



# ROCHELLE News-Leader

MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM



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815-562-4189

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, SEPT. 21, 2022

\$1.25

## RTHS board approves budget

Presentation made on new teachers and staff support

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its monthly meeting Monday, the Rochelle Township High School Board of Education held a public hearing for and unanimously approved its 2022-2023 budget.

District Business Manager Kevin Dale made a presentation to the board on details of the budget. The budget has been on display since July 18 and it was reviewed at the board's Aug. 15 budget workshop. Dale will watch expenditures and revenues throughout the year and report back to the board if an amendment is needed later in the fiscal year.

The projected total revenue for 2022-2023 is \$19,908,501 with total projected expenditures of \$19,904,829 for a projected total surplus of \$3,672.

### New teachers

During his monthly report at the meeting, RTHS Principal Chris Lewis introduced 12 new staff members that the school has this year that include Anna Adolph (English teacher), Marshall Basler



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting, the Rochelle Township High School Board of Education held a public hearing for and unanimously approved its 2022-23 budget.

(athletic trainer), Max Basler (special education teacher), Anna Birsá (Spanish teacher), Nicole Canfield (math teacher), Anna Criswell (science teacher), Cory Ellis (music teacher), Ashley Lawrenz (school nurse), Haleigh Nelson (dance coach), Justin Otte (science teacher), Rachel Plock (math teacher) and Keaton Shumard (band).

Following the introductions, Lewis discussed support systems put in

place for new teachers. RTHS has a high number of recently-hired staff members. Over Lewis's six years as principal, he's hired 40 percent of RTHS's current staff members.

"That's a lot," Lewis said. "We just had a lot of retirements taking place. We try to provide tons of support for them. It's a tough job and there's all sorts of new requirements. We put some things in place years ago and we've added to it."

Support in place for new RTHS teachers includes a mentor program, new teacher orientation, professional development collaboration meetings, a teacher resource page, an open-door teacher program where staff can observe other teachers, an evaluation system and instructional coaching.

"We put these things in place to make it a great place to work," Lewis said.

See RTHS page 2

## Bike path sealcoating approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners voted unanimously to approve bike path maintenance in a contract with Wyatt Pavement for sealcoating in the amount of \$19,900.

Park District Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger said the work is already underway on the original stretch of bike path and Wyatt Pavement is doing "a great job." There is still 1-2 weeks of work remaining to complete the entire path.

### Marina decking

The board unanimously approved a bid from RP Lumber to provide materials for new decking at Spring Lake Marina in the amount of \$29,872.

See PARK page 8

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## KNOW IT TODAY



### Creston Booster Days held

The 65th Annual Creston Booster Days celebration was held over the weekend. **Page 3**

### WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
76 53	62 43
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
60 40	72 51



### OBITUARIES

• CHRISTOPHER T. PLUM

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### INSERTS

• ALDI  
• FARM & FLEET

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The Red Cross assisted with temporary housing for residents of the other units of the apartment. Higby said he didn't think there was "an extreme amount" of fire damage to the inside of the unit and the damage to the outside of the building was minimal.

"When I arrived on scene and was outside, I could barely tell that there was a fire," Higby said.

More information will be released by RPD in a press release following the autopsy.

"It's an unusual case," Higby said. "Things are going slowly. I was hoping to get the autopsy done Monday."

and found someone who had passed away.

RPD has not ruled out foul play in the incident and hopes more details in the investigation will come to light following the autopsy. Higby said RPD has not been made aware of any other individuals that were in the apartment besides the victim.

Rochelle Police and Fire were assisted by the Red Cross, Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District, Ogle County Coroner, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, Sterling Police Department, Illinois State Police Crime Scene Investigators and the Illinois State Fire Marshal.

"The Illinois State Police Crime Scene Investigators were there to collect evidence and determine whether a crime was committed, similar to why the Illinois State Fire Marshal was there," Higby said. "The Ogle County Sheriff's Office was there for manpower and investigating and did things like talk to neighbors."



## Over 20,000 votes cast in Best of Ogle County

OGLE COUNTY — Best of Ogle County 2022 voting is completed and winners of each category are currently being contacted. The winners section will come out in the Rochelle News-Leader on Sunday, Oct. 9 and in the Ogle County Life on Monday, Oct. 10.

During the voting period, 20,773 votes were cast by 2,678 people. 114 entrants were victorious. 70.9 percent of voters were female, 26.5 percent of voters were male and 2.6 percent preferred not to say.

There were 30 voters in the 13-17 age group, 329 voters in the 18-24 age

group, 665 voters in the 25-34 age group, 495 voters in the 35-44 age group, 472 voters in the 45-54 age group, 416 voters in the 55-64 age group and 271 voters at or above age 65.

A total of 684 voters opted in to receive the Rochelle News-Leader Newsletter (coming soon).

"It was another successful Best of Ogle County contest," Ogle County Life and Rochelle News-Leader General Manager Mike Feltes said. "The staff of the Rochelle News-Leader and Ogle County Life would like to thank the voters and businesses for participating."

## COME SEE YOUR FRIENDS



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# LOCAL NEWS

## Olszewski entering 15th year with Rochelle PD

'I get to experience something new every day and... help people in their time of need'

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Rochelle Police Department Dispatcher Rob Olszewski is in his 15th year with RPD and currently works day shift.

Olszewski's day-to-day responsibilities include handling administration and 911 calls along with dispatching for RPD, Rochelle Fire and the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District. He's a certified training officer for new hires and assists with car seat installations.

Olszewski was born and raised in Rochelle and graduated from Rochelle Township High School and went to Kishwaukee College for law enforcement. He's certified in LEADS,

911 call taking, police, fire, and EMS dispatch and car seat tech and has had training in active shooter, hostage negotiation, suicide prevention and domestic violence.

Dispatching was never a career Olszewski saw himself doing while he was growing up.

"I was lucky enough to get the opportunity to be a police intern through Kishwaukee College, and RPD happened to have a dispatch position open up during that time and I have been here ever since," Olszewski said. "I get to experience something new every day and be able to help people in their time of need. Also, I'm lucky to say I get to work with some of my closest friends."

In his off time, Olszewski enjoys spending time with family and friends, playing and practicing sports with his kids, going to sporting events and working out. He's a volunteer with the Flagg Center Fire Department of the OLFPD.

Over his 15 years, Olszewski said he's had many memorable experiences and calls. One stands out.

"I'll always remember a call I took for an infant that was choking," Olszewski said. "I was able to coach the parents on how to remove the obstruction and was happy to hear the child crying in the end (which is a good thing)."



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**Rochelle Police Department Dispatcher Rob Olszewski is in his 15th year with RPD and currently works day shift. Olszewski's day-to-day responsibilities include handling administration and 911 calls along with dispatching for RPD, Rochelle Fire and the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District.**

Olszewski said he believes the RPD is full of "caring, hard-working individuals" that strive to do their best to help and protect

people 24 hours a day, on weekends and on holidays.

"I want to take this opportunity to thank my co-workers (blue, red, and

gold) for always being there for support and friendship," Olszewski said. "I especially want to thank my wife, kids and family for

always being supportive, understanding and loving through the roller-coaster ride that this profession can be."

## Shumard joins RTHS teaching staff

BY VICKI SNYDER-CHURA  
SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-LEADER

**ROCHELLE** — Keaton Shumard became the leader of the Rochelle Township High School Hub Marching Band about one week before band camp. He is teaching marching band, concert band, jazz band and intro to guitar.

Shumard comes from Hiawatha CUSD #426. He directed the grade 5-12 bands and choir.

He attended Eastern Illinois University where he graduated cum laude earning a bachelor's degree in music.

"My experience as the drum major of my high school's marching band was a vital part in my deci-

sion to become a teacher," Shumard said. "I enjoy motivating others to do their best and helping discover the best in themselves."

Shumard provided one thing that he would like his students to know most.

"Your success is my priority and I am going to provide the best experience I can for you," Shumard said.



Keaton Shumard

## RTHS: New teachers and staff introduced

From page 1

"We want them to stay long. There's a lot of teacher burnout and people getting out of the business. We want to provide as much help for them as we can so that doesn't happen."



### Homecoming

Lewis discussed homecoming week at RTHS taking place this week. The parade will take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday and begin downtown and end at Tilton School. Afterwards, the pep rally and homecoming coronation will take place outside on the football field, as it did last year due to COVID-19 precautions.

"We really liked it," Lewis said. "It was 10 times better and there's more space. If it rains, we'll move it back inside. We got positive feedback on it last year. The powder puff football game will follow afterwards."

The homecoming dance will take place inside the RTHS commons as it did pre-pandemic. Last year, the dance took place outside.

### Personnel

The board unanimously approved personnel changes including the resignation of Bruce Anderson (girls track coach) and the employment of Holly Karner (junior class advisor), Josie Kuss (shared district business office administrative assistant), James Rodriguez (substitute bus driver) and Chester Smith (substitute bus driver).

The retirement of Athletic Director's Secretary Ronda Poliska was unanimously approved effective Dec. 31, 2022. Poliska has been in her position for 20 years. Future transfers were approved including Deb O'Brien (attendance secretary to athletic director's secretary) and Teresa Ricketts (main office receptionist to attendance secretary).



## Alzheimer's & dementia SERIES

### Educational Programs about Alzheimer's disease

**Thursday, September 29, 2022 | 3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Central**

Dementia Conversations - Driving, Doctor Visits, Legal & Financial Planning

*When someone is showing signs of dementia, it's time to talk. Often, conversations with family about changing behaviors can be challenging and uncomfortable. This program provides tips for breaking the ice with your family so you can address some of the most common issues that are difficult to discuss: going to the doctor for a diagnosis or medical treatment, deciding when to stop driving, and making legal and financial plans for future care.*

**Thursday, October 27, 2022 | 3:00 P.M. – 4:00 P.M. Central**

Effective Communication Strategies

*Communication is more than just talking and listening – it's also about sending and receiving messages through attitude, tone of voice, facial expressions and body language. As people with Alzheimer's disease and other dementias progress in their journey and the ability to use words is lost, families need new ways to connect. Join us to explore how communication takes place when someone has Alzheimer's, learn to decode the verbal and behavioral messages delivered by someone with dementia, and identify strategies to help you connect and communicate at each stage of the disease. The Effective Communication Strategies program of the Alzheimer's Association was designed to provide practical information and resources to help dementia caregivers learn to decode verbal and behavioral messages from people with dementia.*

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# LOCAL NEWS



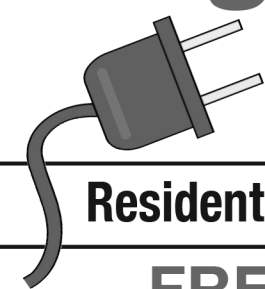
## 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Creston Booster Days held over the weekend

(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The 65<sup>th</sup> Annual Creston Booster Days was held over the weekend. The weekend included rides and games by Skinner's Amusements, a beer garden, various musical performances, fireworks, a craft and vendor show, the Main Street parade, garden tractor pulls, a vintage baseball game and a 50/50 raffle drawing. This year's theme for the event was honoring first responders.

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The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients:  
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• **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2023 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:  
In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest, Dimond Bros. Insurance and Hub City Senior Center  
In Oregon at: Merlin's  
In Dixon at: Shining Star

• **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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# LOCAL NEWS

## Obituaries

### Christopher T. Plum

**OREGON**—Christopher T. Plum, 63, passed away at OSF St. Anthony Medical Center on Sept. 17.

He was born on Feb. 4, 1959 in Oregon the son of David and Lois (Holloway) Plum. Christopher attended Mt. Morris High School where he was a popular kid who everyone loved to be around. He excelled in sports; especially track and football. He graduated in 1978. Chris was very active in the Boy Scouts and The Order of the Arrow well into his older years. After high school, he travelled to California to learn the art of pantomime. Following this training, he worked in New York and Pennsylvania

doing school events and assemblies.

After leaving there he came back to the Midwest where he worked at various jobs including Kable Printing and doing plaster façade work. Chris worked at Nash Community Center for a number of years where he was a life-guard and taught various activities. He also worked for the City of Oregon doing grounds work which he loved. He loved being outside gardening, painting and making things look beautiful.

Christopher was very active in the Brethren Church and enjoyed helping with the youth group and church camps. But, at the end of the day Chris-



topher was a performer at heart. He loved to play guitar and would play at local venues.

He was preceded in death by his mother Lois and step mother Karen. He is survived by his father, David Plum of Byron; and brothers, Rob (Kathleen) Plum MS and Randy Plum WI.

To leave an online condolence, please visit [www.farrellhollandgale.com](http://www.farrellhollandgale.com).

## Ogle County Sheriff's Department

### Deputies respond to domestic disturbance

**OREGON**—On Sept. 16 at 9:58 p.m. deputies were dispatched to the 100 block of North Walnut Street in Forreston for a report of a domestic disturbance. As a result of the investigation, a juvenile male was arrested for domestic battery, and taken into limited custody. The juvenile was subsequently released to a parent.

On Sept. 16 at approximately 8:07 a.m. deputies responded to the 4,600 block of North Silver Creek Road in reference to an overturned semi-truck/dump trailer. An investigation revealed a Mack semi-truck loaded with ag lime, being driven by Roger Watts, 78, of Oregon, failed to reduce speed while navigating a curve in the roadway. The truck/trailer was unable to maintain control and overturned. Watts was transported to OSF Hospital in Rockford by REACT Helicopter for treatment of potentially

serious injuries. Deputies were assisted at the scene by Mt. Morris Fire/EMS and Mt. Morris Police. Watts was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

On Sept. 16 at approximately 3:21 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop within the 2,000 block of West Illinois Route 64. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Wayne A. Johnson, 52, of Mt. Morris, for driving while license revoked. Additionally, Johnson was cited for improper use of registration/title, expired registration, illegal transportation of alcohol and obstructed front windshield. Johnson was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Sept. 17 at approximately 8:02 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 500 block of North Mulford Road. After investigation, Markeeta Y.

Forrest, 39, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for obstructing identification and driving while license suspended. Forrest was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle, no rear registration lights and no signal lights. Forrest was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held, in lieu of bond.

On Sept. 19 at approximately 9:57 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 5,000 block of South Illinois Route 26. After a brief investigation, Joshua Bland, 24, of Danville, was placed under arrest for driving while license revoked. Bland was additionally charged with unlawful possession of cannabis (30-100 grams) and cited for no taillights. Bland was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

## Encore! Mt. Morris sponsoring bus trip

**MT. MORRIS**—Encore! Mt. Morris is offering their fourth arts-oriented chartered bus trip on Oct. 5, 2022, traveling north to Milwaukee this year. All seats are open to the public. Highlights include:

Lynden Sculpture Gardens (including their bonsai exhibit, "Healing Coats" grass-roots art exhibit and 50+ larger contemporary sculptures; wear comfortable shoes), Milwaukee Art Museum in downtown Milwaukee and China Lights, (a lanterns light show, marketplace and demos

of Chinese handicrafts, and cultural entertaining events, all held in the Borer Botanical Garden) <https://www.chinalights.org>.

Cost is \$100 that includes the bus (yes, gas prices are up!) and all entry fees. Dinner will be on your own at either the Art Museum, a nearby restaurant or at any of the China Lights concessions.

Registration can be completed online at [encoremmtorris.com](http://encoremmtorris.com); click the Milwaukee Bus Trip button, or stop by the Mt. Morris Village Hall at 105 W. Lincoln St. A more

detailed schedule and links to the main venues appear on our website, as well. Registration deadline is Sept. 21 because tickets for some of the events must be purchased in advance to secure a group rate.

Minimum registrations required: 24. Questions? [mollyb@encoremmtorris.com](mailto:mollyb@encoremmtorris.com).

*Encore! Mt. Morris* is composed of volunteers committed to developing Mt. Morris into a unique, thriving rural and cultural arts destination in north-west Illinois. Learn more at [EncoreMtMorris.com](http://EncoreMtMorris.com).

## Malta UMC hosting roast beef dinner Saturday, Nov. 5

**MALTA**—The Malta United Methodist Church will host its annual Roast Beef Dinner drive thru on Saturday, Nov. 5 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. at South 3<sup>rd</sup> and Sprague Streets in Malta.

Menu includes beef pot roast, mashed potatoes and gravy, sweet peas, raspberry applesauce jello salad, fresh-baked rolls and assorted pies.

Tickets are adult dinner - \$20, king cut (double

meat) - \$25 and child portion - \$10. Advance ticket sales only. Tickets may be purchased from members or at Resource Bank (Malta branch). Contact the church with any questions at 815-825-2118.

## Rochelle Police Department

### Officers make arrests

**ROCHELLE**—On Sept. 16 at 3:05 a.m. Daniel M. Hansen, 28, of Rockford was arrested for driving while license suspended and cited for driving an uninsured motor vehicle. He was released on an I-Bond and given an Oct. 21 Rochelle court date.

On Sept. 16 at 5:22 a.m. Aaron P. Brown, 30, of DeKalb was cited for Scott's Law violation. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Oct. 21 Rochelle court date.

On Sept. 16 at 5:13 a.m. Travis J. Avesing, 29, of Rockford was arrested for no valid driver's license. He was released on an I-Bond and given an Oct. 7 Rochelle court date.

On Sept. 16 at 10:20 a.m. Mario R. Pineda, 28, of Rochelle was arrested on

an Ogle County warrant. He paid \$401 and was released with no return court date.

On Sept. 16 at 5:43 p.m. Bradley T. Nicolai, 45, of Mt. Morris was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant for failure to appear (domestic battery). He paid \$464 with no return court date listed.

On Sept. 18 at 7:48 a.m. Josh A. Slane, 19, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 60 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Oct. 21 Rochelle court date.

On Sept. 18 at 8:21 a.m. Armando D. Alamillo, 19, of Rockford was cited for speeding 57 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. He was released on an I-Bond with no return court date listed.

On Sept. 20 at 1:54

a.m. George A. Austin, 54, of Davenport, Iowa was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

On Sept. 19 at 6:42 p.m. a 16-year-old juvenile female of Big Rock was cited for Improper overtaking on left. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Oct. 21 Rochelle court date.

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.



# LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)

La Fiesta Hispana was held downtown in the gazebo area over the weekend. The event is in its fourth year and included music and various performances, food vendors, contests, a soccer tournament, attractions for kids and a craft show.

## La Fiesta Hispana held downtown for fourth year City Councilwoman Arteaga: 'It's about family and including everybody'

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — La Fiesta Hispana was held downtown in the gazebo area over the weekend. The event is in its fourth year and included music and various performances, food vendors, contests, a soccer tournament, attractions for kids and a craft show.

"The day has gone well," Event Organizer and Rochelle City Councilwoman Rosaelia Arteaga said. "Everything is organized. The food and craft vendors are in place. This year we included a mariachi band, which we haven't in the past. They play for two hours. We have vendors from Chi-

cago that have branched out to us. We have food vendors from the DeKalb area and Rockford. We're trying to get more people involved and make it bigger."

The soccer tournament was held at Midwest Park and had competing teams from Sycamore, Peoria, Sterling, Rockford, Belvidere and Rochelle. Rochelle Palmeiras finished in first place and Peoria FC finished second.

La Fiesta Hispana is the second event of the year that Arteaga works to organize. Cinco De Mayo was held earlier this year and drew a large crowd to the downtown. She said the work isn't easy and volunteers are always needed. The events have

gained traction both in and out of Rochelle.

"A lot more events like Fiesta Hispana are happening in other areas," Arteaga said. "It's becoming more popular."

Arteaga said she enjoys seeing local vendors come out for the event and she likes including them along with the businesses that are already downtown. Dancers from Rochelle performed at the event as well.

"This is about having a good time," Arteaga said. "It's about family and including everybody. I think what I enjoy most is watching the smiles, whether it's the adults or the kids. I love seeing a mix of people. That's the biggest thing."



## County recycling event scheduled for Sept. 30

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a residential electronics recycling event on Friday, Sept. 30 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 909 Pines Road in Oregon.

This event is for Ogle County residents only and a free permit is required in advance of the event. To obtain a free permit call 815-732-4020 or email [solidwaste@oglecounty-il.gov](mailto:solidwaste@oglecounty-il.gov). Provide your name, address and phone number in your email request.

Accepted items include all televisions and computer monitors, computers, computer hardware and cables, laptops, tablets,

cell phones and chargers, printers, FAX machines, scanners, shredders (no tubs), copiers, video gaming equipment, DVD/VCR's, cable/satellite boxes, stereo equipment, radios, digital clocks, cameras, calculators, phone systems, holiday light strands, extension cords, rechargeable batteries, printer ink cartridges, CD/DVDs and CFL bulbs. Microwave ovens are accepted and are \$5 per unit.

Limit seven large or bulky items per permit and one permit per household per month. Permits come with a full list of accepted items for recycling. Business or institutional electronic materials not



accepted at these events. If you have business or institutional electronic items to recycle call the number above to set up an appointment.

For more information about this recycling event call the OCSWMD at the number above, visit [www.oglecounty.org](http://www.oglecounty.org), or on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

## NORTHERN ILLINOIS CARRY CERTIFIED PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

Sept 24 & 25.....IL Concealed Carry and Home Defense (8am-4pm Both Days)  
Oct 1.....IL Concealed Carry Permit Renewal (8am-11am) (3 hour)  
Oct 15 & 16.....IL Concealed Carry/Home Defense Course (8am-4pm Both Days)

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

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

*Please call or email for further information.*

See website for detailed description of all classes

CALL TO REGISTER & FOR COURSE INFORMATION  
(815) 501-9421 | [NORTHERNILLINOISCARRY.COM](http://NORTHERNILLINOISCARRY.COM)  
[NORTHERNILLINOISCARRY@GMAIL.COM](mailto:NORTHERNILLINOISCARRY@GMAIL.COM)



**NORTHERN ILLINOIS  
CARRY**

09/21/2022

**Tails PET OF THE WEEK**  
**Humane Society**  
**815.758.2457**  
**[www.tailshumanesociety.org](http://www.tailshumanesociety.org)**



Thea

Adopt ME

Aw, come on! Won't you adopt me, Thea! We could have such fun times together! I'm a 6 year old gal who enjoys people and wants to find my forever person! I'm an easy going gal, but I do have one request to get all the bones and toys a girl could dream of! I love my toys and could chew on a bone for hours! I've learned to slow down and take the time to enjoy all of the little things in life! Especially little things like curling up on the couch with you! I promise that in return, I'll love you with my whole heart. If you think I'd be a great addition to your home, please come meet me soon! I'm even fully sponsored! I'm in a quieter area of the shelter, not the main dog room, so please ask to meet me.

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# LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

## The history of Rochelle's overpass

THE first train made its way to Lane (Rochelle) on Jan. 15, 1854. It was probably Jan. 16 that the first person complained about having to wait at the tracks. From the beginning, Rochelle has had a love-hate relationship with the railroad. Train service helped put Rochelle on the map, it also made it difficult to get around the community.

As train and automobile traffic increased, Rochelle residents found themselves more and more frequently sitting in traffic watching the trains roll by. It was in 1927 that the community began the first efforts to find a way around the railroad. Talk bounced back and forth between an underpass and an overpass. There was considerable agreement on two things, Rochelle needed a way to bypass the railroad tracks and nobody wanted to pay for it. The city council was unable to find a common ground. The trains kept rolling and the cars kept sitting.

The year was 1968,

the community was once again driving (or not driving) toward a referendum on an overpass in Rochelle. The Rochelle Jaycees completed an in-depth study of local train traffic. In a 24-hour study it was found that there were 90 train-related stoppages, 3.5 hours of traffic delay and 160 blocks or 20 miles of traffic back-up.

The citizens wanted a resolution to the problem. Elected officials approached the Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) requesting assistance with a two-lane overpass from Washington Street to 4th Avenue. And then the troubles began. The ICC began researching the need based on traffic flow and anticipated future traffic projections. The community wanted a two-lane overpass and the ICC wanted a four-lane overpass. The ICC also wanted to widen 7th Street to four lanes through Rochelle.

With the price greatly increased and fears of how the town would look with the addition of two

lanes of highway through the center the referendum went before the voters. It was not even close. The vote was 819 in favor of the overpass and 1,701 opposed. The trains kept rolling and the cars sitting.

Time passed and the problem continued. It was 1975 before the overpass issue was again at the forefront of local concerns. Times had changed.

The State of Illinois was deep in discussion about a highway that would take traffic around Rochelle. The highways would eventually be named Illinois 39. Rochelle elected officials once again approached the ICC for assistance constructing a two-lane overpass on 7th Street. With the immanent construction of a major highway around town, the Rochelle contingent argued that two lanes would be more than adequate. The ICC once again reviewed traffic flows and anticipated traffic flows

and once again insisted that any overpass would have to be four lanes. The cost rose from \$2.6 million to \$4.7 million. Rochelle would be required to pay \$1.7 million. The ICC also required an answer within the next six months.

The overpass referendum of 1976 was probably the most hotly-debated in the history of Rochelle.

The city scheduled a referendum and all sides started their debates. Arguments ranged from an overpass to an underpass. When accurate costs were unavailable, estimates seemed sufficient. The concern over a

four-lane through town was resurrected. Promises were made that the state would not require a four-lane through town but demanded a four-lane overpass. Many citizens did not trust the state. Why a four-lane overpass for four blocks emptying into a two-lane road? The city council checked into

financing. If Rochelle was required to fund \$1.7 million it would be bonded to its limit, the city would not be able to borrow money for any other projects for the next few years.

March of 1976 saw another vote on a referendum to build an overpass in Rochelle. The vote was razor close, 1,320 people voted yes for the overpass, 1,325 voted no. There were lawsuits and challenges. Votes were recounted and contested. At one time 11 no votes were eliminated and 11 yes votes were eliminated. When the dust settled the overpass was defeated by three votes.

One would have suspected that the issue was decided for the foreseeable future, but things got stranger and stranger. It was in July of 1976 that Mayor Bill Cipolla called a special council meeting. Four months after the overpass referendum failed, federal and state officials were approaching the city council with a joint venture to construct a two-lane overpass in

Rochelle. With the new proposal the city would be required to pay \$650,000 of the total cost of the overpass. The council voted three for and two against the deal. Cipolla, Jim McCaslin and Tex Dickenson voted yes, Clarence Rasmussen and Page Weeks voted no. What had changed is only speculation. Rochelle had fought for years for a two-lane overpass and failed at every turn. From a cost of \$1.6 million to \$650,000. Cipolla gave the credit to Bob Hultgren. Bob had approached U.S. Representative John B. Anderson and State Senator John Roe and enlisted their support. With Anderson and Roe on board, things quickly fell in place. The impossible became not only possible but inevitable.

Preparation took a while but ground breaking occurred on April 2, 1980 and the grand opening of the overpass was on Sept. 15, 1982.

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

## A new year means new energy at Kishwaukee College

FALL is a wonderful time on a college campus. It's the start of a new school year and the start of a new educational journey for so many people. Kish is no exception — our campus looks beautiful and is once again alive with the positive energy of students, faculty and staff.

The fall of 2022 is significant for us. We have increased fall enrollment for the first time in 11 years. More students are returning to campus for face-to-face instruction. The challenges we have faced and the changes

we have made to better serve our students have been significant. We believe the increased enrollment demonstrates that Kish is important to our stakeholders, with a constant focus on student success and serving the educational needs of our local communities.

While the last three years have been a challenge, there have been positive outcomes. For the third year in a row, we have not raised our tuition or fees. We have implemented additional instructional and support services for our students, including 24/7 mental

health support. We have embraced technology in our classrooms and will continue to move quality online instruction forward with the guidance of our Faculty Innovation Center, which opened on campus this fall.

There are still challenges that we will face in the future as the number of high school graduates continues to decline. Unemployment rates are low, and good job opportunities mean fewer adults are attending college.

These factors make it even more important that we find alternative and creative ways to serve working adults, ensuring they have easy access to higher education while balancing work, family and other life responsibilities. We know that higher education transforms people's lives and makes our communities stronger.

The college is looking forward to implementing several initiatives this year, one of which is an update to our 2018

strategic plan. Kish has been responsive to the significant changes in our world over the last few years, and the updates to our college strategic plan will be reflective of the work we are doing today and going forward. Thank you to many people providing input, including faculty, staff, students, the community, and our board of trustees. We look forward to rolling out the new college strategic plan in October.

Another significant project for this year is the development of a Kishwaukee College Statement on Civility.

It will be reflective of how we, as a campus community, work together, demonstrating respect, compassion and kindness. We believe education should be a leader in modeling the behavior we want to see in our world, recognizing the significant role higher education plays in our democracy.

I am proud to lead Kish and look forward to the many good things to come this year for our students and communities.

#Kishproud  
Dr. Laurie S. Borowicz is the president of Kishwaukee College.

### VOICE ON THE STREET

**“What cell phone service provider do you use and how is the reception in your area?”**

*“Verizon, not only for the reception here which is great, but we camp in remote areas and very rarely have a signal drop.”*

Bill Tracey

*“Verizon, great reception.”*

Jennifer Phelps Winch

*“Verizon, I get pretty good reception.”*

Katie Paulsen

*“Verizon and perfect.”*

John Elliott

*“T Mobile. Pretty good reception.”*

Mark G. Schabacker

*“T Mobile/Sprint. Pretty good, never dead spots.”*

Megan Lockinger

*“Verizon...great service and reception.”*

Dawn Estes Johnson

### How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

### KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

\* Denotes Chairman/President

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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



## Rochelle DAR hears presentation from Urbana/Champaign DAR

The Rochelle Chapter DAR recently enjoyed a program by Alliance Chapter DAR members from Urbana/Champaign. "For the Fun of It," a presentation about the history of the development of children's toys, was given by DAR Correspondent Docents, Tari Bricker and Illinois DAR Corresponding Secretary Julie Woller. Shown with some of the toys they have collected are: Front row left to right: Woller and Bricker and back row left to right: Chapter Regent Laurie Perry and Vice Regent Debby Katzman. The chapter meets on the second Saturday of each month at 1 p.m. at the Creston Opera House. Guests are welcome.

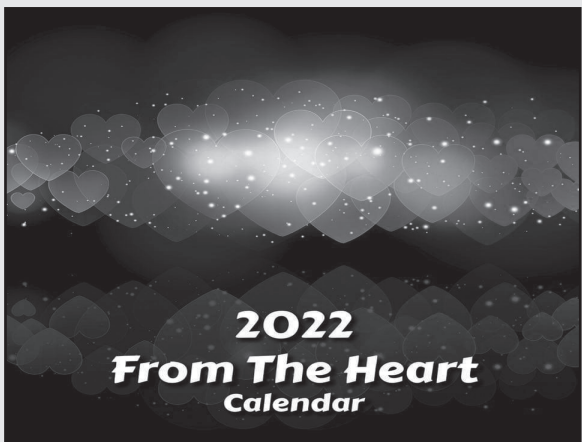
### Birthdays & Anniversaries

**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



- 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
- Sept. 15 - Vivian Carlson, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 16 - Tina Vincent, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 17 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
- Sept. 18 - Miguel Astudillo, Davis Junction, \$50
- Sept. 19 - Laura A. Pillen, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 20 - Connor Girot, Louisville, \$25
- Sept. 21 - Marcee Semple, Byron, \$25



## Coffee Break

### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Dame Dench  
5 Witty one  
8 Leer at  
12 Western tribe  
13 TV pioneer  
14 Eye part  
15 Dressing ingredient  
17 Sugar unit  
18 Fill in — blank  
19 Conclude  
20 Monk's home  
21 Droop  
22 Bikini top  
23 Wan  
26 Germ  
30 God, in Granada  
31 Joke  
32 Spoken  
33 "You wish!"  
35 Pesky insects  
36 Chairman of China  
37 Greyhound vehicle  
38 Hoopster  
41 Dict. info  
42 Chi follower  
45 Sandwich cookie  
46 Fuel-producing area  
48 Hindu royal  
49 Parisian pal  
50 Advertising award  
51 Genesis

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12					13				14			
15					16				17			
18					19				20			
			21				22					
23	24	25				26				27	28	29
30					31				32			
33					34				35			
			36				37					
38	39	40				41			42	43	44	
45					46				47			
48					49				50			
51					52				53			

- 10 Margarita gar-nish  
11 Glimpse  
16 Campus VIP  
20 Lob's path  
21 Staple in some Asian recipes  
22 Ginormous  
23 Do sums  
24 Polite address  
25 Weed whacker  
26 Chess piece  
27 — pro nobis  
28 Cudgel  
29 Overhead trains  
31 Sticky stuff  
34 Scratch  
35 Nonsense  
37 Prove untrue  
38 Comics' Mrs. Dithers  
39 Bedouin  
40 Hereditary unit  
41 Exemplar of thinness  
42 Soccer leg-end  
43 Faux pas  
44 Nuptial vows  
46 Klutz  
47 Glacial

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: **Y** equals **B**

UCPX QCBDW OIP YVLX QIPKG IK  
KEC GOLCG VS SVWMG' ECILG KEIK  
IPC GEIQCL WOMC BEDTMG VS  
YIMCL YPCIL: CIP WVIUCG.

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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

Answer

King Crossword

Very peculiar body parts at the sides of folks' heads that are shaped like chunks of baked bread; ear loaves.

CryptoQuip



# LOCAL NEWS

## PARK: Board approves bid for new decking materials

From page 1

The project will include the complete replacement of the decking at the marina to match recent work at Spring Lake Pool. The work will be done by park district staff from Oct. 17 to Nov. 7.

ABC Supply also submitted a bid for \$25,945 to supply the materials that was rejected due to the fact that those materials would not be able to be delivered until the next fiscal year.

“Because of the delay in receiving the goods, I recommend we go with RLP Lumber so we can get it done this fiscal year and in that timeframe this fall,” Ohlinger said. “It’s the exact same material and look we used at Spring Lake Pool. I’ll be happy to have that project completed.”

### Director

#### comments

During her director comments portion of the meeting, Ohlinger said the city recently installed a new sidewalk along the creek on the southeast corner of Spring Lake Marina’s parking lot for

additional access from Lakeview Drive to Spring Lake.

Painting was recently done at the Senior League baseball field on the press boxes and dugouts. That field was the only one that didn’t have paint work done back in 2016.

Winterization has started at Spring Lake Pool and work will be done to repair water leak issues. Financials from the pool’s most recent year of operation are nearly finalized and Ohlinger said the facility operated at just under a \$40,000 deficit.

“We budgeted for somewhere near an \$80,000 loss,” Ohlinger said. “Last year we were around \$56,000. Each year we’re getting a little bit better. I’m happy with that. Our maintenance expenses on staffing went down considerably and I think that’s due to the cost of the pool robots. We don’t have manual labor with that and we’ll see a benefit from that each year.”

Ohlinger said patrons parking on grass at parks continues to be a problem in the park district, especially during Rochelle



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The Flagg-Rochelle Park District Board unanimously approved a bid from RP Lumber to provide materials for new decking at Spring Lake Marina in the amount of \$29,872.

Junior Tackle games.

“We’re putting out more signage and working with RJT to try to address the issue,” Ohlinger said. “It’s really important that we keep our parks open and safe. Parking on the grass can kill the grass

too and create ruts. It’s important to have that open space as a park. We have an ordinance against it and we’re going to try and enforce that.”

To close her comments portion, Ohlinger said The REC Center currently has

2,290 members.

### Aquatics

Chris Hartzog was introduced to the board as the park district’s new aquatic and recreation supervisor. He started his position a month ago.

“I want to get to know you guys and the community inside and out,” Hartzog said. “I really want to be in-depth in this community. My goal is to provide recreational programming that’s beneficial for everybody.”

## 988 now online and Sinnissippi Centers is playing a part locally

DIXON — On July 16, 2022, the new 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline number came online, replacing the previous 1-800-273-8255 (TALK) number. 988 is an easier number to remember and to dial more quickly. The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration sees 988 as just the first step in several towards a transformed crisis care system in America. But who should call the line and how does it work?

As the name suggests, the suicide prevention lifeline was developed to help those who are thinking of suicide or those who are concerned about someone else. However, there are no specific requirements to call the lifeline. You can call 988 any time you are experiencing a significant mental health issue. You can also call if you are having struggles with substance use, or experiencing any level of crisis from stress, or from any behavioral healthcare concern.

When someone in crisis calls or texts 988 it connects them to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Calls and texts are free, there is no charge. The lifeline is a network of over 160 call centers throughout the United States. The lifeline is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Trained crisis workers answer the

phone at a nearby crisis center. The crisis worker will listen, provide support and share resources. Calls are kept confidential in all cases except where the caller is in immediate danger of harming themselves or others. Then the crisis center may involve other resources near the caller.

What does that mean for someone in the Sauk Valley area calls or texts 988? That is where Sinnissippi Centers may play a role. Sinnissippi is contracted through the Illinois Division of Mental Health as a Mobile Crisis Response (MCR) provider. As part of that responsibility in the future our crisis team will be dispatched to assist individuals who call 988.

“We won’t be responding to every call,” says Patrick Phelan, Sinnissippi Centers president/CEO. “We will only respond to those that need more support than a phone call. Estimates range that will be anywhere from 10-20 percent of calls,” adds Phelan.

“In addition, the Community Emergency Services and Supports Act (CESSA) requires that 911 call centers coordinate with this mental health dispatch to triage calls that are more appropriate for a mental health response than law enforcement,” says Phelan.

A state-wide CESSA



committee has been operational for some time now, but they are also now going to hold regional CESSA committees in each of the state’s Emergency Management Service regions. “I agreed to co-chair our regional committee with the Regional EMS medical director,” says Phelan.

“We believe that 988 and this response from MCR providers is a great new resource for individuals in our communities. However, there are a lot of details to still be worked out,” adds Phelan.

## Chana UMC hosting chicken noodle dinner

CHANA — Chana United Methodist Church is hosting a Chicken Noodle Drive Thru Dinner on Saturday, Oct. 15 from 4:30-6:30 p.m. or until food is gone. Cost of the dinner is \$10 and includes: a hearty portion of homemade (from scratch)

noodles and chicken, a generous serving of home grown squash casserole and freshly-made warm orchard apple crisp. Dinner is drive thru only and there are no presales. Chana UMC is a certified kitchen and is COVID-19 compliant.

### Annual

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ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

# SPORTS



## GIRLS PLACE SECOND

The Lady Hub sophomore volleyball team took second at the Oregon Invitational. See page 8 for more details

## RTHS Football

# Hubs cruise over Harvard

Rochelle offense rushes for nearly 400 yards in 47-13 win against Hornets

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Hub offense has kicked into high gear after being humbled during the opening week of the season, where the purple and white mustered only 14 points and were held without a rushing touchdown against the Woodstock Blue Streaks. Looking to build on consecutive 40-plus scoring performances against Herscher and Johnsburg, Rochelle's offense continued its recent dominance during Friday evening's conference matchup against Harvard.

The Hubs rushed for nearly 400 yards while averaging 13 yards per carry as Rochelle cruised over the Hornets 47-13 to start the season with a 4-0 record for the first time since 2013. The Hubs (4-0, 2-0 Interstate 8/Kishwaukee River Blue) will return home next week for their Homecoming contest against the Sycamore Spartans, who rank No. 4 in IHSA Class 5A.

"We feel like our effort in practice is showing on the field," senior lineman Jaden Cook said. "We're coming together as a team

and we're playing as a more cohesive unit. We're getting off the ball a lot better than we were before and our battles in practice have helped us a lot. We spent a lot of time watching film and we know where our mistakes are and how to fix them."

Rochelle received the opening kickoff and moved the ball effectively, capping off an eight-play, 57-yard scoring drive with a 5-yard touchdown run from senior tailback Garrett Gensler, who rushed for a team-high 181 yards and four touchdowns in the win. Harvard moved the ball effectively on its opening drive as well, but a fourth-and-goal stand from the Hub defense at its own 4-yard line resulted in a turnover on downs for the Hornets and a first down for Rochelle.

"Our coaches have been giving us good looks during practice," Cook said. "We watch film almost every day during practice and I think that's definitely helped us on the defensive end. We have to get after Sycamore next week and be nasty on the line of scrimmage. We have to win the battle up front and we have to come in with the mindset that we want



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Erich Metzger stiff arms a Harvard defender during the Rochelle Hub varsity football game against the Hornets on Friday. Rochelle rushed for 390 yards in a 47-13 win over Harvard.

to destroy them."

Senior wingback Trey Taft turned Rochelle's defensive stand into points, breaking loose off the left side of the offensive line for a 60-yard touchdown run late in the first quarter. After the Hubs forced a punt early in the second quarter, Taft found the end zone for a second time, running for an 18-yard touchdown off the left side.

**See HUBS page 3**

## RTHS Athletics

# Rochelle inducts Hall of Fame Class of 2022

Schacht, Schwartz Travis, Poliska and Harper honored at Friday ceremony

**ROCHELLE** — Rochelle Township High School inducted the Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2022 during a ceremony at the Douglas A. Creason Athletic Complex on Friday. The four honorees recognized include Danny Schacht, Katie Schwartz Travis, Ronda Poliska and Jason Harper.

**Schacht**

Danny Schacht, a 2005 graduate of RTHS, is the son of Jim and Nancy Schacht and was a three-year varsity letter winner in the boys basketball program from 2002-05 under head coach Russ Zick. Danny had great success for the Hubs both as a team and individually on the hardwood.

"Danny was an absolute delight to coach," former head basketball coach Russ Zick said. "Always a great player and many times fantastic. He gave 100 percent, 100 percent of the time."

While playing basketball as a Hub, Danny was a part of two NCIC Conference Championship teams and the undefeated conference championship team in 2005. He was also part of two IHSA Regional Championship teams in 2004 and 2005. Dan was a two-time All-

Conference player, Sauk Valley All-Area Team and an Honorable Mention All-State Player in 2004-05.

He is scattered throughout the record board in the RTHS boys basketball program. His career stats place him at 10th all time in scoring with 1,182 points, second all time in steals with 158 and fourth all time in assists with 312. His single-season records are fourth all time in assists in a season with 137 (03-04), sixth all time assists in a season with 125 (04-05) as well as third and fourth all time in steals in a season with 82 (03-04) and 76 (04-05).

After his high school career, Danny had a successful career at Kishwaukee College for two years and then at North Central College. Dan currently lives in Northwest Arkansas and works for Stroud and Associates. He is married to Holly Schacht and has two children.

**Schwartz Travis**

Katie Schwartz Travis was an accomplished three-sport athlete at RTHS. She earned 12 varsity letters while participating in volleyball, basketball and track. She was also a member of National Honor Society and was awarded



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

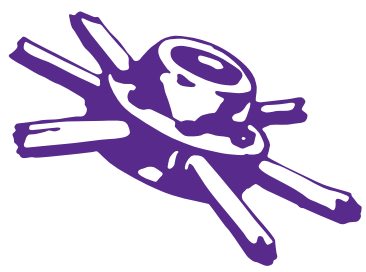
Rochelle Township High School honored its Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2022 at the Douglas A. Creason Athletic Complex on Friday. The Class of 2022 includes Katie Schwartz Travis, Danny Schacht, Ronda Poliska and Jason Harper. Pictured above from left to right are Jeff Dickey, who accepted the award on Schacht's behalf, Joe Schwartz, who accepted the award on Schwartz Travis' behalf, Poliska and Harper.

the 2011 Rochelle News Leader Scholar Athlete Award.

In volleyball, Katie earned the RTHS Offensive Player Award in 2009 and 2010 and was the RTHS kills leader in 2010.

**See HALL page 3**





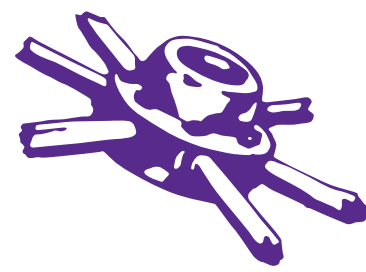
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## HUB SPOTLIGHT



**Meredith  
Bruns**

*Year: Freshman*

*Sport: Volleyball*

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

*A: Six years.*

**Q: What do you enjoy most  
about this sport?**

*A: I love how volleyball is a team  
sport and how we all work so hard  
and do so well together.*

**Q: What is your favorite school  
subject and why?**

*A: Ag because Mrs. Page makes  
everything we do fun and I always  
look forward to her class.*

**Q: Who is your biggest role  
model and why?**

*A: My dad because whatever he  
does, he puts 100 percent in and*

*tries his hardest.*

**Q: What is your dream job  
and why?**

*A: I would love to take over my  
dad's farming business I'm older.*

**Q: Where would your dream  
vacation be and why?**

*A: I would love to go to Hawaii  
because I love to go to beaches  
and swim.*

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

*A: I love how everyone is so  
supportive. I also love how  
everyone is super sweet and  
looks out for you.*



**Audyn  
Kemp**

*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: The team bonding and  
seeing us all have fun.*

**Q: What is your favorite school  
subject and why?**

*A: Ag because Mrs. Page is a  
great teacher and she doesn't  
make things boring.*

**Q: Who is your favorite  
athlete and why?**

*A: Michael Jordan because even  
though he failed, he always tried  
to be the best he could.*

**Q: Who is your biggest role  
model and why?**

*A: My brother because he  
always has great grades and  
he also plays sports.*

**Q: What is your dream job  
and why?**

*A: I do not know as of right now.*

**Q: Where would your dream  
vacation be and why?**

*A: Hawaii because I love the  
beach.*

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

*A: Everyone cheers for you and  
looks out for you.*

**GO HUBS!**



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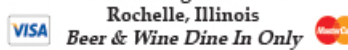
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# SPORTS

## HUBS: Rochelle moves to 4-0 with decisive victory

From page 1

Taft finished with 105 rushing yards on only five carries.

"I feel like Week 1 really humbled us and we've continued to climb from there," Taft said. "We've been working a lot harder and we've been a lot more physical. We've cleaned up our blocking during practice and we've been competing really hard against each other. We know Sycamore has a very dynamic team and we have to play well and take advantage of their mistakes."

Gensler ran in his second touchdown of the evening late in the second quarter, taking an option carry from senior quarterback Hayden Inman for a 14-yard score to help give the Hubs a 25-0 halftime lead. Harvard received the second-half kickoff, but the Hornets were once again forced to punt to start the third quarter. Rochelle held the Hornets scoreless until the fourth quarter, where running back

Landon Barnett rushed for two touchdowns to help Harvard avoid a shutout.

Gensler and Taft worked together to give the Hubs a 33-0 lead midway through the third quarter, with Gensler rushing for a 12-yard touchdown and Taft cashing in the 2-point conversion. Rochelle's final touchdown of the night came late in the fourth quarter, where junior Tommy Tourdot knifed through the Harvard defense for an 8-yard score after maneuvering through the defense for a 28-yard rush earlier in the drive. Tourdot led the Hubs with eight tackles for a 60-yard touchdown run late in the first quarter. After the Hubs forced a punt early in the second quarter, Taft found the end zone for a second time, running for an 18-yard touchdown off the left side. Taft finished with 105 rushing yards on only five carries.

"I feel like Week 1 really humbled us and we've continued to climb from there," Taft said. "We've been working a lot harder

and we've been a lot more physical. We've cleaned up our blocking during practice and we've been competing really hard against each other. We know Sycamore has a very dynamic team and we have to play well and take advantage of their mistakes."

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(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

**Sophomore Alex Pemberton fixes junior teammate Tommy Tourdot's shoulder pads after Tourdot's rushing touchdown during Friday's varsity football game.**

conversion. Rochelle's final touchdown of the night came late in the fourth quarter, where junior Tom-

my Tourdot knifed through the Harvard defense for an 8-yard score after maneuvering through the defense

for a 28-yard rush earlier in the drive. Tourdot led the Hub defense with eight tackles.

## HALL: RTHS honors Class of 2022 at Friday ceremony

From page 1

Katie was also Academic All-Conference.

In basketball, Katie was a school record holder for made free throws in a single season while also finishing in the program's top three in steals, assists, and scoring. She finished her career with 1,234 points. She was voted Most Valuable Player for her team in 2009, 2010 and 2011. In 2009 and 2010, she was named a candidate for the Walter Payton Player of the Year award. Katie was also part of the All-Tournament Team for the Forreston Thanksgiving Tournament in 2010 and a Player of the Year Candidate for the Western Sun Conference in 2010. She was All-Conference all four years and a member of the Illinois Coaches Association Honorable Mention All-State Team in 2011. In 2011 she also participated

in the NIC-10 Rising Star All Star Basketball Game.

In track, Katie qualified for the IHSA State Championship in the high jump in 2009. In 2011 she was a member of the 400-meter relay team that broke the RTHS school record. The 2011 RTHS girls track team went on to win sectionals and advance to state. As a team, they finished fifth at the state meet.

Upon graduation, Katie attended Illinois State University where she received a bachelor's degree in elementary education. Today, Katie is a fifth-grade language arts teacher in Texas. Katie is married to Cameron and has a 2-month-old son.

### Harper

Jason Harper, son of Dan and Kathy Harper, was an accomplished three-sport athlete at RTHS from 1999-2003 where he earned seven varsity

letters while participating in football, basketball and baseball.

In football, Harper played cornerback for two conference champion and state semifinalist teams. Harper received multiple NCIC All-Conference honors and Dixon Telegraph All-Area honors at his cornerback position. In his senior year, Harper was named to the Class 5A Illinois High School Football Coaches Association All-State Academic Team.

While playing basketball, Harper was a guard on multiple conference champion, regional champion and sectional finalist teams. He received multiple NCIC All-Conference honors and Dixon Telegraph All-Area honors in his junior and senior seasons. Harper led the team in free throw and field goal percentages. He holds the RTHS record for 3-point percentage in a season and career and

he represented RTHS as a state finalist in the IHSA State 3-Point Shootout his senior year.

In the spring, Jason played second base and outfield for the Hubs. In his senior season, Harper received All-Conference honors, making him an All-Conference athlete in all three sports that year.

Harper received All-Academic honors for each sport in which he participated and was a four-time Ironman as part of the RTHS weight lifting program. Upon graduation, Jason attended Knox College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in secondary education. Harper has been employed by the Rochelle School Districts for the past 11 years. Harper coached 13 total seasons as an RTHS assistant in football, basketball and baseball.

He is married to Eryn McCulloch Harper and has

three boys, Conrad, Isaiah and Grady.

### Poliska

Mrs. Poliska has worked at RTHS since January of 2001, and since the 2002 school year, she has been the athletic director's administrative assistant. She has innumerable responsibilities, including calling officials, coordinating contracts and practice spaces, running student eligibility and any other duties as assigned. She has been highly effective in the position since the day she started.

Ronda's two biggest strengths are working with people and being very organized. She takes pride in making sure things in the athletic department office run efficiently and correctly. She handles many tasks in the office that affect many other people, groups, and the community and they all run smoothly. Along with her organiza-

tion, she takes the time to get to know our students, staff, and parents to make sure they are taken care of.

She works with students to make sure they are successful in the classroom as well as on the competition fields. She is patient and flexible when dealing with situations and always puts our students first. Mrs. Poliska is truly on call 24/7 and we greatly appreciate her. It is very challenging to keep an Athletic Director's office running smoothly and efficiently, but Mrs. Poliska excels at doing just that. In fact, she knows all facets of how to run the athletic office and probably could be our athletic director.

For the past 21 years Mrs. Poliska has been a staple in the everyday lives of our staff, students and community. She is an irreplaceable component in our school and especially in the athletic department.

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## Wood floor installation dos and don'ts

**J**AW-dropping features can sell a home in a heartbeat. A penthouse apartment with floor-to-ceiling windows and a panoramic view of a city skyline likely won't prove a hard sell, nor will a home with an infinity pool overlooking a landscape of rolling hills. As awe-inspiring as such features can be, some more subtle components, such as authentic hardwood floors, also can do much to make a home more appealing to prospective buyers.

Hardwood flooring is a sought-after commodity. Data from the National Association of Realtors indicates that 54 percent of home buyers are willing to pay more for hardwood floors. In fact, NAR figures indicate that 28 percent of buyers between the ages of 35 and 54 consider hardwood floors "very important" when looking for a home. Homeowners who

are considering selling their homes, or those who simply want to upgrade their existing flooring, may want to consider installing hardwood flooring. Though it's a project best left to professionals, hardwood flooring can be installed by skilled DIYers. In such instances, homeowners may want to keep these dos and don'ts in mind.

**DO** hire a professional if you have limited or no DIY flooring experience. Hardwood flooring installation is not generally a project for novice DIYers. Hardwood flooring projects may present some common challenges, but no two homes are the same. So unless they have prior experience installing floors in multiple rooms or homes, homeowners may save themselves time, trouble and a significant amount of money hiring a professional to do the job.

**DON'T** ignore the sub-

floor. New hardwoods won't erase the problem of subfloors in poor condition. According to the home renovation experts at BobVila.com, squeaky floors could be an indication that the subfloor has begun to warp or twist. Sinking floors are another indicator of deteriorating subfloors. Subfloors should be somewhat level before new hardwoods are installed, so DIYers should inspect and address subfloor issues before installing new flooring.

**DO** expose wood flooring to the elements in your home prior to installation. The home improvement resource BuildDirect recommends acclimating hardwoods to the space where they will be installed. Skipping this important step could result in gaps during the winter and cupping over the summer. To acclimate hardwoods, open the boxes and spread them out for about a week while



running the air conditioner or heater at normal levels. When storing hardwoods prior to installation, avoid keeping them in potentially moist areas like a basement.

**DON'T** skimp on tools. A DIY hardwood flooring installation might be less expensive than hiring a professional, but homeowners should resist any temptation

to increase those savings further by purchasing less costly tools or fewer tools than is necessary to complete the job. BuildDirect notes that DIYers will need at least a miter saw, table saw, cleat-nailer or stapler, finish nailer, compressor, jamb saw, chalk line, nail set, and tape measurer when installing hardwood floors.

Purchase all necessary tools and read product reviews to ensure each tool is up to the task.

Wood floors can be awe-inspiring. Some homeowners can install such flooring on their own, and the project can be much easier if they learn as much about installation as possible prior to beginning the project.

## How to approach a basement remodel

**A** fully finished and functional basement is a dream for many homeowners. Such a space, when completed, can serve as an entertainment space, a man cave, an artist's studio, or any number of additional functions.

Despite their usefulness, finished basements are something of a rarity. In an analysis of data from the U.S. Census Bureau's Survey of Construction, the National Association of Home Builders® found that only around 24 percent of single-family homes built in 2018 have basements.

Homeowners who do not currently have a finished basement but are considering such a project can approach the remodel with a few key factors in mind. Careful consideration of these factors can ensure the project is budget-friendly and worthy of homeowners' investments.

**Investment value:** Conventional wisdom among home renovation and real estate experts suggests that a basement remodel is best if done to satisfy current inhabitants and not necessarily to appeal to prospective buyers once the home is put up for sale.

**Remodeling magazine** reports that a midrange basement remodel costing around \$70,000 will provide a return of around \$49,000 (or 70 percent) at resale. Though that's not a poor return on investment, homeowners who are remodeling a basement solely for the potential ROI at resale can find other projects that provide a greater return.

**Foundation:** The foundation of the home must garner ample consideration before beginning a basement remodel. Certain foundation issues, such as soft concrete, cracked or

curved outside walls and cracks in the flooring, are indicative of significant issues with the foundation. These issues can be costly to address, and they must be remedied before the basement remodel can begin.

**Existing space:** Some homeowners may have bought their homes with partially finished basements or even finished areas that they simply want to remodel. In such instances, a pre-remodel inspection from a licensed home inspector can save homeowners lots of money and heartache over the long haul. Partially finished or

even aging finished basements might not have been renovated in adherence to codes, which could lead to costly violations down the road. An inspection in advance of a remodel can give homeowners an idea of what they will need to do to bring the basement up to code. Local officials also can provide a list of necessary permits and a detailed description of requirements to ensure the remodeled basement adheres to code.

**Soil:** Soil surrounding the home should be tested prior to beginning the project. Radon is an odorless gas found in soil that the

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notes can increase individuals' risk for lung cancer. Radon can seep into basements and increase that risk even further if it is present at elevated levels in the soil surrounding a home. Radon tests are simple and inexpensive, and no basement remodel project should begin without first conducting such a test.

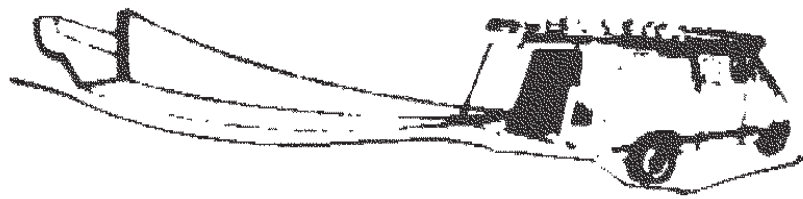
Finished basements are valuable spaces. Homeowners who want to finish or remodel their basements should consider a host of factors before beginning the renovation.



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# FALL HOME RENOVATION

## Gift ideas for the family do-it-yourselfer

HOME improvement projects enable homeowners to transform their homes into their ideal living spaces. According to iProperty Management, most homeowners in the United States spent between \$5,000 and \$10,000 improving their homes in 2018. And it doesn't stop there, as home improvement sales are projected to reach \$465 billion in 2022.

Various renovation projects are best left to the professionals. However, many homeowners are eager to get their own hands dirty with various projects, large and small. Having the right tools and gear on hand can make projects go all the more smoothly. Holiday shoppers can consider these ideas as they seek to ensure DIYers have all they need to get the job done.

**Painting time-savers:** Painting requires some ba-

sic essentials, from paint trays to rollers to brushes. Projects can be made more efficient with innovative products that help save time and reduce mess. One such item is a paint brush cover, which snaps over wet paintbrushes between coats so they won't dry out or require rinsing. Brushes that cut in easily and others with flexible handles for getting in tight places also make painting projects that much easier.

**Cordless drill:** A mechanical drill makes easy work of assembly projects and general renovations that require screws as fasteners. A cordless rechargeable drill will be easy to maneuver when handling projects away from outlets. Going cord-free also reduces the risk of trips and falls on errand cords.

**Lawn care subscription service:** Home improvements extend to the exte-

rior. In addition to mowers, trimmers and garden shears, DIYers may benefit from subscription products that improve on property care. These formulations are customized to the specific needs of homeowners' lawn or landscaping greenery and are shipped right to their door.

**Rotary tool kit:** This is one of the most versatile tools homeowners can have on hand. A rotary tool can engrave, grind, sharpen, polish, cut, carve, and more depending on the accessory attachment.

**Multi-use ladder:** A ladder is a necessity for various projects inside and outside the home. One that can transform into an A-frame, scaffold system, staircase ladder and other configurations helps ensure maximum safe reach for the job at hand.

**Composter:** Whether you use an indoor kitchen



composter or one designed for outdoor use, being able to generate one's own compost is great for avid gardeners. Compost, often called "black gold," is made from kitchen scraps, leaves and other items that break down into a rich fertilizer.

**Tool box/tool organizer:** Tool storage is a market all its own. It runs

the gamut from rolling metal storage containers to plastic or metal boxes to canvas bags to plastic molded curated kits. Tool organizer kits also come at various price points, so it's easy for shoppers to choose one that fits their budgets.

**Organizing units:** Organizing units are available in prefabricated kits

that are easily assembled when needed, as well as custom-made products that are installed by a professional. They may be an option for a handy person looking to organize tools and other items for home repairs.

Do-it-yourselfers can be even more handy with tools geared toward their interests and repair needs.

## Pros and cons to open-concept homes

OPEN-concept homes have become increasingly popular in recent years. An open-concept home is one in which the rooms flow into one another with limited obstruction from walls or other barriers. According to the National Association of Home Builders, 84 percent of new single-family homes have fully or partially open layouts.

While they may seem like a new trend, open floor plans are anything but. Early American homes featured open, often one- or two-room units built

around the central kitchen/hearth. This maximized warmth and functionality. Homes evolved as incomes grew, and soon homes had several smaller rooms with specialized functions.

What's old has become new again. However, before diving head first into a new home purchase or a big renovation to realize an open-concept dream, consider the pros and cons of this type of setup to determine if it's really right for you.

Open floor plans facilitate the flow of natural light throughout a space and can promote air flow, helping

to reduce warm or cool pockets of air in otherwise closed-off rooms.

Open homes make socializing easier, even when people are doing different things. While someone is cooking dinner in the kitchen, he or she can still interact with someone else playing video games in the family room or paying bills in the home office. Entertaining also is easier, as mingling with guests is much more convenient when walls are not getting in the way.

A smaller home can feel much larger if it employs an open concept.

The square footage is not divided into smaller quarters, which sometimes are rooms (such as formal dining rooms) that are only used a few times per year. This eliminates underused spaces and opens up sight lines in the layout.

The value of real estate has risen dramatically since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, and prospective buyers may prefer an open-concept plan because it can help them minimize building costs.

Open layouts are not for everyone. The same sense of space that oc-

curs when walls are taken down may make rooms feel cavernous and less cozy, particularly in homes with ample square footage. In addition, privacy can be hard to come by when all rooms feed into one another.

When the kitchen is not separate from the family room space, that makes it easy for noise to compromise the area's comfort levels. There is no hiding from noise in an open floor plan, as sounds from voices, television shows and appliances tend to echo and blend together. And if the home is a single-story

layout, those noises from the main living areas also may carry to adjacent bedrooms.

Smoke and smells are another thing to consider. When something on the stove spills over, a small range hood will not be practical for clearing smoke from a large space. Though the aroma of freshly cooked food is enticing, it can make it hard for cooks to keep guests out of the kitchen.

Open-concept homes are popular, but homeowners should weigh the pluses and minuses to see if this trend is truly right for them.

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# FALL HOME RENOVATION

## How to stay safe on do-it-yourself projects

HOME improvement projects can be costly. Depending on the scope of the project, the choice of materials and the skill level involved to see the project through to successful completion, homeowners could be on the hook for thousands of dollars or even more when renovating their homes.

One popular way homeowners look to cut such costs is to do some, if not all, of the work themselves. Indeed, do-it-yourselfers can save a considerable amount of money. Estimates from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Housing Survey indicate that homeowners can save anywhere from 50 to 80 percent on DIY projects compared to what they might pay for comparable work to be performed by a contractor. However, the key there is "comparable." Cost overruns could derail DIY savings rather quickly if homeowners have little renovating skill or experi-

ence. But homeowners' wallets aren't the only thing in jeopardy if a DIY project goes awry.

Renovation projects require attention to detail, and that includes an emphasis on safety. Homeowners who are injured on DIY projects may face costly medical bills, while projects that are completed without incident could later pose safety hazards that require work to be redone, which is both expensive and a threat to personal safety in the interim. DIYers need not be discouraged from taking projects on themselves, but they should heed these tips to stay safe when working on their homes.

Make sure you choose the right ladder. DIYers may spend ample time shopping for drills and other electronic tools and gadgets that are fun to use. But ample time also must be afforded to the type of ladder you intend to use on a project. Estimates from the West Bend Insurance

Company indicate that roughly 90,000 people visit the emergency room due to ladder accidents each year. Never use a broken ladder or an aging ladder that's uneven. In addition, do not use a ladder that forces you to reach far away. If you're leaning while using a ladder, the ladder is either too short for your project or positioned too far away from the wall. The National Home Security Alliance advises DIYers to place their ladder one foot from the wall for every four feet it rises above the ground. Test your ladders for their sturdiness prior to beginning work so you aren't tempted to use a subpar ladder.

Be especially careful with power tools. Power tools can do a lot and they're fun to use. But it's important that DIYers do not let fun distract them from safety. The Power Tool Institute urges power tool users to wear personal protective equipment, including eye and hearing



protection and a dust mask, whenever using power tools.

The PTI also advises users to make sure tools are powered down before plugging them in and to inspect the tool before using it. Inspections can confirm that all guards are in place and that tools are up to the task at hand. Much like it's unsafe to overreach on a ladder, overreaching when using power tools increase the risk for mistakes, accidents and injuries.

Avoid electrical work. Complicated electrical work is best left to the professionals. Estimates from the Electrical Safety Foundation International indicate that electrical malfunctions cause more than 50,000 house fires each year. Such malfunctions can occur for myriad reasons, and a lack of experience working with electrical circuits and breakers could make homes vulnerable to malfunctions and fires. It's also worth

noting that homeowners' insurance policies may not cover damage caused by DIY electrical work. So at the very least homeowners should contact their insurance providers to determine if any accidents or injuries caused by DIY electrical work would be covered by their policies.

DIY renovation projects can save homeowners a lot of money, but those savings aren't worth compromising your safety and the safety of your loved ones.

## How to keep outdoor living areas safe

OUTDOOR living spaces are a wildly popular trend. A 2021 survey conducted on behalf of the International Casual Furnishings Association and American Home Furnishings Alliance found that 90 percent of individuals surveyed felt outdoor living spaces are more valuable than ever. That popularity was evident during the pandemic, during which 23 percent of respondents indicated they bought new furniture while 18 percent acknowledged building a deck.

The excitement of seeing a new or renovated outdoor living area can make it easy to overlook safety. But outdoor living areas, particularly those that include entertaining areas with televisions, lighting and other electronics, can pose significant safety hazards if homeowners don't take some necessary precautions.

Use an appropriate extension cord. String lights above outdoor living spaces like decks and patios can create a warm, relaxing nighttime vibe. Those lights

need to be plugged in, which increases the risk for electrical accidents. When utilizing an extension cord outdoors, never use a cord designated for indoor use. Outdoor extension cords are better insulated than cords made for indoor use. That insulation provides better protection against the elements, including sunlight, changes in temperature and moisture. When using an extension cord outdoors, make sure the cord is secured and not left lying on a deck or patio where it can easily become a tripping

hazard.

Consider fencing. Fencing can make an outdoor living space more private and safe. Local laws may mandate that pools be enclosed with fencing, but even living spaces without pools can be made safer with the installation of a fence. Firepits are wildly popular, as more than 35 percent of homeowners who responded to the ICFA survey acknowledged their intention to purchase new firepits in 2021. Adding fencing around areas with firepits establishes boundaries,

which is a must for homeowners with small children. Fencing also makes it harder for local wildlife to gain access to a property, which can decrease residents' risk for tick-borne diseases like Lyme disease.

Purchase an outdoor television. Outdoor televisions can be expensive, but the cost of such devices will depend on what homeowners are looking for. Homeowners who plan to spend ample time outdoors watching games, movies and their favorite shows may feel a high-end

outdoor television, which can cost anywhere from \$10,000 to \$20,000, is well worth the investment. But those working with smaller budgets can find a quality 4K outdoor TV for around \$2,000. That's still a steep price tag, but the electronics experts at P.C. Richard & Son note that outdoor TVs are designed with safety features that indoor televisions don't have. For example, outdoor TVs can self-regulate temperature and moisture levels, greatly reducing the risk of electrical issues.

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# MARKETPLACE

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
In 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)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF THE VILLAGE OF HILLCREST**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ROCHELLE SOLAR, LLC, Petitioner and Owner, has filed an application with the Village of Hillcrest,

Ogle County, Illinois, requesting a Text Amendment to amend Chapter 82, Article IV, Division 3, Sec. 82-218, Termination of Permit, to read "Upon written application, the Village Board may authorize an extension of the SUP for an amount of time deemed appropriate by the Village Board." and a Text Amendment to amend Chapter 82, Article IV, Division 5, Sec. 82-271 U), Period of validity for Variations, to read "Any variation granted by the Village Board shall be valid for a period of time deemed appropriate by the Village Board and shall expire at the end of that period, unless: ... (remainder of section unchanged)".  
NOTICE IS HEREWITH GIVEN THAT the Village Board for the Village of Hillcrest will conduct a

Public Hearing for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony as to an ordinance authorizing the text amendment to the ordinances of the Village of Hillcrest, on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village of Hillcrest, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068.  
The public hearing may be continued from time to time to dates certain without further notice being published. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard. Any written comments should be addressed to the Village of Hillcrest, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068, and will be accepted up to the date of the public hearing.  
By order of the Corporate Authorities of the Village of Hillcrest, Ogle County, Illinois, DAWN BEARROWS Village Clerk

No. 0922 (Sept. 21)  
**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON A REQUEST FOR VARIATION BEFORE THE PLAN COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF HILLCREST**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ROCHELLES OLAR, LLC, Petitioner and Owner, has filed an application with the Village of Hillcrest, Ogle County, Illinois, requesting a Variation from Sections 82-503 and 82-505 of the Village Ordinances to allow for a six foot chain link fence with an additional one foot of barbed wire and construction of a 6ft privacy fence, as depicted on the project site plan. The tract of property is generally located at XXX Twombly Road, Rochelle, IL (located on the north side of Twombly Road at its intersection Dement Road), consisting of a total of two parcels.  
The legal description of the tract of property is as follows:  
Such tracts or farms of land, situated in Dement Township, Ogle County, Illinois {Tax Identification numbers 25-07-400-003 and 25-

08-300-004) bounded and described as follows:  
Part of the East-half of the East-half of Section 7 and part of the West-half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 8 and part of the West-half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, all in Township 40 North, Range 2 East of the Third Principal Meridian, bounded and described as follows:  
Beginning at the Southeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 7; thence South 89 degrees 32 minutes 21 seconds West along the South Line of said Southeast Quarter, a distance of 947.43 feet; thence North O degrees 24 minutes 45 seconds East parallel with the West Line of the Southeast Quarter of said Southeast Quarter, a distance of 570.55 feet; thence South 89 degrees 32 minutes 21 seconds West parallel with the South Line of the Southeast Quarter of said Southeast Quarter, a distance of 381.78 feet to the West Line of the East-half of the East-half of said Section 7; thence North O degrees 24 minutes 45 seconds East along said West Line, a distance of 3491.60 feet to the Easterly running East and West through the Center of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, Township 40 North, Range 1 East of the Third Principal Meridian; thence North 88 degrees 43 minutes 52 seconds East along said Easterly extension, a distance of 2641.52 feet to the East Line of the West-half of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 8; thence South O degrees 10 minutes 11 seconds West along said East Line, a distance of 1407.52 feet; thence South 20 degrees 59 minutes 01 seconds West, a distance of 46.43 feet to the North Line of the West-half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 8, said point being 16.5 feet West of the Northeast Corner of the West-half of said Southwest Quarter; thence South O degrees 19 minutes 43 seconds West parallel with the East Line of the West-half of said Southwest Quarter, a distance of 2646.89 feet to the South Line of said Southwest Quarter; thence South 89 degrees 28 minutes 03 seconds West along said South Line, a distance of 1305.02

feet to the Point of Beginning; all situated in the Township of Dement, the County of Ogle and the State of Illinois.  
LESS AND EXCEPT: Part of the West-half of Section 8, in Township 40 North, Range 2 East of the Third Principal Meridian, bounded and described as follows:  
Commencing at the Southwest Corner of said Section 8; thence Easterly along the South Line of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 8, a distance of 1305.02 feet; thence Northerly at an angle of 90 degrees 51 minutes 40 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 2476.11 feet to the Point of Beginning of the hereinafter described tract of land; thence continuing Northerly on an extension of the last described course, a distance of 170.78 feet; thence Northeasterly at an angle of 159 degrees 20 minutes 42 seconds as measured counter-clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 46.43 feet to the East Line of the West-half of the West-half of said Section 8; thence Northerly along said East Line, at an angle of 159 degrees 11 minutes 10 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 1407.52 feet; thence Westerly at an angle of 88 degrees 33 minutes 41 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 320.10 feet; thence Southerly, parallel with the East Line of the West-half of the West-half of said Section 8, at an angle of 91 degrees 26 minutes 19 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 303.03 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 11.81 acres, more or less, subject to all easements, agreements, county codes and/or ordinances of record, if any, all situated in the Township of Dement, the County of Ogle and the State of Illinois.  
NOTICE IS HEREWITH GIVEN THAT the Plan Commission of the Village of Hillcrest will conduct a Public Hearing for the

purpose of considering and hearing testimony as to an ordinance authorizing a Variation at the above described tract of property on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, Village of Hillcrest, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068.  
The public hearing may be continued from time to time to dates certain without further notice being published. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard. Any written comments should be addressed to the Village of Hillcrest, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068, and will be accepted up to the date of the public hearing.  
By order of the Corporate Authorities of the Village of Hillcrest, Ogle County, Illinois, Dawn Bearrows Village Clerk  
No. 0923 (Sept. 21)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
**NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING ON A REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF A SPECIAL USE PERMIT BEFORE THE PLAN COMMISSION OF THE VILLAGE OF HILLCREST**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT ROCHELLE SOLAR, LLC, Petitioner and Owner, has filed an application with the Village of Hillcrest, Ogle County, Illinois, requesting an extension of a special use permit granted on April 14, 2021 to allow for a solar farm on a tract of property.

The tract of property is generally located at XXX Twombly Road, Rochelle, IL (located on the north side of Twombly Road at its intersection with Dement Road), consisting of a total of two parcels.  
The legal description of the tract of property is as follows:  
Such tracts or farms of land, situated in Dement Township, Ogle County, Illinois (Tax Identification numbers 25-07-400-003 and 25-08-300-004) bounded and described as follows:  
Part of the East-half of the East-half of Section 7 and part of the West-half of the Northwest Quarter of Section 8 and part of the West-half of the Southwest Quarter of Section 8, all in Township 40 North, Range 2 East of the Third Principal Meridian, bounded and described as follows:  
Beginning at the Southeast Corner of the Southeast Quarter of said Section 7; thence South 89 degrees 32 minutes 21 seconds West along the South Line of said Southeast Quarter, a distance of 947.43 feet; thence North O degrees 24 minutes 45 seconds East parallel with the West Line of the Southeast Quarter of said Southeast Quarter, a distance of 570.55 feet; thence South 89 degrees 32 minutes 21 seconds West parallel with the South Line of the Southeast Quarter of said Southeast Quarter, a distance of 381.78 feet to the West Line of the East-half of the East-half of said Section 7; thence North O degrees 24 minutes 45 seconds East along said West Line, a distance of 3491.60 feet to the Easterly extension of a line running East and West through the Center of the Northeast Quarter of Section 12, Township 40 North, Range 1 East of the Third Principal Meridian; thence North 88 degrees 43 minutes 52 seconds East along said Easterly extension, a distance of 2641.52 feet to the East Line of the West-half of the Northwest Quarter of said Section 8; thence South O degrees 10 minutes 11 seconds West along said East Line, a distance of 1407.52 feet; thence South 20 degrees 59 minutes 01 seconds West, a distance of 46.43 feet to the North Line of the West-half of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 8, said point being 16.5 feet West of the Northeast Corner of the West-half of said Southwest Quarter; thence South O degrees 19 minutes 43 seconds West parallel with the East Line of the West-half of said Southwest Quarter, a distance of 2646.89

feet to the South Line of said Southwest Quarter; thence South 89 degrees 28 minutes 03 seconds West along said South Line, a distance of 1305.02 feet to the Point of Beginning; all situated in the Township of Dement, the County of Ogle and the State of Illinois.  
LESS AND EXCEPT: Part of the West-half of Section 8, in Township 40 North, Range 2 East of the Third Principal Meridian, bounded and described as follows:  
Commencing at the Southwest Corner of said Section 8; thence Easterly along the South Line of the Southwest Quarter of said Section 8, a distance of 1305.02 feet; thence Northerly at an angle of 90 degrees 51 minutes 40 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 2476.11 feet to the Point of Beginning of the hereinafter described tract of land; thence continuing Northerly on an extension of the last described course, a distance of 170.78 feet; thence Northeasterly at an angle of 159 degrees 20 minutes 42 seconds as measured counter-clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 46.43 feet to the East Line of the West-half of the West-half of said Section 8; thence Northerly along said East Line, at an angle of 159 degrees 11 minutes 10 seconds as measured last described course, a distance of 1407.52 feet; thence Westerly at an angle of 88 degrees 33 minutes 41 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 320.10 feet; thence Southerly, parallel with the East Line of the West-half of the West-half of the West-half of said Section 8, at an angle of 91 degrees 26 minutes 19 seconds as measured clockwise from the last described course, a distance of 303.03 feet to the Point of Beginning, containing 11.81 acres, more or less, subject to all easements, agreements, county codes and/or ordinances of record, if any, all situated in the Township of Dement, the County of Ogle and the State of Illinois.  
NOTICE IS HEREWITH GIVEN THAT the Plan Commission of the Village of Hillcrest will conduct a Public Hearing for the purpose of considering and hearing testimony as to an ordinance authorizing the extension of a special use permit for operation of a solar farm at the above described tract of property on Wednesday, October 12, 2022 at 7:00 p.m. at the Village Hall, Village of Hillcrest, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068.  
The public hearing may be continued from time to time to dates certain without further notice being published. All interested parties are invited to attend the public hearing and will be given an opportunity to be heard. Any written comments should be addressed to the Village of Hillcrest, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068, and will be accepted up to the date of the public hearing.  
By order of the Corporate Authorities of the Village of Hillcrest, Ogle County, Illinois, Dawn Bearrows Village Clerk  
No. 0924 (Sept. 21)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Cellico Partnership and its controlled affiliates doing business as Verizon Wireless (Verizon Wireless) proposes to collocate wireless communications antennas at a top height of 131 feet on a 181.2-foot water tower at the approx. vicinity of 700 2nd Ave, Rochelle, Ogle County, IL 61068. Public comments regarding potential effects from this site on historic properties may be submitted within 30 days from the date of this publication to: Camille Neitzel, c.neitzel@trileaf.com, 1821 Walden Office Square, Suite 500, Schaumburg, IL 60173, 630-227-0202. No. 0925 (Sept. 21)

**127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS**  
JNJ JUMPERS Indoor/Outdoor Bounce House Rentals Available Year Round. Please Call 815-784-4256 For Availability or Visit us on Facebook.

**201 DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE**  
NO INDIVIDUAL unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

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

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

**305 GARAGE SALES**  
ROCHELLE: 817 N 7th St. Has Lots to Offer. Thursday September 22nd at 4pm, Friday September 23rd 7:30am-3pm & Saturday September 24th 7am-11pm. Household Goods, Furniture, Electronics, Kitchen Items, Adult Clothing, and Other Items from Around House. (09-21-22)

**307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE**  
OAK Hoosier Baker's Cupboard. Walnut Dining Table, With/3- Leaves & 6-Upholstered Chairs. Oak Square Farmhouse Table With 3 Leaves & 6-Hoopback Chairs. Butternut Wood Parlor Tea Table. Full Size Brass Bed. Everything in Excellent Condition. 815-751-1366. (09-21-22)

HUNTERS: Hang on STANDS 5-Aluminum \$45/Each, 5-Steel \$30/Each. 3-17" Stick Steps \$35/Each. (Rochelle) 630-768-1185 After 5pm. (09-21-22)

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

NEW MILFORD REFRIGERATION

NEW, USED SCRATCH & DENT

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We also carry a large selection of refurbished appliances with a warranty.

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**103 AUCTIONS**

Accepting items for a Consignment Auction

Saturday, September 24th.

Remmer Schuetz Auction Service

Call: 847-878-1491

09192022

\* ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS EQUIPMENT AUCTION \*

Since our Building and equipment lot has been sold, we will sell all of the following equipment, supplies, tools, trailers, trucks & excavating equip. at NO RESERVE to the highest bidder located at Virgil Cook & Sons, 119 N.8th St. DeKalb, IL.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30th Starting at 11:00 a.m

**Auctioneers Note:** We will have pre-auction viewing on Tue. Sept 27 & Wed. Sept. 28 from 9-5. Everything listed will be sold, However, due to an ongoing project some items may not be available at the auction. The current jobs must be finished. They will be offered at a later date, if need be. Check with auctioneers before auction day. All load out and removal of items must be completed by October 5th. Fork lift onsite to assist.

**EXCAVATION EQUIPMENT** Bobcat E26 Mini Excavator, 2685 Hrs., New tracks & new hyd pump; John Deere 27D Mini Excavator runs and operates great; Case 580K Loader Back-Hoe, 4x4, Extend-a-Hoe, cab, extra buckets; Case 1845C Skid Steer, Work & operates great; Ingersol-Rand 185 Diesel portable air compressor, sells with hammers, breakers, hose and attachments; Clark GPS25gas Forklift, pneumatic tires 7400hrs, works everyday; Hyster 50 LP gas, hard tire Forklift, Works everyday; Ditch Witch 8030, diesel Trencher/Backhoe works and operates; SJM sissor lift. Battery power, not working; Several attachments for the skid steers and Mini Excavators, Buckets, Breakers, forks, augers and bits, all sold after the machines;

**TRUCKS AND TRAILERS** 05 Sterling Acterra diesel 2-man Lift-All bucket truck, 6 speed, 40ft Lift-All, Just off the job; 93 GMC 3500HD Bucket truck w/Lift-All 30-15 and Sauber fiberglass utility box, the best you can buy!; 08 Chevy Kodiak 4500 gas truck w/ 12ft van body and Walto Aluminum power lift-gate; 06 GMC 2500HD 2wd pick-up w/ utility box, auto; 04 GMC 2500HD 2wd pick-up 2wd w/ 8ft. Tool box bed; 24ft 10 ton flatbed equip. tag trailer w/ ramps; 20ft tag tilt top trailer used as a spool carrier; 17ft tag equipment trailer w/ ramps, great for skidders; 16ft tag equipment trailer w/ ramps; 14ft tag equipment trailer/ramps.

**Electrical instillation tools and supplies:** 10ft steel caissons; 36ft aluminum cross members for lights; lots of new and threaded steel and PVC conduit; Large selection of portable construction warning signs; 2-Target Pro-35 concrete saws; Ridgid 1224 pipe threader; Several Ridgid 300 threaders; Lots of thread dies; lots of portable threaders; lots of portable Generators; Knack Gang boxes; We will have several hay racks loaded with hand tools; Wells horz. Band saw; Vertical concrete boring machines; Lincoln SP 200 welder; Gas powered Miller welder; Lots of long handle tools and power hand tools; Huge amount of smaller electrical hardware items sold in bulk buy the shelf and row run down the aisle. Large amount of shelving also to be sold. Come early, make your list and load it up. And many other items used in the building and construction trade, to numerous to mention.

**Auctioneers Note:** Lots of good usable items selling at no reserve, all inside. Bring your truck trailer and a friend.

**Terms:** All Items Sold As-Is. Cash, Check. Credit Cards w/ 3% convenience fee added. All Items Settled For On Auction Day. Not Responsible For Accidents, Injury or Theft. Announcements made sale day take precedence over all other advertising. Pictures @www.almburgalmburgauctions.com. Almburg, Auctioneers. Malta, Illinois. Steve, Andrew, Adam. 815-739-3703.

Justin Carlson Project Coordinator for Virgil Cook & Sons.

815-482-6184.

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203 HELP WANTED

Village of Hillcrest Seeking Full-Time Maintenance Employee

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

**Requires:** Mechanical Proficiency, a Valid CDL Driver's License & Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Availability as well as 24 Hours A Day as an Emergency Contact

**Benefits:** Paid Time Off (PTO), Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund (IMRF) Membership & Insurance Stipend

Apply in Person M-F 8a-5p at Village Hall, 204 Hillcrest Avenue, Hillcrest or Online at [hillcrestil.us](http://hillcrestil.us)

09212022

OPEN INTERVIEWS

Little Hubs Learning Center

Saturday, September 24th 2-4 PM

1010 N. 15th Street, Rochelle

Available Positions:

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Bring Diploma & Transcripts to the Interview

Call or Text For More Information 779-400-9221

09182022





# SPORTS

## Rochelle Junior Tackle



(PHOTOS BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

Rochelle Junior Tackle faced Byron at Helms Park on Sunday. Above, seventh-grader Cohen Haedt (left) drops back to pass and eighth-grader Angel Argueta (right) breaks a tackle on the carry. Below, fifth-grader Korbin Milos (left) catches a pass and sixth-grader Nolan Zick (right) avoids the pressure on the rush.

## Junior Hubs battle with Byron at Helms Park

### Eighth-graders emerge victorious as sixth and fifth-graders suffer first losses

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams hosted Byron for Week 6 of the Big 14 Conference schedule on Sunday. The Junior Hubs went 1-3 over four games,

with the eighth-graders emerging victorious while the sixth and fifth-graders suffered their first losses.

The eighth-graders defeated Byron 30-20 and moved to 5-1 on the season Sunday afternoon. Dylan Manning sparked the Junior Hub offense with a

51-yard touchdown and a 7-yard touchdown, while Keegan Cathina added a 1-yard touchdown rush. Quarterback Brody Bruns connected with Warren Schweitzer for a 6-yard touchdown pass to aid Rochelle in the win.

The seventh-graders

dropped to 4-2 on the season with a 30-12 loss to Byron on Sunday. Caiden Redlarczyk and Andrew Eyster each scored touchdowns for the Junior Hubs, with Redlarczyk recording a 60-yard touchdown and Eyster plowing forward for a 1-yard touchdown.

The sixth-graders lost for the first time this season, falling 20-6 against Byron and moving to 5-1 overall. Braxton Bruns scored Rochelle's lone touchdown, rushing for a 6-yard score.

The fifth-graders also lost for the first time, conceding a 30-12 defeat against Byron

to drop to 5-1 on the season. Quentin Ansteth rushed for a 7-yard touchdown and quarterback Maddex Jackson fired a 16-yard touchdown pass to Korbin Milos to ignite the offense.

Rochelle will play at Rockton on Saturday, Sept. 24.



## RTHS Volleyball

(COURTESY PHOTO)



### Sophomores take second at Oregon Invitational

The Rochelle Lady Hub sophomore volleyball team took second at the Oregon Invitational on Saturday, finishing with a 2-1 record over three matches. Rochelle defeated Hall Township 19-25, 25-21, 15-10 before winning 17-25, 25-21, 15-9 over Milledgeville. The Lady Hubs faced North Boone for first place, falling 23-25, 20-25. The team includes Anna Blanton, Meredith Bruns, Emma Kennay, Sydney Carmichael, Kendyl Darby, Erin Murphy, Abby Metzger, Natalie Wagner, Lauren Dyer, Payton Cesarone and Cassidy Vincent (not pictured). The girls are coached by Lindsay Suess.

## RTHS Boys Soccer

## Hubs fall to Belvidere

### Rochelle concedes loss at Sycamore

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team hosted a non-conference match with Belvidere on Saturday. Three players including

freshmen Heilly Zepeda, Kevin Orozco and junior Diego Salazar scored goals as the Bucs edged the Hubs 5-3. Rochelle trailed Belvidere 3-2 at halftime.

### Sycamore

The Rochelle Hub var-

sity soccer team faced Sycamore on the road Monday evening, falling 5-2 in Interstate 8 Conference action.

Rochelle (7-6, 4-2 Interstate 8) will kick off the conference tournament on Monday, Sept. 26.

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