com/stewardilumc

Elim Reformed Church, 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-6811. Email goelimchurch@gmail.com Website www.goelimchurch.org Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 Rev. Marv Jacobs

Faith Lutheran Church – (14206 E. Flagg Rd.) – “Making Christ Known Through Lives of Faith.” In-person worship is available each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or online at “Faith Lutheran Social” on YouTube. Worship resources are also available on our Facebook page - ‘Faith Lutheran Church ELCA.’ You may also e-mail Pastor Joy Alsop at Pastor@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

First General Baptist Church, 500 S. 12th St, Rochelle. Phone: 815-562-5221. Email: fgbcrochelle@gmail.com. Website: www.fgbcrochelle.org. Facebook: www.facebook.com/fgbcrochelle. Pastor: Rev. Angelo Bonacquisti. **Sunday worship services:** 8:30 am, 11:15 am and 6:00 pm. **Sunday school:** 10:00 am. We’d be honored to have you join us as we worship JESUS and continue to grow in truth and love for God and each other. A nursery, children’s church, youth group and small groups are available. If you need a ride please contact our church bus driver, John, at (815) 262-4275 by 8:30 am on Sunday. “For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved.” Romans 10:9

First Presbyterian Church – An Amazing Place for Amazing Grace-Rev. Doug Forsberg, Senior Pastor. 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle. Email: info@placeforgrace.com. Sunday morning worship 9:00am & 11:00am. In person or streamed online. On our Website and Facebook Live. www.placeforgrace.com / www.facebook.com/placeforgrace

Grace Fellowship Church — Pastor Jeff 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

Harvest Baptist Church 241 Scott Ave. (Hillcrest). Rev. Duane Boehm, pastor. Email duane712@hotmail.com, cell 815-757-3427. Visit us on Facebook! Service times: Sunday morning worship with Children’s Church at 10 am. Wednesday night worship at 7 pm.

Immanuel Lutheran Church Missouri Synod 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049. Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock. Church Phone 393-4500. Church Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Christian Education Hour at 10:30 a.m.

Living Water Community Church 405 N. Main St, Downtown Rochelle. Phone 815-561-6249, Website: www.lwccr.com, Like us on Facebook. We are Non-Denominational, Christ Centered, Casual dress, Christ Centered Live Band Worship. Chris Bender- Teaching Pastor, Brent Braski- Administrative Pastor, Adrian Daugherty- Lead Worshipper, Joe Mortimer- Youth Director, Amanda Barnes- Office Manager. Sunday Worship Service- 10:00am. Nursery/Toddlers Ages 0-5 available during the service in the Splash building. Swim- Grades 1st-5th worship with the adults then break out for age appropriate teaching. Youth groups, Small groups, Life Groups and Workshops meet throughout the year for Bible teaching. 7C’s Mission- serves the community physically & spiritually each month from 1135 Lincoln Hwy, providing lightly used clothing, Hygiene items, a light lunch and Elder Prayer open the second Saturday from 10am-2pm and the 4th Thursday from 4pm to 7:00pm and by appointment.. [f](#)

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 Pastor: Dan Sergeant and Pastor Nick Tornabene. (Classes for children through age fifth grade during service.)

Rochelle United Methodist Church invites everyone to come and be celebrate the gifts of God’s family in our series, “The Gifts of Encanto.” Inspired by the music, story, and variety of gifts in the Madrigal family, we will find ways to work together here and now to strengthen the family and serve the community. In the movie, the Encanto is a place of wonder, a refuge and shelter in a frightening world. The family’s gifts serve the community, providing a model for us as well. Worship will include some of the color, music, and joy of the story as we celebrate the blessings that are among our community and consider ways to value the variety of our gifts. The themes of the movie will help us see how God gifts us and invites us to share those gifts together in a caring community! **Sunday worship is at 9:00 am** with Sunday School for children after the Children’s Message. Recorded services are available on our YouTube channel and our website at www.rochelleumc.com. Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. **Our Facebook page is** www.facebook.com/rochelleumc. **Rev. Dr. Katherine Thomas Paisley, Pastor.** 709 Fourth Ave. (815) 562-2164. admin@rochelleumc.com. Everyone is welcome and loved!

St. Patrick Catholic Church Rev. Jesus Dominguez; Deacon Fermin Garcia; Deacon George Schramm; 244 Kelley Dr. (Corner of Kelley & Caron Rd.), PO Box 329, Rochelle, IL 61068. **Office Hours:** 9:00 AM-4PM Monday-Thursday, Phone: 815-562-2370. **Mass times:** 8:00 AM Monday-Thursday, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM English, 7PM Spanish, Sunday Mass 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM in English and 11:00 AM in Spanish. **Confessions:** Monday 8:30AM & 6:30PM, Tuesday 8:30AM, Saturday 8:30am & 4:00-4:45 PM Or by appointment. **Religious Education:** Deacon George Schramm, Director of Religious Education. 903 Caron Road, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815-561-0079; Website: stpatricksrochelle.com Email: stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org Facebook.com/StPatrickRochelle

St. Paul Lutheran Church “Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever!” 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

How the left and right exploit our election system

AN April 25 NBC News report signifies the kind of choice that we'll likely face in the 2024 presidential election. It revealed an approval rating of 34 percent for Donald Trump versus a similarly-pitiful 38 percent for Joe Biden. 60 percent didn't want Mr. Trump to run. 70 percent said the same of President Biden.

Yet both seem certain to be nominated by their respective parties. This forced choice comes to us from an election system that too often fails to represent the people. It's a problem that we can fix, if we have the will.

The flaws in our system of primary elections for nominating political candidates were open to view in 2020, when the Democratic Party came close to fielding socialist Bernie Sanders for president. It was also apparent in the

2022 House and Senate contests, when the Republican Party nominated extremist candidates, at the cost of its expected landslide victory.

Primary elections normally attract only a small percentage of the voting public. Fewer than eight percent of eligible voters, for example, participated when progressive Democratic Representative Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez first won in 2018. Fringe candidates can triumph with the support of fewer than half of the voters in these winner-take-all contests, as moderate contenders divide the rest among themselves. That's how Donald Trump was able to win primaries in state after state in 2016 and go on to dominate the Republican convention.

The success of this divide-and-conquer strategy is rooted in well-intentioned reforms that largely did away with the

control that party bosses used to have over the selection of candidates. The unintended consequence was, as Steven Levitsky and Daniel Ziblatt explain, in their book, "How Democracies Die," to eliminate the "guardrails" that those leaders had provided against radical candidates.

Gerald Sieb, in the April 22 Wall Street Journal, describes how the following decades further weakened the political parties, with laws limiting their fundraising, court decisions opening the floodgates to election spending by outsiders, and the advent of on-line fundraising by candidates. Mr. Sieb favors laws to reverse those trends and strengthen party organizations.

Other reformers seek to advantage moder-

ate candidates through non-partisan primaries and ranked-choice voting. Alaska introduced a promising version of that approach in time for the 2022 election.

Candidates in Alaska now participate in a single primary election that includes all contestants and voters, regardless of party. The top four winners then move on to the general election, where voters can rank them in the order of their preference. If no candidate wins a majority, the lowest one is eliminated.

His/her supporters' votes are then distributed among the other contenders, based on who they identified as their second choices. If there's still no candidate above 50 percent, the next lowest is eliminated in the same way. At this point, one of

the two remaining contestants will have a majority and will be declared the winner.

The idea behind this and similar reforms in some other states is, first of all, to ensure that no candidate wins a primary or general election without earning the support of a majority of the voters, as too often happens today. It also discourages extremism and negative campaigning. Candidates need to appeal to a broad range of the public, and avoid offending other contestants' followers, in order to prevail in the elimination rounds.

Alaska's system seems to have had the intended effect in 2022, when Lisa Murkowski, a moderate Republican Senator, was reelected. Under the previous system, she wouldn't have made it past the hard-liners in the Republican primary.

Reforms like Alas-

ka's appear to be growing in popularity. They nevertheless won't by themselves bring about a golden age of harmony to our polarized society. Nor will they address other structural flaws that threaten our democracy, including the Electoral College, the undemocratic Senate, and gerrymandered election districts.

What they can do is impair the ability of the Left and Right to exploit our election system, and help return the advantage to the broad center, the core of the American people, who have for too long been neglected in politics.

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



Lowell Harp

Ron Kern: Taxation and agriculture

WITH Tax Day in the rear-view mirror, I thought it might be worthy to look at taxation and agriculture. One thing about farmers, they don't like paying taxes.

Running a farm or ranch business is challenging under the best of circumstances. Agriculture operates in a world of uncertainty — from unpredictable markets to fluctuating farm business costs, to weather disasters and disease outbreaks. Farmers and ranchers need a tax code that provides certainty and recognizes their unique financial challenges as they work to provide a secure food supply for our nation.

While important strides, such as the 2017 passage of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act, have been made in recent years, farm bureau supports a number of changes to help provide stability and security for America's farms and ranches.

While important strides, such as the 2017 passage of the Tax Cut and Jobs Act, have been made in recent years, farm bureau supports a number of changes to help provide stability and security for America's farms and ranches.

Estate taxes should be permanently eliminated. At the very least, farm bureau believes that the \$11 million per person/\$22 million per couple indexed estate tax exemption that was passed as part of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act should be made permanent and that unlimited stepped-up basis should continue.

The limitation on the amount that property values can be reduced under Special Use Valuation Section 2032A should be removed. Timber harvesting or the sale of a conservation easement should not trigger a recapture of estate taxes.

The capital gains tax rate should be reduced and assets should be in-

dexed for inflation.

Capital gains should not be collected at death and there should be an exclusion for agricultural land that remains in production, for transfers of farm business assets between family members, for farmland preservation easements and development rights, and for land taken by eminent domain.

Passage of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act in 2017 benefits most farm and ranch businesses and has allowed them to build their operations and stimulate the agricultural economy. Important provisions include reduced tax rates, the new business income deduction, provisions to allow the matching of income and expenses, immediate cost recovery and an increase in the estate tax exemption. USDA Economic Research Service documented the expected benefits of the tax

reform in its June 2018 publication "Estimated Effects of the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act on Farms and Farm Households."

Permanent Provisions

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act contains many new, permanent provisions that help agriculture.

Sec. 179 Small Business Expensing Increased to \$1 million. Indefinite Carry Forward of Deductions Indexed for Inflation. Depreciation for Farm Equipment Shortened from seven to five years. New Flat 21 percent Corporate Tax Rate. Repeal of the Corporate Alternative Minimum Tax (AMT)

Temporary Provisions

Many of the pass-through business provisions in the Tax Cuts

and Jobs Act are temporary and should be made permanent. More the 98 percent of farm and ranches operate as "pass-through businesses;" sole proprietorships, partnerships and Sub S corporations. Failure to extend these important provisions will result in a tax increase for farmers and ranchers and leave them without ways to deal with the cyclical and unpredictable nature of their businesses.

Reduced Pass-Through Tax Rates and Expanded Brackets: If not extended, higher tax rates will increase taxes on the majority of farm and ranch businesses.

New 20 percent Business Income Deduction (phase-out starts when taxable income exceeds \$315,000/joint): Allowing the business income deduction to expire would expand the tax base of pass-through businesses, erasing much of the benefit of tax reform legislation.

Unlimited Bonus Depreciation (Expensing): If not continued, farmers and ranchers will be unable to offset income with deductions for their business expenses. This is especially critical because like-kind exchanges for equipment and livestock are repealed.

Doubled Estate Tax Exemption to \$11 million person/\$22 million couple: If the exemption is allowed to revert back, more farms and ranches will be subject to estate taxes. And, as long as the exemption level is temporary money must be spent on estate tax planning rather than on growing farm and ranch businesses.

Increased Alternative Minimum Tax Threshold for Individuals: Roll-back of the higher AMT threshold will cancel out important deductions and credits put in place by tax reform.

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



Ron Kern

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

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

* Denotes Chairman/President

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

COMMUNITY

Sanford named to University of Dubuque dean's list

DUBUQUE, Iowa - The University of Dubuque congratulates the following students on being appointed to the spring semester 2023 academic dean's list. The list included Zachary Sanford the term) who earn a term grade point average of 3.5 or above and who do not have any grades of Incomplete for the term are named to the dean's list. Once grades have been submitted for any Incompletes, the office of academic affairs will review eligibility again for possible placement on the dean's list for the given term.

Thompson honored for scholastic achievement at UWSP

STEVENS POINT, Wis. — The University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point honored more than 2,000 undergraduate students for attaining high grade point averages during the spring semester of the 2022-2023 academic year. They included Megan Thompson (sophomore, highest honors) of Rochelle.

McCormick graduates from Iowa State University

AMES, Iowa—Nearly 4,600 graduates received degrees from Iowa State University this spring. Among the graduates included in the commencement ceremony was Kayla McCormick of Steward (bachelor of science, accounting, honors program member and summa cum laude).

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

June 13 - (Tuesday) - Taco Salad, Beef with Doritos, Tomatoes, Lettuce, Onions, Cheese, Salsa, Sour Cream, Jalapenos

June 15 - (Thursday) - Teriyaki Chicken, Fried Rice, Egg Rolls, Dumplings

June 16 - (Friday) - "Fundraiser Night" - We won't be holding a Friday night dinner anymore. This was put in place for an extra boost in revenue and it no longer works that way. It's hard to get help for any night during the week let alone the Friday night dinner.

June 20 - (Tuesday) - Spaghetti and Meatballs, Salad, Garlic Bread

June 22 - (Thursday) - Ham Steaks, Potato Wedges, Baked Cabbage Wedges, Dinner Rolls

June 27 - (Tuesday) - Burgers, Fries

June 29 - (Thursday) - Mesquite and Lime Marinated Chicken Breasts, Brussel Sprouts, Corn, Bread (donated by Jen's Artisan Breads)

July 2 - (Sunday Brunch) - Enjoy Your Fourth of July Holiday Weekend!!!! No Brunch Today!!!

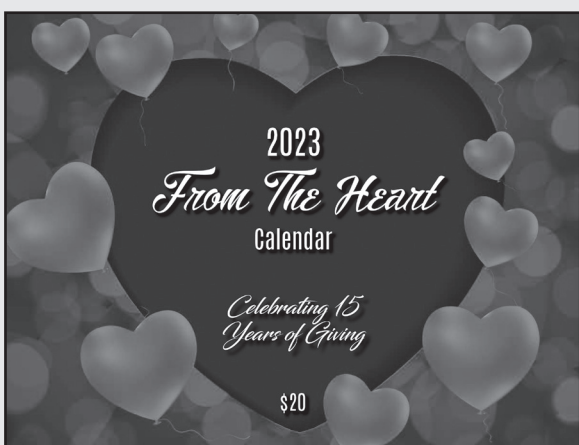
KIDS MENU: Chicken Nuggets w/Fries

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

June 11 Caleb Smith Emmalyn Eggenburg	June 16 John & Carolyn Overstreet (anniversary) Anna Norris	Teresa Baker Treavon Huff David & Courtney Jones (anniversary)
June 12 Robby Lang	June 17 Ellie Sherburne	June 27 Brittany Sullivan Gary & Rachelle Phillips (anniversary)
June 13 Chrissy Norris Jaelyn Gonzales	June 19 Eddie Villalobos	June 28 Grace Sherburne Greg Danekas Harold Sanders
June 14 Nicholas Oleson Gabe Aleman	June 22 Betty Armstrong Isaac Bonilla	June 29 Derek Oleson
June 15 Brayden Moser	June 25 Chyanne Bozek Cruz Hord	

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



May 16 - Brittani Lambrecht, South Beloit, \$25

May 17 - Tammy Burke, Oregon, \$25

May 18 - Megan Dempsey, Dixon, \$25

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

May 20 - RACF, \$25

May 21 - Rochelle Fire Fighter Social, \$50

May 22 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

May 23 - Merrick Jacobs, Glendale, AZ, \$25

May 24 - Dustin Shafer, Rochelle, \$25

May 25 - Justin May, Byron, \$25

May 26 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

May 27 - Judy Connolly, Rochelle, \$25

May 28 - Robert Thompson, Rochelle, \$50

May 29 - Louise Reinke, Rochelle, \$1,000

May 30 - Kevin Reilly, Hoffman Estates, \$25

May 31 - Chicagoland Skydiving, \$25

June 1 - Hannah Payne, Rochelle, \$25

June 2 - First State Bank Employee, Rochelle, \$25

June 3 - Marsha Miller, Rochelle, \$25

June 4 - Liquor 'n' Wine, Rochelle, \$25

June 5 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25

June 6 - Erica Sachs, Rochelle, \$25

June 7 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

June 8 - Britt Zick, Rochelle, \$25

June 9 - Lindsey Miller, Steward, \$25

June 10 - From the Heart, \$25

June 11 - RACF, \$25



Coffee Break

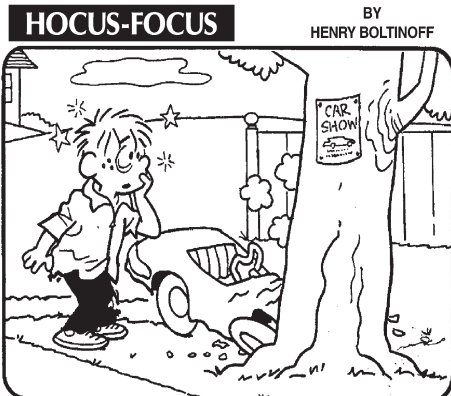
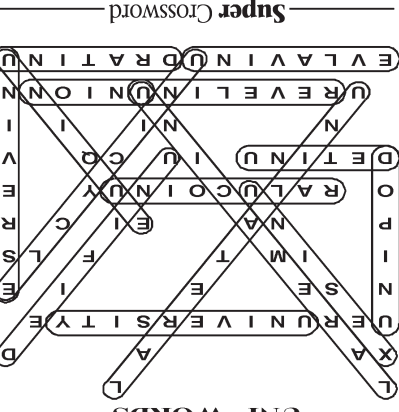
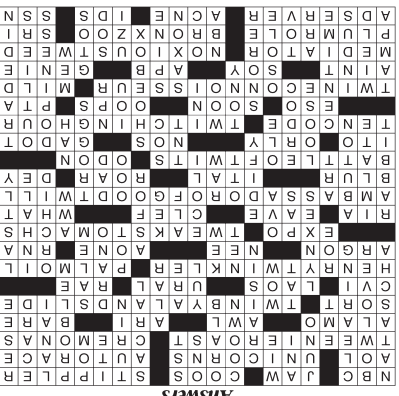
MAGIC MAZE

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

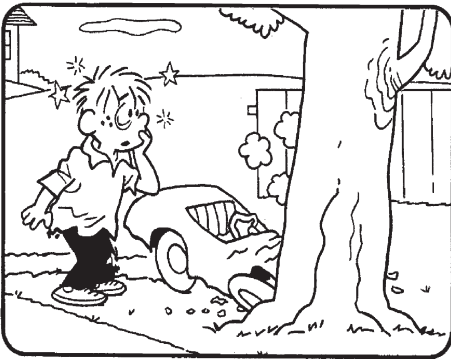
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A ONE-HORNED HORSE

Unicameral	Unilever	Unique	Univalve
Unicycle	Uniocular	Unisex	Universe
Unifed	Union	Unitard	University
Unilateral	Unipod	United	

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Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Cloud is smaller. 2. Zipper is missing. 3. Bumper is missing. 4. Shining wheel is different. 5. Post is missing. 6. Poster is missing.

Super Crossword 'TWOULD BE NICE

ACROSS

1 "Bluff City Law" network
4 Mandible site
7 Talks lovingly
11 One painting with dots
19 Long-popular ISP
20 Mythical horses
22 Indy 500, e.g.
23 Outdoor food party for 11- and 12-year-olds?
25 Some very valuable violins
26 Old Texas siege site
27 Saddlery tool
28 Meyers of "Kate & Allie"
29 Not adorned
30 Type
31 Identical sibling near some falling rocks?
37 Caesar's 106
38 Neighbor of Vietnam
39 River through Orsk
40 "Norma —"
41 "Happy Days" star with gleaming eyes?
45 Ingredient in Nutella

DOWN

1 "Solaris" actress McElhone
2 Amaze
3 Glade
4 Mother of Mars, in myth
5 Singer DiFranco
6 Golfer Michelle
7 Possess jointly with someone else
8 Big name in toothbrushes
9 Come- (temptations)
10 Old JFK flier
11 Of a pelvic bone
12 City northwest of Genoa
13 Ending for krypton
14 Yappy lap dog, in brief
15 Predicament
16 Oahu porch
17 Virtual b'day greeting, e.g.
18 Look at again
21 Certain dried berry
24 911 VIP
28 Banned apple spray
31 Body pic
32 "Amazing!"
33 Brynner on Broadway
34 Plural "is"
35 Brand of clog remover

ACROSS

49 A noble gas
50 Wedding page word
51 Top-notch
52 Genetic stuff
53 Major exhibition
56 Perform gastric bypasses?
61 Coastal inlet
64 Roof overhang
66 Musical sign
67 "Say again?"
68 One working to promote high-quality serge and denim?
75 Fuzzy picture
76 Tilted type: Abbr.
77 Imitate a lion
78 Susan of "L.A. Law"
79 Contest to see who has the cleverest taunts?
85 Have too much of, for short
87 Lance of the O.J. trial
88 Paris hub
89 Negatives
91 "Wonder Woman" star Gal
95 CBer's lingo system

DOWN

97 Time of day for muscle spasms?
102 That, in Lima
103 Any day now
104 "I goofed!"
105 K-12 org.
106 Expert at recognizing the finest strong string?
112 Lacking spice
113 "— it grand?"
114 Tofu source
115 Call to squad cars, for short
116 Lamp dweller
117 Arbitrator
120 Super-itchy wool cloth?
124 Coveted part for an actor
125 Big Apple animal attraction
126 — Lanka
127 It provides product plugs to websites
128 Skin malady
129 Passports et al.
130 IRS form fig.

DOWN

36 Oregon's capital
38 Wildcats with ear tufts
42 Caviar eggs
43 Seine, for one
44 Royal Botanic Gardens site
45 Pan's cousin
46 Corsage flower
47 Get a whiff of
48 In conclusion
51 In regard to
54 Fathers
55 Eggs
57 Bacterium in the gut
58 Furry TV ET
59 Small cask
60 "So cute!"
61 Easter animal
62 Hurrier's cry
63 Share a border with
65 Give moral guidance
69 Part of MoMA
70 Ballplayer Mel
71 Not cooked
72 Hugs, in a love letter
73 Father
74 "Wild Thing" singers, with "The"
80 Not rigid
81 Triage physician, for short
82 Corrida cheer
83 Blasting stuff
84 Part of 130-Across: Abbr.
86 Slangy denial
90 Container for flats or heels
92 Stupidity
93 Things unlike all the others
94 Exchanged, as an older model
96 Franc division
97 Stage award
98 Go after romantically
99 Ending of some pasta names
100 Debtor's slip
101 "Says You!" aier
103 Noisy sleeper
106 Florida city
107 Use, as a tool
108 Pakistan's longest river
109 "— Mio"
110 Anglo-
111 Back column
112 Kitten's cry
116 Old Pontiacs
118 Opp. of departure
119 "Mazel —!"
120 Pacers' org.
121 Foe of Frodo
122 Rambo's gun
123 Grassy turf

LOCAL NEWS

The Invention of the Year

The world's lightest and most portable mobility device

Once in a lifetime, a product comes along that truly moves people. Introducing the future of battery-powered personal transportation... **The Zinger.**

Throughout the ages, there have been many important advances in mobility. Canes, walkers, rollators, and scooters were created to help people with mobility issues get around and retain their independence. Lately, however, there haven't been any new improvements to these existing products or developments in this field. Until now. Recently, an innovative design engineer who's developed one of the world's most popular products created a completely new breakthrough... a personal electric vehicle. It's called the **Zinger**, and there is nothing out there quite like it.



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Ost, Myers earn all-state honors for Kish PTK

Kishwaukee College recently congratulated students Lydia Myers and Madison Ost on earning All-Illinois Academic Team honors at the Phi Theta Kappa (PTK) All-Illinois Banquet on April 27 in Springfield. Myers and Ost are members of Kish's Alpha Rho Eta chapter of the PTK Honor Society. Additionally, Myers was recognized as a 2023 Coca-Cola Academic Team Silver Scholar. Pictured (left to right) are Ost, Kish PTK Advisor Dr. Tim Anderson and Myers.

SONIC Drive-In donates to Rochelle schools for Teacher Appreciation Month

ROCHELLE — In honor of May's Teacher Appreciation Month, SONIC Drive-In's SONIC Foundation donated \$1.5 million to match all public contributions made to requests on DonorsChoose, a national nonprofit that allows individuals to donate directly to public school classroom requests submitted by teachers.

As part of SONIC's ongoing Limeades for Learning initiative, the \$1.5 million donation matched 50 percent of each donation made to all teacher requests. SONIC helped fully fund nearly 15,300 projects from teachers and schools across the country including two exceptional teachers in Rochelle who received a combined donation of \$549.00 from SONIC. The following are among

the exceptional teachers who received funding: Mrs. Casey at Lincoln Elementary School for the project "Fun Phonics Application" for grades preK-2.

Mrs. Sutton at Lincoln Elementary School for the project "Special Education Classroom Flexible Seating" for Grades preK-2.

"SONIC is invested in supporting the local communities served by our more than 3,500 locations, and we're proud of the impact we've made over the past 14 years through Limeades for Learning," Lori Abou Habib, chief marketing officer of SONIC, said. "We're grateful to all the SONIC guests who joined us in celebrating teachers this month by donating to a classroom request on DonorsChoose, and those who continue

to help us support public education by grabbing their favorite SONIC drink and having a portion of the purchase go towards helping a nearby public school."

Through the SONIC Limeades for Learning initiative, the brand donates a portion of proceeds from every drink, slush and shake purchase to the SONIC Foundation, which is used to support local public education. Since 2009, SONIC has donated more than \$26 million to funding local classrooms, becoming one of the largest programs to support public education in the U.S.

Visit www.DonorsChoose.org and donate to one or more of the thousands of public school teacher requests seeking support to provide students with educational resources.

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Kishwaukee College's Phi Theta Kappa Alpha Rho Eta chapter held its spring 2023 induction ceremony on April 19. Pictured (left to right) are the new inductees David Negrete, Bethany Simpson, Autumn Kunkel, Kiley Higby, Carrie Powers, Jacqueline Tellez, Makenzie Moser, Michelle Martin and PTK Chapter Advisor Dr. Tim Anderson.

Kishwaukee College Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society inducts new members

MALTA — The Alpha Rho Eta chapter of Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) welcomed 27 new members during the 2022-2023 school year at Kishwaukee College. The chapter officially inducted eight of the new members in a candle-lighting ceremony held at the college on April 19.

PTK is the largest honor society in higher education, with more than 3.5 million members worldwide. The society recognizes the academic achievement of community college students and provides opportunities to grow as scholars and leaders. To be eligible, students must complete a minimum of

12 credit hours towards an associate degree and earn a 3.5 GPA or higher. Students must maintain a high academic standing throughout their enrollment at Kish. Membership is by invitation only.

The following Kish students participated in the spring 2023 ceremony: Kiley Higby, Autumn Kunkel, Michelle Martin, Makenzie Moser, David Negrete, Carrie Powers, Bethany Simpson and Jacqueline Tellez.

The spring 2023 inductees and their guests were welcomed by Dr. Laurie Borowicz, president of Kishwaukee College; Dr. Tim Anderson, PTK chapter advisor; Dr. Michelle

Rothmeyer, vice president of student services and Barbara Leach, interim vice president of instruction.

For more information on PTK at Kish, contact Anderson at tanderson@kish.edu or 815-825-9484.



Shaw named DAR Good Citizen for AHS

Marie Shaw, who has plans to serve as a mechanic in the US Air Force after graduation, was recently recognized as the DAR Good Citizen for Amboy High School by the Rochelle Chapter. Shaw was chosen through a process that involves both the teachers and the members of the senior class and was selected because she exemplifies the traits of a Good Citizen which are: Dependability, service, leadership and patriotism. Shown left to right are Chapter Member Susan Coers, Shaw and Lydia Roberts, DAR Good Citizen committee chairman.

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County to host house dedication & open house

ROCHELLE — On Sunday, June 25, Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County will help a well-deserving family celebrate the dream of homeownership.

Habitat for Humanity will host a home dedication and open house for its latest home build in Ogle County. This home marks the 14th home build for the Ogle County affiliate. The Habitat partner family, along with Habitat volunteers, broke ground on the home in November 2022. Many community organizations and individuals have donated time and materials to complete the dream for the partner family.

Ashlie, Habitat partner for this home build, has shared her excitement and

stated, "This house is the beginning of a new generational cycle, enabling me to do better for my children. This house very much represents the beginning of a new chapter in our lives. This house will truly be our home."

The public is invited to celebrate with the family and following the program take a tour of the home. The home dedication and blessing will take place on Sunday, June 25 at 2 p.m. at 110 S. 9th St., Rochelle. An open house will follow the dedication until 4 p.m. For more information regarding Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County, please call 815-222-8869, or visit the website at www.habitatoglecounty.org.


Iowa State University announces spring semester 2023 dean's List

AMES, Iowa — More than 9,800 Iowa State University students have been recognized for outstanding academic achievement by being named to the spring semester dean's list. Students named to the dean's list must have earned a grade point average of at

least 3.5 on a 4.0 scale while carrying a minimum of 12 credit hours of graded course work.

They include Jack Richolson, year two, agricultural studies of Lindenwood and Morgan Rae Schabacker, year four, agricultural business.

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FATHER'S DAY

Several gift ideas to present on Father's Day

EACH year in the middle of June, families honor the special men who help make the familial engine run. Father's Day is celebrated on the third Sunday in June in the United States and Canada, and families across both nations make the day all about dads.

Many families have their own unique Father's Day traditions, but it's not uncommon for those rituals to cross familial lines. For example, gift-giving is one popular Father's Day tradition many families share. With that in mind, anyone looking for the right gift for Dad this Father's Day can consider these ideas.

- **Grill:** Father's Day comes just as spring is winding down and summer is set to begin. That means Dad will soon be firing up the grill several nights per week, if he hasn't already. Since summer is grilling season and Father's Day predates the start of summer by a couple of days, why not give Dad a new grill this season? Many people have fallen in love with the art of smoked foods in recent years, and if Dad fits that bill then a smoker/grill hybrid can be just the gift to make him smile. If Dad prefers the convenience of grilling at a moment's notice, then a new propane grill can fit the bill. Dads who love to tailgate outside their favorite football stadium may love a new portable



grill to bring their pregame tailgates up a notch.

- **Beer subscription service:** If Dad's a devoted drinker of craft beers, then a subscription to a beer club that delivers suds right to his doorstep could make this Father's Day one he won't soon forget. Clubs vary and many offer an array of membership options, but typically these groups hand-pick beers from an assortment of participating breweries, some local and some from distant, though likely domestic, locales. Giftgivers can take note of Dad's favorite beer style, whether it's the wildly popular IPA or beers brewed in the Belgian tradition or some other style. Such information can be provided to clubs who will then curate the subscription box to align with the styles Dad likes best.
- **Golf trip:** If Dad is an avid golfer, then he likely

has his sights set on some special places to play 18 holes. Families can pool their resources and give Dad a trip to a course he wants to play. Courses across North America have hosted PGA Tour and PGA Tour Canada events, meaning Dad could end up playing the same holes his favorite professionals have played. Pebble Beach Golf Links™ in California is undoubtedly on many a father's golf

course bucket list, but many more clubs outside of California and across both the U.S. and Canada offer stunning views and challenging rounds that will be sure to please Dad this Father's Day.

- **Man cave memorabilia:** No man cave is complete without memorabilia. If Dad's a die-hard sports fan, help him decorate his go-to spot to watch his favorite team with some authentic memorabilia. Whether it's a framed game-worn jersey or a bat with Dad's name engraved on it or a basketball signed by the roster of his favorite team, these items will look great on the wall of any father's man cave.

The right Father's Day gift for Dad can make this special day even more meaningful for the men who do so much for their families throughout the year.

Memorable ways to celebrate Dad this Father's Day

DADS do a lot for their families, and Father's Day is the perfect time to acknowledge those efforts. The days when dads would receive a colorful necktie for Father's Day are largely (and, for fathers, thankfully) a relic of the past. Modern Father's Day celebrations tend to involve more careful planning, and the following are some ways to make this year's day for dads one to remember.

- **Take Dad on a tour** through his own history. The popularity of genealogy has skyrocketed over the last decade-plus, as various firms have made it easier than ever for individuals to trace their family histories. If Dad counts himself among the millions across the globe interested in their family histories, moms and kids can work together to create a virtual tour through that history. Present the history as a printed book or as a video, sharing interesting things you learned about Dad's ancestors but also highlighting key moments in his life. This presentation can be accompanied by a subscription to a genealogy service and a tour of some of Dad's childhood haunts before the family enjoys brunch or dinner in the neighborhood where Dad grew up.
- **Take to the great outdoors.** Father's Day is celebrated in mid-June, making the day a perfect time to enjoy the great outdoors (weather permitting). Plan a day around Dad's favorite outdoor activity. If Dad is an avid fisherman, book a family outing on a charter boat so Dad can focus on catching fish and not navigating. If Dad loves being in natural settings, camp out the

night before Father's Day so he can wake up to the sound of birds chirping in the crisp morning air. If Dad has a favorite baseball team, take him out to the ballgame so he can soak up some Father's Day sun.

- **Book a private chef.** If Dad has a fascination with food, perhaps nothing can make Father's Day more memorable than a delicious meal served by a private chef. Private chefs will do all the work, giving moms and kids more time to spend with Dad throughout the day, and then the whole family can enjoy a special meal made

by someone whose specialty is crafting delicious dinners. Offerings vary, but many private chefs handle all the cooking and cleaning. Identify Dad's favorite dish and then look for a chef who specializes in that type of cuisine.

- **Appeal to Dad's inner adventurer.** Some Dads may just want to relax on Father's Day, while others may prefer a more adventurous celebration. If Dad falls into the latter group, book a fun and adventurous activity the whole family can enjoy together. A kayaking trip, a skydiving session, a

round of paintball, or even tickets to a rock concert on Father's Day weekend can

connect Dad with his inner adventurer.

There's no shortage of ways for families to make this Father's Day one Dad won't soon forget.



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RTHS Athletics

All-Conference honorees

O’Rorke, Smardo headline Interstate 8 baseball and softball winners at RTHS

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Three members of the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team received All-Conference awards from the Interstate 8 this season. Senior Morgan Smardo was named to the First Team for the second time in three seasons, while junior Ella Alfano and sophomore Lauren Dyer each received Honorable Mentions. Rochelle finished with a 5-21 record this year.

“I’m very honored that I earned All-Conference honors this year,” Smardo said. “It means a lot to me that I’m not only being recognized by my coach, but by other coaches as well. I feel that I grew more as a leader and as a team captain. I knew I had to take charge and I knew I had to be someone who could help others grow in the sport and who others could look up to.”

Smardo led the Rochelle offense in nearly every statistical category, recording a .451/.480/.690 slash line with 32 hits including 22 singles, five doubles, three triples and two home runs. Smardo finished with 16 RBIs and 20 runs scored

as well as 13 stolen bases this season. In the circle, Smardo threw a team-leading 88 and two-thirds innings while striking out a team-high 138 batters in 17 starts. Smardo will continue her career at Waubensee Community College.

“I feel that I performed well on the mound and in the batter’s box,” Smardo said. “I enjoyed the lifelong friendships I made and I will never forget the memories I made while playing softball at Rochelle. I will definitely miss wearing my No. 13 jersey and seeing my friends everyday.”

Dyer threw 55 and one-third innings for the Lady Hubs this season, striking out 55 batters and allowing only 10 walks. The sophomore also recorded a .400/.432/.586 slash line with 28 hits including 17 singles, nine doubles and two triples. Dyer scored 18 runs and totaled six RBIs.

Alfano compiled 11 hits and five runs as the starting catcher this season, picking off two runners and throwing out three more while finishing with only four errors in 115 and one-third innings.

See **BASEBALL** pg 5



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Rochelle seniors Morgan Smardo and Colton O’Rorke were named All-Conference First Team honorees in the Interstate 8 this season. Four Rochelle athletes received Honorable Mentions in baseball and softball.

RTHS Girls Soccer



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomores Betty Flores (left) and Makayla Lara (right) earned All-Conference First Team honors in the Interstate 8 this season. Senior Kailey Harris and junior Kara Martinez were each named Honorable Mentions for the Lady Hubs, who went 7-10 overall this season.

Flores, Lara earn Interstate 8 First Team honors

Lady Hub starters Harris, Martinez receive Honorable Mentions this season

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Four members of the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team earned All-Conference honors from the Interstate 8 this season.

Sophomores Makayla Lara and Betty Flores received First Team recognition, while senior Kailey Harris and junior Kara Martinez were awarded Honorable Mentions. Rochelle went 7-10 overall and 3-3 in the conference

this year.

Lara led the Lady Hubs with 22 goals while adding four assists this season. The sophomore midfielder served as a team captain after earning an All-Conference Honorable Mention in the Interstate

8 during her freshman season, where she totaled 24 goals with six assists.

“It’s a great feeling and not only does it make me feel like I improved, but it shows that others have seen improvement from me as well. This season

was nothing like last season. We had our ups and downs, but I think stepping up as a captain and using my voice more than I did last season really helped our team. I want our chemistry to improve on and off the field next

season because when it comes to games, that’s a big area that affects our team. My personal goals for next season are to remain a team captain and help the team get better.”

See **SOCCKER** page 5



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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Former Rochelle track and field standout Teagan Meyers finished ninth in the high jump at the 2023 NJCAA Outdoor National Championships.

Meyers soars to new heights at NJCAA Outdoor Nationals

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

HOBBS, N.M. — Former Rochelle track and field standout Teagan Meyers reached the pinnacle of her outdoor season at the 2023 NJCAA Outdoor National Championships, where she battled against the best high jumpers in the country representing Sauk Valley Community College.

Meyers, who medaled in third at the 2023 NJCAA Indoor National Championships at Washburn University in early March, took on a field of 18 athletes at New Mexico Junior College for the 2023 NJCAA Outdoor National Championships in late May. As she did during the indoor season, Meyers rose to the challenge, setting a new personal record with a clearance of 1.67 meters (5 feet 5 3/4 inches) to finish in ninth place.

"It felt really good to accomplish the goals I set for the outdoor season," Meyers said. "Setting goals for myself and reaching those goals has been a big motivator for me and I enjoyed being able to jump in the nice weather. It was really exciting to see how I was able to push myself to do so much more. It was also really cool to see all of the athletes compete and it was a much bigger meet than the indoor nationals. There was a lot of new competition, which was exciting, and it's a lot of fun competing against other high-level jumpers because it really pushes me."

Qualifying for the outdoor nationals and setting a new personal record were two of the goals Meyers set for herself after concluding her indoor season as a third-place medalist. The outdoor nationals also capped off an

outstanding freshman track and field season for Meyers, who reached a season-best mark of 10.38 meters (34 feet 3/4 inches) in the triple jump at the University of Dubuque's Good Friday Open on April 7. Meyers set a new PR in the 200-meter dash during the indoor season, but did not race in the event outdoors due to a quad injury.

"Getting over the bar on my first try for a new PR was an awesome feeling," Meyers said. "It was a really cold outdoor season and I was forced to jump indoors three times. It's a huge difference jumping outdoors versus indoors because of the weather and other elements. I was also battling a quad injury and my coach had me drop the 200, which was unfortunate because I enjoy racing, but I set a new PR in the triple jump and I thought I had a great outdoor season. I'm very thankful for my coach and how he was able to help me throughout the season."

Meyers finished first in the high jump during five of her seven outdoor meets this season. The former Lady Hub student-athlete recorded third-place triple jump finishes at the ONU Outdoor Invitational from April 28-29 and the St. Ambrose Spring Opener on April 1. Meyers, who's currently studying for an associate's degree at Sauk Valley, said she may take a year off from school, as well as track and field, as she pursues a nine-month Christian leadership program and internship with the Applied Life Leaders Academy in Hot Springs, Arkansas.

"I went to their summer camp last year and the program is about helping kids grow in their faith, understand who God is and how they can apply that to their everyday lives," Meyers said.

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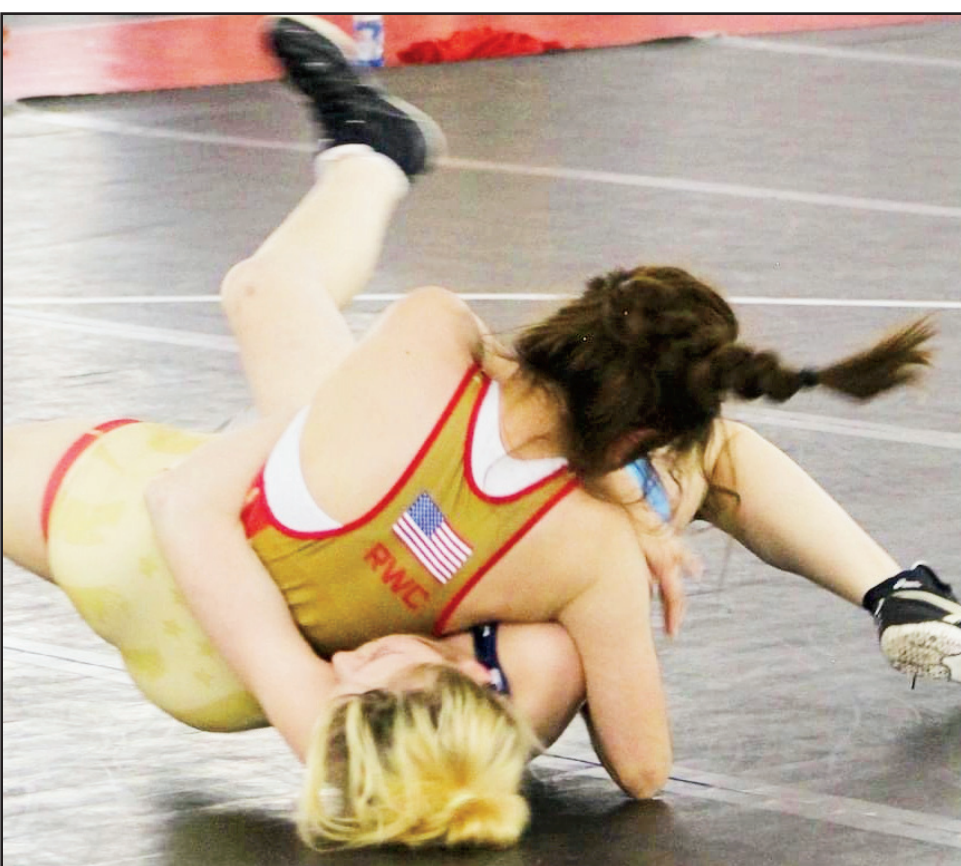
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SPORTS

Forge Wrestling Club



(PHOTOS BY MARA BAKER)

Forge Wrestling Club athletes Cammyla Macias (left) and Tommy Tourdot (right) were two of the nine athletes who qualified for the 2023 Freestyle and Greco-Roman National Championships in Fargo, North Dakota next month.

Nine athletes qualify for 2023 Fargo Nationals

Rochelle-area wrestlers record top finishes at state and regional tournaments

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Cammyla Macias grew up playing team sports, but the soon-to-be sophomore at RTHS was motivated to pursue wrestling in order to push herself as an individual athlete. Less than one year after taking up the sport, Macias will have the opportunity to challenge herself on a national stage next month, when she and other athletes with the Forge Wrestling Club will travel to Fargo, North Dakota for the 2023 Freestyle & Greco-Roman National Championships.

One of three female athletes who wrestled for the RTHS team during the 2022-23 school year, Macias has continued to work over the offseason, training with the Forge Wrestling Club and competing at freestyle and greco-roman

wrestling tournaments. Macias earned her spot at the national meet after finishing fifth in her division during the 2023 Northern Plains Regional Championships, where several other Forge athletes punched their tickets to nationals as well.

“I had some friends who started wrestling and I saw how cool the sport was,” Macias said. “I wanted to see what it felt like to win as an individual and I know that when I wrestle, it’s all on me. I like wrestling a lot and it’s been cool to see more girls do wrestling since it’s always been a boys sport. It shows girls that they can be independent and they can be as strong as the boys. It’s exciting to qualify for nationals because it shows how far I’ve come in my first year and how much effort I put in. I’m excited to wrestle against other

girls and to see how far I can go.”

RTHS teammate Dempsey Atkinson will also compete at the national meet after placing second in her division at the regional competition, which was held in the Wisconsin Dells last month. Atkinson, who will be a junior for the upcoming school year, made history this past season as the first female athlete at RTHS to qualify for the IHSA State Championship in girls wrestling. Like Macias, Atkinson has been training with Forge to improve her skills over the offseason.

“I made a lot of friends at the regional meet and I’m excited to see them at the national tournament,” Atkinson said. “I’m very excited for the experience and it’s going to be a lot of work, but I think I’m ready to compete. Cammyla and I have caught on to the new

style of wrestling pretty quickly and I enjoy it more than folkstyle wrestling. I think this experience will help me when next season comes around and I’m excited to see how much I’ve improved.”

Nine athletes with the Forge Wrestling Club have qualified to participate in the national championships, which will be held from July 15-23 at the FargoDome. Of the nine qualifying athletes, three are second-time qualifiers including Tommy Tourdot, who will be a senior at RTHS for the upcoming school year. While Tourdot did not attend last year’s competition, the one-time IHSA state qualifier is eager to prove himself against the top wrestlers in the nation.

“I’m excited for the opportunity to see where I’m really at in the sport of wrestling,” Tourdot said.

“I’m looking forward to going up there and having fun. Greco wrestling is a lot more about throws, upper-body strength and back exposure. You can score a lot more points in a match and the moves are really fun to do. I think that doing freestyle and greco-roman wrestling last year helped me a lot when it came to qualifying for the state meet during the high school season.”

Xavier Villalobos and Kaiden Morris, who will each be juniors for the upcoming school year, are also two-time national qualifiers. Villalobos is currently wrestling for Team Illinois at the 2023 16U Freestyle and Greco-Roman National Duals in Loves Park, while Morris, who represented Team Illinois last summer, will travel to Fargo this summer for the national championships.

“I’m excited to take it all in and it’s going to be an exciting atmosphere,” Morris said. “My favorite part about freestyle and greco-roman wrestling is being able to pick up and throw the other wrestlers. It’s very different in terms of how I wrestle and how the matches work in terms of tactics and timing, but it’s a lot of fun and I enjoy it. I’m basically wrestling year-round and I think that having more mat time and gaining experience that others aren’t will help me next year.”

Macias, Atkinson, Tourdot, Morris and Landyn Windham are the five FWC athletes who qualified and are intending to travel to the FargoDome for the national championships. Qualifiers who will not attend include Xavier Villalobos, Roman Villalobos, Brenden Voight and Grant Gensler.

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RTHS Board of Education, District 212
No. 0621
(June 11, 2023)

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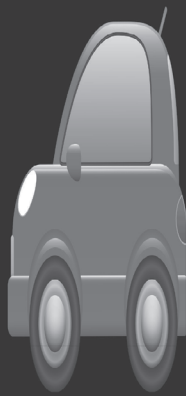
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SPORTS

Rochelle Little League

(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)



Tee Ball League action continues at May School and Rochelle Middle School fields

The 2023 Rochelle Little League Tee Ball season continued at the May School and Rochelle Middle School baseball diamonds this week. There are 79 Tee Ball players participating across eight teams (A1 Hot Body, Ralfie's BBQ, Rochelle Veterinary Services, Asplundh Tree Services, Xcel Foam and Packaging, Homemade Cakery, Sondgeroth Pools and Seldal Properties) this summer. Tee Ball games are held every Tuesday and Thursday at 6 p.m. through June 20.

BASEBALL: Three Hubs receive All-Conference recognition

From page 1

Baseball

Three members of the Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team earned All-Conference recognition from the Interstate 8 this season. Senior Colton O'Rorke was named to the First Team, while seniors Garrett Gensler and Noah

Lara each took home Honorable Mentions for the Hubs. Rochelle finished with a 10-19 overall record this season.

"All-Conference honors is a good award," O'Rorke said. "I feel like I grew as a leader. I was trying to keep everyone in the game and keep our energy up. I feel like I did a

great job of hitting the ball and putting the ball in play. I really have to thank my dad because he helped me a lot with my swing over the summer. He's the reason I hit a lot better than I did last season."

O'Rorke recorded a .423/.481/.536 slash line for the Hub offense, finishing with a team-leading 41

hits including 33 singles, six doubles, one triple and one home run. The senior infielder compiled 22 RBIs and scored a team-high 30 runs in 97 at-bats over 29 games this season. O'Rorke stole a team-high 18 bases and recorded 47 putouts for the Rochelle defense.

"I loved playing with

the group of seniors we had this season," O'Rorke said. "We've been together our whole lives and it's always fun playing with them, even if we don't win many games. I'm definitely going to miss playing with them."

Gensler recorded a .342/.438/.355 slash line with 26 hits, 17 runs and

12 RBIs while starting 26 games at the center field position. Lara recorded a .352/.468/.505 slash line with 32 hits including 24 singles, five doubles and a team-leading three home runs. Lara added 21 RBIs and nine runs while starting 29 games at the catcher position, throwing out four runners this season.

SOCCER: Four Rochelle athletes honored by Interstate 8 Conference

From page 1

Flores finished her sophomore season as a starting center back for the Lady Hubs, chipping in two goals and three assists. Flores has been a

varsity player in each of her first two seasons with the Rochelle team, spending most of her freshman season in the midfield before transitioning to defense as a sophomore.

"It came as a surprise

to me and it's an honor," Flores said. "I feel very proud about my performance and getting recognition. I thought I did well in making my presence known on the field and one of my biggest areas

of improvement was my confidence. I take on the full field and I don't shy away from anything. My goals for next season are to win the conference and to defeat Sycamore. I see improvement in my own

personal skills including my ball control. I'm expecting to have a great season next year and a great experience with all of my teammates."

Harris was named an All-Conference Honor-

able Mention for the second straight season at center back, while the junior forward Martinez received an Honorable Mention for the first time after totaling six goals and five assists.



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