From the Heart drawing held on Jan. 12

PAGE 7





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Page 8

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY

HIGH LOW

FRIDAY

HIGH LOW

30

WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18, 2023

Sheriff speaks out against state gun legislation 'We're not going to... make law-abiding citizens into criminals'

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — On Jan. 11, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle and approximately 80 other sheriffs in the state issued statements saying they'll refuse to enforce a provision of House Bill 5471, a recently-signed state law that bans the sale and manufacture of assault weapons in Illinois.

Current owners of high-power assault weapons, .50 caliber rifles and ammunition, and large-capacity magazines will be allowed to keep them, but will be required to register them with the Illinois State Police prior to Jan. 1, 2024 or face a Class A misdemeanor, punishable by up to 364 days in prison and the degree of charges could increase based on number of unregistered weapons.

"I, among many others, believe that HB 5471 is a clear violation of the Second Amendment to the U.S. Constitution," Van-Vickle's statement said. "Therefore, as the custodian of the jail and chief law enforcement official for Ogle County, proclaim that neither myself or my office will be checking to ensure that lawful



(NEWS-LEADER FILE PHOTO)

On Jan. 11, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle (left) and approximately 80 other sheriffs in the state issued statements saying they'll refuse to enforce a provision of House Bill 5471, a recently-signed state law that bans the sale and manufacture of assault weapons in Illinois.

gun owners register their weapons with the state, nor will we be arresting or housing individuals that have been charged solely with non-compliance of this act."

VanVickle spoke with the Rochelle News-Leader and Ogle County Life on Jan. 13 about his statement and HB 5471. He said his main issue with the legislation is how it relates to the second amendment and it being a "far-reaching restriction on firearm ownership."

The sheriff said 95 percent of sheriffs in the state issued statements against the legislation. While ISP has been and will be the agency tasked with gun-related enforcement, VanVickle said his office will not be participating in matters associated with the act.

"We're not going to go out and look to make law-abiding citizens into criminals," VanVickle said.

See SAFE-T page 5



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Updates given on projects

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its monthly meeting Monday evening, the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners heard an update from Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger on ongoing maintenance projects.

Ohlinger said park district crews have been working on clearing shrubs and willows along the shoreline at Lake Sule in an effort to clean it up and rid it of invasive plants.

At Spring Lake, the pool's heater and pumps were cleaned and maintenanced recently and the splash pad's caulk was removed and replaced.

See PARK page 5

Moffitt and Do Art Productions looks to inspire area artists 'It's getting people into a creative realm where they can thrive and succeed'





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OBITUARIES

RONALD EUGENE WHITE DOUGLAS LEE OLESON CAROL LEE WHALEY TERRY ROSENBAUM ALBERTA ROSALYN (HICKSTEIN) TAYLOR BRUCE 'BRUISER' EDWARD DAVIDSON JAMES ANDREW KUCENSKI VIOLET MARIE HAY

See pages 3-4

INSERTS

SCHOOL TIMES FARM & FLEET

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BY JEFF HELFRICH

MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Monday at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library, Do Art Productions hosted a comic book workshop.

The workshop was one of many that have been held around the area recently by the organization that was founded by Rochelle native Jerry Moffitt and his best friend, Chester Roush. Do Art Productions creates comics and art and offers a variety of workshops on different art mediums to inspire community members.

"It's getting people into a creative realm where they can thrive and succeed," Moffitt said. "I enjoyed doing it with my family and we're in a time now after COVID-19. I was more isolated and Chester and I thought we should reach out more. The idea of doing these workshops came about. He wanted to do writing and poetry and I'm good at the art aspect. I've always enjoyed seeing people make art out of nothing."

Moffitt met Roush at Loyola University Chicago. They write the comics





(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Monday at the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library, Do Art Productions hosted a comic book workshop. The workshop was one of many that have been held around the area recently by the organization that was founded by Rochelle native Jerry Moffitt and his best friend, Chester Roush.

together and Moffitt creates the art. Their message is to inspire people to create art of their own. They've worked with family members as well, and after Moffitt convinced his aunt to paint something for his mother three years ago, she sold three paintings last year.

Moffitt was a Rochelle Township High School 2008 graduate and basketball player. He said he didn't get into art until he

Brent Ohlinger

mmunity Preside NMLS#454385

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was 24 or 25. He hopes the workshops will inspire younger members of the community the way he was later in life.

"I can ask them their favorite cartoon and make up a comic on the white

board," Moffitt said. "It allows you to explain the deeper meanings of comics and stories. I'm trying to show the more potent aspect that art has."

See ART page 2





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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Jerry Moffitt was a RTHS 2008 graduate. He said he didn't get into art until he was 24 or 25. He hopes the workshops will inspire younger members of the community the way he was later in life. Moffitt takes inspiration from artists like Frida Kahlo and writers including Ernest Hemingway, Sylvia Plath and Jack Kerouac.

THS alum Moffitt seeking to inspire local creatives try to find non-verbal

From page 1

"You start to see patterns and how these symbols are being used by the creators. And then when you create, you have this confidence, whether it's writing a story or brainstorming to make a

comic. When you're done, you feel accomplished. I want to give that to kids because when I was young, I don't think anybody explained that to me."

Moffitt takes inspiration from artists like Frida Kahlo and writers including





Ernest Hemingway, Sylvia Plath and Jack Kerouac.

"Having this relationship with these cultural icons, I wanted to try to give that to people who are up and coming and in a development stage," Moffitt said. "There's a power at the end of finishing a book. I know that now and I feel like I'm more equipped for the world. It strengthens your mind. I want to show people how much there is to gain from reading and art.'

Do Art Productions strives to do its comics in a different way, getting away from typical genres such as superheroes. Moffitt and Roush started out with books, short stories and novels before feeling that imagery was missing. Their work finally morphed into full-fledged comics.

'Seeing both the visual and the prose aspect of words combined has a very potent and powerful effect in storytelling and expression," Moffitt said. "Not all comic books were offering that. We try to use cultural characters in our comics and our characters are inspired by historical figures. But they touch on current issues and we

have fun with it. It's trying to use comics in this very slap-sticky and animated and cartoonish way, but then trying to open the doors of awareness to all of these intellectual topics. It's trying to offer larger concepts to people in a fun way.'

After high school, Moffitt lived in Chicago and spent time traveling around the country. Upon returning to Rochelle with his passion for art, he found support from the library and the Flagg Township Museum in displaying art and hosting programs.

"And I have some art displayed at the Artist's Garden, Steder Tattoo and at other businesses," Moffitt said. "All of these people were giving me reassurance in my creations. From there, I had confidence to reach out to other libraries and places in other communities showing my art. It's been nothing but welcoming experiences. Every step of the way, Rochelle has always had my back and promoted me." Do Art Productions has 13 workshops set up in the area for 2023. The proceeds from those events will be reinvested

into a comic book to be distributed on Free Comic Book Day at area libraries on May 6.

"We only have two comic book stores in this area in DeKalb and Oregon," Moffitt said. "Libraries have to pay for their free comics and it's mostly done by large companies. We decided to do our own off what we've made from donations and doing workshops. It's now up to 1,300 copies and I think that number will go up. On Free Comic Book Day we'll give them away at the libraries from Franklin Grove to Dixon, Hampshire, Rochelle, Ashton, Creston, Paw Paw and the list goes on. We'll do a tour over those two days talking about comics and giving presentations and giving out free comics."

Moffitt and Roush's art and information on their workshops can be found at doartproductions.org. They hope people can go there and find something that intrigues or inspires them or helps them to make something of their own to communicate with others.

communication. Whether it's writing a poem for my mom or doing a painting for my sister to show that I care. Art is huge in understanding. There's all sorts of ways to show that you care for people or how you feel. I want art to be that avenue for people."

Moffitt has found himself juggling Do Art Productions' different forms of work including art, comics, workshops and lectures. He welcomes the work after the isolation of the pandemic and due to the chance to create and work with like-minded people.

"It's a whole whirlwind of things I'm trying to focus on daily," Moffitt said. "It's a lot of excitement. Seeing the response from everybody and seeing people hungry for it is great. Events stopped at places like libraries during COVID-19. People stopped asking libraries to do stuff. They want to get things like what we do going again. Working with people on art and seeing them gain confidence and identity, it's a feeling you can't really describe. It's what drives me, but at the same time, art is fun."



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"I was never told there was more to communicating than language," Moffitt said. "Art allows you to

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Warmly, Chris Corpentis





dean's list MILWAUKEE. Abby Tilton of Rochelle has been named to the dean's list for the fall 2022 semester at Marquette University in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

Tilton named to Marquette

Tilton is pursuing a bachelor of science in human resources. To make the dean's list, students must have earned at least 12 credits for the fall 2022 semester and have no disqualifying grades. The GPA threshold varies by college - for the College of Education and the Klingler College of Arts and Sciences, undergraduate students must have at least a 3.7 to be named to the dean's list.

The undergraduate GPA requirement is 3.5 for the following colleges: the Diederich College of Communication, the College of Business Administration, the College of Health Sciences, the Opus College of Engineering and the College of Nursing. All other programs have a 3.75 GPA minimum.

LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Ronald Eugene White

XENIA— Ronald Eugene White, 71, of Xenia, Illinois, passed away Saturday, Jan. 7 at his home following a prolonged battle with cancer.

He was born May 22, 1951, in DeKalb the son of Roger Eudell and Irene Dorothy (Keen) White.

Ronald White, referred to as Ron or Ronnie Gene, grew up as the oldest of eight siblings in a rural farming community in Northern Illinois. Throughout his life he often spoke of his childhood memories of milking cows, baling hay and contributing to his family's livelihood by providing a strong helping presence. He maintained this tremendous work ethic and continued to help others for the remainder of his life.

Ron was observed by family members and others at an early age to have an aptitude for mechanics and engineering. Some have even stated that while they were outside playing, Ron was holed up in the house taking the toaster apart or reconstructing his bicycle.

He would go on to graduate summa cum laude from Sauk Valley College, where he obtained an associate's degree in applied science and electronic technology. He also served as student government president and head of the Gay Student Alliance.

When he was not pursuing his technical interests, he was a gifted and aspiring musician who played bass guitar in the band, JJ Backstreet. He forever remembered his days in the band and cherished them always.

He moved to California in 1985 and had a long, distinguished career as a senior manufacturing engineer. Ron also received a patent and was a registered inventor of passivation of surfaces in optical pumping. Prior to retiring, he last worked for a company that manufactured medical test devices.

Ron was a political junkie who lived and breathed politics. He was a dyed in the wool Democrat who never once wavered in his political affiliation. He was well-traveled, loved genealogical research, and was known as a "Mac-Gyver" as he could repair anything. He continued to fix things and solve problems right up until the very end. More than anything else, Ron loved his large family, friends, and pets.

Ron is survived by his husband, Joel Sterkes of Xenia; daughter, Linda Schlosser (Bill) Rains of Rochelle; siblings: Kathy Daniels (Randy Weller) of Hillsboro, Steven (Dawn) White of Ashton, Patricia Doyle of Streator, Mary (David) Stumpenhorst of Compton, Randy (Barbara) White of Steward, Michael (Karla) Clayton of Buffalo, Missouri, and Mark (Sheri) Clayton of Paw Paw; stepsiblings, Richard (Gisela) Clayton of Compton and Doris Grimley of Dixon; sisterin-law, Jade David; and brother-in-law, William Oden. He is also survived by two grandchildren, one great-grandson, several nieces and nephews, as well as numerous stepfamily members.

In addition to his parents, Ron was preceded in death by his stepparents, two step-siblings, a grandson, and his mother-in-law.

A visitation will take place on Saturday, Jan. 21 from 10 a.m. to noon at Torman Funeral Home, 510 Flagg St., in Paw Paw. A short service will follow the visitation. Cremation care will be provided after the services.

Please visit the website at www.TormanFuneralHome.com to sign the online guest book.

Violet Marie Hay

Violet is survived by her

husband of 65 years, Rob-

ert James Hay of Rochelle;

daughter, Connie (James)

McAnly of Rochelle; son,

Craig(Krystal)HayofBy-

ron; four grandchildren:

Corinne (James) May

of Milliken, Colorado,

Sarah (Gabriel) Miller of

Independence, Indiana,

Daniel McAnly and Linda

McAnly both of Rochelle;

two great grandchildren:

Arielle and Liam May with

great grandson, Killian ex-

pected in April; her sister,

Lilla Farner of Maryville,

Tennessee; little brother/

nephew, Bennie (Sandy)

Coleman of Chesapeake,

Virginia; nephews: Garry

(Kim) Farner, Jerry (Kim)

Farner and Randall Farner;

nieces: Fleeta (Sam) West,

Lisa King, Jalonda Cole-

man and Michelle An-

family.

ROCHELLE — Violet Marie Hay, 82, passed away peacefully Tuesday, Jan. 17 at Generations at Neighbors Nursing Home, Byron. Violet was born on May 17, 1940 to Samuel Wesley and Hassie Leigh (Rogers) Coleman in Boydton, Virginia. Samuel and Hassie had five children: Wesley, Garnet, Ruby, Lilla and Violet.

She graduated from Bluestone High School in Boydton, Virginia. She met the love of her life at a dance in Norfolk, Virginia, Robert Hay, who was stationed in Norfolk while in the Navy. She and Robert wrote letters back and forth for six months. Then on July 6, 1957, they married at Fields Methodist Church in Clarksville, Virginia. They moved to Illinois, lived in Rockford for two years before moving to Rochelle and starting their family. Connie Marie was born on February 28, 1963 and then four years later, Craig Thomas on March 15, 1967.

Violet became the church secretary for 20 years at St. Paul Lutheran Church. In April of 1991, Robert retired and so did

Violet. In December 1991 Robert and Violet moved to Maryville, Tennessee, where they built their new home with the view of the Smokey Mountains. They lived there for seven years but decided they really wanted to be close to family. So in October of 1998, they moved back derson (Ronnie) Whitby; to Rochelle and enjoyed being around friends and

many great nieces and nephews and great great nieces and nephews. In addition to her parents, Samuel and Hassie, Violet was preceded in

death by two brothers:

Wesley and Garnet and sister, Ruby. The visitation will be from 3-5 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 22 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. Monday, Jan. 23 at the funeral home with Pastor Gregory Hoffmann officiating. Burial will follow the service at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle. Memorials may be made in Violet's memory to St. Paul Lutheran Church or Serenity Hospice and Home.

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

James Andrew Kucenski

AURORA — James Andrew Kucenski, 58, of Aurora went to heaven with Jesus Jan. 9. He was born in DeKalb on Feb. 17, 1964 dearly beloved son of Rev. William and Doris Kucenski, Rochelle. An ASE certified mechanic, Jim was one of those people who was to be able to fix anything mechanical or electrical, and was always ready to help anyone in need. He

worked for Chevrolet for several years. He is survived by his

parents William and Doris Kucenski, Rochelle, his at 11 a.m. at St. Luke's

brothers and sisters Daniel (Susan) Kucenski, Mesa, Arizona, Michael (Diane) Kucenski, Mission Hills, California, William II (Susan) Kucenski, Knoxville, Tennessee, Sharon (Steve) Watkins, Aurora, Jeanne (Robert) Krumwiede, Montgomery, Joanne (Timothy) Miller, Aurora, and many cousins, nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his brothers Robert (Jean) Kucenski, Bremerton, Washington and Stephen Kucenski.

His funeral service was



Lutheran Church, 63 Fernwood, Montgomery, Illinois, 60538, Rev. Robert Donovan officiating. Burial followed at Lincoln Memorial Park in Aurora.

He will be dearly missed by his family and

St. Paul releases second quarter honor roll students for 2022-2023 year

ROCHELLE — St. Paul Lutheran School in Rochelle recently released its high honor roll and honor roll students for the second quarter of the 2022-2023 school year.

High honor roll: Charlie Frankenberry, Leni Haedt, Sophia Mueller, Reed Rowley, Taylor

Thomas, Axel Alsop, Makenzie Johnson, Esam Farraj, Joey Chadwick, Annaliese Cox, Elijah Good, Jillian Bruns, Mackenzie Bybee, Cohen Haedt, DeLaney Heal, Mia Heitkamp, Tyler Johnson, Johnny Chadwick and Magdalene Good.

Honor roll: Vincent Fulco, Vinny Tornabene, Chase Atkinson, Owen Heitkamp, Paisley Albaugh, Om Shah, Eli Schweitzer, Maggie Suneson, Maddie Worthington, Brody Bruns, Owen Carmichael, Benjamin Miller, Taylor Rogers and Warren Schweitzer.

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Rochelle Police Department Officers make several arrests

ROCHELLE — On Jan. 13 at 12:23 p.m. Joshua M. Holton, 27, of Rochelle was arrested for aggravated battery, mob action and an active Ogle County warrant and transferred. In the same incident, Nathanael Molina, 33, of Rochelle was also arrested for aggravated battery and mob action and transferred.

On Jan. 14 at 10:41 a.m. a 17-year-old male juvenile of Rochelle was cited for speeding 50 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. He signed a promise to comply and was

given a Feb. 24 Rochelle court date.

On Jan. 14 at 2:35 p.m. Robert R. Gibbons, 63, of Rochelle was arrested for driving while license revoked. He was released on an I-Bond with a Feb. 24 Rochelle court date.

On Jan. 14 at 3:42 p.m. Richard L. Gallagher, 39, of Oregon was arrested for no valid driver's license. He was released on an I-Bond with a Feb. 24 Rochelle court date.

On Jan. 15 at 2:20 p.m. Maria J. Alanis, 27, of Ro-

chelle was cited for failure to reduce speed. She was released on an I-Bond with a Feb. 24 Rochelle court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

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March 4 Il Concealed Carry Permit Renewal, 9am-12pm (3 hours)
March 25 & 26 IL Concealed Carry/Home Defense Class, 8am-4pm both days

Private Concealed Carry/Home Defense classes can be arranged but a minimum of 5 students is required.

We are offering "Countering The Mass Shooter Threat" classes which are designed for every House of Worship, School, Business and Family. Please contact us for futher information and/ or scheduling dates. These classes can be taught at any location.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Terry Rosenbaum

ROCHELLE — Terry Rosenbaum, 78, of Rochelle, completed his battle with cancer and passed into the presence of his Lord on Saturday, Jan. 14 at his home while surrounded by his family.

Terry was born on May 3, 1944 in Batesville, Arkansas. He was the son of Lonzo and Hazel Rosenbaum. Terry and Deborah Peters were married on June 3, 1978 in Rochelle.

Terry retired from

Americold after 19 years of service to that company. Terry's first job was working in the warehouse for Delmonte Foods. Over the years he also worked at Caron International for 30 years.

Terry was a hard-working family man. He enjoyed hiking in the outdoors and learning about nature. He competed in arm wrestling, judo and weightlifting. Terry was a faithful member of First Baptist



Church of Rochelle. He enjoyed working with the children in the church's Awana ministry. He also served as an usher and served on several committees at church and was always willing to help with work projects around the church.

Terry is survived by his wife, Deborah, two sons, Terry (Sarah) of Rochelle, and Joshua (Heather) of Sterling, grandchildren Annah Rosenbaum, Ethen Rosenbaum, Faith Rosenbaum all of Sterling, and Zavion Hampton of Dixon, brother Lonzo Rosenbaum of Jonesboro Arkansas, sisters Linda Hall and Sandra Cliff also of Jonesboro, Arkansas, great-nieces Payton, Makenzi, and Madison Spring-Reeves. He was preceded in death by his son, Daniel, and niece Rebecca Spring-Reeves.

A memorial service will be held for Terry on Saturday, Jan. 21 at 11:30 a.m. at First Baptist Church located at 810 Woolf Court, Rochelle.

Memorials may be made to First Baptist Church.

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Bruce 'Bruiser' Edward Davidson

____ ROCHELLE Bruce "Bruiser" Edward Davidson, 59, passed away Monday, Jan. 16 at Central DuPage Hospital

in Winfield. The visitation will be from 4-7 p.m., Friday, Jan. 20 at the Un-

Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 2 p.m. Saturday, Jan. 21 at the funeral home.

Douglas Lee Oleson

ger-Horner Funeral

ROCHELLE Douglas Lee Oleson, 67, passed away on Saturday, Jan. 14 at the OSF St. Anthony Medical Center. He was born in DeKalb on June 17, 1955, the son of Orlo and Margaret (Irving) Oleson. Doug was an avid reader and writer, professionally working as a sports writer.

Doug especially enjoyed the time he took his father to the Chicago Cubs press box while Harry Carey was sportscasting the game. Throughout the years, he enjoyed traveling with his family and friends, including visiting

several of the professional baseball parks. He was fond of his loving cat, Smokey. Doug was a member of the St. Paul Lutheran Church of Rochelle. Preceded in death by his parents. He is survived by his sister, Debra Oleson of Rockford and many cousins and friends.

Funeral service will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, Jan. 21 at the St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1415 10th Ave., Rochelle, with Pastor Gregory Hoffmann officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until time of service at



the church. Interment will follow at Lawnridge Cemetery. Contributions in Doug's memory may be made directed to St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Please visit www.UngerHorner.com to sign the online guestbook.

Carol Dee Whaley

ROCHELLE—Carol Dee Whaley, 71, entered the presence of her Savior Monday, Jan. 16 at the Rochelle Community Hospital, with her family by her side, after a courageous battle with liver cancer.

Carol was born on July 7, 1951, the daughter of Richard F. and Margaret L. (Henry) Countryman in Rochelle. She lived in the Rochelle area her whole life.

She met her husband Ron in 1970 and they married that same year. Ron and Carol have two children together Paul and Angie.

Carol worked for Contel/Verizon for 34 years until retiring in 2012. She loved watching Jeopardy and Wheel of Fortune and she and Ron enjoyed traveling the US. She also

traveled many times on mission trips and visits to Honduras, where her daughter and family are missionaries. She had a passion to serve the people there.

Carol was the most loving mother and grandmother who enjoyed nothing more than spending time with her family. She loved to share with others the experiences with her family whenever she had the opportunity

Carol is preceded in death by her parents and one brother Richard. She is survived by her husband Ron, son Paul (Clarice) Whaley and daughter Angie (Ryan) Schick, her grandchildren Abigail, Amanda and Jacob Schick and her brother Fred (Sue) Countryman.

The visitation will be from 5-6:50 p.m. Thurs-



day, Jan. 19 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The funeral service will follow at 7 p.m. Thursday at the funeral home with Pastor Chris Bender officiating. Cremation care will be provided after the service. Burial will be at Lindenwood Cemetery at a later date. Memorials may be made in Carol's memory to the Cancer Society.

Visit www.ungerhorner.comto sign the online guest book.

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

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Alberta Rosalyn (Hickstein) Taylor

ROCHELLE — Alberta Rosalyn (Hickstein) Taylor of Rochelle passed into eternity on Jan. 14 at Bethany Rehabilitation Center in DeKalb.

Alberta was born in Chicago on Oct. 11, 1923 to Albert and Lillian (Schlicting) Hickstein. Alberta fondly remembered her childhood when she frequently rode the streetcars in Chicago and spent her summers at her grandparents' grist mill farm in Amherst, Wisconsin. While living in Chicago, she met and married the love of her life, Otto John (O.J.) Taylor.

Alberta is survived by her two sons: Dwayne

(Sara) Taylor of Ashton and Barry (Vickie) Taylor of DeKalb; five grandchildren: Ginger (Scott) Awalt, Joel (Rachel) Berry, Janine Erdahl, Tiffany Taylor and Barry Lee Taylor; nine great-grandchildren: Jake Terry, Jonah Awalt, Angel Awalt, Nicholas Berry, Alison (Elijah) Valdivieso, Julia Berry, Benjamin Erdahl, Miranda Erdahl and Taylor Tobler; two great great-grandchildren: Henry Valdivieso and Brynlee Gomer.

In heaven, she has been reunited with her beloved husband, her parents, her daughter, Ottolyn Berry, and her sisters: Lillian Mather and Dorene Montague.

Alberta was a caring sister, mother, and grandmother (known as "Grams"). She deeply loved her family and cherished her time taking care of loved ones. She loved gardening, going for walks, and drinking coffee. She was a role model to her family members and was affectionately known by many as "the strongest woman they had ever met."





Alberta was a devoted member of the Faith Lutheran Church of Rochelle for many years and enjoyed serving others in their kitchen.

After 99 long years, Alberta has gone to be with our Lord and Savior. She will be dearly missed and forever in our hearts.

The memorial visitation will be from 10-11 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 28 at Faith Lutheran Church, 14206 E. Flagg Road, Rochelle. The memorial service will follow at 11 a.m. Saturday with Pastor Joy Alsop officiating. Burial will be at **Trinity Memory Gardens** at a later date. Memorials may be made in Alberta's memory to Faith Lutheran Church.

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

Read and Recycle

LOCAL NEWS SAFE-T: VanVickle details local stance on state legislation

From page 1

"That's not what we're charged to do in our profession. If there's people out there that are going to look for law-abiding citizens and charge them with these crimes under state statute, we're not required to house them in the county jail, so that's something we're not going to do either until there's a court order that places them in our custody. That's the main point of our statement."

VanVickle said he believes there will be a lawsuit or multiple lawsuits against the legislation, but they won't be led by county sheriff's or state's attorneys, which recently occurred in the case of the state's SAFE-T criminal justice reform act.

Ahead of being passed and signed, HB 5471 had no input from sheriffs in the state, VanVickle said. He believes the enforcement of the new act will be "a lot of work" for ISP, but said there will likely be "10s of millions of dollars" in tax money dedicated to the work it will entail for ISP.

Participating in enforcement of the new legislation will not be a priority for the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, VanVickle said.

"Officers and deputies have always had discretion in law enforcement," VanVickle said. "It's no different than if they write a speeding ticket, warning or if they even stop anybody for a traffic violation. It's their decision. All that we're saying is it's not a priority of the sheriff's office to go out and do any type of compliance checks for law-abiding citizens who legally possessed firearms last week who don't now. That's just something that's not a priority for us, nor do we have the manpower to do it. It's a clear violation of the constitution and it will certainly be challenged in court. We'll get direction from that. But it's not something that we'll actively go out and pursue."

Ogle County is home to three brick and mortar gun shops, VanVickle said, which are governed by the ISP and state and federal licensing bodies. They will be inspected by ISP for compliance with the new legislation.

A Facebook post by the sheriff's office with the statement regarding HB 5471 received over 1,200 shares, 1,200 likes and 1,000 comments.

'We've had very few negative responses to what we put out," VanVickle said. "I've heard the same from other sheriffs about how well-received it's been. We've had some people that don't agree with it and I completely understand that. And if they want to go out and register their firearms, they're more than welcome to do that. The vast majority of people who have made comments or called or sent emails have been appreciative of our stance.'

VanVickle said backlash from the state over



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Ahead of being passed and signed, HB 5471 had no input from sheriffs in the state, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle said.

enforcement is not a concern for him, and he chose to put out the statement as "an indication of support for citizens of the county."

"If you look at Chicago where this has come from, they have some of

the strictest gun laws and requirements and have for some time and there are multiple shootings there each weekend," Van Vickle said. "It's different here. We put that statement out to support our citizens, not

so much to say we're not going to enforce this. To tell them they're still able to own and possess firearms in Ogle County and that the sheriff's office is doing everything in our power for them to do just that."

PARK: Ohlinger discusses increases in REC Center usage

From page 1

A new submersible contractor pump for Spring Lake Pool and some parks was purchased due to the old pump being well over 20 years old and it was unable to be rebuilt. The park district is also in talks with landscaping contractors about work that needs to be done on the embankment areas at Spring Lake.

"We had some grass in those areas that was installed in our recent renovations that didn't take off that we've had to basically kill off," Ohlinger said. "We'll work to replant and we've also talked about adding some beautification landscaping around our entrance signs at some of

our anchor parks." At last month's meeting, Park, replacing the flooring at Spring Lake Marina and a new playground design for Memorial Park.

Numbers

Ohlinger said that the REC Center has seen increases recently in all aspects of its memberships. It's nearly at the 2,400 mark for enrollment and has seen a 10 percent jump in members.

"This is the time of year where people want to get into the gym and they can't be outside," Ohlinger said. "This is always where we see higher numbers. I believe this month we're just nine members shy of our highest member numbers ever, which was last December."

The park district has "a lot of' long-term renters

winter months by a number of its own sports programs such as swimming and basketball.

Bonds

The board unanimously approved an ordinance issuing approximately \$935,000 of general obligation park bonds and approximately \$300,000 of taxable general obligation park bonds as it does each year to finance capital improvements.

The bonds will be issued through Stillman Bank and Ohlinger said the park

district was fortunate to receive "competitive" rates that were lower than what it previously estimated.

Easement

The board unanimously approved a permanent easement for the City of Rochelle in an area of its Midwest Park location for the relocation of sewers and utilities to accommodate the reconstruction and widening of the Seventh Avenue bridge. The project will also include regrading, widening and stabilization of Kyte Creek from Seventh

Avenue for about 100 feet and will help with more efficient drainage.

"This is a low-lying, no-value end of that park that sees no activity and it would be hard to make it worse off,"Board President Tim Hayden said.

Audit

The board heard an audit report on its finances by Lauterbach & Amen LLP and unanimously approved it.

Kickball

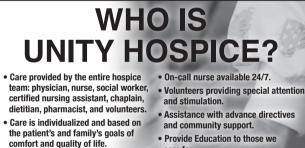
The board unanimously

approved an exception to one of its ordinances to allow for alcohol at the third annual Kickin'it for a Cause kickball tournament it holds with the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce at VFW Park.

The kickball event is planned for May 13 and funds raised benefit the park district's ENGAGE program and the Rochelle chamber's scholarship program.

"Last year we saw more teams and it went well," Ohlingersaid. "It was really a lot of fun and was a great community event."

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a capital committee was put together to look at the future of the Helms outdoor complex. That committee met last week and brainstormed ideas for the facility and an update will be presented to the board in the future on ideas or items the committee wants to address in a future capital project at the facility.

Ohlinger mentioned other projects including meeting with a lighting company to address issues at the ball fields at Tilton

that are utilizing The REC Center or other facilities including Studio C Dance, Kishwaukee College, Kiwanis Golden K and Rochelle Rotary Club.

"We've also seen use by several different softball programs along with Rochelle Little League," Ohlinger said. "All of these organizations use our facilities for multi-term agreements and we're thankful to have them."

The REC has also seen high usage lately in the

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

The blueprint for the new year

would like to wish all our residents a happy and blessed 2023. Our team at the City of Rochelle is looking forward to a productive and eventful year. In December 2022, the city council adopted the spending blueprint for the new year. This plan fully funds the priorities established by our policy makers.

The proposed general fund revenues for fiscal year 2023 are estimated to be \$13,405,888. Expenditures for the new fiscal year total approximately \$14,702,934 with general fund capital outlays of approximately \$1,010,000. The projected deficit, which is spending of funds we have on hand, of \$1,297,406 includes additional capital, spending American Rescue Plan Act funds (received in 2022 and spent in 2023) and hiring additional police staff to cover further anticipated retirements.

Projects funded by transfers from the landfill, the non-home rule sales tax, utility tax and motor fuel tax are included in the capital improvement fund and not part of the general fund balance. The utilities (electric, water, water reclamation, advanced communications & technology center, railroad, landfill, golfcourse and airport) proposed budgeted expenses are \$68,816,595, of which \$17,143,391 is for capital outlays. All other funds, including special, capital

improvement, downstate police and fire pensions and internal service total \$23,081,950.

Aside from power purchase and personnel costs, our largest investments this coming year are in the

form of capital investments. One of the most vital functions of your local government is continued and renewed investments in capital planning. As part of our 2018 strategic plan, the mayor and city council

asked staff to develop a long-range capital improvement plan that laid out capital expenditures for the next 20 years. Staff implemented this requirement over a three-year period beginning with a 10-year plan. The organization now operates with a 20-year spending plan that prioritizes spending and maintains adequate

> revenues. The plan will help future staff and council members best determine spending priorities and assist in finding new sources of revenue, including applying for grants. Some of the cap-

ital projects slated for funding in 2023

include the design of an iron removal plant at the Caron Road water well, completion of the City of Rochelle Railroad transload project, design and construction of 10 miles of new 34.5KV line that will tie all of Rochelle Municipal Utilities' substations together to increase reliability, continued updates to our downtown area (funded through a Rebuild Downtown Illinois grant), continued street resurfacing and sidewalk, lining and rebuilding sanitary sewers and sanitary sewer manholes, reconstruction projects and continuing to rebuild outdated storm sewers and catch basins throughout the community. A full list of the 2023

expenditures along with the approved 40-year plan can be found on the City of Rochelle website. I appreciate the continued support of our mayor and city council for setting the policy priorities for the community and supporting our continued capital funding efforts. Finally, success breeds success and our community would not be here today without the dedication of my wonderful staff. They all work each day to implement the policy initiatives set by the city council and they represent the community well.

"If you don't like something, change it. If you can't change it, change your attitude."-Maya Angelou

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine-and the shadows will fall behind you."-Walt Whitman

Jeffrey A. Fiegenschuh, ICMA-CM, MPA, is the city manager of Rochelle.



Jeffrey

Fiegenschuh

NSTEAD of a coronation we ended up with an election. How is that a bad thing in a democracy?

It took 15 rollcall votes to elect Kevin McCarthy speaker of the House. The political chattering class is calling it a national "embarrassment" and labeled each prolonged vote a "humiliation" for McCarthy.

Well, maybe.

By its nature, democracy is supposed to be messy. It's often about building coalitions and holding them.

In democracies such as France, Italy, Germany and Israel, multiple rollcalls and succession fights are routine. The U.S. is really the outlier in that regard.

Do I identify with that small group of Republicans who held out? Nope. But they effectively used what votes they had to maximize their power. time again. Then-House Speaker Mike Madigan would negotiate a budget with the governor and the other legislative leaders and a faction of his caucus would threaten to withhold their coalition's votes—unless they received funding for a particular program or support on a desired initiative.

Other lawmakers would complain about the entire legislature being "held hostage" but inevitably compromise was reached and lawmakers would head home happy. They were engaging in smart politics – using their solidarity to magnify their power.

The same thing was happening with the Freedom Caucus in Washington. With Republicans holding a razor thin majority, they were able to gain an out-sized voice in policymaking.

Here is what U.S. Rep.

ing bill from the Senate. The power to eliminate waste by making direct budget cuts to the federal bureaucracy and spending caps to cut spending. A balanced federal budget over the next 10 years. A committee to investigate the "weaponization of the federal government," including the Department

of Justice. A Southern border security plan. The end of COVID mandates and funding for them. Requiring 72 hours to read a bill before the vote. The power for one member to call a vote for a new speaker.

Some of the concessions made to the caucus may prove to be positive such as a 72-hour waiting period before bills can be voted on within the House. Such a measure

For example, allowing just one disgruntled member of Congress to call for a new vote for speaker has the potential to throw the entire chamber into a state of perpetual chaos.

Then again, such disruptive efforts could easily be thwarted if Republicans and Democrats join to knock them down. That's

> a big "if," but the Freedom Caucus' gains have the potential to cause more mainstream Republicans and Democrats to work together.

One need only look back in Illinois history to see how that could

work. In 1975, state Rep. Bill Redmond was elected speaker of the Illinois House – after 93 rollcalls.

Democrats held the majority but were divided. Chicago Mayor Richard Daley and Gov. Dan Walker were at loggerheads over who to support. Much as the Republicans in Congress fought it out this month, Democrats in that era of bell-bottom jeans and discomusic were unable to reach consensus.

My friend Mike Lawrence, a statehouse reporter at the time, said it came down to a contest between Democrats Clyde Choate, from Anna, and Redmond, from Bensonville. Republicans viewed the matter as a Democratic squabble and steered clear.

But after 93 votes and no winner, a freshman Republican named Lee Daniels stepped forward and voted for Redmond.

"When Daniels said, 'I vote Redmond,' the place went up for grabs and my recollection is that the rollcall stopped. I believe the House recessed. ... I ran out on the floor right for Daniel's desk and there were Republicans all around Daniel's, just giving him the devil and telling him he was all through in the Republican Party." eventually became leader of the GOP caucus and later served a term as speaker of the house in the 1990s.

As I watched Republicans in Washington this month struggle within a divided caucus to elect a speaker, I kept waiting for a similar act from one of the 212 Democrats. It would have just taken one to step forward and vote to break the impasse.

It would have been an act of bipartisan statesmanship. But it didn't happen. But it is not too late. The far-right Freedom Caucus will try to bring McCarthy and the chamber to their knees.

Either members of both parties will reach across the aisle and work in a bipartisan manner or we inherit chaos.

The question for members of Congress is: "Do you love your party more than your nation?"



Reeder

That's how politics works. When I covered the Illinois General Assembly, I saw this strategy time and Mary Miller, R-Oakland, said the Freedom Caucus gained: The power to block an omnibus spendmay improve transparency and debate.

Other concessions will likely prove problematic.

Daniels, of course,

Scott Reeder, a staffwriter for Illinois Times, can be reached at: sreeder@ illinoistimes.com.

Letter: Treatment of visitors to Rochelle

EAR editor, So there I was, waiting at Steve's Automotive repair shop. Our great granddaughter's first car was waiting to be serviced. Also waiting was a senior couple from Green Bay, Wisconsin. Oh, and yes they were Packer fans in Bear country.

Steve came out and explained to them the chunk of ice that flew off a semi truck on Interstate 39 destroyed their wiper motors (both of them) and none were in stock at the local dealer. However, Steve did locate (after several used parts dealers) used motors and completed the repairs. The couple from Green Bay was very happy and continued on their way to Florida. And they weren't overcharged, either.

Simple you may think, however, I was in awe of the way our Rochelle businesses take care of

* Denotes Chairman/President

strangers. I am reminded of how many people on Facebook complain about local services, the hospital, the police, landlords, the list goes on. Yet they seem to always gripe about something. Rochelle is a wonderful small town with a big heart. Thank you Steve's Automotive for all that you do.

> Dennis Swinton Rochelle

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COMMUNITY



2023 From the Heart Cash Calendar winners drawn

On Thursday at the Ogle County community room in Rochelle, the 2023 winners of the From the Heart Cash Calendar were drawn by members of the organization's board and representatives from nonprofits that From the Heart benefits. Winners can be found in the Rochelle News-Leader and online at fromtheheartrochelle.org. The 15th annual From the Heart Gala & Auction will be held Feb. 4.

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

January 19 – (Thursday) – Chicken and Sausage Gumbo over Rice January 20 – (Friday) – BBQ Baby Back Ribs, Coleslaw, Macaroni and Cheese January 24 – (Tuesday) – Stuffed Chicken Breasts, Roasted Potatoes, Green Beans January 26 - (Thursday) – Lasagna, Salad, Garlic Bread January 31 – (Tuesday) – Teriyaki Chicken, Fried Rice, Egg Rolls 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





Dec. 23 - Rochelle Rescue Mission, \$25 Dec. 24 - Kathy Prestegaard, Rochelle, \$25 Dec. 25 - Lindsay Sweckard, Rochelle, \$1,000 Dec. 26 - Bridget Blaine, Dixon, \$25 Dec. 27 - Rochelle Foods, \$25 Dec. 28 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25 Dec. 29 - Bill Hahn, Rochelle, \$25 Dec. 30 - Nick Smallwood, Montgomery, \$25 Dec. 31 - Greg Hackbarth, Lindenwood, \$25 Jan. 1 - Beth Mock, Rochelle, \$1,000 Jan. 2 - Michele M. Horvath, Rochelle, \$25 Jan. 3 - Autumn Hernandez, Rochelle, \$25 Jan. 4 - Zekelman Employee, Wheatland, PA, \$25 Jan. 5 - Darlene Reynolds, Rochelle, \$25 Jan. 6 - Patricia Burkholder, Loves Park, \$25 Jan. 7 - Lori Kersten, Dixon, \$25 Jan. 8 - Oliva White, Rochelle, \$50 Jan. 9 - Holly Kubale, Rochelle, \$25 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

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

Moderate
 Moderate
 HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

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

Clue: M equals F

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ASHTON NEWS



Ashton-Franklin Center High School students work on veterinary science practicums

In Ashton-Franklin Center High School's intro to ag class, students have been working on vet science practicums. This past week, they practiced cephalic venipuncture, surgical site prep and intramuscular injections. The school sent a big thank you to the Maggie and Amos Foundation for the grant used to purchase the injection pads the students used. Additionally in this unit, students have prepared surgical packs for sterilization, opened surgical packs, applied Elizabethan collars, restrained rabbits, filled a syringe for injection, filled prescriptions and applied a gauze dog muzzle.



AFC academic team earns second at Pecatonica tournament

On Jan. 12, the Ashton-Franklin Center High School Academic Team participated in the Pecatonica JV Tournament. AFC went undefeated in the tournament and won their pool. They earned second place overall, falling just short to the top team in total points with 1,480 (compared to 1,510). Team members include: Payton Murray, Colin Stone, Ayden Willstead, Jacob Warrenfeltz, Dominic Mullins, Andera Aldridge and Ben Gleissner (not present).

Area students named to fall 2022 dean's list

DEKALB — Northern Illinois University recently announced its fall 2022 dean's list students. They include locals from Ashton: Austin Bogle, Finance - B.S., Ashton-Franklin Center High School; Emalie Vogeler, Art Studio-Design & Media Arts, Ashton Franklin Center High School; Jared Warner, Accountancy, Ashton Franklin Center High School and Heather Winterland, Physical Education, Stillman Valley High School. Franklin

Grove's Madison Runkle, Art and Design Education, Ashton Franklin Center High School, made the dean's list as well.

To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Locals named to Clarke University dean's list

DUBUQUE, Iowa – Clarke University recently announced that Brittney H. Mundell of Ashton and Camdyn L. Penick of Franklin Grove were among 191 students that earned a spot on the dean's list for the fall 2022 semester. The list recognizes full-time Clarke students who have earned a 3.65 grade-point average or above, on a 4.0 scale, with a minimum of 12 graded hours.







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SPORTS

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WEDNESDAY, JAN. 18, 2023

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

GIRLS ON THE LANES

The Rochelle Lady Hub bowling team rolled in two tournaments recently.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Boys Bowling Rochelle freshman fires 1,242 series to lead Hubs at IHSA Dixon Regional

0125202

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

DIXON — Having already performed well at Plum Hollow Lanes this season, freshman standout Andrew Powell had confidence heading into the IHSA Dixon Regional on Saturday. Despite the nerves of competing in his first postseason tournament, the two-hander showed consistency throughout the afternoon, finishing fifth overall with a 1,242 series and qualifying as an at-large individual for the IHSA Rockford (Guilford) Sectional at Don Carter Lanes on Saturday, Jan. 21.

"I was nervous but I knew I really wanted to make the sectional tournament," Powell said. "I thought I could've bowled better, but I was able to make it out. My mindset was really important for my success and my teammates were cheering me on. My goals for the sectional tournament are to focus on hitting my mark and not getting frustrated if things aren't going my way.'



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Hub varsity bowling team finished ninth in the IHSA Dixon Regional on Saturday. Above from left to right are Levi Waddle, Owen Tooley, Jonathan Alanis, Evin Odle, Andrew Powell, Sam Tracey, Christian Thorne and Logan Frye.

Powell, who won the Interstate 8 Conference Championship tournament this past week, led Rochelle (8-7, 5-3 Interstate 8) to ninth place in the regional with a 5,293 team series total. Senior Evin Odle finished 23th overall with a 1,118

individual series score, while junior Sam Tracey took 29th overall with a 1,057 series. Sophomore Logan Frye and junior Jon Alanis rounded out the varsity lineup with respective series scores of 985 and 891.

Rochelle rolled team

scores of 838, 901 and 899 over the first three games of the regional tournament. Powell fired a 223 to lead the Hubs in the first game, while Odle scored a series-best 212 during the second game. Powell added a 201 and Tracey bowled a 191 for the Hubs, who saw Frye roll a 191 and Powell follow with a 190 during the third game.

Rochelle totaled team scores of 953, 871 and 831 over the final three games of the tournament. Tracey's series-best 219 and Odle's 203 were the high scores in the fourth game, while Powell's series-best 237 highlighted Rochelle's effort in the fifth game. Powell closed out the tournament with a 192 and Frye finished with a 181 for the Hubs during the sixth and final game.

RTHS Wrestling Hubs field medalists at Marty Williams Invitational Six RTHS athletes record top-6 finishes in tournament at Mahomet-Seymour

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

MAHOMET — The Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling team finished ninth out of 26 schools in the 2023 Marty Williams Invitational on Saturday, scoring 261 points. The Hubs (22-1, 5-0 Interstate 8) saw six athletes record top-6 finishes and take home individual medalist honors in the meet.

Sophomore Xavier Villalobos (28-2) led Rochelle with a second-place finish in the 120-pound bracket. Villalobos scored a 16-3 major decision over Mattoon's Vincent Gibson and a second-period fall over Riverton's Kameron Sklenka to enter the championship bracket, where Villalobos notched a third-period fall over Byron's Jackson Norris and outlasted Rock Island's Daniel McGhee for a 4-2 sudden victory in the semifinal round. Villalobos faced off against Normal West's Froylan Racey for the title, conceding a 5-3 decision in the final seconds.

Junior Brock Metzger (26-8) took third in the 182-pound bracket, reaching the championship bracket with a fall over Mahomet-Sey-



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling team finished ninth out of 26 schools during the Marty Williams Invitational at Mahomet-Seymour High School on Saturday. Six Rochelle athletes recorded top-6 finishes and earned medalists honors in the tournament.

mour's Hayden Hart before holding off Byron's Kyle Jones for a 14-8 decision in the quarterfinals. Metzger recovered from a 7-2 loss against Rock Island's Steven Marquez in the semifinals, overcoming a significant deficit with a fall over Ft. Zumwalt North's Deacon Moran in the third-place

bout. Metzger trailed 11-0 after the first period.

Four Hubs including sophomores Joseph Nadig (25-6) and Kaiden Morris (27-6) as well as freshmen Brenden Voight (24-9) and Roman Villalobos (22-13) placed sixth at their weight classes. Nadig went 2-2 over four bouts in the 126-pound bracket, winning by fall over Mahomet-Seymour's Reese Wilson and earning a forfeit over Richland County's Carson Bissey. Morris also went 2-2 over four bouts in the 220-pound bracket, notching a 12-1 major decision over Peotone's Alex Cardenas and a 7-3 decision over Na-

perville Central's Nicolas Basteiro.

Voight finished 3-2 over five bouts in the 145-poundbracket, opening the tournament with a fall over Mahomet-Seymour's Jackson David and a 9-1 major decision over Mahomet-Seymour's Kaleb Roberts. Voight notched a fall over Metamora's Seth Shaw in the consolation rounds. Villalobos recorded falls over Mattoon's Brock Taylor and Mahomet-Seymour's Brad Schoonover as well as a fall over Byron's James Cone during the consolation rounds.

See HUBS page 3



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WE SUPPORT OUR HUBS!



HUB SPOTLIGHT



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team competed at the Charles Butterfield Invitational on Saturday as well as the Sterling MLK Invitational on Monday. Above from left to right are Faith Adams, Kylie McCullough, Cassidy Vincent, Anahi Alanis, Mackenzie Burnett, Makenzie Liezert and Jamee Easterbrooks.

Lady Hubs roll at Morris, **Sterling tournaments**

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

MORRIS — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team competed at the Charles Butterfield Invitational on Saturday, placing 13th with a 4,584 series total. Sophomore Cassidy Vincent led the Lady Hubs (7-5, 5-3

Rochelle fired team scores of 850, 718 and Rochelle concluded the tournament with









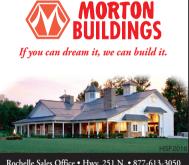
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SPORTS

RTHS Boys Basketball **Rochelle falls flat in home loss to Sycamore** Spartans run away from Hubs as RTHS suffers 67-39 defeat Friday evening

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Looking to build on an overtime victory over Ottawa on Tuesday, the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team fell flat during Friday's Interstate 8 matchup against Sycamore.

Rochelle opened the game with a 5-0 run early in the first quarter, but the Spartans dominated the rest of the conference contest, forcing a multitude of turnovers while using a combination of fastbreak offense and perimeter shooting to cruise over the Hubs 67-39. Junior Eli Luxton scored a team-high 17 points for Rochelle (6-11, 2-6 Interstate 8) in this loss Friday evening.

"Sycamore looked really quick and I thought they guarded us really well," head coach Tim Thompson said. "We were one-and-out on all of our shots and that put a lot of pressure on us to make shots. When we missed shots, they had players running out all of the time and that led to easy buckets. Once they started hitting 3-pointers and we continued to turn the ball over, there wasn't much we could do... I didn't think we'd come out and score in the 30s tonight."

Lucas Winburn fueled the Sycamore offense in the first quarter, knocking down multiple jumpers including a pair of triples for 10 of his 14 points on Friday. The Spartans gradually built their lead throughout the first half, using their three-quartercourt press and half-court defense to force several Rochelle turnovers. Sycamore limited senior forward Raul Aguirre, who scored 20 points in Rochelle's win over Ottawa, to only five points on two made field goals Friday evening.

"We haven't played well in our home gym all season and I'm not sure why that's been the case," Thompson said. "We know there are nights like these in athletics where these performances can happen, but where I was more discouraged was that we had a really nice performance against Ottawa and we've played some really close games where we've scored in the 60s or 70s."

The Spartans led 37-23 entering the third quarter, where Sycamore ran away from the Hubs with a 24-6 run that ultimately sealed the game. Several of the Spartan field goals came on the fastbreak, where Sycamore's defense created transition layups on the other end. Jaxon Tierney, who led the Spartans with 22 points on Friday, converted two of his teamleading four 3-pointers during the third quarter to help stretch the Hub defense and balloon the Sycamore lead.

"I used two timeouts early in the third quarter and went into my coaching



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Jack Tracey races Sycamore's Teague Hallahan down the floor during the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball game against the Spartans on Friday. Sycamore defeated Rochelle 67-39.

toolbox to figure out whatever I could to motivate us," Thompson said. "We had to put together some stops and we were able

to get a stop on our first defensive possession, but the next thing we knew, we were down by 20 points and it snowballed from

there... It's always been in our DNA to play fast and go for 50-50 balls. Right now, our DNA is turning the ball over and not being tough on the court."

Rochelle will face Kaneland in conference play on the road Wednesday evening at 7 p.m.

HUBS: Rochelle to wrestle Freeport, Harvard this week

From page 1

Junior Tommy Tourdot (7-5) won four bouts to take ninth in the 113-pound bout. Tourdot split his first two

to Ft. Zumwalt North's Nathaniel Provost. Tourdot ran through the consolation bracket, stringing together three straight victories by fall over Riverton's Matthew Miller, Belleville West's Amir McCoy and Champaign Centennial's Jaiden Smith.

Sophomore Grant Gensler (22-12) took 11th in the 152-pound bracket, finishing 3-2 over five bouts. Gensler's victories came by injury default Metamora's Jaydon Fisher. Sophomore Robert Stoffel (2-3) finished 12th in the 285-pound bracket, going 2-3 over five bouts with a fall over Mattoon's JD Sullivan and a 9-1 major decision over St. Laurence's Normal Bilek. Other notable finishers

for the Hubs include freshmen Keagan Albers (12-10 - 16th at 106) and Frank Nasca (9-8 - 22nd at 138) as well as sophomore Weylin Nay (13-11 - 17th at 132) and senior Jorge Driggs (4-10 - 18th at 195). Nonscoring athletes for Rochelle included freshmen Freddie

Hernandez (8-8 - 19th at 106), Tony Milburn (14-14 -15th at 113) and Cammyla Macias (0-5 - 16th at 120) along with senior Josey Weber (0-4 - 20th at 126), junior Riley Damask (4-4 -19th at 132) and sophomore Dempsey Atkinson (1-5 -24th at 145).

matches, winning by fall over Champaign Centennial's Owen Esslinger and conceding a 7-4 decision

over Mahomet-Seymour's Deandre Hughey, by fall over Mt. Zion's Kaden Becker and by fall over



SPORTS

RTHS Girls Basketball Lady Hubs net conference win over Kaneland Three RTHS athletes reach double figures in 59-56 victory Saturday afternoon

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

MAPLE PARK — Three Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball players reached double figures in scoring on Saturday, when the purple and white knocked off the Kaneland Knights 59-56 for an Interstate 8 Conference victory. Junior Alivia Henkel led the Lady Hubs (6-17, 4-4 Interstate 8) with 21 points, nine rebounds and four assists, while sophomore Kendyl Darby recorded 12 points and seven rebounds.

Senior Torrin Nantz converted five 3-pointers in the game, finishing with 15 points as well as two assists and three steals. Junior Sydney Tabor compiled seven points, five assists, five rebounds and a team-leading six deflections for Rochelle in the win. The Lady Hubs will face Sycamore at home on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Newark

The Rochelle Lady Hub

varsity basketball team faced a formidable Class 1A foe in nonconference action on Thursday. Junior Alivia Henkel finished with a team-leading 18 points while grabbing 10 rebounds and notching seven steals as the Lady Hubs fell 45-36 against Newark. Rochelle (5-17, 3-4 Interstate 8) will face

varsity basketball team Kaneland on the road faced a formidable Class Saturday afternoon.

Sophomore Kendyl Darby also recorded double-digit rebounds in the game, snatching 11 boards while scoring five points. Sophomore Abby Metzger compiled four points, three steals and five rebounds for the Lady Hubs. Junior Kennedy Adamski



totaled four points and senior Torrin Nantz had four rebounds.



Protect yourself against COVID-19 and other diarrheal and respiratory illnesses, and help prevent the spread of germs to others, by following these simple hand hygiene guidelines:

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Wash your hands throughout the day, and particularly under these circumstances:

- Before preparing food
- Before eating
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- Before and after exposure to someone who is sick
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
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- Before and after attending to a cut or wound

Information resource: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

News-Leader

Proper handwashing helps all of us stay healthy, so remember to be aware and do your part to help protect yourself and others!



ROCHELLE

101 LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE

ESTATE OF)

BEATRICE L. PHIPPS, Deceased.) NO. 2023-PR-2

be barred.

tive, or both.

filed.

Rockford,

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dent Executor

No. 0115

2023)

DATED: January 18, 2023

James P. Hursh, #6230997

2601 Reid Farm Road

IL

61114

Guyer & Enichen, P.C.

jhursh@guyerlaw.com

By: /s/ James P. Hursh

By: Guyer & Enichen, P.C.

Attorney for Indepen-

(Jan. 18, 25 and Feb. 1,

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1, 2023 until 2:30 p.m. Lo-

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CLAIM NOTICE Notice is given of the death of BEATRICE L. PHIPPS, of Rochelle, IIlinois. Letters of Office were issued on January 6th, 2023, to GERALD A. PHIPPS, whose address is 8000 SW 56th Ave., Gainesville, FL 32608, and whose attorneys are Fearer, Nye & Chadwick, 420 4th Avenue, PO Box 117, Rochelle, IL 61068.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Courthouse, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, no later than July 12th, 2023, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

FEARER, NYE & CHAD-WICK, Attorneys for GER-ALD A. PHIPPS, Executor of the Estate of BEATRICE L. PHIPPS, deceased No. 0106

(Jan. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY. **ILLINOIS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF)

VICTORINE M. SCHLEZES, Deceased.) NO. 2023-PR-1

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of VICTORINE M. SCHLEZES, of Rochelle, Illinois. Letters of Office

within three (3) months from the date of mailing 119 or delivery of Notice to creditors, if mailing or **ANNOUNCEMENTS** delivery is required by

Section 5/18-3 of the II-"This publication does linois Probate Act, 1975 not knowingly accept as amended, whichever fraudulent or deceptive date is later. Any claim advertising. Readers are not filed by the requisite cautioned to thoroughly date stated above shall investigate all ads, especially those asking for Claims against the estate money in advance." may be filed in the office

of the Ogle County Circuit Clerk, Probate Divi-127 sion, at the Ogle County SERVICES AND Courthouse, 106 S. 5th REPAIRS Street, Suite 300, Oregon,

IL 61061, or with the es-Furman's Lawn Care and tate's legal representa-Tree Work. Fall clean up, gutters and more. Ful-Copies of claims filed ly insured. In business with the Circuit Clerk's since 1999. Rochelle and Office, Probate Division, surrounding areas. Call must be mailed or deliv-Jeremy Furman at 815ered to the estate's legal 761-9619. Please leave a representative and to message, will return call his/her attorney within ASAP. ten days after it has been

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were issued on January 6th, 2023, to KENNETH G. SCHLEZES, whose address is 1225 Evergreen Road, Wilmington, DE 19803, and whose attorneys are Fearer, Nye & Chadwick, 420 4th Avenue, PO Box 117, Rochelle, IL 61068.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Courthouse, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, no later than July 12th, 2023, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been

filed. FEARER, NYE & CHAD-WICK,

Attorneys for 105KENNETH G. SCHLEZES, Executor of the Estate of VICTORINE M. SCHLEZES, deceased No. 0107

(Jan. 11, 18 and 25, 2023)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, **ILLINOIS**

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF: VIOLET L. HALL, Deceased CASE NO.: 2023 PR 3

CLAIM NOTICE Notice is aiven of the death of Violet L. Hall. Letters of Office were issued on January 12, 2023 to Richard Hall, Jr. at 20003 E. Ouarry Road, Esmond, IL 60129, who is the legal representative for the estate. The attorney for the estate is James Hursh, Guyer & Enichen, P.C., 2601 Reid Farm Road, Suite B, Rockford, IL 61114. Claims against the estate

may be filed on or before July 18, 2023, that date being at least six (6) months from the date of first publication, or

tunity Employment Policies. Drawings and Specifications are available for download from the office of the Architect, Newman Architecture, attn: Chuck, (630) 400-0055. Contact the design team to receive instructions on how to download bid docu-

ments.

01

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No. 0116

(Jan. 18, 2023)

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investigate all ads, es-

pecially those asking for

money in advance.

OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does

BUSINESS

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

> 307 **MISCELLANEOUS** FOR SALE

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay

Brand new, still in box glass top coffee table and 2 end tabes. \$150 cash only. 815-761-6576.

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

SPLIT firewood for sale. Contact 779-251-0254. (02-13-23)

not knowingly accept 405 fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are HOUSES FOR SALE cautioned to thoroughly

investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance." BE YOUR OWN BOSS! Health & Wellness Industry. No experience necessary. Flexible Hours. Start Your Future Today! Call Now! Rick 630-965-1470. (01-25-23)

113 FINANCIAL

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

per and the Federal Trade

Commission.





STOPTEXTSSTOPWRECKS.ORG



ALL REAL ESTATE adver-

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

501 APARTMENTS FOR RENT

equal opportunity basis.

ROCHELLE. Two Units for

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SAL	E
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307





News-Leader ochelle Community Unity Shop • Play • Stay 9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Rochelle First

Youth programs, schools and nonprofit 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!

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 \cap 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 thenice guy that helped you when you bought it?

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.



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.