

Vice President/Loan Officer  
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# LOCAL NEWS

## New RMU electric price schedules approved

### RPD Deputy Chief Inman recognized ahead of impending retirement

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — At its monthly meeting Monday, the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved a resolution establishing new Rochelle Municipal Utilities electric services price schedules.

The city contracted with Utility Financial Solutions to develop a new electric pricing schedule based on RMU's cost of service. UFS developed a three-year plan that will result in small increases to RMU's customer charge to help cover the fixed costs of the utility. The first year changes include small decreases in rates to accommodate the increase in customer charge. The

new 2023 rate structure results in a 1.11 percent increase in rates. Monday's resolution approved the first year of increases. Current kilowatt hour charges have not changed for customers.

Residential customers will see a \$1 increase in the first year in their service charges from \$9 to \$10. Larger industrial customers will see increases ranging from \$10-72. The increases were suggested due to RMU's need for more funds on hand for emergencies, planned upgrades to its infrastructure and rising power costs.

On March 13, the council also held a public hearing for and unanimously approved the issuance of electric revenue bonds

not to exceed \$5.2 million to help pay for improvements to RMU's electric system including a new substation on Centerpoint Drive, diesel plant feeder exits and several residential underground projects that will be necessary in the next few years.

#### Inman

Rochelle Police Department Deputy Chief Terry Inman was recognized by the council ahead of his retirement from the department after nearly 22 years.

"I want to thank you for your years of service to the City of Rochelle and for 21.5 years of service in law enforcement," City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said. "We wish you God-speed and the best of luck to you and your family in your new endeavors."

#### Property

The council unanimously approved a purchase and sale agreement with St. Patrick's Catholic Church for acquisition of property at 916 S. Main St. for \$125,000.

The property, located in the southwest corner of the Veterans Parkway and South Main Street, is at the intersection of a main truck route and in



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**Rochelle Police Department Deputy Chief Terry Inman was recognized by the council ahead of his retirement from the department after nearly 22 years.**

an area that is planned for roadway reconstruction and widening over the next two years. The project will require additional right of way to accommodate those road improvements and utility adjustments or relocation. The proposed property is also adjacent to the city's future fire and utility training facility being planned immediately south.

Approximately a half acre of road right of way will be dedicated from the parcel for phase two of the South Main Street reconstruction project from Veterans Parkway to Steam Plant Road. The overhead/underground

utility adjustments for the construction project are expected to begin in late 2024.

#### Generation

The council unanimously approved an agreement with BHM, Inc. for a generation planning study on the RMU Generation Plant at a cost not to exceed \$75,000.

RMU has its own generation plant in the heart of town that it creates power with during high power use times in the summers to keep costs down and when needed.

The study will assess the existing generation infrastructure in support

of current pricing and future development and will entail analyzing the generation department, including engines, generators and market pricing to determine areas of needed improvement and quantify the probable future needs/expansion of the power generation department.

"We want to make sure we're prepared for the future in the generation department," Toliver said. "I think that this is definitely a needed study if we want to continue in the generation game."

#### Waste

The council unanimously approved a resolution authorizing the city's 2023 waste collection rate.

Currently, the monthly charge for residential solid waste, recycling and yard waste collection is \$12 per dwelling. The annual increase for April 1, 2023, will be a minimum of \$0.36 (\$12.36), or a maximum of \$0.48 (\$12.48).

**See CITY page 4**

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# LOCAL NEWS

## OLSON: Retiring RCH CEO reflects on 42-year career in healthcare

From page 1

Olson said he “really connected well” with Rochelle during his first stint as CEO and felt very comfortable. He came in as interim CEO from SwedishAmerican’s corporate office and was hired permanently. From 1999 to 2007, RCH started its multispecialty center, which brought in specialists from the region to see patients locally. It also opened its walk-in clinic around the same time. Both services were new to the city at the time.

“It’s been exciting to see this place grow,” Olson said. “We are truly a community asset. My belief is if we can offer the services here in a competent fashion and play to our strengths, that makes a difference to people. Our numbers have jumped and I think it’s exciting for the hospital and the community. We’re offering orthopedic services that previously weren’t available to the community. That makes us a stronger community. It’s exciting to me seeing the care being delivered at such a high level and people being satisfied. Because that’s why we’re here. Because of the patients.”

Olson called coming

back to RCH as CEO in 2020 “a delight.” He returned to find familiar faces, and new ones he enjoyed getting to know.

March 2020 brought the beginning of the COVID-19 pandemic, which Olson called “probably the most stressful time” in his career. At the height of the pandemic, COVID-19 “engulfed” RCH and its employees’ time and energy, he said.

Olson was impressed with the resilience and commitment of RCH staff during the heights of COVID-19.

“It was a dangerous situation and people were dying,” Olson said. “Our staff came to work every day and did their jobs and took care of our patients. I think our organization did a phenomenal job with the pandemic. The whole entire team here worked towards that. It was truly a team effort. Even though it was difficult to watch and understand what was going on in our society, I was just so impressed with the people here at RCH. I will never forget what they’ve done. The lesson learned is, ‘It’s your staff. That’s what makes things happen.’”

On top of the pandemic, Olson’s three recent years as CEO also included the



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Gregg Olson has served as RCH’s CEO since January 2020. He was also the organization’s CEO from 1999 to 2007. He was CEO of another institution in Wisconsin in the years in between.

implementation of Epic, RCH’s new electronic system. The implementation took months and Epic is used by a large part of the healthcare industry. Epic has allowed RCH to be compatible with other hospitals and medical facilities around the world and country.

The pandemic brought about staffing shortages in the medical industry,

which was another of Olson’s priorities in the past three years. He said that the situation has improved locally and he hopes that will continue.

“Our HR department has done a really good job keeping our facility staffed,” Olson said. “We’re in a more comfortable place with staffing than we were when things were really bad with the health-

care workforce nationwide. I pray and hope that we’re fully back to normal here soon.”

Since announcing his retirement plans to RCH staff, Olson has found it difficult to make his usual walks around the hospital where he talks with employees.

“It’s been emotionally difficult for me,” Olson said. “Every day I go home and I’m drained. I

am going to miss these people dearly. I think the family atmosphere is what I’ll remember most. People care about each other. The camaraderie and teamwork have been consistent over my total number of years here. It’s all about excellence and providing great patient care. The commitment of the staff and their caring nature is my main takeaway.”

## Chana’s Rhodes named Discovery and Innovation award winner at Iowa

**IOWA CITY, Iowa** — Five undergraduate students and two graduate students were among the 18 exceptional researchers, scholars, innovators and administrators named recipients of 2023 Discovery and Innovation awards by the University of Iowa’s Office of the Vice President for Research.

Ashley Rhodes, a undergraduate student from Chana, was among the honorees. Rhodes is a biomedical engineering major completing a human physiology minor.

The Excellence in Undergraduate Research Award recognizes outstanding accomplishments in scholarly investigation, artistic creation or performance by undergraduates at the UI.

“We are honored to recognize the University of Iowa faculty, staff, post-docs and students whose research and scholarship better our community, our state and our world,” Marty Scholtz, vice president for research, said. “These

awards celebrate every aspect of research and scholarship at the University of Iowa. The winners range from undergraduate student researchers to faculty members who lead in their fields, from research administrators and professional staff to scholars engaging with the general public.”

Each winter, the OVPR solicits nominations from the campus community for the awards, which include: Scholar of the Year, Early Career Scholar of the Year, Leadership in Research, Graduate Student Excellence, Postdoctoral Scholar/Fellow Excellence and Excellence in Under-

graduate Research, as well as awards that recognize distinguished achievement in communicating research to general audiences, en-

gaging the public through research and scholarship, mentoring student researchers, administering research programs and advancing

understanding in diversity, equity, and inclusion.

The winners will be recognized at a reception in September.

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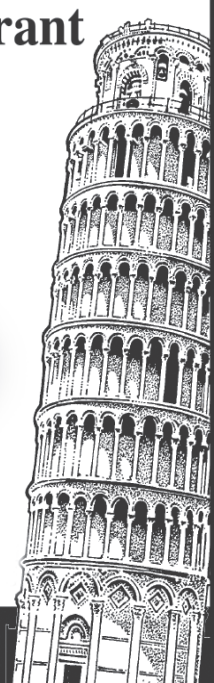
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# LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

March 29 has been designated by the Department of Defense's Vietnam War Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day since it was the last day in 1973 that American combat troops were stationed in Vietnam.

## Rochelle DAR looking to honor Vietnam-era veterans

**ROCHELLE** — March 29 has been designated by the Department of Defense's Vietnam War Commemoration of the 50th Anniversary of the Vietnam War as Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Day since it was the last day in 1973 that American combat troops were

stationed in Vietnam. As a commemorative partner, the Rochelle Chapter NSDAR has the privilege to honor Vietnam veterans with certificates of recognition and lapel pins. Any veteran who served in the US Armed Forces between Nov. 1, 1955 and May 15,

1975 is eligible for this recognition, regardless of location of service. The Rochelle Chapter is available to present this award of appreciation individually or in a group setting to any eligible veteran. Contact VIS.DAR.Rochelle@gmail.com for more information.

## Ogle County Sheriff's Office announces St. Patrick's Day DUI enforcement results

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Sheriff's Office announced that it made five driving under the influence arrests and issued 229 total citations during the St. Patrick's Day enforcement period which ran from March 10-19.

The citations and other offenses include: 17 citations for revoked, suspended or no valid driver's license offenses,

four arrests for outstanding warrants, one felony drug arrest, five arrests for driving under the influence, three arrests for cannabis violations, 23 citations for speeding violations, 29 citations for registration violations and 22 citations for insurance violations.

"We strongly enforce traffic laws for one reason — to save lives," Ogle County Sheriff

Brian VanVickle said. The Ogle County Sheriff's Office joined forces with state and local law enforcement and highway safety partners in the St. Patrick's Day enforcement campaign.

The St. Patrick's Day enforcement campaign was funded by federal highway safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation.

## Ogle County Sheriff's Department

### Deputies conduct traffic stops

**OREGON** — On March 25 at 7:22 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on North Stillman Road near the intersection with East High Road. As a result, Christopher M. Zaffarano, 36, of Stillman Valley, was arrested for driving on a suspended license. Zaffarano was additionally issued citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and expired registration. Zaffarano was released on an I-Bond with a future court date.

On March 26 at 8:05 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 4,000 block of South Illinois Route 2. As a result, Cierrah B. Dempsey, 23, of Rockford was arrested for driving on a suspended license. Dempsey was additionally issued citations for driving without two tail lights, operate uninsured motor vehicle, suspended registration/non-insured and improper container/driver. Dempsey was released on an I-Bond with a court date to appear.

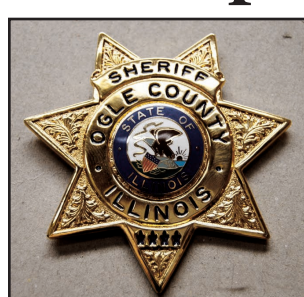
On March 27 at approximately 10:33 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 near mile marker 105. After brief investigation, deputies arrested Brandon Dittbenner, 21, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended.

Dittbenner was issued additional citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and suspended registration. Dittbenner was given an I-Bond on scene with a return court date later next month and released on scene.

On March 27 at approximately 9:41 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 7,000 block of North Illinois Route 251. After investigation, deputies arrested Darcey Glugla, 63, of South Beloit for driving while license revoked and no insurance. Glugla was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she is being held in lieu of bond. Glugla's vehicle was towed from the scene.

On March 27 at 12:52 p.m. in the 2,000 block of East Illinois Route 64 deputies stopped a black 2007 Nissan Sentra for a suspended registration violation. During their investigation, it was learned the driver, Sania Brown, 18, of Aurora, had a suspended driver's license. Brown was cited for driving while license suspended and operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. She was released on a \$2,500 I-Bond and issued a court date of May 3 at 9 a.m.

On March 27 at 4:33 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Interstate



39 and Illinois Route 64 on a blue 2008 Saturn due to a suspended registration violation. During the course of their investigation it was learned that the driver, Victor A. Byirt, 24, of Rockford, was driving on a suspended license. Byirt was cited for driving while license suspended and operating a motor vehicle with suspended registration. He was issued an I-Bond and released from the scene.

On March 28 at approximately 2:16 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 near mile marker 105. After brief investigation, deputies arrested London Sanders, 32, of Rockford, for no valid driver's license. Sanders was issued additional citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and illegal window tint. Sanders was given an I-Bond on scene with a return court date later next month and released on scene.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

## Rochelle Police Department

### Officers make two arrests

**ROCHELLE** — On March 26 at 10:39 a.m. Justin M. Burright, 35, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding warrant in Ogle County and

an outstanding warrant in DeKalb County and transferred.

On March 27 at 10:35 p.m. Bakari A. Steele, 28, of Rochelle was arrested

on an outstanding Kankakee County warrant and transferred.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



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## CITY: Council approves RMU building proposal

From page 2

### RMU building

The council unanimously approved a proposal from Lite Construction for \$174,950 for improvements to the lobby space of the RMU customer service building at 333 Lincoln Highway including enhanced safety features and handicap accessibility.

Lite Construction was the low bidder of two bids received. Work is

anticipated to take place in the summer of 2023 and internal discussions are underway to relocate staff and offer an alternate location for in-person customer service for three weeks during the project.

"It's very similar to what we did a few years ago at City Hall with bulletproofing and security upgrades," Fiegenschuh said. "It's larger-scale, but very similar and I think it's important that we keep our staff safe."

## Stateline Music Foundation hosting scholarship auditions

**FREEPORT** — Stateline Music Foundation in Freeport will hold music scholarship aid auditions for high school seniors graduating in 2023, public and home school, who will major in a music curriculum in a junior college or a four-year institution.

The auditions are open to students who reside or attend high school in Jo Daviess, Carroll, Stephenson, Winnebago, Boone, Ogle, DeKalb, Whiteside and Lee Counties in Illi-

nois and Lafayette, Green and Rock Counties in Wisconsin. Two awards of \$500 and \$250 are offered.

The auditions will be held from 12:30 p.m. until 5 p.m. Saturday afternoon, April 22, in the Freeport Arts Center, 121 N. Harlem Ave. Application forms and repertoire requirements are available by writing to Kenneth Drake, 11481 N. Springfield, Baileyville, IL 61007, or e-mail (keos-drake@gmail.com).

## 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.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## PAVIA: Former RTHS SRO named interim chief at RPD

From page 1

Pavia takes the helm of a department in the midst of unprecedented retirements, promotions and hiring. The city council has allowed the department to over hire to compensate for upcoming retirements. Recruitment is Pavia's current top priority. "We really have to focus on recruitment and hiring quality candidates from the get go and continuing to hire," Pavia said. "I want to get in front of that. I never want to play catch up. The city has been outstanding with support and all the tools for that. We have buy-outs now and retirements coming. I'm going to plan ahead for those."

Pavia said that RPD's list of potential hires will be continually updated and it will open up for lateral hires from other departments. He said he also plans to look at hiring part-time officers and community service officers to free up full-time officers due to short staffing.

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said Pavia was "the right person" to move the department forward

amid change in-house and in policing as a profession. He had an opportunity to work with Pavia during the negotiation of a new labor contract when Pavia served as RPD's union president.

"I got to know him more and saw his leadership style and what he brought to the table," Fiegenschuh said. "He has management experience in another community and he's seen the labor side. He can bring a perspective from two different ways to look at how to run the department. Staffing is our biggest issue and he understands how important it is. We want to make sure we're fully-staffed and I think he's the best suited to handle that right now."

Both Pavia and Fiegenschuh expressed the desire to build up leadership capacity within RPD going forward.

"We have to put the right people in place," Pavia said. "My job now is to run the department and make sure everyone has what they need to succeed and get this place running to a point where when I step out, the next person is ready to



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**Pete Pavia brings 25 years of law enforcement experience and has spent the past five years with RPD, most recently as Rochelle Township High School's school resource officer.**

come right in. We need to put all these pieces in place. That's my goal and what I'm going to do."

Pavia said he plans to speak with officers about what their goals are, so they can be started on a path to reach them within RPD. His priorities will include making officers' jobs easier with change and transparency within the department. He hopes those priorities will "jumpstart" officers to take initiative to move up within RPD.

"I'm most excited about the opportunity and the change," Pavia said. "I can't wait to see how the officers react to these changes that are coming. My job is to make their jobs easier. I have a lot of ideas. I'm the chief, but I still can think from the patrol level. I know what will help them. I will always think about how my decisions will affect them. I think what makes a good supervisor is never forgetting where you came from. We'll hit

the ground running. It's going to be fun."

When Pavia came to RPD and the RTHS SRO opportunity came about, he jumped at the chance. When he was young, he wanted to be either a teacher or police officer as a career. He said the "different dynamic" of being an SRO "jump started" his career again.

Pavia loves new things, and RPD's new interim chief said he's had trouble sleeping since his ap-

pointment because of all the things going through his mind that he wants to change.

"I truly want to be the community's chief of police," Pavia said. "I want people to be able to call me, see me, talk to me and approach me. I'm not going to be standoffish. I will be out there and involved with everything. I'm looking forward to meeting everyone. In my first week, I've met so many people already."

## RUMC hosting Stations of the Cross, service on Good Friday

**ROCHELLE** — This Good Friday, April 7, the community of Rochelle and the surrounding area has the opportunity of observing this holy day through an ancient practice called "The Stations of the Cross." This practice evolved out of the tradition of pilgrimage to Jerusalem and walking the "Via Dolorosa," the way of sorrows that took Jesus to Calvary. The Stations of the Cross allows spiritual

people to symbolically walk with Jesus along the path that led to his death. 14 visuals highlight pivotal moments in Jesus' final hours.

Rochelle United Methodist Church, located at 709 Fourth Ave. in Rochelle, will be open on Friday, April 7 between noon and 3 p.m. for anyone who wishes to come and walk these Stations of the Cross. The path will have the stations in numbered

order, and it is suggested that you stop at each station to pray and reflect, using the provided guide. The art for each station is black and white modern graphic art images by Lauren Wright Pittman, which reimagine the traditional moments of Jesus' journey. The user guide will allow pilgrims to go at their own pace and guide themselves through this experience. The sanctuary will be the setting for this

experience. You may enter through the front doors on Seventh Avenue, the main entrance off the parking lot, or the doors on Fourth Street. The pastor will be available in a room off the main entrance, should anyone wish to speak or pray with her. You may enter through the Seventh Street doors and see only those who are walking the Stations of the Cross.

You are invited to walk the path of our suffering

Savior with your eyes and heart wide open. Walk along the road with the One who took on human flesh, stepping into the depths of betrayal, injustice, mockery, judgement and pain in order to free us from their grip. Walk the journey of the One who chose nonviolent resistance as the means to redemption. Walk the path of the One who leads us to the tomb, but hushes death before it can speak

the last word. Walk in the footsteps of the One who proves that even crucified love still lives. *(Words from the Sanctified Art Creative Team)*

Rochelle United Methodist Church will also offer a traditional Good Friday Tenebrae service at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 7. Rochelle United Methodist Church, where everyone is welcome and loved. Call 815-562-2164 for more information.

*We are celebrating the resurrection  
of our Savior  
Jesus Christ.*

Holy<sup>†</sup> Week

### SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday	April 2nd @ 9 a.m.
Maundy Thursday	April 6th @ 7 p.m.
Good Friday	April 7th @ 7 p.m.
Easter Sunday	April 9th @ 9 a.m.

**Rochelle United Methodist Church**  
709 Fourth Ave., Rochelle  
[rochelleumc.com](http://rochelleumc.com)



# LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

## State lawmakers closer to bridging gaps in coverage for dental procedures

AS president of the Illinois State Dental Society and a pediatric dentist, I am thrilled to see that dental insurance reform legislation is gaining traction in Illinois. With key reforms passing Illinois House and Senate committees in recent weeks, we are one step closer to providing our patients and their families with the dental coverage they need and deserve.

One of the most frustrating challenges our patients and families face is limited and sporadic dental insurance coverage. Many

are often surprised at the amount they are required to pay out of pocket, and this can be especially true for children with various oral health treatment needs. We often see insurance simply will not cover services that are widely accepted as the standard of care.

I have seen firsthand the devastating effects of limited dental insurance coverage on our patients and their families. Recently, I had a young patient who required work on 12 teeth, but his insurance would not cover general anesthesia. As a result, he

had to endure four visits, and each time both the boy and his mom struggled in tears. It was heart-wrenching for him, his family, and our staff, who could see the emotional toll it was taking on everyone involved.

Limited dental insurance coverage has had a detrimental impact on patients and their families for far too long, especially for those who cannot afford high out-of-pocket costs. Necessary procedures are often not covered or are severely restricted, leaving patients to shoulder the burden of costly out-of-

pocket expenses or delay critical oral care. All the while, dental insurance companies continue to go unchecked, with up to 40 percent of patient premiums going toward administrative costs that include extravagant marketing and executive bonuses.

This is why the Illinois State Dental Society has launched the More for Your Smile campaign, which advocates for reforms that remove barriers to care and ensure that patients and employers get better value for their money. The legislation

removes barriers to care by requiring dental insurance companies to direct at least 80 percent of patient premiums toward patient care, ensuring patients and employers will get better value for their money, and that out-of-pocket costs are reduced. It also puts an end to schemes used by big insurance companies to gain additional revenue streams that hurt dentists' abilities to maintain financially-healthy practices and ultimately impact patient access to care.

The solution is clear. More patient premium

dollars should go toward patient care, not insurance companies. I am encouraged that lawmakers in Springfield are considering reforms that could make a real difference in the lives of patients across our state.

Patients can join these efforts to help give children and families better access to the dental care they need and deserve by contacting their lawmakers and urging them to support More for Your Smile legislation.

*Dr. Kenneth G. Rawson is president of the Illinois State Dental Society.*

## Progress and the sacrifices we make for it

IMAGINE, if you can, this scene from about 50 years ago. You pull into a gas station, where you're greeted at the pump by an attendant who fills your tank, washes your windshield — even checks your oil, coolant and tires if you wish. You pay him and drive away, all without leaving the comfort of your car.

We can only dream of that kind of service today, as we stand in the cold and rain at a so-called convenience store, and watch the gallons and dollars roll by on the pump. It's a sacrifice we make in the name of progress. We can add it to a list of modern inconvenient conveniences, one that also includes self-service check-out in stores and airline travel in general. All of them are here to stay, and will

become more entrenched with the passage of time. New ways of doing things don't necessarily take over because they're better, but instead simply because they have to. We can see it by going back in time, 10,000 years ago, when people began to abandon their hunting and gathering ways and took up farming.

The so-called agricultural revolution was far from the unmixed blessing we might imagine. Jared Diamond, in his book, "Guns, Germs, and Steel," reports that early farmers suffered from more diseases and physical ailments, ate less well and had shorter life spans than their hunter-gatherer ancestors. Agriculture, with its more organized and layered society, also gave rise to social

inequalities and conflicts that hadn't existed before.

It nevertheless won out because it produced more food per unit of land than nature could provide — at the price of a more narrow and less nutritious diet. Farmers and herders were therefore able to have more — although less healthy — children, who in turn needed ever more land in order to be fed. And so it went, on and on.

Yuval Hariri, in his book, "Sapiens," puts it this way: "This is the essence of the agricultural revolution: the ability to keep more people alive under worse conditions." Wheat and other domesticated plants and animals thrived in this system by enticing humans to work and suffer in order to care for them. "We did

not domesticate wheat," says Mr. Hariri. "It domesticated us."

Once it started, there was no going back without starving. Hunters and gatherers couldn't compete against the overwhelming numbers of farmers, and gradually joined, retreated from, or were killed off by them. Humans as individuals suffered, but humanity as a whole multiplied and spread throughout the planet, and became its dominant species. We, like our farming ancestors, believe we're making decisions in pursuit of a better life. In fact, we too are driven by forces that we don't control and only vaguely understand. Progress serves its own needs first, and only incidentally benefits individual people.

Self-service, a triumph

of efficiency over convenience, is one example. So are the so-called time-saving devices that we work so long and hard to own, but that merely speed up the pace of our lives instead of expanding our leisure time. "One of history's few iron laws," says Mr. Hariri, "is that luxuries tend to become necessities and spawn new obligations."

Ten thousand years after the agricultural revolution, we seem less happy than hunter-gatherers. They live in the present, and their few wants are easily fulfilled. We strive to have ever more, always looking to the future, and are never satisfied. We mustn't forget the blessings that agriculture eventually brought to humankind, at least in the advanced economies of the

world. The same is true of today's competitive economic system. There's no going back for us, at any rate, any more than there was for early farmers.

What we can do is keep a grip on what's truly valuable in these changes, and to refuse to be lured into striving for the rest. It's critical to distinguish between wants, which tend to be many, and needs, which, when we look closely, are few. We're in control of our lives, and our destiny, to the degree that we do.

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

## Letter: Response to flag redesign column

DEAR editor,

This is in response to Mr. Scott Reeder's editorial in the Rochelle News-Leader on March 19 disparaging the Illinois state flag as a reason to create a new design. Before criticizing the design of the state flag, it is important to understand how the design was chosen and what it represents.

In 1912, almost 100 years after Illinois had become a state in 1818, Ella Park Lawrence, the state regent of the Illinois Daughters of the American Revolution, rec-

ognized the need for Illinois to have a state flag. Although the state of Illinois did not adopt a flag design during her time as state regent, Mrs. Lawrence continued to lead the way in the efforts to establish a state flag. In 1914, she encouraged the existing Illinois DAR chapters to submit designs for a state flag, with the winner to receive a \$25 award (paid for by the DAR, not the state of Illinois as claimed by Mr. Reeder).

35 chapters submitted designs that were judged by a panel headed by the

23rd Secretary of State of Illinois, Lewis Stephenson. Stephenson was the son of the 23rd Vice President of the United States Adlai Ewing Stephenson and the father of the 31st Illinois Governor Adlai Ewing Stephenson, II. This panel chose the design of Lucy Derwent, a member of the Rockford Chapter of the DAR. The panel could have chosen any of the other designs or chosen not to accept any of the designs.

Mr. Reeder thinks the flag design is dull & boring. However, it is quite colorful and full of symbolism. The

winning design, which became the official state banner on July 6, 1915, was based on the Illinois state seal that was designed by Mr. Sharon Tyndale and adopted in 1868. The seal shows our national symbol of a bald eagle (commonly found nesting along the Rock River north of Oregon), holding a shield with 13 white stars on a blue background and 13 stripes in red and white representing the original 13 colonies of the United States. The eagle holds a red banner with the words of the state motto

"State Sovereignty, National Union," an expression of the independence of all the states under the umbrella of the United States. The seal rests on a green bed of laurel leaves representing education and the achievements of the citizens of Illinois. The flag design has since been updated to include the fertile soil and rivers of Illinois, with the sun rising in the background, the word "Illinois" and the dates when Illinois became a state and when the state seal was adopted. Illinois is not the only state that uses its seal as part

of the design of their flag. The states of Florida, Idaho, Kansas, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Hampshire, New Jersey, Oregon, South Dakota, Virginia, Wisconsin and Wyoming also do.

While I encourage a discussion on whether our state flag should be changed, disparaging the flag, the seal it is based on, the individuals and the organization that were instrumental in establishing the state flag is unwarranted.

Lydia Roberts  
 Rochelle

## Letter: Supporting Waddle for high school board

DEAR community members,

I support Jacob Waddle as a school board candidate for Rochelle Township High School D212.

I met Jacob while going to school board meetings over the last few years. He understands the time and commitment it will take to be a school board member that works with

the parents and community to make the best decisions for our students. He wants academic excellence for all of our students in high school.

As a teacher and a parent

of a high school student, I feel this is an extremely important quality of a school board member. He understands the responsibilities of being a board member such as creating

policy for the district that best supports students and staff. Jacob wants to see parents and community members reaching out and being involved in the decision making process.

I encourage voters to vote for Jacob Waddle for the RTHS school board.

Jackie Bingham  
 Ramsey  
 Rochelle

### How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Adam Kinzinger  
 1218 Longworth HOB  
 Washington, D.C. 20515  
 (202) 225-3635

IL Sen. Brian Stewart  
 M104A State House  
 Springfield, IL 62706  
 (217) 782-0180

IL Rep. Tom Demmer  
 314 Capitol  
 Springfield, IL 62706  
 (217) 782-0535

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

### KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

\* Denotes Chairman/President

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 \*John Bearrows jbearrows@rochelleil.us  
 Kathryn Shaw-Dickey kshaw-dickey@rochelleil.us  
 Bil Hayes bhayes@rochelleil.us  
 Rosaelia Arteaga rarteaga@rochelleil.us  
 Dan McDermott dmcdermott@rochelleil.us  
 Tom McDermott tmcdermott@rochelleil.us  
 John Gruben jgruben@rochelleil.us

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 \*Dave Casey dcillini94@gmail.com  
 Steve Builta sbuilt@gmail.com  
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 Stephanie White swhite@d231.rochelle.net  
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 Trisha Vaughn jrvtlv02@msn.com  
 Javier Zepeda jzepeda@rthsd212.org

Rochelle Township High School Board  
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 Jeff Tilton jeff.tilton@rthsd212.org  
 Bobby Chadwick bobby.chadwick@rthsd212.org  
 Brian VanVickle brian.vanvickle@rthsd212.org

Flagg-Rochelle Park Board  
 Brent Carmichael bcarmichael@rochelleparkdistrict.org  
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 Dale Wells dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org  
 \*Tim Hayden thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org  
 Jodie Hart jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org  
 Joe Lenkaitis jlenkaitis@rochelleparkdistrict.org

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 Dan Miller dmiller@oglecounty.org  
 Greg Sparrow gsparrow@oglecounty.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 4  
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 David Williams dwilliams@oglecounty.org

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 Jennifer Payton  
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 Steve Katzman skatzman@essex1.com  
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 Mark Hibshman  
 Curt Ward caward92@comcast.net

Hillcrest Village Board  
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 Tim Ball tball@hillcrestil.us  
 Renee Kerwin rkerwin@hillcrestil.us

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 Joanna Patrick flaggtwpcerk@rochelle.net  
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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.





Stillman Bank recently hosted an employee Casual Day where employees were encouraged to make a monetary donation in exchange for casual dress. All the money raised went directly to support Cause For Paws Rescue, an organization chosen by our Oregon office. Pictured here Stillman Bank Senior Vice President Pat Donahue (right) and Stillman Bank Teller Dawn H. (left) presenting Diane Elliott (second from left) and Lillian Santchi (second from right) from Cause for Paws our donation check totaling \$482.

- Mar. 5 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$50
- Mar. 6 - Matthew Browder, Waterman, \$25
- Mar. 7 - Jim & Lori Nalley, Ashton, \$25
- Mar. 8 - Miguel Lopez, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 9 - Hailey Thompson, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 10 - Veronica Wicks, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 11 - Jay Eller, Amboy, \$25
- Mar. 12 - Danielle Bettner, Rochelle, \$50
- Mar. 13 - Rochelle Chamber, \$25
- Mar. 14 - Glen Hughes, Dixon, \$25
- Mar. 15 - Rosemary VanKirk, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 16 - Judith Urban, Loves Park, \$25
- Mar. 17 - Dena Doran, Princeton, \$250
- Mar. 18 - Brian Edwards, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 19 - Brittany Samp, Palos Heights, \$50
- Mar. 20 - Mike and Irma Seaworth, Holcomb, \$25
- Mar. 21 - Charlie Boonstra, Dixon, \$25
- Mar. 22 - Rochelle Chamber, \$25
- Mar. 23 - Troy Mowry, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 24 - David Glessner, Dixon, \$25
- Mar. 25 - Zekelman Employee, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 26 - Tara Richardson, Waterman, \$50
- Mar. 27 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- Mar. 28 - Maria Hernandez, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 29 - Kaylee May, Rochelle, \$50
- Mar. 30 - Billy Gregg Evans, Rochelle, \$25
- Mar. 31 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25

**March 30**  
Grace Olson

51 "Do — others ..."	7 Propriety	28 Part of Q.E.D.
52 "I love," to Livy	8 Book jacket write-up	29 Summer cooler
53 Autograph	9 Long time	32 Illinois city
54 Take five	10 "The Greatest"	33 Martini garnish
55 Bottom line	11 Make lace	35 Glutton
	16 Wimbledon tie	36 Witticism
<b>DOWN</b>		38 Synthetic fabric
1 Bean curd	20 Where Lux. is	39 Seg-ments
2 Deserve	23 Actress Russo	42 Persia, today
3 God of war	24 Currier's partner	43 Rickey flavor
4 Chicken serving	25 Mama — Elliot	44 Kilt wearer
5 Third rock from the sun	26 Monumental	45 Part of UCLA
6 "Exodus" hero	27 Dame Dench	46 Sashimi fish
		47 Sharp turn
		49 French article

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1	2	5	8	9	7	6	3	4
9	7	3	6	4	1	5	8	2

[illegible]

**Cryptopunk**  
answer

I thought it was wonderful when Madeleine became secretary of state. She's Albright with me!



# LOCAL ELECTIONS

## Rochelle City Council Candidates

### Tom McDermott

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-What qualifies an individual for a position? I would say it is a combination of experience and education. I have lived in Rochelle my entire life. I have the following experience: Four years Rochelle Municipal Utilities, seven years firefighter/emergency medical technician, 24 years Rochelle Fire's chief, 21 years Rochelle's emergency disaster manager and 10 years city council.

I am an RTHS graduate with the following degrees: associates of applied science, Kishwaukee College; associates of science, Kishwaukee College; bachelor of arts, Western Illinois University; graduate certificate, Police Management Institute and Executive Fire Office, National Fire Academy.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-After a lifetime of public service I feel I have much to offer the citizens of Rochelle. I am running to ensure that the voices of all citizens are heard. The council serves the people and should always be asking, "What is best for the people we serve?"

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-As a council member I cannot build a grocery store or fill all of the empty store fronts in the downtown. I will though ensure that conditions are supportive to the investors that can. Rochelle is not defined by a line on the map. It is defined by the diverse people within those lines. Thank you for your consideration.



and Living Water Church in Rochelle.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I want to serve the town that I've lived in the majority of my life and help it continue to grow into an environment that I'm proud to raise my family in. I want to increase the amount of family-friendly activities we have in our community, while also ensuring Rochelle is a city where businesses, both small and large, can flourish.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I am very passionate about making sure every voice is heard. We have experienced an extremely difficult past couple of years in this country. I want to make sure the decisions our community makes in the future are positive ones that don't replicate some of the poor decisions made in the past.

### Lance Charnock

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

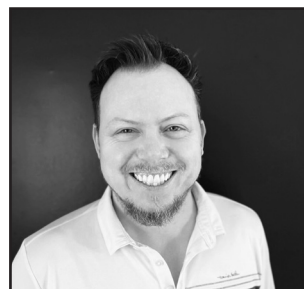
-I was raised in Rochelle (RTHS Class of 1997) and am raising my family here as well. My wife, Julie, and I have four children. I love to play golf and go camping. I have been volunteering in the community in various capacities for well over a decade, including 10 years coaching for Rochelle Little League. I am the Focus House treasurer and a Rotary board member. I studied business management at Kishwaukee and the University of Phoenix. I took a position with C&S Flooring Group in 2009, and became part owner and vice president in 2014.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I am eager to be involved in shaping a future that we would all like to see for our city — ample opportunities where our future generations will not only want to live, but thrive while doing so. My commitment is to represent what the people of our community want.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-Economic growth, with an emphasis on small business. Incentives to fill vacant properties and storefronts, bringing in additional retail, grocery, etc. Expanding new residential housing to accommodate future growth. Increased utilization of our numerous parks, with a renewed focus on southside engagement. I will bring a cost-benefit approach to all issues I vote on.



### Jason Goodwin

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I am a United States Marine Corps Veteran. After the Marines, I was hired by the Rochelle Police Department, where I served the citizens of Rochelle for over nine years. I have a bachelor's degree in criminal justice, and a master's degree in leadership. I left the Rochelle Police Department in good standing to pursue personal growth.

I am currently a patrol sergeant at the DeKalb Police Department. During my 17-year career as a police officer, I have held the positions of patrolman, special operations team, targeted response unit (drug and gang unit), detective and sergeant. I also am involved in youth sports, I have coached many sports at different levels, wherein I am currently the Rochelle Little League president.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-Over the past few years, my eyes have been opened to many things. I have said we need change. I am stepping up to be that change. My experiences in life have given me knowledge and insight into all walks of life. I believe these life experiences have prepared me for this endeavor.

I look forward to serving the citizens of Rochelle once again. As always, I will leave Rochelle better than I found it.



### Juan Martinez Jr.

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-Lifelong resident working at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library for 20+ years.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-As our population plateaus or even declines, we must ask ourselves if we're doing enough at the local government and community levels to make Rochelle a better place for our residents, especially those who might need assistance in helping themselves.

We can amplify our voices, channel our ideas and direct our energy in a way so that we can all benefit.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-The affordable housing crisis, a story decades old, has worsened yet Rochelle doesn't offer income-based housing and is severely lacking in other housing options. People fall behind, wondering where they can go for help. Responding without dignity or respect, our community suffers the loss and earns a reputation for uncaring that is very difficult to shake.

We have a large Hispanic population, yet there persists an unspoken disconnect between them and the general public. Hispanics and minorities work here, pay taxes, send children to school, worship, shop and call Rochelle home. Yet for some, all that is still not enough to pass the acceptance test. This cultural divide must be addressed and steps taken to bring us all together for a stronger city.



### John Edward Gruben

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

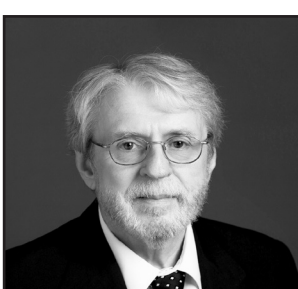
-A US Army veteran, husband of 52 years, father and grandfather of 11, 30-year local teacher, 20-year corporate development consultant with a master's degree in science reaching the ABD level in my doctorate. American Legion Commander, Golden K Member, RTHS Key Club, Kishwaukee College instructor, Moose member, Veterans Advocacy Commission of Ogle County member. Most importantly a lifelong Rochelle resident that believes every voice counts!

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-My goal is not to be a success, but instead to be a value! Seeing current problems we face in both our city and state. I represent the community as a whole, not a single neighborhood, family or group! I am asking for your vote to help lead our community into a stronger, safer and more productive place.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-Review, expect, promote and generate. I'm concerned with potential conflicts of interest that do and can exist in our local government. I'm passionate about always questioning when necessary. I am not a yes man. I'll continue reviewing every check registry that the city expends. I expect a return on investment and always promote industrial development. All of which to generate better housing, home values and better education through that development.



### William (Bil) Hayes

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-My great grandparents and grandparents resided and worked in Rochelle, father and grandfather both having worked as pharmacists running a family-owned soda fountain, restaurant and drugstore, mother and grandmother proudly worked as educators. I was born in Rochelle and have spent my entire career here working as a heavy equipment technician.

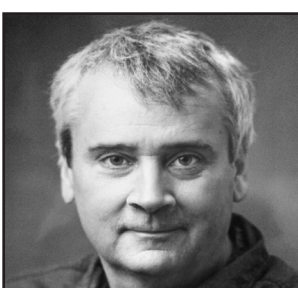
40-plus years in the field provided me opportunity to meet and become friends with farmers and construction workers throughout the Midwest, as well as opportunity for travel to work alongside co-workers in Chile and England. Inspired by being a proud, lifelong citizen of Rochelle and encouraged by long-time familiarity as policy maker for the community, my broad experience and knowledge of the city's finances and oversight push me in continuing to want to provide positive input on city government and enterprises.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-Having taken great measure in studying policy to ensure the best in beneficial steps are taken to secure a solid, positive future for the community, I wish to continue using my broad experience as a long-time policy maker to further advance favorable outcomes for the city and surrounding community.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I'm most passionate about fiscal responsibility, safety and services; critical responsibilities of the city.



### Benjamin Valdivieso

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-My name is Ben Valdivieso and my wife Megan and I were both raised in Rochelle and graduated from RTHS. We have two young children, and I have worked in public service as a police officer for the past 7.5 years. I have a master's degree in National Security Studies and have also received a bachelor's degree in management. Our family attends both New Hope Fellowship Church



## Hillcrest Board Presidential Candidates

### Randy Salsbury

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-My wife, Kim, and I are both RTHS graduates. Together we have raised eight children. We have lived in Hillcrest for 24 years. We feel fortunate to live in a village where we have wonderful neighbors and feel a sense of community.

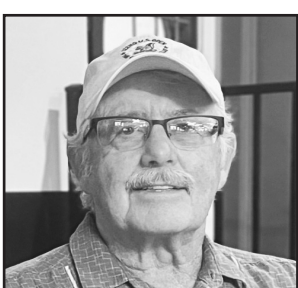
I worked as a carpenter/contractor until 2011 when I went to work for Maplehurst hauling grain. I served 22 years with the Illinois National Guard. I have been on the Hillcrest board for 11 years and was unanimously appointed president by the board in 2022.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-If elected president, I would like to see Hillcrest continue to operate in the black. Throughout my tenure, the village operating budget has more than doubled. This has allowed for road maintenance and village improvements where needed.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-As president, my priority for the village is the continuation of providing sustainable, safe and clean drinking water for residents through water main and water tower rehabilitation projects. In the past I have worked to beautify the village and raise property values by clearing out refuse and abandoned properties. In the future I would like to see our village properties continue to be maintained and improved where needed.



### Rick Rhoads

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I have lived in Hillcrest for the last 28 years with my wife Deana, where we raised our two sons. We started our company, Rhoads Remodeling, after 10 years of being in the Carpenter's union and have been in business for the last 28 years. I'm an Army Veteran and I was on the Hillcrest Fire Department for 15 years where I obtained the rank of training officer. I've been a Boy Scout Leader for over 25 years. I've served on the village board for two terms as a trustee.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I believe Hillcrest needs a president that represents, cares for and serves all the residents. I feel the president should have a vision of how to move forward in the future and be able to work with the trustees to achieve it.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-After talking to numerous Hillcrest residents, I have learned we share a lot of the same concerns that I feel need to be addressed and that I have been passionate about. They include: the water system, improvement of the streets, police department/code enforcement, gilling vacant village employee positions, more village-wide garbage days and keeping Hillcrest clean of excess garbage and debris and bringing more businesses to our village. I look forward to working with the trustees and residents to lead Hillcrest into a better tomorrow.





# LOCAL ELECTIONS

## Rochelle School District 212 Board Candidates

### Jeffery S. Tilton

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I have had the privilege to serve on the Rochelle Township High School District 212 school board for over a decade. I have lived in Rochelle my entire life. I currently serve as a senior vice president at Holcomb Bank and have over 30 years of banking experience here in town. I am blessed to have a wonderful family with my wife, Mandy, and children Alec, Abby, Parker, Payton and Jack.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I am seeking re-election for the board to continue to contribute to the opportunities our high school presents for our students. Our administration and teachers are dedicated to shaping the future for each student and it is my honor to collaborate with the board and community to provide them the support, guidance and resources to do so.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I am passionate about creating an environment where high school students can thrive and be prepared for the future. Our students can participate in accelerated academics, sports, music, FFA, and be prepared for early entry into their careers through our partnership with KEC (to name just a few programs). Our kids deserve these investments, and I am committed to helping our community provide them.



### Jacob Waddle

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I have two boys who are going through the Rochelle elementary and high school districts. My amazing wife and kids have lived in Rochelle for almost 15 years now and we are proud to call it home. I work as an administration manager for an aerospace chemical company and am passionate about education and parental rights.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I believe that the best way to succeed is through building partnerships with parents, staff, faculty and members of the community. Advocating for parental rights, striving for transparency and accountability will help to rebuild trust in our education system. I want to be an advocate for parents and teachers building a partnership where everyone can succeed.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

I think parental involvement is the key to success. We need parents and taxpayers to be informed about everything that is happening in our schools. We need transparency and accountability in everything that is done with taxpayer funds and in the education that our children are receiving.

The more parents are involved, the more successful our children will be. We need administration, faculty, staff, the teachers union, parents and students to all be on the same team striving for the same goal. Success!



### Crystal D. Dyer

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I have lived in Rochelle my entire life. My husband and I have two children in the Rochelle school district. I obtained my bachelors of science from NIU and have worked in human resources for the past 20+ years.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I am running for the high school board because it's a critical time for public education and I believe by being respectful and listening to all sides and not catering to just one, we can bring our students, educators, administrators & community together to best serve our students' needs and help eliminate the divisions that have arisen in recent years. With my background in HR, I would be an asset in this area as I will listen to all concerns/sides without judgment, gather factual information and aid in decision making based on those findings. I will be a board member with an open mind who ensures all voices are heard and solutions are reached through mutual collaboration.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I am passionate about seeing students succeed in high school and beyond, their educational well-being and safety in our schools. I am also passionate about supporting and respecting our educators and administrators that serve in our district so they feel supported in providing quality public education in this ever-changing environment.



### Patricia Goodwin

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I've been a Rochelle resident for 17 years. My husband and I have been married for almost 25 years and we have three children. My husband is in law enforcement, which is a profession that lays a demand of service on the whole family and has allowed me to see our world from a different perspective.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-For the last few years, I've been devoted to learning about the way the school board process works by attending meetings and being involved. Last year, I served on the RTHS Student Handbook committee that consists of teachers, administrators, board members, students and parents.

The reality of the loss of learning in our schools the last couple of years has opened many eyes and has compelled me to run. I have solutions for this very disappointing situation.

Current data from <http://www.Illinoisreportcard.com> shows where RTHS proficiency stands: English 19.6 percent, math 20.1 percent and science 51 percent.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

I'm committed to our students' academic excellence first and foremost.



### Laurie Pillen

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I've lived in the Rochelle area since 1985, when I was fortunate to be hired as a counselor at Rochelle Township High School. Our children (husband Bart) were born and raised in Rochelle. You might know me through my participation in VCCT or the OCCA Board, sitting next to me at music concerts, swim meets and school programs.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I want to continue to give back to my community and my school district. I am proud that RTHS offers a comprehensive education and produces well-rounded students. As a stakeholder in a different way, I am committed to maintaining these standards.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I believe in maintaining the fiscal conservativeness that has long been an unwritten board policy. Balancing the sensibility of expenditures against curricular and extracurricular opportunities is a challenge I am uniquely qualified to handle. Of equal importance is the safety and security of the students, staff and guests of RTHS. Only in a place where students feel safe can they learn, grow and excel, exploring their interests and actualizing their potentials. Our job as parents, educators and community members is to provide a foundation of security and stability for all students.



### Brent Ohlinger

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I was born and raised in Rochelle. Upon graduation from RTHS, I attended the University of Illinois and graduated with a bachelor of science in agriculture economics. I am currently employed as the community president of First State Bank, and have worked in the banking industry for the past 30 years. I am married to Jackee and have two daughters, Madelyn and Alison.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I feel strongly about community involvement, and I believe that my talents will be beneficial to the district by using my financial background to make sure the district is fiscally accountable to the taxpayers.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I think it all comes down to our children getting the best education available. The school is there to see that our children are prepared to be successful. All programs offered should be focused on the mission of preparing them for life after high school. Additional collaboration with the local junior college and our businesses and industries will ensure the kids are exposed to all opportunities available to them.



## Rochelle School District 231 Board Candidates

### Steven Builta

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-My wife and I moved to Rochelle in 1996 to raise our family and to become part of a community. Since moving here, I have served the community in many ways. I have been a volunteer firefighter for over 25 years and spent a decade serving with local scout organizations. I have been a member of the D231 Elementary Education board for 12 years having served the last eight years as board vice president. Professionally, I hold a master's degree in education from Northern Illinois University and work in emergency management.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-It's been my honor to serve on the board for the past 12 years. We've made great strides and I'm proud of the work we've done, but there is still work to do. I look forward to continuing to support the students, teachers and staff of D231.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-School safety and fiscal responsibility are my priorities. Every dollar we spend as a district comes from the hardworking families of our community. As a member of the board, I work to ensure that every expenditure goes to not only supporting and improving student education but also enhancing the safety of our schools. A safe learning environment is essential for student learning.



### Victoria Lynn Pemberton

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-I'm a local realtor at Hayden Real Estate and I help my husband run our family business, Pemberton Plumbing, Heating and Cooling. I have a passion for this community and volunteering which I learned from my parents, John and Scottie Marsden. Previous to this campaign I've sat on the C.A.N., Hand in Hand Mission and Rochelle Child Care boards as well as serving as an Elder at my church. I moved to Rochelle when I was 10. I met my husband Kevin here and we have three daughters, two son in laws and a granddaughter.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I believe education is the asset our community is built on. I had two daughters go through Rochelle schools successfully. When my youngest daughter was struggling with different and bigger issues I began attending board meetings and as a result I've become passionate about the education of all of our community's kids.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I want to work with administrators, teachers and staff to improve current test scores, as well as provide curriculum transparency for parents and taxpayers. I would also fight for medical freedom and parental rights. I don't ever want to see another child forcefully masked, tested or quarantined.



### Javier Zepeda

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-My wife Martha and I have lived in Rochelle for 20 years. Our five children have attended school in Rochelle. My years of experience in the classroom and in the counseling department at RTHS is one of my strong qualifications for the elementary district school board position. Being in the school environment, I am familiar with what goes on in the typical classroom, and I am also familiar with the needs of students, teachers and families. My other strong qualification for the board is that I am a current board member in the district, with almost two terms of experience representing students and families.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I am running for the April 4 election to continue representing and supporting the elementary school district, advocating for the needs of our students and families.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-Our district is now on its way to RMS with the Dual Language program, and I would like to continue advocating for this program, as I strongly believe that bilingualism and biculturalism will help in our relationships with others in our community.



### Jennifer Thompson

#### Please tell voters a little bit about yourself

-Rochelle has been home for the majority of my life. My husband Tim and I have two children - both students in Rochelle elementary schools. I've spent the past 16 years working in local government and attended NIU for both undergraduate and graduate degrees. I hold a master's degree in public administration. Thanks to my education and experience, I have a solid understanding of the school board's role and the complex decisions regularly made at the board level. I value integrity, transparency and thoughtful decision-making.

#### Why are you seeking the office you're running for in the April 4 election?

-I enjoy giving back to my community and am especially passionate about supporting children by ensuring their different needs are met. I've served the district as a volunteer on many occasions and hope to continue that service as a board member. I believe in solving local issues through non-partisan collaboration.

#### What issue or issues relating to holding office are you most passionate about and where do you stand on them?

-I stand for supporting teachers, embracing diversity, addressing mental health challenges, responsible spending, setting common-sense policies and prioritizing the safety & security of our buildings.



**Lanning Nicoloff (unincorporated area - did not respond to questionnaire)**






# April

## HUB NEWS



# What Is Happening @ RTHS

- April 3 SENIORS — Silver Service claims are due in the office
- April 4 Math team resumes after school practices on Tuesdays
- Apr 7 No School
- Apr 10 No School
- Apr 12 RTHS Test Day: Gr 11 SAT, Gr 10 PSAT, Gr 9 PSAT. Seniors: No School April 12
- Apr 13 Lost in Yonkers, our Spring play opens
- April 14 Payment for summer school class classes is due in the counseling center. Cost is \$20 per class payable to RTHS. Questions: see your counselor. Spring play Lost in Yonkers, a comedy on the RTHS stage
- April 15 Final performance of Lost in Yonkers
- Apr 17 5:30 pm Board of Education meeting
- Apr 18 Dismiss KEC classes 12:10pm
- Apr 21  It's AG DAY! Come visit RTHS students & experience farm life
- Apr 22 Renaissance Study Hall  
Release in the teacher lounge  
Community Action Network food truck festival downtown  
Junior-Senior Prom
- May 1 Honors Night 7pm, in the auditorium
- SENIORS: Check your grades; RU on track to graduate? Open a Parchment account to order final transcripts - free until you graduate at [www.parchment.com](http://www.parchment.com)

### Ag Day - Friday, April 21, 2023

@ RTHS 1401 Flagg Rd., 8:30am to 2pm  
Faculty parking lot adjacent to the greenhouse behind the school building

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Veronica Vaughn – CoChair  
Livestock Chair - Abbey Jarvis | Co-Chair - Rylee Jackson  
Tractors Chair - Sam Overton | Co-Chair - Logan Crawford  
GreenHouse Chair - Emily Lovett | Co-Chair - Meridith Bruns  
Public Relations Chair - Ricardo Rodriguez | Co-Chair - Trent Kreider  
Toys (miniature farm) Chair - Elijah Metzger | Co-Chair - Alayna Smardo  
Ag Dept Chair - Donna Page



### RTHS Junior Senior Prom Sat., April 22

**Theme: A Night in the Countryside**



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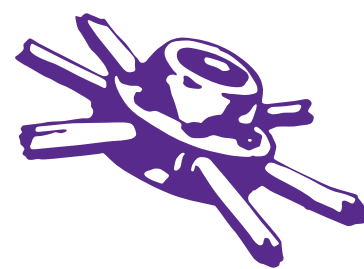
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## HUB SPOTLIGHT



### RTHS netters medal at Sterling Futures Invitational

The Rochelle Hub tennis team sent its freshmen and sophomore players to the Sterling Futures Invitational on Saturday. Freshmen Caleb Mortensen and Mark Green (above) took second place in the doubles bracket, winning their first two matches 8-4 and 8-1 before falling 2-8 in the title match. Freshmen Zachary Dreska and Philip Winters (below) won the consolation side of the doubles bracket, losing 4-8 in their first match and winning 8-4 in their second match.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

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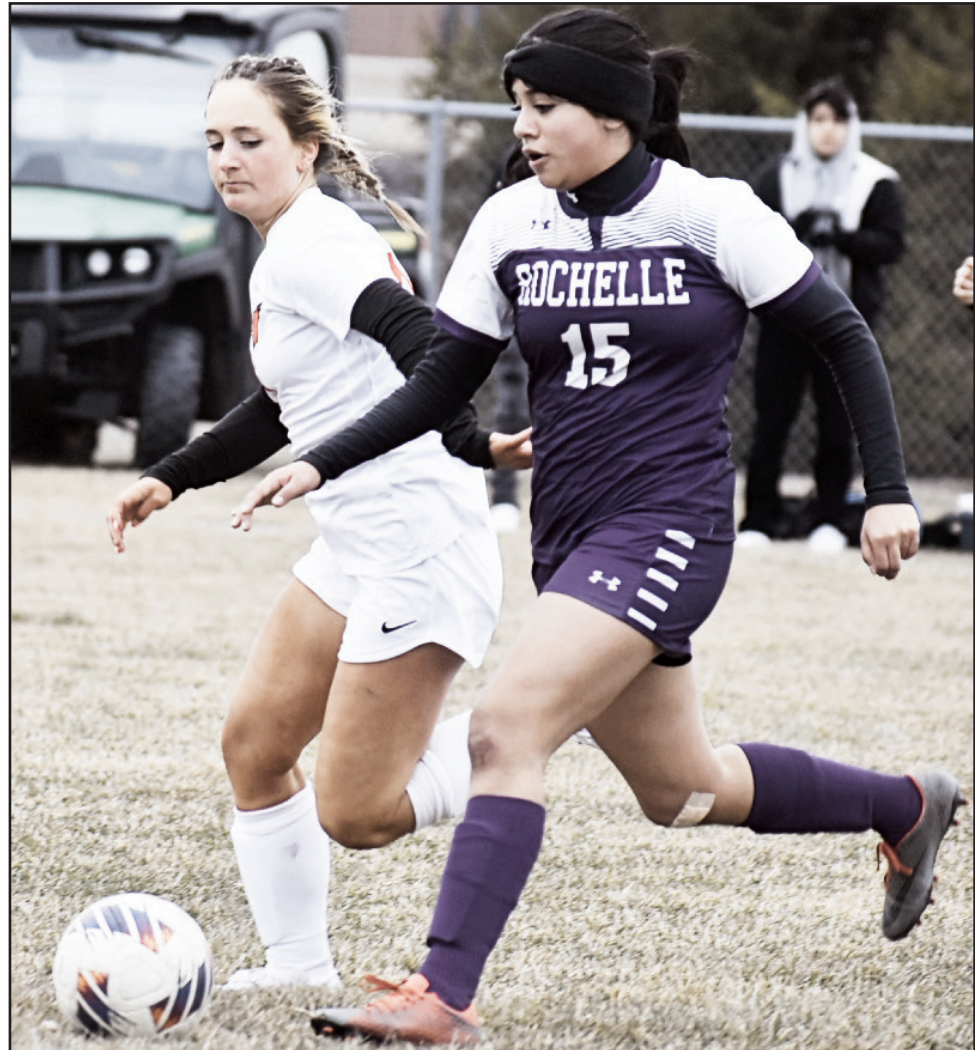
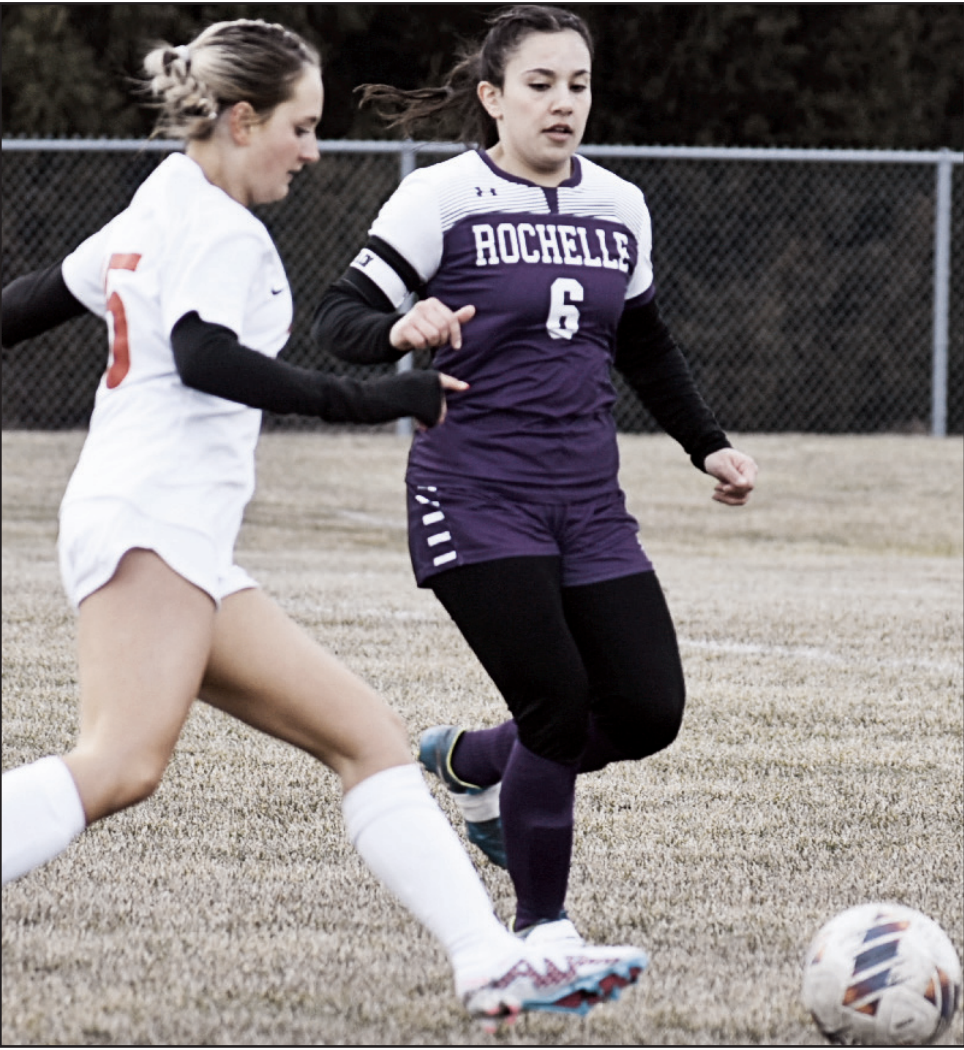
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# SPORTS

## RTHS Girls Soccer



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team faced Stillman Valley at home on Friday, falling 6-2 and suffering its first loss of the season. At left, senior Jasmin Hernandez challenges a Stillman Valley forward for the ball. At right, sophomore Betty Flores pushes the ball into the midfield area.

## Stillman Valley hands Rochelle first loss of season

### Avila, Lara score goals as Cardinals defeat Lady Hubs 6-2 on Friday evening

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team hosted Stillman Valley for a nonconference match Friday evening, falling 6-2 and suffering its first loss of the season. Senior Mavi Avila and sophomore

Makayla Lara each scored goals for the Lady Hubs (2-1, 0-0 Interstate 8), while junior Danica Ward recorded 10 saves to lead the Rochelle defense. The Lady Hubs took the early lead in the match, with

Avila scoring an unassisted goal on a right-footed shot from the edge of the Stillman Valley penalty area during the third minute. The Cardinals regained control of the match soon after, however, scoring goals in

the seventh and 17th minutes to take a 2-1 advantage. Additional goals during the 21st, 24th and 36th minutes allowed Stillman Valley to surge ahead and take a 5-1 lead over the Lady Hubs at halftime.

Lara's left-footed blast from distance soared over the Cardinal goalkeeper during the 56th minute for Rochelle's second and final goal of the match. Stillman Valley sealed the win with its last goal of the contest

during the 61st minute. The Cardinals outshot the Lady Hubs 19-11 and 16-6 in shots on goal. Rochelle faced Streator on the road Tuesday evening. See Sunday's News-Leader for details.

## NIU Football

## Huskies complete first week of spring practices

**DEKALB** — The Northern Illinois University football team wrapped up its first week of 2023 spring drills with a two-hour practice in full pads Sunday at the Chessick Practice Center. The spirited workout saw the Huskie defense get the better of the offense during team periods, according to NIU head coach Thomas Hammock, who saw plenty to like overall. "Today was intense [after two practices in helmets and shorts]," Hammock said. "I really liked the energy, really liked the urgency. There are a lot of things we can do

better, a lot of things we can clean up. Our defense is a little bit ahead; they have a lot of guys coming back with a lot of experience and they're in the second year in this system. They're replaying at a high level." Defensively, a deep and experienced line, led by players like James Ester, Demond Taylor, Raishein Thomas and Devonte O'Malley, were able to pressure and "sack" quarterbacks Ethan Hampton, Nevan Cremascoli, Justin Lynch and Mason Kidd. "They [the defensive linemen] are physical,

they're strong and it starts up front," Hammock said. "You notice the difference from a physicality standpoint of our defensive line. We have guys with a lot of experience — Ester, Taylor, O'Malley, [Cade] Haberman, Thomas, [Pierce] Oppong — [they are] guys that played a lot of football for us, multiple year starters and you can really tell. It's good when your defensive line is really physical, it forces your offensive line to get better and it makes your program better. Our offense will respond, the offensive line will respond."

Of the approximately 27 offensive skill players currently participating in practice, 18 are newcomers and underclassmen. Developing that group — and the young and less experienced players across the board — is one of the emphases for the Huskies' this spring. "We are monitoring the reps from the standpoint of we want to get everyone on our roster a certain percentage of reps so we can get them evaluated," Hammock said. "Spring is a great evaluation time for us. Guys can take advantage of the opportunity and the

more good you put on tape the more snaps you get." The practice schedule was also set to provide time for players to review the previous practices, work on correcting mistakes and learn the new plays installed each week. The Huskies practice on either Saturday or Sunday with the next practice on Wednesday morning. See the complete schedule at Spring Football Central on NIUHuskies.com. Hammock has also been pleased with the impact the newcomers have made. "I've been impressed

with the newcomers," Hammock said. "They've come in and worked hard, [CB] Shaad [Dabney] has come in and made a bunch of plays already. He's been coached well and has a great feel for the game. [CB] Gabriel [Amagatcher] has come in and competed; he is a physical corner. [WR] Davis Patterson has come in and done a nice job; [RB] Gavin Williams is starting to get his feet wet. Those are guys we've been able to bring in to help enhance our team who have really stepped in and done a nice job competitively."

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# ASHTON NEWS



## AFC FFA wins dress grant award

The Lee County Farm Bureau Young Leader Committee is excited to award their first FFA official dress grant award winners. This year, eight members of the Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD #275 FFA Chapter were awarded official dress during their recent FFA meeting by Young Leader Alec Wetzell.



## Viall represents AFC at regional spelling bee

Kate Viall represented Ashton Franklin-Center Junior Senior High School at the regional spelling bee March 9. She competed against 30 of the best spellers from Lee, Ogle and Whiteside Counties and made it to the third round.

## AFC baseball team tees off season

ASHTON — The Ashton-Franklin Center varsity baseball team dominated Kirkland-Hiawatha 11-1 in five innings on Friday, March 24. Griffin Bushman totaled three RBIs in the win, while Austin June added two RBIs and Jordan Harris scored three runs. Carson Rueff pitched all five innings, striking out eight batters and allowing only one run on two hits.

The Ashton-Franklin Center varsity baseball team defeated Fulton 10-4 on Thursday, March 23. The Raiders combined for seven hits in the victory, with Caleb Thomas finishing 2-for-2 and scoring two

runs. Aaron Lester went 1-for-4 with two RBIs, while four players including Jordan Harris, Michael Cochrane, Auden Polk and Austin June each had one RBI. Cochrane threw all five innings, striking out seven batters and allowing three earned runs.

The Ashton-Franklin Center varsity baseball team cruised over Orangeville on Wednesday, March 22, winning 16-0 in four innings. Carson Rueff and Auden Polk each recorded two RBIs for the Raider offense, while Caleb Thomas, Jordan Harris, Brock Lehman and Michael Meadors each had one RBI in the win.

Harris threw a no-hitter in the game, striking out 11 Orangeville batters.

The Ashton-Franklin Center varsity baseball team fell 12-8 against Pearl City on Monday, March 20. Carson Rueff went 3-for-4 with three runs scored in the game, while Aaron Lester walked three times and scored one run. Austin June finished 2-for-4 with one run scored and Auden Polk went 2-for-3 with one walk and one run scored. Caleb Thomas walked, reached on an error and scored one run and Michael Cochrane walked, doubled and scored one run in the loss.

## Lee County passes pro-agriculture resolution

DIXON — Lee County Farm Bureau (LCFB) leaders are excited to call the Lee County Board an “ally in agriculture” after the board’s adoption of a pro-agriculture resolution, demonstrating local elected officials’ support for farmers.

“Our farming community would like to thank members of the Lee County Board for showing their support by adopting this resolution,” Adam Henkel, Lee CFB President, said. “Agriculture is a major economic driver in Lee County, and this resolution shows that our elected officials have our backs when making important decisions affecting our farms and livelihoods.”

Lee County Board members unanimously adopted

the resolution during their meeting on March 23 following comments from the farm bureau and local FFA members.

“I’m proud that the Lee County Board unanimously voted to adopt this resolution in support of agriculture,” Bob Olson, Lee County Board Chairman, said. “Agriculture is important to both the economy and the people of Lee County. This month’s meeting fell during National Agriculture Week, which makes this vote even more meaningful.”

Local elected officials across the state are showing their support of their agricultural communities through the adoption of pro-agriculture resolutions. County board members work with their local farm

bureau to better understand the role agriculture plays in their local economy, such as providing jobs and generating property tax revenue, which is used to fund services for all citizens. The result is a strong working relationship between county officials and the agriculture community.

“Agriculture is the state’s largest industry, and passage of these pro-agriculture resolutions show that our elected officials understand that agriculture goes far beyond providing food and fuel,” Illinois Farm Bureau President Richard Guebert Jr. said. “When county boards pass these resolutions, they are showing their commitment to work with farm leaders so they can confidently be champions of agriculture.”



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Lee County Farm Bureau President Adam Henkel presents the Ally in Agriculture designation to Lee County Board Chairman Bob Olson on March 23 following the passage of the pro-agriculture resolution. Pictured left to right: Henkel, Olson, Section 2 FFA Reporter Natalie Pratt and Section 2 FFA President Kelton Schwamberger.

## COMMUNITY MATTERS



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# PRIME TIME

## Great part-time jobs for retirees

MANY adults nearing retirement age count down the days until they can bid adieu to the daily tasks of commuting and working so they can enjoy much more time for recreation, travel or whatever is they aspire to do.

As enticing as unending free time may seem, some retirees find it is not ideal to be entirely free from the responsibility of working. As current seniors can attest, inflation can drive up the costs of living, meaning that seniors who were once able to afford a certain retirement lifestyle may no longer enjoy that hard-earned luxury. Others may miss the daily opportunities to socialize that working provides, or the way problem-solving on the job stimulates the brain. But even retirees who miss working may not be ready to return to the workforce full-time. That can make part-time employment an ideal fit for mature workers.

Here's a look at some part-time positions that could be a good fit for older adults reentering the workforce.

Working in retail opens seniors up to a wide array of responsibilities and scenarios. Jobs may include greeting customers, making sales, putting out



inventory, and helping customers select merchandise. Being personable and having good customer service skills are necessary traits to have when working in retail. Many stores offer part-time employees flexible hours so schedules can be customized.

Retirees who loved their job but wanted to spend less time doing it can return as

consultants. According to The Balance: Money, individuals often find they earn more per hour working as consultants than they did as full-time staff members. Consulting is a way to share expertise and experience without making a full-time commitment.

A customer service representative is tasked with helping customers solve

problems and ensuring customer satisfaction. He or she may work in a traditional office or store location, or answer calls and resolve issues from home.

Retirees may want to consider jobs working in schools or in related capacities. Driving a school bus is an option if people are willing to undergo the

proper training and licensing to operate this type of vehicle. Seniors also may consider working as lunchroom aides or lunch service providers, crossing guards, substitute teachers, and paraprofessionals. School employees will only work a few hours during the day. They'll also enjoy many holidays off as well as summer vacations.

Receptionists greet patients or customers in office settings. According to AARP, they are the welcoming faces of organizations. Answering phones and light clerical work also may be required of receptionists. Those who want to work off-peak hours can think about working nights and weekends in hospitals or skilled nursing facilities.

## Financial strategies that can help seniors grow their money

INVESTING is often portrayed as something people need not worry about after retirement. The theory that people should avoid risk as they approach and reach retirement age makes sense, as the unknown of investing can expose aging individuals to losses that compromise their ability to live comfortably on fixed incomes.

Though conventional wisdom regarding financial risk and aging still makes sense, the effects of inflation over the last year-plus have highlighted how important it can be for seniors to keep growing their money even after they retire. Fortunately, various strategies can help seniors grow their money without exposing them to considerable risk.

- Look into high-yield savings accounts. Interest on savings accounts was once a great way for individuals to grow their money. But interest rates on standard, no-minimum-balance accounts are now so low that the growth in interest is negligible. However, individuals with sizable savings, such as seniors, can explore high-yield savings accounts. High-yield savings accounts offer much higher interest rates than standard accounts. The rules governing eligibility to open such accounts differ between financial institutions, but many mandate that account holders have high minimum balances, typically in the neighborhood of \$250,000. So long as account holders maintain that minimum balance, they can accrue penalty-free interest without exposing their money to the risks of the market.

- Consider other exclusive bank accounts. High-yield savings accounts are not the only way seniors' banks may be able to help grow their money without necessarily taking on market-related risk. Products such as Chase Private Client CheckingSM offer exclusive perks, including a dedicated client advisor



who can work with seniors as they navigate life changes, including retirement.

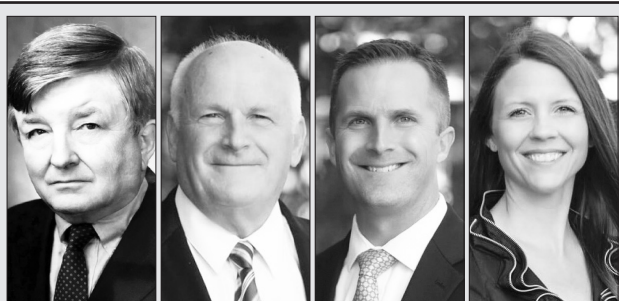
- Consider low-risk investments. Risk aversion is not the same thing as risk avoidance. It's wise for seniors to be averse to risk, but they can still consider low-risk investments like short-term bonds as a means to growing their

money in retirement. Low-risk investments can be vulnerable to inflation, not unlike money sitting in a savings account. However, certain short-term bonds, such as Treasury Inflation-Protected Securities, are designed to mirror inflation, which makes them an option worthy of consideration for seniors who have

been concerned by the ways inflation has affected their financial status in recent years. According to the Department of the Treasury, the principal of a TIPS can

go up or down over its term. When the bond reaches maturity, if the principal is higher than the original amount, bond holders get the increased amount. If

the principal is lower at maturity, bond holders still get the original amount. Seniors can consider a host of options that can make them less vulnerable to inflation.



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**Seeking health care in your hometown brings the comforts of receiving qualified**

**care from people you know and trust.** Whether it be a trip to the dentist, regular health care screenings, a visit to a specialist or an emergency, you need not travel. It's all right here.



**Banking with people who know you is a luxury found only in hometowns.**

You don't have to show your ID every time you go in. You can get a loan from people who know you and understand your needs, whether it be money for your first car or to help your business grow. Local banks believe in the value of community members helping one another.



**No one wants to have to make an insurance claim, but it's painless when your agent is your neighbor.**

You don't have to convince them that there was a hail storm, or that the wind nearly took your roof off. They know because they live here. Which do you want when you've had a bad day: A face-to-face meeting with your local agent, or a machine answering the phone at that big national insurer that advertises on TV?



**Time is money.**

It's simple math (especially when you figure in gas mileage.) Shopping locally can actually save you both time and money!



**Customer service after the sale is invaluable.** Local retailers not only take responsibility for the product

they sold, they will often fix it or replace it – no questions asked. Appliances, furniture, computers and electronics sometimes have glitches. Would you rather box yours up, send it to who knows where, and wait six to eight weeks, or just go back to the nice guy that helped you when you bought it?



**Keeping it local encourages community growth.** By choosing to do business locally,

you help maintain Rochelle's diversity, charm and appeal; which attracts new community members.



**One word: Jobs.**

When you do business of any kind in Rochelle, it creates and maintains jobs for others in our area. A healthy employment rate is the cornerstone of all economies. How can you help the economy recover? Start at home.





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### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 20, 2023 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: Alpha Studios, 409 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, IL 61069  
Dated March 20, 2023  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk  
No. 0321  
(March 22, 29 and April 5, 2023)

#### LEGAL NOTICE FOR CRESTON-DEMENT PUBLIC LIBRARY NEW BUILDING

By authority of the Board of Library Trustees, sealed bids will be received until 2:00 p.m., prevailing time, on April 21, 2023, by the Board of Library Trustees of the Creston-Dement Public Library for the new building. Any bids received after 2:00 p.m. will not be accepted. The project consists of site work, landscaping, building structure, exterior cladding & finishes, mechanical, electrical, plumbing, low voltage systems, audio visual, interior construction and interior finishes. Responses shall be submitted in duplicate on or before the specified closing time in an opaque sealed envelope marked as noted within the Bidding Documents on the outside and addressed to: Kristi Scherer, Library Director, Creston-Dement Public Library. Responses are to be mailed or hand delivered to the Creston-Dement Public Library, 107 S. Main Street, Creston, IL 60113. A pre-bid virtual conference for general contractors will be held on April 7, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. through a virtual link noted in Section 001113 of the bid documents. (not mandatory) Bid security in the form of a bid bond or certified check made payable to the Creston-Dement Public Library equal to 10% of the base bid amount shall be submitted with the bid. Performance and Labor and Material Payment Bonds, and Certificate of Insurance will be required from the successful bidder. The Creston-Dement Public Library Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any or all documents submitted or parts thereof, to waive any irregularities or informalities in the prequalification procedures and to approve trade contractors and vendors to bid in a manner serving the interest of the Creston-Dement Public Library. All bidders must comply with the applicable Illinois Law requiring the payment of prevailing wages, and bidders must comply with the Illinois Statutory requirements regarding labor and bidding, including Equal Opportunity Laws. Bidding documents which include Project Manual and Project Plans will be on file and may be obtained by bidders on March 30, 2023, after 12:00 p.m., for electronic distribution through BHFx Planroom website: <http://www.bhfxplanroom.com>. All communication should be directed to Shaun Kelly, Engberg Anderson, 8618 W. Catalpa Avenue, Chicago, IL 60656. (PH: 312-846-7646; EM: shaunk@engberganderson.com). Hard copies are also available and all costs associated with printing will be borne by the bidding contractor or vendor. Kristi Scherer, Library Director, Creston-Dement Public Library  
No. 0328  
(March 29, April 2 and 5, 2023)

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### 101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

### 105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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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

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### 119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### 307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

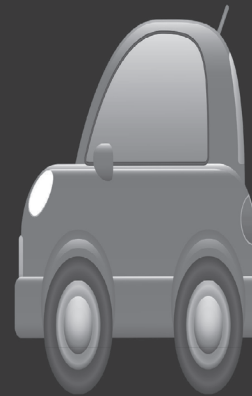
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## ROCHELLE News-Leader

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The daytime deliveries would be two or three days per week (including weekends) and consist of approximately 4-5 hours per shift depending on the route usually 10-15 hours per week.

Applicants must be at least 18 years old, possess a valid driver's license, proof of insurance and a safe driving record. Drivers will use company vehicles when delivering, and will be trained on the respective routes.

Candidates must be able to load, unload and carry multiple bundles of 5 to 10 pounds each. Driver applicants must be reliable, personable and have a general knowledge of area streets and roads.

This position is perfect for someone looking to supplement their income or retirement.

Interested individuals must fill out an application in person at the Rochelle News-Leader office at 211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle.  
No phone calls please.

03262023



# SPORTS

## RTHS Softball



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Macy Belmonte makes a throw from the shortstop position during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball game against Belvidere North on Friday.

## Lady Hubs lose opener against Belvidere North

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team teed off the 2023 season on Friday evening, falling 13-1 against Belvidere North in nonconference action. Senior Morgan Smardo took the circle for the Lady Hubs (0-1, 0-0 Interstate 8), striking out eight batters in five innings.

Belvidere North took a

1-0 lead in the top of the second inning, where a solo home run from Marissa Long gave the Blue Thunder their first advantage of the game. Belvidere North broke the game open in the top of the fourth inning, scoring seven runs on three errors, two singles, one fielder's choice and one wild pitch to take a commanding 8-0 lead over the Lady Hubs.

Rochelle avoided the shutout in the bottom of

the fourth inning, where Smardo reached on an error and scored on junior Macy Belmonte's RBI single to make the score 8-1. The Blue Thunder extended their lead in the top of the sixth inning, tallying five runs on one triple, four singles and two errors.

Senior Maleah Pointer singled in the bottom of the fifth inning, while sophomore Lauren Dyer had two strikeouts in one inning of relief in the pitcher's circle.

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# ROCHELLE News-Leader

## Easter Ham GIVEAWAY!



### RULES

1. No purchase necessary, enter at as many participating businesses as you wish.
2. One winner per family only.
3. Official entry blanks and copies of official entry blanks only.
4. All entries must be received by 10 am on Friday, March 31. Winners will be notified by the participating businesses and also listed in the Rochelle News-Leader.

*Good Luck!*

#### ENTER TO WIN! NEWS-LEADER HAM GIVEAWAY

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City: \_\_\_\_\_  
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