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MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21, 2022

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Veterans visit Rochelle Rehab

Christmas for Vets visited
Rochelle Rehab on Dec. 14
to help ring in the holiday
spirit. **Page 7**

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW
29 10

THURSDAY
HIGH LOW
32 1

FRIDAY
HIGH LOW
2 -3

SATURDAY
HIGH LOW
6 -3

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OBITUARIES

• RONALD C. TILTON
• CAROL MAXINE MOREY
• RONALD R.
HEIDENREICH

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• ALDI
• FARM & FLEET

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Park board talks future of Helms

Capital improvements planned for coming year

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At Monday's monthly meeting of the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners, Board President Tim Hayden said that a capital committee will look at the future of the Helms outdoor complex starting in January. The committee will include Commissioners Dale Wells and John Dobbs.

"We're going to be kind of re-imagining it," Hayden said. "A number of our capital projects on the list are related to Helms and historically-speaking, it's a school sports facility. We need to look at it as a park district and what we want to stay in the long term and what we want to go away or do differently whether it's the outdoor track or the sizable number of tennis courts."

Projects

During the meeting, the board held a public hearing concerning its intent to sell \$950,000 in general obligation park bonds. The park district makes that move each year to finance



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At Monday's monthly meeting of the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners, Board President Tim Hayden said that a capital committee will look at the future of the Helms outdoor complex in January.

capital improvements.

Park District Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger discussed the improvements the money will be used for including Spring Lake Marina flooring, Tilton Park enhancements, VFW Park shelter and playground adjustments, Memorial Park playground additions, a Cooper Park shelter, a trailer and the zero turn

mower fleet rotation. Improvements to the Helms complex will also be included in future capital improvements.

Numbers

In 2021, the REC Center saw 72,000 users including members and drop-ins. That number does not include rentals, adult sports leagues or people attending for programs

like REC basketball.

In 2022 so far, that same statistic stands at 98,881 visits.

"I think that's a pretty incredible number," Ohlinger said. "Because that probably doesn't touch at least that much for spectators and programs throughout the year in this facility."

See PARK page 2



Bus bid approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its monthly meeting Monday, the Rochelle Township High School Board of Education unanimously approved a bid from Central States Bus Sales for \$120,710, after trade-in, to purchase one 2024 or newer 77-passenger bus that will come into its possession in July 2023.

District Superintendent Jason Harper said each year the district has a process where it purchases new buses for its fleet and the current year involves a smaller purchase. The timeline of the process has moved up due to supply chain issues.

"We used to do this as late as spring or early summer," Harper said.

See RTHS page 3

Rochelle PD raising funds for next K9

'It's a fantastic program and we definitely want to keep it going'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Police Department is currently raising funds for the purchase and training of its next K9 dog.

K9 Axel recently retired after seven years with the department and plans are in place for a new handler in RPD Officer Trevor Owen. After fundraising efforts over the next month, the department plans to purchase a dog at the end of January and start training at the end of February.

"The dogs are used almost on a daily basis and when you really need them, there's just no substitute," RPD Chief Eric Higby said. "You're not going to be able to do an article search as a human and find anything. It's great to have the resources in the area with the Ogle County Sheriff's Office's dog and our dog. The state will occasionally use our dog if they need it. It's a fantastic program and we definitely want to keep it going. We have an excited younger handler that wants to take it over and it was time for



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Police Department is currently raising funds for the purchase and training of its next K9 dog. K9 Axel recently retired after seven years with the department.

Axel to retire. So it should be a perfect transition hopefully."

RPD will be holding a bowling fundraiser at T-Byrd Lanes on Jan. 21 from 6-10 p.m. to raise money for the K9 program. The event will also include

a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. The registration fee is \$125 for teams of five for three games and shoes. The sign up deadline is Jan. 8.

RPD is also offering sponsorships as a way to contribute to its K9

fundraiser. Sponsorship applications are available by contacting Owen at 815-562-2131 or at towen@rochelleil.us.

The department is offering businesses sponsorships on three different levels. A gold sponsorship

(\$800) includes a logo on a banner for 2023/2024 department events, logo on 2023 K9 t-shirts, a Facebook appreciation post on the K9 event page and a K9 demo at the business.

See K9 page 2

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

RPD will be holding a bowling fundraiser at T-Byrd Lanes on Jan. 21 from 6-10 p.m. to raise money for the K9 program. The event will also include a 50/50 raffle and a silent auction. The registration fee is \$125 for teams of five for three games and shoes. The sign up deadline is Jan. 8.

K9: RPD holding fundraiser to purchase new police dog

From page 1

Silver sponsorships (\$600) include a banner logo, logo on 2023 K9 t-shirts and a Facebook appreciation post on the K9 event page. A bronze membership (\$400) includes a banner logo and a Facebook appreciation post on the K9 event page. The cost of the K9 and training is around \$13,500-14,500, Owen said.

"I'd like to reach that goal, but the city council and the mayor are also on board," Owen said. "We just want to raise as much as we can and show that our community supports it. And maintaining a program like this costs way more than \$14,500."

Owen said the fundraising efforts have been off to a good start and the community has been supportive.

"I've been to probably 40 different businesses in town and the support

I've seen has been great," Owen said. "Everyone wants to get involved with the program because they know what an asset it really is. I think we're going to do really well on that. Even the smaller businesses have offered items for the silent auction. The K9 program is really supported in our community."

Upon Axel's retirement, former RPD K9 Officer Ryan Beery was promoted to sergeant within the department.

He said he's glad to see the program continue and to see the community's support of the program carry on.

With Axel, Beery was able to get more involved in the community by taking him to schools, community events and businesses.

"Seeing that reciprocated back is just awesome," Beery said. "Especially in a time of so much uncertainty in the world, whenever you see people

giving up their own money to donate it to a police department to support a K9, there's nothing that speaks more volumes. It's great to see that the community wants another dog and they've rallied around Trevor's efforts to raise money."

Owen urged anyone who wants to get involved with the fundraiser to reach out to him. He decided to get involved as the next K9 handler for the same reason he got

into law enforcement: To combat narcotics.

"I lost a family member early on in life to drugs and that was my reason for getting into law enforcement," Owen said. "Having a K9 will help with narcotics enforcement, along with the community service aspect of having one. Talking to people and kids and going to community events and schools and doing searches at schools. It ties into why I became a police officer."

Stillman Bank announces winners of Christmas coloring contest

ROCHELLE – Stillman Bank recently held their annual Christmas coloring contest for kids up

to 10 years old. This year's picture was of various Christmas ornaments. The winners received their very

own gingerbread house kit. Congratulations to the winners!

For ages five and under, the winners were: Grady (Byron office), Ridge (Oregon office), Kameron

(Rochelle office), Remington (Rockford office), Johanna (Roscoe office) and Mae (Stillman Valley office).

For ages six through 10, the winners were:

Addisyn (Byron office), Shelby (Oregon office), Yarezi (Rochelle office), Aarav (Rockford office), Kora (Roscoe office) and McKenzie (Stillman Valley office).

Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to enter the coloring contest. 182 entries were received and each child received a small prize for their participation.

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(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Yarezi H. (left) and Kameron K. (right) were two of the winners of the Stillman Bank Coloring Contest this year. The contest is held each holiday season for children ages 10 and under.

PARK: Board approves 2023 tax levy

From page 1

"I thank my staff who have worked very hard to

take care of The REC and these people that are using it and keeping it clean, safe and a fun environment."

Levy
The board unanimously approved its 2023 tax levy ordinance during the

meeting. The district will have a similar tax rate from the past year. The levy is \$751,111. The district's equalized assessed value (EAV) saw an increase of 6.41 percent.

Advisor

The board unanimously approved a one-year municipal advisor agreement with Raymond James for \$7,500. The agreement includes work on levies, budgets, disclosure, bank placements and capital improvement bonds.

Maintenance

Ohlinger said current projects in the park district include new trail markers, a controlled burn and disc golf course maintenance at Skare Park and a new shelter installation at Cooper Park. Drainage restoration work at Tilton Park was recently completed.

Turkey Trot

Ohlinger said 140 people participated in the park district's Turkey Trot on Thanksgiving morning and almost \$2,000 was raised for its ENGAGE financial assistance program.

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LOCAL NEWS

RTHS: Lewis discusses recent and future facility upgrades

From page 1

“It was never an issue then, but now we’ve been told over and over to get our bids done so we can make sure we get the bus in time to get it ready for the school year in August.”

Levy

The board unanimously approved its 2022 tax levy. At last month’s meeting, District Business Manager Kevin Dale presented the levy.

Last year, the equalized assessed value (EAV) was \$471,424,237. This year, the EAV is estimated to be \$501,583,928. Last year, the district was extended \$10,002,067.53. This year, the district is asking for a 2.17 percent increase, which is about \$217,000 of new money, Dale said, for a total of \$10,219,017. The district asks for dollars, not with a rate.

Dale said Monday that multiple improvements to the school will be paid this fiscal year.

“With that levy, we’re only requesting a two percent increase from last year,” Dale said. “And that should cover our basic needs. What we’ve found because of the pandemic and the influx of Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER) money that we’re

under levying what we normally would do.”

Facilities

RTHS Principal Chris Lewis discussed recent and future facility updates at the school during his monthly presentation.

Recent improvements during the past year have included the school’s STEM/ag workshop, IT upgrades including a one-to-one Google Chromebooks program, a 10-times increase in internet connectivity and more cameras and vape detectors, new paint and wall logos, updating physical education rooms and reconstructed tennis courts.

Future plans as the building reaches its 20th year include HVAC improvements, upgrades to the auditorium, teacher pods and stations and the counseling center, new PA systems, outdoor concrete work and LED lighting.

Grant

The board unanimously approved the submission of a fiscal year 2023 school maintenance grant application to help offset the cost of LED lighting upgrades for the school’s outside driveway, parking and other exterior lighting. The application is for a shared 50/50 grant for a maximum of \$50,000.

Audit

The board heard a presentation on its recent

fiscal year 2022 audit by WIPFLI and unanimously accepted it. The district received a score of 3.9 out of four and received a perfect four in each category outside of the debt portion, in which it received a grade of three.

Employment

The board unanimously approved personnel

changes including the resignations of Betty Henley (bus aide), Curt Samo (bass fishing coach) and Veronica Hernandez (paraprofessional) and the employment of Maria Shank (main office receptionist), Scott Stevens (Focus House paraprofessional), Calla Stroh (assistant girls track coach) Brian Andronic (volunteer assistant wrestling coach) and Hannah Eldred (volunteer indoor guard).

Chorus

Ahead of the meeting, the RTHS chorus performed for the board. It recently brought back its madrigal dinner for the first time since the pandemic and two songs that were performed at the dinner were performed Monday.




(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Ahead of the meeting, the RTHS chorus performed for the board. It recently brought back its madrigal dinner for the first time since the pandemic and two songs that were performed at the dinner were performed Monday.



American Legion Post 403 installs newest officers
Rochelle American Legion post 403 installed new officers for the upcoming year at the winter banquet. From left to right: Joe Drought (installing officer), Tom Hill (sargent at arms), Eric Wells (finance officer), Paul Bearrows (chaplin), Gary Tarvestad (past commander), Steve Korth (adjutant), Paul Hardcastle (junior vice-commander), Chuck Roberts (senior vice-commander) and John Gruben (commander).



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Leaf River:
208 Railroad St.

Rochelle:
Atwood Park, 10th Ave.
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Monroe Center:
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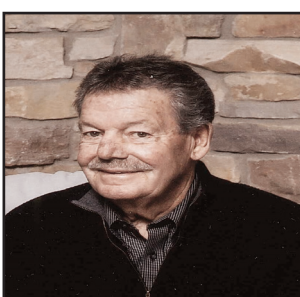
LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Ronald C. Tilton

CHANA — Ron passed away Sunday, Dec. 18 at home surrounded by his loving family. Ron was born on Oct. 2, 1943 in DeKalb to Mark and Mabel (Williams) Tilton. On July 1, 1995, he married Mariann D. Berg of Rochelle in Hayward, Wisconsin. Ron attended Fischer School, a one-room schoolhouse, before graduating from Rochelle Township High School. He graduated from Western Illinois University with a degree in physical education. After graduation, Ron returned to Rochelle to begin his career in banking where he eventually served as president and chairman of the Board of the First National Bank of Rochelle. His career in banking spanned 52 years. During his career,

Ron was heavily involved in many community events and organizations. Ron is survived by his wife of 27 years, Mariann of Chana; two sons: Scott (Ann) Tilton of Green Lake, Wisconsin and Chad (Amanda) Tilton of Dixon; daughter, Dana (Jerry) Barth of Dacula, Georgia; five grandchildren: Joshua Wiggins, Zac and Dayton Barth, Walker and Waverlee Tilton; close relatives, Kim and Becky Huntley and their sons, Daniel (Alison) Huntley and Geoff (Kaylie) Huntley, Jennifer Tilton and Jeff Maier. In addition to his parents, Ron was preceded in death by two brothers: Theodore L. Tilton and Mark O. Tilton. The visitation will be from 3-7 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 21 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th



St., Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 10 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 22 at Calvary Lutheran Church, 19 Perry Road, Lee, Illinois with Pastor Martha Nelson officiating. Burial will follow the service at Washington Grove Cemetery. Memorials may be made in Ron's memory to Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Shriners Children's Hospital or Washington Grove Cemetery. Visit www.ungerhorn.com to sign the online guest book.

Carol Maxine Morey

ROCHELLE — Carol Maxine Morey, 96, passed away Dec. 16 at Liberty Village in Rochelle. Carol was born on Dec. 1, 1926 to Lester R. and Edna S. (LauFenburger) Irish in Kellogg, Minnesota. On Aug. 25, 1945, she married Rodney Everett Morey in Pickwick, Minnesota. Carol was an avid walker no matter the weather. She loved the ocean but most of all, she just enjoyed traveling. She sang in the church choir and ensembles. Carol loved life and laughter. Everyone was welcomed in her home; she was a gracious hostess. For certain, there was a fresh pot of coffee brewing and you would be treated to home-baked cookies. Carol loved her family,

church family and many friends. To those she's left behind and to those she will be reunited with in heaven, she would say, "Thank you for being my friend." Carol is survived by her two daughters: Sharon Balk of Olathe, Kansas and Patricia (Rodney) Frye of Ashton; five grandchildren: Elysha Frye, Matthew (Courtney) Frye, Brandyn (Jessica) Frye, Amy (Patrick) Jacolene and Rebecca Balk; and six great grandchildren: Evan James Frye, Jaden, Triniti, Liam and Jenna Bracey and Theodore James Frye. In addition to her parents, Carol is preceded in death by her husband, Rodney, on March 13, 2020; son, Scott Morey; granddaughter, Jennifer Wilcoxson, son-in-law, Larry Balk and two sis-



ters: Jean Kauphusman and Ruth Armstrong. The visitation will be from 9-11 a.m. Thursday, Dec. 22 at the First Baptist Church, 810 Woolf Court, Rochelle. The funeral will follow at 11 a.m. with Pastor Doug Cowan officiating. Private burial will be at Ashton Cemetery in Ashton. Memorials may be made in Carol's memory to the First Baptist Church. Visit www.ungerhorn.com to sign the online guest book.

Ronald R. Heidenreich

ROCKFORD — Ronald R. Heidenreich, 86, of Rockford and formerly of Rochelle, passed away Saturday, Dec. 17 in the comforts of his home. Ron was the son of Ralph Heidenreich and Irene Dietrich Borneman. Ron proudly served in the U.S. Navy and Air Force. He worked for Rochelle Municipal Utilities for 32 years. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Eleanor, daughter Jill Torre and her fiancé John Turner, granddaughters Jillian (Mitch) Myers and Carly (Dan) Torre-Brown, great grandson Malcolm Myers, brothers Bob (Karen) Borneman and Bill

(Patti) Borneman along with many special nieces and nephews and friends. Ron was a car enthusiast. He and Eleanor loved driving through car lots looking for their next one! This year Ron and Eleanor celebrated 61 years of marriage and he was so proud of this. Anytime you'd see the two out and about they were always holding hands. Ron was also known for his infectious laugh that was contagious. The family enjoyed going to movies and Ron was always the highlight of the previews with his laughing at the funny scenes.

Ron's granddaughters held a special place in his heart as did his great grandson. Ron also enjoyed the three dachshunds he and Ellie had over the years and his four grand dogs that they would stop and see regularly. He loved sitting on the backyard deck with "the pack," throwing the frisbee, brushing them and giving them treats! Ron is predeceased by his parents; mother-in-law, Bernadine Blum; brother Larry Heidenreich; sister-in-law, Dana Heidenreich; and special son-in-law Jude Torre. Visitation will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 27 from 10 a.m. to noon at Fitz-



gerald Funeral Home & Crematory — Mulford Chapel, 1860 S. Mulford Road, Rockford, IL 61108 with a service to immediately follow. In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to St. Rita's church, Rockford Rescue Mission or charity of choice. Please leave memories and condolences online at www.fitzgeraldfh.com.



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Ogle County Sheriff Report

Deputies respond to car in ditch

OREGON — On Dec. 17 at approximately 5:33 p.m. deputies, along with

Oregon police, responded to the 3,000 block of West Illinois Route 64 for a reported car in the ditch. Upon an initial investigation, deputies discovered James D. Wright, 40, of Mt. Morris, was traveling west

when he failed to maintain control of the vehicle and entered the ditch. Wright was later placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol and transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was

held in lieu of bond. Wright was additionally cited for improper lane usage and operating a vehicle with an expired registration. All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Rochelle Police Report

Officers issue citations

ROCHELLE — On Dec. 16 at 11 a.m. Bradley Cooney, 18, of Rochelle was cited for failure to yield right of way. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Jan. 27 Rochelle court date.

On Dec. 18 at 10:11 a.m. Matthew McCullough, 31, of Sterling was arrested on an Ogle County warrant and transferred. On Dec. 19 at 8:03 a.m. Jacob M. Abell, 34, of Rochelle was cited for

failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. He was released on an I-Bond and given a Jan. 27 Rochelle court date. All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Stillman Bank holds annual Christmas food drive

ROCHELLE — In the spirit of giving back this holiday season, Stillman Bank held a food drive to benefit area families this Christmas. 931 pounds of non-perishable food items

were collected during the two-week event. Now in its 13th year, this annual food drive has collected over 13,000 pounds of food since its inception in 2008. The Christmas Food Drive kicked off at all Stillman Bank locations on Friday, Nov. 25 and continued through Friday, Dec. 9. Donations will be made just in time for Christmas to several area food pantries including: Bread of Life pantry in Stillman Valley, Lifeline Food & Self-Help

Project in Oregon, Old Stone Church Food Pantry in Rockton, People Helping People in Byron, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry in Rochelle and Rock River Valley Pantry in Rockford. Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to contribute to this great cause. For more information on Stillman Bank or to find out more about Stillman's products and services, please contact visit www.stillmanbank.com.

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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



Hub City Cruisers donate to local organizations

The Hub City Cruisers recently made five donations to local nonprofits including Serenity Hospice & Home (bottom left), Pegasus Special Riders (middle left), Hub City Senior Center (top left), HOPE of Ogle County (top right) and Roberts Armory-Wreaths Across America (bottom right). Serenity Hospice and Home: From left to right: Ron Sassaman, Tom Van Hise, Hannah Warren, marketing & development director, Paula Combs and Lynda Sassaman. Pegasus Special Riders: From left to right: Lynda Sassaman, Tom Van Hise, Donna Fellows, Ron Sassaman and Paula Combs. Hub City Senior Center: From left to right: Tom Van Hise, Ron Sassaman, Diana King, Paula Combs and Lynda Sassaman. HOPE: From left to right: Ron Sassaman, Tom Van Hise, Ruth Carter, Paula Combs and Lynda Sassaman. Roberts Armory-Wreaths Across America: From left to right: Ron Sassaman, Tom Van Hise, Lydia Roberts, Lynda Sassaman and Paula Combs.

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11/04/2020

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07012020

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Tails PET OF THE WEEK

Humane Society
815.758.2457
www.tailshumanesociety.org

Dash

Adopt ME

Hi there! My name is Dash! Aren't I such a handsome dude? I would love a home with a Husky Lover that is willing to help me learn to be my best self. I was found as a stray so Tails is still trying to find out more about me. They have noticed that I love toys and am treat-motivated. I already know how to sit and will bark at you to toss a treat for me to catch. Will you please take me home and teach me more tricks? Come visit me at Tails today!

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Did you Know?

In 2021, the most common dog names included Bella, Luna, Lucy, Max, Charlie, and Milo.

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Christel Ackland 815-561-2153
 or
Chris Grimm 815-561-2125

to advertise on the Pet of the Week Page!

LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Christmas, livestock and scholarships

LESS than a week until Christmas. With the supply chain crunch I'm dangerously close to having to forego ordering online and dread the horror....go out to the store to shop. Pray for me people, this may be my last Christmas!

Livestock

Illinois livestock producers can now complete their Livestock Premise Registration online by utilizing the Illinois Department of Agriculture's website at www.agr.state.il.us/PremiseID. The premise registration is a cooperative effort by State, Federal and livestock industry groups that allows health officials to manage disease surveillance and control programs effectively. It is part of the National Animal Identification System (NAIS) that is responsible for initiating a national animal ID system. Once completed the system will allow health officials to enable a 48 hour track-back of

livestock movement to help respond quickly if a diseased animal is found. The system, when completed, will be comprised of three components: Premise identification – Assigns a seven-digit identifier to each livestock management location. Animal ID – Animals will eventually be identified by an animal id number (AIN) or as a group. Animal tracking – Allows the 48-hour trace as animals move through the chain. For producers the system will protect their livelihood by ensuring animal health, assuring consumer confidence and maintaining market access. All livestock producers are encouraged to complete the Premise ID as it serves as a first step towards bringing them in line with new rules that are being formulated. If you have questions on the Premise ID contact the Illinois Department of agriculture at 1-866-299-9256.

Scholarships
The Ogle County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce that applications for their 2023 Scholarship Program will be available beginning Jan. 4 to graduating high school seniors, or those enrolled at an accredited university. Farm bureau members may pick up or have applications mailed. Applications can also be downloaded from the Ogle County Farm Bureau website at www.oglefb.org. The Don Bybee Memorial Scholarship is jointly funded by the Bybee family and the Ogle County Farm Bureau. Mr. Bybee served for many years as a director on the Ogle County Farm Bureau Board and offering this \$1,000 scholarship recognizes his passion for offering opportunities for Ogle County youth to advance their education. Also available is a \$1,000 scholarship funded jointly by the Ogle

County Pork Producers Association and the farm bureau. The Mark Detig Memorial Scholarship will be awarded annually. Mr. Detig served as past president and director on the pork producers association board of directors and was involved in 4-H youth activities in Ogle County. These scholarships are in addition to the \$1,500 Del Flessner Memorial Scholarship, honoring the former manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau; and two \$1,000 General Farm Bureau Scholarships. George R. LeFevre Memorial Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship funded by the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family and the farm bureau. It recognizes Mr. LeFevre for his lifetime of service to agriculture and youth education in Ogle County. It will be awarded to a recipient studying in a field of agriculture.



Ron Kern

Mary R LeFevre Memorial Scholarship is a \$1,000 scholarship funded by the Jeff and Joyce Tremble Family and the Farm Bureau. It recognizes Mrs. LeFevre for her dedicated service in the healthcare profession and involvement with youth education. It will be awarded to a recipient studying in a health-care-related field. Finally an Ag Technology Scholarship will be awarded in an amount of \$1,000. It will be awarded to students studying in an ag technology field similar to diesel mechanics, crop technician or similar fields of study. Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria: must be a high school graduate; must be an Ogle County Farm Bureau member or dependent of a member; must be accepted at an accredited university or college and pursue an agricultural or agricultural-related field of study; must be a resident of Illinois; and must demonstrate a financial

need. Applicants can be graduating high school seniors or students currently enrolled in an accredited college or university. Applicants successfully completed and submitted will be judged on criteria including: academic performance, demonstrated interest in agriculture, financial need and character/personality. Those interested in receiving a scholarship application should contact the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 732-2231; or stop by their office at 421 W. Pines Road in Oregon. Applications can also be downloaded by visiting our website at www.oglefb.org. All applications and accompanying materials must be received no later than April 1, 2023. "Mail your packages early so the post office can lose them in time for Christmas." -Johnny Carson
Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.

The book or the movie?

DECEMBER is here and the holiday rush is upon us. If you get a chance to drive by the library, look at our beautiful porch lit up with white lights, accented by the Christmas packages in the barrels and urns. The 1912 library looks beautiful at night with the porch glowing and the trees illuminating each window. Be sure not to miss our Polar Express display in the Youth Services Department. We were lucky enough to borrow the train conductor and he makes sure to check and punch

a train that has silhouettes of people riding in the passenger cars, the Polar Express Santa, the book, a sign and snow. Books like the Polar Express are very quiet and peaceful. There are animals, children and the overall silence that runs through the book is serene. The movie is much different from the book. The train is loud and the children are having fun. They dance and sing and there is excitement on their way to the North Pole. Tom Hanks plays the train conductor and he makes sure to check and punch

everyone's ticket. When they get to the North Pole it is a busy place with singing, gifts, bands and Santa. Even though the main theme is portrayed differently in both the message is the same, "Believe". Christmas classics including, *A Christmas Carol* by Charles Dickens, *A Christmas Story* by Jean Shepherd or *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* by Dr. Seuss have been re-created into movies numerous times. The

characters are portrayed by different actors, some are animated but the overall story remains the same. The visualization of the story helps viewers to adequately picture the story told in the book. "Books can describe feelings and emotions and motives much better than any movie will ever be able to do. A good book also offers a much more immersive experience, because the author can make you think and experience



Sarah Flanagan

the same things that the main character is going through. That is something that a movie just can't do." (<https://rvaweekly.org/feed/debate-books-vs-movies>) Books allow you to be engaged in the story at your own pace and visualize the story using your own imagination. You can picture it in your mind. Librarians will tell you that the book is always better than the movie, but that is only an opinion. Each individual must decide on their own what appeals to them. The movie changes the images that you see in

your own mind and gives you an updated perspective of classic stories. Whether you are a movie watcher or a book reader, the library has things for you. Come to the Library and check out one of our books and then watch the movie. Complete your own comparison and see what version you prefer. Remember your Library card. We will see you at the library! Happy holidays! Sarah Flanagan is the library director of the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District.

VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

"Where did you do the majority of your Christmas shopping this year?"

"Online...Amazon and Walmart."
"Amazon."

Danielle Arredondo
Pat Estes

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) 782-0355

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

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

COMMUNITY



Christmas for Vets visits Rochelle Rehab

On Dec. 14, the Christmas for Vets detail composed of American Legion and VFW members assisted in giving out Christmas cards, candy and presents to the attendees at the Rochelle Rehab and Health Care Center. The activity was enjoyed by all. From left to right Joe Drought, Chuck Roberts, Lester Ramsey, Dave Norris and John Tuttle.

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

December 22 - (Thursday) - CHRISTMAS DINNER - SERVED BY ROTARY CLUB - Ribeye Steaks, Twice Baked Potatoes, Roasted Cauliflower and Broccoli, Dinner Rolls, December 27 - (Tuesday) - CLOSED for CHRISTMAS December 29 - (Thursday) - CLOSED for CHRISTMAS

January 1 - (Sunday Brunch) - CLOSED FOR NEW YEARS
**All menus are subject to change. If you would like to check before coming out, please call us at 815-561-9074

www.KitchenTableRochelle.org

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec. 21
Jacob King
Bill Patrick
Angie Mitchell

Dec. 22
Deb Wooten

Dec. 23
Tristen McGuire
Bailey Dolister

Dec. 24
Luke Gilliam

Dec. 25
Maribel Ortiz

Dec. 26
Annette Sulser

Dec. 28
Chris Prosser

Dec. 29
Kelsey Rogers

Dec. 31
Jamey & Nicole King
(anniversary)
Ruth Allen
Hayleigh Jones

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



- Nov. 25 - Rochelle Rescue Mission, \$25
- Nov. 26 - Sharlene Meadows, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 27 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$50
- Nov. 28 - Fran Robertson, Sycamore, \$25
- Nov. 29 - Debra R. Mayer, Rochelle, \$25
- Nov. 30 - Rochelle Foods, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 1 - Glenda Vivian, Amboy, \$25
- Dec. 2 - Morgan Baker, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 3 - Ren Alde, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 4 - Jonathan Shippert, Oregon, \$25
- Dec. 5 - Matt Hayes, Steward, \$25
- Dec. 6 - James Peterson, Rockford, \$25
- Dec. 7 - Sherry Good, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 8 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- Dec. 9 - Ethan Koch, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 10 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 11 - Kathy Spears, Shabbona, \$50
- Dec. 12 - Aubrey Meinen, Davis Junction, \$25
- Dec. 13 - Joe Thompson, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 14 - Evan Meyers, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 15 - Sharon Gardner, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 16 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 17 - Nancy Reed, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 18 - Brook Kaysaw Abi Cruse, Rockford, \$50
- Dec. 19 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 20 - Berta Arreguin, Davis Junction, \$25
- Dec. 21 - Kathy Yocum, Franklin Grove, \$25

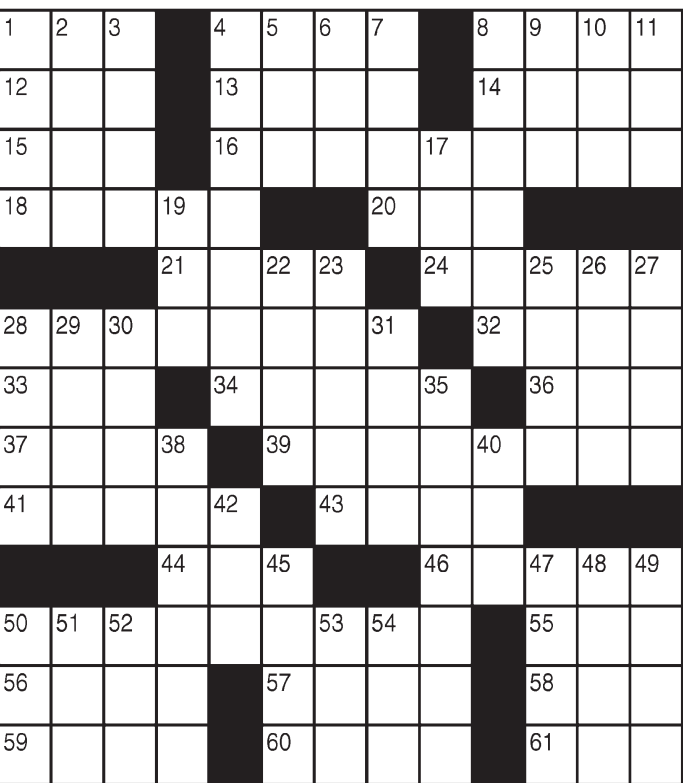


Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Feedbag bit
- 4 Chilled
- 8 Theatergoer's souvenir
- 12 Show to a seat, slangily
- 13 Cleopatra's river
- 14 Poi base
- 15 Dance syllable
- 16 Fabric fastener
- 18 Klum of "Project Runway"
- 20 Hide-hair insert
- 21 Early birds?
- 24 Apple intruders
- 28 Wind-driven toy
- 32 Tidy
- 33 Altar affirmative
- 34 Fussess
- 36 Log chopper
- 37 Region (Abbr.)
- 39 Flag-shaped blazer accessory
- 41 Pago Pago's place
- 43 Sleuth Wolfe
- 44 Sphere
- 50 Yankee uniform pattern
- 55 Squeak stopper



- 56 Clue

57 One-named supermodel

58 Buddy

59 Conks out

60 Like lemons

61 Supplement, with "out"
- 7 TV chef Paula

8 "Sophie's Choice" author

9 Spigot

10 Swiss canton

11 "— voyage!"

17 AAA job

19 Morning moisture

22 Earth sci.

23 Auto style

25 Harvest

26 Extra-long

27 British gun

28 Plum centers

29 Notion

30 Standard

31 Easy gait
- 35 Eden tempter

38 Perches

40 Privy

42 Illustrations

45 Telly watcher

47 Earring site

48 "Star Trek" captain

49 Medicinal plant

50 Prof's degree

51 Three, on a sundial

52 Away from SSW

53 "— Little Teapot"

54 Standard

DOWN

- 1 "That hurts!"
- 2 Tennis great Arthur
- 3 Bangkok language
- 4 Perception
- 5 Espionage org.
- 6 Sprite

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ 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: **W** equals **L**

K H E F Y X C Y J C O B C B A Y T J
U P A B K X E W H K C R O B B W O Z O W , K
J O X Q Y R P O K B W Y Y Q K R S E C C P O
Z K S Y J U K X C T J O .

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

CryptoQuip
answer
If a doctor tests your physical fitness level, I reckon he is looking at the vigor picture.



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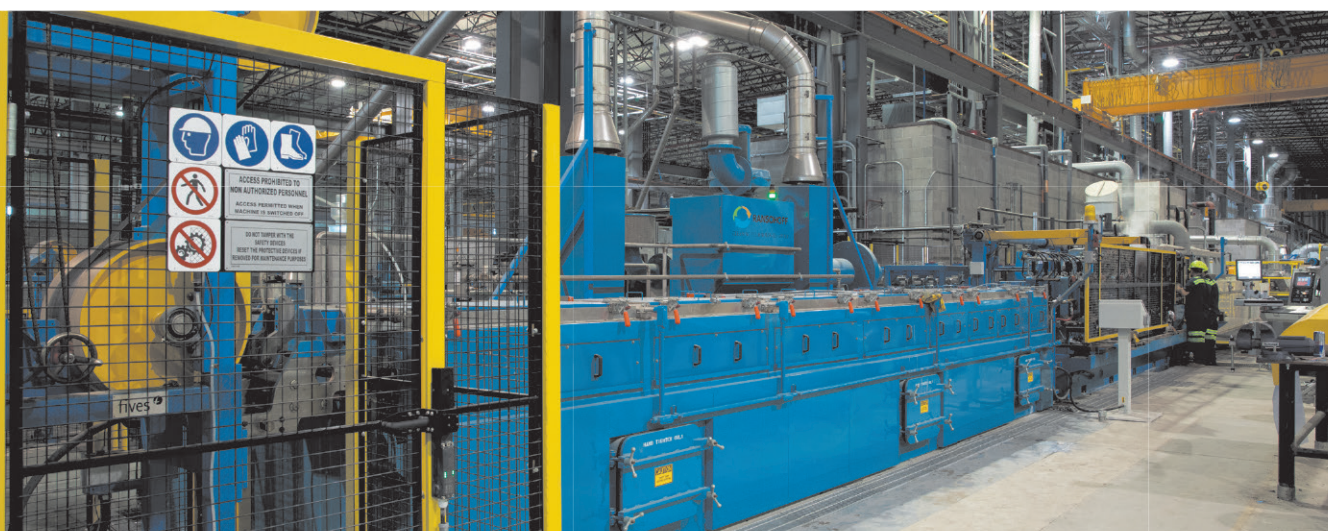
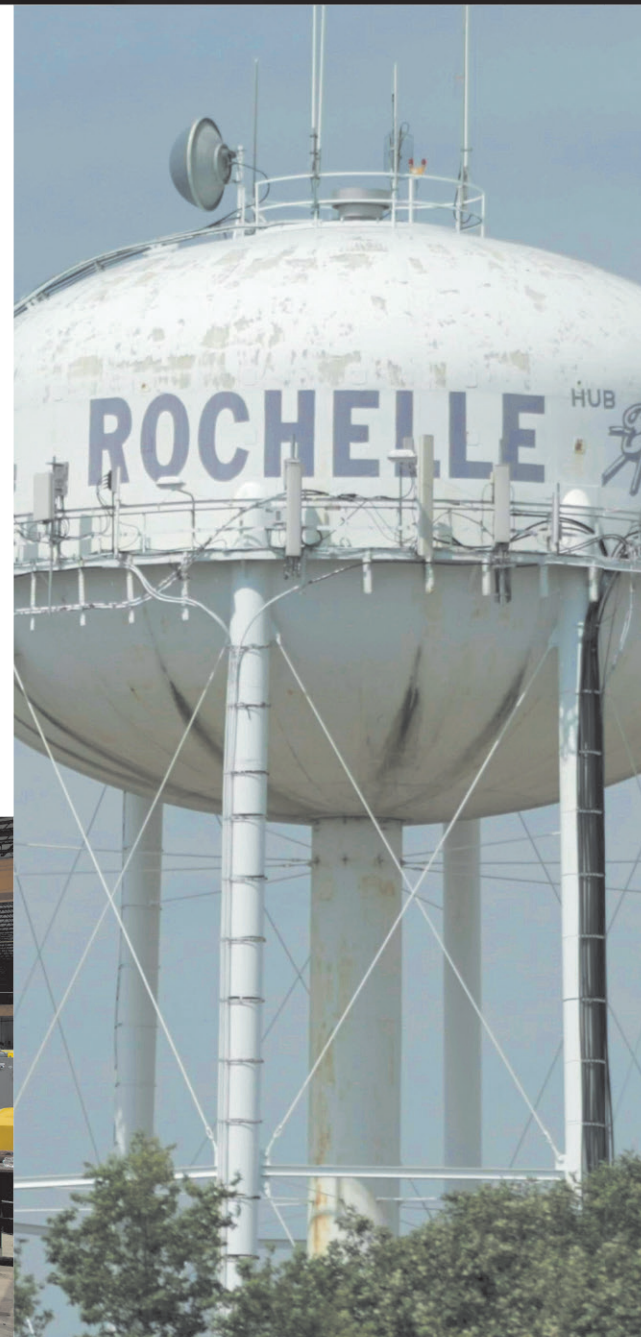
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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 21, 2022

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



HUBS BATTLE MORRIS

The Rochelle Hub basketball team hosted Morris for conference play on Friday.

See page 3 for more details

RTHS Wrestling

Hubs score three victories

Rochelle boosts team record to 16-1 after Saturday's Oak Forest Mega Duals

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

OAK FOREST — The Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling team battled at the Oak Forest Mega Duals on Saturday afternoon, finishing 3-1 over four dual matches. Rochelle (16-1, 4-0 Interstate 8) opened the six-team meet with a 45-30 win over Oak Forest and a 62-18 win over Joliet Central before conceding a 62-12 loss to state-ranked Prospect (No. 8 in Class 3A). The Hubs closed out the meet on Saturday with a 55-12 win against Bradley-Bourbonnais.

Oak Forest

Freshmen Keagan Albers and Anthony Milburn recorded back-to-back falls to start the dual against Oak Forest, with Albers defeating Dylan Baker in the 106-pound bout and Milburn beating James Mair in the 113-pound bout. Sophomores Xavier Villalobos and Joseph Nadig gave the Hubs a 24-0 lead in the match after Villalobos received a forfeit for the 120-pound bout and Nadig turned a near fall into a third-period fall over Austin Perez in the 126-pound bout. Oak Forest claimed the next two matches, with Caden Musselman and Hunter Hale earn-



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling team is now 16-1 overall on the season. Rochelle competed at the Oak Forest Mega Duals on Saturday, winning three matches over Oak Forest, Joliet Central and Bradley-Bourbonnais.

ing first-period falls over sophomore Weylin Nay and senior Weldon Nay to take the 132-pound and 138-pound bouts. Freshman Brenden Voight took a 4-4 score into the second period before notching a fall over Aiden Hoitsma to win the 145-pound bout. Oak Forest made the score 30-15 after Hunter Daniel scored a 6-0 decision over sophomore Grant Gensler in the 152-pound bout.

The next two bouts were split, with Jack Cas-

taneda recording a 15-0 technical fall over sophomore Erich Metzger in the 160-pound bout before freshman Roman Villalobos took a 10-0 lead and earned a third-period fall over Steven Strelow in the 170-pound bout. Oak Forest claimed the 182-pound and 195-pound bouts, with Max Corral notching a 14-5 major decision over junior Brock Metzger and Keshon Johnson getting an early fall over senior Jorge Driggs.

Rochelle held a 36-30

lead going into the final two matches, where sophomore Kaiden Morris outlasted Adam Richter for a 12-5 decision in the 220-pound bout and senior Jaden Cook recorded a first-period fall over Tim Marusarz to win the 285-pound bout and seal the victory.

Joliet Central

Rochelle conceded the first match against Joliet Central, with Isaiah Kan earning a first-period fall over Anthony Milburn in

the 113-pound bout. Xavier Villalobos compiled three near falls in a 13-0 major decision over Alex Fernandez in the 120-pound bout before Joseph Nadig recorded a first-period fall against Brian Mendez to claim the 126-pound bout. Weylin Nay went ahead 7-3 before notching a third-period fall against Ed Mendez to take home the 132-pound bout.

The two teams split the next two matches, with Jorge Robles earning a third-period fall over Wel-

don Nay in the 138-pound bout and Brenden Voight building a 12-0 lead before scoring a third-period fall over Jon Mooney in the 145-pound bout. Grant Gensler and Erich Metzger followed with consecutive first-period falls over Ignacio Cerritos and Roberto Luna to claim the 152-pound and 160-pound bouts while giving Rochelle a 35-12 advantage in the dual score.

See HUBS page 6

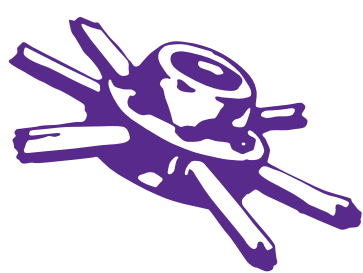
Meridian Conference

(COURTESY PHOTO)



St. Paul Lutheran School wins 2022 Meridian Conference Boys Basketball Championship

Creston School hosted the 2022 Meridian Conference Boys Basketball Championship tournament from Dec. 6-8. No. 1 seed St. Paul Lutheran School took home the tournament title this season, defeating No. 3 seed Steward in the finals on Thursday, Dec. 8 and ending the season with an undefeated 12-0 record. The team includes Johnny Chadwick, Warren Schweitzer, Jackson Brovelli, Elijah Schweitzer, Aiden Carmichael, Owen Carmichael, Austin Hartnett, Cohen Haedt, Tyler Johnson, Braxton Bruns and Luke Chadwick. The team is coached by Ryan Haedt and Craig Reineck.



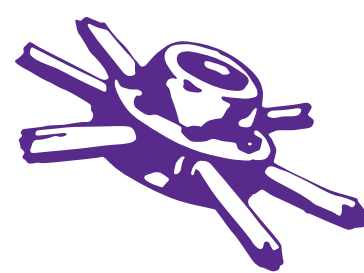
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HUB SPOTLIGHT



**Cammyla
Macias**

Year: Freshman

Sport: Wrestling

Q: How many years have you been playing this sport?

A: This is my first year.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: It's an independent sport and I can push myself to be successful.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Math because it really helps you in the real world.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My mom because she never gives up and she always completes

hard challenges.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: A sports trainer because I think it looks cool.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Florida because I have a lot of family there that I have never met.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a student-athlete at RTHS?

A: Your team is like a family and everyone together can accomplish something great.

Deegan

Schabacker

Year: Freshman

Sport: Wrestling



Q: How many years have you been playing this sport?

A: Six years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Being part of the team.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Math because I'm good at it.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My dad because he teaches me a lot of things.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a farmer because it interests me.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Texas because I've never been there before.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a student-athlete at RTHS?

A: Practicing after school with my friends.

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SPORTS

RTHS Boys Basketball

Morris zone defense flusters Rochelle in loss

Lewis sinks seven 3-pointers, Tracey scores 20 points in 78-69 defeat Friday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team had a difficult time maneuvering through the number of zone defensive sets presented from the Morris Redskins during Friday evening's Interstate 8 Conference matchup. Despite erasing a double-digit deficit to take a brief lead in the second half, turnovers and missed opportunities hurt the Hubs in a 78-69 defeat.

Sophomore Carson Lewis enjoyed his best performance of the season, leading Rochelle (4-5, 1-3 Interstate 8) with 21 points on seven made 3-pointers in his return from an injury. Jack Wheeler recorded a team-high 27 points and sank five triples for Morris, while Brett Bounds had 17 points. Rochelle will face Princeton on the road Saturday in nonconference action.

"We've had really good shooters since I've been here at Rochelle, but I think Carson can be one of the top five shooters I've coached in the 25 years I've been here," head coach Tim Thompson said. "We're easing him back into the rotation and when we have Carson, Eli [Luxton] and Raul [Aguirre] playing well, it's going to make things difficult for teams who want to double team any of those players. Carson can stretch the floor and that will help when we have everyone going."

Lewis converted four of his seven 3-pointers during the first half, helping the Hubs stay within striking distance of the Redskins, who saw two sophomores in Wheeler and Bounds knock down two triples each during the first quarter. Rochelle suffered a notable loss early in the first quarter, where junior Eli Luxton exited the game with an ankle injury and did not return.



Junior Jack Tracey soars to the basket during the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball game against Morris on Friday. Tracey scored 20 points as the Redskins defeated the Hubs 78-69.

(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

With Luxton sidelined, Rochelle struggled to avoid traps and run inside-out offense against the Morris zone defense. Capitalizing on turnovers and missed shots at the rim, the Redskins built a 21-14 lead after the first quarter and remained ahead of the Hubs 40-33 at halftime.

"We've struggled against zone defense all season and it stems from a lack of fundamentals," Thompson said. "We're not passing the ball crisply and we're not using our ball fakes. We're staring down our passes and we're not getting inside touches in order to have easy op-

portunities to score. Until we start moving the ball crisply and making good entry passes, we're going to have immense difficulties against teams that run zone defenses against us."

Junior Jack Tracey sparked the Rochelle offense in the third quarter, driving aggressively against the Morris zone and scoring a pair of layups while going 2-for-2 from the free-throw line after a foul on a shot attempt near the rim. Tracey finished with 20 points for the Hubs, who briefly held the lead after a 10-0 run capped off by a transition layup from senior Raul Aguirre, who

had nine points in the game, gave Rochelle a 51-50 lead midway through the third quarter.

"Jack's not afraid and he's been doing a nice job all season long with his intensity," Thompson said. "He's a good offensive player and he's still working on finishing at the rim. His 20 points were huge for us this evening, especially after we lost Eli during the opening quarter."

A series of transition layups from Morris allowed the Redskins to regain the lead 59-54 entering the fourth quarter, where the zone defense once again proved troublesome for the

Hubs. Both teams entered the double bonus down the stretch, but the Hubs were unable to break off one final run for a chance at their second straight conference win. Sophomore Cayden Moore totaled six points and junior Jack Lodico finished with five points for Rochelle in the loss.

Princeton

The Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team faced an unbeaten Princeton squad on Saturday, falling 84-46 in nonconference action. Senior Raul Aguirre led the Hubs with 14 points and six rebounds, while junior Jack Tracey added 11

points and three rebounds. Rochelle (4-6, 1-3 Interstate 8) will begin the E.C. Nichols Holiday Classic at Marengo High School on Thursday at 6 p.m. against Richmond-Burton.

Princeton dominated the low post, outscoring Rochelle 56-10 on points in the paint and outrebounding the Hubs 37-26. The Tigers, who dished out 26 assists to only nine from Rochelle, shot 59 percent from the field and surged ahead early in the game, leading 31-11 after the first quarter and 54-23 at halftime. Grady Thompson led Princeton with 23 points and Teegan Davis added 17 points.

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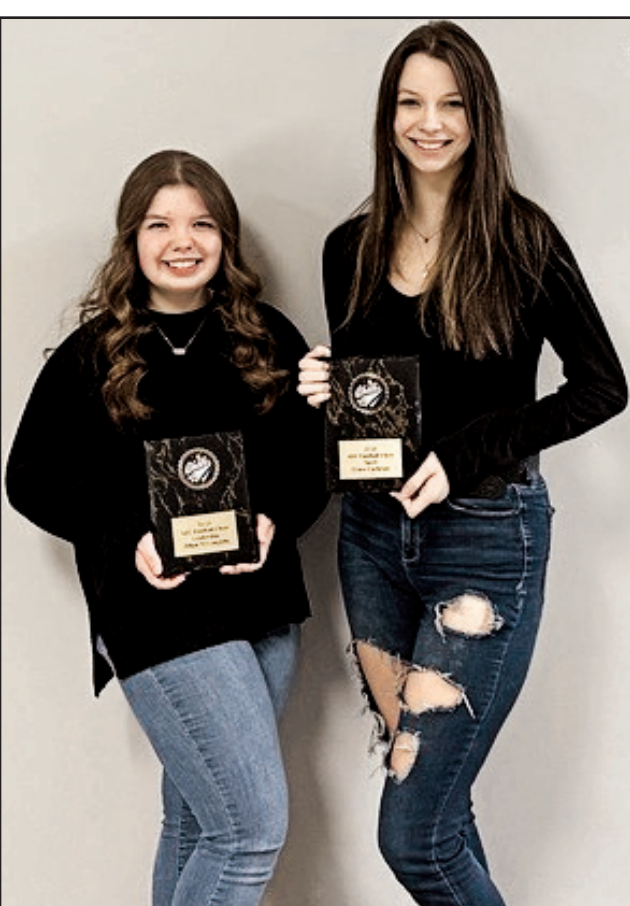
The Rochelle News-Leader

ASHTON NEWS



Ashton-Franklin Center FFA Chapter named Volunteer of the Year by Illinois Ag in the Classroom

Lee County Agriculture in the Classroom recently congratulated the Ashton-Franklin Center CUSD No. 275 FFA Chapter for being named Volunteer of the Year by Illinois Agriculture in the Classroom. During the weekend of Dec. 4-5, Advisor Kelly Viall and members Kate Viall and Zane Murphy were recognized on stage during the Illinois Farm Bureau Annual Meeting. Afterwards, they visited with several media outlets to talk about their involvement in the annual ag expo and other ag literacy programs at Ashton-Franklin Center schools.



Ashton-Franklin Center cheerleaders earn awards

Ashton-Franklin Center High School cheerleaders Jillian McLaughlin (Leadership), Grace Cochrane (Spirit), Kendra Stewart (Teamwork) and Madison Holbrook (Most Improved) were recognized during a team awards banquet this past month.

Ashton UMC Christmas Eve event planned

FRANKLIN GROVE –Looking to add new meaning to the way you celebrate Christmas and the birth of our Lord? The congregation of the Ashton United Methodist Church invites you to join us for Christmas Eve in Barn at 4:30 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 24. The barn is located at 1753 Iron Springs Road, just a few miles west of Franklin Grove, just off of Illinois Route 38.

This family-friendly event is one of a kind. The music will be wonderful and the story of the birth of Jesus. There will be hot cider, hot chocolate and cookies served as well.

If you have questions, please contact Pastor Jan Shaulis at 708-717-3908.

We look forward to sharing this special service with you. Join us for an evening of music, food and fellowship.

Lee County Sheriff’s Office releases Thanksgiving enforcement numbers

LEE COUNTY – The Lee County Sheriff’s Office conducted a traffic safety campaign Nov. 18-28 reminding motorists to buckle up and drive sober. The “Click It or Ticket” and “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” mobilization was conducted by the Lee County Sheriff’s Office and other state and local law enforcement agencies across Illinois to reduce highway fatalities.

Lee County deputies issued: Five seat belt citations, nine distracted driving citations, one following too closely citation, two speeding citations and eight warnings for various offenses.

“Our officers patrol year-round to keep motorists buckled up and impaired drivers off the roads,” Chief Deputy Derek Ranken said. “We do this to save lives and ensure all of us make it home safely at the end of the day.”

The Thanksgiving enforcement effort is made possible by federal traffic safety funds administered by the Illinois Department of Transportation and is part of the statewide “Drive Sober or Get Pulled Over” and “Click It or Ticket” campaigns.

Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation seeking summer internship applications

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation is hiring for a paid internship for the summer of 2023. The internship is open to college students studying agriculture, business, communications or a related field. A background in agriculture as well as public relations, communications and social media skills is encouraged, but not required. A complete job description and application is available online, www.lcfbfoundation.org. For more information, contact (815) 857-3531 or leecfb@comcast.net. The deadline is Feb. 1, 2023.

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SPORTS

RTHS Football



Gensler receives IHSFCA 4A All-State Team award at IHSA State Championship

Rochelle senior Garrett Gensler was named to the 4A All-State Team for the second consecutive season by the Illinois High School Football Coaches Association. Gensler and other 4A All-State Team honorees were on hand for the IHSA State Championships, which were held at the University of Illinois this past month. Gensler, who has committed to playing football at Northern Illinois University next year, finished his career as both the single-season and career rushing touchdown record holder at Rochelle Township High School. Gensler is pictured above with head coach Kyle Kissack (right) as well as the other 4A All-State Team honorees (top left) and his family (bottom left).

The 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.

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HUBS: Rochelle wins three matches at Oak Forest Mega Duals

From page 1

Roman Villalobos and Brock Metzger made the score 47-12 shortly after, with Villalobos earning a second-period fall over Guinness Goin in the 170-pound bout and Metzger receiving a forfeit for the 182-pound bout. Andre Miller notched the final win of the dual for Joliet Central, taking a 4-0 lead before earning a second-period fall against Jorge Driggs to take home the 195-pound bout. Rochelle closed out the dual against Joliet Central with three straight wins. Kaiden Morris fended off Charles Walker for a 5-1 decision in the 220-pound bout and Jaden Cook recorded a first-period fall over Gustavo Vicencio Ramos to take the 285-pound bout and end the dual. Keagan Albers then took a 2-0 lead before earning a second-period

fall over Brody Walsh in the 106-pound bout.

Mount Prospect

Rochelle was held to three bout victories in the dual against state-ranked Prospect. Xavier Villalobos battled Jeremy Huf in the 120-pound bout, capitalizing on a third-period near fall to score a 6-4 decision. Third-period points on an escape and near fall allowed Kaiden Morris to earn a 3-0 decision over Conor Mitchell in the 220-pound bout. Jaden Cook overcame a 4-1 deficit against Olasubomi Sulaimon in the 285-pound bout, winning with a second-period fall.

Bradley-Bourbonnais

Seven Rochelle wrestlers received forfeits including Keagan Albers

(106), Xavier Villalobos (120), Joseph Nadig (126), Weylin Nay (132), Brenden Voight (145), Kaiden Morris (220) and Jaden Cook (285). The Hubs conceded the 113-pound and 138-pound bouts, with Ethan Spacht earning a fall over Anthony Milburn and Levi Greenlee recording a fall over Weldon Nay. Rochelle and Bradley-Bourbonnais split the 152-pound and 160-pound bouts, with Tyler Starr defeating Grant Gensler via 12-3 major decision and Erich Metzger notching a first-period fall over Tyler Corona. Roman Villalobos recorded three near falls in a 13-2 major decision to win the 170-pound bout before Brock Metzger held off Cayden Gherr for a 3-0 decision in the 182-pound bout. AJ Mancilla notched a first-period fall over Jorge Driggs in the 195-pound bout.

RTHS Boys Bowling

Hubs finish 16th at Freeport Sport Shot Tournament

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

FREEPORT — The Rochelle Hub varsity bowling team competed in the Freeport Sport Shot Tournament on Saturday, finishing 16th out of 21 schools with a final score of 4,379. Senior Evin Odle led the Hubs (6-6, 3-3 Interstate 8) with a 981 series over six games, while sophomore Logan Frye

added a 953 series. Junior Jonathan Alanis followed with a 930 series score. Rochelle totaled scores of 737, 683 and 653 over the first three games of the tournament. Odle fired a series-high 202 for the Hubs in the first game, while junior Sam Tracey led Rochelle with a 153 in the second game and Frye's 149 was the high score for the Hubs in the third game.

Rochelle concluded with team scores of 803, 727 and 776 over the final three games. Frye threw a series-high 216 during the fourth game, while Alanis rolled a 179 and Odle added a 172 during the fifth game. Alanis scored a series-best 205 and Frye fired a 191 for the Hubs in the sixth game. Tracey finished with a 843 series and freshman Levi Waddle added a 672 series.

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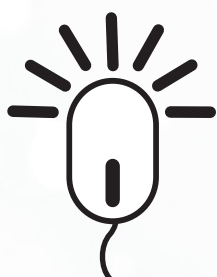
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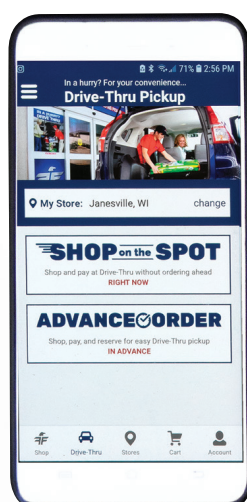


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