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Homecoming candidates named

RTHS has selected its homecoming court candidates for 2022. Page 2

WEATHER



HIGH LOW **79** 54



HIGH LOW

THURSDAY







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OBITUARIES

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INSERTS

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'Our goal is to help the families' Little Hubs Learning Center working to open this year **BY JEFF HELFRICH**

MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — A family with longstanding ties to the Rochelle community has purchased the building at 1010 N. 15th St. that formerly housed the Kishwaukee Family YMCA Child Care Center and plans to open it as a daycare again this year.

Ron and Joni Spartz are the new owners of the building and daycare and their daughter, Kristin Spartz Barlow, will run it as its director. Rochelle has been without a daycare since 2020 when Kishwaukee Family YMCA Child Care Center closed. The City of Rochelle took on preliminary work after the closure in hopes of a daycare coming back to town. It put out a survey to residents last year that came back with overwhelming results in favor of a daycare with 72 percent of respondents saying they're in need of a daycare and 71 percent saying their children would be likely to attend a daycare if it opened in town.

"We saw online that there were a lot of people talking about how there's no childcare here in town,"



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Ron and Joni Spartz are the new owners of the building that formerly housed the Kishwaukee Family YMCA Child Care Center. Now called Little Hubs Learning Center, Ron and Joni's daughter, Kristin Spartz Barlow, will run it as its director.

Barlow said. "I've been working in childcare since 2015. It was just sad to see what happened to the daycare situation in Rochelle. I have friends who worked here, my kids went here. I have friends who had kids going here when it closed. It's like nothing was happening for years. I heard it was going to come up for sale. I got the information

and went to my mom and talked to her."

Barlow has worked on opening four other daycares under previous employers. The new daycare will be called Little Hubs Learning Center and it will be a for-profit organization.

"It gives [Kristin] an opportunity to have the kind of daycare she wants to have," Joni said. "She's our

daughter and we know she's good at it. It is a for-profit daycare. The reason being if it's a nonprofit, everything has to go through a nonprofit board. We don't want to stifle her creativity. Our goal is to help the families in Rochelle, to love on the kids and be a part of the community."

See DAYCARE pg 8



Intermodal related items approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE—At its meeting Monday evening the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved four items related to an expansion of its transload center and starting intermodal services through city-owned railroad.

The City of Rochelle has been working for over three years to re-establish intermodal services since the Union Pacific Railroad's decision to close the intermodal ramp at Global III in Rochelle in

May 2019. Work is ongoing to establish a new, small container yard right next to the city's Rochelle Transload Center on Steward Road.

See CITY page 5

St. Paul hosts Color Fun Run fundraiser

Heal: 'It's a lot of fun and gets the kids out of the classroom

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Friday, St. Paul Lutheran School hosted its annual Fun Run fundraiser at Atwood Park. This year, a twist was added to the event and it was a Color Fun Run.

"Ateacherhadsuggested involving color this year," St. Paul Parent-Teacher League Treasurer Jennifer Heal said. "She knew of another school that did it. We thought we'd do something different, and the kids are having a blast. We did it with preschool too and it turned out really well. They're out here having a ball now and being tye dyed."

The fun run event has been hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic in recent years, Heal said. It's one of St. Paul's biggest fundraisers of the year. The fundraising goal for Friday's event was \$4,000 and the money goes back to funding curriculum at the school.

"Every couple of years we have to change up the curriculum and technology



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Friday, St. Paul Lutheran School hosted its annual Fun Run fundraiser at Atwood Park. This year, a twist was added to the event and it was a Color Fun Run.

items for the classrooms, making sure each kid gets a Chromebook and that teachers have new laptops," Heal said. "And then it also allows us to implement new programs such as STEAM. That's

what it's going towards this year."

Heal said the fun run has always taken place near the beginning of the school year and serves as a "back to school" celebration and students look forward to it.

The school has also incorporated a back to school picnic into the event and on Friday afternoon families came over to Cooper Park for dinner.

The Friday event featured students taking part

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in an obstacle course with different features at the park. Students were split into each grade and older students helped with the younger grades' runs.

See FUN RUN pg 3

ENDS



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Sept. 19-24 is Homecoming Week at Rochelle Township High School. Candidates were named this week for 2022 homecoming court. Homecoming royalty voting ends at 3:05 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Royalty will be crowned Thursday, Sept. 22 at the pep rally at the stadium.

ROCHELLE — Sept. 19-24 is Homecoming Week at Rochelle Township High School. Candidates were named this

week for 2022 homecom-

ing court. Seniors Ava

Lynn, Ava Albers, Miraya Montes, Torrin Nantz and Ava McGee are candidates for homecoming queen. Garrett Gensler, David Gerber, Trey Taft, Wade Smith and Owen Haas are candidates for homecoming king.

Junior court candidates are Mateo Hughes, Kennedy Adamski, Parker Lenkaitis, Ella Alfano, Brock Metzger, Adaleiah

Villalobos, Jimmy Chavez and Emily Montelongo.

Sophomore court candidates are Jack Carmichael, Jocelyn Cervantes, Grant Gensler, Marianna Saldana, Kaiden Morris and Lydia Osborne.

Freshman court candidates are Valerie Saldana, Roman Villalobos, Ashley Dickey, Brode Metzger, Audyn Kemp and Van Gerber.

2022 RTHS homecoming court candidates named Homecoming royalty voting ends at 3:05 p.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 21. Royalty will be crowned Thursday, Sept. 22 at the pep rally at the stadium.

Sealcoat project announced

ROCHELLE – The City of Rochelle's sealcoat project is set to take place beginning at 6 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept. 14 and finishing on Friday, Sept. 16 by 4 p.m. resulting in periodic lane closures in several areas. Please use caution while traveling through construction zones and pay close attention to

traffic control devices and flaggers. No parking signage will be posted.

Areas scheduled for seal coat this year include: 20th Street, Avenue C, Garfield Drive, Lakeview Drive, Avenue B, Avenue A, West 1st Avenue, South 2nd, 3rd, 8th, 9th, 10th, 11th and 12th Streets and Avenue E.

As a result of the 10-

year capital plan to address maintenance requirements, numerous streets and roadways have been identified for maintenance. The application of a seal coat surface treatment is a cost-effective way to maintain and preserve the life of these streets. Please see the attached map of areas included.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

In conjunction with Stillman Bank's 140th anniversary, the bank held a food drive to benefit area families.

Stillman Bank hosts 140th anniversary food drive

ROCHELLE-In conjunction with Stillman Bank's 140th anniversary, the bank held a food drive to benefit area families. The Community Food Drive kicked off at all Stillman Bank locations on Monday, Aug. 15 and continued through Friday, Sept. 2. Donations were made to several area food pantries including: Bread of Life Pantry in Stillman Valley, People Helping People in Byron, Lifeline in Oregon, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry in Rochelle, Old

Annual

Stone Church Pantry in Rockton and Rock River Valley Pantry in Rockford.

In addition, the bank recently hosted their monthly employee Casual Day where employees were encouraged to make a monetary donation in exchange for casual dress. All the money raised, which totaled \$376, went directly to support Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, an organization chosen by the Stillman Bank's Rochelle office.

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 visit www.stillmanbank.com.

Stillman Bank is an independently-owned community bank founded in 1882.

The bank has approximately \$612 million in assets and operates full-service banking offices in Byron, Oregon, Rochelle, Rockford, Roscoe/Rockton and Stillman Valley.



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(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The St. Paul Color Fun Run event has been hampered by the COVID-19 pandemic in recent years, Parent-Teacher League Treasurer Jennifer Heal said. It's one of St. Paul's biggest fundraisers of the year. The fundraising goal for Friday's event was \$4,000 and the money goes back to funding curriculum at the school.

N RUN: St. Paul holds fundraising event Friday From page 1

"I think this gives them an opportunity to get out of the classroom," Heal said. "For so long

during the COVID-19 period, we were behind screens and learning in a different capacity. I think this just brings back what they're used to and being able to have fun with their friends all while having physical activity."

Heal said that she enjoys events like the fun run because it allows her to watch her own kids grow. She has three children at St. Paul and has been able to participate in events like the fun run over the years.

"This is the first year I've actually put it together," Heal said. "I get to see the enjoyment on their faces and them being with their friends.

Later this afternoon, the older kids will come back and help with the little kids. That's always something I cherish about St. Paul.'

RTHS launches new 24/7 tutoring service Harper: 'I think it can be a nice supplement to the things we have in place'

BY VICKI SNYDER-CHURA SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-LEADER

ROCHELLE — It's really late. You get home from an away game or off shift at 10 p.m. Now it's midnight and you're stuck on a math assignment or you've just finished a draft of an expository writing paper. Your folks are asleep because they get up before dawn to go to work. So, who's going to help with math or proofread your paper?

It would sure be nice if you could log onto a 24/7 service and have a real tutor at your disposal. For Rochelle Townhip High School students, now there is one.

RTHS introduces Paper & Co. which provides 24/7 access to online tutors this year. At Superintendent Jason Harper's suggestion, the board of education recently signed a contract for the service, giving grade 9-12 students access to the software at no cost to their families.

"We learned during the pandemic that our students work on school assignments at all times of the day and night. During the lockdown, a lot of our students helped younger siblings stay on task during the school day. Their schoolwork was left until after the school day ended. Families with multiple kids hit a wall with limited Wi-Fi. They couldn't all work online simultaneously which caused them to work at night or early in the mornings," Harper said. "Using Paper, they will be able to log on with any device, from anywhere and have access to online tutors for all the courses we offer."

Harper said the Paper tutors are vetted, trained and are proving useful to students in the other school districts he researched. He said the RTHS administrative

team will soon begin to study the data to track usage.

"I think it can be a nice supplement to the things we have in place," he said. "Paper is a service we're going to really encourage students to try."

Principal Chris Lewis notified students and their families Sept. 6. He said, "Accounts for paper.co 24/7 online tutors are set up," adding, "Some kids have started using it, but we're just beginning to push it out. Students, sign the same way you do through your Gmail account, making it easy."

Paper connects you to a real human tutor 24/7, 365 days a year, on any subject through the live chat feature. You can also hand in any written work (essays, lab reports, college applications, writing prompts, resumes and more) and receive feedback in less than 24 hours.



RTHS introduces Paper & Co. which provides 24/7 access to online tutors this year. At Superintendent Jason Harper's suggestion, the board of education recently signed a contract for the service, giving grade 9-12 students access to the software at no cost to their families.

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. **OUR CHARITIES NEED OUR** SUPPORT NOW MORE



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In Dixon at: Shining Star

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ullet BY MAIL: Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

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Obituaries

Emmett Eugene Capes

Emmett loved to hunt, fish,

ROCHELLE — Emmett Eugene Capes, 88, of Rochelle, passed away Friday, Sept. 9 at his home. He was born June 2, 1934, in Flagg Center, the son of Lorenzo and Mabel (Shelton) Capes. He was the fourth of 12 children. He married Carol Anne Vanderpool on Nov. 18, 1961 in Steward.

Emmett loved his family very much, he treasured his wife Carol and were to be married 61 years on Nov. 18, 2022. He loved his children and adored his grand and great grandchildren. He and Carol would host many family events including reunions, weddings, anniversaries and more. He also enjoyed cheering on his kids at sporting and musical events or even just talking about their jobs and lives.

play Euchre, mow lawn, write poetry and work the room with his sense of humor and charm. What he really found value in was work! At a very young age, he would work on farms, help his father and brothers fix well pumps and even work on windmills, while not liking heights! He went on to excel at selling cars, working at several factories, and then forming E&C rentals with his wife Carol. Though of retirement age, he was never retired. He also enjoyed and appreciated the Rochelle St. Paul Lutheran Church and Praise Team, the Rochelle Moose and VFW. There is no replacement for such a fine man, he will be greatly missed by his family & friends. Emmett is survived by



his wife of almost 61 years Carol; three children, Greg (Heidi) Capes, Todd (Deb Fletcher) Capes and Sharon Rush; daughterin-law, Cindy Capes; four grandchildren, Randy Capes Jr., Brittany (Caleb) Baucom, Karli Rush and Amber (Jordan) Panauski; six great-grandchildren, Randy Capes III, Vivian, Rose, and Scarlett Baucom, Dorothy Streit, and Arabella Panauski; honorary great-grandchildren, Nicholas Underhile and Payton Fletcher; and seven siblings.

In addition to his parents, Emmett is preceded in death by an infant son, Timothy Capes; son, Randy Eugene Capes; and four siblings.

The funeral service will be at noon Friday, Sept. 16 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Rochelle with Pastor Gregory Hoffmann officiating. Visitation will be from 10 a.m. until the time of the service Friday at the church. Burial will follow at White Rock Cemetery in Kings. In lieu offlowers, memorials may be directed to Serenity Hospice and Home of St. Paul Lutheran Church.

Please visit www.ungerhorner.com for online guest book.

Larry L. Rippentrop

LINDENWOOD — Larry L. Rippentrop, 73, Lindenwood, expired on Wednesday, April 1, 2020, after a short-battle with

cancer which dealt him a knockout blow. He died at home sur-

rounded by loved ones

who chose to ignore the social distancing mandate during the coronavirus pandemic in order to care for him. He believed that Jesus Christ had saved him from his sins.

Larry was born in Nov. 19, 1946 in Rockford to Floydand. Reba (Bozarth) Rippentrop. He graduated from Stillman Valley High School, attended the University of Wisconsin - Platteville and enlisted in the Marines where he served in Vietnam as a Forward Artillery Observer.

Larry married Vicki Rice at Weld Park in Stillman Valley on June 23, 1973. Their union was blessed with an Irish Setter, Eric the Red, and several cats: Cat, Bandit, Coco, Tippy and Smudge.

Larry worked for the Gates Rubber Corporation in Rockford for 35 years; he was also a skilled handyman, mechanic, roofer, carpenter, electrician, plumber and techno-geek who volunteered his talents to help family, friends, church, summer camp and strangers. Often his own home projects lingered on for years while, he used his talents to help others.

Larry enjoyed fishing, hunting, hiking, exploring national parks, photography and spending time with nieces and nephews. He was known for his quirky sense of humor so his death on April Fool's Day was quite appropriate.

He is survived by his Vicki, his wife of 47 years; mother, Reba; his aunt Berniece Brace; brothers, Gale (Becky) of Cherry Valley and Phillip of Rockford; nephew, Nicholas Rippentrop; and many family & friends who loved him. He was preceded in death by his

father and nephew, Eric. Memorials may be given to the Gary Sinise Foundation to support veterans, first responders, their families and those in need or to Heartland Hospice Care of Rockford.

Special thanks to those who helped care for Larry during his illness: Heartland Hospice Care staff; sister-in-law, Michelle Smith; nephew, Andy Smith; niece, Marcy Wilson; friend, Marshea

Services for Larry will be held on Saturday, Sept. 17, 2022, at 4 p.m. at Reynoldswood Christian Camp and Retreat Center, 621 Reynolds Wood Road, Dixon, IL 61021. Dress is casual as there will be a campfire, a songfest and some outdoor cooking, weather permitting. Otherwise, services will be held in the dining hall.

Arrangements by Stateline Cremations, 712 Windsor Road, Loves Park, IL. www.statelinecremations.com

Rochelle Police Department

fficers make arrests

ROCHELLE — On Sept. 9 at 5 a.m. Travis Avesing, 29, of Belvidere was arrested for no driver's license and cited for uninsured motor vehicle and suspended registration. He was released on an I-Bond and given an Oct. 7 Rochelle court date. On Sept. 9 at 4:36 p.m.

Amber L. Talab, 42, of Rochelle was arrested

on an outstanding Ogle County warrant.

On Sept. 10 at 3:!5 a.m. Cole H. Smith, 34, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for aggravated battery and transferred.

On Sept. 10 at 5:47 a.m. Anmarie Kuntz, 31, of Rochelle was arrested for retail theft and transferred.

On Sept. 10 at 9:51

p.m. Luke C. Furman, 25, of Rochelle was cited for no insurance and expired registration. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Oct. 7 Rochelle court date.

On Sept. 12 at 11:11 p.m. Khawar Hameed, 62, of Wichita, Kansas was arrested for battery. He paid \$100 and was released with an Oct. 7 Ogle County court date.

Ogle County Sheriff's Department

Deputies respond to disturbance

OREGON—On Sept. 9 at 6:35 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 64 and

Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Rodger Houghton of Rochelle, for driving while license suspended. Houghton was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a future court date.

On Sept. 9 at 8:01 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 700 block of South Illinois Route 251. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Carlos Reyes of Iowa City, Iowa for driving without a valid license. Reyes was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a future court date. Reyes was also issued a citation for failure to obey a stop sign.

On Sept. 9 at approximately 10:45 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Mt. Morris Road and West Grove Road. After a brief investigation, Joebob White, 18, of Pecatonica, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. White was released on scene with a return court date. White

was also cited for speeding 100 miles per hour in a 55 miles per hour-zone. A juvenile passenger was arrested for illegal consumption of alcohol and illegal transportation of alcohol. The juvenile was released on scene.

On Sept. 10 at approximately 3:30 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of East Flagg Road and South Chana Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Kadin A. Marks, 20, of Rochelle, for driving while license suspended and unlawful possession of cannabis/improper container (driver). Marks was taken into custody without incident and released on the scene on a \$2,500 individual bond with a return court date set. Marks was additionally given a written warning for speeding.

On Sept. 10 at 11:22 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Illinois Route 251 and Illinois Route 64. After a brief investi-



gation, deputies arrested Ne Aye of Rockford, for driving without a valid license. Aye was released on a \$2,500 individual bond with a return court date. Aye was also issued citations for equipment violations.

On Sept. 11 deputies responded to a disturbance at the Creston Casey's. Investigation by deputies revealed that Joshua Cruz, 34, of Rochelle was being disorderly in the parking lot. As a result Cruz was arrested for driving under the influence and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. All individuals are

considered innocent until proven guilty.

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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.

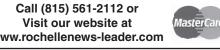
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(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows read a proclamation making Sept. 17-23 Constitution Week in the city. The proclamation was accepted by Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District Director Sarah Flanagan (above right). Bearrrows proclaimed Sept. 11-17 Chamber of Commerce Week in the city. Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera (above left) accepted the proclamation. City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh (below right) presented a Good News award to RMU Superintendent of Water/Water Reclamation Superintendent Adam Lanning for his work on obtaining a \$2.5 million grant for the Well 8 iron removal plant project.

CITY: Council approves rezoning ordinance for new rental property

From page 1

The Greater Rochelle Economic Development Corporation purchased a 10-acre parcel near the RTC about two years ago with the idea of establishing intermodal services. The city plans to pave a driveway and put in a large concrete lifting pad and develop the first phase of an intermodal yard.

The first item approved by council was a development agreement between the city and GREDCO to construct a new intermodal container yard and improve the RTC. The two projects were bid under the direction that the city is the lead agency for the project with GREDCO's bid named as an alternative bid. The contract for both projects will be between the city and Porter Brothers Construction of Rock Falls.

The council also unanimously approved a proposal from Fehr Graham for professional engineer/construction services related to the transload yard expansion. Fehr Graham has played "an integral part" in developing the plans for the project, assisting with putting the bid specs together and assisting with bid opening and evaluations of the bids.

The city's portion of the services is \$90,000 and GREDCO's is \$59,000.

The council also voted unanimously to award the construction work to

Porter Brothers to pave the entrance to the RTC and construct a lifting pad to provide intermodal services. The city received a \$1 million grant from the state for the work. GREDCO will privately fund the construction of the container yard to transload, stack and store intermodal containers at a cost of \$664,146.

Finally, the city council unanimously approved an agreement with GREDCO for access and easements between the RTC and container yard. Anderson said construction could begin on the project this fall if weather allows.

Anderson believes the intermodal yard will be significant for businesses that will no longer have to drive to Joliet to another container yard and local businesses will benefit from reduced transportation expenses.

"Our local businesses are going to use this for their intermodal service," Mayor John Bearrows said. "This is a huge thing for our community. It's something we can be very proud of."

Rezoning

The council unanimously approved an ordinance rezoning 1.59 acres of property located at 450 Willis Avenue from B2 commercial highway to R5 high-density residential after a request by Seldal Properties, LLC, which has plans to build

townhomes on it.

Seldal Properties Owner Bruce Seldal said he envisions there being 10-16 townhome units that will be similar to a recent development he built on Seventh Avenue. The "higher-end" units will rent in the range of \$900 per month.

Downtown

The council unanimously approved an ordinance amending its code pertaining to its downtown area regarding special use and developments. With the new language, the Planning & Zoning Commission and city council will have the opportunity to review each potential new special use/construction project on a case-by-case basis.

"As the downtown starts to develop and the vacancies are very minimal, there's a lot happening and our downtown is really exploding," City Community Development Director Michelle Pease said. "I think it's important that things get in front of our planning & zoning commission and you folks to look at that. We want to make sure we're following the comprehensive plan and you can pick and choose what you want to do."

Enterprise zone

The council unanimously approved a resolution supporting the goals of the Lee-Ogle Enterprise

Zone, which started in a joint venture in 2015 with the city, Dixon and Lee and Ogle Counties.

In their application to the Illinois Department of Commerce, over 9,000 acres between the four units of government were designated as enterprise zones. The enterprise zone has helped since to attract "thousands of jobs" and "hundreds of millions of dollars" to the region, the meeting's agenda packet said

The resolution Monday involved a recent Lee County Board move to not allow special use permits for projects that are not consistent with the goals of the LOEZ.

"Therefore, only projects that bring significant job creation and capital investment should be designated for the LOEZ," the

agenda item said.

ROCHELLE

GOOD NEWS AWARD

"This is in a sense codifying our commitment to each other to work together for the common cause of the enterprise zone to build jobs in this area," Anderson said.

Trick-or-treat

The council unanimously approved its citywide 2022 trick-or-treat date of Saturday, Oct. 29 from 5-8 p.m.

Good News

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh presented a Good News award to Rochelle Municipal Utilities Superintendent of Water/Water Reclamation Superintendent Adam Lanning for his work on obtaining a \$2.5 million grant for the Well 8 iron removal plant project.

The city manager also

recognized RMU Superintendent of Electric Operations Blake Toliver and his department for their work on a power outage Monday afternoon that impacted 3,500 customers and was restored in 30 minutes.

Constitution

Bearrows read a proclamation making Sept. 17-23 Constitution Week in the city. The proclamation was accepted by Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District Director Sarah Flanagan.

Chamber

Bearrrows proclaimed the week of Sept. 11-17 Chamber of Commerce Week in the city. Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera accepted the proclamation.

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LOCAL VIEWS

The Hilb & Turkington building holds the line water could not be thrown ing bread in his store one

THE great Chicago fire occurred in 1871. By that time, Rochelle had already suffered three major fires. The first two, 1860 and 1861, led to the hanging of Thomas Burke. Ashton lost its downtown to fire in 1889 and Creston burned in 1896. Those are stories for another time. For Rochelle, the third

major fire took place on Dec. 10, 1870. The business district consisted almost exclusively of wooden buildings with little or no room separating the structures. The lone exception was the Hilb & Turkington building. Emanuel Hilb came from Germany and finally settled in Rochelle in 1854. Emanuel and his brother Adolph immediately opened business in Rochelle and finally settled into a very successful clothing business. In 1865, Emanuel purchased an empty lot on Washington Street (today's Lincoln Highway) and erected a two-story wooden structure for his growing business.

By 1870, Emanuel was doing so well that he removed the wooden building and with George Turkington erected a two-story brick building to house his clothing store at what today is 306 Lincoln Highway. Hilb and Klein Clothing would play a major part in saving the downtown on three separate occasions.

On Dec. 10, 1870 at 3:30 a.m. a small fire broke out in the back of John Rae's Fruit and Grocery Store. Rae's was located two stores north (approximately today's 310 Lincoln Highway) of Hilb and Klein. The fire grew rapidly in the wooden building and spread quickly to the buildings to the north and south.

Rochelle's volunteer fire department responded quickly with water buckets and their Number Two Button fire truck. The heat was so intense that buckets of

far enough to reach the fire. The Button fire truck was a hand-pulled cart with large pump handles on each side. Firefighters would physically pump water by hand from cisterns or water troughs. The pumpers would push down on the handle on their side, raising the handle on the

other, then that side would pump down, each pump pulling water into the fire truck and spraying it on the fire. The firefighters

fought bravely, but the fire was out of control and would remain so until it ran out of fuel. The

fire raged through the night and the next day reached the corner of Lincoln Highway and Fourth Avenue to the north and died at the corner for lack of fuel.

The spread to the south was deterred when the flames ran into the Hilb

and Klein store. The brick building, with its metal roof, would not burn and the fire could not breach the building to reach the last three wooden buildings on the block which sat south of Hilb and Klein. Seven buildings hous-

ing 14 businesses were destroyed. By 1919, Hilb and Klein had become Carney and Longenecker

Clothing and stood at the south edge of a rebuilt block. Due to new city ordinances, all of the new buildings were made of brick, wood was banned from the business district.

At 3 a.m. a train on the Central and Northwestern line was shocked to see flames shooting from the roof of a downtown Rochelle business. The engineer stopped his train and laid hard on his steam whistle. The constant wail roused the local citizenry. Jay Maxson was baksmelled smoke earlier and checked out his bakery, finding nothing, he returned to baking. The train whistle drew Jay out of his building. He was shocked to see the building next to his on fire. The 1912 fire truck

building south of Carney

and Longenecker. Jay had

arrived on scene and the firefighters threw themselves into the fray. Carney and Longenecker lost all of their merchandise and suffered severe structural damage, but the brick walls had held the fire within the one building. Hilb's building had saved the downtown from its own fire. Carney and Longenecker remodeled and reopened the store and were still in business in 1973 when fire took its next run at the block.

On Feb. 17, 1973, a fire broke out in a trash can in the Del Mar Restaurant. The Del Mar was located in the store south of the old Hilb building or Carney and Longenecker. One of the last three wooden buildings was on fire and the results would be eerily familiar.

The fire grew rapidly spreading to the Lincoln Lounge building to the south. Ira Clue would see his building burned to the ground. The last of the wooden buildings had housed the Highway Lounge, it too would fall before the onrush of the flames. The fire failed to move to the north.

Carney and Longenecker's building constructed by Emanuel Hilb and George Turkington in 1870 had again held the line. 103 years after the Great Rochelle Fire of 1870, the circle closed. Fire had consumed the entire block from Lincoln Avenue to Fourth Avenue with only one building still standing.

Tom McDermott is a Flagg Township Museum historian and Rochelle city councilman.

Accountability is lacking in state government HOULD it take Is anyone advocating most do what is asked of

McDermott

Smore than eight years to fire state employees involved in the beating of a disabled patient in a Illinois state facility? It's a question that begs

to be asked in the wake of an investigation conducted by several news organizations: Lee Enterprises, Capitol News Illinois and ProPublica.

Here is the set up for the investigation:

"As Blaine Reichard rose from a breakfast table at the Choate Mental Health and Developmental Center in southern Illinois, a worker ordered him to pull up his sagging pants.

A 24-year-old man with developmental disabilities, Reichard was accustomed to workers at the state-run residential facility telling him what to do. But this time he didn't obey.

'I'm a gangsta! This is how we do it where I am from!'respondedReichard, who, despite his streettough defiance, still slept with a teddy bear."

Multiple witnesses told the Illinois State Police that shortly after this exchange, Reichard was taken to the floor, held down by four mental health techs and repeatedly punched in the

One of the employees has pleaded guilty to a felony and the three others have pleaded guilty to misdemeanors. But almost eight years after the beating none have been fired or disciplined in the workplace. None.

According to the investigation, "After pleading guilty, the three (misdemeanants) returned to work at Choate, moving lawns, cooking or doing laundry. About three years

ago, their status returned to administrative leave. They no longer do any work at Choate, but they still receive a state paycheck today. Since the incident, taxpayers have paid the trio more than \$1 million combined. Their annu-

al salaries range between \$50,000 and \$54,000, IDHS records show."

Will they be fired? Well,

the state is still considering the matter – eight years after the beating. Eight years.

Molly Parker, one of the investigative reporters involved in the case, said the union representing the employees got them bumped to paid adminis-

> trative leave rather than keeping them working at the center in positions where they were not in contact with patients while awaiting a decision on whether they should be disciplined.

Oh, and by the way these men are still receiving health insurance benefits and credit toward their pensions.

for the taxpayers who are paying these men to do nothing? It would appear

As for the lone felon in the group, he was suspended without pay when he was charged in 2016 and he remained on the state payroll during the 15-month period between the time of the incident and the time he was charged, collecting nearly \$56,000 while on administrative leave.

Public employees are often called to do challenging work. Whether it's teaching a classroom of third graders, writing speeding tickets, incarcerating criminals or caring for developmentally-delayed people in state institutions,

them But how do we address

those who violate the rules and bring harm to those in their care? Accountability is lack-

ing. Some point their fingers at a bureaucracy that moves at a slug's pace. Others blame union contracts that they say make punishing bad employees difficult. I'm not going to weigh

in on why accountability is lacking – only that it is. And few in public of-

fice are doing anything to better hold bad employees to account. ScottReeder, a staffwrit-

er for Illinois Times, can be reached at: sreeder@ illinoistimes.com

VOICE ON THE STREET

"Has ALDI being closed for remodeling changed your grocery shopping habits?" "Absolutely! I stocked up before they closed to not

Question:

Scott

Reeder

have to go anywhere else unless I have to!"

"Yes!"

"Nope."

Robin Waddell Koks

Jennifer Roeglin Helfrich

"Absolutely! I love that place for prices, convenience, and how clean it is. It's my one-stop shopping place. Hurry back!"

Delores White

"No...I shopped at the DeKalb ALDI the other day. I had errands to run in DeKalb and shopped while I was there."

Kim Lawson-Salsbury

"Yes and I can't wait until they open again. They

How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

Mia Ramsey

Terry Reints

are great."

Cayce Bridges Groves

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jwdw13@yahoo.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 rom 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.

OMMUNITY



Anytime Fitness donates to Rochelle Fire Department

On Monday, Anytime Fitness Manager Ellen Becker presented a \$400 donation to Rochelle Fire Department Chief Dave Sawlsville and members of the RFD. The money was raised through Anytime Fitness's Tower Challenge, where members and non-members of the gym made donations and saw how quickly they could climb 110 flights of stairs, just as firefighters did during the Sept. 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center in New York City to rescue survivors.

Criswell joins RTHS teaching staff

BY VICKI SNYDER-CHURA SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-LEADER

ROCHELLE—Anna Criswell is yet another new face at Rochelle Township High School. She has joined the science department teaching natural

science and chemistry. She comes to RTHS from Illinois State University where she earned a bachelor's of science degree in chemistry. She

did her student teaching at St. Charles East High School last semester. This is her first official teaching assignment.

"My favorite teaching moment that I get to experience almost every day is the 'ah-ha!' moment when the imaginary lightbulb switches on in the student's brain," Criswell said. "They get so excited and gain more confidence in themselves and I love

being able to share that excitement with them."

Criswell said the best thing about being a teacher is getting to interact with students five days a week. She said she enjoys learning more about what makes them who they are.

"I would like my students to know that I am here for them," Criswell said. "I am doing what I'm doing because of them. I care about my



Anna Criswell

students, which includes their academic success and their social/emotional well-being.

Birthdays & Anniversaries Sept. 14 Amie Eggenburg Alivia Law Terry & Teresa Dodillet Blakely Avila (anniversary)

Richard & Beverly Hermann

(anniversary)

Sept. 18

11

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51 52

Sept. 15 Sept. 19 Leland & Lucy Hazlip **Emily Lopez** Robert Lee (anniversary) Sept. 17 **Madison Wooten David Jones** Sept. 20 Jenny Rosenbach Jon & Carolyn Bieck

> (anniversary) Sept. 22 Krew Sullivan

Sept. 23 John Worley **Chris Doering** Jeff & Diana Dickey (anniversary) Sept. 28 **Ashley Bunger** Sept. 29 Josh Walker Sarah Kulwicki Lyndsey OBrien

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

From The Heart Calendar

Aug. 19 - Myra Chattic, Sterling, \$25

Aug. 20 - David Long, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 21 - Rochelle Masonic Lodge, \$50

Aug. 22 - Kyle Kissack, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 23 - Tom Hill, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 24 - Jane Schell, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 25 - Lucinda Zoeller, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 26 - Stephanie A. Guerrero, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 27 - Edward Jones, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 28 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$50

Aug. 29 - Caroline Kessen, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 30 - Scott A. Stevens, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 31 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25

Sept. 1 - Hub City Senior Center, Rochelle, \$25 Sept. 2 - Jessica Macklin, Winnebago, \$25

Sept. 3 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$25

Sept. 4 - Daniel Ortiz, Rochelle, \$50 Sept. 5 - Ben Heck, Chana, \$1,000

Sept. 6 - Bridget Blaine, Dixon, \$25

Sept. 7 - Aubrielle Lodico, Rochelle, \$25

Sept. 8 - Carolyn Brown, Rochelle, \$25

Sept. 9 - Bobby Clausen, Rochelle, \$25

Sept. 10 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$25

Sept. 11 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$50 Sept. 12 - Rochelle Hospitality, \$25

Sept. 13 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25

Sept. 14 - Kim Vock, Sterling, \$25

Coffee Break

King Crossword

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ACROSS

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- 37 Gold-loving
- 39 Country named for an **DOWN**

king

- imaginary line
- 41 Eye, slangily
- 43 Tax form ID
- 44 One of the
- Fab Four
- 46 Cairo's nation
- 50 Hoosegow
- 53 Perched
- 55 Slithery
- 56 Shrek, for one

- 60 Chatter
- 61 Wedding
 - words

- Stravinsky

- 57 Part of TNT
- 58 Dance move

- 1 Recedes
- 2 Oodles
- 4 Purse
- 5 Composer
- 6 Former quar- 27 Dam terback Tim
- citrus fruits
- 7 Easy-to-peel 29 Mayberry

- 8 Poetic tribute 9 Moving day
- rental
- 10 Invoice fig.
- 12 Partake in a
- Halloween game
- 19 Day light? 21 Clothing protector
- 3 Novelist Jaffe 23 Gist
 - 25 Burden
 - 26 account (never)

 - 28 Bivouac

 - moppet © 2022 King Features Synd., Inc.

- 31 Golf prop
 - 35 Rm. coolers 38 Salty expanse

30 Give up

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- 40 Exploit 42 Out of practice
 - 47 Bigfoot's cousin

45 Zhivago's love

- 48 Begged 49 Printing error
- 50 Scribble (down) 51 Past
- 52 Apr. check
- casher 54 Gratuity

Weekly **SUDOKU**

by Linda Thistle

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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. DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:

Moderate



Challenging HOO BOY! © 2022 King Features Synd., Inc

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: P equals W

QNQDOVC PXM CXGXCXRKX PNCZ

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Answer

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Answers **King** Crossword —

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CryptoQuip

DAYCARE: Little Hubs working toward end-of-year opening

From page 1

Work has been ongoing preparing the facility for DCFS licensing and opening after it sat unused for two years. The DCFS will be coming to check each classroom in the coming weeks. Barlow plans to have six classrooms to start including an infant room, a toddler room, a 2-year-old room, two 3-5-year-old rooms and a school-age room. The school-age room will be mostly used for days when there is no school, due to a lack of transportation right now to get kids to and from school from the daycare.

The daycare facility has a total of eight rooms. Barlow said Little Hubs Learning Center has around 80 kids on a waitlist now and those who messaged the daycare first will be given priority. 96 kids will be in the daycare facility when it's first licensed and the facility can hold up to 133 kids.

Little Hubs Learning Center does not have a concrete opening plan yet, but Barlow said she'd like to be open by the end of the year. There are plans for an open house when parents will be able to come in and see the facility.

Barlow said the daycare is still looking for employees, including qualified preschool daycare teachers, assistants, a cook for its commercial kitchen and an office worker.

When it opens, the daycare will serve ages six weeks to age six for regular daycare. For before and after school or days off school, ages will be kindergarten through fifth grade. The hours will be from 6:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Little Hubs Learning Center has a Facebook page by the same name. Work is ongoing on a website. The daycare can be reached by email at littlehubs@yahoo.com. The Spartz family said opening the facility has been a large undertaking in recent weeks.

"People have asked

why it's taking so long after buying the building," Barlow said. "It was open as a daycare, but then it closed for two years. If we would've come in immediately as they closed, things would have been different. Nothing here was used for two years. I want to thank everyone that's come in to help us clean up and get things



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Work has been ongoing preparing the facility for DCFS licensing and opening after it sat unused for two years. The DCFS will be coming to check each classroom in the coming weeks.

organized. It's been family and friends."

Barlow, a Rochelle Township High School graduate, has a bachelor's degree in special education with an emphasis on learning behavior from Northern Illinois University and has a certified teaching degree for special education. She's director-qualified for daycares and has worked as a director in area daycares with children aged from six weeks to 12 years old.

Joni said she'd like to see the building be full with a waiting list and improve upon transportation opportunities for families after getting acclimated within the community. Ron said he enjoys the idea of giving back to the community that the Spartz family has been a part of since 1977.

"I'm most excited about being an asset to the Rochelle community," Joni said. "It's always been a dream of ours to have a business. We moved out of Rochelle two years ago and now live in Beloit. The people in Rochelle love to support something that's good. The people here get behind people who want to help people in the community. And that's all

Ogle County SWMD advises on battery disposal

OREGON — It is no surprise that proper battery management and recycling is an emerging issue here locally and across the nation. The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) is continually researching and learning about end of life battery management in this emerging area of our waste stream.

Battery-containing devices are all around and are ever-increasing in variety, capacity, size and design. Batteries are in products as wide-ranging from greeting cards to electric vehicles. The need to properly manage and recycle batteries is a complex issue in terms of safety and end of life management.

Recently certain re-

chargeable batteries have been the cause of major fires at recycling warehouses and processing centers. Residential fires due to batteries are also on the rise as so many of our devices around the house and garage now contain batteries.

In terms of proper management of batteries, always consult device operating and charging instructions for these devices, and never dismantle batteries or otherwise alter or expose battery cores. Be cognizant of your devices, if a device will not charge properly, does not hold charge properly, or becomes unusually hot while charging, your battery may be nearing its' end of life. Do not place rechargeable batteries either in your household recycling or in your regular trash. Rechargeable batteries, when processed with household recyclables or crushed in a waste-hauling vehicle, can lead to combustion and fires.

The OCSWMD accepts all forms of rechargeable batteries for proper recycling at the regular, resi-

dential electronic recycling events. Accepted batteries include Nickel Cadmium (Ni-CD), Lithium Ion (Li-Ion), Nickel Metal Hydride (Ni-MH) and sealed Lead Acid batteries, as well as small rechargeable batteries and button batteries. These batteries are properly sorted and safety-sealed prior to shipment to the processor. These batteries come from a variety of devices including power tools, yard tools, cell phones, toys, laptops, landline phones and remote controls. This service is at no cost for Ogle County residents. Local businesses also have the option for rechargeable battery recycling through the OCSWMD Business

Electronics Recycling Program.

we want to do."

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ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Police Department will be hosting a hunter safety education training course on Oct. 15 and 16 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. both days at the Rochelle Masonic Lodge at 500 Lincoln Highway in Rochelle. To register, call RPD at 815-562-2131. The class is free.

To obtain a hunting license, anyone born on or after Jan. 1, 1980 must present a certification card issued by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources attesting to the successful completion of hunter safety education course to purchase a first-time hunting license.

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SPORTS

RTHS Volleyball

Middle hitters spark Lady Hubs against Sandwich

Adamski, Hale combine for 10 kills as Rochelle wins 25-23, 22-25, 25-18

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Middle blockers Payton Hale and Kennedy Adamski came through in a big way for the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team during Monday's match against Sandwich.

With their team looking to rally for a three-set conference victory, Hale and Adamski delivered several kill shots from the middle of the front row, helping the Lady Hubs take an early lead in the third set and ultimately secure a 25-23, 22-25, 25-18 win in Interstate 8 Conference action. The senior Hale and the junior Adamski each finished with five kills for the Rochelle offense.

"I was a little nervous toward the end of the match, but it felt really good to win," Adamski said. "It's a huge confidence builder for me. I felt like I was able to hit my tips when they were necessary and I was able to swing more as the match went on. I felt like I was on the attack."

A trio of service errors from the Lady Hubs (8-53, 2-0 Interstate 8) allowed the Indians to take a 12-8 lead in the first set of the match. With senior libero Macy Ramos behind the service line and Adamski in the middle, Rochelle bounced back soon after, stringing together a 10-4 run where Adamski recorded multiple kills to help the Lady Hubs regain control of the match.

"I really love my team," Adamski said. "I think we're all really positive and we love each other. Our chemistry outside of the court has really helped us out. I think our strengths are definitely in the front row and I really appreciate our setter Ali [Ohlinger] this year. We're definitely swinging a lot better this year. We just need to keep working on our communication and our serve receive."

kill for the Lady Hubs, who closed the set on a 3-1 spurt with the score tied at 22-22. Friestad and Adamski were the hot hands for Rochelle early in the second set, where the Lady Hubs opened on an 8-0 run to force Sandwich's

first timeout of the match.

Senior Addie Friestad

smacked the set-sealing

Friestad led the offense with 12 kills in the match, while sophomore Taelynn Rodeghero added six kills and sophomore setter Ali Ohlinger dished out 27 assists.

"I think we can definitely finish at least second in the conference this season," Adamski said. "I think we're capable of beating Sycamore this season, but it's going to take a lot from all of us."

The Lady Hubs led 19-14 late in the second set, but a sequence of hitting errors allowed the Indians to score three unanswered points and force a Rochelle timeout. Despite a kill from Adamski putting the Lady Hubs ahead 22-20, Sandwich responded with five consecutive points to not only burn a second Rochelle timeout, but extend the match into a third-set tiebreaker.

The third set was where Hale began heating up for the Lady Hub offense, converting numerous aggressive swings from the middle into kill shots to give Rochelle an early 6-4 advantage. Hitting errors doomed the Indians midway through the third set, allowing the Lady Hubs to



Junior Kennedy Adamski (left) and senior Addie Friestad (right) rise up for a block attempt during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball match against Sandwich on Monday. The Lady Hubs won the match 25-23, 22-25, 25-18.

break off an 8-4 run and hold a comfortable lead for most of the set. Ohlinger sealed the win with a tip at the net for the final point

of the third set.

Hale led the Rochelle defense with 14 digs, while sophomore Dempsey Atkinson totaled 10 digs in

the match. Ohlinger and Ramos each added five digs for the Lady Hubs, who had three aces and four blocks in the match.

RTHS Boys Soccer

Hubs lose hard-fought battle against Kaneland

Salazar scores first-half goal as Rochelle concedes 2-1 conference loss Monday

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — A hard-fought match in rainy conditions saw the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team fall just short in a tough Interstate 8 battle against the Kaneland Knights on Monday.

Junior forward Diego Salazar found a goal on a long left-footed boot near the end of the first half, but the Hubs were unable to crack the Kaneland defense in the second half, conceding a 2-1 loss to the Knights for their first conference defeat of the season. Rochelle (6-4, 3-1 Interstate 8) will travel and face LaSalle-Peru in a conference match on Wednesday at 4:30 p.m.

"I thought we played excellent soccer today," head coach Brad Male said. "It was unfortunate that we couldn't get the ball into the net toward the end of the match and

portunities that we weren't able to convert on that ultimately decided the match. We need to be able to finish in those situations. I think our communication could've been better and we need to have more of our shots be on target. We need to take more quality shots around the net."

Despite outshooting the Knights 19-12 and earning four corner kicks in the match, Rochelle totaled only seven shots on goal while the Knights finished with eight. The Knights scored the first goal of the match midway through the first half, sending the ball into the Hub net during the 18th minute before following with another goal in the 32nd minute to surge ahead 2-0.

Eager to score and cut the Kaneland lead in half, Rochelle cranked up the urgency on the offensive end. The Hubs responded during the 38th minute, er Heilly Zepeda gained possession and rolled a pass forward to Salazar, who caught the Knight defense on its heels with a long-range shot that soared over the head of the Kaneland keeper for a goal.

"I thought we played well back there defensively," Male said. "It was unfortunate that they managed to sneak a couple of balls through and they took quality shots that we missed. Hopefully our team learned something from today and we can carry those lessons forward."

Senior keeper Jarett Milan recorded five saves for the Hubs, who had four shots on goal during the second half but were unable to find the equalizer. Salazar led Rochelle with three shots on goal in the match, while sophomore forward Fernando Diaz finished with two shots on goal. The Hubs were without starting soph-

Casillas, who was out with an injury.

DeKalb

The Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team faced DeKalb in a nonconference road match on Saturday, falling 3-0 and finishing with nine shots in the loss, which snapped a six-match winning streak.

Senior keeper Jarett Milan recorded six saves for the Hubs, who totaled one shot on goal and two corner kicks in the loss to the Barbs.





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(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior defender Christian Harding clears the ball away from the defensive zone during the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer match against Kaneland on Monday. The Hubs fell 2-1 for their first conference loss of the season.



9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Rochelle First



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9

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

SPORTS

HUBS: Rochelle runs for nearly 700 yards in road win

From page 14

"Our pads were too high and we weren't getting any movement on the line during the first week, but we've cleaned that up and our backs are running for as long as they want to. We're keeping everyone in check and we're continuing to move forward."

Trailing 20-0 after the first quarter, Johnsburg looked for any sort of spark on offense, but three consecutive completions in Rochelle territory resulted in another turnover on downs. With the Skyhawks unable to stop the outside toss, Gensler broke off two runs of 40-plus yards on the next possession, scoring on a 44-yard touchdown run before adding the 2-point conversion on the same outside toss play, following sophomore guard Kaiden Morris into the end zone.

"We've been working all summer for us," Morris said. "Our toss was working so well tonight because everyone was scooping on the back side, we blocked really well and Garrett was running hard. We're trusting each other, we're never giving up and we're going to keep pushing."

Despite a second-quarter interception from Cullum, Johnsburg forced a fumble and avoided the shutout late in the second quarter, when running back Jake Metze escaped the Hub defense for a 58-yard touchdown run. A backand-forth sequence near the end of the second quarter saw Gensler race down the Skyhawk sideline for a 40yard touchdown run before Johnsburg quarterback AJ Bravieri found Metze for a 32-yard touchdown pass as the first half ended.

Bravieri started heating up for the Skyhawks in the second half, where they trailed the Hubs 35-14 before the sophomore quarterback launched a 46yard touchdown pass over the middle to wide receiver Ian Boal. Johnsburg nearly earned the ball back after a slew of penalties stalled the ensuing Rochelle drive. but the Skyhawks were once again no match for Gensler, who broke off a 70-yard touchdown run on fourth-and-15 to keep the Hubs ahead by three touchdowns.

Another Gensler touchdown rush late in the third quarter, this time from 40 yards out after Johnsburg's third turnover on downs, extended Rochelle's lead to 48-20 entering the fourth quarter, where sophomore Erich Metzger shined with two touchdown runs of 65 yards and 41 yards. The Skyhawks scored twice in the fourth quarter, with Metze running in a 2-yard touchdown and Bravieri connecting with wide receiver Braden Olson for an 18-yard touchdown.

Metzger finished with 123 rushing yards on five carries, while Cullum and Taft combined for 168 rushing yards on 18 carries. Gensler totaled a team-high eight tackles for the Hubs, who averaged 15.7 yards per carry in the win. Junior linebacker Brock Metzger finished with six tackles, while Erich Metzger and sophomore corner Xavier Villalobos each added five

Fresh/Soph

The Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football team remained unbeaten Friday evening, shutting out



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Cody Cullum breaks a tackle and runs for one of his two touchdowns during the Rochelle Hub varsity football game against Johnsburg on Friday.

Johnsburg 45-0 to start the season with a 3-0 record and 1-0 record in the Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue Division. The Hubs will host Byron on Friday at 5 p.m.

Sophomore Ethan Goodwin returned the opening kickoff for a 60-yard touchdown to

ignite the fresh-soph team on Friday. Sophomores Brandyn Metzger and Jackson Smith each ran for touchdowns in the win, while freshman Roman Villalobos also rushed for atouchdown. Sophomores Carson Lewis and Cayden Moore connected for a touchdown reception.

Freshman Antonio Hueramo went 4-for-4 on extra-point attempts for the special teams unit. Sophomore Ryan Senne also blocked a punt and freshman Gabe Montes snagged an interception on defense. Metzger and freshman Markell Pogue each had a tackle for loss.





The Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football team defeated Johnsburg 45-0 on Friday to start the season with a 3-0 record. At left, sophomores Elijah Harley (left) and Ethan

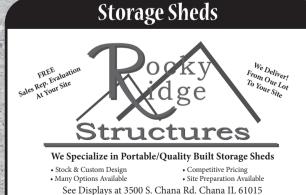
Goodwin (right) combine for a tackle on a Johnsburg ball carrier. At right, sophomore Brandyn Metzger runs in a touchdown for the Rochelle offense.

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103 **AUCTIONS**

MUNICIPAL AUCTION

The City of Rochelle will be offering at public auction the following surplus nventory of various items. This auction will be held live on site only at 1030 S 7th Street, Rochelle IL 61068 (The former Johnson Tractor / Walker Schork Location) On Auction Day, watch for Bearrows Real Estate & Auction signs on Rt#251 at the auction site. Contact Auctioneer John Bearrows at 815-739-9150 for more information or visit our web site at www.bearrows.com for further nformation & pictures.

Saturday, September 17th, 2022 - 10:00 AM (Auction Held Live & On Site)

Auctioneers Note: The following list is a partial listing of what will be at this auction, as they are still organizing and finding items for the auction that are no onger used.

Personal Property: 2005 GMC 7500 Chassis with Hi-Ranger 5-55TC Bucket truck, Cat C7 Motor, Allison Automatic transmission, all Dielectric test is current, and all hoses and lift chains have been replaced within the last 24 months, 1984 Hotsy pressure washer; 1989 Target walk behind concrete saw, needs motor work; Bobcat 7ft straight blade snow plow; 2-Bobcat skid steer tires; Office type Items: Large assortment of office furniture including approx. 15 round folding tables on wheels, chairs, shelves, cabinets, inside décor; and many other items not listed.

PERSONAL PROPERTY TERMS: Cash or Check w/ driver's license I.D., 3% fee for VISA, MasterCard or American Express, Electronic clerking system used. Announcements made the day of auction take precedence over all prior advertising. Not responsible for accidents or items after sold.

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REAL ESTATE 815-739-3703





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Estate of Bill Scholl, Owner

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101 **LEGAL NOTICE**

PUBLIC NOTICE

accordance with Illinois School Code, the tentative budget for Steward School Dist 220 for FY 23 will be on display for public review through Wednesday, September 21, 2022, in the main office from 8 AM -3:30 PM on school days.

No. 0910 (Sept. 11, 14, 18, 21)

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HUB SPOTLIGHT



Jaydin Dickey

Year: Freshman

Sport: Volleyball

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

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Spending time with people I love and the bonds we make as a team.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: English because I like to write and I like what we're doing.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: I mainly enjoy watching the sport.

Q: Who is your biggest role

model and why?

A: My parents because they push me to be the best I can be.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be an orthodontist.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Hawaii because the islands sound fun and they would be a good adventure.

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

A: I enjoy the relationships I have with my teammates and playing with the people I love.

Rylin Tabor

Year: Freshman

Sport: Volleyball

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

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Being with my friends and I love playing the sport.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: English because I think I'm a good writer and I enjoy it.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why? A: I love watching all athletes.

Q: Who is your biggest role



model and why?

A: My older sister because I can always look up to her she pushes me to do my best.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Florida Keys because I've been there before and it's where my family makes our best memories.

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

A: The sports and how nice everyone is. The teachers also give me help when I need it.







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WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 14, 2022

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 1 • PAGE 14

Tue-Fri 9am-4:00 • Sat 9am-4pm • Closed Sun & Mon

SPORTS [



FRESH-SOPHS CRUISE

The RTHS fresh-soph football team won 45-0 at Johnsburg on Friday evening.

See page 11 for more details

RTHS Football

Hub offense runs wild

Gensler rushes for team-high 362 yards as Rochelle downs Johnsburg 60-35

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

JOHNSBURG — It didn't matter who carried the ball for the Rochelle Hub varsity football team Friday evening, when the purple and white rolled through Johnsburg and demolished the Skyhawk defense for one of the strongest single-game offensive performances in school history.

Behind a dominant showing from the offensive line and an extraordinary individual effort from senior tailback Garrett Gensler, who rushed for a season-high 362 yards and five touchdowns, Rochelle's offense exploded for 687 total yards in a 60-35 road win over Johnsburg. The Hubs, who recorded nine rushing touchdowns on Friday, are 3-0 to start the season for the first time since 2013. Rochelle will host Harvard for another conference game next Friday at 7 p.m.

"I couldn't have done any of that without my offensive line," Gensler said. "My running backs and my quarterback were blocking for me and they were getting the job done tonight. When we're able to toss the ball outside, we get our big guys going downhill. Landon [Mickley] is an absolute beast and Kaiden [Morris] kicks out and does an awesome job leading me through the hole. It feels really good to start 3-0. The team's excited, but we're not getting ahead of ourselves."

The Hubs (3-0, 1-0 Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue) needed only three plays to get on the scoreboard early in the first quarter, with Gensler taking a toss off the right side of the line and sprinting downfield for a 40-yard touchdown. Johnsburg fumbled the ensuing kickoff and junior Riley Damask was quick to recover the ball, allowing Rochelle's offense to retake the field.

Two solid runs from senior wingback Trey Taft and senior fullback Cody Cullum marched the Hubs into the red zone, where Cullum scored on a 5-yard rush to give his team a 14-0 lead. Midway through the first quarter,



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Garrett Gensler runs for one of his five touchdowns during the Rochelle Hub varsity football game against Johnsburg on Friday. Gensler rushed for 362 yards as the Hubs cruised over the Skyhawks 60-35.

Rochelle forced the first of four turnovers on downs by the Skyhawks in the game. The Hubs capitalized soon

after, with Cullum following his interior linemen, including senior center John Green, through the middle

for a 64-yard touchdown. "We're continuing to fight and play hard," Green said. "Our pad level has been the key for us over the last few weeks."

See HUBS page 11

Rochelle Junior Tackle











Junior Hubs dominate Dixon with four-game road sweep on Saturday

The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams faced Dixon on the road Saturday, winning all four games to complete another Big 14 Conference sweep. The eighth-graders (4-1) cruised over Dixon 31-8 while the seventh-graders (4-1) dominated Dixon for a 38-8 victory. The sixth-graders (5-0) and fifth-graders (5-0) each remained unbeaten on Saturday, with the sixth-graders shutting out Dixon 38-0 and the fifth-graders scoring a 20-0 victory. Rochelle will host Byron on Sunday, Sept. 18. Pictured above, seventh-grader Tyson Pavlak (left) runs with the ball and eighth-grader Brody Bruns (right) fires a pass down the field. Pictured below, sixth-graders Derik Maertz and Benjamin Morris (left to right) hold their blocks and fifth-grader Kamden Kessen (right) follows a block from Austin Sarver (left).