



ROCHELLE News-Leader

WEEKEND EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member.



513 4th Ave.
815-561-8786

Vol. 103 • No. 81

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SUNDAY, FEB. 5, 2023

\$1.25

Stoller visits the Hub City

37th District now covers Rochelle after recent redistricting

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Tuesday, State Sen. Win Stoller (R, 37th District) visited Rochelle for the first time since recent redistricting made the Hub City part of his constituency.

Stoller is a lifelong resident of Germantown Hills near Peoria. He's served as state senator since 2021. Stoller's trip to Rochelle included lunch with officials from the City of Rochelle and Rochelle Chamber of Commerce, a visit with local business Panoptic Solutions, a tour of Kishwaukee College and meetings with local media.

About 60 percent of the new 37th District is new ground for Stoller.

"I want to get up here and meet everybody and get to know people and help them get to know me as well," Stoller said. "The purpose of being here today is to get to know Rochelle. In the past, I've met with Mayor John Bearrows, [City Economic Development Director] Jason Anderson



(COURTESY PHOTO)

On Tuesday, State Sen. Win Stoller (R, 37th District) visited Rochelle for the first time since recent redistricting made the Hub City part of his constituency.

and others. Now, we need to get out and get to know more people."

Stoller is a longtime small business owner and owns an office furniture dealership with about 40 employees throughout downstate Illinois. He's an accountant by training and has a bachelor's degree in accounting and a master's in business administration

from the University of Illinois. He and his wife, Amy, have been married for 30 years and have two grown children.

"I never really thought I'd get into politics," Stoller said. "I enjoyed running a business and still do. The opportunity came up a couple years ago. I was involved in my community with things

like Rotary Club, the chamber of commerce and the Salvation Army Board. When the opportunity presented itself, I was very frustrated with the direction Illinois was going in and I talked to my wife and she was encouraged. We took the next step and here we are."

See STOLLER pg 3



Ron Kern

Farmers short on snowfall

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OGLE COUNTY — On Jan. 30, Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said that despite a recent substantial snowfall, county farmers are still short on normal snowfall levels of a typical year.

"It depends on what we get by when we start getting close to spring when things start to thaw and what kind of moisture we'll have with melting snow and potential for rain," Kern said. "I think we're a little short on moisture, but I just don't know that it's that critical right now. We'll see when we start getting into March and what kind of start we'll get to the spring."

See FARMING pg 2

KNOW IT TODAY



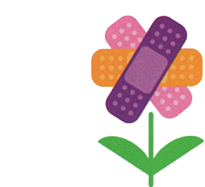
Fehlman joins Central Banc

Andrew A. Fehlman has joined the corporate Board of Directors of Central Banc, Inc. **Page 7**

WEATHER

SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
36 26	42 22
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
43 34	49 29

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member.



1212 Currency Court
815-561-8500

OBITUARIES

• BARBARA JEAN BEARROWS
• JOANNA 'JO' HENZE
• FRANCIS G. (BUD) YEAGER

See page 4

INSERTS

• SCHNUCKS
• MENARDS
• BIG GAME GUIDE

INSIDE

Local News.....2, 3, 5
Obituaries.....4
Opinion.....6
Community.....7



Exclusively at the Jeff Perry Auto Group | Peru-Rochelle

SUMMIT
CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED

WHAT YOUR SUMMIT CERTIFIED PRE-OWNED WARRANTY OFFERS:

WE DARE YOU TO COMPARE

6 - MONTH/6,000 MILE BUMPER-TO-BUMPER

126 POINT INSPECTION

CERTIFIED TECHNICIANS

MOST MAKES AND MODELS

PEACE OF MIND PRE-OWNED CAR BUYING

INCLUDES CHEVROLET LOYALTY!
AUTO SHOW SPECIAL \$44,215

2023 SILVERADO CUSTOM 4X4

JEFF PERRY
Auto Group
815-562-8787
JEFFPERRYAUTOS.COM

Stock #G0364
* Plus tax, title, license and doc fee.
MSRP \$50,215

LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Jan. 30, Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said that despite a recent substantial snowfall, county farmers are still short on normal snowfall levels of a typical year. Kern said that a few years ago dry fall, winter and spring seasons caused problems for farmers.

FARMING: Kern discusses lack of snowfall's effect on farmers

From page 1

Kern said that a few years ago dry fall, winter and spring seasons caused problems for farmers. Adequate moisture for spring planting is important for crop germination to get it off to a good start. "We're a long way from getting any planting done in mid or late April, if we're lucky," Kern said.

"We have a ways to go. I haven't seen any drought monitor maps lately, but I believe the last one I saw said we were sitting pretty well." As far as 2022 fall tillage and anhydrous ammonia application work to prepare for spring 2023, Kern said less frost in the ground in the fall allowed most Ogle County farmers to do that work if they

desired to. Some farmers are now opting for split applications of anhydrous ammonia in both the fall and the spring, Kern said. That input has been one that farmers have seen rise in price amid ongoing issues including inflation, higher fuel prices and supply chain disruptions. "From what I understand, I think a lot of the

input costs have stabilized," Kern said. "I'm not going to say they've gone down that much, but they're not rocketing up like they were last year and they've kind of evened out." Winter work for Ogle County grain farmers includes booking inputs for the next year and moving grain depending where it's sold along with cleaning

out grain bins and getting equipment ready. For livestock farmers, winter work involves feeding cows, hogs or chickens and combating winter weather by doing things like keeping water from freezing. "You're probably fighting a pretty sloppy feedlot most of the time," Kern said. "I know some farmers are starting to calve

now. You have that to take care of if you're a beef producer. You know, it's winter and you just do the best that you can. Some people out there enjoy this time of year, but I don't happen to be one of them. Particularly for livestock producers, this time of year can be a bit of a struggle in making sure that everything is operating the way it should be."

Northern Rehab scholarship applications now available for seniors

ROCHELLE—Northern Rehab Physical Therapy Specialists is pleased to announce scholarship applications are now being accepted for their annual Northern Rehab Health & Wellness Scholarship. The scholarship criteria has expanded to Rochelle Township High School seniors that have

participated in a sport or extracurricular activity in high school and will pursue a career in healthcare. Applications are now available at the Rochelle Township High School Counselors Office, online at rthsd212.org and on Northern Rehab's website at <https://northernrehabpt.com/scholarships/>. Completed applica-

tions are to be submitted to the athletic director by March 17, 2023. The scholarship recipient will be announced and awarded the scholarship at the RTHS 2023 Senior Awards Night. This annual scholarship has been awarded to RTHS seniors since 2017. Past recipients include Christina Payton,

Hannah Cruz, Alexander Harvey, Katherine Bakken, Kaylee Brown, Ayah Sbeith and Madison Ost. Northern Rehab, voted Ogle County's Best Physical Therapists four consecutive years, is a physical therapist-owned and operated physical therapy practice that provides one-on-one, hands-on care combined

with specific corrective therapeutic exercises that will correct physical impairments to allow a healthier, more active daily lifestyle. A doctor's prescription is not required for physical therapy, which means you can immediately begin treatment and start feeling better right away. You don't need to live in pain.

Choose Northern Rehab for your physical therapy care and stop letting pain control your life. For more information about Northern Rehab please visit northernrehabpt.com or call 815.562.3299. Additionally, you may find Northern Rehab on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter and LinkedIn.

ENJOY SOME **COOL SAVINGS** WITH THE NEWS-LEADER'S **SUBSCRIPTION SPECIAL**

\$20 OFF (Regular Subscription Rates)

START OR RENEW A 52-WEEK SUBSCRIPTION FOR JUST \$119.00

Yes, please start or renew my subscription!

Enclosed is my \$_____ check for the option marked below.

☐ 12-Month Subscription for \$119.00

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Offer expires on February 28, 2023

Mail form & check to: P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068 or drop off and pay at 211 Hwy 38 E, Rochelle, IL

NORTH AMERICA'S **#1 Selling Walk-In Tub**

Featuring our **Free Shower Package**

SPECIAL OFFER

Now you can finally have all of the soothing benefits of a relaxing warm bath, or enjoy a convenient refreshing shower while seated or standing with Safe Step Walk-In Tub's **FREE Shower Package!**

- ✓ First walk-in tub available with a customizable shower
- ✓ Fixed rainfall shower head is adjustable for your height and pivots to offer a seated shower option
- ✓ High-quality tub complete with a comprehensive lifetime warranty on the entire tub
- ✓ Top-of-the-line installation and service, all included at one low, affordable price

Now you can have the best of both worlds—there isn't a better, more affordable walk-in tub!

15% OFF with No Payments for 18 Months! plus a Free Shower Package

safe step
www.YourSafeStep.com

815-660-0041

FINANCING AVAILABLE WITH APPROVED CREDIT

EASE OF USE CERTIFIED

MADE IN TENNESSEE

BBB ACCREDITED BUSINESS

LIFETIME LIMITED WARRANTY

*Subject to credit approval, with the purchase of a new Safe Step Walk-In Tub or Shower. Not applicable with any previous walk-in tub or shower purchase. Interest is billed during the promotional period but all interest is waived if the purchase amount is paid before the expiration of the promotional period. There is no minimum monthly payment required during the promotional period. Safe Step Walk-In Tub is neither a broker nor a lender. Financing is provided through third-party lenders unaffiliated with Safe Step Walk-In Tub, LLC under terms and conditions arranged directly between the customer and such lender. All subject to credit requirements and satisfactory completion of finance documents. Any finance terms advertised are estimates only. Offer available in select markets, not available in Canada. Participating dealers only. Other restrictions may apply.

LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

New State Sen. Win Stoller is a lifelong resident of Germantown Hills near Peoria. He's served as state senator since 2021.

STOLLER: New state senator visits Rochelle

From page 1

Stoller said he believes that the state is “focusing on the wrong things” and missing out on job growth and innovation.

“Crime is another example,” Stoller said. “Crime is rising and it seems we’re more interested in supporting criminals than trying to reduce crime and enforce the laws and hold them accountable and help victims of crimes. Those are some of the things I have a passion to fight for. Economic growth and opportunity and our public safety.”

Among the bills Stoller plans to file in the future is one that looks to help communities with urban blight with a tax benefit for rehabilitation of older homes. He believes that could benefit Rochelle.

Stoller said his biggest legislative accomplishment came in his first year with the passage of a bill that saved “significant dollars” for small businesses at no cost to the state by changing a state law to allow Illinois small businesses to opt into a federal tax cut.

“I was really happy to

run that bill in a bipartisan way,” Stoller said. “I had 14 Democrats and 17 Republicans co-sponsor my bill and Gov. Pritzker signed it into law. Now 400,000 small business owners across the state are saving thousands of dollars on their federal taxes because of that. I feel pretty good about that.”

Stoller pointed out a recent bill during the state’s lame-duck legislative session that will apply to Rochelle. House Bill 4412 was approved during that session and recently signed by the governor. The legislation strips local control from counties and municipalities for wind and solar farm developments.

Stoller is against the legislation and plans to file a bill that would exempt enterprise zones such as the local Lee-Ogle Enterprise Zone from its effects. Enterprise zones are put in place to encourage local developments.

“Now the state, in all its wisdom, says it’s going to take away local control and make it very easy for wind farms to be located anywhere in the state up to 150 feet from a

residential home,” Stoller said. “Now, all that work on enterprise zones could be for nothing if a wind farm can now come in and take up all the space that was intended for industrial manufacturing and good, permanent job-type opportunities. If we’re successful, we can be sure that the Lee-Ogle Enterprise Zone here will be used as it was intended after all that money has been invested in it to get it ready for opportunities.”

Stoller recently wrote a letter to Pritzker and used Rochelle and the Lee-Ogle Enterprise Zone as an example.

“We haven’t heard a response yet,” Stoller said. “We specifically mentioned what’s going on here.”

Stoller will be opening a new office in Dixon to be available for the area at 121 E. 1st St.

“We want the community to know we’ll have someone there,” Dixie Zietlow, Stoller’s chief of staff, said. “We also have offices in Geneseo, Peoria and Springfield. We’re very available and people can reach out to us at any time.”

Gilliland named to Iowa dean’s list for fall 2022

IOWA CITY, Iowa — Sean Gilliland of Aurora, son of Michelle (Forrest) Gilliland and Chad Gilliland, was recently named to the dean’s list for fall 2022 at the University of Iowa.

Sean is a first-year student in Iowa’s Tippie College of Business and is majoring in business direct admission.

Dean’s list status was earned by 32 percent of the 7,500 first-year under-

graduates during the fall semester at Iowa. A GPA of 3.5 or higher out of 4.0 in the Tippie College of Business and at least nine semester hours are required for inclusion on the dean’s list.

RADOSTITS: Oregon teacher nominated for national award

From page 1

“In my 16 years in the profession, I’ve experienced a tremendous amount of joy as I’ve grown alongside the students in my classroom and the colleagues in my building,” Radostits said. “I love being Ms. Rad. And I love wearing every hat that comes with that role. I’m so incredibly proud of the work done in schools here and across the state. At the onset of the pandemic, we were all asked to do the unimaginable. Here we are three years later, and I can confidently say that we have grown, we are stronger and we have proven time and time again that we are capable of amazing things.”

Radostits has spent the past year as Illinois Teacher of the Year on a state-sponsored sabbatical, speaking at conferences and visiting schools across the state to share information about her work at OJSHS.

Radostits’ accomplishments at OJSHS have included developing a program called Hawks Take Flight, which uses evidence-based metrics to identify eighth and ninth grade students most at risk of not graduating on time. The program pairs these students with a mentor and provides personalized, data-informed, relationship-based support through weekly check-ins, goal setting and feedback. The Hawks Take Flight program “drastically” decreased the number of Fs earned by OJSHS ninth graders and increased

graduation rates.

“In the five years we have worked together I have watched often in awe of the relationships and care that Ms. Rad has exemplified with some of the most challenged students at OJSHS,” Dr. Heidi Deininger, OJSHS principal, said. “These relationships have resulted in high school diplomas for students that had very little belief in themselves and were convinced they would never make it.”

OJSHS student Alyssa Leary spoke during the press conference about when she was a freshman during the height of the COVID-19 pandemic. She said during that time, Radostits went “above and beyond” to make sure remote learning was still engaging and beneficial.

“She did everything in her power to make sure that we were getting the most out of the experience that we could,” Leary said. “I couldn’t have gotten through freshman year without her help. Her support didn’t end then. Her lasting effect carried with me and my classmates all throughout the rest of high school. Every time I see her, she checks in with me to see how I’m doing. She cares so deeply that each little check in with her students truly brightens her day.”

Illinois State Superintendent of Education Dr. Carmen Ayala attended the press conference Jan. 25 to congratulate Radostits, who she chose as 2022 Illinois Teacher of the Year. The national teacher of the

year has not been from Illinois since 1968.

Ayala said being a national finalist speaks volumes about Radostits and the impact she’s had at OJSHS.

“I was struck by her accomplishments and contributions inside and outside of the classroom,” Ayala said. “More importantly, I was struck by her message that teaching is fundamentally about relationships and students need to know that we care before they’ll care about what we know. She’s used her time this past year to spread the message that every student can learn, and that when we invest in relationships with our students and their families, they feel more connected to the school and the content we’re teaching.”

Radostits called the past year “incredibly inspiring” as she’s been able to connect with educators and aspiring educators across the state. But she misses being in the classroom with her students at OJSHS.

“With this new honor comes a mixed bag of emotions for me,” Radostits said. “I’m excited to have the opportunity to continue to make connections with people all across the United States. I want to continue to do that on behalf of my students and colleagues. If you’re listening to me right now, take the time to thank a teacher. Today and every day they’re making sure the future of this nation is bright by investing in the students we have in our classrooms.”

Edward Jones

> edwardjones.com | Member SIPC

Compare our CD Rates

Bank-issued, FDIC-insured

6-month

4.50 %
APY*

1-year

4.75 %
APY*

2-year

4.50 %
APY*

Call or visit your local financial advisor today.



Jessica L. Morris

Financial Advisor

1214 Currency Ct
Rochelle, IL 61068-2321
815-561-4341

* Annual Percentage Yield (APY) effective 01/31/2023. CDs offered by Edward Jones are bank-issued and FDIC-insured up to \$250,000 (principal and interest accrued but not yet paid) per depositor, per insured depository institution, for each account ownership category. Please visit www.fdic.gov or contact your financial advisor for additional information. Subject to availability and price change. CD values are subject to interest rate risk such that when interest rates rise, the prices of CDs can decrease. If CDs are sold prior to maturity, the investor can lose principal value. FDIC insurance does not cover losses in market value. Early withdrawal may not be permitted. Yields quoted are net of all commissions. CDs require the distribution of interest and do not allow interest to compound. CDs offered through Edward Jones are issued by banks and thrifts nationwide. All CDs sold by Edward Jones are registered with the Depository Trust Corp. (DTC).

FDI-1867L-A © 2022 EDWARD D. JONES & CO., L.P. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. AECSPAD

AtlasAuto

“Quality Used Cars Since 2007”



- No Credit Checks
- Buy Here Pay Here
- Low Down Payments
- Flexible Payment Plans

Complete your **ONLINE** application **TODAY!**

1400 N. 7th Street
Corner of Flagg Rd & Hwy. 251 N.

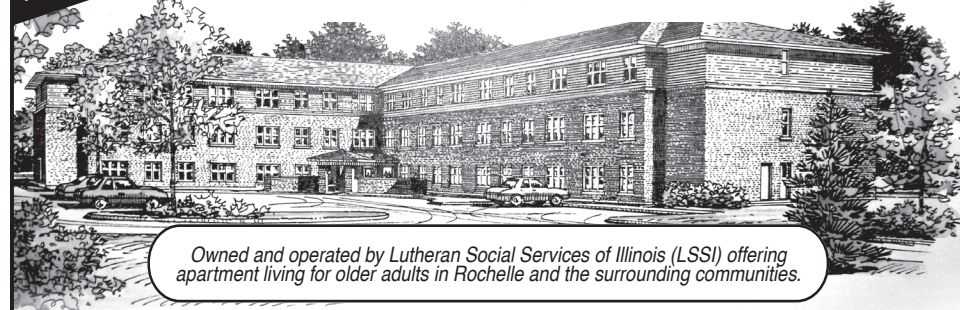
815-562-7433

www.atlasautoinc.com

11032021

APARTMENT AVAILABLE

Lincoln Manor



Owned and operated by Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) offering apartment living for older adults in Rochelle and the surrounding communities.

**Rent based
on 30% of a
Resident's Adjusted
Gross Income**

- Secure Entry System
- Community room with kitchen
- Activities
- On-site coin operated laundry
- On-site management office
- Dependable 24/7 maintenance service
- On-site parking for residents

Full time Social Service Coordinator is available to assist residents

For more information, please call **815-562-1404**

615 N. Lincoln Hwy.
Rochelle, IL 61068
TTY 847-390-1460



MANAGED BY:
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

www.LSSI.org



01132019

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Barbara Jean Bearrows

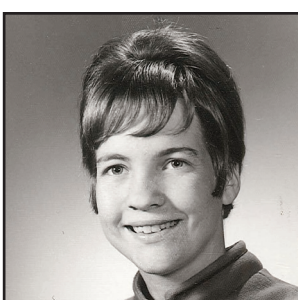
ROCHELLE — Barbara Jean Bearrows, 72, passed away Thursday, Feb. 2 at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford. Barb was born on July 10, 1950 to Jean B. and Dorothy M. (Nawalaniec) Hutson in Woodstock, Illinois. On June 19, 1971, she married Paul Bearrows in Rochelle.

Barb was a member of the First Presbyterian Church of Rochelle where she had served as a Deacon. She was also very active in Tres Dias for many years. Barb was a member of the Women of the Moose Lodge 903 and the Academy of Friendship.

Barb is survived by her husband of 51 years, Paul of Rochelle; her son, Matthew Bearrows of Rochelle; two brothers, Craig Hutson of Schaumburg, Illinois and Michael (Jennifer) Hutson of Winnebago; and sister, Pat Kromrie of Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

Barb was preceded in death by her daughter, Diana Jean in 1974 and her sister, Diane Johnson in 2020.

The visitation will be from 9-11 a.m., Tuesday, Feb. 7 at the First Presbyterian Church, 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle. The memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. with Pastor



Doug Forsberg officiating. Burial will be at Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle. Memorials may be made in Barb's memory to the First Presbyterian Church or to Moose Charities, write Donor's Circle in the memo, which will go to the support of Mooseheart. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Joanna 'Jo' Henze

ROCHELLE — We give thanks for a life well lived and the peaceful passing of a beautiful woman. Joanna "Jo" Henze, 88, passed from this life to the next on Tuesday, Jan. 31. She was tenderly cared for by her loyal and loving husband, John Henze, for 67 years of marriage.

Jo was a wonderful wife, mother, friend and servant of our Lord, who spent her life giving to others, especially with her gifts of faith, hope, love and joy. She often said, "The gift is in the gathering," and few things made her happier than to have a pile of shoes at the door because it meant a celebration was at hand. Her most joyful times were gathering as one big Henze clan to celebrate birthdays, holidays, blueberry fests and sitting near the bandshell to listen

to 4th of July songs, while watching fireworks light up the sky.

She was a steady presence in church choirs at St. John the Evangelist (Streamwood, Illinois), St. Patrick's (Rochelle) and St. Mary's (Oregon). Her love of music brought joy to many late in life as she sang alongside John playing on the clarinet for seniors in nursing facilities.

Joanna was an only child, but left behind a legacy of life including her husband John, six children: the late Debbie (Ron) Wisser, Cathy (Jeff) Warren, Linda (Fred) Sadaghyani, Mark (Rebecca) Henze, Diane (Jon) Lineback and David (Laura) Henze. Joanna was blessed with 20 grandchildren and 16 great grandchildren; sister and brother-in-law, Jane and Robert Ruf, nephews:



Greg and Steve, and niece, Jennifer.

The visitation will be from 2-5 p.m. Sunday Feb. 5 at the Unger-Homer Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Feb. 6 at St. Patrick Catholic Church, 236 Kelley Drive, Rochelle. Fr. Jason Hyunh celebrating the Mass. Memorials may be made in Jo's memory to a charity of the donor's choice.

Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Francis G. (Bud) Yeager

ROCHELLE — Francis G. (Bud) Yeager, 86, of Rochelle passed away on Thursday, Jan. 26 at home, one day after his 86th birthday on Jan. 25. He was born to Francis and Loretta Yeager in Chicago.

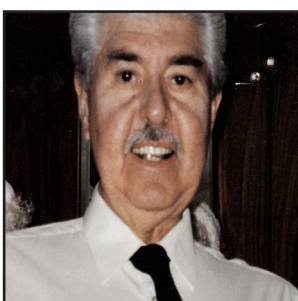
Bud loved spending time with his family. He also has a cat called Trixie who followed him around and will miss him. He spent time with the Hub City Cruisers because he had always loved cars since he was a little boy. He was the proud owner

of several MGs.

He belonged to the Loyal Order of the Moose and was a lifetime member of the Rochelle Moose Lodge, where he served as trustee.

Bud is survived by his beloved sisters, Arlene and Carol Ann. He also has a niece, Denise, who along with her husband Fred Reisinger, took care of him. He has three grown children, seven grandchildren and four great grandchildren.

Cremation services will be provided by Be-



verage-Lyons Family Funeral Home. A memorial service will follow in the near future. Donations may be made to Rochelle Moose Lodge in his name.

Online condolences may be made at www.beveragelyonsfamilyfh.com

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Deputies respond to three-vehicle accident

OREGON — On Jan. 31 at approximately 2:53 a.m. deputies attempted to catch up to a vehicle to conduct a traffic stop for an equipment violation while in the 3,000 block of South Lowden Road and the vehicle, a gray Mazda, sped off at a high rate of speed. Deputies observed the vehicle traveling at speeds of over 100 miles per hour while trying to gain distance on the vehicle. Deputies temporarily lost sight of the vehicle, before locating it crashed at the intersection of Lowden and Naylor Roads just into Lee County. After a short foot track, Deputies located the driver, Cody Lorenzen, 31, of Dixon, who sustained injuries during the crash. Lorenzen was then transported to the KSB Hospital by Franklin Grove EMS for

serious injuries. Lorenzen was issued citations for an equipment violation, speeding over 35 miles per hour, reckless driving, operating an uninsured vehicle and driving while license suspended. Lorenzen was released on an I-Bond at the hospital and given a future court date.

On Feb. 1, deputies, along with Stillman Valley EMS, Lynn-Scott-Rock EMS and Byron EMS, responded to the 10,000 block of East Illinois Route 72 for the report of a three-vehicle accident. During an initial investigation, deputies discovered a Jeep Wrangler, driven by Harvey Pollock, 18, of Davis Junction, had crossed the centerline entering the westbound lane of traffic. Pollock's vehicle struck an Ogle County Highway plow truck operated by

Jeffery Yount, 59, of Mt. Morris, and a Ford Fusion operated by a 16-year-old male juvenile. Stillman Valley EMS transported Pollock to Swedish American Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Lynn-Scott-Rock EMS transported Yount to Rochelle Community Hospital for possible injuries. The male juvenile was uninjured in the collision. This accident remains under investigation.

On Feb. 1 at 9:16 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 800 block of North Illinois Route 251. As a result, Cristian D. Villa, 21, of Davis Junction, was arrested for no valid driver's license. Villa was released on an I-Bond with a court date to appear.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



(PHOTO BY KIM DIVINE)

Jeff Tobler, a 1999 Rochelle Township High School graduate and Array's chief marketing officer, is joining Expedia Group as head of global media relations. He will be responsible for leading communications strategy for the Expedia Brands, including Expedia, VRBO and Hotels.com.

RTHS grad Tobler joins Expedia Group as head of global media relations

BY LYNETTE RICE
DEADLINE

SEATTLE — Jeff Tobler, a 1999 Rochelle Township High School graduate and Array's chief marketing officer, is joining Expedia Group as head of global media relations. He will be responsible for leading communications strategy for the Expedia Brands, including Expedia, VRBO and Hotels.com.

"We are thrilled to welcome Jeff to the Expedia Group team," Lauri Metrose, SVP, Expedia, communications, social Media and influencers, said. "I have had the pleasure of knowing Jeff for a long time and I could not be more excited to have him join the team. His extensive experience and innovative approach to media relations will greatly enhance our already exceptional communications team as we embark

on a dynamic year ahead at Expedia Group. We are excited for him to bring his talents to our organization and help us continue to tell impactful stories."

Tobler is a 2003 graduate of Columbia College in Chicago with a degree in public relations. For the last two years, He was responsible for marketing, press, social media, brand partnerships and promotions strategy for Ava DuVernay's award-winning narrative change collective. One of his accomplishments while at Array included creating a partnership with Ben & Jerry's, which marked the first time a Black woman has appeared on a pint of their ice cream. The flavor is called "Lights! Caramel! Action! Directed By Ava DuVernay," with proceeds benefitting Array Alliance to further create equitable systems in the entertainment industry. The flavor is currently rolling out to freezers and Ben & Jerry's scoop shops around the country.

In addition, Tobler helped to create a partnership with JetBlue to feature an exclusive in-flight Array pop-up channel. In total, 12 Array films appear, with an opening video by DuVernay. He also managed the final-season press campaign strategy for DuVernay's *Queen Sugar*, now

the longest-running Black family drama created by a Black woman creator in TV history, including the historic all-women directorial lineup conversation & celebration at the DGA in September.

Tobler joined Array after a decade at Warner Bros. Worldwide TV. In that role as SVP, he oversaw global publicity, communications and social media for scripted programming, as well as strategic business and crisis communications. Earlier in his career, he worked at The CW, The WB and NBC.

"Having grown up on a farm in Illinois, I'm grateful to have spent the past 20 years working with and learning from some of the top and most talented filmmakers in Hollywood including Ava DuVernay, Chuck Lorre and Greg Berlanti," Tobler said. "I believe that every experience leads to new opportunities and as an avid traveler, I'm excited to embark on my next adventure at Expedia Group with Lauri. I look forward to working alongside their impressive team and bringing my passion for entertainment and storytelling to the travel tech industry."

Tobler is a member of the Television Academy's Public Relations Peer Group Executive Committee.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make arrests

ROCHELLE — On Feb. 1, Joshua A. Marcoux, 20, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

On Feb. 1, Kayliegh F. Dougherty, 25, of Dixon was cited for speeding. She signed a promise to comply

and was given a March 17 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 1, Miranda R. Garcia, 29, of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

On Feb. 2, Manuel Sigales, 81, of Rochelle was cited for improper lane usage. He signed a

promise to comply and was given a March 17 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 2, Susan A. Andracke, 74, of Rochelle was cited for improper lane usage. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 17 Rochelle court date.

HOW TO CONTACT US

News-Leader Main Switchboard (815) 562-4171

General Manager
Mike Feltes (815) 561-2124

Newsroom Staff
Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor (815) 561-2151
Russ Hodges, Sports (815) 561-2152

To Place a Display Ad
Andrew Heiserman (815) 561-2123
Chris Ackland (815) 561-2153

To Place a Legal Ad
Mike Feltes (815) 561-2124

To Place a Classified Ad
Andrew Heiserman (815) 561-2123
Chris Ackland (815) 561-2153

Subscriptions and Delivery
Kelly White (815) 562-4171

ROCHELLE News-Leader

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.

IN-COUNTY REGULAR SUBSCRIPTION RATES

- \$139.99 for one year • \$79 for six months
- \$34.99 for three months • \$13.99 for one month

Call (815) 561-2112 or
Visit our website at
www.rochellenews-leader.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.

LOCAL NEWS

RTHS speakers earn 14 top-3 finishes at Jefferson

ROCHELLE — On Saturday, Jan. 28 the Rochelle Township High School speech team competed in the Rockford Jefferson Invitational. The Hubs finished in third place with the following individuals earning finalist honors:

Varsity division – First place: Z Brizuela Dramatic Interpretation, Bella Nauman Oratorical Declamation and Aiden Ramsey Radio Speaking. Second place: Z Brizuela Oratorical Declamation, Paul Swartz Extemporaneous Speaking, Paul Swartz Informative Speaking and Karma Lidren Humorous Interpretation. Third place: Bella Nauman Oratorical and Karma Lidren

Original Comedy. Fourth place: Vi Hull Prose Reading. Fifth place: Bobbie Henning Original Comedy. Sixth place: Bobbie Henning Humorous Interpretation, Ashes Glover Poetry Reading and Lucas Smardo Radio Speaking.

Next-in division – First place: Pigeon Burgholzer/ Brooklyn Hull Humorous Duet Acting and Vi Hull Special Occasion Speaking. Second place: Faith Adams Informative Speaking. Third place: Sienna Seebach Original Comedy, Brooklyn Hull Dramatic Interpretation and Aiden Ramsey Impromptu Speaking. Fifth place: Jimmy Chavez Extemporaneous Speaking, Hailey Bunger/Alayna

Smardo Humorous Duet Acting, Hailey Bunger Prose Reading and William Wise Informative Speaking. Sixth place: Sienna Seebach Humorous Interpretation and William Wise Impromptu Speaking.

Novice division – Second place: Alayna Smardo Oratorical Declamation.

Speaker of the week was Bella Nauman. On Feb. 4, RTHS will host the Regional Speech Tournament.

Math Team

At the Interstate 8 Mathematics contest, the Rochelle Township High School team earned a third-place finish due to some admirable performances. Hub seniors lead the I-8 conference in trigonomet-

ric application.

Trigonometry is the branch of mathematics that deals with the relationship of sides with angles in a triangle. Trigonometry is used to determine the heights of mountains and towers or the distance between stars or planets and is widely used in physics, architecture, and GPS navigation systems.

Trigonometry is found in everything from architecture to zigzag scissors. Think that trig is never used outside of the classroom? You may be surprised to learn just how often trigonometry and its applications are encountered in the real world. [https://sciencing.com/real-life-applications-trigo-](https://sciencing.com/real-life-applications-trigonometry-7769833.html)

[nometry-7769833.html](https://sciencing.com/real-life-applications-trigonometry-7769833.html)

Check out the Conference Math Tourney results:

First place - Trigonometric Applications: seniors John Green, Casandra Garcia, Tommy Koziol and Avery Auld. Areas: sophomores Drake Ramos, Alice Drobbick, Lilly Drobbick, Manny Cruz, Lucas Smardo and Noah LeFevre. Fresh/soph eight-person team: Lilly Drobbick, Noah LeFevre, Alice Drobbick, Lucas Smardo, Annaliese, Koziol, Bobbie Henning and Mark Green.

Second place - Calculator team: John Green, Aiden Ramsey, Manny Cruz, Drake Ramos and Bobbie Henning. Circles: sophomores Noah LeFevre, Manny Cruz, Drake

Ramos and Lucas Smardo. Probability - Seniors Tommy Koziol, David Wanner, John Green and Avery Auld. Logarithmic and exponential functions: junior Aiden Ramsey.

Third place - Linear inequalities: freshmen Annaliese Koziol and Mark Green. Quadratic equations: juniors Aiden Ramsey and Jimmy Chavez. Geometry and trigonometry of a right triangle: juniors Aiden Ramsey and Jimmy Chavez. Junior/senior eight-person team: Casandra Garcia, David Wanner, Tommy Koziol, Avery Auld, Jimmy Chavez and Aiden Ramsey.

The Rochelle math team is coached by Mike Fonfara.

Rochelle Area CHURCH DIRECTORY

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Rochelle United Methodist Church invites everyone to come and hear the good news that YOU are Beloved by God! In February, our worship continues with the theme of "Beloved!" as we hear the messages of God's love from the scriptures. On February 5 we are delighted to have the Reverend Dr. Norma Lee Kerns Barnhart as our guest preacher and will celebrate communion. On February 12 we will hear about the message of God's love for all of the world. On February 19 the message comes from the letter of 1 John, chapter 4 to help us understand the circle of love that begins with God and moves through us. Everyone is always welcome to all of our services. **Sunday worship is at 9:00 am** with Sunday School for children after the Children's Message. Recorded services are available on our YouTube channel and our website at www.rochelleumc.com. Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. **Our Facebook page is** www.facebook.com/rochelleumc. **Rev. Dr. Katherine Thomas Paisley, Pastor.** 709 Fourth Ave. (815) 562-2164. admin@rochelleumc.com. Everyone is welcome and loved!

St. Patrick Catholic Church Rev. Jesus Dominguez; Deacon Fermin Garcia; Deacon George Schramm; 244 Kelley Dr. (Corner of Kelley & Caron Rd.), PO Box 329, Rochelle, IL 61068. **Office Hours:** 9:00 AM- 4PM Monday-Thursday, Phone: 815-562-2370. **Mass times:** 8:00 AM Monday-Thursday, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM English, 7PM Spanish, Sunday Mass 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM in English and 11:00 AM in Spanish. **Confessions:** Monday 8:30AM & 6:30PM, Tuesday 8:30AM, Saturday 8:30am & 4:00-4:45 PM Or by appointment. **Religious Education:** Deacon George Schramm, Director of Religious Education. 903 Caron Road, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815-561-0079; Website: stpatricksrochelle.com Email: stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org Facebook.com/StPatrickRochelle

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

LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Winter is a period of downtime, but farmers aren't staying idle

AS snow blankets our frozen fields, winter is a time of reflection for farmers. What worked well, what could we do better and what challenges will the upcoming spring bring? Those are questions we ask ourselves as we ring in the new year and begin planning for the next planting season.

At Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB), winter is a time for farmers across the state to come together to see old friends, make connections and learn new strategies to build and strengthen our food systems.

American consumers today are increasingly concerned with what to put on their family's table. They want to know where their food is grown and who's producing it. Whether it's choosing organic or locally sourced fruits, vegetables, meats or other food products, consumers want to feel connected to their food producers and confident in their choices.

It's a unique opportunity for farmers—big and

small—to tell our story.

That's why IFB collaborated with the Illinois Specialty Growers Association (ISGA) and the Illinois Farmers Market Association (IFMA) to create the largest, most inclusive local food event in Illinois. From food to flowers, the Everything Local Conference connected local growers, farmers, farmers market associates and business owners to build alliances and partnerships.

Illinois' agriculture production goes far beyond corn and soybeans. Farmers across the state produce a wide range of specialty crops, a diverse variety of fruits, vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, horticulture and floriculture. Illinois ranks first in the nation for pumpkin and horseradish production, and among the top 10 in asparagus, cauliflower, fresh-cut herbs, green beans, lima beans, mustard greens and snap peas.

Illinois also ranks third in the nation for the number of farmers markets, where consumers can purchase farm-fresh, af-

fordable, convenient and healthy products.

The Everything Local Conference brought together such producers to learn new ways to strengthen and build the local food supply chain. It was also a time for celebration for all the hard work our farmers put in day in and day out.

The ISGA honored Amelia and Michael Howard, of Cook County, and Tom Schwartz, of Randolph County, with the 2022 ISGA Award of Excellence.

The Howards—long recognized as "urban farmers" before "urban farming" was popularized—have led the way for growers in their community. Their work has ushered in more than 25 years of agricultural education and created a safe haven for children in the Fuller Park community of Chicago through farming experiences that connect them with nature, agriculture and the world around them.

Schwartz is another strong leader among specialty crop producers. His extensive knowledge of horticulture and marketing has amplified the industry while teaching how horticulture can serve communities. ISGA was honored to recognize Schwartz for being a bright light for many specialty crop families, as well as a major supporter within the industry.

Many other specialty crop producers were recognized throughout the conference. Two fan favorite competitions also returned: the Illinois State horticulture

Society's 33rd Illinois and National Sweet Cider Contests and the 20th National Hard Cider Contest.

This year, Joe Ringhausen of Joe Ringhausen Orchards in Fieldon took home the gold as the No.1 overall rated cider. His cider blends Jonathan, Golden Delicious, Red Delicious and Fuji apples for a winning

combination. Wiles Family Orchard of Fairchild placed first in the Hard Cider contest as repeat champions. Their hard cider blends Gold Rush, Golden Delicious and Fuji apples.

Who doesn't love a cup of cold, refreshing cider after a hard day's work? Illinois is lucky to have such wonderful orchards.

Building and strengthening the local food supply chain wasn't the only goal this winter. In late January, about 500 young and beginning farmers attended IFB's annual Young Leader Conference to tackle challenges facing the next generation of farmers.

IFB's Young Leader Chair, Sadie Asher, of Henry County, outlined her priorities for the coming year. With more IFB members over the age of 90 than under 35, Asher called on her fellow young leaders to strengthen the organization's membership and recruit younger voices.

Our young farmers' talent was also displayed during the 2023 American Farm Bureau Federa-

tion (AFBF) annual meeting in San Juan, Puerto Rico. Evan Hultine, a Bureau County farmer, received third place in the AFBF Young Farmers and Ranchers Achievement Award competition. Kaylee Heap, of Kendall County, ranked fourth in the AFBF Excellence in Agriculture competition and Ryan Reeverts of Ogle County was honored to represent Illinois in the AFBF Young Leader Discussion Meet.

Winter is a period of downtime. That is a true statement for many farmers, but we're not staying idle. Illinois farmers continue to develop new best practices for their businesses, and celebrate those who are making our industry stronger, better and more efficient for future generations.

Richard Guebert Jr. is president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. This op-ed was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeek-Now.com.

Life can be a linguistic minefield

I purchased a new bicycle for my 12-year-old daughter this month and received a tongue lashing from a salesperson in return.

The Springfield salesperson asked if she was interested in a "cross through" bike. I had no idea what he was talking about. I was familiar with mountain bikes, road bikes and hybrids.

But I'd never heard the term "cross through."

I told him I didn't know what a "cross-through" bike was. So, he rolled one onto the sales floor. The top bar dipped down toward the pedals.

I replied, "Oh, you mean a 'girls bike.'"

Apparently, I'd trod into a linguistic minefield.

"We don't ascribe genders to inanimate objects," the salesperson

said to me in a rather derisive tone. He added, "Sometimes elderly men prefer 'cross through' bikes so they won't have to lift their legs so high."

I explained to him that when I was in college, I was a pretty serious biker but I had never heard the term "cross through bike." At this point he eyed my gray hair and said, "It looks to me like it's been a long time since you were in college."

In case you think this was some young whippersnapper, the salesperson appeared to be in his 60s. I was contemplating leaving this family-owned business and buying my daughter a bike at the big-box sporting goods store across town.

But as the salesperson and I conversed, my daughter was busy ogling the bicycle in question.

She said she loved it and it was the perfect color. I swallowed hard and made the purchase.

I made a decision to extend this man some grace, even if he wasn't willing to do the same for me.

Why? Well, I didn't want to disappoint my daughter. And even though I was being treated rudely, I didn't necessarily disagree with what the man was saying.

Just because I have always heard such bicycles referred to as "girls bikes" doesn't mean that is the best terminology.

In my decades in journalism, I've always tried to use inclusive terms such as "police officer," "firefighter" and "pastor"

rather than "policeman," "fireman," and "clergyman."

A transgender teenager works at a store I frequent. I always address him by his new name and by his preferred gender. It's a matter of kindness.

He always gives me a big smile.

And no that doesn't mean I endorse a particular agenda. I just believe when in doubt it's best to be kind.

In the same vein, the salesperson at the bike shop might have received a better response if he applied some kindness to his own message. He could have said something like, "When I was growing up, we called them 'girls bikes' too. But now we call them 'cross throughs' because

some older men also prefer them."

That would have been a polite way to have said it without being ageist or ascribing bad motives to someone using an outdated term.

When my parents were growing up, the word "negro" was the term that educated, polite people used. When the 1970s rolled around, my siblings and I had to keep reminding my dad that "Black" was the preferred terminology.

We reminded him of this gently. Repeatedly. After all, he was not being mean spirited in clinging a little too long to the word he had been taught was proper.

As the lexicon changes, extending grace to others is helpful. And rudeness rarely wins allies to your cause.

There is a difference

between being oblivious and being hateful.

For example, when I was a young reporter, I had a supervisor who used a term for a bundle of sticks to refer to gay people. He chortled when editing obituaries for gay men who died of AIDS.

I wish some of the people who are convinced that newsrooms are full of woke left wingers could have met this jerk.

No one should have to put up with anyone like that. Hate was behind his words. He knew better.

But oftentimes when someone misspeaks or uses an outdated term, it's done out of ignorance. It's best to inform rather than condemn.

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

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

Rochelle City Council

*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

Rochelle Elementary School Board

*Dave Casey dcillini94@gmail.com
Steve Builta sbuilta@gmail.com
Ashley Jackson ajackson@d231.rochelle.net
Stephanie White swhite@d231.rochelle.net
Eric Van Hise eric.vanhise@gmail.com
Trisha Vaughn jrvtlv02@msn.com
Javier Zepeda jzepeda@rthsd212.org

Rochelle Township High School Board

*Tom Huddleston tom.huddleston@rthsd212.org
Carol Hayenga carol.hayenga@rthsd212.org
Bill Ravnaas bill.ravnaas@rthsd212.org
Jacky Aguilera jacky.aguilera@rthsd212.org
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
John Dobbs jdobbs@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Dale Wells dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org
*Tim Hayden thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Jodie Hart jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Joe Lenkaitis jlenkaitis@rochelleparkdistrict.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 3

Lloyd Droege ldroege@oglecounty.org
Dan Miller dmiller@oglecounty.org
Greg Sparrow gsparrow@oglecounty.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 4

Bruce McKinney bmcKinney@oglecounty.org
Skip Kenney skenney@oglecounty.org
David Williams dwilliams@oglecounty.org

Creston Village Board

Wayne Williams jwdw13@yahoo.com
Jennifer Payton tommyb_47@yahoo.com
*Tom Byro ghopkins522@comcast.net
Greg Hopkins skatzman@essex1.com
Steve Katzman ac.kerns@comcast.net
Mike Kerns
Mark Hibshman
Curt Ward caward92@comcast.net

Hillcrest Village Board

*Randy Salsbury rsalsbury@hillcrestil.us
Pam Pittman ppittman@hillcrestil.us
Dan Potter dpotter@hillcrestil.us
Richard Rhoads rrhoads@hillcrestil.us
Tim Ball tball@hillcrestil.us
Renee Kerwin rkerwin@hillcrestil.us

Flagg Township

*Bob Withrow flaggtwp@rochelle.net
Joanna Patrick flaggtwpclerk@rochelle.net
Susan Rothenberger assessor@rochelle.net
Scott Seebach scottseebach@gmail.com

Board of Trustees

Lance Noggle noggle62@gmail.com
Eric Gruben egruben@comcast.net
Susan Hagar susanhager303@comcast.net
Jim Kenney jimk@rocketsupply.com

Flagg-Rochelle Library

*Jaqueline Dickow dickow@comcast.net
Teresa Haggstad haggstad@comcast.net
Michael Scanlan scanlan@comcast.net
Lanning Nicoloff nicoloff118@comcast.net
Sheri Klindera alwayslefty2@gmail.com
Susan Sevedge nit1prl22@yahoo.com
Darci Waltrip doobs12@comcast.net

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

Fehlman joins Central Banc. Inc. board of directors

GENESEO—Andrew A. Fehlman has joined the corporate Board of Directors of Central Banc, Inc., as of Jan. 1, 2023. Central Banc, Inc. is the holding company of Central Bank Illinois, headquartered in Geneseo, and sets the strategic direction and risk management policies for the company within its corporate governance structure.

Fehlman, of St. Louis, Missouri, is the president & chief executive officer with EDCO Health Information Solutions, Inc. dba Solarity. As president and CEO of a 500+ employee health information technology firm, Andrew is responsible for leading the strategic direction of Solarity for all stakeholders; customers, employees, partners, and shareholders. Andrew joined Solarity in 2008 as a sales executive, was promoted to vice president of sales in 2012 and named president & CEO in 2019. Andrew received a bachelor's degree in business administration with a concentration in entrepreneurship from Saint Louis University. In 2022, Andrew was named Alumni Entrepreneur of The Year by his alma mater. In addition to the Solarity management role, Andrew serves on the board of EDCO Health Information Solutions and the American Health Information Management Association Foundation.

DuBois also announced the retirement of Dr. Bruce Fehlman from the Board of Directors of Central Banc, Inc. effective Dec. 31, 2022. "With 39 years of director service to the company, Bruce helped our company meet the shareholder expectations of long term value creation while meeting the financial needs of our customers and communities in regulatory complaint manner. His support of our strategic direction was valuable and we wish him well with his retirement plans."

Collins earns degree from University of Northern Colorado

GREELEY, Col. — Johnice Collins of Rochelle recently earned a bachelor's degree in arts in elementary education from the University of Northern Colorado. Collins graduated from the university with magna cum laude honors at the end of the fall 2022 semester.

Wells named to Mississippi State fall 2022 dean's list

STARKVILLE, Miss. — Ethan Wells of Rochelle was named to the Mississippi State University fall 2022 dean's list. Wells was among 2,445 students named to the fall 2022 dean's list. To be named to the dean's list, a student must have achieved a grade-point average between 3.5 and 3.79, based on a 4.0 scale, while completing at least 12 semester hours of course work with no incomplete grades or grades lower than a C.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb. 5 Hazel Nieves	Feb. 12 Jennifer Curtis	Feb. 21 Kris Oleson Anna Sexton
Feb. 7 Lydia Sherburne Alex Bonilla	Feb. 13 Gabby Villalobos	Feb. 22 Jessica South Lucy Hazlip
Feb. 8 Kaiyah Hayward	Feb. 16 Larry Baker	Feb. 26 Natalie Powell
Feb. 10 Gene & Judy Messer (anniversary)	Feb. 18 Sam & Jessica South (anniversary) Sven Norris	Feb. 27 Beth Bolhous
Feb. 11 Darrell Bolhous Paige and Samantha Donoho	Feb. 20 Christian Losoya	Feb. 28 Lucas Donoho

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

February 5 – (Sunday Brunch) – Serving from 9 to 12 – Sausage Gravy and Biscuits, Breakfast Casserole, Oatmeal, Sausage Links or Country Ham

7034 S. Klondike Road | Rochelle, IL 61068 | 815-561-9074
If you would like to volunteer with us, please email us at volunteer@kitchentablerochelle.org

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

2022 From The Heart Calendar

Jan. 10 - ALM Fine Cabinetry, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 11 - Anita Bowers, Byron, \$25

Jan. 12 - Melissa Villalobos, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 13 - Cheri Divine, Frisco, CO, \$25

Jan. 14 - Zekelman Employee, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 15 - Kyle Kissack, Rochelle, \$50

Jan. 16 - Doris Kay McIlvoy, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 17 - Calvin M. Jacobs, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 18 - Autumn Hernandez, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 19 - The Kitchen Table, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 20 - Sean Tracy, Byron, \$25

Jan. 21 - Tracy Pointer, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 22 - Daniel W. Keller, Oregon, \$50

Jan. 23 - Ryan E. Baylor, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 24 - Kathryn Tyner, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 25 - RACE, \$25

Jan. 26 - Jacqueline Nass, Naperville, \$25

Jan. 27 - Andrea Svela, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 28 - Anne Aubry, Whitefish Bay, WI, \$25

Jan. 29 - From the Heart, \$50

Jan. 30 - Alexander Herrera, Dixon, \$25

Jan. 31 - Rochelle Chamber, \$25

Feb. 1 - Deanna Hill, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 2 - From the Heart, \$25

Feb. 3 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25

Feb. 4 - Melanie Bonilla, Rochelle, \$250

Feb. 5 - Jesse Johnson, Cambridge, WI, \$50

Coffee Break

MAGIC MAZE • LOVE

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: In Tennis : Server 2 Opponent 0

Affectionate	First	Parental	True
Brotherly	Labor of	Puppy	Unrequited
Enduring	Maternal	Romantic	Young
Fall in	Motherly	Selfless	

©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.

Super Crossword

ACROSS

1 "Sch." for "school," e.g.
5 "My stars!"
11 Source of poi
15 Baseballer Ty
19 "Don't stop!"
20 Foray
21 State firmly
22 Voiced
23 Put on some wrist jewelry?
26 Actress Foch
27 Connect for use, to Brits
28 With 86-Across, China's place
29 Haunting
30 Mike Brady's three kids, e.g.
31 Greek fabulist
32 Pair of poetic lines about the army?
35 — Valley, San Francisco
36 Disney frame
37 FedEx rival
38 Layers
39 Healed a fictional prince of Denmark?
44 Striped feline
47 "And others," in footnotes
48 Mino of "Dino"
49 Steer snarer
51 Re

55 Home of Taj Mahal
57 Extra wrestling garment in case the main one gets lost?
60 Heifer's home
63 "Hulk" director Lee
65 Blind as —
66 Earp of the O.K. Corral
67 Sound of wonderment
68 Bright red Kleenex?
73 Foot part
74 Cause, as havoc
76 City in Kansas
77 Time on end
78 Bison group
79 Secondhand apartment rental in Rome?
84 — gin fizz
86 See
87 Gamma follower
88 Just so-so
90 Warship fleet
94 Test, as ore
96 Coated pill produced in Antarctica?
98 Oak nut
101 Letter before dee

103 "— got it!"
104 Partner of 67-Across
105 Parents-to-be expecting three babies at once?
111 "The — come out tomorrow" (start of an "Annie" song)
113 "Mystic Pizza" actress
114 Turkish coins
115 Out-of-date
116 How cats ask for Meow Mix, per a slogan
117 Lady friend, in France
118 Pleasing answer when actress Kate asks her agent "Who wants me next?"
121 Job detail
122 "Huh-uh!"
123 Cyclops' odd feature
124 Actress Falco
125 Car roller, to Brits
126 Secy., e.g.
127 Less wordy
128 Also — (race losers)

DOWN

1 Tone of an environment
4 African fly
2 Validated, as a claim
3 Period of Model T's
4 Right-hand book page
5 Pickle choice
6 Ending with ethyl
7 Many indie movies
8 Like queens
9 New Zealand native
10 Univ. URL ending
11 Unlike stunners
12 Animator Tex
13 Sainly article
14 "— ed Euridice" (Gluck opera)
15 Nefarious group plot
16 Bobolink's kin
17 Big headline
18 Explosions
24 "The Raven" poet's inits.
25 Gather in
32 "— culpa!"
33 Boy pharaoh
34 4x4, in brief
36 Jacques of France
40 Panache
41 Use a shovel
42 Vegas lead-in
43 Wallach of "Firepower"
44 African fly

45 Suffix with organ
46 Mass of mayo, say
49 Pride parade letters
50 Jai —
52 Glide on ice
53 Teach privately
54 Decided (to)
56 Actress Ortiz
58 Of birth
59 Astonishment
60 "Fame" vocalist David
61 Major artery
62 Ostrichlike birds
64 Horrific
68 Glide on snow
69 Uncouth guy
70 Napoleon's exile isle
71 "He-e-elp!"
72 Loosen, as a shoe
75 Decorative church screen
78 Cannabis fiber
80 Paid promos
81 Tchr.'s org.
82 Comic Philips
83 Phone no.
85 "... man — mouse?"
89 Clairol products

91 "M*A*S*H" co-star
92 Request for a poker hand
93 Olympics participants
95 NBC show since '75
96 Writer's tool
97 Trailer park campers, for short
98 "Finally!"
99 Like pie crusts with pressed-in ridges
100 Greasier
101 Dry red wine
102 Simple
106 Kagan of the court
107 Some DVR systems
108 Sets up, informally
109 Herman's frontman Peter
110 Senior
111 Wd. of similar meaning
112 Auto racer Al
116 Funeral platform
119 Net automaton
120 Letter before zee

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIHOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

©2023 King Features Syndicate, Inc. All rights reserved.



OPPORTUNITY IS CALLING YOU AT WHEATLAND TUBE AND WESTERN TUBE.

Make your career an exciting one.

Give yourself the chance to grow.

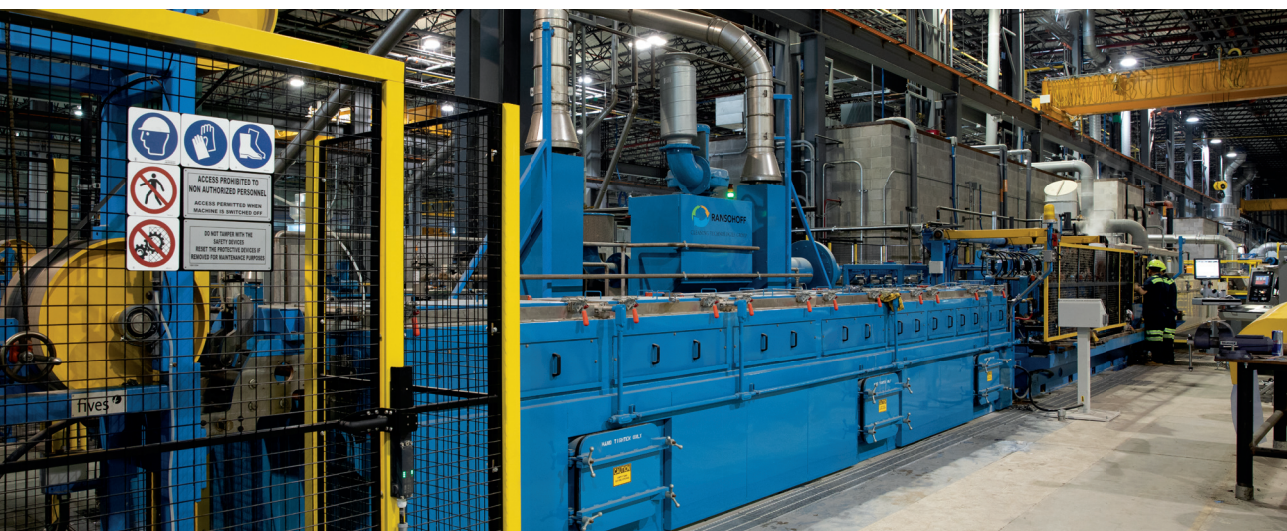
Be at the forefront of technology and innovation.

Become part of a new era in domestic manufacturing.

Help our economy bounce back better than ever.

Build a brighter future for our community.

**DO IT ALL RIGHT HERE, RIGHT
NOW IN ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS.**



Start at \$24/hr and up | \$500 sign-on bonus | Competitive benefits | All levels
Schedule your interview today at wheatland.com/rochelle



ADVERTISE YOUR BUSINESS HERE!

Great Rate - Great Spot!

Call Mike @ 815-561-2124 or email mfeltes@oglecountylife.com

01252021

Anderson Plumbing is Now Hiring an Experienced HVAC Tech

Great Pay & Benefits

ANDERSON PLUMBING & HEATING, INC.

621 First Ave., Rochelle, IL • 815-562-8784



SUNDAY, FEB. 5, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



GOING TO MONMOUTH
RTHS senior Trey Taft will be playing football at Monmouth College next year.
See page 2 for more details

RTHS Girls Bowling

Conference finale

Vincent, McCullough lead Lady Hubs to third-place finish in Interstate 8

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Tuesday's Interstate 8 Conference Championship tournament showed how far the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team has come from last season. Having already eclipsed their win total from last season, the Lady Hubs secured a third-place season finish in the conference after Tuesday's tournament, with two bowlers earning All-Conference honors.

Sophomore Cassidy Vincent took home medalist honors for the tournament, finishing fifth with a 1,093 series as the Lady Hubs finished fourth out of six schools with a team score of 5,119. Vincent also received First-Team All-Conference honors for the second consecutive season, while freshman Kylie McCullough was named an Honorable Mention. McCullough finished 16th in the tournament with a 925 series to help lead the Lady Hubs (9-7, 6-4 Interstate 8).

"It really means a lot to be named All-Conference," Vincent said.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team took fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference Championship tournament on Tuesday, securing a third-place finish for the season. Above from left to right are coach Shannon Forney, Cassidy Vincent, Kylie McCullough, Anahi Alanis, Makenzie Liezert, Faith Adams, Mackenzie Burnett and head coach Eric Widick.

"We've really grown from where we were last season and we've become really close as a team, even outside of bowling. I thought

we did really well with our spares and we were definitely prepared because we've bowled on wood lanes all season... We were

all supporting each other and picking each other up. We've become more confident in ourselves and I think we can be even better

next season." Juniors Anahi Alanis and Makenzie Liezert rolled series scores of 832 and 814 for the Lady Hubs,

who opened the tournament in fifth place after two games.

See BOWL page 6

RTHS Girls Basketball

Defense ignites second-half rally over Plano

Henkel scores 21 points as Rochelle comes back to take down Reapers 49-41

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — A difficult first half didn't deter Alivia Henkel and the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball team from giving maximum effort over the final two quarters Tuesday evening, when the purple and white found themselves trailing by nine points against the Plano Reapers.

With Henkel leading the charge, Rochelle took control of the game on the defensive end, jumping into passing lanes and forcing numerous Plano turnovers that resulted in easy layups on the other end. The junior guard scored all 21 of her points in the second half, helping the Lady Hubs erase a third-quarter deficit and outlast the Reapers 49-41. Henkel made six third-quarter field goals for the Lady Hubs (8-21, 6-7 Interstate 8) in the win Tuesday night.

"I knew we had to come out strong during the second half because we had a rough first half," Henkel said. "I wanted to come out and give my all and drive the ball more than I did in the first half. Our team came out with a lot more energy in the second half. We had kind of a bad

attitude in the locker room after the first half, but we had a good talk and we came out ready to win."

Sophomore Kendyl Darby spearheaded the charge for the Rochelle offense during the first quarter, using her dribble-drive and strong handles to beat two Plano defenders and finish a pair of layups at the rim. Darby finished with eight points for the Lady Hubs, who trailed 7-5 after the first quarter before taking the lead on a 3-pointer from senior Torrin Nantz, who converted three triples in the game including two in the second quarter. Nantz totaled 10 points in the win.

Plano closed the first half on a 5-0 run to surge ahead 19-14 at halftime. The Reapers leaned on forward Mikayla Walls, who led Plano with 22 points and nine made field goals in the game. Back-to-back layups from Walls during the third quarter gave the Reapers their largest lead of the game and forced a Rochelle timeout. It was then that the Lady Hubs cranked up the pressure on defense, forcing back-court turnovers as well as turnovers in the half-court setting.

See GIRLS page 6

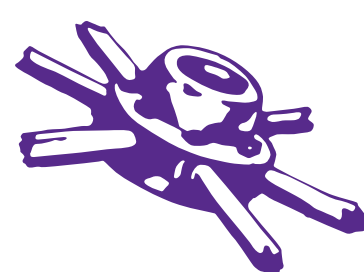


(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Abby Metzger looks to pass around Plano defender Alex Bishop during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball game against the Reapers on Tuesday. Rochelle rallied to win 49-41 over the Reapers.



The businesses featured on this page are
“Hubs Super Fans”
 They proudly support our local athletes and students.



Please show your appreciation by patronizing their businesses.

WE SUPPORT OUR HUBS!

HUB SPOTLIGHT

RTHS senior Taft commits to Monmouth College

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE senior Trey Taft could feel his hands trembling with excitement as he read a text message from Monmouth College wide receivers coach Jack Healy. Taft was on his way to a track and field meet during his junior year when the message came through his phone.

It was then that Taft's first connection with Monmouth College was formed. Taft also recalled being awake on less than five hours of rest after his junior prom when he took his first visit to the Monmouth College campus. The experience was eye opening for the senior standout, who after making two more visits including a game day trip and an overnight visit, recently made the decision that he would continue his academics and his football career with the Fighting Scots.

“I loved the facilities and everything about the program,” Taft said. “Coach Healy drove all the way out here just to talk with me and during my overnight visit, I had a lot of fun and I really enjoyed the environment. The opportunity that was presented to me was the best opportunity for me. My favorite part about playing sports growing up has been the grind and that’s what I’m looking forward to most. I’m happy that I’ll have the chance to keep playing the sport I love.”

Taft concluded his high school career as a two-time Interstate 8 All-Conference First Team honoree. Taft started at wing-back and outside linebacker over his junior and senior seasons for the Hubs, compiling 2,070 total yards and 21 touchdowns during the span. Taft rushed for 1,099 yards and 12 scores during his senior year, when he also led Rochelle with 200 receiving yards. Taft spent four years with the football program, with three years coming on the varsity team.

“Playing at Rochelle has made me tough and it’s made me not scared to hit somebody or block somebody,” Taft said. “It showed me what football should be. It’s a hard-nosed sport and the tougher team is going to win. That’s how it should be in this sport and I’ll never forget all of the memories I made here. Playing here made me fall in love with the sport even more.”

Taft said he intends to study business



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Rochelle senior Trey Taft will continue his academics and his football career at Monmouth College next year.

and minor in psychology while attending Monmouth College. The senior helped lead Rochelle to a combined 17-6 record over the last two seasons, with the Hubs reaching the second round of the IHSA Class 5A Playoffs during the 2021-22 season and the quarterfinal round of the IHSA 4A Playoffs during the 2022-23 season. Rochelle’s nine wins this past fall were the most for the program in a single season since 2004.

“Coach Healy and I talked about my role with the team and we talked about having me play either running back or slot receiver,” Taft said. “I told him that I preferred playing on offense and we talked about where I could fit within the offense. I’m planning to attend a camp for the running backs and a camp for the wide receivers so I can figure out which position I like more.”

“Playing at Rochelle has made me tough and it’s made me not scared to hit somebody or block somebody. It showed me what football should be. It’s a hard-nosed sport and the tougher team is going to win. That’s how it should be in this sport and I’ll never forget all of the memories I made here.”

Trey Taft

GO HUBS!

VINCE'S PIZZA
Since 1967

Order online and receive
15% off entire bill!

We are proud to support
Rochelle Hubs!

Visit us at vinespizzainrochelle.com
815-562-7300

Hello, neighbor!

Haber Ins and Fin Svcs Inc.
Shane B. Haber, Agent
221 E. IL Rt. 38
Rochelle, IL 61068
Bus: 815-562-7011

Please stop by and say, “Hi!”
I’m looking forward to serving your needs for insurance and financial services.
Like a good neighbor, State Farm is there.
CALL ME TODAY!

State Farm

DLX Medical GROUP

Caring for your family's health from infant to adults.

For appointment, please call
815-227-9594
1212 Currency Ct, Rochelle, IL 61068
Most Insurance Accepted

Diana Alanis, MD
Accepting New Patients

Local People Providing Local Service

Rochelle MUNICIPAL UTILITIES

Water • Waste Water
Electric • Communications

Phone: 815-562-4155
Fax: 815-562-5861
333 Lincoln Highway
Rochelle, IL

www.rmu.net

CENTRAL ILLINOIS LOAN

Loans For All Your Needs
Auto • Home Improvement • Vacation

Jami Hackman

815★561★4035!

310 Eagle Drive, Rochelle
All loans subject to our normal credit requirements and policies.

MORTON BUILDINGS

If you can dream it, we can build it.

Rochelle Sales Office • Hwy. 251 N. • 877-613-3050

Rochelle Community Hospital

Your Local Healthcare Resource.

900 N. 2nd Street, Rochelle
815-562-2181
www.rochellehospital.com

MEYERS FURNITURE & FLOORING

209 Powers Road, Hwy 251 N
Rochelle, IL 61068
(815) 562-8792
www.meyersfurniture.com

Bruns Construction, Inc.

Residential & Commercial Roofing

Shingled Roofs
Flat Roofs
Metal Roofs For Farm Facilities
Custom Built Homes
Additions

815-561-0099
Licensed & Insured

Batavia Builders & Remodelers, LLC

Debbie Foster, Owner
(815) 501-8946
www.bataviabuilders.com

Serving Illinois & the Surrounding Area

Specializing in Walk-In Tubs & Acrylic Showers

Additions ~ Bathrooms ~ Kitchens
Accessibility Remodeling

ANDERSON Plumbing & Heating, Inc.

Plumbing, Heating, Air Conditioning,
Drinking water systems, Water Heaters,
Softeners, Iron Filters & More.

Since 1976
Like us on Facebook
Lic# 055-013999

LENNOX
One less thing to worry about
621 First Ave., Rochelle
815-562-8784

Rochelle Chiropractic Clinic
Dr. Chad M. Piller

227 E. Rt 38 • Rochelle, IL
815-562-8706
www.rochellechiropractic.com
Now Accepting New Patients!

Alfano's
Pizzeria and Italian Restaurant

Taste The **TRADITION**
Taste The **DIFFERENCE**

Dine In • Carry Out •
• Home Delivery • Pizza • Pastas •
• Sandwiches • Salads •
• and Lots More!

Dine-In • Carry Out • Home Delivery
1115 TURKINGTON TERRACE, ROCHELLE
815-562-3312

JOHNSON TRACTOR

SALES • PARTS • SERVICE

200 Steward Road
800.262.1680
www.johnsontractor.com

AtlasAuto

BUY HERE – PAY HERE
You Work - You Drive

Se Habla Español **815-562-7433**

1400 N 7th St
Corner of Flagg Rd & Hwy 251 N

HUB-REMSEN PRINT GROUP

101 Maple Ave • Rochelle, IL 61068
815.562.7057 • hub-remsen.com

GO HUBS!

“Proudly Serving The Rochelle Area Since 1945”

Berg-Johnson Electric

Residential • Commercial • Industrial

FREE ESTIMATES
Licensed and Insured
24 Hour Emergency Service
815-562-4937
500 Cleveland Avenue

JEFF PERRY

CHEVROLET • BUICK • CADILLAC • JEEP • CHRYSLER

815-562-8787 • www.jeffperrychevrolet.com

Busy Schedule? Leave the cooking to us.

• Large menu of foods
• Rochelle's famous chicken by the dinner or bucket
• Hand dipped ice cream (16 flavors)

COUNTRY SCHOOL DRIVE-IN RESTAURANT
251 N. ROCHELLE • 562-6039

We're tuned in to your financial needs!

• Six locations
• 25,000+ ATMs across the U.S.¹
• Free checking account options including Student Checking
• Stillman Mobile App featuring mobile deposit²
• Free Pre-approvals
• Local lenders, local decisions

Stillman BANK
Earning Your Trust For 135 Years
www.stillmanbank.com

GOOD LUCK HUBS FROM YOUR FANS AT:

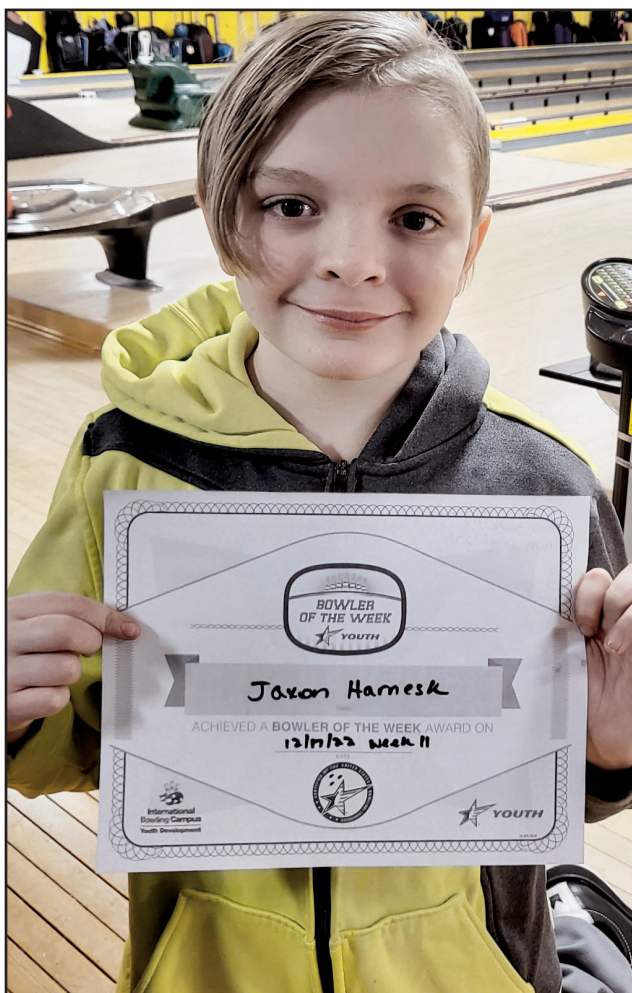
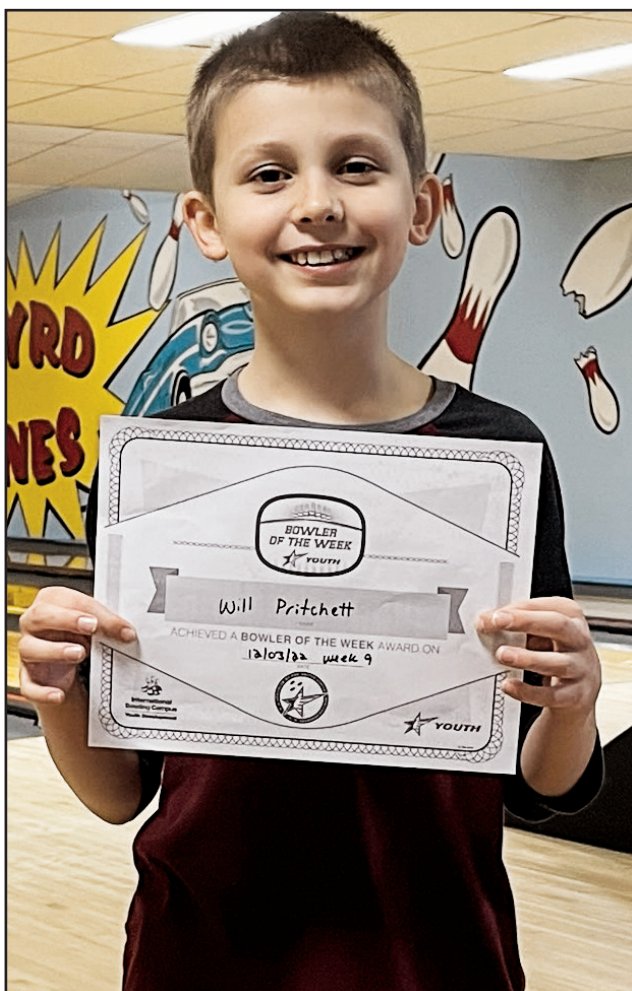
HAYDEN REAL ESTATE INC.

815-562-2111 • hre@haydenreinc.com

SPORTS

T-Byrd Lanes

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



Local league bowlers take home awards from T-Byrd Lanes

T-Byrd Lanes recognized several local league bowlers with awards recently. Giuliana Henderson and Will Pritchett were named Week 9 Bowlers of the Week, while Seth Pritchett and Camilla Ramos were named Week 10 Bowlers of the Week. Jaxon Harnesk and Kiera Hopp received Week 11 Bowler of the Week honors.

COMMUNITY BOARD

***Need to get the word out about a product
or service you offer?***

Give us a call at 815-562-4171.

We can reach over 9,000 homes!



Gutters

THE SCEN
ROOFING & SIDING CO., INC.

SEAMLESS GUTTERS

ALL ALUMINUM

- Will Not Rust, Chip Or Peel
- Most Colors Available
- Manufactured On The Job

815-758-8998

257 W. Stephanie Dr., Cortland
www.theiscnroofing.com

Storage Sheds

Rocky Ridge Structures

FREE Sales Rep. Evaluation At Your Site

We Deliver! From Our Lot To Your Site

We Specialize in Portable/Quality Built Storage Sheds

- Stock & Custom Design
- Many Options Available
- Competitive Pricing
- Site Preparation Available

See Displays at 3500 S. Chana Rd. Chana IL 61015
Call Norm or Albert for Free Literature packet
779.861.3542

Plumbing/Heating/Cooling

Anderson Plumbing & Heating Inc.
Serving Rochelle For Over 40 Years

LENNOX

Quality Service • Free Estimates
Residential & Commercial

815-562-8784

Lic. #058-087891

Heating & Air Conditioning

Keep your family safe and warm!

HULL HVAC
Heating, Cooling & Duct Cleaning Specialist

815-561-6551
www.HullHVAC.com
527 2nd Ave Rochelle, IL 61068

Precision Furnace Clean & Check
\$85.00
Includes FREE carbon monoxide test

24/7 Emergency Service

Commercial & Residential Roofing

Bruns Construction, Inc.

Residential Concrete Driveways, Flatwork and Foundations

- Shingled Roofs
- Flat Roofs
- Metal Roofs For Farm Facilities
- Custom Built Homes
- Additions

FREE ESTIMATES

561-0099 Tim & Roger Bruns, Owners
Established 1997
www.brunsconstructioninc.com

Advertise Here

**What Service
Do You Offer?**

562-4171

The Rochelle News-Leader



ROCHELLE
News-Leader

Rochelle
Community Unity

Shop • Play • Stay

9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Rochelle First



Youth programs, schools and non-profit groups look to our businesses first when fundraising.

These community-minded businesses donate faithfully to local youth sports programs, community clubs, nonprofit groups and churches – just to name a few. Shouldn't we look to those same businesses first when we need goods and services? Of course we should!



High rate of return. For every \$100 spent in independently owned stores,

\$68 returns to the community through payroll, taxes and other expenditures. Online orders return absolutely nothing to Rochelle, IL.



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.

SPORTS



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team finished fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference tournament on Tuesday, securing a third-place finish for the season. Sophomore Cassidy Vincent medaled in fifth place for the tournament and earned First-Team All-Conference recognition for the second consecutive season.

BOWL: Vincent, McCullough earn Interstate 8 honors

From page 1

After recording team scores of 805 and 847 to start the afternoon, Rochelle moved into fourth place with a 904 during the third game, where McCullough fired a 170 and junior Faith Adams bowled a series-best 171.

The Lady Hubs followed with an 886 in the fourth game, where Vincent rolled a 197 while Alanis added a series-best 177 and McCullough totaled a 174. Rochelle locked down its fourth-place tournament finish and its third-place season finish with team scores of 827 and 850 over the final two games. Vincent led the Lady Hubs in the fifth game, shooting a series-best 225 while McCullough concluded the tournament with a series-best and team-best 189 in the sixth game.

Adams recorded a 793 series and freshman Mackenzie Burnett rolled a 712 series for the Lady Hubs, who hosted the conference tournament at T-Byrd Lanes for the first time as members of the Interstate 8. Rochelle will look to finish the season on a high note when the Lady Hubs compete in the IHSA Kaneland Regional at Mardi Gras Lanes this weekend.

"Sectionals is definitely a goal of mine," Vincent said.

"I thought there were things I could've done better in the tournament and I know I can do better. I definitely hold myself to a high standard, but it's really nice having my teammates with me because they're always there to support me."

GIRLS: Rochelle defeats Plano in last home game of season

From page 1

"I'm so glad that we won tonight because it's our last home game of the season," Henkel said. "We've worked so hard this season and I'm looking forward to finishing strong at the regional."

Rochelle held a 34-29 lead entering the fourth quarter, where Henkel sank three close-range shots and went 3-for-4 from the free-throw line down the stretch to help the Lady Hubs seal the Interstate 8 Conference win. Sophomore Abby Metzger finished with six points and made two field goals, while senior Bailey Jackson and junior Kennedy Adamski each had two points.

Rochelle will conclude the regular season with road games against LaSalle-Peru on Tuesday, Feb. 7 and Dixon on Thursday, Feb. 9. Rochelle has been assigned to the IHSA 3A Glenbard South Sectional, with regional seeds and matchups to be determined in the near future.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Kendyl Darby drives past Plano defender Mikayla Walls during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball game against the Reapers on Tuesday.

RTHS Boys Basketball Hubs handed loss from Sterling

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team faced a tough Sterling squad on Monday, falling 90-55 with junior Eli Luxton scoring 20 points to lead the Rochelle offense. Luxton went 9-of-15 from the field and totaled seven rebounds for the Hubs (8-16, 3-8 Interstate 8).

Senior Raul Aguirre finished with six points, four rebounds and four assists for the Hubs, who trailed 34-15 after the first quarter and 58-31 at half-time. Sophomores Elijah Harley and Carson Lewis combined for 17 points, with Harley scoring nine while Lewis followed with eight.

Sterling forced 20 Rochelle turnovers in the game. The Golden Warriors capitalized on their defense, outscoring the Hubs 41-5 in transition points and 35-6 in points off turnovers.



Compton, IL • 815-343-8047

- 24/7 Light/Medium Duty Towing & Recovery
- Mobile Auto Truck Repair
- Emergency Roadside Assistance
 - Jump Starts
 - Fuel Delivery
- Flat Tire Changes
- Lock Out Service
- Secure Impound Yard



Say goodbye to gutter cleaning for good

No clogging, No cleaning
No leaking, No water damage
No ladder accidents



Call now for your free estimate!
Financing available 815-673-7532

20% off total purchase*
Does not include cost of material. Offer expires 02/28/2023



Receive a \$50 Visa Gift Card with your free in-home estimate

*All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a \$50 Visa gift card. Retail value is \$50. Offer sponsored by LeafGuard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 2/28/23. Receive a \$50 Visa Gift Card with your free in-home estimate

*Guaranteed no to dog for as long as you own your home, or we will clean your gutters for free.