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Vol. 104 • No. 9

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

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KNOW IT TODAY



Armory open for Memorial Day

The Roberts Armory World War II Museum will be open for Memorial Day from 1-4 p.m. **Page 7**

WEATHER

SUNDAY
HIGH 81 LOW 51
MONDAY
HIGH 84 LOW 53
TUESDAY
HIGH 89 LOW 56
WEDNESDAY
HIGH 91 LOW 62

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:
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OBITUARIES

- BETTY JUNE (ELLIOTT) DEARTH
- SANDRA KAY BEARDIN
- DANNY LYNN RUSSELL
- LAURA (LAURIE) ANNE COLEMAN BREAZILE ALBANESE
- BENFORD 'DOUG' PITTMAN

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- MENARDS
- FAIRS & FESTIVALS
- GRADUATION TAB

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Pillen retires after 38 years at RTHS

'I loved building relationships with students over four years'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE—When Rochelle Township High School Counselor Laurie Pillen started in her position 38 years ago, the school had no honors or AP classes. The Kishwaukee Education Consortium dual-credit program was just getting started. RTHS didn't have summer school (250-300 students now take a class each summer). Students' social and emotional health was not a focus the way it is now. Pillen will retire at the end of the fiscal year. While education, curriculum, and even the school itself has changed during her time at RTHS, her love for her work has not.

"The joy of counseling, no matter when it was, has been, 'You never know what somebody wants when they walk in the door,'" Pillen said. "It could be to change their schedule, to talk about college, or something going on in their personal lives. It could be anything. That's one of the best parts of doing it. Because you can't get bored. Because you never know what's coming and what the day is going to



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Counselor Laurie Pillen will retire at the end of the fiscal year. While education, curriculum, and even the school itself has changed during her time at RTHS, her love for her work has not.

hold. Some days it's a lot of laughter and some days it's a lot of tears."

RTHS counselors meet with students one on one, which Pillen said helps to get to know kids and to understand what their goals are and how they can be accomplished.

Some high schools have grade-specific counselors for students. RTHS's model sees students have the same counselor for the duration of their four years at the school, meeting at least once a semester. That allows RTHS counselors to build relationships with

their students over four years, which Pillen said she's "absolutely adored."

"To be able to meet kids as they come in as freshmen and watch them as they mature and grow, that is very, very special," Pillen said. "I really enjoyed that. I love that we get to work

with kids for all four years. I wouldn't change that for anything."

Pillen called the experience of helping students to figure out what they want to do with their lives "satisfying."

See PILLEN page 3

County farmers seeing productive planting season

'Over the last 3-4 weeks, planting weather has been excellent'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OGLE COUNTY—Farmers in Ogle County have spent recent weeks on spring planting amid ideal weather and are on track to have their crops in the ground by the end of May, Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said May 23.

"It's actually been a pretty good spring," Kern said. "I know of some farmers that are done with planting and some with some acres to go. I'd say conservatively the county is 80-90 percent planted, maybe closer to 90 percent. We started off slow with some cool and wet weather, but over the last 3-4 weeks, planting weather has been excellent. Most farmers usually try to wrap up planting by the end of May for beans and corn. I'd say we'll make it there with the dry weather. We're right on course for where we ought to be."

The area saw cool and wet weather towards the end of March and beginning of April, which Kern said made up for a lack of snow and up-and-down temperatures over the winter,



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Farmers in Ogle County have spent recent weeks on spring planting amid ideal weather and are on track to have their crops in the ground by the end of May, Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said May 23.

which made soil moisture levels lower. Kern called the winter normal, outside of lower snowfall levels.

Recent dry weather and advantageous spotty rains have made spring planting ideal, Kern said.

"That's great for crop

germination and getting crops to come up and the germination has looked fantastic so far," Kern said. "But we are dry right now and it looks like we're going to be dry for a while. We're at a point as usual where we'd welcome a

good inch of rain. It's the same old story. Even years when it's wet, somewhere along the way you end up praying for rain. That's the nature of the beast."

Ogle County farmers also saw severe weather this spring with windstorms

and rainfall. The area didn't have any crops up to be knocked down by wind, but farmers did have to deal with picking up debris blown about by wind before farm work could happen.

See FARM page 2

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

At left: Front row: Dave Jordal, Joanna (Beardsley) Kemper, Kathleen (Thorsen) Lutz, Linda (Sanderson) Jordal and Glen Johnson. Back row: Charles Thorsen and Allan Prestegaard. At right Front row: Dave Jordal, Elizabeth Kingdom, Ione Larson, Joanna Beardsley, Kathleen Thorsen, Linda Sanderson, David Estrem and Glen Johnson. Back row: Janet Olson, Lois Jordal, Jackie Beardsley, Miss Alice Tysdale (teacher), Charles Thorsen, Vernon Johnson, Allan Prestegaard and Donald Lytle.

Former Lee schoolhouse students hold reunion

BY ALEXANDER JOHNSON

LEE — On Sunday, April 30, a reunion was held of the former stu-

dents of the Peterson School, a one-room schoolhouse that was located on the southeast corner of Reyn-

olds Road and Woodlawn Road in rural Lee. The majority of students who attended the school were of Norwegian de-

scendant and members of the local Lutheran churches, so it was fitting that the event was held at Calvary Lutheran Church, in rural Lee, where many of those in attendance are still members to this day.

The original Peterson School was built on land donated by Nels and Ragnilda Peterson in 1885. In 1917, a new schoolhouse was built at the same location, and operated until 1952 when the one-room schools of the area were closed and the children began attending Lee Grade School.

Some of those in attendance continue to live in the same home that they grew up in when they attended the Peterson School, including Charles Thorsen and Allan Prestegaard. Amazingly, nearly all of the same families in the former school district still live on the same family farms as when the school was in operation 70+ years ago.

There was even one

married couple in attendance, with both David Jordal and Linda (Sanderson) Jordal having attended the school.

Those former students and spouses in attendance included: Mr. & Mrs. Allan Prestegaard of Steward; Mr. & Mrs. Charles Thorsen of Lee; Mrs. Kathleen Lutz of Rochelle; Mr. & Mrs. David Jordal of Rochelle; Mr. & Mrs. Jim Kemper of Compton and Mr. Glen Johnson of DeKalb.

There were also several in attendance with other connections and family members who had attended the school including: Mrs. Cheryl Johnson of Lee; Mrs. Deb Hueber of Steward; Mr. & Mrs. James Johnson of Shabbona; Mr. Alex Johnson of Chicago and Mr. Ron Arne of Rochelle.

A number of interesting stories were told, including those about the various games that were played during recess and the logistics of one teacher teaching eight separate grades. It was noted that each morning began with the students reciting various adages

for the teacher, such as, “A penny saved is a penny earned.”

Many of those in attendance enjoyed reminiscing about their former teacher, Miss Alice Tysdale, who taught at the school for many years until its closure. They expressed their appreciation for her effort and strictness which helped them later in life. It was noted that Miss Tysdale would walk over two miles to teach at the school every day until the parents of the district banded together to purchase her a car.

Mr. Charles Thorsen noted that his mother, Gladys (Peterson) Thorsen, had an especially unique connection to the school. Her grandfather donated the land for the original school. Her parents both attended the school. She attended the school, along with all of her siblings. She taught at the school in the 1920s, her children attended the school, and then after its closure, it was remodeled into a home, where she lived from 1959 to 1995.

See REUNION page 5

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FARM: Local growers seeing success this spring

From page 1

Outside of the area, a May 1 dust storm took place in Southern Illinois that caused blackout conditions on Interstate 55. Wind gusts blew dirt from nearby farm fields across the road and reduced visibility, causing many crashes. Multiple fatalities took place and dozens of people were transported to hospitals with injuries from the incident that saw over 70 vehicles involved in accidents.

Kern said the dust storm incident saw “perfect conditions” for it to happen, with a recently-worked field and extremely dry and windy conditions. The incident brought the issue of soil health and till work techniques to the forefront.

“I don’t know what the farmer or anyone else around there could have done differently,” Kern said. “There’s all kinds of different techniques to farming as far as minimum till, conventional till and no till. But it’s all about the weather. We’ve had some severe weather earlier this spring in the state. Living in the tornado belt, that’s to be expected. It was an unfortunate incident. It was an incident of weather. There is new legislation being talked about to help farmers with improving soil health, and we would love to see that. Helping to provide education and financial incentives for farmers to

do some different things in order to help improve soil health, and I know farmers want to do that.”

On broader farming notes, Kern said that preliminary discussions are starting on a new federal farm bill and area farmers are tracking that and what the end product will look like. After recent years of inflation, supply chain issues, higher input prices and market volatility, he said prices are always on local farmers’ minds as they work towards harvest.

Earlier this month, the United States Supreme Court upheld a new California law relating to how pork must be produced to be sold in that state, which consumes about 13 percent of bacon in the country, Kern said.

Most pork producers don’t produce pork in the way the law states, and an Illinois pork producer that is taking pork to a processing plant that will be selling it in California would be affected.

“I’m not really sure how that is going to shake out as far as the farmers that produce pork and what kind of economic ramifications it’s going to have on them,” Kern said. “They no longer can sell it in California because it wasn’t produced by the California standard. Most pork producers do not have the financial resources to try to change their entire operation just to try to grow hogs to the California standard.”

LOCAL NEWS

PILLEN: Longtime counselor reflects on career at RTHS

From page 1

RTHS has sent students to prestigious schools including MIT (Massachusetts Institute of Technology) and Stanford during her 38 years. Pillen called those success stories “incredible”, but she’s just as proud of the success other students saw on different scales.

“For some kids, school is really hard,” Pillen said. “And as they move on, they’ve made it through this and it’s an obstacle they overcame. And now they’re going to be members of their community as whatever it is they choose to do. Hopefully we gave them the tools. It’s really satisfying. And to know that some kids have gone on to do incredible things is great. But incredible is different from one kid to the next.”

Along with helping students with their class schedules at RTHS and looking towards their future, a counselor’s work also involves helping kids with personal issues, which Pillen called both “heartbreaking and fulfilling.”

Earlier in her career, the realization that some students were dealing with

hard home lives was eye opening for Pillen, especially with the limits that come with only having students in the building for eight hours a day.

“But we have them for eight hours a day and we can make this a good, safe place for them for eight hours a day,” Pillen said. “Being able to be there and support kids and feeling like they trusted me enough to share something that’s a huge issue in their lives and being able to help them make decisions, that was very fulfilling. It made me feel very valued and made me realize how important those connections are that we make with kids. If this is just a place where kids come to learn content, we’re not doing our job.”

Pillen also coached the speech team for the vast majority of her time at RTHS, which yielded a lot of her fondest memories. She coached two state speech champions during her career. Her favorite part of being a speech coach was seeing students come out of their shells as speakers and improve over four years.

Other fond memories of Pillen’s involve helping students make decisions and working with RTHS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Counselor Laurie Pillen called the experience of helping students to figure out what they want to do with their lives “satisfying.”

staff members.

“I’ve been very lucky to work with professionals who care about kids and wanted to go above and beyond,” Pillen said. “A lot of people have taught me a lot, which I hope I then passed on to others. Lately I’ve been thinking of the lessons I’ve learned from watching other people,

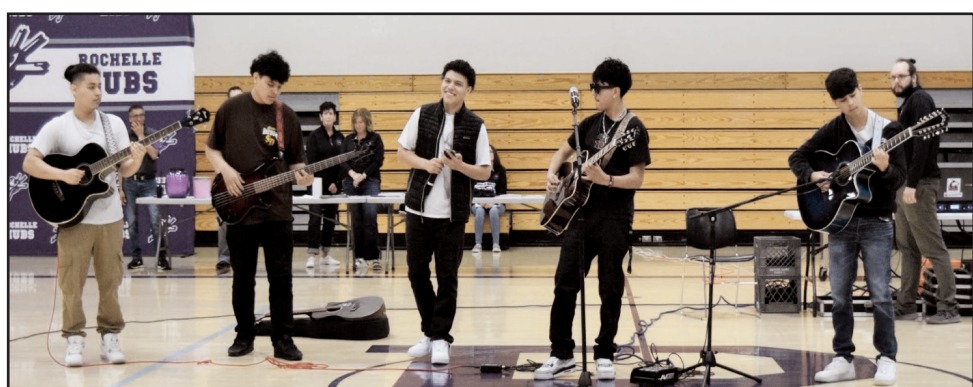
including administrators, teachers and students.”

The students are what Pillen will miss most from her time at RTHS. She’s run into a lot of former students in recent years in public that were surprised to hear she was still at the high school. The work never got old for Pillen, because she never knew

what was going to come through her office doorway. It was always the joy of counseling.

“It will be hard to see that class of graduates off on Saturday,” Pillen said. “This has been a very important part of my life. This year has been bittersweet, whether it’s doing something for the

last time or going through something from the past. The idea of not being here is hard to think about for me. For all the right reasons. But I think the time has come. I’m very appreciative and grateful to have found my way here and that Rochelle has allowed me to play the part that I’ve played.”



Rochelle Township High School holds 2022-23 end-of-year assembly

On May 19, Rochelle Township High School hosted its end-of-year Renaissance assembly. 31 seniors received academic Rs for having earned eight straight semesters of excellence. Diego 815 debuted with a musical performance and vocal jazz singers like Giselle Montoya, Mikayla Preston and Troy Papke’s musical stylings had people on their feet. The faculty band performed as well, featuring Scott Swartz, Jarrod Reynolds, Cory Ellis and Brandon Krantz.

Illinois Extension and NIU host successful 4-H Juntos Family Experience

DEKALB – The University of Illinois Extension, DeKalb, Boone and Ogle counties in collaboration with Northern Illinois University, offered its 4-H Juntos Family Experience Spanish program for Hispanic 4-H teens, their parents and interested community members on March 29. The event was a success

with over 30 participants. It was held at the NIU Latino Resource Center in DeKalb. Luis Santos Rivas, director, and Elbia Del Llano, assistant director of the NIU Latino Resource Center, welcomed participants and presented an overview of all types of opportunities available on campus. Mayra Lagunas, NIU assistant vice

president of enrollment services and director of undergraduate admissions, along with Daniel Tamayo, associate director for the Office of Admissions, organized walking tours of campus with the opportunity to eat in a residence hall. Alma Pizano-Onofre, NIU admissions counselor, discussed several topics

including the admissions process, first-generation students and financial aid opportunities.

The day ended with a student panel presented by the NIU Latino Resource Center. Students shared their experiences of campus life, including the importance of involvement. These students, along

with NIU staff, answered participants’ questions and reinforced the importance of getting involved while in college. Families gained valuable information, along with connections for future educational and career planning. Participants said they loved and enjoyed the day’s events.

4-H is an informal youth

education program of University of Illinois Extension. For more information or to get involved, call 815-758-8194 or visit us online at <https://extension.illinois.edu/bdo>. If you need reasonable accommodations to participate in programming, contact the DeKalb County Extension office, 815-758-8194.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Betty June (Elliott) Dearth

ROCHELLE — Betty June (Elliott) Dearth, age 101, of Rochelle, passed to be with her Lord Jesus Christ on Sunday, May 21, 2023. She was born on Dec. 21, 1921, to Floyd and Grace Elliott in Scottsburg, Indiana joining her two older sisters, Florida Catherine (Roy) Christianson and Marjorie May (Robert) Meredith.

She worked the family farm with her family through the Depression. Betty married Joseph L. Dearth, from DeKalb during World War II. In 1963, the family moved from Oak Park to Rochelle with the purchase of the A&W Drive-In, where she worked for 20 years. She and the family sold Christmas trees during December and tried to get some fishing in and some travel when the A&W was

closed during the winter. A long time member of the First Presbyterian Church of Rochelle, she deepened her life long relationship with Jesus Christ.

She enjoyed the many people who worked at the A&W for their first jobs, teaching the lost art of making change and the responsibilities that go with a job in scheduling and working with others. After Joe and Betty sold the drive-in, Betty worked at Walmart as a stocker for several years, retiring at 86 years old. She loved to fish, bake, and work her gardens until Covid-19 shut things down.

Betty is survived by her daughter, Patty L. (Bob) Robertson; and her sons Edwin E. Dearth, David H. (Anna) Dearth and Donald H. (Jan) Dearth, DC. Betty has been blessed as the ma-



triarch of five generations of family with kids, grandkids, great-grandkids and even two great-great grandsons.

The funeral service will be at 11 a.m., Tuesday, May 30, 2023, at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St. in Rochelle with Pastor Doug Forsberg officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home. Interment will follow in Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle.

Please visit www.ung-erhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Laura (Laurie) Anne Coleman Breazile Albanese

RIVERSIDE, Calif. — On May 6, 2023, Laura (Laurie) Anne Coleman Breazile Albanese, went to be with our Lord and Savior after a five-year battle with cancer. She was 69 years old.

Laurie was born on March 21, 1954, in Rochelle to Donald and Lois Coleman. She grew up on a 200-acre farm with her four siblings. Laurie often talked about life on the farm, as well as riding the neighbors' ponies and her childhood friends.

In 1969, Laurie's family moved to Redlands, California and Laurie graduated from Redlands High in 1972.

In 1975, Laurie married Gary Breazile on her 21st birthday. In 1981, Laurie and Gary decided to plant roots in Cherry

Valley. Laurie and Gary loved the Pass Area community where they raised their three daughters. The Breaziles were active in their churches and enjoyed hosting Bible studies. Laurie and Gary both donated their time to the Beaumont Youth Baseball and Softball League, while all three of their girls played softball.

Laurie's hobbies included baking and hosting large family parties. Her baking specialties were pies and cinnamon bread, which she loved sharing with her family, neighbors and friends on Live Oak Avenue. She even entered the cherry pie baking contest at the 1999 Cherry Festival and won. Among other likes of Laurie's were going to the movies, concerts and laughing at a great joke.



Laurie was a compassionate and professional caregiver for many years. When Gary passed away in 2001 and with her daughters grown, Laurie decided to attend nursing school. Laurie's family was extremely proud when she graduated.

In 2015, Laurie married Steve Albanese and they resided in Beaumont. Several years later, Laurie moved to Hermosa Beach and lived with her daughter, son in law, and grandchildren.

Laurie will always be remembered as a dedicated wife, mother, grandmother, sister and aunt. She is survived by her three daughters, Belinda Breazile (partner Dennis), Diana Leslie (husband Lee) and Crystal Coleman, as well as five grandchildren, Diamond, Aries, Lincoln, Dutch and Cole. Laurie is also survived by her four siblings, Janice Londe, Donald Coleman, Carol Harrison and Lillian Bay (husband Anthony), and many nieces and nephews.

Laurie was preceded in death by her first husband, Gary Breazile, and her parents Donald and Lois Coleman. Memorial services will be at Riverside National Cemetery in Riverside, CA, on Wednesday, May 31, 2023 at 10 A.M., with a reception immediately thereafter at Noble Creek Community Center in Beaumont, California.

Sandra Kay Beardin

ROCHELLE — Sandra Kay Beardin, 81, passed away peacefully Wednesday, May 24, 2023 at her home. Kay was born on November 6, 1941 to Floyd C. and Pauline B. (Potts) Orman in Rochelle. On Jan. 28, 1978, she married James F. Beardin in Rochelle. Kay worked for the City of Rochelle for 24 years before retiring.

Kay loved her grandchildren and great grandchildren more than anything. She spent untold hours with them and always played at their level, listening and loving them unconditionally. Kay and golf partner, her husband, Jim, played golf at many

courses across the country but loved their time locally at the Rochelle Country Club (Fairways). In the winter months, she loved to play bridge. During recent years, Kay spent time volunteering at the Presbyterian Thrift Shop.

Kay is survived by her husband of 45 years, Jim Beardin of Rochelle; two children: Pam (Tom) Lampley and Randy (Sally) Butler both of Rochelle; brother, Ron (Joan) Orman of Bartlett; sister, Deborah (Dale) Rockwell of Rockford; four grandchildren: Josh (Devon) Lampley, Jaime Lampley, Brandi (Jeff) Casey and Brandon Butler and five great grand-



children: Arriana Lampley, Madess and Kreeleynn Mitchell and Waylon and Dakota Casey.

Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle. Memorials may be made in Kay's memory to the First Presbyterian Church. Visit www.ung-erhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Danny Lynn Russell

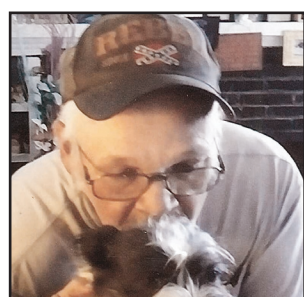
ROCHELLE — Danny Lynn Russell, 70, from Rochelle, passed away Wednesday, May 24, 2023 after a battle with stage 4 lung cancer. Danny was born on July 16, 1952, in Wynne, Arkansas to James and Jewel (Cagle) Russell.

Danny enjoyed fishing, playing pool, and spending time with his dogs and wife. He spent his days working around the house and spending time with his best friend, his wife Lisa, and dogs, especially his baby girl, Tasha Ann. Lisa and Danny were married 17 years and considered themselves to be soulmates. He and Lisa resided in Ashton for the past few years after living most of his life in Rochelle.

Danny is survived by his wife, Lisa Russell, of Ashton; daughters, Leslie (Steve) Walters of Rochelle and Amanda (John) Bresley of Mendota; son, Randy Russell of Argyle, WI; step-son, Josh Donorf of Hinckley; brother, Bill (Karen) Russell of Polo; brother-in-law, Vinnie (Heather) Hess of Rochelle; mother and father-in-law, Marjie and Robert Hess; nephews, Kaleb and Kam Hess; and his dogs, Tasha Ann (daddy's girl,) Ladybug, and Lucky.

Danny was preceded in death by his parents, James and Jewel Russell, and his brother, Mickey Russell.

Visitation will be from 4-7 P.M., Tuesday, May



30, 2023, at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St. in Rochelle.

The funeral service will be at 10 A.M. Wednesday, May 31, 2023, at the funeral home with Chaplain Judy Williams officiating. Interment will follow next to his parents in Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle.

Please visit www.ung-erhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Benford 'Doug' Pittman

ASHTON — Benford "Doug" Pittman age 85 of Ashton passed away on Wed. May 24, 2023 at Generations at Neighbors in Byron, IL. He was born on June 9, 1937 in Green County Arkansas the son of James and Mildra (Forkum) Pittman. Doug worked for Dekalb Feed for over 40 years prior to his retirement. He married Shirley Buchman on Oct. 20, 1956 in Polar, WI. Doug is preceded in death by his parents children David Pittman, Donna Pittman, grandson Timothy Pittman 2 great grandchildren Quinton Wallace, Haley Pittman

and 7 siblings. Doug is survived by his wife Shirley, children Doug (Pam) Pittman Jr. of Jewell IA, Robert (Dawn) Pittman of Ashton, Deb (John) Phelps of Lee Center, Cindy (Brooke) Barlow of Amboy, Dennis (Joyce) Halbmaier of Coshatta LA, 15 grandchildren, and 40 great grandchildren. He is also survived by his siblings Clyde Pittman, Connie Brewer, Kay (Jack) Duke, and Leon (Deb) Pittman all of Arkansas. Funeral services will be on Monday May 29, 2023 at 10:00 AM at Ashton Bible Church in Ashton. Burial will follow



at Woodside Cemetery in Lee Center, IL. Visitation will be on Sunday May 28, 2023 from 4:00 PM to 7:00 PM and again on Monday May 29, 2023 from 9:00 AM until the time of service at 10:00 AM at Ashton Bible Church in Ashton. Arrangements by the Mihm-Jones Funeral Home in Amboy.

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Deputies conduct traffic stops

OREGON — On May 23 at approximately 11:45 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of East Hitt Street in Mt. Morris. After investigation, deputies placed Charles Ladenberger, 38, of Mt. Morris under arrest for driving while license revoked. Ladenberger was additionally issued citations

for operating an uninsured vehicle and suspended registration. Ladenberger was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On May 24 at approximately 7:23 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 14,000 block of East Illinois Route-72. After investigation, Anthony P.

Cuchiara, 27, of Rochelle, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Cuchiara was also cited for operating a vehicle with suspended registration. Cuchiara was released at the scene and given a future court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

FREE ADMISSION

5/26 - 6/1 Jumanji Welcome to the Jungle
6/2 - 6/8 Jumanji The Next Level
6/9 - 6/15 Back to the Future
6/16 - 6/22 Goosebumps
6/23 - 6/29 The Little Rascals
6/30 - 7/6 Hotel Transylvania
7/7 - 7/13 The Angry Birds Movie
7/14 - 7/20 Angry Birds 2
7/21 - 7/27 Cloudy With a Chance of Meatballs
7/28 - 8/3 Emoji Movie
8/4 - 8/10 Peter Rabbit

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ROCHELLE News-Leader

211 IL Route 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068
(815) 562-4171

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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

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LOCAL NEWS

REUNION: Lee schoolhouse students celebrate 75 years

From page 2

Since 1995, the home has been occupied by her grandson, Michael Thorsen.

The former students enjoyed watching a 1948 home movie of children playing at the school. Many of the viewers, now in their 80s, recognized themselves from many years ago in the vivid color film.

At the close of the event, a photo was recreated with those in attendance standing in the same order as when the original photo was taken in front of the school 75 years ago.

An enjoyable time was had by everyone in attendance, with many remarking how nice it was to have grown up in a simpler time, and how they now cherish these friendships that have been in existence for more than 80 years.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

On Sunday, April 30, a reunion was held of the former students of the Peterson School, a one-room schoolhouse that was located on the southeast corner of Reynolds Road and Woodlawn Road in rural Lee.

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@placeforgace.com. Sunday morning worship 9:00am & 11:00am. In person or streamed online. On our Website and Facebook Live. www.placeforgace.com / www.facebook.com/placeforgace

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: stpatrickrochelle.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

The worst kind of graft is perfectly legal

THE worst kind of graft is perfectly legal.

That's a lesson I've observed in my 35 years as a journalist.

I've been thinking about that lesson these past few weeks as revelations are brought forth about gifts U.S. Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas received from a rich buddy.

Let me preface my criticisms of the jurist by saying I often agree with his decisions. But that doesn't absolve him from the shady things he has done.

Thomas and his wife Ginni, received luxury vacations and private jet travel from Texas real estate magnate Harlan Crow. The justice contends he did nothing wrong and that these were just gifts from a friend.

I don't doubt that Thomas and his wife consider Crow to be a "dear friend." But a more appropriate question might be whether the billionaire would be chumming around with Thomas if

he didn't happen to be a Supreme Court justice.

Democrats in Congress are squawking about how wrong this relationship is. What is happening here is wrong – but probably not illegal.

When I was a young reporter in Galveston, Texas, the managing editor had a "Wheels" column in which he wrote a weekly love note to the auto industry.

The price of this journalistic prostitution? Every week, a car company would send him a new vehicle to "test drive" along with a press release espousing the model's virtues.

His teenagers drove them to school. And even when they sent him a real dog with major mechanical issues, he wrote about how swell it was.

"There is no such thing as a bad car," he told a group of young reporters who asked about the practice. We rolled our eyes.

Most journalists would say what he was doing wasn't ethical. The readers were never informed

of this cozy relationship. But it's also the kind of graft that is legal.

If pressed as to why he did it, I suspect he would have justified his actions by pointing to his salary and saying he deserved some sort of perk.

Thomas, who earns \$184,000 a year as a Supreme Court justice, could make a similar claim, noting that he would make many times that in private practice.

That justification reminds me a bit of one given by another supreme court justice, Ray I. Klingbiel, who served on Illinois' highest court in the 1960s. Before that he was East Moline mayor.

Sometime in 1966 Ted Isaacs, a member of then-Gov. Otto Kerner's cabinet and a wheeler-dealer, managed to put himself in a position to allocate stock in the politically connected Civic Center Bank in Chicago.

At the time, the state high court was consid-

ering the dismissal of a 35-count felony indictment accusing Isaacs of bilking the Illinois Treasury. Shortly thereafter, the court unanimously affirmed the dismissal of Isaacs' felony indictments in an opinion written by Klingbiel.

According to the book "Illinois Justice" by Kenneth Manaster, Klingbiel kept his 100 shares in a dresser drawer. Klingbiel insisted that the stock was merely a campaign contribution. But it was given after he had been elected and in the form of a stock certificate and it had been given to him by an associate of Isaacs, who had a case before the court.

"There is no doubt in my mind Isaacs was trying to influence the court with his actions," Manaster told me.

So why do educated people like Thomas and Klingbiel do stupid things like this?

Manaster attributes Klingbiel's transgres-

sions to the Illinois political culture that he had been reared in. Klingbiel served as the Republican mayor of East Moline for six years and before that worked as the city attorney. There were few regulations on campaign contributions in those days.

But that strikes me as a child's excuse: "Everybody's doing it." Someone with a better moral compass would have known better.

Future U.S. Supreme Court Justice John Paul Stevens was appointed chief counsel to the five-member commission that investigated the allegations of wrongdoing.

Stevens was quoted in a 1969 Associated Press article saying, "Chief Justice Roy J. Solisburg, Justice Ray I. Klingbiel and Theodore J. Isaacs are guilty of gross impropriety."

But neither Chief Justice Roy Solisburg nor Klingbiel was ever criminally charged. "The short answer is they never could prove they took a bribe

to the degree necessary needed in court," Manaster said.

The worst kinds of graft are often legal.

Stevens insisted during his 1975 confirmation that he never would have been nominated for the supreme court if not for the work he had done investigating Klingbiel and Solisburg.

One honest man rose as two dishonest ones fell.

The episode ended with Klingbiel retiring and Solisburg resigning from the state supreme court.

Klingbiel's final days were sad ones, Manaster said. He remained bitter about what he described as a "political push" to get him off the court.

Shaken and sorrowful, Manaster said he told one member of the commission, he knew in his heart he was not a crook, "but I was a damn fool."

Will Justice Thomas have such a revelation? Don't hold your breath.

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for Illinois Times, can be reached at sreed-er@illinoistimes.com.



Scott Reeder

Flanagan: Summer reading and history

SUMMER Reading is going to be so much fun at the library! We invite all ages to come and participate in our Summer Reading Programs and "Find Your Voice, at the Library."

With the start of Summer upon us that also means that Memorial Day is coming soon. "Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S.

military. Memorial Day 2023 will occur on Monday, May 29. Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season." (<https://www.history.com/topics/holidays/memorial-day-history>)

My grandpa, Calvin Strang, grew up and lived in Lindenwood all of his life. He was in the Army Air Corp and always felt that Memorial Day was a meaningful holiday. He spent many years as president of the Lindenwood, Illinois Memorial Day committee. Every year after a service at the Eswood School we would walk or ride our bikes down to the

Lindenwood Cemetery to pay our respects. He was a veteran and was a member of the Rochelle VFW Post 3878.

He thought it was important for his grandchildren to know that Memorial Day was more than a three-day weekend. It was a day to take time out of your busy schedule to remember, respect and honor those who had fallen.

As I look out on the



Sarah Flanagan

front lawn of the Library, I see an American Flag proudly flying with a cement stone underneath it. This stone was placed below our flag pole just after Memorial Day on June 11, 1953 by the Rochelle American Legion to mark the spot where their time capsule is placed. It contains records from the 1953 Rochelle Centennial. Mayor Leo Ripp gave remarks and American Legion Commander Ed Schnorr buried the time capsule. How cool! This capsule

is not to be opened until 2053. We are honored that they chose our library as the place for this irreplaceable piece of Rochelle History.

Come to the library this summer and participate in Summer Reading. You might learn some Rochelle history, find some books or have fun at one of our many activities. We will see you soon.

Sarah Flanagan is the library director of the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District.

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

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Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to news@rochelle-news-leader.com

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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



Roberts Armory WWII Museum open for Memorial Day 2023

Roberts Armory World War II Museum will be open to the public on Memorial Day, Monday, May 29, from 1-4 p.m. The Higgins Boat will be open for viewing, weather permitting. The next opening will be Aug. 19, 2023. To get to the museum, follow the signs on the Army truck at Illinois Route 251 and Intermodal Drive (approximately three miles). Many WWII artifacts are on display including tanks, trucks, cannons and Rochelle News-Leader newspapers from 1945 presenting photographs of Rochelle residents who served during WWII. More information is available on the Rochelle website at: <http://www.enjoyrochelle.com/online-directory/what-to-do/history-attractions/robert-s-armory.html>. There is no admission charge.

St. Paul names 2022-23 fourth quarter honor roll

ROCHELLE — St. Paul Lutheran School recently named its fourth quarter honor roll and its valedictorian and salutatorian for the St. Paul Class of 2023.

The St. Paul Class of 2023 valedictorian was Magdalene Good.

The St. Paul Class of 2023 salutatorian was Warren Schweitzer.

Fourth quarter high honor roll: Charlie Frankenberry, Vincent Fulco, Leni Haedt, Sophia Mueller, Reed Rowley, Taylor Thomas, Axel Alsop, Joey Chadwick, Annaliese Cox, Esam Farraj, Elijah Good, Owen Heitkamp, Makenzie Johnson, Jillian Bruns, Cohen Haedt, Mia Heitkamp, Tyler Johnson, Eli Schweitzer, John Chadwick, Magdalene Good, Taylor Rogers and Warren Schweitzer.

Fourth quarter honor roll: Olive Pemberton, Ty Vongsiri, Paisley Albaugh, Chase Atkinson, Braxton Bruns, Hailey Chapman, Om Shah, Vinny Tornabene, Kayl True, Mackenzie Bybee, DeLaney Heal, Maggie Sunesone, Brody Bruns and Owen Carmichael.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 29
Tristan Perkins
Kathy Marchesi

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

2023 From The Heart Calendar

Celebrating 15 Years of Giving

\$20

May 2 - Alex Dyer, Rochelle, \$25

May 3 - Zekelman Employee, \$25

May 4 - Donna Durham, Rochelle, \$25

May 5 - Ronny Alvarez, DeKalb, \$25

May 6 - John Zhe, Rochelle, \$25

May 7 - RACF, \$50

May 8 - Shelly Crownheart, Sterling, \$25

May 9 - City of Rochelle, \$25

May 10 - The Kitchen Table, \$25

May 11 - John Dreska, Lindenwood, \$25

May 12 - Charlie Boonstra, Dixon, \$25

May 13 - RACF, \$25

May 14 - Alexis Wooden, Paw Paw, \$500

May 15 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25

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

Coffee Break

MAGIC MAZE

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: A CONTAINER FOR ARROWS

Belts
Boot laces
Chaps
Football

Game bag
Handbag
Harness
Holster

Jess
Moccasin
Ottoman
Saddle

Strop
Suitcase
Wallet

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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Golf club is moved. 2. Sign is missing. 3. Cap is different. 4. Trap is missing. 5. Arm is moved. 6. Shirt is different.

LEATHER PRODUCTS

Answers:

ACROSS: 1. BELT, 5. LACES, 10. CHAPS, 14. FOOTBALL, 19. GAME BAG, 24. HAND BAG, 29. HARNES, 34. HOLSTER, 39. JESS, 44. MOCCASIN, 49. OTTOMAN, 54. SADDLE, 59. STROP, 64. SUITCASE, 69. WALLET.

DOWN: 2. BELT, 7. LACES, 12. CHAPS, 17. FOOTBALL, 22. GAME BAG, 27. HAND BAG, 32. HARNES, 37. HOLSTER, 42. JESS, 47. MOCCASIN, 52. OTTOMAN, 57. SADDLE, 62. STROP, 67. SUITCASE, 72. WALLET.

Super Crossword

FRONT PAWS

ACROSS

1 Publisher
5 Pile up
10 Hit with an open hand
14 Mafia heads
19 Defrost
20 Fireside drink
21 Lead-in to byte
22 O. Henry literary device
23 Yore
25 Finks
26 City in France
27 Tricked out
28 Graduation cap dangle
30 Ticked Muppet
31 Entrees with pastry crusts
33 Wood-cleaning product
36 Forest array
37 Rich wall tapestry
38 Cholesterol-lowering drugs
39 Predecessor of Andrew Johnson
44 Naval vessel inits.
45 — Sea (Asian lake)
46 Gravy-train job

DOWN

48 Take on moguls
51 Week's seven
55 Grouchy type
57 Zingy flavor
58 Hocking great Mikita
59 Japanese city
61 Australian territory in the Indian Ocean
66 Greek deity of wisdom
68 "Kate & —" (old sitcom)
69 Uncultured
70 Ivy League school in Providence
75 Backless sofa
76 Lavs, to Brits
77 Prefix with drama
78 Scots' refusals
80 Bird-built home
81 Kin of -ette
82 Left-leaning
86 "Tomb raider" Croft
88 Sister, say
89 2016 Best Director winner for "La La Land"
95 Zoo collection
99 Letters after alphas
100 Localities

101 Certain letter-shaped pattern, to Brits
104 Set free
106 Touch down
107 "Yes —" ("You bet!")
108 Shortcoming
109 Compadre
111 Arctic bird
112 Ancestor ... or what the first word of seven answers in this puzzle can have?
116 Cab ticker
117 — Z ('80s Camaro)
118 Fountain of Rome
119 Architect
120 People staring
121 Parched, old-style
122 Pfeiffer of "Cybill"
123 Drearly dull

5 Compass
6 Color variations
7 Did superbly on
8 Corn core
9 Ell preceder
10 Attaches, as a seat belt
11 Dog tether
12 Chichi
13 Sporty 1990s Toyotas
14 U.S. snoop gp.
15 Nabs
16 Hoi — (the masses)
17 Like single-person bands
18 B-board overseers
24 Kimono-clad hostess
28 "Baywatch" actress
29 Of formal public worship
31 School org.
32 Space sphere
33 Med. scan
34 Big tea holders
35 Use a surgical beam on
37 God of Islam
40 Circle section
41 "I Need to Know" singer — Anthony
42 "Open this door!"
43 March Madness gp.
47 Little — (tykes)
48 Diet drastically
49 Oklahoma neighbor
50 Use the tab key, perhaps
51 Not too hard to carry out
52 Houston basebatters
53 Loutish types
54 Distorts
56 Display of great daring
58 Killed, as a dragon
60 Shaker Lee
62 Ending for project
63 35mm camera type
64 Seventh scale notes
65 Lawn turf
67 Quarterbacks' called changes
71 — Hill, San Francisco
72 Like cold tea
73 Powder room powders
74 "Awright!"
79 Mexican Mrs.

82 Fact falsifier
83 Aura
84 Manorial lord
85 Meyers of late night
87 Funnel-shaped flower
88 One leaving a smear
90 — "King" Cole
91 Built
92 Suede, e.g.
93 — Vegas
94 Ending for Siam
95 On fire
96 Capital of Niger
97 Set on fire
98 "You are right about that"
102 — Jacques (kids' song)
103 Misstep
104 Christopher who played Superman
105 Chaperone in "The Hunger Games"
108 Historical plaintiff
110 Surgery ctrs.
112 Bouquet-bringing gp.
113 Tram cargo
114 Period
115 Rip off

MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE



Memorial Day weekend events set in Rochelle

ROCHELLE — On Monday, May 29, Memorial Day events are set to take place in Rochelle. The parade will begin at 10 a.m. on Monday, and lineup will take place at 9:15 a.m. at the intersection of 6th Avenue and 6th Street.

The Memorial Day service will take place at

the veterans memorial at Lawnridge Cemetery at 11 a.m.

From 7:30-9 a.m. on Monday, volunteers for VFW Post 3878 will be putting out flags at local cemeteries. The VFW is seeking volunteers to get flags to the cemeteries in the morning and to return the flags to

storage after the service at 1 p.m. Volunteers can sign up on a list at the Post. The VFW will also be hosting Memorial Day weekend events on Saturday, May 27. From 2-7 p.m., it will be serving brats, hot dogs and munchies at the post canteen. From 4-7 p.m., the band Soap

Stone will be paying live music at the post canteen. Everyone is welcome. You do not need to be a veteran to enjoy this entertainment and refreshments.

From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturday, there will be a Buddy Poppy Drive at Walmart, RP Home & Harvest and the intersec-

tion of Lincoln Highway and 4th Avenue.

"If you can help out with our Buddy Poppy Drive, please sign up on our list at the post," a VFW release said. "The drive basically consists of volunteers at the listed locations engaging with the public and receiving donations for a

Buddy Poppy. All funds collected go into our relief fund, which helps veterans in need. You do not have to be a veteran to volunteer. There are plenty of activities happening and multiple opportunities to participate or volunteer this weekend. We hope to see you there."



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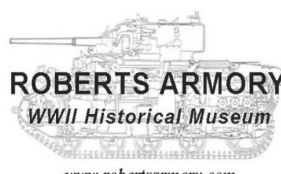
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MEMORIAL DAY SALUTE

Make your Memorial Day barbecue a success this year

SUMMER unofficially starts with the arrival of Memorial Day at the end of May. Although it is a holiday designed to honor American military personnel who have died in various wars, it also serves double-duty as a chance to gather with friends and loved ones and enjoy the return of the warm-weather entertaining season.

Barbecues are the centerpieces of Memorial Day celebrations. It may have been awhile since the grill was fired up, so anyone can use a little refresher course in barbecue etiquette. Here are some tips for making the most of Memorial Day parties.

If your grill has lain dormant for several months, it's wise to inspect and thoroughly clean it in advance of Memorial Day. Insects like spiders may have built homes inside, and grease and grime may be lingering from last year. Ensure the grill is in top form before cooking for guests.

A study from the U.S. Department of Agriculture found more than half of study participants don't try to wash their hands when preparing food. Wash hands thoroughly to ensure guests do not get sick at the barbecue. Keep food refrigerated until it is ready to be cooked or served. Use a food thermometer to cook to the required internal temperature to make sure bacteria is destroyed. Do not use



the same utensils that touched raw meat to remove cooked food from the grill.

It can get quite warm outdoors even in May for many areas of the country. Therefore, prepare a spot where guests can escape the sun. If you don't have enough table umbrellas, consider

light netting or canopies for shade. Shift them as needed as the sun moves across the sky.

Set your food apart with unique flavors. Create a summer food rub using the herbs and spices you prefer. Make a big batch to use throughout the grilling season.

The USDA's Food

Safety Inspection Service advises that food should not be left out for more than two hours, or one hour if the temperature is above 90 F. Keep buffet-style food covered so that insects do not land on the items and run the risk of contamination. Promptly move leftovers indoors if you plan on

keeping them.

It's important to stay hydrated when the weather is warm. Stock the cooler with plenty of water, juices, iced teas, and the like. If you plan to serve alcoholic beverages, keep them separate from the non-alcoholic items so that children do not have access.

If you will be hosting, reduce some of the work by having the main foods available and ask guests to bring the sides and beverages. This will defray the costs and relieve some of the pressure.

Memorial Day barbecues can be successful with some planning and simple safety measures.

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YOU'VE COME A LONG WAY

Gift ideas for high school graduates

THE class of 2023 soon will be donning their caps and gowns and receiving their diplomas. After commencement ceremonies, graduation parties will soon follow. For party guests, that means finding the right gifts for grads.

Some high school graduates will continue their studies at colleges and universities. Others may pursue careers in various trades. Still, some graduates may be ready to enter the workforce right away. No matter the direction, these gifts can treat graduates to something special.

Graduates may want to go on a trip before they take the next step in their lives. Quality travel gear is a worthy investment. Select luggage that won't exceed airport carry-on limits so grads can cut the baggage check lines when they dart away to locales near or far. Carry-on bags also fit easily in bus cargo areas or in the trunks of cars. Pair the gifts with standard or digital luggage tags.

While it's certainly possible to watch favorite shows or films on mobile devices, viewing is that much clearer on televisions. Rather than graduates having to invest in cable television wherever they go, streaming devices

like AppleTV or Roku are portable, which means they can be used at home, in a dorm room or on vacation.

Individuals typically are eligible to apply for credit cards once they reach age 18, which is the age most students are when they graduate high school. Credit cards are one method of establishing solid credit, so it can be beneficial for a teen to have one. But it can be challenging for individuals with no credit histories to get approval. A secured card, according to CapitalOne, is a credit card that requires money deposited with the credit card issuer in order to open the account. This security deposit is held by the issuer as long as the account is open. Often the security deposit is the same as the credit limit. Gift-givers can help establish secured cards for grads by providing the funds for the security deposits.

Upgrade grads' audio with the newest wireless earbuds or headphones. This way they can take them to the gym or use them to listen to shows or music while sharing spaces with others, including college roommates.

Teenagers are seldom without their phones. A smartphone wallet case



enables graduates to stash IDs, credit or debit cards and some cash into specially designed pockets built into the phone cases. This keeps all essentials in one spot.

Whether a graduate was a star athlete or a premier member of the marching band, gift-givers can provide special memories of time spent in school. Frame ticket stubs, sports jerseys, show programs, or other memorabilia that commemorates a graduate's glory days at their alma mater.

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Love,
Dad & Mom



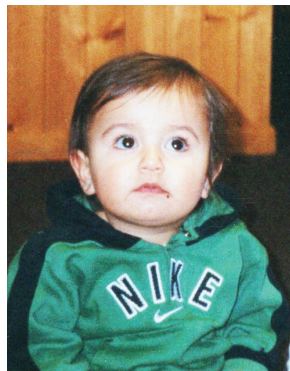
LILLIE DOPP



Lillie, Congratulations! We are so very proud of you!
Love,
Aunt Chris, Kyler, Kortney, Kaleb & Families



JJ



Congratulations, JJ! Love, Mom, Heath, Jake, Anna, Nana, Aunt Peg, Aunt Kelly, G-Mom & Family



AVA LYNN



Congratulations, Ava! You are inspiring & we're so proud of you!
Love,
Mom, Scott & Matthew



MIKAYLA PRESTON



Way to go MiKayla! We are very proud of you.
Love,
The King's Peasants



LUKE BROWN



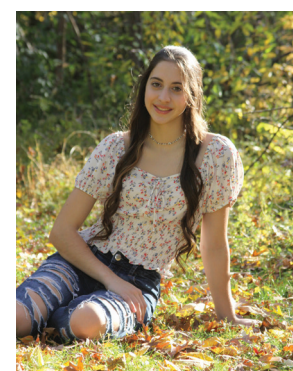
Congratulations, Luke! Good luck at UT!! We're so proud of you!
Love,
Dad, Mom & Lexi



MACY RAMOS



Macy, Congratulations! Love you! Mom, Pat, Dad, Erin, Sierra, Bryce, Jace, Kyler, Drake & Madilyn



LEXI BROWN

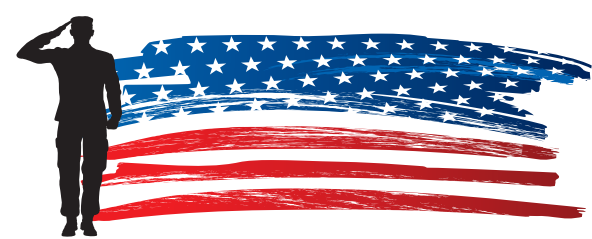


Congratulations on your graduation from Notre Dame, Lexi! We're so proud of you!
Love,
Dad, Mom & Luke



Memorial Day Tribute

Honoring All Who Served and
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SUNDAY, MAY 28, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



HARVEY TO LIFT AT NIU

RTHS senior Anna Harvey will lead a new weightlifting club at NIU next year.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Baseball

Hubs fall in stunner

Sterling rallies for 13-10 win over RTHS in IHSA 3A Regional Quarterfinals

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — A fast start faded for the Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team during Monday's IHSA 3A Rochelle Regional Quarterfinal matchup against the Sterling Golden Warriors.

Leading 9-3 after three innings including a seven-run effort in the third frame, Rochelle was unable to contain the Golden Warrior offense, which rallied for 10 runs over the final four innings including two four-run outbursts in the fifth and seventh frames to take a three-run lead entering the bottom of the seventh inning. The Hubs saw two batters reach base in the seventh inning, but a fielder's choice ground-out at second ultimately clinched Sterling's 13-10 comeback win.

"We have to give them credit because they made tough at-bats and they hit the ball hard," head coach Jarrod Reynolds said. "We just couldn't seem to get out of many innings and I thought that was the biggest thing for us today. Nothing seemed easy for us today and they deserve credit for battling. It was unfortunate that some of their balls couldn't find our

fielders."

The sixth-seeded Hubs (10-19, 4-10 Interstate 8) took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, where senior Garrett Gensler belted a two-run double into the left-center-field gap to take advantage of a Sterling fielding error earlier in the frame. Sterling infielder Drew Nettleton doubled and scored on a wild pitch in the top of the second inning, cutting Rochelle's lead to 2-1 before adding a two-run single in the top of the third inning that put the Golden Warriors ahead 3-2. Nettleton went 5-for-5 with five RBIs out of the No. 5 hole in the Sterling batting order.

Rochelle broke the game open in the bottom of the third inning, tallying seven runs on six hits and capitalizing on two more Sterling errors in the field. Freshman Brode Metzger pulled a hard ground ball to the left side with two outs and the bases loaded, resulting in an error that allowed two Hubs to score. Seniors Aidan Rodriguez and Noah Lara followed with two-run singles, while senior Colton O'Rorke added an RBI double up the middle to keep the Rochelle rally alive.

See HUBS page 3



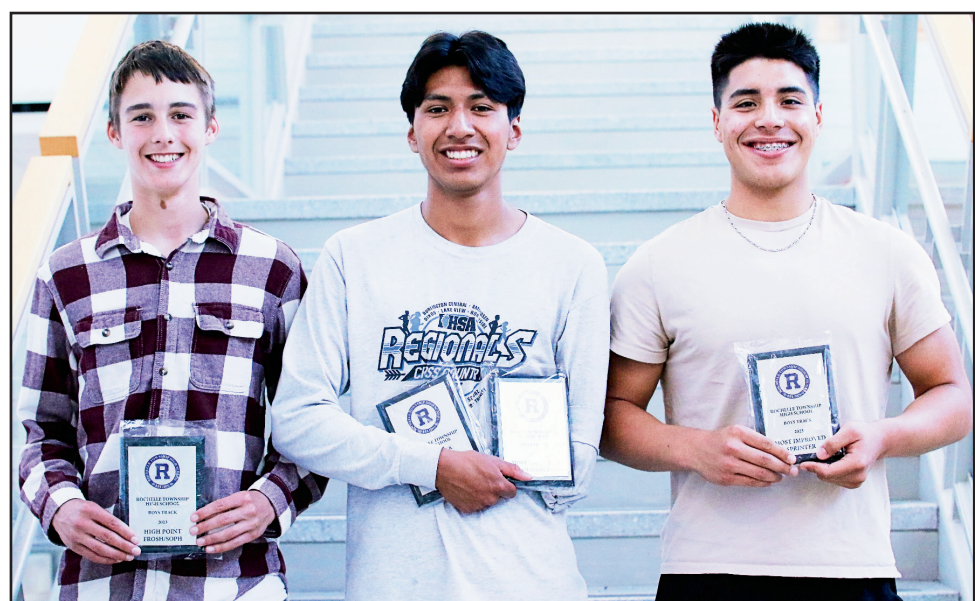
Senior Noah Lara (left) went 3-for-4 with two RBIs during the Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team's game against Sterling on Monday. Senior Bradley Cooney (right) started on the mound and threw four innings.



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

RTHS Boys Track

(PHOTOS BY MARCY DELILLE)



Hubs take home RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference awards at team banquet on Monday night

The Rochelle Hub track and field team celebrated its season with an awards banquet at RTHS on Monday evening. Several student-athletes were presented with RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference awards at the event. Eleven Hubs earned Academic All-Conference honors including Nathan Sergeant (not pictured), Chris Hickey (Honorable Mention), Colton Czekala, Luis Hernandez, Jack Tilton (Honorable Mention), Landon DeLille, Kenny Overton, Jackson Smith, Bruno Fernandez (Honorable Mention), Thomas Koziol and Virgil O'Dell (Honorable Mention). Nine Hubs received T-shirts for reaching 20 MPH sprint speeds including Irving Escalante (not pictured), Landon DeLille, Kenny Overton, Caden Goodwin, Jackson Smith, Caleb Dreska, Ethan Bergeson, Reece Harris and Nathan Sergeant. Wyatt Worthington earned the Fresh-Soph High Point Award and Luis Hernandez won both the Varsity High Point Award and the Most Improved Distance Award. Bruno Fernandez earned the Most Improved Sprinter Award and Landon Mickley (not pictured) earned the Most Improved Field Award. Landon Mickley, Luis Hernandez (Honorable Mention) and Kenny Overton (Honorable Mention) were All-Conference winners in the Interstate 8 this season.



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SPORTS

RTHS Softball

Freeport ousts Rochelle in IHSA 3A Regional Semifinals

Third-seeded Pretzels shut out sixth-seeded Lady Hubs 13-0 on Wednesday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

SYCAMORE — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team faced Freeport in the IHSA 3A Sycamore Regional Semifinals on Wednesday, falling 13-0 to finish the season with a 5-21 overall record as well as a 2-12 record in the Interstate 8 Conference. Senior Morgan Smardo went 2-for-2 with two singles as well as six strikeouts over four innings pitched in the loss.

Freeport took a 2-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, where Quinn Krzeminski slapped a two-run single to bring home Diem Beach and Kailen Pro, who reached base on a walk and a single earlier in the frame. The third-seeded Pretzels added three runs in

the bottom of the second inning, with Jaynah Palmer and KK Walker-Castle each drawing walks before scoring on a wild pitch and an error. Jamaya Graham's RBI groundout capped off the three-run frame.

Rochelle saw three batters reach base over the first two innings, but the sixth-seeded Lady Hubs were unable to take advantage. Freeport broke the game open in the bottom of the third inning, tallying seven runs on three hits, three walks and three defensive errors from Rochelle. Errors allowed four Pretzel hitters to score, while Graham added an RBI single and Cameren Plowman followed with an RBI triple.

Pro's solo home run in the bottom of the fourth inning sealed the win for the Pretzels.



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team fell 13-0 against Freeport on Wednesday. At left, junior Kendell Frankenberry makes a throw from second base. At right, sophomore Abby Metzger digs in at the plate.

HUBS: Baseball season ends in IHSA 3A Regional Quarterfinals

From page 1

"I thought our at-bats were really good and I thought we made a lot of hard contact today," Reynolds said. "Anytime we can score 10 or more runs, we should feel really good about our day. We made a lot of hard contact that seemed to go right at their fielders later in the game."

Facing a six-run deficit, the eighth-seeded Golden Warriors earned two runs back in the top of the fourth inning, where lead-off batter Dylan Ottens sent an RBI triple to left-center before scoring on a throwing error. Sophomore Brandyn Metzger relieved senior Bradley Cooney on the mound in the top of the fifth inning, but the Hubs were unable to escape a bases-loaded jam, with Sterling scratching four runs on two RBI singles and a walk to tie the game at 9-9.

Rodriguez gave Rochelle the lead back in the bottom of the fifth inning, slapping a one-out double down the left-field line before scoring on a wild

pitch two batters later. Junior Dylan Whaley, who entered for Metzger in the top of the fifth inning after the sophomore recorded only two outs, kept the Golden Warriors off the scoreboard over the fifth and sixth innings.

The left-hander's efforts helped the Hubs hold a 10-9 advantage entering the top of the seventh inning, where Rochelle found itself one out away from victory after Whaley induced a sacrifice bunt and a popout to second base for the first two outs. Sterling refused to back down, however, drawing a two-out walk before No. 3 hitter Braden Hartman crushed a two-run double to deep left field that gave his team an 11-10 lead. Nettleton capped off his stellar performance with another two-run double two batters later, this time to deep right field to make the score 13-10.

Rochelle's first two hitters reached base in the bottom of the seventh inning, but consecutive flyouts and a fielder's choice ground-



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Aidan Rodriguez (left) went 2-for-4 with three RBIs during the Rochelle Hub varsity baseball game against Sterling on Monday. At right, senior Alex Burnette makes a throw from third base.

out ended the game with the tying run at the plate. Lara went 3-for-4 with two RBIs for the Hubs, while

Rodriguez went 2-for-4 with three RBIs.

"I thought this group got better every single week,"

Reynolds said. "Our hitting and our defense improved throughout the season and I thought we battled all day

long. My message to the younger kids is that we need to get right back to work during the offseason."

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SPORTS

NIU Athletics

(PHOTO COURTESY OF NIU ATHLETICS)



Sixty student-athletes earn NIU degrees

Huskies celebrated spring commencement with annual ceremony earlier this month

DEKALB — Sixty Northern Illinois University student-athletes representing 15 of the Huskies' 16 sports programs celebrated commencement during three ceremonies held last weekend with 47 Huskie student-athletes picking up their bachelor's diploma and 13 achieving a master's degree.

The NIU football and

baseball teams led the way with 12 and nine graduates, respectively. Seven of the 12 Huskie football grads will return for the 2023 season. Three of the NIU student-athlete grads were not able to attend the ceremonies for a very good reason as men's golf team members Tommy Dunsire, Zach Place and Campbell Wolf are competing at the

NCAA Salem Regional after helping the Huskies to the 2023 Mid-American Conference Championship.

Meanwhile, one of the seven Huskies who will complete their degrees following summer coursework, Diamond Riley of the NIU women's track and field team, earned MAC Champion status on

the day of her graduation with a victory in the triple jump at the MAC Outdoor Championships Saturday.

"Seeing our student-athletes graduate is one of the highlights of my year," said NIU Vice-President and Director of Athletics and Recreation Sean T. Frazier. "This is what it's all about! We are extremely proud of these newest NIU

alumni! Congratulations to each of them and to everyone who has supported them along the way."

The Huskies' spring 2023 student-athlete grads represented every college (except College of Law) with 21 each from the College of Business and the College of Liberal Arts & Sciences. Gymnastics' Brookelyn Sears was the

lone student-athlete grad from the College of Visual & Performing Arts with a degree in art studio, design and media arts, while Diego Sanz of men's soccer and Brandon Johnson (Rochelle Township High School) of baseball were the student-athlete graduates from the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology.


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Unit#168: Desiree A Jones: Home items, Bags, toy box, boxes, clothes.
Unit#211: Adam Ross Espitia: boxes, totes, tv, chair, Table, Bags.
Unit#217 William Peska: Boxes, fax machine, copier machine, 2 shelves.
No. 0541
(May 28 and June 4, 2023)

Notice of Public Hearing
Village of Hillcrest Zoning Changes
A public hearing will be held by the Hillcrest Board of Trustees on Wednesday, June 14, 2023 at 6:30 PM at the Hillcrest Village Hall located at 204 Hillcrest Avenue relative to the following: Zoning amendment to the property located at 201 and 203 Powers Road in the Village of Hillcrest.
No. 0542
(May 29, 2023)

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SPORTS

RTHS Girls Soccer

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



Lady Hubs earn RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference awards

The Rochelle Lady Hub soccer team celebrated its season with an awards banquet on Wednesday. Several Lady Hub student-athletes earned RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference awards. Fourteen athletes received Academic All-Conference honors including Dalila Garcia, Anahi Cervantes, Maricruz Milan, Betty Flores (Honorable Mention), Jasmin Hernandez, Abby Tarvestad, Kailey Harris (Honorable Mention) (front row), Kara Martinez, Makayla Lara (Honorable Mention), Mavi Avila, Haley Bozinovich, Danica Ward, Emma Kennay and Evileth Mendez (Honorable Mention) (back row). Makayla Lara earned the High Point Award, while Anahi Cervantes took home the Most Improved Player Award and Betty Flores won the Defender of the Year Award.



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