#### **RTHS holds Ag Day celebration** on Friday

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#### **Hub tennis** team earns win over DeKalb

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organizations. Page 7

**Builders** Club

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY

FRIDAY

HIGH LOW

LOW

31

TODAY

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

**Council discusses RFD staffing** Purchase of land near airport approved for future expansion

**BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE**—At its meeting Monday, the Rochelle City Council heard a presentation by City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh, Fire Chief Dave Sawlsville and Firefighter/Paramedic Tyler Carls on a proposed increase in staffing for the Rochelle Fire Department.

RFD has seen record call numbers in recent years and a shortage of paid on-call firefighters, which it uses to supplement its staffing. The department handles both fire and EMS calls. Once full-time staff is engaged with a call, RFD relies on paid on-call staff to report to the station to handle additional calls.

"I sat down with our fire personnel and really listened to what they had to say about their staffing needs," Fiegenschuh said. "It became more and more apparent to me that it certainly is an issue at the department. I wouldn't be here if there wasn't a need. We haven't increased staffing since 2006. For me, this proposal is about the safety of our fire department employees and providing a better service for our residents."

Last year, RFD responded to 3,028 calls



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows recognized April 30 to May 6 as Professional Municipal Clerks Week in the city and posed for a photo and thanked City Clerk **Rose Hueramo.** 

for service, which is just over eight calls per day, on average. It saw an average of 1.6 multiple calls per day where off-duty personnel were recalled to cover the second call. RFD saw 1,828 calls in 2018, with that number rising to 3,028 in 2022 with no staff increases over that time. Carls said the department is on pace in 2023 to set another record in call numbers.

The presentation said industry standards recommend additional staffing when the percentage of overlapping calls becomes 15-20 percent, and that RFD saw that number at 29.17 percent in 2021 and 19.65 percent in 2022.

"On a daily basis, we're seeing two requests for service at the same time," Carls said. "And we want to be able to provide a proper service to the citizens and the taxpayers of this community. And we're having difficulty doing that."

In 2021, RFD saw 210.25 calls per firefighter and in that same year, similarly-sized departments in Sycamore (88.14 calls per firefighter) and Dixon

(159.46 calls per firefighter) saw significantly lower numbers.

Carls and Sawlsville said that the city is seeing high call numbers due to factors including the COVID-19 pandemic, access to care, Rochelle's transient population, proximity to two interstates, increase in senior living facilities, and its proximity to other communities and paramedic ambulance services. Mayor John Bearrows said he would support an increase in staffing.

See CITY page 8



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Vol. 103 • No. 104

\$1.25

#### **RPD** responds to shots fired downtown **BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Police Department responded to a call of shots fired in the area of the intersection of Washington Street and 2nd Avenue on Saturday evening, RPD Interim Chief Pete Pavia said.

RPD dispatch received a call around 9:55 p.m. reporting multiple shots fired in the area and officers arrived on scene to find people running in the area, Pavia said. RPD's investigation didn't suggest that anyone was shot, and it contacted area hospitals to see if anyone had been admitted with gunshot wounds.

"Witnesses said multiple people were shooting," Pavia said. "We found bullet holes in buildings and vehicles. We called the Illinois State Police crime lab and now detectives are working the case. About 25-30 shots were fired. We have no information on a suspect at this time. The majority of people that we talked with were from out of the area, including a lot of Chicago addresses." Pavia said that investigators are unsure what started the shooting altercation and said that police "did not receive a lot of cooperation" from witnesses on the scene. He asked anyone with information related to the incident to contact RPD. The investigation is ongoing and the department is looking into footage on any cameras in the area. Officers were on scene until 6 a.m. due to waiting for the ISP crime lab and daylight. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office assisted with the response Saturday as well. "I wish we had more information," Pavia said. "As far as we know, nobody was shot. The lack of cooperation by witnesses isn't helping this case at all."





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#### **OBITUARIES**

NONE

#### **INSERTS**

FARM & FLEET

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# **Corn crib building in Steward a total loss after Sunday fire**

12 area fire departments respond to rural blaze

#### **BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

**STEWARD** — No injuries were seen, and a corn crib building is a total loss as a result of a Sunday fire in Steward, Rochelle Fire Department Firefighter/Paramedic Tyler Carls said.

RFD was dispatched at 12:32 p.m. on Sunday for a structure fire at 3023 Perry Road in Steward and heavy flames and smoke could be seen coming from the building as departments approached. The Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District departments of Steward and Flagg Center also responded initially with RFD.

"The burning building was a 35-feet wide by 50-feet deep corn crib," Carls said. "There was also an exposed building nearby to the east that was a machine shed. Steward Fire arrived first and worked to protect the



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

No injuries were seen, and a corn crib building is a total loss as a result of a Sunday fire in Steward, Rochelle Fire Department Firefighter/Paramedic Tyler Carls said.

second building. We supplied the water and went to a second alarm, which displaced our mutual aid partners from DeKalb, Lynn-Scott-Rock, Malta, Creston, Hillcrest, Paw Paw, Stillman Valley, Lee and Franklin Grove departments."

Carls said no injuries were suffered by residents or fire personnel. The fire's cause is still under investigation, but Carls said it appeared to be accidental.

The corn crib building

was a total loss, and Carls said the value of it wasn't clear. The second machine shed building sustained moderate damage from the fire but can be repaired. Fire personnel were on scene for just under three hours on Sunday.





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FDIC

# LOCAL NEWS New KEC welding facility brings opportunity for high school students from Rochelle area Instructor Nelson: 'It's like having a Cadillac to teach kids how to drive in'

**BY JEFF HELFRICH** MANAGING EDITOR

SYCAMORE—Starting next school year, Rochelle Township High School students will have the opportunity to take courses at the new Kishwaukee Education Consortium welding school facility in Sycamore.

KEC partners with Kishwaukee College to offer occupational dual-credit courses to students from five area high schools: DeKalb High School, Genoa-Kingston High School, Hiawatha High School, RTHS and Sycamore High School. The courses get students started on a career or technical pathway.

**KECWeldingInstructor** Kevin Nelson said that the new facility is a result of a partnership between a local entrepreneur, Chris Mayer, and KEC. Together, the partnership has resulted in the transformation of the oldAnaconda wire corporation complex in Sycamore into a space for the welding classes. Nelson said the transformation involved "significant investments" in upgrading and updating the building to start to create a state-of-the-art classroom and workshop.

Nelson met Mayer and toured the building two years ago.

"He said he'd done some programs like this in school



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Starting next school year, Rochelle Township High School students will have the opportunity to take courses at the new Kishwaukee Education Consortium welding school facility in Sycamore.

and he was thinking about ways to give back," Nelson said. "I didn't think he was serious, because it sounded great. I've done this for six years and every year, someone came to me and told me we were going to do something like this. And it's finally happened. This is the first time I've had a home. I've been going to everybody's high schools to teach."

Classes at the new facility began at the beginning of 2023. Rochelle students will start taking classes at the location next school year, Nelson said. The new facility includes a main welding area and a classroom and offices. There are currently 12 welding bays at the facility with plans to add four more.

Nelson said the new

facility ensures that welding classes can be offered to all KEC students year round and more space and welding bays allows for more practice time.

"That directly relates to how much practice they get and how qualified they get for a job," Nelson said. "Right now we're in the two-year process of becoming an American Welding Society testing center, which is a big deal. There aren't a lot of high school programs that do it. In the Sycamore weld shop, each booth was probably worth around \$2,000. Each booth here is around \$20,000 worth of stuff. It is just amazing. I wish I had allowed students to go past learning general welding and now they can spend time on building things such as stoves and metal art, Nelson said.

"Before we were in here, people were waiting in line and there was barely time to weld for each kid," Nelson said. "Here, they're full-on welding for an hour out of the hour and a half they're here. That's awesome. That's so much practice time. The average weld takes 20 seconds. If you have an hour, you can really get some practice in. The only way to get good at it is practice. The kids that were in the old facilities and moved over to this one love that part of it. It's opened up so many opportunities."



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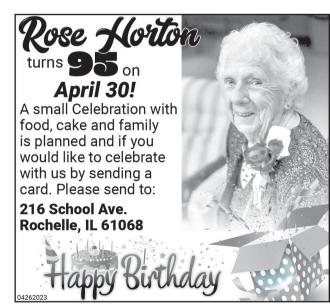


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some of this stuff when I was in school."

The upgraded technology and larger space has

See KEC page 3



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(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

KEC partners with Kishwaukee College to offer occupational dual-credit courses to students from five area high schools: DeKalb High School, Genoa-Kingston High School, Hiawatha High School, RTHS and Sycamore High School. The courses get students started on a career or technical pathway.

#### New welding school providing opportunities for students **KEC:**

#### From page 2

"There's no more waiting in line. We can build things and we've added a metal art class to the program. It's awesome."

Nelson said the new facility will not only allow students to learn different types of welding to prepare them for the workforce, but it also allows those in the program to become acquainted with tools like a plasma cutter and using shop equipment.

"From the schools' point of view, we're getting them college credits and skills they can get a job with," Nelson said. "From the teacher's point of view we're doing that, plus every day in that shop they're getting some kind of on-the-job experience. Whether it be safety, prepping machines or keeping stuff clean. It's all things that they're going to actually do on the job. Everybody gets something out of this. It's been a lot of fun. Coming here has made my job easier and more fun. It's like having a Cadillac to teach kids how to drive in. I never thought I'd have a place like this to teach at."

Nelson called the community's support for the program and new location "absolutely incredible." The class saw donations of equipment by local factories and community members and work including heating, lighting and plumbing was done pro bono by local businesses.

The KEC welding instructor wants to show students how many careers welding can be used in and how many skilled workers in the field are in demand. He believes the new facility will better prepare students for the rest of their lives.

"You can go be a Navy diver welder," Nelson said. "You can be a construction or ironworker. You can be a pipe layer. All those aspects come from what you can learn here and you don't have to go to college for it. Even if you don't think welding is the job for you, you can come here and learn these skills and it could be the job for you while you figure out what you really want to do. It's amazing how many open welding jobs are out there. We need the infrastructure to get the students interested to fill those jobs."



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## Minnesota retailer Runnings purchases **R.P. Home & Harvest locations**

MARSHALL, Minn. - Runnings, a Minnesota-based retailer, has recently reached an agreement to purchase R.P. Home & Harvest, a family-owned company with 22 locations and one distribution facility across Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, and Wisconsin. Upon completion of this acquisition, Runnings's footprint will expand to 80 locations, serving customers in 12 states from New York to Montana.

"From the customers and the communities to the employees and vendors, we truly feel this is an excellent opportunity for everyone involved," Brian Odegaard, president of Runnings, said. "These stores and communities are very similar to the markets we presently serve and, after many discussions with R.P. Home & Harvest's leadership, both companies knew this would be a great fit from a culture, values and operations standpoint."

"It's pretty amazing how quickly this all came together," Jason Plummer, president of R.P. Home & Harvest, said. "Just a couple of months ago this wasn't even on the radar but when a win-win opportunity appears, it is an exciting thing. Runnings has been doing this for over 75 years, and they are one of the top farm, home and outdoor-store companies in America.

extremely well-regarded by customers and competitors. We are both family-owned companies and that means a lot to us. This deal would not have come together if we did not have the utmost confidence that Runnings will do a phenomenal job for all stakeholders."

The transaction between Runnings and R.P. Home & Harvest is scheduled to close in June. The stores will continue operating as R.P. Home & Harvest for a limited period of time as Runnings transitions the stores to their well-known brand.

"I have personally visited many of the R.P. Home & Harvest stores, and I was thoroughly impressed, especially with some of the team members I encountered," said Odegaard. "We can't wait to add these stores and the R.P. Home & Harvest team members to our growing company."

"There is a long list of employees, vendors, and other hardworking people who brought these stores out of the ashes of a bad situation, literally going from empty stores to serving customers in a matter of weeks during a very tough economic time. I know the communities and customers appreciated this unbelievable effort, and this transaction with Runnings is only going to add the next great chapter to this story," Plummer said. "My family is active in many of these markets through other business and civic activity, and I can't wait to see Runnings take these stores to the next level."

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# Ogle County Sheriff's Department Sheriff's Deputies respond to one-vehicle accident

**OREGON**—OnApril 19 at approximately 2:57 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 88 eastbound at the 80mile marker for a registration violation. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Leslie L. Kinne, 55, of Steward, for driving unlicensed. Kinne was additionally cited for expired registration and released from the scene with an I-Bond and a future court date was given.

On April 19 at approximately 2:39 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 3,000 block of West Illinois Route 64. After investigation, deputies placed Alana Fredricks, 19, of Mt. Morris under arrest for driving while license suspended. Fredricks was additionally issued a citation for disobeying a stop sign. Fredricks was released on an I-Bond at the scene and given a future court date.

On April 21 at 9:13 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 6,000 block of North Illinois Route 2. As a result, Sue A. Buerke, 42, of Byron was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Buerke was additionally issued a citation for a tail light violation. Buerke was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On April 21 at 9:34 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Mulford Road and Bethel Road. After a brief investigation, Nikko Agrusa, 20, of Des Plaines, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Agrusa was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a return court date. Agrusa was also issued a citation for an equipment violation.

On April 21 at approximately 3:20 p.m. deputies responded to the 7,000 block of North Perryville Road for a reported welfare check. After a brief investigation, deputies placed Jonathan T. Barth, 31, of Rockford, under arrest for possession of drug paraphernalia. Barth was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 22 at approximately 2:58 p.m. deputies responded to the 100 block of South Stone Hill Road regarding a one-vehicle accident. After a brief investigation, Alfredo Garcia-Vasquez, 25, of Rochelle, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Garcia-Vasquez was also to cited for improper lane usage, failure to reduce speed and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Garcia-Vasquez was released on scene with a return court date.

On April 22 at approximately 8:48 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Avon Street near Hickory Avenue in Forreston. Upon investigation, Hunter T. Hake, 29, of Forreston was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol and endangering the life or health of a child. Hake was additionally cited for failure to signal, inoperable rear registration light and operating an

uninsured motor vehicle. Hake was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 22 at approximately 1:30 p.m. deputies responded to a one-vehicle accident in the 2,900 block of North Illinois Route 2. After an investigation it was determined that a black Toyota Highlander driven by Shawn Duguid, 61, of Polo, was traveling southbound when he was distracted by a cough causing him to exit the roadway. Duguid's vehicle rolled onto its top and struck a tree, coming to a stop. Duguid and his passenger, Cynthia Duguid, 62, of Polo, were transported to local hospitals for injuries sustained in the accident.

On April 23 at 7:25 p.m. deputies with the assistance of Rochelle Police Department conducted a traffic stop at 14th Street and Lincoln Avenue, Rochelle. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Jacob Hoskins, 29, of Rochelle, for possession of ammunition with no valid FOID card. Hoskins was transported to the Ogle County jail and held in lieu of bond. Hoskins was additionally cited for illegal window tint, defective windshield and improper container-cannabis.

On April 24 at approximately 3:35 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Stillman Road and Hales Corner Road. After the driver refused to provide his information and step out of the vehicle when instructed, he was placed under arrest for two counts of obstructing or resisting a peace officer. The driver was then identified as Nakia Floyd Jr., 26, of Stillman Valley, who deputies



learned had two active failure to appear warrants, including an FTA DeKalb County warrant for criminal sexual abuse and an FTA Rockford Police Department warrant for driving while license suspended. Floyd was additionally issued citations for operating a vehicle with suspended registration, operating an uninsured vehicle and no valid driver's license. Floyd was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On April 24 at approximately 6:12 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Route 26 and Prairie Dell Road. After investigation deputies placed Oscar Tellez, 22, of Polo under arrest for no valid driver's license. Tellez was released on an I-Bond at the scene and given a future court date.

On April 24 at approximately 9:17 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 5,000 block of North Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Juan A. Vazquez-Aguirre, 35, of Davis Junction, for no valid driver's license. Vazquez-Aguirre was taken into custody without incident and released on an individual bond with a return court date. Vazquez-Aguirre was additionally cited for operating an unin-



#### **Robert J. Murbach** Byron man sentenced to seven years after two fleeing cases

**OREGON** — Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock announced on April 20 that Robert J. Murbach, 41, of Byron, was sentenced to serve seven years in the Illinois Department of Corrections by the Honorable Judge Anthony W. Peska. In April 2022, Murbach was the driver of a motor vehicle that fled from a deputy of the Ogle County Sheriff's Office. Murbach subsequently resisted arrest causing injury to the officer. Murbach pled guilty to resisting a peace officer causing injury and was sentenced to serve six years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

In February 2023, Murbach was the driver of a motor vehicle that fled from several deputies from the Ogle County Sheriff's Office and an officer from the Byron Police Department. Law enforcement officers successfully apprehended Murbach after a vehicle pursuit and physical struggle. Murbach pled guilty to aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer and was sentenced to serve seven years in the Illinois Department of

Corrections. Murbach also pled guilty to resisting a peace officer causing injury, two counts of aggravated assault with a motor vehicle and aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol. He was sentenced to serve six years in the Illinois Department of Correction for these offenses.

Aggravated fleeing or attempting to elude a peace officer is a class three felony with a sentencing range of 2-5 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant's criminal record qualified him for extended term sentencing with a sentencing range of 2-10 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

Resisting a peace officer causing injury, aggravated assault with a motor vehicle and aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol are each class four felony offenses with a sentencing range of 1-3 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections. The defendant's criminal record qualified him for extended term sentencing with a sentencing range of 1-6 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections.

**Rochelle Police Department** 



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April 21 at 1:51 p.m. Frederick A. Reisinger, 81, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and On-call nurse available 24/7. transferred. Volunteers providing special attention and stimulation.

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On April 21 at 4 p.m. Destiny J. Isaac, 22, of Kirkland was cited for failure to yield while making a left turn. She signed a promise to comply and was given a June 2 Rochelle court date.

On April 22 at 6:18 a.m. Nathanael Molina-Crespo was arrested for aggravated battery, aggravated assault, unlawful possession of a controlled substance and unlawful possession of drug paraphernalia and transferred.

On April 22 at 8 a.m. Demazz A. Reyes, 21, of Aurora was arrested on an outstanding Aurora Police Department warrant. He paid \$275 and was released with a May 31 Aurora court date. Reyes was also arrested for no valid driver's license and cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. He

several arrests **ROCHELLE** — On was released on an I-Bond

with a June 2 Rochelle court date.

OnApril21 at 1:59 p.m. David A. Schabacker, 74, of Rochelle was cited for failure to yield. He signed a promise to comply and was given a June 2 Rochelle court date.

On April 22 at 9:53 a.m. a 16-year-old female juvenile of Rochelle was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. She signed a promise to comply and was given a June 2 Rochelle court date.

On April 22 at 9:39 p.m. a 16-year-old male juvenile of Rochelle was cited for improper lane usage. He signed a promise to comply and was given a June 2 Rochelle court date.

On April 24 at 11:17 p.m. Pauline Mireles, 37, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for failure to appear for driving under the influence and transferred.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

#### **Report policy**

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

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

# ews-Leader

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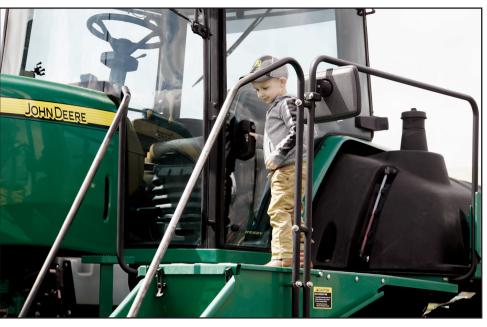
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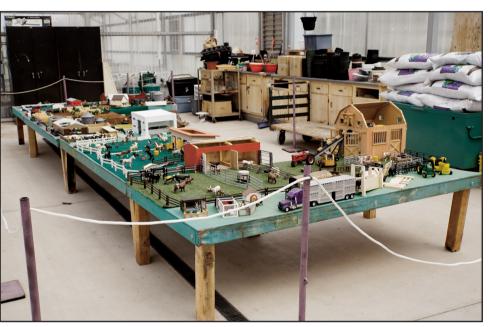
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#### **Rochelle Township High School holds annual Ag Day celebration Friday**

Ag Day was held at Rochelle Township High School on Friday. Over 600 local elementary students attended and were joined by RTHS students and members of the community. The annual event, which is put on by the RTHS FFA and ag programs, featured livestock, a petting zoo, a miniature farm, a greenhouse and tractors.



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# LOCAL VIEWS

#### Guest column

# Marital advice I've received over the years

stream of more than 30 cars and trucks roared down the dirt road, honking their horns and then stopping at our farmhouse just south of Galesburg.

Don Swedlund, the dairy farmer down the road, got out and hollered, "We're having a shivaree!"

For the uninitiated, a shivaree is a rural matrimonial custom where the newlyweds are serenaded on their wedding night. Sometimes the bride or groom is kidnapped and hazed.

In my parent's case, it was just the name neighbors chose to call a surprise anniversary party. I remember thinking that warm summer night in 1974, 20 years is an awfully long time – more than twice as long as I had been alive.

Next week, my wife, Joan, and I will have reached that milestone that my childhood neighbors believed warranted an impromptu celebration. Yes, we will hit the platinum mark, two decades.

I met Joan on a blind date in 2001. The twin towers had tumbled a couple months earlier, our mothers were battling cancer and I had pretty much altogether soured on dating. It hardly seemed an auspicious time to begin a romance, but five weeks later we were engaged to be married.

Since I was 38 and entering the world of matrimony a bit later than most, well-meaning friends felt the need to offer advice.

"When she does something that annoys you, don't hold anything back and let her know just what you are thinking," advised a twice-divorced college buddy.

On the other hand, a fellow statehouse reporter told me, "The secret to a long marriage is inertia." I remember giving him a blank look in the Senate press box and thinking, "So, your marriage has lasted because it wasn't worth the effort to get a divorce?"

He and his wife have since split.

Even the governor at the time, George Ryan, felt the need to provide some marital wisdom before we began an interview, he said, "The secret is picking the right gal."

Ryan was on to something. His wife Lura Lynn stuck with him for 55 years. Even when George was in prison, she visited him regularly and worked to see that he was released. She died of cancer the day

after their wedding anniversary. Her husband remained incarcerated but anyone who knew them will tell you they were very much in love.

And there is the rub, when you fall in love the world is all puppy dogs, jelly beans and unicorns. But marriage is a lot more than that. While most of the advice I received was unsolicited, I do remember asking a veteran wedding photographer if he had a good idea at the wedding which couples' marriages would last.

He laughed and said, "Nobody gets sprinkled with fairy dust. You never know. All that I can say

> is that it's never a good sign if the groom has been sleeping with one of the bridesmaids."

When State Sen. Denny Jacobs heard about our impending nuptials, he walked up to the press box

and said, "What do reckon marriage will be like, Scott?"

Ireplied, "Alot of fun." His response: "Marriage isn't about fun." As he said "fun," he repeatedly thrust his pelvis and gyrated his hips pantomiming a couple in

sexual congress. His act may have drawn the attention of his senatorial colleagues – including a future president of the United States. I could hear them wondering, "What on earth is Denny talking to that reporter about?"

After he finished his performance, he leaned forward and almost snarled, "Marriage is not about fun, it's about commitment."

The senator from East Moline must have known something; he and his wife, Mary Ellen, have been married 68 years. I do suspect there has been some fun there over the years – along with the commitment.

Spouses don't come with instructions and I'll admit that even after 20 years, I'm at times bewildered as to how to respond to some situations. More than a few times I've exclaimed, "Honey, I can't read your mind."

But I do know this: She is the love of my life and puts up with me despite my many shortcomings.

She completes me.

Right before we wed, one relative opined: "Marriage is something you should go into with your eyes wide open and through with them half shut."

When I ran this adage by my father, who ultimately was married to my mother for 58 years, he would just smile.

His folks were married 74 years, and my mother's parents' marriage lasted until the eve of their 50th anniversary, when a bad heart felled my grandfather.

They set good examples.

I only hope my wife, Joan, and I can provide an even better example for our three daughters.

If they ever ask the secret to a happy marriage I'll say this: love, forgive and never give up.

Happy anniversary, Dear.

Scott Reeder, a staff writer for the Illinois Times, can be reached at sreeder@illinoistimes. com.

# Looking at alcohol from the outside

A LCOHOL is a fascinating subject to a non-drinker like myself. It reaches into the lives of drinkers and abstainers alike, shaping the economy as well as popular culture. Well over half of adult Americans use it, according to Gallup polling covering the past 80 years.

Alcohol surely provides important benefits in order to survive as the oldest and most popular recreational drug. I was surprised, then, when I searched the internet and found that many articles described at length the damage it causes, but few acknowledged its usefulness. Conflicting feelings seem to surround alcohol, even among those who use it. barriers in social, professional and family situations. Matt Gonzales, at orlandorecover.com, likewise explores this idea. He describes alcohol as a "social lubricant that improves mood, reduces self-consciousness and enhances social skills." Researchers found, he says, that among participants randomly assigned to drink or not drink, "the alcohol drinkers were more engaged... in discussions. The social drinkers were also more likely to involve everyone in these conversations."

This confirms what all of us know about alcohol's role in forming bonds of trust and affection in our society. It's interesting to imagine a world in which it and all other recreational drugs became unavailable. What would happen to friendships, family relations and business interactions? What, if anything, could replace it? Alcohol also offers

something at a more individual level. Many rely on it for success in social settings and other potentially-stressful situations. And — of course — there's the effect on mood that people find so rewarding in and of itself.

Then there's the other side of the alcohol question—the damage that receives so much attention

in the literature. We can start with the physical and mental illnesses that arise from alcoholism and excessive drinking. The toll of victims is impressive: 13.9 perabuse, child neglect, fetal alcohol syndrome and financial stress. We can add to that the economic and social damages that spread out to everyone else in terms of homelessness, accidents, crime, and lost economic productivity. "The social and economic

costs of alcoholism and heavy drinking," says the Encyclopedia Britannica,

"are essentially incalculable."

What if the benefits as well as the costs of alcohol to society and to individuals were actually calculable? What if we could, in other minds when we decide whether or not to drink. This is where conflicted attitudes about alcohol often arise, as noted by Britannica: "The fact that most Americans drink...does not prevent a paradoxical existence of ambiguous attitudes about the behavior among the drinkers themselves, many of whom believe that alcohol consumption is harmful."

Those who, like me, choose not to drink, don't have the solution to the alcohol dilemma. Humans have been using recreational drugs for as long as they've existed as a species and they're not going to stop. The answer can be found instead in those societies, including Jewish, Italian and Chinese that, says Britannica, incorporate alcohol into their lives but have "a well-developed cultural consensus against drinking to drunkenness, with resulting low rates of alcohol problems."

Britannica contrasts this with British, French, (and I would add, American) societies, which have "a consensus favoring steady copious drinking, with a resulting high rate of alcoholism." An integral part of our alcohol problem is the way heavy drinking is celebrated and encouraged in the media and in our culture at large—as a rite of passage among teenagers; as way to live life fully; as a solution to emotional distress. America's conflicted values about alcohol come into focus for me when I hear adults brag about their youthful drinking exploits, while hoping that their kids don't do the same. Alcohol will continue to extract a cruel and deadly toll for as long as those attitudes survive. Lowell Harp is a retired school psychologist who served school districts in Ogle County.



Reeder

The Encyclopedia Britannica is one of the few resources that explore the purposes that alcohol serves, focusing on the way it breaks down cent of the adult population, according to verywellmind.com, "will meet the criteria for severe alcohol use disorder in their lifetimes..."

Then there are the effects, both near-term and far into the future, on families through violence, sexual and emotional

words, assign a number value to each of them? Which would be more when we summed them up, the gains or the losses?

Lowell

Harp

It's impossible, of course, to make that numerical computation, but each of us does something like it in our hearts and

#### How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

#### **KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS**

#### \* Denotes Chairman/President

 Rochelle City Council *John Bearrows Kathryn Shaw-Dickey Bil Hayes Rosaelia Arteaga Dan McDermott Tom McDermott Benjamin Valdivieso	jbearrows@rochelleil.us kshaw-dickey@rochelleil.us bhayes@rochelleil.us rarteaga@rochelleil.us dmcdermott@rochelleil.us tmcdermott@rochelleil.us	Flagg-Rochelle Par Brent Carmichael John Dobbs Dale Wells *Tim Hayden Jodie Hart Joe Lenkaitis	k Board bcarmichael@rochelleparkdistrict.org jdobbs@rochelleparkdistrict.org dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org jlenkaitis@rochelleparkdistrict.org	Hillcrest Village Board *Richard Rhoads Randy Salsbury Pam Pittman Dan Potter Tim Ball Renee Kerwin Jose Huerta	rrhoads@hillcrestil.us rsalsbury@hillcrestil.us ppittman@hillcrestil.us dpotter@hillcrestil.us tball@hillcrestil.us rkerwin@hillcrestil.us jhuerta@hillcrestil.us
 Rochelle Elementary Sc *Dave Casey Steve Builta Ashley Jackson Stephanie White Trisha Vaughn Javier Zepeda Jennifer Thompson <u>Rochelle Township Hig</u> l *Tom Huddleston Bill Ravnaas	dcillini94@gmail.com sbuilta@gmail.com ajackson@d231.rochelle.net swhite@d231.rochelle.net jrvtlv02@msn.com jzepeda@rthsd212.org <u>h School Board</u> tom.huddleston@rthsd212.org	Ogle County Board Austin Gillis Dan Miller Joseph Simms Ogle County Board Jackie Ramsey Skip Kenney David Williams <u>Creston Village Bo</u> *Tom Byro	agillis@oglecounty.org dmiller@oglecounty.org jsimms@oglecounty.org jramsey@oglecounty.org skenney@oglecounty.org dwilliams@oglecounty.org	<u>Flagg Township</u> Sue Messer Joanna Patrick Susan Rothenberger Scott Seebach <u>Board of Trustees</u> Lance Noggle Eric Gruben Susan Hager Jim Kenney	flaggtwp@rochelle.net flaggtwpclerk@rochelle.net assessor@rochelle.net scottseebach@gmail.com noggle62@gmail.com egruben@comcast.net susanhager303@comcast.net jimk@rocketsupply.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 **Chana UMC blood drive is May 10**

CHANA — The Chana United Methodist Church, located at 606 Main St. in Chana, is hosting a Community Blood Drive on Wednesday, May 10. Staff from the Rock River Valley Blood Center will draw blood between 2-6 p.m. Appointments are preferred, but walk-ins are welcomed.

If you are at least 17 years old (16 with parental consent), weigh at least 110 pounds and are in general good health, you should be eligible to donate blood. One in three people will need blood and you never know when you or someone you love might be the one.

The Rock River Valley Blood Center is the sole supplier of blood and related services to OSF Saint Anthony, Rockford Memorial, Swed-

ish American, Swedish American Medical Center and Rochelle Community Hospitals among others and services counties including Boone, McHenry, Ogle, Rock, Stephenson, Walworth and Winnebago. The Rock River Valley Blood Center needs to keep an adequate on-shelf supply, so a need for donations is always present to meet patient needs.

By hosting a blood

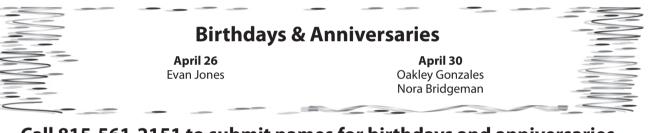
drive, Chana United Methodist Church is helping to save lives in our community. Please join us in sharing the Gift of Life. Your giving and generosity will be greatly appreciated.

For more information or to schedule an appointment contact Carole at 815-595-4559 or e-mail at suttonsinthepines@yahoo.com or visit RRVBC. org.



#### **Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K thanks Builders Club advisors**

The Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K club presented appreciation awards to all the local Builder's Club advisors recently. A Builder's Club is made up of middle school students that focus on volunteering. We'd like to thank all the advisors for teaching the middle school students involved valuable skills. We could not have these programs without them! Pictured left to right: Tina Samo from Creston Middle School, Larry Wing, Susan Hunter from Kings Elementary School, Dennis Swinton, Hugh McDermitt, Marcie Bruhn and Christine Underwood from Rochelle Middle School, and Will McLachlan.



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





Apr. 30 - Sherri Salsbury, Oregon, \$50

by Linda Thistle

2023 From The Heart Calendar elebrating 15 Years of Giving \$20

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 Apr. 24 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25 Apr. 25 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25 Apr. 26 - Comfort Inn & Suites, Rochelle, \$25 Apr. 27 - Sallie Lord, Fishers, Indiana, \$25 Apr. 28 - Deanna Hill, Rochelle, \$25 Apr. 29 - Chris Sawlsville, Rochelle, \$25

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

#### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

Challenging Moderate ♦ ♦ ♦ HOO BOY!

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## CryptoQuip

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

Clue: K equals L

PIJZMB KBSDRBL DRSD RSW PBBM WIXBERSD XZABO EZDR XBDSK DI FZJB ZD XILB WDLBMFDR:

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SAB

MA

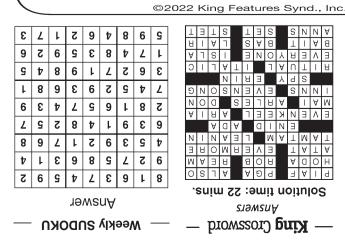
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(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh presented a Good News award to RMU employees Ryan Miller and Tod Luxton for their actions when they recently recognized, called in and put out a fire at a residence in the city. City Finance Director Chris Cardott also received Good News awards for her work on helping to increase the city's bond rating and earning interest revenue on city funds. Below, Mayor John Bearrows read a proclamation making May Motorcycle Awareness month in the city.

## **CITY:** Proclamations and Good News Awards issued Monday

#### From page 1

"If you look at what's going on today, who can tell me there's less going on today than there was 10 years ago? You can't. I see the ambulance calls every day. The only thing we have to sell as a city is service. If I call 911 and I'm having a heart attack, I want to know that that ambulance is coming. I want to know that we have guaranteed response. The growth of these departments is a sign of the times."

Rochelle Fire currently has one chief and 12 sworn full-time firefighters. Each shift sees one lieutenant and three firefighters on duty at all times. The proposal in front of the council would see RFD hire six additional firefighters in the coming years to have one lieutenant and five firefighters on duty at all times.

The additional cost of the proposed staffing expansion would be a total of \$670,000 a year to start, with the total per firefighter at \$101,000. The council will consider approval at a future meeting. Three firefighters would be hired in 2023 and three more would be hired by the end of 2026. able through a number of different savings and additional revenues.

"This is a huge priority forme," Fiegenschuh said. "I'm very supportive of this department and all of our departments. These guys need more people. And I've made it a priority to find the funding to make this thing sustainable and last long term."

#### Airport

The council unanimously approved the purchase of 13800 E. Gurler Road in Rochelle. The property is directly adjacent to the Rochelle Municipal Airport and long-term plans include it being incorporated into the airport for a future expansion.

Appraisals of the property were acquired by the city and the owner. A price of \$655,000 was tentatively agreed upon contingent on the approval of the Illinois Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics, and the city.

The federal government will pay for \$600,000 of the purchase, the state will pay \$16,667 and the city will pay \$38,334. The land is eventually planned for a ramp expansion. Since the airport does not produce about \$60,000 in revenue each year for the city, Economic Development Director Jason Anderson said.

#### Salt 251

The council unanimously approved an ordinance deleting one restaurant liquor license for the current Salt 251 owners to create a new restaurant liquor license for its future owners.

The city received a request from Shane Erdman and Jim Withers for the business at 531 S. 7th St., as they've agreed to purchase it.

The current owners of Salt 251 will surrender their liquor license effective upon sale of the business on April 30.

#### Bonds

The council unanimously approved an ordinance authorizing and providing for the issuance of not to exceed \$5.2 million in general obligation bonds to pay for costs of improving the Rochelle Municipal Utilities electric system.

The improvements include a new electrical substation on Centerpoint Drive that is estimated to cost \$22 million, work on its diesel plant expected to cost \$1.2 million and work in the area of Westview Drive expected to cost \$750,000. RMU also made a small increase in electric service charges to help pay



for improvements and its ability to keep cash on hand in case of emergencies.

The bonds will not exceed \$5.2 million, have a maximum six percent interest rate, and a term of no longer than 20 years. The city's financial advisors anticipate rates in the 3.60 percent range and the debt service term will be 15 years.

The anticipated debt service payments will be approximately \$450,000 annually.

#### **Proclamations**

Bearrows read a proclamation making May Motorcycle Awareness month in the city. He also recognized April 30 to May 6 as Professional Municipal Clerks Week in the city and posed for a photo and thanked City Clerk Rose Hueramo.

#### **Good News**

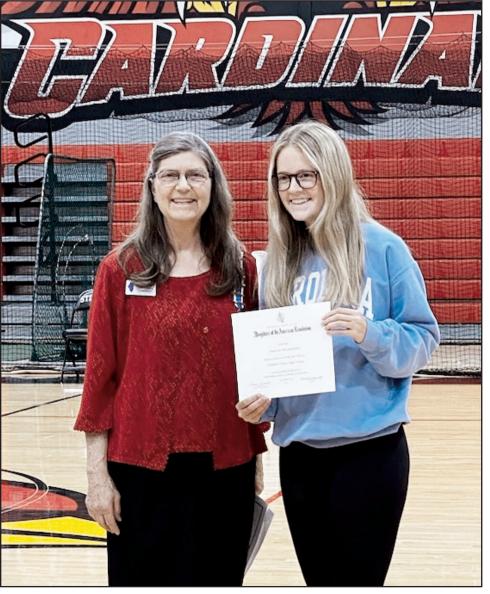
Fiegenschuh presented a Good News award to RMU employees Ryan Miller and Tod Luxton for their actions when they recently recognized, called in and put out a fire at a residence in the city.

"This is just a great example of two of our employees going above and beyond the call of duty and protecting our residents," Fiegenschuh said.

City Finance Director Chris Cardott also received Good News awards for her work on helping to increase the city's bond rating and earning interest revenue on city funds.



City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh ensured the council that the money to pay for the additional firefighters would be availhave an immediate use of the property, the current owner will lease the facility for at least the next five years. The lease will



#### SVHS's McCammond named DAR Good Citizen

The DAR Good Citizen award for Stillman Valley High School was presented to Madison McCammond (right) by Rochelle Chapter DAR Good Citizen Chairman Lydia Roberts (left). The Rochelle Chapter has been recognizing outstanding students with the DAR Good Citizen award since 1938. The student receiving the DAR Good Citizen award is chosen through a process that involves both the teachers and the members of the senior class. The student is selected because they exemplify the traits of a good citizen. These are: dependability, service,

leadership and patriotism.





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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 26, 2023

**SPORTS** 



ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

#### **RTHS DEFEATS STILLMAN**

The Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub track and field teams battled Stillman Valley.

See page 2 for more details

# **RTHS Boys Tennis** Hub netters defeat DeKalb Rochelle sweeps doubles points during 4-1 victory over Barbs on Monday

012520

**BY RUSSELL HODGES** SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Senior Nolan Fonfara's return to the varsity lineup has given the Rochelle Hub varsity tennis team a significant boost for the second half of the season. Despite missing a chunk of the early season to injury, Fonfara has folded seamlessly into the varsity lineup for the Hubs, who scored all three doubles points during Monday's match against the DeKalb Barbs.

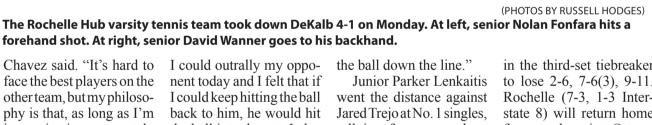
Working alongside senior John Green, who hasn't lost a doubles match all season, Fonfara helped secure the No. 2 doubles points with a clean 6-0, 6-0 sweep over Esteban Cardoso and Ricky Godinez. The victory set the tone for the Hubs, who dominated on all three doubles courts while splitting the two singles points to secure a 4-1 win over the Barbs in nonconference play.

"I was a little worried that John and I would struggle with our chemistry with us coming together so late in the season," Fonfara said. "We've played really well during our short time together and it felt good to outside of tennis and we enjoy being around each other, so the fact that we can come in here and win together is an awesome feeling. We're a good group of tall, athletic guys who want to compete and win."

Senior Paul Swartz and freshman Mark Green also emerged victorious without dropping a single game on Monday, defeating Billy Jasso and Marcos Zaylik 6-0, 6-0 at No. 3 doubles. Rochelle sealed the team victory at No. 1 doubles, where seniors David Wanner and Owen Haas had minimal trouble during their 6-3, 6-2 win over Rylan Lottes and Matthew Williams.

Already ahead 3-0 in the match, Rochelle added one more point for good measure, with junior Jimmy Chavez showcasing his skills during his 6-2, 6-4 victory over Charlie Vander Bleek at No. 2 singles. The win was a significant confidence builder for Chavez, who has faced the challenge of adjusting to varsity singles after competing at the junior varsity level for Rochelle last year.

"It's always nice to win and it means a lot to me because my teammates and



the ball down the line."

in the third-set tiebreaker Junior Parker Lenkaitis to lose 2-6, 7-6(3), 9-11. improving in every match, the ball into the net. I also rallying for a second-set for a match against Ottawa



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

come out here and have an I have been working really

easy win. We're all friends hard since the offseason,"

I'll be happy... I knew that saw some openings to hit win but falling just short on Tuesday.

## **RTHS Softball Timely hits propel Rochelle to win over Plano** Smardo strikes out 16 batters as Lady Hubs score 8-1 victory Friday evening

#### **BY RUSSELL HODGES** SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team had been threatening to break open Friday evening's Interstate 8 matchup against the Plano Reapers on a few occasions. Rochelle's persistence paid off in the bottom of the sixth inning, where the purple and white tallied six runs on three timely hits to secure an 8-1 win and snap a fivegame losing streak.

The Lady Hubs (4-9, 2-5 Interstate 8) also took advantage of three Plano errors in the six-run frame, which began with back-toback singles from senior Layla Pelan and sophomore Erin Murphy, who went 2-for-3 in the win. Junior lead-off hitter Ella Alfano then smacked an RBI single up the middle, making the score 3-1 before junior Macy Belmonte followed with a two-run single on a hard ground ball that deflected off the leg of Reaper pitcher Alyssa Dubinski.

"There were a lot of highlights tonight and it was nice to see our girls have success after making the right plays," head coach Deanna Jacobs said. "We backed up well on defense and we were hitting the ball, which has been a struggle for us all season... They've seen what it takes to get our offense going and our hope is that we can start seeing that sooner moving forward."

Sophomore Lauren Dyer doubled and reached third on an error in the following at-bat, bringing Belmonte home to give the Lady Hubs a 6-1 lead. Another Plano mistake allowed senior Morgan Smardo to reach base and Dyer to score, setting up an RBI groundout from senior Adamaris Betancourt two batters later that gave Rochelle its largest lead of the game.

Much of the game was tightly contested, however, with the Lady Hubs holding a 2-1 lead from the bottom of the first inning all the way through the top of the sixth inning. Smardo overpowered the Plano offense from the pitcher's circle, however, sending over a dozen Reaper batters back to the dugout with a heavy dose of accurate fastballs. Smardo finished with 16 strikeouts and conceded only one hit for the Lady Hubs, who also made just one defensive error in the victory.

"I knew that if I threw strikes, then they wouldn't be able to hit me," Smardo said. "It's a confidence booster for me and I know





(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

#### The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team defeated Plano 8-1 at home on Friday evening. At left, sophomore Erin Murphy stands in the batter's box. At right, sophomore Lauren Dyer prepares for a play at first base.

I can do what I do really well... It was a bit scary knowing the score was 2-1, but we just need to hit the ball earlier in the game and

we'll get through it."

Planohelda 1-0leadafter Maddy Leftridge walked and scored on a passed ball in the top of the first inning.

Rochelle jumped ahead in the bottom of the first inning, where Belmonte drew a hit-by-pitch and scored on a passed ball before an RBI

groundout from Betancourt put the Lady Hubs ahead 2-1.

See SOFTBALL pg 8



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# **HUB SPOTLIGHT**





(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Chris Hickey (left) and senior Miranda Dubek (right) race to the finish line during their respective relays on Monday, when the Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub track and field teams went head-to-head against Stillman Valley in nonconference action.

## **Rochelle athletes square** off against Stillman Valley

**BY RUSSELL HODGES** SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Hub and Lady Hub track and field teams showed dominance on Monday, with both teams defeating Stillman Valley in a head-to-head nonconference matchup. The Hubs took down the Cardinals 112-34 and the Lady Hubs scored a 106-27 victory.

#### Hubs

Rochelle athletes won all six field events during Monday's meet against the Cardinals. Junior Landon Mickley claimed both the shot put and the discus with respective distances of 12.86 and 38.74 meters, while junior Nathan Sergeant took both the long jump and the triple jump with leaps of 5.43 and 11.49 meters. Senior Ethan Bergeson won the pole vault with a clearance of 3.35 meters and sophomore Jack Tilton won the high jump with a clearance of 1.73 meters. Rochelle also won all four relay events on Monday. The 400-meter relay team (Jackson Smith, Nathan Sergeant, Irving Escalante and Virgil O'Dell) clocked in at 47.73 seconds and the 800-meter relay team (Jackson Smith, Irving Escalante, Nathan Sergeant and Reece Harris) finished with a time of 1:41.10. The 1600-meter relay team (Irving Escalante, Jackson Smith, Nathan Sergeant and Chris Hickey) won with a time of 4:07.42 and the 3200-meter relay team (Declan McGee, Abel Huerta, Chris Hickey and Elijah Mayen) won with a time of 10:07.86.

Bergeson took the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 18.16 seconds and freshman Wyatt Worthington claimed the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 47.26 seconds. Mayen brought home the 400-meter dash with a time of 58.80 seconds.

#### Lady Hubs

Rochelle secured five field event victories on Monday, with senior Samantha Sanford claiming both the shot put and the discus with respective distances of 8.62 and 22.79 meters. Junior Kennedy Adamski won both the high jump and the triple jump with marks of 1.43 and 8.85 meters. Freshman Samantha Overton took the pole vault with a clearance



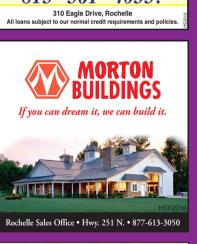








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Rochelle claimed six of the eight individual running events. Junior Luis Hernandez won three events including the 800-meter run (2:15.05), the 1600-meter run (5:00.02) and the 3200-meter run (11:39.32).

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of 1.52 meters.

Rochelle won all four relay races against the Cardinals. The 800-meter relay team (Alex Neece, Miranda Dubek, Ryelee Bogle and Rylee Jackson) clocked in with a time of 1:59.57 and the 1600-meter relay team (Emely Hernandez, Brisa Zepeda, Anna Toczylowski and Annaliese Koziol) finished with a time of 5:21.32. The 3200-meter relay team (Rose Luxton, Bridgett Ramirez, Brisa Zepeda and Emely Hernandez) clocked in with a winning time of 12:46.18 and the 400-meter relay team (Alivia Henkel, Ryelee Bogle, Kylie Smith and Miranda Dubek) won in 55.24 seconds.

Rochelle brought home six of the eight running events. Freshman Annaliese Koziol won the 3200-meter run with a time of 14:28.60 and freshman Rose Luxton won the 1600-meter run with a time of 6:46.65. Junior Alivia Henkel took both the 200-meter dash and the 800-meter run with respective times of 28.44 and 2:35.81. Sophomore Arline Villanueva claimed the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:08.83 and freshman Kyrie Cragin won the 300-meter hurdles in 53.94.





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# SPORTS

## **RTHS Baseball** Hubs drop doubleheader against Sycamore Rochelle concedes Interstate 8 Conference loss to Kaneland on Monday night

#### **BY RUSSELL HODGES** SPORTS EDITOR

SYCAMORE — The Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team faced Sycamore in an Interstate 8 Conference doubleheader on Friday. The Spartans claimed both games, with the purple and white losing 15-0 in the opener before falling 15-5 in the nightcap.

Rochelle (6-10, 3-5 Interstate 8) will begin a home-and-home series

against Kaneland on the road Monday at 4:30 p.m.

#### Game 1

Collin Severson's solo home run and Kyle Hartmann's RBI double gave Sycamore a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning. The Spartans added four runs in the top of the second inning, where Tommy Townsend's RBI single and Jimmy Amptmann's two-run single helped put Sycamore ahead 6-0. The Rochelle offense was unable to solve Sycamore starter Matthew Rosado, who fired four scoreless innings with no hits or walks allowed to keep the Hubs off the scoreboard.

Amptmann's sacrifice fly sparked a nine-run outburst by the Spartans during the top of the fourth inning. Lucas Winburn followed with a two-run double two batters later, while Owen Piazza added an RBI single and Kiefer Tarnoki drew a bases-loaded walk. Severson and Townsend

iced the Sycamore victory with consecutive two-run hits including a single and a triple.

#### Game 2

Back-to-back RBI singles from seniors Alex Burnette and Garrett Gensler allowed the Hubs to take a 2-0 lead over Sycamore in the top of the first inning. The Spartans fired right back with five runs in the bottom of the first inning, where Jimmy Amptmann belted a bases-clearing grand slam to center field and Hunter Britz slapped a two-out RBI single from the No. 9 hole.

Senior Noah Lara sent an RBI single into center field in the top of the second inning to make the score 5-3 in favor of the Spartans, who tacked on six more runs in the bottom of the second inning. Tommy Townsend's tworun homer to left-center gave Sycamore a 7-3 advantage before Lucas Winburn bashed an RBI



single up the middle three batters later. Joey Puleo and Kiefer Tarnoki drove in three more runs, with Tarnoki notching a two-run double to right-center field.

See BASEBALL pg 8

#### **RTHS Girls Track** Lady Hubs finish sixth at Landers-Loomis Invitational Freshman Koziol wins 3200-meter run during 11-team meet Friday evening

#### **BY RUSSELL HODGES** SPORTS EDITOR

**OREGON** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity track and field team scored 51 points to finish sixth out of 11 schools in the Landers-Loomis Invitational at Oregon High School on Friday evening. Freshman distance runner

Annaliese Koziol brought home Rochelle's lone event victory during the competition, taking first place in the 3200-meter run with a winning time of 14:35.82.

Juniors Alivia Henkel and Kylie Smith finished second and fourth in the 400-meter dash with respective times of

1:01.13 and 1:05.94. Junior Kennedy Adamski placed third in the high jump with a clearance of 1.42 meters and senior Miranda Dubek placed third in the 100-meter dash with a time of 14.33 seconds. Freshman Rose Luxton finished fifth in the 1600-meter run with a time of 6:49.02 and

Henkel took sixth in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 18.41 seconds.

Senior Samantha Sanford placed sixth in the discus throw with a mark of 24.44 meters and seventh in the shot put with a heave of 8.45 meters. Adamski finished eighth in the triple jump with a distance of 9.09 meters

and Luxton took seventh in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:54.78. Freshman Kvrie Cragin placed 10th in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 59.50.

Rochelle's 1600-meter relay team (Kylie Smith, Zoe White, Mary Chadwick and Arline Villanueva) took second with a time of 4:28.35.

Rochelle's 3200-meter relay team (Brisa Zepeda, Bridgett Ramirez, Emely Hernandez and Ailyn Miranda) placed third with a time of 12:58.92 and Rochelle's 400-meter relay team (Ryelee Bogle, Carmela Bright, Rylee Jackson and Miranda Dubek) finished fourth with a time of 55.78 seconds.

## **RTHS Boys Track** Hubs place 13th at Rock Island ABC Invitational Several athletes earn top placements across three levels of competition Friday

#### **BY RUSSELL HODGES** SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCK ISLAND** — The Rochelle Hub track and field team competed in the 38th Annual Rock Island ABC Invitational on Friday evening. The "A" team finished 14th out of 14 schools with 14 points. while the "B" team took 13th with 11 points and the "C" team placed 11th with 20 points.

#### Α

Junior Luis Hernandez finished third in the 3200-meter run with a time of 10:26.22 and 11th in the 1600-meter run with a time of 5:01.40. Junior Landon

Mickley took seventh in the shot put with a distance of 12.98 meters and 10th in the discus with a distance of 29.65 meters. Senior Ethan Bergeson placed seventh in the pole vault with a clearance of 2.90 meters.

Sophomore Jack Tilton finished eighth in the high jump with a clearance of 1.68 meters and junior Nathan Sergeant placed ninth in the triple jump with a distance of 11.74 meters. Freshman Wyatt Worthington took 10th in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 47.25 seconds and sophomore Virgil O'Dell finished 12th in the long jump with a distance of

#### 5.21 meters.

Rochelle's 800-meter relay team (Jack Tilton, Virgil O'Dell, Nathan Sergeant and Irving Escalante) and 3200-meter relay team (Chris Hickey, Abel Huerta, Johnny Morales and Parker Slattengren) finished 10th with respective times of 1:41.21 and 10:32.19. Rochelle's 400-meter relay team (Jackson Smith, Irving Escalante, Reece Harris and Virgil O'Dell) took 11th with a time of 47.69 seconds and Rochelle's 1600-meter relay team (Jackson Smith, Nathan

#### of 3:56.97.

Freshman Reece Harris took 11th in the 200-meter dash with a time of 24.94 seconds and sophomore Chris Hickey placed 11th in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:01.94. Freshman Elijah Mayen finished 11th in the 800-meter run with a time of 2:25.89 and junior Irving Escalante took 13th in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.42 seconds. Bergeson placed 12th in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 18.40 seconds.

#### R

and 11th in the 1600-meter run (5:17.04). Sophomore Kenny Overton took sixth in the pole vault with a height of 2.90 meters and senior Landon DeLille placed seventh in the shot put with a heave of 11.38 meters. Freshman Wyatt Worthington finished seventh in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 19.33 seconds and junior Nathan Sergeant took 10th in the long jump with a mark of 5.46 meters.

#### С

Senior Thomas Koziol finished second in the

time of 5:25.64. Sophomore Colton Czekala took fifth in the shot put with a heave of 11.81 meters and freshman Wyatt Worthington placed fourth in the pole vault with a clearance of 2.60 meters.

Sophomore Jack Tilton finished seventh in the triple jump with a mark of 10.89 meters and sophomore Kenny Overton took eighth in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 20.34 seconds. Freshman Andrew Nuyen finished ninth in the 300-meter hurdles with a time of 49.01 seconds and freshman Caden Goodwin placed 10th in the long jump with a distance of 4.97 meters.

Sergeant, Elijah Mayen and Irving Escalante) placed 13th with a time

Freshman Declan Mc-3200-meter run (11:28.20)

3200-meter run with a time Gee finished fifth in the of 11:43.28 and seventh in the 1600-meter run with a



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# **ASHTON NEWS**



#### AFC High School names 2023 Prom Court

Ahead of its Prom on April 22, Ashton-Franklin Center High School named and congratulated its 2023 Prom court. Back row: Auden Polk, Sean Lauer, Carson Rueff, Griffin Bushman and Kaleb Goldman. Front row: Cailin Bogle, Andrea Buhrow, Rhylee McCaslin, Dezi Cater, Jillian McLaughlin.

# Tri County Gun Club open house is May 6-7

Gun Club of Polo will be having an open house May 6 and May 7 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day. This event is open to the public at no charge. All ranges will be open with a range officer or instructor in charge. You will be able to try 10 different shooting sports.

POLO — Tri County An NRA Women On Target p.m. each day. More infor-Class is offered by Tri-County Woman of Caliber, 20 seats available each day. There will be raffles and door prizes.

> Have you ever wanted to experience shooting a full-auto rifle, come give it a try. There will be two food vendors from 11 a.m. to 2

mation and Raffle tickets are available online at, www. tegc.net. Tri County Gun Club is located between Polo and Milledgeville on South Brookville Road, just north of Hazelhurst. Watch for the gun club's sign. GPS coordinates N 41 58.043°-W 089 40.966\*

## **AFC Raider baseball team** falls against Oregon

ASHTON — The Ashton-Franklin Center varsity baseball team played a close game against Oregon on Saturday. April 22, falling 5-4 after the Hawks scored two runs

inning.

Griffin Bushman went 1-for-3 with one RBI, while Austin June walked and added one RBI in the game. Carson Rueff took

in the bottom of the fifth the mound for the Raiders, throwing three and one-third innings with five strikeouts. Caleb Thomas tossed the final two and two-thirds innings in relief and added two strikeouts.



#### Warrenfeltz named Raider of the Week for FFA

The Ashton-Franklin Center School District recently congratulated Jacob Warrenfeltz for being named Raider of the Week for FFA for the week of April 19. Warrenfeltz recieved second place in the Section Greenhand Quiz Bowl. Jacob is the son of Jennifer and Joe Warrenfeltz. The district thanked our sponsors, AFC Athletic Boosters, Huddle Cafe & Mimini's Grocery Store, Ralphie & Lu Lu's, Rev on 38, Rooney's, and tmg designs for helping the Raider of the Week to continue.



Castro graduates from **SVCC Police** Academy The Lee County Sheriff's Office recently congratulated Deputy Alejandro **Castro on his graduation** from the Sauk Valley **Community College Police Academy. Castro** previously worked in the Lee County Sheriff's **Office correctional** division before transferring to the patrol division, and he completed the 14-week basic law enforcement class. He will now start his field training to complete his training.





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## **PRIME TIME** Several engaging hobbies for seniors HE value of that there's more time

hobbies is undeniable. A 2014 study published in the Journal of Occupational and Organizational Psychology found that employees who engaged in creative hobbies outside of work were more creative on work projects and had a better attitude on the job, while a separate study published in Psychosomatic Medicine in 2009 reported that individuals who engaged in enjoyable leisure activities had lower blood pressure and a smaller waist.

The myriad benefits of hobbies is good news for seniors, many of whom have ample time for leisure activities. Whether seniors are retired or still working but free from the responsibilities of parenting, the following are some fun and engaging hobbies to fill that free time.

• Cooking: Years spent hustling and bustling through the daily grind of personal and professional obligations might have forced individuals to embrace cooking that emphasized convenience over culinary skill. Now to embrace one's inner Emeril, seniors can look to cooking classes or take the self-taught route and purchase a new cookbook filled with delicious recipes. A well-cooked homemade meal can provide a sense of accomplishment and affords seniors an opportunity to control the ingredients in the foods they eat, which can be important for individuals with health-related dietary restrictions.

• Writing: Many successful individuals have penned their memoirs after long, notable careers and lives. While individuals needn't follow suit with the goal of making their memoirs public, writing can be a great way for seniors to document their own lives and the lives of their families. Interest in genealogy has risen considerably in recent years, as easily accessible websites like Ancestry.com and 23andMe.com have made it easier than ever for individuals to learn where they came from. Seniors can contextualize the information provided by genealogy websites by writing about their



personal experiences and sharing what they know about the lives of their parents, siblings, grandparents, and other family members.

• Gardening: Seniors looking for hobbies that get them out in the great outdoors need look no further than their own backyards. Gardening can benefit the body in myriad ways. According to the Mayo Clinic Health System, gardening can burn as many calories as working out in the gym. In addition, the MCHS notes that individuals who grow their own fruits and vegetables are more likely to include those foods in their own diets, thus saving them money at the grocery store and also increasing their intake of nutrientrich foods.

• Swimming: Swimming is an ideal exercise for seniors, as it's lowimpact but still a great way to utilize the entire body. A 2007 study published in the journal Quality of Life Research found that waterbased exercise improves older adults' quality of life and decreases disability. A separate study published in 2008 in The Journal of Sports Medicine and Physical Fitness found that water-based exercise can improve or help to maintain bone health in post-menopausal women.

These are just a few of the many hobbies seniors can pursue as they look for positive and fun ways to spend their free time.

# Interesting facts about Alzheimer's disease

F the roughly 55 million people around the world living with dementia, 60 to 70 percent are estimated to have Alzheimer's disease, reports the Mayo Clinic.

Alzheimer's disease is a progressive brain disorder marked first by mild memory loss that can worsen and lead to problems with communication and an inability to perform the activities of daily life. The condition is named for Dr. Alois Alzheimer. In 1906, Alzheimer noticed changes in the postmortem brain tissue of a woman who had died of unusual mental illness, which included symptoms of language problems, memory loss and unpredictable behavior. Her brain showed many abnormal clumps and tangled bundles of fibers. According to the National Institute on Aging, doctors now know those clumps are amyloid plaques and the tangles are hallmarks of the disease. The National Institutes of Health says Alzheimer's disease is the seventh leading cause of death in the United States and is the most common dementia among older adults. While most people are familiar with Alzheimer's, there is much more anyone can learn. The following are some interesting facts about Alzheimer's. • The most common symptoms of Alzheimer's involve a gradual decline in memory, reasoning, language, coordination, mood, and behavior. • The Cleveland Clinic says the buildup of plaques and tangles from an overabundance of amyloid and tau protein production block the communication between nerve cells and cause brain cells to die, thus contributing to Alzheimer's. Nerve cell death starts in the hippocampus, the area of the brain that controls memory. Doctors are not entirely sure what causes this protein build-up. • Many times family members are the first to recognize a friend or loved one forgetting newly learned information, especially recent



events, places and names.

• Issues with thinking and reasoning may include not wearing the right clothes for the weather or not knowing to use oven mitts when taking hot items out of the oven.

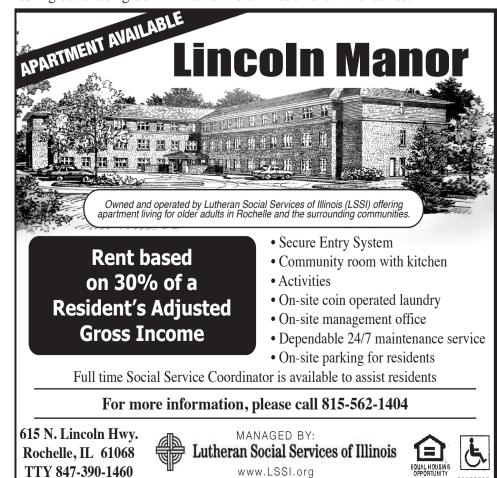
• Changes in the brain can begin years before initial symptoms appear, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Age is the biggest risk factor for Alzheimer's.

Researchers believe that genetics may play a role, but a genetic predisposition to Alzheimer's does not make it an inevitability.

• A healthy lifestyle, which includes adequate physical activity, a nutritious diet, limited alcohol consumption, and not smoking, may help people avoid Alzheimer's.

 Alzheimer's can rob a person of his or her personality. As the disease becomes more severe, mood swings, anger, depression, and anxiety may occur. This is combined with the patient forgetting who family members are and potentially lashing out or being disinterested in visitors.

• There is no cure for Alzheimer's, but doctors use medical management to improve quality of life for patients and their caregivers. Treatments may help maintain brain health and manage behavioral symptoms. Alzheimer's disease was first diagnosed at the start of the 20th century. Now, 117 years later, it remains a major health issue affecting millions of people worldwide.





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## **CITY OF ROCHELLE**



## Rochelle Municipal Utilities <u>ANNUAL WATER</u> <u>QUALITY REPORT</u>

#### ROCHELLE IL1410500

Annual Water Quality Report for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2022.

This report is intended to provide you with important information about your drinking water and the efforts made by the water system to provide safe drinking water.

The source of drinking water used by ROCHELLE is Ground Water. For more information regarding this report contact: Adam Lanning, 815-561-2065.

Este informe contiene información muy importante sobre el agua potable. Si necesita una copia del reporte en español comuníquese con el departamento de servicio al cliente al número 815-562-4155.

#### Water Quality

RMU has developed a contingency plan to ensure that, through emergency preparedness, any risks to the water supply will be minimized.

#### Water Resources

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it can dissolve naturally occurring minerals and radioactive materials, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

#### Possible Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

**Microbial contaminants**, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban storm water runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and herbicides,** which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban storm water runoff and residential uses.

**Organic chemical contaminants,** including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and may also come from gas stations, urban storm water runoff, and septic systems; and

Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, USEPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022



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organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. USEPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by Cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

#### **Our Water Supply**

We want our valued customers to be informed about their water quality. If you would like to learn more, please feel welcome to attend any of the City Council meetings held at 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Monday each month at City Hall, 420 N 6th St, Rochelle, IL 61068. More information on City Council meetings can be found at <u>https://rochelle-il.municodemeetings.com/</u> The source water assessment for our supply has been completed by the Illinois EPA. If you would like a copy of this information, please stop by RMU or call Customer Service at 815-562-4155. To view a summary version of the completed Source Water assessments, including: Importance of Source Water; Susceptibility to Contamination Determination; and documentation/recommendation of Source Water Protection Efforts. You may access the Illinois EPA at https://www.epa.gov/report-environment/epas-report-environment-fact-sheet.

To determine Rochelle's susceptibility to groundwater contamination, information obtained during a Well Site Survey, which was performed by the Illinois Rural Water Association on July 15, 1999, was reviewed. Based on this information, several potential sources of contamination were identified within proximity of this water supply's wells. The Illinois EPA does not consider the City's source water susceptible to contamination. This determination is based on several criteria including monitoring conducted at the wells; monitoring conducted at the entry point to the distribution system; and the available hydrogeologic data on the wells. In anticipation of the U.S. EPA's proposed Ground Water Rule, the Illinois EPA has determined that the water supply is not vulnerable to viral contamination. This determination is based upon the completed evaluation of the following criteria during the Vulnerability Waiver Process: the community's wells are properly constructed with sound integrity and proper site conditions; a hydrogeologic barrier exists that should prevent pathogen movement; all potential routes and sanitary defects have been mitigated such that the source water is adequately protected; monitoring data did not indicate a history of disease outbreak; and a sanitary survey of the water supply did not indicate a viral contamination threat. Because the community's wells are constructed in a confined aquifer, which should minimize the movement of pathogens into the wells, well hydraulics were not considered to be a significant factor in the vulnerability determination. Hence, well hydraulics was not evaluated for this groundwater supply.

#### Source Water Information

Source Water Name	Location	<b>Type of Water</b>
Well 10 (11944)	Southview Drive	GW
Well 11 (01537)	Flagg Road	GW
Well 12 (02022)	3188 Hayes Road	GW
Well 8 (11814)	NEXT to TOWER Caron Road	l GW

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Rochelle is responsible for providing high quality drinking water but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <a href="http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead">http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead</a>

In 2021, our PWS was sampled as part of the State of Illinois PFAS Statewide Investigation. Eighteen PFAS compounds were sampled, and none were detected in our finished drinking water. For more information about PFAS health advisories <u>https://www.epa.gov/pfas</u>

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the USEPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (1-800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immunocompromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone

Water Quality Test Results Definitions continued Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water. pcI/L: picocuries per liter (a measurement of radioactivity) ppm: Milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water

#### Lead & Copper Definitions:

Action Level (AL): The concentration of a contaminant, which if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Action Level Goal (ALG). The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. ALG's allow for a margin of safety

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#### Water Quality Test Results

**Definitions:** The following tables contain scientific terms and measures, some of which may require explanation. **Avg:** Regulatory compliance with some MCLs is based on running annual average of monthly samples.

Level 1 Assessment: A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (If possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment: A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E.Coli* MCL violation occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found In our water system on multiple occasions.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG**: The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Contaminant Level or MCL**: The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum residual disinfectant level goal or MRDLG: The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Maximum residual disinfectant level or MRDL: The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants. **mrem:** Millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

**ppb:** Micrograms per liter or parts per billion – or one ounce in 7,350,000 gallons of water

N/A: Not applicable

Lead and Copper	Collection Date	MCLG	Action Level (AL)	90th Percentile	# Sites Over AL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper	2022	1.3	1.3	0.75	0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Leaching from wood preservatives; corrosion of household plumbing systems.
Lead	2022	0	15	1.3	0	ppb	N	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; Erosion of natural deposits.
Regulated Contaminants Disinfectants and Disinfection By-Products	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine	12/31/2022	1.2	0.7 - 1.4	MRDLG = 4	MRDL = 4	ppm	N	Water additive used to control microbes.
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	2022	3	2.51-2.51	No goal for the total	60	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM)	2022	8	7.94-7.94	No goal for the total	80	ppb	N	By-product of drinking water disinfection

Inorganic Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Arsenic	11/03/2021	2.4	1.9 - 2.4	0	10	ppb	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Runoff from orchards; Runoff from Glass and Electronics production wastes
Barium	11/03/2021	0.18	0.14 - 0.18	2	2	ppm	N	Discharge of drilling wastes; Discharge from metal refineries; Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride	11/03/2021	0.712	0.668 - 0.712	4	4.0	ppm	N	Erosion of natural deposits; Water additive which promotes strong teeth; Discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Iron	11/03/2021	2.2	0.46 - 2.2		1.0	ppm	N	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Erosion of natural deposits.
Nitrate (Measured as Nitrogen)	2022	0.41	0-0.41	10	10	ppm	N	Runoff from fertilizer use; Leaching from septic tanks, sewage; Erosion of natural deposits.
Sodium	11/03/2021	19	9.9 – 19			ppm	N	Erosion from naturally occurring deposits. Used in water softener regeneration.
Zinc	11/03/2021	0.017	0 – 0.017	5	5	ppm	N	This contaminant is not currently regulated by the USEPA. However, the state regulates. Naturally occurring; discharge from metal
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Radioactive Contaminants	Collection Date	Highest Level Detected	Range of Levels Detected	MCLG	MCL	Units	Violation	Likely Source of Contamination
Combined Radium 226/228	2022	3	0.695-3.69	0	5	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Gross Alpha excluding radon and uranium	2022	5	0 - 4.98	0	15	pCi/L	N	Erosion of natural deposits

#### Water Quality Test Results Definitions continued

Treatment Technique or TT: A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

pCi/L: picocuries per liter (a measurement of radioactivity) ppm: Milligrams per liter or parts per million – or one ounce in 7,350 gallons of water



#### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS will be received by the City of Rochelle, Illinois until 2:00 p.m., May 18, 2023, for the Rochelle Fire Department Remodeling, which will consist of selective demolition of existing structure and finishes, new toilet rooms and sleeping rooms, including modifications to existing mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems, and limited new fire protection work. Bid shall be a Single Lump Sum Bid.

THE CITY OF RO-PREFERS CHELLE THE SEALED BID BE HAND DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, CITY HALL, 420 NORTH SIXTH STREET, RO-ILLINOIS CHELLE. BEFORE 2:00 P.M. ON THURSDAY, MAY 18, 2023; HOWEVER, BIDS MAY ALSO BE MAILED. ANY BID RECEIVED AFTER 2:00 P.M., MAY 18, 2023, WILL BE RE-TURNED, UNOPENED. ALL completed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a bid opening at 2:00 p.m., May 18, 2023, in the council chambers at City Hall in Rochelle, Illinois. A PRE-BID MEETING will be held Friday, April 28, 2023, at 10:00 a.m., at the Rochelle Fire Department, 401 Fifth Avenue, Rochelle, Illinois,

61068. OBJECTIONS, ANY QUESTIONS ORCOM-MENTS on the Bid Documents shall be submitted via email to the Architect, on or before, 12:00 p.m. on Monday, May 15, 2023. If deemed necessary, an addendum will be distributed to all prospective bidders at least two (2) business days prior to the bid opening date. The decisions of the

City shall be final. THE CITY OF RO-CHFI F is an equal opportunity employer. All contracts for construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1-12). A CONTRACT may be

ARCHITECT IS: HAG-NEY ARCHITECS, LLC, 4615 East State Street. Suite 206, Rockford, Illinois 61108.

Specifications and Plans may be obtained after 4:00 pm, Tuesday, April 25, 2023, by Contacting DG Printing of Rockford, 815-961-0000. No. 0439 (April 26, 2023)

#### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

#### 105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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#### 113 FINANCIAL

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

Commission. 119 **ANNOUNCEMENTS** 

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

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ANTIQUES WANTED:

#### 305 GARAGE SALES

EARLVILLE TOWN-WIDE SALES, April 28 and 29 8am-Collectibles, 3pm. 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)

#### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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

100 +ROMANCE Novels. \$20 for all. Call Joyce 815-456-2839. (04-26-23)

#### 405 HOUSES FOR SALE

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awarded to the lowest responsible bidder whose bid is found to be in the interest of the City of Rochelle. The City of Rochelle reserves the right to accept or reject any and all proposals and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding. The City further reserves the right to review and study any proposal and to make contract award within forty-five (45) days after the bids have been opened.

A Hold Harmless Agreement and a Non-Collusion Affidavit of Compliance must be submitted with the bid. The City of Rochelle does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities.

Each BID must be accompanied by a BID BOND payable to the CITY OF ROCHELLE. The City of Rochelle will decide within 45 days if it intends to proceed with the project and award the contract. Written Notice of Award and instructions for the execution of the Agreement will be issued to the Selected Bidder. The BID BOND of all BIDDERS will be retained until the agreement has been executed and approved, after which all BID BONDS will be returned. A certified cashier's check may be used in lieu of a BID BOND.

A Performance Bond and Labor and Material Payment Bond is required in the amount of 100% of the contract.

all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

#### 127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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301 ANTIQUES

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# SPORTS

## RTHS Girls Soccer Lady Hubs handed two straight shutout losses

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

MAPLE PARK — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team suffered its second straight shutout loss on Monday, falling 10-0 against Kaneland in Interstate 8 Conference play. Rochelle (4-7, 2-2 Interstate 8) will host Morris and LaSalle-Peru on Thursday and Friday at 4:30 p.m.

The Knight defense held Rochelle to only one shot on goal in Monday's match. Kaneland, meanwhile, compiled 30 shots and 25 shots on goal. Freshman Deissy Torres recorded 14 saves for the Lady Hubs, who trailed 3-0 after Kaneland scored goals in the fifth, sixth and eighth minutes. The Knights surged ahead 7-0 with goals in the 12th, 14th, 15th and 17th minutes. Kaneland iced its win with goals during the 25th, 26th and 39th minutes of play.

#### UTHS

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team hosted United Township on Thursday, April 13, conceding a 7-0 shutout in nonconference action. Rochelle (4-6, 2-1 Interstate 8) totaled eight shots and five shots on goal in the match, while junior Danica Wardfinished with seven saves.

United Township finished with 23 shots and 14 shots on goal in the match. The Panthers took the early lead, scoring goals during the sixth and eighth minutes to maintain a 2-0 advantage. Rochelle fell behind further midway through the first half, with United Township adding goals in the 18th and 23rd minutes to earn a 4-0 halftime advantage. The Panthers scored three second-half goals in the 43rd, 50th and 77th minutes to clinch the victory.

Sophomores Makayla Lara and Emma Kennay combined for seven shots and four shots on goal for the Lady Hub offense on Thursday. Sophomore Betty Flores added one shot on goal.



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Morgan Smardo (right) struck out 16 batters for the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team on Friday. Senior Layla Pelan (left) hit a single to help spark a six-run rally in the sixth inning that gave the Lady Hubs a big lead.

# **SOFTBALL:** Lady Hubs suffer shutout loss against Sandwich

#### From page 1

Rochelle totaled 11 hits on Friday, with four players recording multi-hit games.

#### Sandwich

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team concluded its home-and-home series against Sandwich on Monday, falling 11-0 on the road. Junior Macy Belmonte singled for the Lady Hubs (4-10, 2-6 Interstate 8) in the top of the third inning for the team's lone hit. Rochelle will host Morris on Wednesday to conclude another Interstate 8 Conference series.

Sandwich took a 3-0 lead in the bottom of the first inning, where Allison Olson's RBI groundout sparked a three-run surge that included a two-run single from Johanna Freemon. Olson added a second RBI groundout in the bottom of the second inning, where a two-run triple from Breanna Sexton fueled another threerun rally that put the Indians ahead of the Lady Hubs 6-0. Sandwich went ahead 10-0 in the bottom of the

third inning, scoring four runs on an RBI single from Lily Geitz and a three-run homer from Sexton. Aubrey Cyr belted a solo home run for

the Indians in the bottom of the fourth inning to seal the Sandwich victory.

Junior Ella Alfano drew a walk and senior Layla Pelan reached on a dropped third stirke in the loss to the Indians.

# **BASEBALL:** Hubs fall against Kaneland on Monday

#### From page 1

Burnette walked and scored on a Sycamore error for one Rochelle run in the top of the third inning. Townsend singlehandedly sealed the Spartan victory in the finale, doubling and scoring on a wild pitch in the bottom of the third inning before smashing a two-run homer, his second of the game, in the bottom of the fourth inning. Rochelle totaled six hits and five walks on offense.

#### Kaneland

The Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team was held to four hits on Monday, when the purple and white opened their Interstate 8 Conference home-and-home series against Kaneland with a 5-1 loss. Rochelle (6-11, 3-6 Interstate 8) will host the Knights on Wednesday.

Junior Brock Metzger fired a complete game for the Hubs, throwing six innings with two strikeouts while allowing seven hits and five earned runs. Kaneland's Johnny Spallasso smacked an RBI double and scored on a wild pitch in the bottom of the first inning to put the Knights ahead 2-0. Rochelle cut the Kaneland lead in half after Metzger reached on a leadoff single and scored on senior Bradley Cooney's RBI groundout in the top of the fourth inning.

Kaneland took a 3-1 lead after Zach Konrad's sacrifice fly scored Gabe Gooch in the bottom of the fourth inning. The Knights added two runs in the bottom of the fifth inning, where Parker Violett singled and scored on an error before Anthony Campise's two-out RBI single allowed Patrick Collins to come home.

Sophomore Brandyn Metzger went 1-for-3 with a double, while senior Garrett Gensler singled and reached base twice for the Rochelle offense in the loss against the Knights on Monday.

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