PAGE 7



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KNOW IT

Public invited to

city meeting

Rochelle residents are

city comprehensive

planning meeting.

Page 2

WEATHER

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(Paid for by Jason & Patricia Goodwin) SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

Jason Goodwin

Rochelle City Council

Jail roof project update presented Human resources information system approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

News-

OREGON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard an update from Board Member Don Griffin on its project that involves solar panels in the roof of the

recently-constructed Ogle

County Judicial Center. The Ogle County Judicial Center replaced the former Ogle County Jail, which was recently demolished. Stateline Solar is the county's contractor on the solar panel project and board members were shown photos of the progress on Tuesday. The county saw delays in receiving equipment for the project such as inverters and a switch.

"We did get the inverters in finally and then we were waiting for the switch we needed," Griffin said. "That all came in and the contractors were on site last week. The inverters have been mounted on the outside wall. That's all been installed and hopefully next week they'll be on site to finish the majority of that project and we should be getting close to being operational. We're seeing movement on it. It's a matter of once it's all hooked up,



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

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RTHS #212 School Board

At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard an update from Board Member Don Griffin on its project that involves solar panels in the roof of the recently-constructed Ogle County Judicial Center.

finishing the net metering connection with ComEd.'

Human resources

The board approved the purchase of a new human resource information system from Paycom by a vote of 22-1. The system involves a \$6,500 initial cost and \$1,500 payroll cost and expenses each pay period will depend on the number of employees receiving compensation.

Paycom was the lower

of the final two systems the board considered, Board Chairman John Finfrock said. A human resource information system is required for record keeping, and Finfrock said the county has not had one "for quite a long time."

"We want to get started so we can get it faster and be able to use it and meet requirements," Finfrock said. "I think we did our due diligence."

The agreement with Paycom does not involve a contract. The county will

have access to a support team for it. Board Member Bruce Larson said the cost per person paid per pay period will be \$165.

Road & bridge

The board unanimously approved a bid from Martin & Company Excavating for \$1.629 million for a project that will replace the existing bridge on Leaf River Road over Leaf River with a longer bridge with a larger opening.

See COUNTY page 5

Electric

increase

planned BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its March 27 meeting, the Rochelle City Council will vote on a new electric pric-

ing schedule for Rochelle Municipal Utilities. At its March 13 meeting, the city council heard and discussed details of an electric rate study on RMU done by Utility Power Solutions. UFS has developed a three-year plan that will result in small increases to the customer charge to help cover the fixed costs of RMU. The first year

changes also 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 over the average of all rate classes. The March 27 decision will impact the first year of increases.

See RMU page 3

From the Heart presents second round of checks Four \$10,000 donations made to area nonprofit organizations

BY JEFF HELFRICH

MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At Tuesday's meeting of the Rochelle Rotary Club, From the Heart President/ Founder Dave Eckhardt and Rotary President Adam Heal presented \$10,000 checks to four area nonprofits from proceeds from the 2023 From the Heart gala.

Representatives from Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Pegasus Special Riders and Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center accepted checks Tuesday and CASA will receive its check at a later date. Representatives from the Hub City Senior Center, Foundation for Focus House, Rochelle Area Community Foundation and HOPE of Ogle County received checks on March 14. The 2023 gala raised \$80,000 this year, hitting its goal to give each nonprofit \$10,000.

"As I said last week, this is my favorite part of the From the Heart event, giving out the money," Eckhardt said.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At Tuesday's meeting of the Rochelle Rotary Club, From the Heart President/Founder Dave Eckhardt and Rotary President Adam Heal presented \$10,000 checks to four area nonprofits from proceeds from the 2023 From the Heart gala.

Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center Executive Director Jessica Cash was the first to accept a check Tuesday. Her organization is the child advocacy

center that serves Ogle and Lee County and works with children and families that have been affected by child abuse.

Shining Star works

alongside police, DCFS, the FBI and prosecutors on child abuse cases. It provides forensic interviewing of children, counseling, court advocacy, medical

exams, support groups for kids and parents, community abuse prevention programs and more, Cash said.

See FTH page 2



OBITUARIES

SUSAN F. YOUNG **VALERIE JO SCHABACKER** · JUDITH A. 'JUDY' AURAND

See page 4

INSERTS **SCHNUCKS**

MENARDS

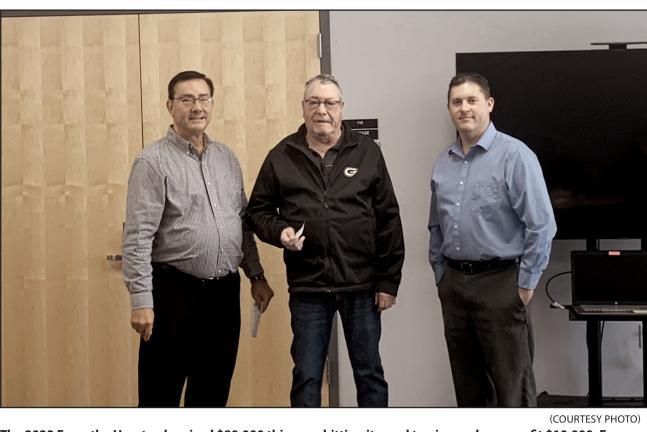
INSIDE

SEVERE WEATHER

Local News.....2, 3, 5 Obituaries.....4 Opinion.....6 Community.....



LOCAL NEWS



The 2023 From the Heart gala raised \$80,000 this year, hitting its goal to give each nonprofit \$10,000. From the Heart presented its second round of checks during Tuesday's Rotary meeting.

FTH: Donations made to local organizations

From page 1

"We're very grateful for this money," Cash said. "We're funded by grants, donations and fundraisers. For example, last year we had a team over for an interview with a child and our forensic interview camera went down while the family was there. It cost \$5,000 to replace that camera and we used the funds we got from From the Heart last year. Getting this unrestricted donation is very helpful for us. Thank you for that."

Eckhardt said one of the reasons From the Heart started was because he served on several nonprofit boards and saw issues with funds they had that were only for certain restricted uses.

"That's why when we

created From the Heart, we said the funds can be used for anything that's needed," Eckhardt said. "That's a pretty big deal to these groups."

Pegasus Special Riders Treasurer Nancy Reed was the next to accept a check Tuesday. Her organization provides therapeutic horseback riding experiences for those who are physically and mentally challenged. Riding helps with cognitive balance and volunteers and instructors assist in the lessons.

Last year, Pegasus Special Riders sustained damage to its arena during a wind event that caused a total replacement.

"We're in the process of replacing it now," Reed said. "They have slated lessons to start in June.

Usually we start in April. We didn't have a single lesson last year because of the disaster and we didn't have any place for them to ride safely. It's been an experience. Our funding comes from donations. We're very appreciative to be involved with From the Heart."

Cal Jacobs accepted a check on behalf of Rochelle Christian Food Pantry. In 2022, it saw 1,000 more visitors and spent over \$30,000 more on food than it did in 2021. It also saw over 300 new clients. The increases are still being seen, and January this year set an alltime record for the food pantry with 475 visits in one month. It also saw the most visits in any February last month (288).

"The neat thing about

it is the generosity of the community we live in," Jacobs said. "It's unbelievable. There's people that make donations all the time. We're seldom short of help. We get a lot of volunteers every month. It's a great cause. We feel very good about what we're doing and this will help us continue to do that. We're a full-service organization. What anybody needs, we do. And that's what we feel we're there for."

CASA Executive Director Trisha Tayon was unable to attend the meeting due to a conflict and will receive a check at a later date. Her organization recruits volunteers that serve abused and neglected children in the court system in Ogle

Public invited to attend city's comprehensive planning meetings **ROCHELLE** — The

City of Rochelle is currently in the process of updating its comprehensive plan.

The city will he holding comprehensive planning workshops at each of its Planning & Zoning Commission meetings, which are held the first Monday of each month at 6 p.m. at city hall. The public is invited and encouraged to attend the workshops to provide input and feed-

The city last updated its comprehensive plan

"Our comprehensive



plan is our road map for our community," City Community Development Director Michelle Pease said. "All are welcome and encouraged to attend the Planning & Zoning workshops the first Monday of every month at 6 p.m.. I am excited to go through the process again to see what we have already accomplished and what is next."

Arbor Day Foundation names Rochelle 2022 **Tree City USA**

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle was named a 2022 Tree City USA by the Arbor Day Foundation in honor of its commitment to effective urban forest management. The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and the National Association of State Foresters.

The city achieved Tree City USA recognition by meeting the program's four requirements: a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, an annual community forestry budget of at least \$2 per capita and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

"Everyone benefits when elected officials,

volunteers and committed citizens in communities like Rochelle make smart investments in urban forests," Matt Harris, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation, said. "Trees bring shade to our homes and beauty to our neighborhoods, along with numerous economic, social and environmental benefits."

Trees are assets to a community when properly planted and maintained. They help to improve the visual appeal of a neighborhood, increase property values, reduce home cooling costs, remove air pollutants and provide wildlife habitat, among many other benefits. More information on the program is available at arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

County paint, aerosol recycling and shredding event is April 15

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste (OCSWMD) will be hosting a latex paint/aerosol can recycling and document shredding event on Saturday, April 15 at 909 Pines Road in Oregon. This event is for Ogle County residents only and identification is required. No permits are required for this recycling event.

Latex paint will be collected for recycling from 8 a.m. until noon. The first 10 containers of latex paint per vehicle will cost \$1 per quartsized container, \$2 per gallon-sized container and \$10 per five-gallon pail. The OCSWMD will subsidize the remaining cost to recycle the latex paint. Any additional containers of latex paint will be charged the full price to recycle, which is \$3 per quart, \$6 per gallon, and \$20 per 5-gallon pail. Cash, credit card or checks payable to "EarthPaint.org" will be accepted for payment.

Oil-based paints, stains, and varnishes and spray cans will also be accepted. Residents will have to cover the full cost for recycling oil-based paints, stains, and varnishes. Costs to recycle are \$6 per quartssized container, \$10 per gallon-sized container, and \$25 per five-gallon pail. Cash, credit card or checks payable to "EarthPaint.org" will be accepted for payment.

No business or contractor paints accepted. No bulking or combining of latex paint. Bulked latex paint cannot be recycled

in this program. EarthPaint.org is a Management Department nonprofit business in the Chicago area that works with adults with special needs and disabilities to sort and recycle unwanted latex paint into new paint

or other products.

Aerosol cans, small 14-16-ounce propane cylinders and small butane cylinders will also be accepted by Flatcan Recycling. There is no cost for up to 10 containers. For over 10 items aerosol cans will be \$1 each and propane and butane cylinders will be \$3 each for recycling. Most aerosol spray products will be accepted for recycling. Flatcan Recycling will also accept alkaline batteries for recycling for \$4 per pound and one child car seat at no charge. Additional child car seats will be \$20 per seat. In addition, secure,

by Freeport Recycling's Shred-Beast truck from 9 a.m. to noon. There is a limit of three boxes per vehicle. No business or institutional material accepted. There is no cost to resi-

on-site document shred-

ding will be conducted

dents for paper shredding, because the OCSWMD will cover the cost of the Shred-Beast truck and staff.

Please call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020, email solidwaste@ oglecountyil.gov, or visit www.oglecountyil.gov or the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department on Facebook for more information about this recycling opportunity.





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Rochelle Community Hospital

LOCAL NEWS

RMU: City Council to vote on new electric pricing schedule

From page 1

A three percent total increase over the next three years is expected.

Residential customers would see a \$1 increase in the first year in their service charges from \$9 to \$10. Larger industrial customers would 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.

"The debt we're taking out will help to balance everything out," RMU Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver said. "This way, we don't have to do a five or 10 percent rate increase. I think a three percent rate increase is reasonable. If you look all around us at ComEd, Ameren and everyone else, they've gone with 10-20 percent rate increases. I think RMU and the city have done well trying to hedge against these large rate increases."

Rochelle City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh called a three percent rate increase over three years "very minimal" compared to other utility providers. The average retail price for residential power is over 17 cents, and RMU is at 12 cents. If the new pricing schedule is approved March 27, it wouldn't take effect until

"I think a three percent rate increase is reasonable. If you look all around us at ComEd, Ameren and everyone else, they've gone with 10-20 percent rate increases."

Blake Toliver

April and wouldn't be seen on bills until the following month, Fiegenschuh said.

Toliver said the infrastructure upgrade he's most excited about is the new substation on Centerpoint Drive west of town. That will allow for more power redundancy and back up around town which will make for less-widespread power loss during outages.

"We'll have capacity available to back feed everything and we'll have a small isolated area of 10 customers out as opposed to 500-600 customers out," Toliver said.

The debt issuance and new price schedule would also allow RMU to have more money on hand in the future in case of an emergency event causing damage to infrastructure such as electric poles.

"It was recommended that we have at least \$13 million in the bank at all times," Fiegenschuh said. "If a tornado comes through town and rips up half your poles, our reserves are our only insurance."

Toliver said RMU hasn't had a rate increase since 2017, which he is proud of. The extra cash on hand would also help protect RMU against price fluctuations when buying power to sell to its customers. The utility also faces future uncertainties including a state shift towards renewable energy, supply chain issues and inflation and more electric vehicles

impacting infrastructure and requiring upsizing.

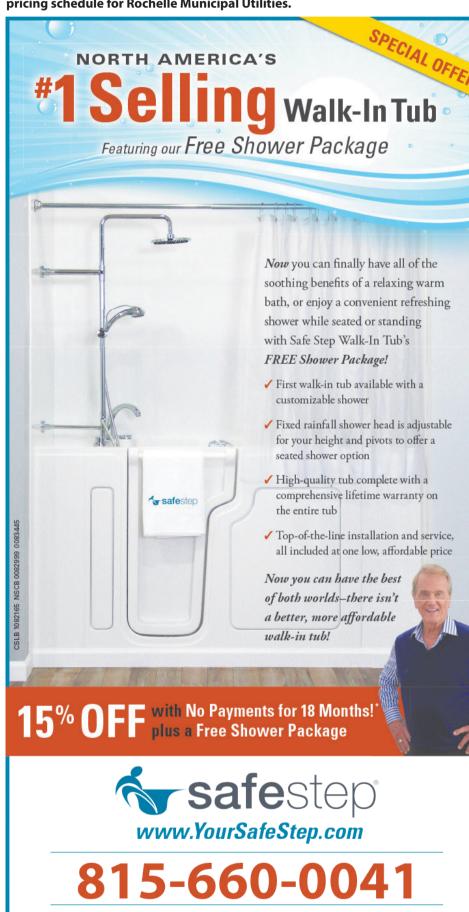
"With electric vehicles, a lot of things are up in the airrightnow,"Toliversaid. "EV adoption in Rochelle is quite slow currently. We may see that as they become more affordable. A lot of Rochelle's homes in the core part of town are running on very small services that can't even handle an EV charger. Not only will the utility have to do some upgrades, but a lot of these homeowners will too. I'm sure there will be some growing pains, but we're going to have to take it day by day and see where things go. I don't know of any utility in the nation that's 100 percent prepared for an EV in every home."

In his time as city manager, Fiegenschuh has been with RMU for almost six years and said he's pleased with how it's operated. The city council passed a strategic plan in 2018 with a focus on reinvesting in older infrastructure to increase reliability to prepare for the future, which is where a "good portion" of funds have been invested in the past five years.

"You have a group of very dedicated people here who want to see the utility succeed," Toliver said. "The thing about a municipality is we're not out to benefit an investor. Every dollar that comes back into utility is then re-spent on the utility. This is going right back into our service and what we provide."



At its March 27 meeting, the Rochelle City Council will vote on a new electric pricing schedule for Rochelle Municipal Utilities.



Sunday, April 2, there will be a free coin appraisal at the Rochelle Moose. This event is open to the public and will be held from 1 p.m. until 5 p.m. in the lodge dining room with John Gruben

ROCHELLE — On

and Dave Schabacker doing the appraisals.

They can even evaluate foreign coinage and US paper money. The most valuable item appraised in the last couple years was a Gold Certificate from the

Free coin appraisal at Rochelle Moose Steward Bank of Steward, Illinois, valued at over \$7,000. It is always a treasure hunt. Bring down your collection of coins you have gathered through the years and have them evaluated right here in Rochelle.

EARLY VOTING NOTICE

FLAGG & DEMENT PRECINCTS ONLY

EARLY VOTING will be conducted at the Flagg Township Office located at 303 W. IL Route 38 in Rochelle for Flagg & Dement Precincts only.

Wednesday, March 29 - Friday, March 31 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Saturday, April 1 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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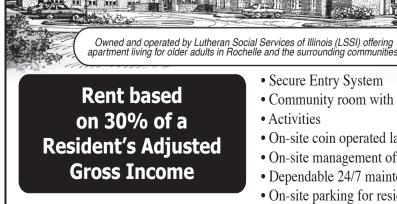
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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Valerie Jo Schabacker

CHANA — Valerie Jo Schabacker, 76, of Chana, passed away Wednesday, March 22 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford. She was born Sept. 30, 1946, in Pekin, Illinois, the daughter of Frank and Lorene (Egli) McCoy. She married Thomas L. Schabacker on April 4, 1986, in Rochelle.

Val was a homemaker who took great pride in raising her family. She loved nature, her cats and Harley-Davidson motorcycles. She was an avid fan of the San Diego Chargers.

Val is survived by her husband, Tom; three sons: David (Eileen) Herrmann, Douglas (Janelle) Herrmann and Chad (Myra) Schabacker; 13 grandchildren; 12 great-grandchildren; a brother, Frank (Victoria) McCoy; two sisters: Nona (Jim) Krannawitter and Deborah (Eric) Leoni; and several nieces and nephews.

In addition to her parents, Val is preceded in death by a daughter, Michelle "Shelly" Triplett.

Visitation will be from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, March 26 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St. in Rochelle. Cremation care will be provided following



the visitation. Entombment of cremated remains will take place at a later date in Lawnridge Mausoleum, Rochelle. Contributions in Val's memory may be directed to the Granny Rose Animal Shelter in Dixon or OSF Hospice. Please visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make two arrests

ROCHELLE — On March 22 at 3:18 p.m. Todd Christopher Gorski, 60, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

On March 19 at 8:27 p.m. Joseph Franklin, 33, of Rochelle was cited for leaving the scene of an accident, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident, no insurance and suspended registration. He was released on an I-Bond with an April 28 Rochelle court date.

On March 23 at 10:45 p.m. Kelly McGrath, 22, of Rochelle was arrested on three counts of domestic battery and transferred.

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

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Judith A. 'Judy' Aurand

UDITH A. "Judy" Aurand, 82, passed away on Tuesday, March 21 at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon with her son and daughter by her side after a brief battle with pancreatic cancer. Born on June 13, 1940 in a tenant house in rural Ashton,

Judy was the sixth of seven children born to Samuel and Elma (Allsup) Cultra. Judy attended a one-room Union country schoolhouse from first through fifth grade and then a"town" school, eventually graduating from Ashton High School in 1957 at the age of 16 with 28 in her graduating class.

She was a hard worker and started at age 10 by picking asparagus, de-tasseling corn and doing line work for Del Monte in Rochelle. In high school Judy car-hopped with her best friend, Shirley Engelkes Frahm. They double dated, partied and had a lot of good, wholesome "1950's" fun with a friendship that has stood the test of time and many cocktail hours.

While at a square dance in Chana with Shirley in 1957, Judy met John A. DeVries. They were married on Jan. 22, 1958, and her life as a farm wife began. She worked hard farming over 1,500 acres and raising 300 angus beef cows. Their marriage produced four children that became her world. In the late 1960s they established DeVries Grain and Fertilizer in Byron.

After a divorce in 1985, Judy happily left the farm

and worked for McGregor's Subscription and then Progressive Graphics in Oregon as an office manager. Later, Judy became a Realtor for Century 21 and then co-founded Blackhawk Realty in the late 1980s. On Aug. 20, 1993, Judy remarried to LaMonte "Butch" Aurand in Las Vegas, Nevada. Butch operated heavy

machinery and also attained his real estate license, so they could work as a team. In 2003 Judy started RE-MAX of Rock Valley in Oregon with her daughter, Carla Benesh. Judy won countless awards throughout her real estate career. She was a member of the Rockford Area Realtors Association, the National Association of Realtors and the Mt. Morris Moose Lodge.

Judy was also very active in her children's lives which included traveling across the country attending Arabian horse shows and taking flying lessons. A proud lifetime member of the NRA, she believed in the right to bear arms and did. After retirement Judy enjoyed swimming, traveling, target shooting, lobster and cocktails. She adored Elvis. Judy was very patriotic and a "regular" at the Oregon VFW. She even made her famous potato salad for many VFW luncheons.

Judy is predeceased by her husband, parents, daughter Amy Luepkes, infant daughter Catherine Lynn DeVries, sister Ella Marie Miller and two brothers Bill and Don



Cultra. Judy is survived by her children John (Cathy) DeVries of Madison, Mississippi and Carla (Tony) Benesh of Oregon; three sisters: Carol Link of Ottawa; Mary Ellen Merritt of Towanda, Illinois; and Karen (Ed) Arensdorf of West Branch, Iowa; five grandsons: Bryan (Erica) DeVries; Brett (Jennifer) DeVries; Blake Benesh; David (Kimberly) Luepkes; and Austin (Anna) Luepkes; eight great-grandchildren: Caroline, Harper, Carson, Hudson, Graham, Ember, Emerson and Autumn; and several nieces and nephews. She was also extremely close to her cousin, Charlotte Westcott.

Funeral services will be held 10:30 a.m. Monday, March 27 at the Farrell-Holland-Gale Funeral Home, 110 S. 7th St., Oregon, with the Rev. Michael Hoffman, pastor of the Oregon Church of God officiating. Visitation will be held Sunday at the funeral home from 4-6 p.m.

Burial will follow the funeral service at the Byron Cemetery. Amemorial fund is established in Judy's name for the Serenity Hospice and Home Monarch Butterfly Release. Visit www.farrellhollandgale. com to leave a condolence or memory of Judy.

Susan F. Young Susan was once featured

ASHTON — Susan F. Young, 69, of Ashton, passed away Thursday, March 23 at the Rochelle Community Hospital. She was born Feb. 5, 1954, in Rochelle, the daughter of Robert E. and Frances (Naylor) Young.

Susan grew up in Ashton and graduated from Ashton High School. She obtained her bachelor's degree from Western Illinois University. She held various interesting jobs throughout her career.

in the Who's Who of American Women. She loved animals and kept cattle, horses and dogs on her farm. She loved to travel and enjoyed visiting numerous countries throughout her life. She was a devoted daughter and sister who loved her family.

Susan is survived by her sister, Sally Young; her two beloved dogs, Iris and Ziggy; and numerous special friends.

Susan is preceded in

death by her parents, Robert and Frances Young; and a brother, Clyde Robert

Cremation care was provided by Unger-Horner Funeral Home, Rochelle. A graveside service will be held in Washington Grove Cemetery at a later date. Contributions in Susan's memory may be directed to a charity of the donor's choice.

Please visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Narcotics Task Force makes arrest Friday

OREGON — On March 22 at approximately 7:33 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic top in the 4,000 block of West Illinois Route 64. After an investigation, deputies arrested Angela Oester, 47, of Sterling, for aggravated driving under the influence of alcohol, aggravated driving while license

revoked, driving under the influence of alcohol and driving while license revoked. Oester was issued additional citations for improper lane usage and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Oester was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where she was held pending a court appearance before a judge.

On March 22 at approximately 3:33 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,400 block of North White Rock Road. After an investigation, deputies placed Kent Hull, 61, of Kings under arrest for driving while license revoked. Hull was additionally issued a citation for operating an uninsured vehicle. Hull was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he is being held in lieu of bond.

On March 23 at 10:37 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on a 2017 Chevy Malibu at Illinois Route 38 and Dement Road for a registration violation. After a short rested Mark Rocco, 54, of DeKalb, for driving while his license was suspended. Rocco was released on scene and will appear in

court at a later date. On March 24 at about 1:22 a.m. members of the Ogle County Narcotics Task Force located and arrested Nicholas Marshall, 35, of Polo, in the area of Botanic Avenue and West Center Street in Mt. Morris. Marshall was wanted on an arrest warrant for possession of methamphetamine with the intent to deliver out of Ogle County with a bond of \$500,000 or 10 percent. The Ogle County Narcotics Task Force was assisted by numerous Crime Stopper tips and The Mt. Morris Police Department. Marshall was transported to the Ogle County Jail and was scheduled to appear in court on March 24 at 1 p.m. All individuals are considered innocent until

proven guilty.

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

USPS (467-820) ISSN (1075-2811) Published every Wednesday and Sunday by Rochelle Newspapers Inc. at 211 E. State Route 38, Rochelle, IL 61068. Periodical postage paid at Rochelle, IL 61068. Postmaster send address changes to the Rochelle News-Leader, P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068. Subscription rates are \$139.99 per year by mail in Ogle County. Outside county rate is \$149.99 per year. No mail delivery in newspaper-carrier serviced areas. The circulation department is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. If you are a carrier subscriber and your paper does not arrive, contact Kelly White at 561-2112.

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SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

LOCAL NEWS

COUNTY: Board approves bid for Leaf River Road bridge project

From page 1

For the work, the board appropriated \$539,000 from the federal aid matching fund, \$500,000 from the county aid to bridge fund and \$591,000 from the county's REBUILD Illinois fund for a total of \$1.63 million for the county's portion of the project.

The board also unanimously approved a bid from Martin & Company Excavating for \$356,061.58 for its Eagle Point Road overflow culvert project, which will construct an additional box culvert adjacent to an existing structure on Eagle Point Road just east of Brookville Road.

For the work, the board appropriated \$360,000 from the county aid to bridge fund.

Pavement

The board unanimously approved a bid from Countryman, Inc. for \$55,593 for annual application of pavement markings on county highways. For the work, the boardappropriated \$56,000 from its motor fuel tax fund.

Each of the bids approved Tuesday was the low bid.

Trees

Board Member Susie Corbitt said that the county's oak tree planting project is progressing and Morton Arboretum will be making a presentation at 4 p.m. before next month's county board meeting on April 18.

"We will have an open meeting,"Corbittsaid."We encourage the public to come and hear the presentation on the importance of planting native trees."



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The county board approved a bid from Martin & Company Excavating for \$1.629 million for a project that will replace the existing bridge on Leaf River Road over Leaf River with a longer bridge with a larger opening.

Rochelle Area

RCH DIRECTOR

Ashton Bible Church, corner of Main and Paddock in Ashton. Pastor Farrel Stauffer, church phone is (815)453-2190, church website www.ashtonbible. org0. Sunday School for all ages 9:00-10:00am, Morning Worship 10:15am, Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm.

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

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

Calvary Lutheran Church, LCMC - "To Know Christ and to Proclaim Christ in Word and Deed" -19 Perry Road, Lee, IL 60530 (the intersection of Perry Road and W. County Line Road). Rev. Martha Uecker Nelson, Pastor. Coffee Hour starts at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study are at 9:15 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. and is broadcast live on Facebook. Go to our website is at www.Calvarychurchlee.org and click on the link there. A Grief Support Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call or text (815) 824-2825 or email CalvaryLeeIL@ gmail.com with questions or for more information. Also check us out at www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church.

Rochelle Church of Christ, Keeping Christ at the center in the Hub City. We meet Sundays at 9:00am for Bible Study and 10:00am for worship. We also have a Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00pm. 206 Erickson Rd, Rochelle, IL 61068. You can call us at (815) 562-6572 or visit us on the web at rochellechurch.com. We also have a radio program Sundays just after 8am on WRHL 1060AM. Minister Dominic Venuso.

Creston United Methodist Church and Steward United Methodist Church - Rev. Ilhan You, Creston: 126 West South Street, P.O. Box 209, Creston, Illinois 60113. Sunday morning worship 9:00am. Coffee fellowship at 10:15am. Steward: 507 Main Street, P.O. Box 80, Steward, IL 60553. Adult Sunday School, 10:00am. Sunday morning worship and Children's Sunday School 11:00am. Contact the church office at 847-730-4370 for more information. facebook.comcrestonumcil faccebook.com/stewardilumc

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

Faith Lutheran Church - (14206 E. Flagg Rd.) -"Making Christ Known Through Lives of Faith." Inperson worship is available each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or online at "Faith Lutheran Social" on YouTube. Worship resources are also available on our Facebook page - 'Faith Lutheran Church ELCA.' You may also e-mail Pastor Joy Alsop at Pastor@faithlcrochelle.org for more information. All are welcome to join us!

First Baptist Church of Rochelle, First Baptist Church of Rochelle invites you to experience our practical Bible services which have nurseries provided in every service along with a wide range of children's and teen ministries. Sunday School is at 9:30 am with regular church services at 10:30 am and 6:00 pm. Wednesday Family Night starts at 6:30 pm with AWANA for the 5 yr. olds thru 6th grade. The Omega Teen Ministry also starts at 6:30 pm for 7th – 12th grades and the Adult Bible Study at 7:00 pm. First Baptist Church is located 6 blocks west of Hwy 251 at the corner of Woolf Ct. and 8th Ave. in Rochelle. Call 562-4168 for more information. Listen at 11:00 am Sunday mornings on WRHL 1060 AM for the Sunday morning "Bible Message." www.firstbaptistrochelle.org

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

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

Grace Fellowship Church — Pastor Jeff Ardissone, 2128 Il Route 38, Ashton, 815-453-7464. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 9:45 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

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

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

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

New Hope Fellowship (Church of God -Anderson, IN), 1501 10th Ave., Rochelle, IL 61068. Service: Sunday at 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m., (815)561-8400, www.NHFchurch.net Pastor: Dan Sergeant and Pastor Nick Tornabene. (Classes for children through age fifth grade during service.)

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 1 • PAGE 5

Rochelle United Methodist Church invites everyone to enter into the passion of Jesus. Our Bible Study and worship series will be focused on the last week of Jesus' life through Lent.

As we enter the story of Jesus' passion, we come to it with our own eyes, our own humanity, our own experience. That gets all wrapped up in our interpretation.... that is how faith works! That is how we makes sense of things, and how we come to greater awareness, understanding, insight and compassion for our own stories and for those of others. So this Lent, this time of preparation for Easter, we will enter the passion of Jesus. Let us freeze frame a moment, so that we might dwell.... and become not just story tellers, but story dwellers. (Adapted from a poem by Marcia McFee.) Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services are at 7:00 pm. The church will be open from noon-3 on Good Friday for the public to walk the Stations of the Cross. Devotional guide provided - come and go at your convenience. Everyone is always welcome to all of our services.

Sunday worship is at 9:00 am with Sunday School for children after the Children's Message. Recorded services are available on our YouTube channel and our website at www.rochelleumc.com. Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Our Facebook page is www.facebook. com/rochelleumc. Rev. Dr. Katherine Thomas Paisley, Pastor. 709 Fourth Ave. (815) 562-2164. admin@rochelleumc.com. Everyone is welcome and loved!

George Schramm; 244 Kelley Dr. (Corner of Kelley & Caron Rd.), PO Box 329, Rochelle, IL 61068. Office Hours: 9:00 AM- 4PM Monday-Thursday, Phone: 815-562-2370. Mass times: 8:00 AM Monday-Thursday, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM English, 7PM Spanish, Sunday Mass 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM in English and 11:00 AM in Spanish. Confessions: Monday 8:30AM & 6:30PM, Tuesday 8:30AM, Saturday 8:30am & 4:00-4:45 PM Or by appointment. Religious Education:

St. Patrick Catholic Church Rev. Jesus

Dominguez; Deacon Fermin Garcia; Deacon

Deacon George Schramm, Director of Religious Education. 903 Caron Road, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815-561-0079; Website: stpatricksrochelle.com Email: stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org Facebook.com/StPatrickRochelle

St. Paul Lutheran Church "Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever!" Pastor-Rev. Greg Hoffmann, Steven Hall, Principal, Parish Nurse-Marcia Schnorr. 1415 Tenth Ave., Rochelle. Church Office-562-2744. Worship times: 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday. Our service is broadcast over WRHL 1060AM at 10:00 a.m. Sunday. Sunday School 10:15-11:15 a.m. Call 562-6323 for more information about the school.

LOCAL VIEWS

The spiritual practice of Lenten fasting

ried a Catholic and now being the only Protestant in a household of six, I've learned a few things in the past 20 years. One of those things I've

learned is how to bake really good macaroni and cheese during Lent. Like many families we don't eat meat on Ash Wednesday and the following Fridays leading up to Easter.

A couple of decades ago, I thought these fasts were silly and overly legalistic. In fact, early in our

marriage, I had no problem eating a steak while my wife and kids munched on pasta. To her credit, my wife never said anything to me about it.

My kids, on the other hand, eyed me with envy

T'S that time of

But as I've aged and learned more, I've changed my view. It's a beautiful tradition that can be honoring to God if done not out of obligation but a desire to commemorate.

The problem is so many people don't fully understand the spiritual practice of fasting. Growing up Protestant, I never once heard a pastor extol the virtues of even a partial

Accordingtoabstinence rules within the Catholic Church, meat includes flesh from warm-blooded animals and birds. Fish and other seafood are OK to eat on Lenten Fridays.

There are exceptions. In the New Orleans Diocese, it's permissible to eat alligator and in Detroit muskrat can be a Lenten

Friday entrée. I'm not particularly keen on trying either exception.

Before Vatican II, Catholics abstained from meat on almost all Fridays throughout the year.

Even though I grew up post-Vatican II, my best friend's family continued the year-round

When I ate at the Reeds on Fridays, on good days it was cheese pizza and on bad ones, pea soup.

practice.

Being a rather inquisitive child, I asked my friend's dad, just why they didn't eat most types of meat on Fridays. He gave me a rather long explanation about a pope centuries ago wanting to help fishermen out.

farmer, my 10-year-oldself worried that the pope had it in for folks like us. But, no, that isn't the case. While it is an inter-

esting, oft-repeated fable within the church, it also happens to be non-

Another explanation I've been told by some folks of a more progressive bent is that chickens, hogs and cattle eat grain, so Scott if Catholics abstain Reeder from eating their flesh more food

gry people. It's a nice thought. But it also doesn't hold up to scrutiny. Modern aquacul-

will be available for hun-

ture feeds soy, corn and rice to farm-raised fish. And some cattle, goats and sheep eat only grass. Since I'm no theolo-

gian, I asked Springfield Bishop Thomas Paprocki to explain the practice. "We don't have this

visible presence right in front of us where we can actually see and talk to Jesus the way his disciples did," he said. "So, there is that longing in our hearts to be with Christ, to be present with him. And fasting in a way is analogous to that. When we're fasting, we get hungry. Hunger is a longing for food. ... We long to be with Christ. We look forward to the day when we'll be with Christ in his kingdom. But for the time being, we have to grow in the sense of patiently awaiting that day."

That makes sense. And it's something I'll be thinking about as I participate in the partial fast with my family this year.

I occasionally hear folks pooh-pooh the practice. They'll say a partial fast doesn't amount to

This sort of disparagement of another's religious practice is perplexing. Afterall, why should someone care what someone else is giving up? And let's be honest, most of the folks critical of the practice are not giving up anything themselves.

In a self-centered age, it's refreshing to see others sacrificing to remember something greater than themselves.

Isn't that the meaning of Lent?

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

on the voice of the people,

Consider This: 1

year, again. Time Lto read up on the candidates that are running for local offices. Candidates for offices such as mayor, village president, councilperson, superintendent, commissioner and trustee. This is the most important type of election you can vote in because the people elected to these offices affect you directly in your everyday activities. The decisions these people make will, at times, take place within short periods of time.

Yet most of these elections have very low turnout. Many times, it depends on the office candidates are running for. Mayors and village presidents may draw in a large voter count. Some candidates may draw in voters. Issues may also be on the ballot and draw a large count.

These local consolidated elections usually do not draw in young people the same that the state and federal elections do. This is why I was happy to see a young voter recently give their opinion on a local person running for the Rochelle Township High School Board. The article was very well written, and opinion very clearly stated. Yet we need to see

more of both young and "youngish" people write to our paper with their opinions about candidates. We need to see all people espouse, using their written voice, on all sorts of matters. We have that right. And though there is always someone who disagrees with every situation that arises, this must not deter our voices. Once we use

a name with our voice, that voice elevates above the trivial. A comment on Facebook or another social media site will get eyes throughout the world, but what about local eyes? We are the people that really need to see and use the infor-

comments. The candidates should not be left out of this scenario either. If there are candidates who don't

list their views on how

mation inserted in those

the office they are running for can be changed for the better, should we even consider them in our decisions? How could we vote for anyone we don't have information on? As I've said in previ-

> ous articles, it is up to us to read, review and decide. I might have said this before and

if I have, please forgive my repetition. Some of us Reed will determine that **Harris** our vote doesn't count. Maybe they

think it a waste of time to vote. Maybe the candidates they vote for won't win so they'll second guess why they vote in the first place? For sure, if we don't vote, our vote will not be counted. Would

yours be the one to turn the tide? Would a group of people, who decided they must vote, turn the tide? When you put on that "I Voted" sticker, will someone see that and remember to vote or vote because you did? And I do know that

some have trouble getting time off work to vote. That's why in Illinois we have four days of early voting in hopes that this will be an additional way to ease the concerns of our citizens to find the time. This voting cycle the early voting will be March 29, 30, 31 and April 1 at the Flagg Township Office on Illinois Route 38 and at the Ogle County Courthouse. Election day is on April 4.

It's so interesting that in a country that is built

the people have such a hard time being heard. Someday, we will have a holiday for voting. That really is the only way to see great turnouts at all elections. Maybe we can even eliminate early voting by increasing the number of voting locations to better match the number of people that are signed up to vote. On a personal note, I would like to see a one-person, one-vote nation by eliminating the Electoral College.

But, until then, please vote. Let your voice be heard. And remember, no one will know how you vote. Unless you tell them of course. Not your spouse, your friends, or your family. It is your vote, not theirs.

Letter: I support Pemberton for elementary board

EAR community members, proudly support Victoria "Vicki" Pemberton for the Rochelle Elementary D231 school board. I have been an educator in the district for 24 years, and I have a child that attends the elementary district.

As an educator, I am voting for Vicki, and I encourage voters to do the same. Vicki is dedicated to the children in our schools, as she is passionate about academic excellence and

the well-being for all of our students. As a parent

who has been attending board meetings for almost two years,

Vicki understands the time it takes to be a board member and is ready to serve our community. Because of

her dedication and involvement, Vicki was invited to be on a committee to

create a bullying policy. She will be a voice of reason, representing students, parents and taxpayers.

Our community would greatly benefit from Vicki Pemberton on the elementary school board. She is honest, trustworthy, dedicated and reliable. A vote for Victoria "Vicki"

Pemberton is a vote for a candidate that supports public education and the success of all students in our community.

> Jackie Bingham Ramsey Rochelle

How to contact government officials

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

M104A State House Springfield, IL 62706 (217) 782-0180

IL Rep. Tom Demmer

IL Sen. Brian Stewart

314 Capitol Springfield, IL 62706 (217) 782-0535

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

endorsements will be published, however

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

COMMUNITY



RTHS students Makayla Ludwig, Aiden Ramsey and Austin Salter (left to right) received Critical Thinking Awards from January through March.

Salter, Ramsey and Ludwig earn RTHS critical thinking awards

SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-LEADER

ROCHELLE

Through the generosity of a \$10,000 gift from the Rochelle Township High School Class of 1961 and an additional \$1,000 gift from the Rochelle Rotary Club, RTHS expanded its Renaissance Rewards to focus on students and staff members who demonstrate exemplary critical thinking skills. Each month students are nominated by staff members who have seen proof of (or growth in) the student's critical thinking skills.

A monthly \$100 cash prize is awarded to a student, 50 percent of which will be donated to the local non-profit of the student's choice. Likewise, staffmembers are nominated for a \$100 cash gift, 50 percent

member's choice.

Critical thinking is an intellectually disciplined process of actively and skillfully analyzing and evaluating information gathered from, or generated by, observation, experience, reflection, reasoning or communication. The process is what guides your beliefs and ultimately your actions.

Developing critical thinking skills is paramount in today's world. We are challenged to ingest and evaluate information at every turn. Critical Thinking skills are vital in accomplishing the RTHS mission: preparing students for their tomorrow.

In January 2023 senior Austin Salter was chosen for hisworkwiththeHUBSRead podcasters. Starting anything new requires someone of which will be donated to this group, Austin took on and discussed so that we problem solvers.

a local non-profit of the staff that role. Throughout this can learn from the past and year he has been the voice of reason and has kept the group moving forward. With his strong sense of organization and sense of vision, Austin has helped to make the HUBSRead podcasting team a success while being a motivational and inspiring voice at RTHS.

In February, junior Aiden Ramsey was chosen for his work on the math and scholastic teams. Aiden possesses a wealth of knowledge and has used it to keep RTHS competitive in both fields. Aiden not only uses his knowledge to answer questions, more importantly he shares it with others. A conversation with Aiden is always welcome because you always come away from it having learned something. Aiden says he believes inforto be the "go-to" person. In mation needs to be shared

begin to make connections between the different areas of our world.

The March CT recipient is sophomore Makayla Ludwig, who was chosen for her service to others. Makayla has worked with a variety of organizations like band, Student Council and FFA to help make RTHS a better place. Whenever Makayla takes on a job, she looks for ways to make the time spent more efficient and to lead to a better, stronger outcome. Makayla believes in learning what is needed to accomplish the task and then putting in the time and energy necessary to make the job a success.

This trio has contributed to help make RTHS a place where students learn the value of critical thinking and the importance of being



Feb. 28 - Zekelman Employee, Rochelle, \$25

Mar. 1 - Ed Messenger, Oregon, \$25

Mar. 2 - First State Bank Employee, Rochelle, \$25

Mar. 3 - Rachel Smith, Stillman Valley, \$25

Mar. 4 - Tim Cech, Rochelle, \$25

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. 26 - Tara Richardson, Waterman, \$50

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16 Cute, in

slang

21 Bed size

24 Cougar

12 Roofing straw

increase, e.g.

4 "Life of Pi

5 Attire

9 Fall

14 Botany

York prison

director Lee

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Bernie & Anna Sexton



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Coffee Break 50 Andrew doing squats part of a



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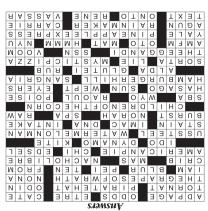
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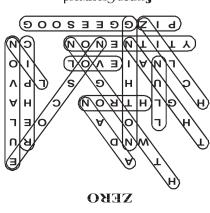
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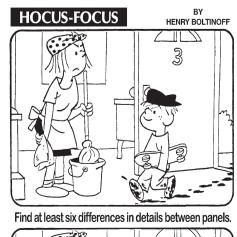
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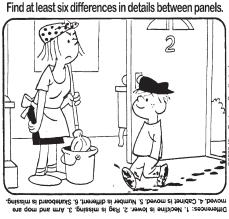
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Super Crossword







Super Crossword 47 Dr.'s field

135 New York college near Hyde Park corp. doing s 54 1970 Godfrey 99 Give a

100 Kinda

110 1947

103 Falsehood

105 1988 coming-

of-age film

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romantic

comedy

113 1099 fig

115 Dual radio

116 Siouan tribe

membei

117 Gymnastics

120 "I wonder .

123 Manhattan

124 New Haven

school

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Claudette

Julia Roberts

11 To be, in comedy **59** Discoloration Toulouse 15 "Elizabeth" 60 Computer since 1998 star Blanchett

62 Cellular stuff

69 Unprocessed

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76 Start-up loan

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painter Dufy

80 Grace under

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86 Big ball of

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79 French

pressure 83 Attempts

film based on

70 1984 horror

20 Buccaneer's 63 Pipe mouth 64 Fly apart topper 22 Major Norse 65 Jazz singe god **23** 1940 drama Jones 67 Health based on a resort

Steinbeck novel 25 Tri- tripled 26 Possible reply to "Are you?

19 Ripped into

27 Become indistinct 28 Architect I.M. -29 Five doubled

30 Endemic to 31 Bed for Baby 33 Pas' partners 35 2006 Jack

Black comedy **38** 1999 Jason Biggs comedy

preceder 44 1950s Ford 45 Hoped-for altar reply 46 Live wire

48 Airborne toy

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89 Bawled 90 Observers **91** 1987 film

about a battle

94 Fruity wine drink 96 Alan who played

125 2008 Seth Rogen comedy 129 "Son of 130 Expert at

increasing profits Vietnam War 131 Fisher who

133 Not fooled 134 Descartes of philosophy

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34 Invasive PC programs **36** Squirrel nosh

37 Divulge 39 — -Kit (face Sebastian

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for rainbow colors 76 "Be quiet!" 82 That, to

77 Lamb's cry 81 — Lanka Alejandra camp

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THEATER FOOD

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92 Addressee

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112 Mosque chief

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104 Part of the

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107 Ones

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101 Flectric

102 Acid -

93 Element

88 Puck-

— artery (aorta

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51 Poker great

53 "Lucky" pilot

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irony

55 Eclectic

56 "Grand"

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58 Novel

57 Alias lead-in

61 Gloom-filled

66 Opposite of

68 Animal skins

Showtime

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(telly sitcom)

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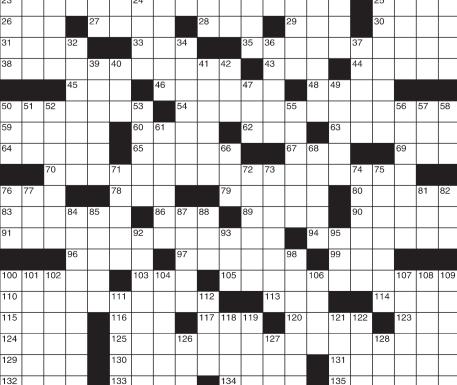
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SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS |



FUTURE LADY KOUGAR

RTHS senior Kailey Harris will be playing soccer at Kishwaukee College next year.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Girls Soccer

Rochelle outlasts Mendota

Lady Hubs overcome second-half injuries to earn season-opening 5-3 victory

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Adversity mounted for the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team as the purple and white looked to secure its first win of the season against the Mendota Trojans on Tuesday.

Using crisp ball movement and gusty backwinds to their advantage, the Lady Hubs controlled the ball on the Mendota side of the field for most of the first half, where three different players scored goals to help Rochelle take a 3-1 lead. With fatigue setting in and the Trojans receiving the backwind during the second half, however, Mendota rallied for consecutive unanswered goals to tie the score at 3-3 as a multitude of cramps and injuries depleted Rochelle's lineup.

Needing a spark as the second half wound to a close, the suddenly short-handed Lady Hubs overcame their obstacles, scoring two unanswered goals over the final 10 minutes of regulation time to outlast the Trojans for a 5-3 victory. Senior midfielder Mavi Avila led Rochelle (1-0, 0-0 Interstate 8) with two goals, while three players

including junior forwards Sydney Thorne and Kara Martinez as well as sophomore midfielder Makayla Lara each added one goal in the win.

"It feels good to get that first win," head coach Brad Male said. "We still have some things to work on and we're putting some players in positions where they don't have much experience. We're hoping to keep progressing as the season moves forward. I thought we moved the ball well in the first half and we had much better communication there than in the second half."

The Lady Hubs wasted no time taking their first lead of the season, with Lara launching an unassisted goal into the Mendota net during the second minute. Rochelle extended its lead during the 14th minute, where a left-footed pass from Thorne inside the Trojan penalty area found Avila for the team's second goal of the match. Trailing 2-0, Mendota capitalized on a breakaway opportunity during the 16th minute, rolling a shot into the back of the Rochelle net.

Martinez answered for the Lady Hubs, taking advantage of a short goal kick by the Mendota goalkeeper and lifting a



Sophomore Makayla Lara dribbles past a Mendota defender during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer match against the Trojans on Tuesday. Lara scored one goal as the Lady Hubs defeated Mendota 5-3.

to give Rochelle a 3-1 lead in the 18th minute.

right-footed shot over the The 3-1 score held until head of the goalkeeper early in the second half, where the Trojans used the backwind as well as some

miscommunication inside the Lady Hub penalty area to convert goals in the 44th and 57th minutes, evening

the score with about 20 minutes left.

See SOCCER page 3

RTHS Baseball

Boylan Catholic beats Rochelle in season opener Hubs held to three hits as Titans take nonconference game 8-1 on Wednesday

BY RUSSELL HODGES

ROCKFORD — The Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team teed off the 2023 season on Wednesday, falling 8-1 against Boylan Catholic in nonconference action. Seniors Garrett Gensler and Alex Burnette each singled and reached base twice for the Hubs (0-1, 0-0 Interstate 8), who will face Sterling

and Auburn over their next

two nonconference games.

"It was nice to see where we're at and what we need to work on," head coach Jarrod Reynolds said. "I can't remember the last time we were able to get a game in before spring break. I'm disappointed with the loss, but I thought we had some moments where we played really well today. We only struck out three times and I thought we did a good job

of putting the ball in play." Junior Brock Metzger started on the mound for the Hubs, throwing three and two-thirds innings and recording three strikeouts. Boylan Catholic took the early lead on Wednesday, scoring on a fielding error in the top of the second in-

ning for the first run of the

game. The Titans barrelled the ball up in the top of the fourth inning, sending multiple line drives into the outfield for base hits. Boylan Catholic tallied three runs in the frame to surge ahead of the Hubs

Only one Rochelle baserunner reached over the first five innings. Gensler notched the team's first hit of the evening, sending a hard grounder through the middle of the infield for a single in the bottom of the fifth inning. While the Hubs made better contact as the game progressed, Rochelle was unable to score its first run until the bottom of the sixth inning, where Brock Metzger reached on an infield single to second that plated freshman brother Brode Metzger.

"I thought we hit the ball better as the game went on," Reynolds said. "The top of our order really hit the ball well over the last couple of innings. It's our first game of the season, but I thought we had some good at-bats and we need to build on those so we can have more hits

See BASEBALL pg 4

later on."





The Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team opened the 2023 season with a loss against Boylan Catholic on Wednesday. Senior Alex Burnette (left) singled and reached base twice in the game. Junior Brock Metzger (right) started on the mound, throwing three and two-thirds innings and adding an RBI infield single.



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HUB SPOTLIGHT Harris signs with Kishwaukee College

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Senior defender Kailey Harris has played varsity soccer at Rochelle Township High School for the last three years. Throughout her time with the program, Harris has looked up to her senior teammates, looking for ways to improve her skills and leadership abilities.

Now a senior captain herself, Harris has stepped into a leadership role of her own, and she'll aim to continue improving her skills as she continues her academics and her soccer career at Kishwaukee College. Harris will reunite with current and former Lady Hub teammates including seniors Abby Tarvestad and Mavi Avila as well as RTHS alums Lizbeth Milan and Lucy

"Kishwaukee College was my school of choice as it's close to home, offers a good education with courses that will transfer over to almost any four-year university in Illinois and provides me with the opportunity to continue playing soccer," Harris said. "I'm looking forward to learning new techniques and strategies from playing on the Kishwaukee College women's soccer team. I'm a driven and competitive player and I'm ready to share my talents with my new teammates."

Harris has started for the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team since her sophomore season, spending time as both a defender and midfielder before becoming one of the team's starting center backs during her junior season, where she was named an Interstate 8 All-Conference Honorable Mention. Harris is one of multiple seniors returning from a varsity roster that posted a 10-10 overall match record and finished fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference last

"Playing soccer at RTHS has helped me in several areas," Harris said. "Our team has had girls with various skill levels in each year I've played and new players often look to the seniors for guidance on positioning and technique. In helping the other players, I was able to find flaws within my own techniques and correct my mistakes. I've played with a number of great teammates who've exhibited great leadership during my high school career and I'm looking forward to joining some of my past teammates at Kishwaukee College next year."

In addition to her three years of varsity soccer at RTHS, Harris has served as vice



Senior Kailey Harris will continue her academics and her soccer career with Kishwaukee College next year.

president of the National Honor Society's RTHS chapter as well as editor-in-chief of the school yearbook. Harris said she intends to earn her associate's degree in computer science at Kishwaukee College before continuing her education at a fouryear university to earn a bachelor's degree.

"I've noticed improvements in several areas since beginning my soccer career at RTHS," Harris said. "I've gained a better view of positioning in addition to improved confidence and composure. Increased training has also resulted in improved technique and speed of execution. The competition at the next level is definitely more intense, which is why I plan to train year round and remain focused on improving my technique so I can be a positive asset to the team."

"I'm looking forward to learning new techniques and strategies from playing on the Kishwaukee College women's soccer team. I'm a driven and competitive player and I'm ready to share my talents with my new teammates."

Kailey Harris



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SPORTS

SOCCER: Rochelle starts 2-0 with Thursday win against Sterling

From page 1

"Communication is a key factor for us," Male said. "We had some miscommunication during the second half and we had some injuries. We need to make sure we're warmed up and ready to go for these colder matches. It was nice to see our girls finish strong and I thought our teamwork picked up over the final minutes. We made sure we were communicating and making our runs."

While Mendota's offense applied the pressure, Rochelle saw several starters including Lara as well as sophomore midfielders Emma Kennay, Betty Flores and freshman defender Abbey Bozinovich sidelined with cramps and other injuries during the second half. Running on fumes as the game drew to a close, Rochelle regained control during the 70th minute, where senior defender Kailey Harris threaded the needle on a pass to Avila that put the team ahead 4-3.

The Lady Hubs iced the victory during the 77th minute, surging ahead 5-3 after a corner kick by Martinez knifed through the Mendota defense and landed at the foot of Thorne, who blasted a short-range shot from deep inside the Trojan penalty area for the final goal of the evening.

Sterling

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team won its second consecutive match to open the 2023 season, defeating Sterling 5-1 in nonconference action. Sophomore Makayla Lara netted three goals and one assist for the Lady Hubs (2-0, 0-0 Interstate 8), while junior Sydney Thorne and sophomore Betty Flores added goals in the win. Junior Danica Ward recorded four saves for the Lady Hubs.

Sterling and Rochelle traded goals over the early minutes of the nonconference match, with Lara giving the Lady Hubs a 1-0 advantage with a goal in the third minute before the Golden Warriors fired right back with an equalizer in the fourth minute. Rochelle regained control during the 19th minute, where Lara connected with Thorne for a goal to make the score 2-1.

The Lady Hubs took a 3-1 halftime lead after senior defender Kailey Harris assisted Lara's second goal of the evening during the 35th minute.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Emma Kennay battles for possession of the ball during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer match against Mendota on Tuesday.

Rochelle sealed the victory minutes to surge ahead Sterling 23-8 and 13-5 in kicks and forced five with back-to-back goals of the Golden Warriors. shots on goal. Rochelle offside penalties on the

over the 64th and 68th The Lady Hubs outshot finished with five corner Golden Warriors.

RTHS Interact Club

(PHOTOS BY MARCY DELILLE)





Rochelle Township High School holds annual Student vs. Faculty event Wednesday evening

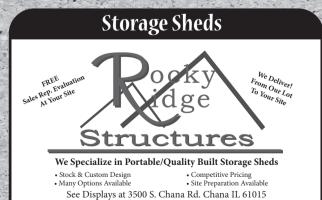
The Rochelle Township High School Interact Club held its annual Student vs. Faculty event on Wednesday, with senior Hub and Lady Hub students taking on staff members for friendly basketball and volleyball competition. This year's event raised money for the Rotary International Clean Water Project, which provides clean water filters for communities in need. One clean water filter can provide 60 to 70 kids with clean water for up to three years.

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The Rochelle News-Leader

SPORTS

BASEBALL: Hubs continue nonconference play against Sterling

From page 1

"We hit several balls hard during the sixth inning and that was nice to see."

Rochelle finished with three hits in the loss. Leading 4-0, Boylan Catholic pulled away during the top of the sixth inning, scoring runs on a sacrifice fly and a balk before two more runners came home on a live-drive single into left field to make the score 8-0.

Senior Bradley Cooney and junior Dylan Whaley combined to pitch the final three and one-third innings for the Hubs. Whaley pitched one and one-third scoreless innings to close the game for Rochelle.

Sterling

The Rochelle Hub varsi-

ty baseball team continued nonconference play against Sterling on Thursday, falling 6-1 at Gartner Park to open the season with two straight losses.

Sterling took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning, with Bryce Hartman hitting an RBI single before Trevor Dir drew a bases-loaded walk. The Hubs earned one run back in the bottom of the second inning, where freshman Brode Metzger singled and scored after junior brother Brock Metzger reached on an outfield error. Senior Noah Lara doubled in the bottom of the first inning.

The Golden Warriors extended their lead in the top of the third inning, tallying three runs to surge ahead 5-1. Mason Smithee scored

on a passed ball before Drew Nettleton reached on a bunt single to bring home Hartman. A dropped third strike allowed Dir to cross home plate. Sterling sealed its win with one insurance run in the top of the sixth inning, where Ayden Schoon singled before stealing two bases and eventually scoring on a wild pitch by the Hubs.

Rochelle threatened in the bottom of the third inning, with senior Alex Burnette smacking a lead-off double and senior Colton O'Rorke adding a two-out single. The Hubs also had a chance to score in the bottom of the fourth inning, where Burnette and senior Bradley Cooney hit back-to-back singles before senior Garrett Gensler drew

atwo-out walk. Sophomore Brandyn Metzger doubled in the bottom of the sixth inning, but consecutive groundouts left him on base.

The Hubs finished with seven hits in the loss. Rochelle struggled with command on the mound, with four players combining for nine walks. Junior Dylan Whaley turned in a solid relief effort for the Hubs, throwing two innings while striking out one and holding Sterling scoreless.

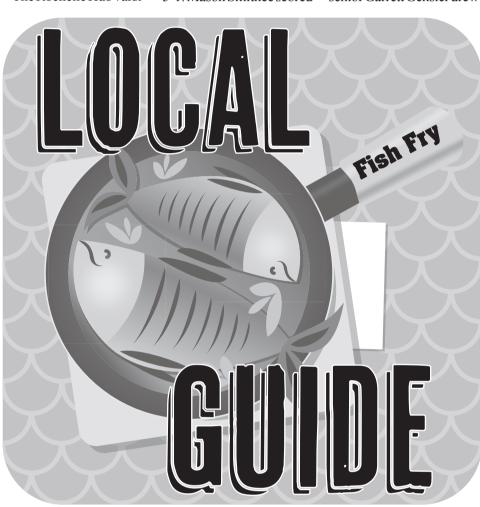
Auburn

The Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team hosted Rockford Auburn for a nonconference game Friday evening. See Wednesday's News-Leader for results from the Auburn matchup.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Noah Lara readies for a swing during the Rochelle Hub varsity baseball game against Boylan Catholic on Wednesday.







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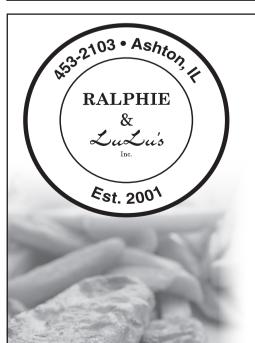
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SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023 ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 5



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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?



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One word: Jobs.

When you do business of any kind in Rochelle, it creates and maintains jobs for our area . A healthy

others in our area. A healthy employment rate is the cornerstone of all economies. How can you help the economy recover? Start at home.

Classified Marketplace



ROCHELLE

HILLCREST

CRESTON

STEWARD

KINGS

ASHTON

101

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE Public Notice is hereby given that on March 16, 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: Reves Landscaping, PO Box 3,

Rochelle, IL 61068. Dated: March 16, 2023 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0316 (Mar. 19, 26, April 2)

PUBLIC NOTICE LYNVILLE TOWNSHIP

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Annual Town Meeting for Lynville Township in the County of Ogle, State of Illinois, will be held at 7:30 PM on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at the Lynville Township Building in Lindenwood, Illinois. The meeting agenda is listed as follows:

Call Meeting to Order by Town Clerk at 7:30PM Election of Moderator Oath of Moderator

Minutes read from 2022 annual meeting Reading of fiscal reports for each fund Other old or new busi-

Set time and date for 2024 annual meeting Adjournment. Ali Harms

Town Clerk No. 0322 (March 26, 2023)

PUBLIC NOTICE

The Flagg Center Cem-5:30 pm on Wednesday, April 12th, at the Flagg Township building in Flagg Center to review bids for maintenance of the cemetery grounds. No. 0324

(March 26, 2023)

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**

"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."

113 FINANCIAL

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

119 **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

"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."

127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

FURMAN'S Lawn Care and Tree Work. Mowing, bushes, spring clean up, weeding and much more. Call Jeremy Furman 815761-9619. Please leave

call ASAP. Fully insured, in business since 1999. Servicing Rochelle and surrounding areas.

a message will return

201 DOMESTIC/CHILD **CARE**

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless

licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

301 **ANTIQUES**

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

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@hotmail.com

307 **MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**

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

405 **HOUSES FOR SALE**

ALL REAL **ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, national intention origin, or to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal



Buy, Sell, Trade or Rent through the **CLASSIFIEDS**

203 **HELP WANTED**

Village of Hillcrest

Seeking Full-Time Maintenance Employee

Responsibilities: Supports Daily Operations & Needs of the Village, Year Round Grounds Maintenance including Snow Removal, Assistance with Water Collection & Testing

Requires: Mechanical Proficiency & Must be Available Monday - Friday 8AM to 5PM as well as 24 hours as an Emergency Contact

Benefits: Paid Time Off (PTO), Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Membership & Insurance Stipend. Salary Commensurates with Experience

Apply in Person M-F 8a-5p at Village Hall, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Hillcrest or Online at hillcrestil.us H.O.P.E

For Free Help Information Call 815-562-8890 24 Hours

All Calls Are Confidential.

Support, Advocacy, Referral Services, Shelter for victims of domestic violence and their children. HOPE



P.O. Box 131 Rochelle, IL 61068 Public Service Announcement

203 **HELP WANTED**

News-Leader

Part-time local delivery driver

The Rochelle News-Leader has an opening for a parttime newspaper bundle delivery driver who would load and deliver bundles to the post office, store racks and machines.

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.

307

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT RefrigeratorsFreezers

Washers/Dryers • Stoves We also carry a large selection

of refurbished

appliances with a warranty. 6331 11th Street, Rockford 815-874-2257 1122202





TEXT AND

STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG

WISHING YOU A

Blessed Easter Season

Please join us; everyone is welcome!

St. Patrick Catholic Church

Kelley Drive & Caron Rd.—Rochelle (815) 562-2370 Rev. Jesus Dominguez – Pastor



Palm Sunday

April 2 Blessings of Palms & Solemn Entrance Saturday, April 1 Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm Vigil Mass at 7:00 pm in Spanish Sunday Masses April 12th at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am in Spanish

EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE **Holy Thursday** April 6 (No Daily Mass)

Church Offices Closed Bilingual Mass of the Last Supper of the Lord at 8:00 pm Adoration in the Parish Center from 9:30 pm - 12:00 am

Good Friday April 7 (No Daily Mass)

Church Offices Closed Liturgy of the Word, Communion and Veneration of the Cross at 11:00 am Bilingual Liturgy of the Word, Communion and 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and live stations of the cross around our parking lot. 7:00 pm Spanish Rosario de Pésame.

Holy Saturday

April 8 Easter Vigil: 7:00 pm Bilingual

Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord

April 9, 2023 9:00 am & 11:00 am in Spanish



Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed!

EASTER SERVICES

at First Presbyterian Church

Maundy Thursday: 7:00 pm Service Easter Sunday: 6:30 am Sunrise Service

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

9:00 service will be streamed on our Facebook page & YouTube Channel

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH OF ROCHELLE

1100 Calvin Rd.

Rochelle

Facebook.com/placeforgrace YouTube: First Pres Rochelle

St. Paul Ev. Lutheran **Church and School**

1415 Tenth Ave. Rochelle



April 6 Maundy Thursday Worship

7:00 p.m.

April 7 Good Friday Tenebrae Worship

 $7:00 \ p.m.$

April 8 No Saturday Eve Worship April 9 Easter Sunrise Worship

April 9 Easter Celebration Worship

6:30 a.m.

OF EASTER 9:00 a.m.

Please join us for Holy Week and Resurrection Sunday

"Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever"

03262023

