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KNOW IT TODAY

Legion essay winners named

American Legion honored winners from RTHS of the annual essay contest.

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WEATHER

 SUNDAY HIGH LOW 47 32	 MONDAY HIGH LOW 54 30
 TUESDAY HIGH LOW 59 39	 WEDNESDAY HIGH LOW 56 38

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OBITUARIES

NONE

INSERTS

- SCHNUCKS
- MENARDS
- SCHOOL TIMES

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County Board: Hogan presents on ONAA

Appellate Court Fourth District Justice makes presentation

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard a presentation by Ogle Natural Areas Alliance President Trevor Hogan on his organization's mission. ONAA started as a nonprofit two years ago. Hogan was a Byron Forest Preserve District board member for nine years and saw a need to start a foundation for the BFPD for people to donate time, money and land.

"When I was on the forest preserve board, there were a lot of times that we had to pass up certain types of donations because there wasn't a structure in place to take them," Hogan said. "That's why we started the ONAA, to benefit the forest preserve. And there are plenty of other beautiful natural areas in Ogle County and other public institutions that could stand to benefit from donations like that."

ONAA works to benefit the BFPD, Oregon Park District, Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District, Byron Park District and Ogle County.

"Basically, we provide



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard a presentation by Ogle Natural Areas Alliance President Trevor Hogan on his organization's mission.

opportunities for those that want to give and preserve land," Hogan said. "These entities are some of the best organizations that know how to protect and preserve land and most importantly, keep it open to the public. That's what we're here to do."

Hogan said the COVID-19 pandemic showed the importance of safe, large public outdoor areas that can serve as recreation opportunities and also provide habitats for wildlife and ecological

diversity. He wants to help to preserve areas the way they are and have been for decades.

Since its inception, ONAA has provided grants to its beneficiary organizations for purposes including land stewardship and prairie development. It will host a volunteer day at Weld Park on April 28 at 9 a.m.

Doherty

The board also heard a presentation from Appellate Court Fourth District Justice Eugene Doherty

on recent judicial redistricting. Doherty is from Winnebago County and has been assigned to sit in the fourth district appellate court. When cases are lost, parties have a right to appeal under Illinois law and Ogle County now falls under the redistricted fourth district appellate court. It was previously in the second appellate district with Winnebago County east to suburban areas such as McHenry County.

See COUNTY page 5



RMU working to prepare for spring storms

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Amid recent strong spring storms, Rochelle Municipal Utilities Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver said April 17 that line crews stay prepared to repair outages when Mother Nature causes them.

RMU keeps two linemen on call at all times. If it knows a significant weather event is coming, Toliver will meet the entire crew at the end of the usual work day to get a tally of who is available to work during the evening, which typically sees about 4-6 people come in. Toliver tries to keep two people on reserve for the next work day in case most of the linemen are out all night repairing outages.

See RMU page 3

GRACE Homeschool co-op sees first start your own business class

First annual student trade show is May 12-13 at Lincoln Mall

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Greater Rochelle Christian Educators (GRACE) homeschool co-op organization is in its first year of offering a start your own business course that has resulted in students doing just that.

Each of the five students in the course have started their own businesses which will offer handmade crafts, crochet specialties, custom artwork & sketches, unique & rare plant starts, hand-crafted bath & body products, commissioned artwork, gaming coding lessons, upcycled & thrifted items, dog poop clean up services and education resources.

GRACE's young entrepreneurs will showcase their businesses and products at a student trade show at the Lincoln Mall in Rochelle at 425 Lincoln Highway on Friday, May 12 from 2-4 p.m. and on Saturday, May 13 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. The public is encouraged to attend,



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The GRACE homeschool co-op has a new start your own business course this year and will be hosting a trade show May 12-13. Back row: Teacher Jennifer Zellers, students Lydia Schoenthal, Tristin Williams and Noel Page, and teacher Liz Williams. Front row: students Orion Zimmerman and Raiden Zimmerman.

and the trade show will have potential Mother's Day gifts available for purchase.

"I don't think they

expected their ideas to turn into what they've become," Liz Williams, one of the course's teachers, said. "I think our

sale day will be that final encouragement to show them that they created something and made their own business. And now

they've sold it to the general public and it's a success."

See GRACE page 3

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LOCAL NEWS



American Legion names essay contest winners from three local schools

American Legion essay contest awards were presented to two Eswood School winners (left), one Steward School winner (middle) and two St. Paul Lutheran School winners (right). The essay subject and title were "Who Are Our Modern-Day Patriots?" Pictured at left from left to right: Trey Somers (first place), Gregory Smith (second place) and Steve Korth (adjutant). Pictured at middle from left to right: Steve Korth (adjutant), Isaac Gittleson (first place) and John Gruben (commander). Pictured at right from left to right: John Gruben (commander), Taylor Rogers (second place), Magdalene Good (first place) and Steve Korth (adjutant).

Ogle County Farm Bureau scholarship winners announced

OREGON — Megan Hagemann, Jack Richolson, Lauren Carlson, Alexandria Cassens, Morgan Schabacker, Kennedy Strohecker, Breanna Cisketti and Grace Prose were all recently named as recipients of scholarships awarded by the Ogle County Farm Bureau in 2023.

Breanna Cisketti was awarded the Del Flessner Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,500. This scholarship was created to honor the legacy of long-time Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Del Flessner. She is the daughter of Brian and Brandi Cisketti. Breanna is a 2022 graduate of Polo High School and is currently majoring in agribusiness at Sauk Valley Community College with plans to attend UW-Platteville next fall.

Alexandria Cassens and Megan Hagemann were

named winners of the \$1,000 General Farm Bureau Scholarship.

Cassens is the daughter of John and Diane Cassens, Byron. She is a 2022 graduate of Byron High School and currently attends Luther College, majoring in nursing.

Hagemann is the daughter of Brad and Jean Hagemann, Mt. Morris. She is a 2020 graduate of Forrester High School and attends UW-Platteville, majoring in animal science.

Richolson was named the recipient of the \$1,000 Don Bybee Memorial Scholarship, sponsored through the generosity of the Bybee Family to honor Mr. Bybee for his many years of service to agriculture in Ogle County. Jack is the son of Brad and Julie Richolson, Lindenwood. Jack is a 2022 graduate from Rochelle Township

High School and currently attends Iowa State University, majoring in agricultural studies.

Schabacker is the recipient of the Mark Detig Memorial Scholarship awarded in the amount of \$1,000. This scholarship honors the late Mark Detig for his service to the Ogle County Pork Producers Association and Ogle County agriculture. Morgan is the daughter of Todd Schabacker and Anita and Mike Friedlund, Rochelle. Morgan is a 2020 graduate from Rochelle Township High School is currently attending Iowa State University majoring in agricultural business.

Lauren Carlson is the Ag Technology Scholarship winner. Lauren is the daughter of Jason and Julie Carlson, Byron. She will graduate Byron High School this year and will continue her studies at



either UW-Platteville or Southeast Missouri State majoring in environmental horticulture. The scholarship is awarded in the amount of \$1,000.

Kennedy Strohecker is the recipient of the Mary LeFevre Memorial Scholarship, sponsored in cooperation between the farm bureau and the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family. The scholarship focuses on students pursuing careers in healthcare. Kennedy is the daughter of Ron and Tasha Sims, Byron. She will graduate Byron High

School this spring and attend the Viterbo University, majoring in nursing. The scholarship is awarded at \$1,000.

Prose was awarded the George LeFevre Memorial Scholarship in the amount of \$1,000. It also is funded with the cooperation of the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family, recognizing Mr. LeFevre for his lifelong service to Ogle County agriculture. Gracie is the daughter of Nick and Charity Prose, Oregon. Gracie will graduate Oregon High School this spring and go

onto study ag communications at either Highland Community College or Iowa State University.

This marks the 25th year that the Ogle County Farm Bureau has awarded scholarships to member dependents who seek to pursue course studies in agriculture at an accredited institution of higher education.

Scholarships will again be awarded in 2024 and applications will be available in January. For information on the Scholarship Program, contact Ron Kern at 815-732-2231.

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Stillman Bank announces promotions

ROCKFORD—Thomas R. Hughes, president & CEO of Stillman BancCorp N.A., along with the Board of Directors have moved to promote the following bank employees:

Melissa S. Morphe, chief credit officer. Melissa joined Stillman Bank in 2015 as a credit analyst and was promoted to senior credit analyst in 2020. She has over 25 years of experience in the financial industry. In her new position, Melissa will be responsible for managing the credit culture of the bank by overseeing loan approvals, loan documentation, risk management and credit-related compliance efforts.



Paul Dahlstrom

Paul Dahlstrom, senior credit analyst. Paul joined the Stillman Bank credit department in 2017. He graduated from Pensacola Christian College with a bachelor of science degree in finance. In his role as senior credit analyst, Paul will lead the credit analysis function for all commercial and ag loans.

"We congratulate Melis-



Melissa S. Morphe

sa and Paul and thank them for the strong commitment and leadership they demonstrate toward their responsibilities," Hughes said. "We are very fortunate to have such dedicated individuals serving the bank and our customers."

For more information, please contact (815) 645-2266 or visit www.stillman-bank.com.

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LOCAL NEWS



During the March 31 storm that uprooted several trees on the south side of town, RMU followed the storm's movement throughout the afternoon and had customer service staff stay late to help customers report outages.

RMU: Electric department preparing for severe weather

From page 1

During the March 31 storm that uprooted several trees on the south side of town, RMU followed the storm's movement throughout the afternoon and had customer service staff stay late to help customers report outages.

"I'm thankful that during that night, we had everybody's power back on by 2 a.m.," Toliver said. "I think that's huge for us, as ComEd had people out for five and six days after that event came through. It's basically just putting as much manpower together as we can to prepare for these storms to come through and making sure everything is ready to go."

If RMU has a pole line go down, in most areas of its territory it has built-in redundancy to get power to homes in different ways. Six crew members can get poles and wires back up "pretty quickly," Toliver said. RMU also has several contractors it works with in the event of severe weather damage for extra help.

Toliver said RMU's biggest concern with significant weather events is having enough equipment on hand as a small utility to do repairs of infrastructure, especially during the current volatile supply chain market. A pole that RMU used to be able to order and receive in 2-3 days now takes 6-8 weeks. A transformer that used to take eight weeks to receive now takes 60-70 weeks.

The city and RMU recently raised rates slightly and issued bonds to ensure their ability to pay for infrastructure improvements and to have more cash on hand in case of an emergency.

"To me, potentially-volatile weather played a huge part in investing in improvements and having more cash on hand," Toliver said. "Weather is our biggest enemy. In this area, you have a bright, sunshiny day where you can still have an outage, but it's typically less with an animal or something along those lines that's relatively easy to fix. In this

area can have tornadoes, massive snow storms and ice. Weather plays a huge part in planning for the utility and strengthening some of our lines."

Toliver said that poles located outside of town without trees and homes to block wind are most susceptible to straight-line winds, which RMU takes into account when it plans for upgrades to its distribution system.

The RMU superintendent said he always has fear that a significant weather event could come along and damage a large amount of infrastructure, but he understands that all the utility can do is simply prepare the best it can and work outages when they come. Toliver said he hasn't seen any weather lately locally that has him more concerned than usual.

"I would say the weather has been relatively the same in recent years," Toliver said. "I haven't seen anything in our territory that I feel has been significantly worse. I think the storms are more



(PHOTOS BY MIKE FELTES)



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Amid recent strong spring storms, Rochelle Municipal Utilities Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver said April 17 that line crews stay prepared to repair outages when Mother Nature causes them.

frequent, but I don't think they're any worse than they have been."

RMU was recently notified by the American Public Power Association that it has been named to the top 25 percent of utilities in the country for reliability. City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh praised Toliver and RMU staff for working to shore up vulnerabilities in RMU's

electrical system in recent years to make sure lights stay on for customers.

No matter the weather event, or whatever has caused an outage, the RMU electric department handles work the same. Looking at the outage map to find where outages are and starting in the largest area and working until all power is restored.

"Working on those

nights with outages is stressful," Toliver said. "But it's almost exciting. It's finding the problem areas and it's kind of a challenge to see how quickly and safely we can get areas back up and move to the next area. There's nothing better than the rewarding feeling of a customer coming out and thanking us when the lights are turned back on."

GRACE: Homeschool co-op hosting student trade show next month

From page 1

"I think that will be the final push to either encourage them to continue with it long-term or take the things that they've learned for the next chapter of their lives."

The students will also take part in a shark tank event with local businesses on April 28. 10 sharks including business owners and representatives from Aldo's Pizzeria, Flight Deck Bar & Grill, Kinetic Grit Crossfit, Clearly Enterprise LLC, First State Bank, the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce and more will be there and the students will do presentations and sell their

businesses and maybe even win some funds.

GRACE is in its 20th year of operation and members work together to provide a non-denominational, Christian-focused, fun, educational day for students once a week. It offers a wide variety of classes ranging from pre-K through high school levels. Class offerings include both academics and electives.

Both Williams and Jennifer Zellers, the class's main teacher, are entrepreneurs and went through struggles learning the ropes of starting their own businesses.

"There are a lot of kids here and five in this class

that have ideas where they said, 'You know I might be able to turn this into a business,'" Williams said. "And we wanted to give them the opportunity to learn how to do it. Let's teach them some of the stuff that we didn't learn until 2-4 years in. That's what the whole class has been revolving around with the goal of holding the trade show."

The idea for the class came about when Zellers saw that the Whiteside Area Career Center offered a class like it.

"I saw that, and I thought we could do this," Zellers said. "I want them to have the encouragement to try new things

and learn. I want them to know there's support. And it's consumer education. People talk about how current students can't do things like count change and run a checking account. I think this funnels into that."

Before taking the start your own business class, students took consumer education in the previous semester. Student Noel Page said she wanted to take this semester's class to try to put some of the skills she learned last semester to work.

This semester, students have learned about finance, marketing, money management, refined their business ideas and have

made their own logos and flyers. Student Lydia Schoenthal said the class has helped her to learn the details of running a business.

"It's things that we wouldn't normally think about," Schoenthal said. "I'm 17 and have never had to think about any of this. Things like figuring out where your break-even point is. It's good to learn and know. And things like fixed and variable costs. How to figure out whether you want to work with a team in your business. Just the small parts that not a lot of people see behind a business, especially when you're a kid and you've never really had to worry

about money or stuff like that until you actually start something."

Zellers and Williams believe that it's important for the students to know that they don't necessarily have to work for someone else or a corporation to make their living, and they believe it's given them a greater appreciation for small business owners.

"A lot of people have great ideas and they can fall apart because there are so many other things that go into it," Zellers said. "I just hope that people come and support these kids. They've been working hard. They've done a lot of learning and I'm impressed with them."

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

For Autism Acceptance month, Mrs. Henkel, LCSW, assistant director of special education and Mrs. Poegel, NIA consultant, presented to 30 participants from member districts this month on “Leveling Up Regulatory Support through Collaboration and Neurodiversity.”

April is Autism Acceptance Month

FOR Autism Acceptance month, Mrs. Henkel, LCSW, assistant director of special education and Mrs. Poegel, NIA consultant, presented to 30 participants from member districts this month on “Leveling Up Regulatory Support through Collaboration and Neurodiversity.” Staff from Amboy, Kings, Meridian, Oregon, Polo, OCEC and Steward viewed and discussed “Regulation, What’s Energy Got to Do with It?” featuring Dr. Jacquelyn

Fede and Dr. Amy Laurent. Guest speaker Laura Smith, social worker, shared about her journey with a student discovering neurodivergence and the impact on his education and life. Autism Acceptance month has been expanded from the previously promoted Autism Awareness campaign, and promotes acceptance of autistic people within daily activities, education, programming, employment and community events. Neurodiversity is the idea that various

neurological conditions are the effect of normal changes and variations in the human genome. Various conditions such as ADHD, autism, dyspraxia and dyslexia all fall within the spectrum of “neurodiversity.” In Ogle County, child count statistics indicate an estimated 9,126 students within Ogle County Education Cooperative’s 11 member districts, 1,330 students with an individual education plan and 105 students with an educational eligibility of autism.

S&P upgrades City of Rochelle bond rating to AA-

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle is pleased to announce the upgrade of its bond rating from A+ to AA- by the S&P Global rating organization, a press release said. The upgrade is due to several factors including the city’s good financial management practices and policies; strong financial reserves; and improved pension funding which includes contributing over the required annual amount.

In order to assess a rating, S&P reviews many aspects of the City of Rochelle’s financial pic-

ture including the local economy, management procedures, budgetary performance, liquidity and debt positions.

“I am so proud of the work our city council and staff have done to improve our financial position,” City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said. “It is extremely rare for a local government to have such a high bond rating.”

S&P Global Ratings considered the city’s management as strong with realistic and well-grounded assumptions when setting the annual budget; monthly budget-to-actual

monitoring reports to city council; a five-year capital plan; a formal investment management policy and a fund balance policy. The city meets or exceeds every one of its fund balance policies.

“This upgrade represents the hard work of staff, management, and the city council in maintaining a long-term vision of fiscal prudence and responsibility,” Finance Director Chris Cardott said.

The S&P notes that the city’s outlook is stable, and it is anticipated that the city’s two-year outlook horizon is positive.

Ogle County Sheriff’s Department

Deputies dispatched for domestic disturbance

OREGON — On April 11 at approximately 11:33 p.m. deputies attempted to conduct a traffic stop in the 600 block of South 7th Street in Rochelle. The vehicle fled in an attempt to evade deputies, at which time deputies pursued the vehicle and a short time later terminated the pursuit. The vehicle was again located leaving the parking lot of the Loves Travel Stop in Rochelle, at which time deputies attempted to stop the vehicle again, traveling east on Steward Road. The vehicle failed to negotiate the curve at South Steward Road and East Ritchie Road and struck an embankment. The vehicle traveled into the south ditch on East Ritchie Road, where it came to rest. The driver, identified as Jonathan Brown, 24, of Monroe Center, was transported to Rochelle Hospital before being airlifted to OSF Saint Anthony’s for major injuries. The female passenger, unidentified at this time, was airlifted to OSF Saint Anthony’s Hospital, where she remains in critical condition. Charges against Brown are pending subsequent to the investigation. Deputies were assisted on scene by Rochelle Fire/Police, Ashton Fire, Steward Fire and Lee County Sheriff’s Office.

On April 12 at approximately 11:34 a.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop on Interstate 88 at mile marker 79. Upon further investigation deputies arrested Montrale Thomas, 42, of Davenport for driving while license suspended. Montrale also had an outstanding warrant out of Rock Island County. Montrale was transported to the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond.

On April 12 at approximately 9:22 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 12,000 block of North Illinois Route 26. After an investigation, Alis Mildon-

nio Velasquez Pena, 25, of Freeport, was placed under arrest for driving without a valid license. Velasquez Pena was also cited for operating a vehicle with suspended registration. Velasquez Pena was released on an individual bond and provided a future court date.

On April 12 at 9:57 p.m. deputies were dispatched to White Pines State Park (6712 W. Pines Road, Mt. Morris) for the report of a domestic disturbance. After an investigation, Justin Aldridge, 28, of Rock Falls was arrested for possession of drug paraphernalia. Aldridge was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On April 14 at approximately 2:32 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 16,000 block of East Illinois Route 38. After investigation, deputies placed Donald Wilton, 53, of Rochelle under arrest for no valid driver’s license. Wilton was additionally issued a citation for operating a vehicle with a suspended registration. Wilton was released on an I-Bond at the scene and given a future court date.

On April 14 at approximately 12:18 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 8,000 block of North Illinois Route 2. After investigation, Matthew E Pierce, 52, of Rockford was placed under arrest for possession of 100-500 grams of cannabis. Pierce was also cited for operating a vehicle with suspended registration and operating an uninsured vehicle. Pierce was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held pending a court appearance before a judge.

On April 15 at approximately 12:12 a.m. deputies responded to the area of West Mud Creek Road and West Cliff Road for the report of a single-vehicle accident. Deputies arrived on scene and located a silver Honda Pilot in the west ditch with major damage to the entire vehicle. After investigation, it was determined that the Honda, being driven by 46-year-old Sikabwe Kisamba of Des Moines, Iowa, was traveling eastbound on Mud Creek Road approaching Cliff Road. Kisamba then failed to negotiate the curve, crossed into the westbound lane, and onto the westbound shoulder. Kisamba traveled along the shoulder for a short distance before overcorrecting and losing control. Kisamba traveled back onto the roadway, through the eastbound lane, and entered the eastbound shoulder/ditch. The Honda then overturned before coming to rest in the west ditch facing west. Kisamba refused medical attention and was taken into custody for driving while under the influence of alcohol. Kisamba was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 16 at approximately 2:37 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 200 block of East Camling Road. After investigation deputies placed Shaquille Campbell, 30, of Oregon, under arrest for driving while license suspended. Campbell was additionally issued citations for expired registration

and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Campbell was released on an I-bond at the scene and given a future court date.

On April 17 at 7:18 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Big Mound Road and Junction Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Jose Santana, 42, of Rochelle for driving without a valid license. Santana was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a future court date. Santana was also issued a citation for improper use of registration.

On April 18 at approximately 3:52 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop within the 11,000 block of East Big Mound Road for an equipment violation. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Brandon L. Barber, 39, of Stillman Valley, for driving while license suspended. Barber was released from the scene with an I-Bond with a future court date given.

On April 18 at 10:48 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 500 block of South Daysville Road. As a result, Chase S. Phanenbecker, 32, of Elgin was arrested for driving while license revoked. Phanenbecker was additionally issued a citation for a head light violation. Phanenbecker was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On April 18 at approximately 10:10 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,000 block of West Illinois Route-72. After an investigation, Andrew L. Stewart, 40, of Freeport, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol. Stewart was also cited for speeding. Stewart was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 19 at approximately 2:24 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 near the Interstate 39 southbound ramp. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Joe Molette, 24, of Chicago, for driving while license suspended and for an active Lee County warrant. Molette was issued additional citations for failure to signal and suspended registration. Molette was given an I-Bond with a court date later this month and relayed to the Lee County Jail for the active warrant.

On April 19 at approximately 6:56 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,000 block of East Flagg Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested John Diggles, 52, of Milton, Wisconsin for driving while license revoked. Diggles was issued additional citations for failure to obey a stop sign and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Diggles was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 19 at approximately 12:46 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 westbound at the 79-mile marker for a lane violation. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Derrick J. Wheeler, 32, of Chicago, for driving while license suspended. Wheeler was additionally cited for the lane violation and released from the scene with an I-Bond and a future court date was given.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



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Contact Michelle Fay at 815-258-7324 with Questions

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ROCHELLE

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LOCAL NEWS

COUNTY: Board approves bid for road and bridge work

From page 1

Cases that were appealed from Ogle County used to be heard in Elgin. They are now heard in Springfield after last year’s major redistricting that saw Ogle County join the fourth district that also includes Winnebago County and now stretches nearly down to St. Louis across 41 counties.

“What happened with the redistricting is that instead of having these roughly equal-sized districts geographically, we now have these two very large downstate districts where appellate and supreme court justices from all of that area would be selected from,” Doherty said. “We joined a fourth district that was much smaller with the courthouse being in Springfield. It’s a three-hour drive, but that court does quite a bit by remote and Zoom.”

Doherty said he wanted to make sure the board and public were aware of the redistricting and said that lawmakers made the change due to wanting more equal populations among them. The lines were previously drawn in 1964.

Road & bridge

The board unanimously approved a \$582,960 bid from Helm Civil for its 2023 seal coating work. The Helm Civil bid was the low bid it received. For the work, the board appropriated \$330,000 from its motor fuel tax fund and \$253,000 from its federal aid matching fund.

The board also unanimously approved a \$563,946 low bid from Rock Road Companies for its Center Road and Bethel Road resurfacing project. For the work, the board appropriated \$300,000 of motor fuel tax funds and \$264,000 in federal aid matching funds.

The board unanimously approved a \$297,834 low bid from Martin & Company Excavating for Daysville street improvements in Oregon-Nashua Township. Oregon-Nashua Township plans on using motor fuel tax funding to pay for a portion of the project, and the Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT) requires that all township and road district projects utilizing MFT funds be awarded by the county board.

Liquor

The board unanimously approved a resolution increasing the number of C and C-1 liquor licenses in the county from three to four.

The county received a request from a new business with four cabins and a recreation room on Lost Nation Road to raise the amount by one, Board Chairman John Finfrock said.

HR System

The board unanimously approved a resolution rescinding an ordinance it passed last month for the purchase of a new human resource information system from Paycom. Following rescinding it, the board unanimously approved a purchase from ADP for a human resource information system that, for its total employees of 250, will cost \$15,375 in implementation costs and \$65,441.50 in total annual investment.

“We did some additional vetting and found that Paycom did not seem to be the best for Ogle County,” Finfrock said. “ADP is more open and cheaper after we got another quote from Paycom that was much higher than the first one because they had not been given correct information the first time. ADP is less cost and more adaptable to what we’re trying to do.”

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 7:00pm. 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@faithlcrochelle.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 6:00 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 11:00 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.. 

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 enter into the passion of Jesus. Our Bible Study and worship series will be focused on the last week of Jesus’ life through Lent.

As we enter the story of Jesus’ passion, we come to it with our own eyes, our own humanity, our own experience. That gets all wrapped up in our interpretation.... that is how faith works! That is how we makes sense of things, and how we come to greater awareness, understanding, insight and compassion for our own stories and for those of others. So this Lent, this time of preparation for Easter, we will enter the passion of Jesus. Let us freeze frame a moment, so that we might dwell.... and become not just story tellers, but story dwellers. (Adapted from a poem by Marcia McFee.)

Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are at 7:00 pm. The church will be open from noon-3 on Good Friday for the public to walk the Stations of the Cross. Devotional guide provided – come and go at your convenience. Everyone is always welcome to all of our services.

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

Find your voice at the library

SPRING into the library and check-out some materials! Spring brings warmer weather and warmer temperatures entice more people to come out and see us. We encourage all readers to come in and get your library cards so you are ready for Summer Reading. The theme of Summer Reading is *Find Your Voice at the Library*. *"Our voices have power. We use our voices to share stories, express ourselves and spark change. Our voices include not only the sounds we make, but the words we write, the art we create, the movements we perform and the actions we take each day to impact our world."* -ireadprogram.

It is important for students to continue reading throughout the Summer months. Summer reading allows students to read and continue to keep their skills sharp. As summer continues, students will find themselves steadily improving their reading skills by practicing and learning. Here are some benefits of Summer Reading: "The benefits of summer reading are clear. National research from Dominican University finds that students who participate in public library summer reading programs scored higher on reading achievement tests at the beginning of the next school year than those who did not

participate." "Parents of children enrolled in the public library summer reading program reported that their children spent more time reading over the summer, read more books, were well prepared for school in the fall, and read more confidently." "Young people experience learning losses when they don't engage in educational activities during the summer. Research spanning 100 years shows that students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of

the summer. Libraries are part of the solution." "To succeed in school and life, children and young adults need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. Summer Reading Club reminds kids that reading is for fun—as well as for learning." "There's so much to see, so much to do at your library! There's no better place to take your kids. The library is a place to learn, read, and have fun...a place the whole family can enjoy. In fact, more than 82 million children attend library programs every year." "Studies show that



Sarah Flanagan

children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning." "The amount of time children spend reading outside of school is linked to gains in reading achievement. Numerous studies show that access to books and magazines is directly related to higher reading achievement." (Source: *Dominican University IMLS-funded research: Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Reading Gap*, (<https://www.ireadprogram.org/resources/prevent-summer-source/>) We will be having a Bookmark Contest for

all ages starting on April 24. We want you to help design our bookmarks to give out this summer. There will be one bookmark from each grade category chosen elementary, middle school, high school and adult. Get your bookmark template at the Adult Circulation Desk. All submissions must be received by May 22. Throughout the month of May, we will have a "Guess The Genre, Blind Date With A Book." We look forward to seeing you at the library. Get ready to "Find Your Voice" this summer at your library. See you soon! Sarah Flanagan is the library director of the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District.

Tom McDermott: The chosen few

SHA! Sha! Sha! Kill! Kill! Kill! It was the middle of the night near Lake Changjin, Korea, or as the Americans called it, the Chosen Reservoir. The American troops fired blindly into the dark waiting for the flares (star shells) to be mortared above so they could see the enemy. The extreme cold (-36F) caused the lubricant on the rifles to gel frequently, slowing the firing pins enough that the weapons failed to fire. As the star shells ignited, thousands of men in white quilted jackets and pants became visible, then the killing began in earnest. What had gone so wrong? At the onset, the Korean conflict was considered to be a quick, in-and-out, mission. South Korean, United Nations (U.N.) troops, mostly American, had arrived and immediately begun pushing North Korean troops back above the 38th parallel. The North Korean People's Army (PKA) was no match for the unified U.N. troops. Things were going so smoothly that it was decided to push the North Koreans all the way into China, leaving a single

democratic Korea. China had warned that they would act if the U.N. troops crossed the 38th parallel. And act they did, with more than 200,000 Chinese troops of the Peoples Volunteer Army (PVA). For the Rochelle area, Earnest Chisamore became the first soldier wounded on July 26, 1950. Chisamore had no prior military experience and was taken in as part of the area military reserves. For local soldier Cpl. Thomas Morrison of the Second infantry, Korea was even worse. He arrived in country on July 31, 1950. He was wounded Aug. 19. Tom was returned to combat on Nov. 14. On Nov. 19, only five days after his return, Cpl. Morrison was wounded again. Tommy Morrison and the second infantry left Korea with only 17 of the original 210 soldiers that entered the battle. Cpl. Morrison received honors for his service but left behind so much more, including his best friend from Rochelle, Pfc. Billy Dean Davis, one of the 193 members of the second infantry that did not survive. To keep the Chinese

from flooding into Korea, U.N. pilots began a daring series of raids on the bridges between China and Korea. Rochelle Lt. Floyd Heath was a crew member on a B26 Night Intruder. During 31 missions Lt. Heath and his crew dropped Napalm on the bridges making them impassable. At the time we were unaware the extent of Chinese involvement, so American pilots were not allowed to intrude into Chinese air space, pretty difficult when one end of the bridge is on Chinese soil. Lt. Heath bragged that on one mission they flew so low they went under telephone lines. It was once said that the B26 was so versatile that it could drop everything but the kitchen sink. So yes, they tied a kitchen sink to the belly bomb and dropped it too. Rochelle sailor Yeoman second class Raymond Landis was on the USS Okanogan. The Okanogan was an attack transport in the Pacific Fleet Amphibious Force and delivered assault troops to Inchon and Won-

san. Raymond and the Okanogan would return for what would be called America's Dunkirk. So what went wrong? In a word, everything. No one had any reliable information on Chinese troop strength, it has been estimated as high as 300,000. Though the bridges were compromised. It was -36F. The rivers were frozen solid and the Chinese simply walked and drove across. The Chinese were coming and they were coming strong. The Chinese troops attacked the U.N. troops and quickly pulled back, feigning a retreat. The U.N. troops pursued and were quickly snared in a Chinese trap. The Chosen Reservoir was not easily defended and the 30,000 U.N. troops were surrounded by more than 120,000 Chinese. The battle was at the Chosen Reservoir, the combatants became the Chosen Few. On Nov. 27, 1950 United Nations troops began a 17-day battle to escape the Chinese and reach the Port of Hungnan. The Port of Hungnan was 78 miles away. Each night



Tom McDermott

the Chinese would attack, throwing hand grenades, moving forward, and throwing more grenades, until they flushed our boys from cover. Once the troops left cover, the Chinese opened fire with 30-caliber Tommy guns which the United States had provided during World War II. When the sun rose the U.N. troops began the push toward the Port of Hungnan. One M4A3 Sherman tank, the third and fifth marine battalions to the front, and three battalions protecting the rear. Air support from Task Force 77 (five aircraft carriers) provided close air support. Navy Corsairs and B26 Night Intruders flew as many as 230 sorties per day. U.S. Air Force Far East Command was dropping 250 tons of supplies per day. Then night fell and the Chinese troops surged. For Rochelle's Pfc. John Lower, the job was simple, if impossible. John was with a medical detachment, he only had to keep the injured alive. Simple, if the Chinese didn't drop a grenade on you or shoot you with a weapon out of an Elliott Ness episode, then you had to beat a

cold. Plasma froze, Morphine had to be put in the medic's mouth to thaw so it could be used, if clothes were removed to bandage wounds the skin could freeze in seconds. Cpl. Lower was honored for entering a heavily-mined area to treat and evacuate wounded, saving many lives. On Dec. 13, 1950 the troops reached the Port of Hungnan. Yeoman Raymond Landis and the U.S.S. Okanogan were waiting with over 175 other ships. The rescue included more than 100,000 soldiers, 17,000 vehicles and 91,000 civilians. The losses were enormous: 4,385 U.S. Marines, 3,163 U.S. Army, 2,812 South Korean troops, 78 British Marines and 7,338 non-combat marine losses, mostly due to the weather. People Volunteer Army (China) suffered 19,202 combat casualties and 28,954 non-combat casualties. Korea is frequently referred to as the forgotten war. I can assure you that it will never be forgotten by The Chosen Few. Tom McDermott is a Flagg Township Museum historian and Rochelle city councilman.

How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Darin LaHood
1424 Longworth HOB
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(202) 225-6201

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

IL Rep. Bradley Fritts
Stratton Office Bldg
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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



American Legion names RTHS essay winners

American Legion essay contest awards were presented to Rochelle Township High School students on April 13 at the high school. The essay subject and title were “Who Are Our Modern Day Patriots?” From left to right: John Gruben (commander), Caitlyn Brown (second place, juniors and seniors), Jessica Nguyen (third place, juniors and seniors), Kyla Roose (first place, freshmen and sophomores), Cash Budde (second place, freshmen and sophomores) and Chuck Roberts (senior vice-commander). Absent: Kyra Bivins (first place, juniors and seniors).

Park district accepting applications for vacant board commissioner position

ROCHELLE — The Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District is accepting applications to fill the vacant Park District Board Commissioner position. Applications can be picked up at The REC Center any-time Monday thru Friday (6 a.m. to 8 p.m.) and must be returned to The REC Center by Monday, May 8, 2023.

Rochelle city council swearing-in ceremony is May 1

ROCHELLE — A swearing-in ceremony will be held in the council chambers at Rochelle City Hall, located at 420 N. 6th St. in Rochelle, on Monday, May 1 at 3 p.m. City Clerk Rose Huéramo will administer oaths of office to John Bearrows, Bil Hayes, Benjamin Valdivieso and Tom McDermott. Aquorum of the council may be in attendance for the ceremony.

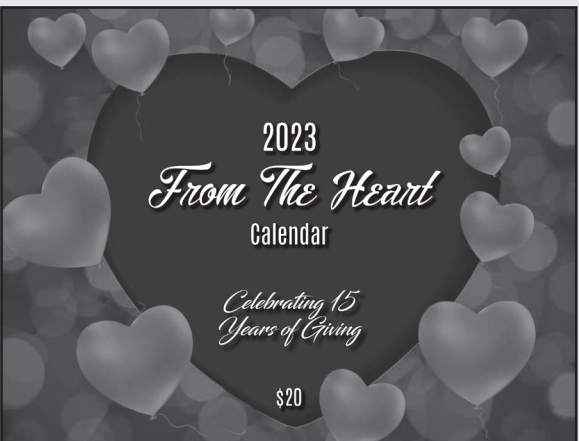
Birthdays & Anniversaries

April 24
Lainie Arnold
Jose Tlapa

April 26
Evan Jones

April 30
Oakley Gonzales
Nora Bridgeman

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



- Mar. 28 - Maria Hernandez, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 29 - Kaylee May, Rochelle, \$50
- Mar. 30 - Billy Gregg Evans, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 31 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 1 - Adam Hall, Sycamore, \$25
- Apr. 2 - Sue Snyder, Phoenix, \$50
- Apr. 3 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 4 - Linda Alderks, Chana, \$25
- Apr. 5 - Liquor N Wine, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 6 - Jennifer Diehl, Oregon, \$25
- Apr. 7 - Crystal Carswell, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 8 - Liquor N Wine, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 9 - Pete Pavia, Rochelle, \$300
- Apr. 10 - Brandon Schaneberg, Steward, \$25
- Apr. 11 - Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, \$25
- Apr. 12 - Justin Medine, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 13 - Alfano's, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 14 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- Apr. 15 - Luci Powell, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 16 - Karen Cech, Rochelle, \$50
- Apr. 17 - Keith Pontnack, Rochelle, \$25
- Apr. 18 - Mike Wetzel, Algonquin, \$25
- Apr. 19 - Julia Faber, Compton, \$25
- Apr. 20 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- Apr. 21 - Gabi Jabis, Panama City, FL, \$25
- Apr. 22 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- Apr. 23 - Araceli Flores, Rochelle, \$50



Coffee Break

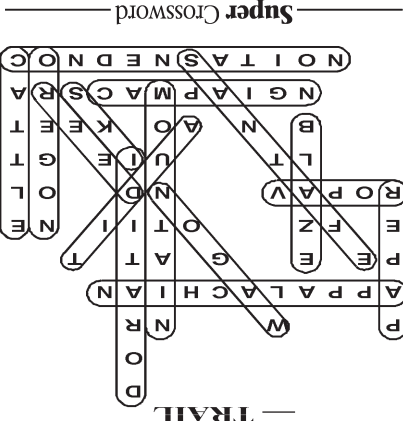
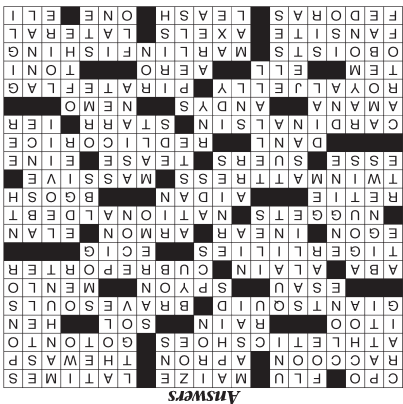
MAGIC MAZE ● — TRAIL

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: HO CHI — TRAIL

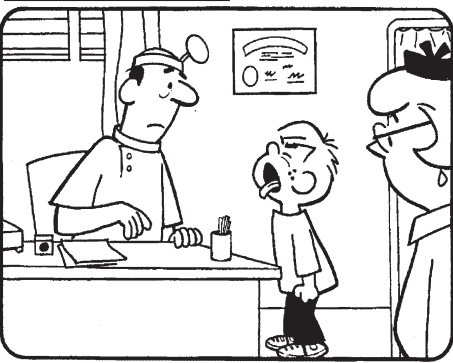
Appalachian Cattle Mountain Ski
Audit Condensation Oregon Vapor
Blaze Deer Paper Wagon
Campaign Iditarod Santa Fe

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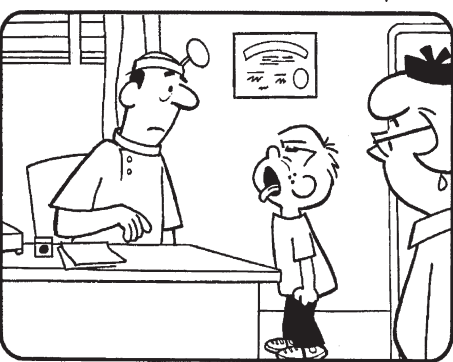


HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



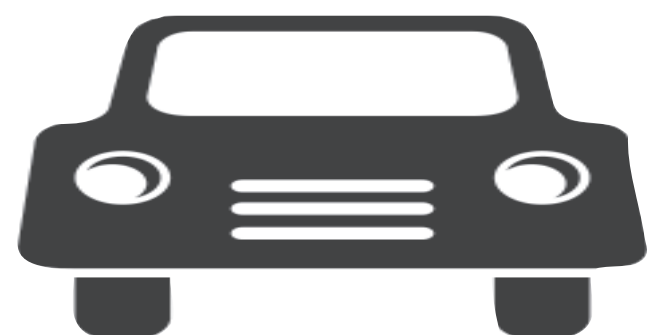
Differences: 1. Hand is missing. 2. Container is missing. 3. Diploma is different. 4. Sleeve is shorter. 5. Curtain is missing. 6. Glasses differ.

Super Crossword

TWELVE OF DIAMONDS

- ACROSS**
- 1 "— Sharkey" ('70s sitcom)
4 Winter bug
7 Corn, to Brits
12 SoCal daily paper
19 Mammal with a black mask
21 Cook's wear
22 Ant-Man's partner in a 2018 superhero film
23 Oakland baseballer's footwear?
25 Boarded, as a train
26 Langston Hughes poem
27 Stuff hitting an umbrella
28 Fa-la linkup
29 Coop female
30 Calamari prepared by a San Francisco baseballer?
34 Atlanta baseballer's collection of Kia cars?
38 Son of Isaac
39 Watch slyly
41 — Park (home of Edison)
42 Attys.' gp.
- 45 "Scorpio" co-star Delon
48 Chicago baseballer moonlighting as a journalist?
51 Detroit baseballer's Easter flowers?
54 Vaping item
55 Designer von Fürstenberg
56 Like many tiny headphones
57 Put the — (try to coerce)
59 Oomph
63 Gold lumps
65 Money owed by a Washington baseballer?
68 Tether again
69 Actor Quinn
70 OshKosh — (kids' clothing brand)
71 What a Minnesota baseballer sleeps on?
75 Enormous
78 Latin "to be"
79 Litigious sorts
80 Taunt
82 Article in Ulm
84 Pioneer Boone, briefly
- 85 Cincinnati baseballer's chewy candy?
87 Something a St. Louis baseballer confesses?
93 "Oh My My" singer Ringo
94 Ending with cash
95 Kitchen range brand
96 Warhol and Roddick
98 Pixar's lost swimmer
100 Kansas City baseballer's toast topper?
103 Pennant won by a Pittsburgh baseballer?
109 President pro —
110 Right-angled pipe joint
111 Sleek, in brief
112 1993 Nobel Morrison
113 Some wind players
116 Florida baseballer's rod-and-reel activity?
121 Web page for aficionados
122 Figure skating leaps
- 123 Sideways felt hats
125 Dog strap
126 Single bill
127 "Nuts" actor Wallach
- DOWN**
- 1 Jenny with a diet plan
2 Singer LaBelle
3 Women's golf star Lorena
4 Enemy
5 Filming locale
6 Bi- minus one
7 Member of a Kenyan tribe
8 Plant pests
9 "Fe" element
10 Saldana of "Guess Who"
11 Type widths
12 No. 2 in a statehouse
13 Burn — in one's pocket
14 Vietnamese New Year
15 — Jima
16 Search to find a criminal
17 Actress Getty
18 Subsidize
20 Exact copy
24 Grand — (wine type)
28 Riviera resort
31 Old autocrat
32 — Mae (loan offerer)
33 Charming old-fashioned
34 Sch. in Provo
35 Pilfer from
36 Smelly city air
37 Atop, in odes
40 Old IBM products
42 Noshed on
43 The top story
44 Rabbittlike rodents
46 Lands in eau
47 Actress Vardalos
48 MBA subj.
50 — colada
52 Motor
53 Some Muppet dolls
57 Just one little bite
58 — Tin Tin
59 More antsy
60 10th-century pope
61 Lack
62 Final degree
64 Sparkly rock
66 Spots on TV
67 16-oz. units
68 Numbered rd.
69 Pt. of ETA
72 Clumsy — ox
73 Skipjack, e.g.
74 Reveal everything
75 Grain in ale
76 South Korean airline
77 Confidential
81 Koch and Asner
83 Always, in odes
84 Old TV part
85 Letters after Sen. Javits' name
86 "It's either you —!"
87 Haul away
88 One-celled organisms
89 Actor Burr
90 Genetic stuff
91 Skit show since '75
92 Mount — (Charley Weaver's home)
97 Hexes
99 "King — Hill"
101 Volkswagen model
102 Somebody — problem
104 From Erin
105 Actor Ely
106 French river
107 Record of a single year
108 2003 Ben Affleck flop
111 Field of study
114 Propyl lead-in
115 Tristan's title
116 Bad, to Luc
117 Hatchet, e.g.
118 "Alice" spinoff
119 Holm of film
120 Holy Mlle.

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SPORTS

RTHS Track & Field

Rochelle teams compete in four-team meet at Sandwich

Quadrangular meet Tuesday also included Sterling and Crossroads Christian

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

SANDWICH — The Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub track and field teams competed against Sandwich, Sterling and Crossroads Christian Academy on Tuesday. The Lady Hubs finished second with 159 points and the Hubs took third with 127 points in the four-team meet.

Lady Hubs
Junior Alivia Henkel earned two individual event wins on Tuesday, claiming the 200-meter dash with a time of 27.35 seconds and the 800-meter run with a time of 2:34.13. Freshman Kyrie Cragin took home two second-place finishes in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 22.05 seconds and the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 56.22 seconds. Sophomore Arline Villanueva secured one individual event victory, taking the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:08.55. Senior Macy Ramos finished first in the high jump with a clearance of 1.46 meters. Rochelle saw two relays including the 400-meter relay team (Rylee Jackson, Carmela Bright, Alivia Henkel and Ryelee Bogle) and the 800-meter relay team (Rylee Jackson, Ryelee Bogle, Carmela Bright and Kylie Smith) win with respective times of 55.36 seconds and 1:58.67.

Rochelle's 3200-meter relay team (Ailyn Miranda, Bridgett Ramirez, Emely Hernandez and Brisa Zepeda) took second with a time of 13:35.27. Rochelle's 1600-meter relay team (Annaliese Koziol, Mary Chadwick, Rose Luxton and Ailyn Miranda) placed third with a time of 5:08.90. Junior Kylie Smith placed third in the 100-meter dash with a time of 14.28 seconds and senior Samantha Sanford placed third in the shot put with a distance of 8.83 meters. Freshman Annaliese Koziol finished fourth in the 3200-meter run with a time of 14:42.23 and sophomore Bridgett Ramirez took fifth in the 1600-meter run with a time of 7:14.54. Junior Kyra Bivins placed seventh in the discus throw with a distance of 19.41 meters.

Hubs
Junior Luis Hernandez finished first in the 3200-meter run with a time of 10:54.12 and second in the 1600-meter run with a time of 4:58.70. Sophomore Jackson Smith took second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.13 seconds and senior Ethan Bergeson earned three top-4 finishes, placing third in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 18.02, fourth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 48.87 and second in the pole vault with a clearance of 3.05 meters.



(PHOTOS BY MARCY DELILLE)

Sophomore Bridgett Ramirez (left) and freshman Parker Slattengren (right) take their turns during their respective relay races during the Rochelle Township High School track and field team's meet at Sandwich.

Sophomore Jack Tilton recorded two top-5 finishes, taking second in the high jump with a clearance of 1.77 meters and fifth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:04.36. Junior Landon Mickley placed third in the shot put with a distance of 12.29 meters and sixth

in the discus throw with a distance of 28.53 meters. Freshman Caden Goodwin finished seventh in both the 200-meter dash with a time of 26.53 seconds and the triple jump with a mark of 10.56 meters. Rochelle's 3200-meter relay team (Declan McGee,

Thomas Koziol, Chris Hickey and Elijah Mayen) won with a time of 9:40.98. Rochelle's 400-meter relay team (Jackson Smith, Irving Escalante, Reece Harris and Nathan Sergeant) took second with a time of 48.26 seconds. Rochelle finished fourth

in the 1600-meter relay (Jackson Smith, Nathan Sergeant, Chris Hickey and Irving Escalante) with a time of 3:55.45 and fifth in the 800-meter relay (Caleb Dreska, Miles Hunley, Gabriel Montes and Isaac Lopez) with a time of 1:51.52.

RTHS Football

Family Meeting Night scheduled for May 3 at RTHS

All-inclusive event designed to prepare families for upcoming 2023 season

ROCHELLE — Attention all Rochelle Football families: Mark your calendars now for the Rochelle Football Family Meeting Night on May 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the RTHS Auditorium. This meeting is for all families of Rochelle Football to deliver schedules, receive information regarding our strength and

conditioning summer hub power, meet our staff and trainer and learn about our parent group and booster club. "Our objective is to get our football families together to go through all of the details regarding our upcoming 2023 season," head coach Kyle Kissack said. "There is so much that goes into a successful sea-

son and we want to make sure all of our families are on the same page." On top of that, an in-depth look at our program philosophy and expectations, our #TeamTogether mindset and our plan to positively impact our athletes. Perhaps most importantly, an opportunity to ask questions. "With summer right

around the corner and all of the schedules families have to manage, we just wanted to get out in front and do our best to communicate clearly what we have to offer and help families in terms of creating a plan to participate," Kissack said. The Rochelle Football Family Meeting is an all-inclusive opportunity to

deliver all the information you will need for the 2023 season - you do not want to miss it. So mark your calendar today to attend our Rochelle Football Family Meeting Night on May 3 at 6:30 p.m. in the RTHS Auditorium. "The family meeting will be a valuable resource for all of our transitioning families - our incoming

freshman families - and our returning families," Kissack said. "Even for families that are just interested in Rochelle Football and would like a broad overview of what our program has to offer, I'm hopeful that we can deliver a clear message for all who are interested in learning more about our football program."

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on April 10, 2023, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Raven Trucking, 821 N. 6th Street, Rochelle, IL 61068.
Dated: April 10, 2023
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0429 (April 16, 23, 30)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on April 11, 2023, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Upscale Portables, 9880 E. Hemstock Rd., Rochelle, IL 61068.
Dated: April 11, 2023.
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0430 (April 16, 23, 30)

PUBLIC NOTICE
Public Notice is hereby given that on April 17, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Homemade Cakery 313 High Street Kings, IL 61068
Dated: April 17, 2023
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0435 (April 23, 30 and May 7, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE
The Board of Education, Eswood Community Consolidated School District 269, will accept proposals on **Monday, May 8, 2023 until 3:00 p.m. Local Time** for Roofing and Related Improvement Work at Eswood Elementary School at which time there will be a public bid opening. Proposals must be delivered to the District Office, 304 North Main Street, Lindenwood, Illinois 61049 and shall include

203 HELP WANTED

Deputy Superintendent of Facilities

Salary Range: \$50,000-54,000 DOQ

The Oregon Park District is hiring a Deputy Superintendent of Facilities to perform high-level oversight in the operation and maintenance of Nash Recreation Center.
The Deputy Superintendent of Facilities will be responsible for planning, developing, and implementing building maintenance and custodial services, identifying purchasing and contracting opportunities, and implementing long-range building maintenance plans. This position will report directly to the Superintendent of Parks & Facilities and be responsible for supervising support staff.
A successful candidate will have **experience in building maintenance best practices, budgeting, contracted services and the ability to provide leadership and guidance to employees who report directly to them.** Position will be expected to have a **strong understanding of complex and technical building systems, including HVAC, plumbing and pool operations.**

An associate degree or successful completion of a skilled trade program is preferred. A minimum of 5 years of professional experience in facilities maintenance or an equivalent combination of education and experience is also preferred.
Position must perform all job tasks within the rules and guidelines of the Oregon Park District's policies and procedures.

Employee Benefits: Medical, dental and vision coverage – Life Insurance – IMRF Pension Plan – Paid holidays, sick time, and vacation time
A full job description is available upon request.

Deadline for submission is May 15, 2023.
Resume, references and employment application can be submitted to Dan Griffin at dan@oregonpark.org.



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301 ANTIQUES

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305 GARAGE SALES

EARLVILLE TOWN-WIDE SALES, April 28 and 29 8am-3pm. Collectibles, sports items, Military, Household, Furniture and Novelty Items.(04-26-23)

ESTATE/GARAGE SALE, Friday 4/28 - Saturday 4/29, 8AM to 3PM, 7 Orchard Lane, Mt. Morris. Furniture, Tools, Antiques, Household items, Cash Only. Rain or Shine. (04-26-23)

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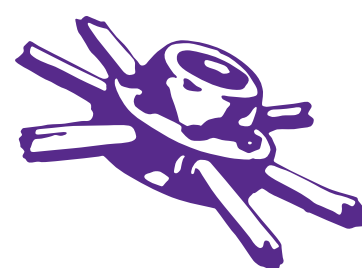
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**Christina
Jones**

*Year: Freshman
Sport: Track & Field*

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

A: Two years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Meeting new people from other teams and trying new events.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Algebra because there are a lot of topics and new things to learn.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My dad because he pushes me through all of my challenges.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a veterinarian because I love animals.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Hawaii because it's warm out there and it would be a nice place to visit.

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

A: Seeing how other people do their events and learning for myself.

**Savanna
Wilson**

*Year: Freshman
Sport: Track & Field*



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

A: I've done this since first grade, so nine years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: It's an individual sport and I determine how I do. That's why I push myself as hard as possible.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Conditioning because it keeps me in shape for my sports.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: The Rock because he never quits and he gives motivational speeches to never give up.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My mom and late grandma because they are very strong.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be an architect because you can work from home and still do everyday things.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Hawaii because it's beautiful and I've never been there.

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

A: Because all of the coaches want the athletes to succeed.

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scored after Caston Norris reached on an outfield error. The Redskins punished Rochelle for the defensive mistake, with Will Knapp slapping an RBI double in the next at-bat.