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Vol. 103 • No. 28

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3, 2022

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RPD's Jackson graduates

RPD officer Sydney Jackson graduated from Macon County Law Enforcement Academy after 14 weeks.

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WEATHER

WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW
88 70

THURSDAY
HIGH LOW
82 60

FRIDAY
HIGH LOW
85 57

SATURDAY
HIGH LOW
91 64

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OBITUARIES

NONE

INSERTS

- ALDI
- FARM & FLEET

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Seebach's Sweet Corn open for 2022 'You can point to the field where it comes from'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Friday, Seebach's Sweet Corn kicked off its 2022 season of selling at 11594 E. Kyte Road. The stand is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The family can be reached at 815-213-5229 or 815-562-7561. Fresh vegetables are also sold at the stand. Large orders of sweet corn can be called in ahead of time.

The Seebach family has grown and sold sweet corn at the location for decades. The field of sweet corn can be seen from the stand. Corn was originally sold out of their garage before a stand was put up under the big shade tree in the yard.

The tradition of selling sweet corn was started by the late Jerry Seebach, and it has since been carried on by his son, Jeff. Christy, Jeff's stepmom, and other family members can usually be found selling at the stand. Andy Buskohl helps the family with getting the crop in to sell.

"It's just a nice hobby," Jeff said. "And I enjoy doing this and seeing the community come out. They support us really



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The Seebach family continued its decades-long tradition of growing and selling sweet corn on East Kyte Road when it opened up shop last week. From left to right: Sienna Seebach, Christy Seebach, Jeff Seebach and the family's employee, Andy Buskohl.

well. It's great to see all the people that come through here and talk with them. Everyone is always asking when we're going to have sweet corn. It's keeping up with them and we talk."

The wet spring delayed the start of sweet corn season for the Seebachs by about a week, Jeff said. Fertilizer wasn't able to be put on due to the moisture, and by the time it was, rain came again. Planting

came a week late. Sales started about a week to a week and a half later than a usual year.

"Plus with it being hot for a few days and then cooling off for the next several days, it kind of slows it down a little bit," Seebach said. "It didn't come in as fast as I hoped, but it's ready when it's ready. Mother Nature will tell you. I'm expecting to have it through about the

middle of September. We only did two plantings this year with it being slow and decided to save the seed for next year."

The Seebach's Sweet Corn stand saw regular customers come through to buy corn by the dozen on its opening day. More demand comes during weekday evenings and on the weekends, Jeff said.

See CORN page 3

ROCHELLE
ILLINOIS
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Two years leading the Chamber

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Thursday, Aug. 4 will mark Tricia Herrera's two-year anniversary since being named executive director of the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce.

Herrera spoke to the News-Leader last week and detailed changes at the chamber since 2020, what it was like to start her new position amid the COVID-19 pandemic and spoke on the state of the Rochelle business community.

Chamber changes since 2020 started with moving its office downtown to a new location at 501 W. 6th Ave.

"We moved downtown, that's kind of the heart of the city," Herrera said.

See CHAMBER pg 5

2023 From the Heart calendars on sale

Nonprofit organization celebrating 15th anniversary this year

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — 2023 From the Heart cash calendars were recently printed and are now on sale for \$20, From the Heart President and Founder Dave Eckhardt said last week.

The calendars contain over \$20 worth of coupons and are available at various businesses in town including First State Bank, Stillman Bank, Hope Chest and the Rochelle News-Leader.

Prize money is given away to a buyer of a calendar each day of the year. \$25 is given away per day and \$50 on Sundays. On special occasions, the prize is more than that. \$1,000 is given away on New Year's Day, \$250 on Valentine's Day, \$250 on the day of the From the Heart gala, \$250 on St. Patrick's Day, \$300 on Easter, \$500 on Mother's Day, \$1,000 on Memorial Day, \$500 on Father's Day, \$1,000 on July 4, \$1,000 on Labor Day, \$250 on Columbus Day, \$250 on Halloween, \$250 on Veterans Day, \$500 on Thanksgiving and \$1,000 on Christmas.

2023
From The Heart
Calendar

Celebrating 15 Years of Giving

\$20

(COURTESY PHOTO)

2023 From the Heart cash calendars were recently printed and are now on sale for \$20, From the Heart President and Founder Dave Eckhardt said last week.

"The cash calendar has turned into a big bonanza for From the Heart," Eckhardt said. "It started around 10

years ago. It took the place of a raffle we used to do to get money for the From the Heart gala. We did it

with Rotary and wanted to produce as much money as we did from the raffle, and it has every year. Last year

was, we sold over 4,500 calendars."

See HEART page 8

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LOCAL NEWS



On Thursday afternoon, Rochelle Community Hospital hosted a back to school kick-off event on its lawn. The event included health books, tips and demos, free backpacks to the first 100 attendees, free Kona Ice Treats, visits with comfort dogs and giveaways and games.

RCH hosts Back to School kick-off event

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Thursday afternoon, Rochelle Community Hospital hosted a back to school kick-off event on its lawn. The event included health books, tips and demos, free backpacks to the first 100 attendees, free Kona

Ice Treats, visits with comfort dogs and giveaways and games.

RCH Public Health Intern Andrew Dubow, who worked to organize the event along with RCH staff members, said the theme Thursday was back-to-school wellness.

“We’re trying to incorporate back-to-school

wellness into the event for the kids as they get ready to go back to school,” Dubow said. “We’re trying to get the kids into a healthy mindset. We’re obviously Rochelle Community Hospital. We’re very community-based. It’s just something good for the kids before they go back to school to come

together and get some good information on how to improve their lifestyle.”

Dubow said he was impressed with the turnout Thursday and members of the community showed up early to the event. Children in attendance were able to get free school supplies such as backpacks, pens and pencils.

Booths included a mental health checkup and kids had the chance to learn about orthopedics.

Dubow said he hopes the event helped to get members of the public, especially children, to associate RCH with fun memories, rather than having to go to it just for health issues of their

own or those of family members.

“Nobody wants to go to the hospital, but we promote ourselves as a family and community healthcare place to go for your all-around needs, whether it’s an emergency or not,” Dubow said. “Rochelle Community Hospital is here for you.”



(PHOTOS BY JEFF HELFRICH)





Jennifer Finkboner
Food & Nutrition Coordinator
Length of Service: 3 Years



High Performer
August 2022

To read Jennifer’s nomination, go to the RCH Facebook page or rochellehospital.com



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

No injuries resulted from a car fire on East Flagg Road on Monday afternoon, Rochelle Fire Department Lt. Jeremy Good said.

No injuries after car fire on Flagg Road Monday afternoon

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — No injuries resulted from a car fire on East Flagg Road on Monday afternoon, Rochelle Fire Department Lt. Jeremy Good said.

A single occupant of a

GMC Acadia was driving west on Flagg Road at 4:03 p.m. Monday when he noticed smoke coming from his dash and a passerby called 911 reporting flames coming from the underside of the car, Good said. The driver pulled into the Flagg Center Church of God at

13741 E. Flagg Road and exited the vehicle safely.

Rochelle Fire arrived at the scene at 4:07 p.m. and extinguished the fire “fairly quickly” using foam and about 300 gallons of water. Fire crews arrived to see the engine compartment of the vehicle “completely involved” with flames. The fire was contained to the engine compartment of the vehicle and did not reach the occupant area. Rochelle Police provided traffic control in the area.

Good called the response a “good, quick stop on the fire” and said vehicle fires can have dangerous complications.

“You always have to be careful about fire getting into the fuel source and causing a spontaneous explosion,” Good said. “Shock absorbers in the front and rear of the car can also explode and shoot the bumpers at you. So you have to stay far away and attack the fire from the sides.”

Good noted that the fire’s cause appeared to be electrical in nature. He guessed that the vehicle was a total loss due to the fire damage to the engine compartment.



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LOCAL NEWS

CORN: Seebach's Sweet Corn kicks off 2022 season

From page 1

"Certain times are busier, noon and early in the morning," Jeff said. "Sometimes we'll have a line of people sitting here before we even put the sweet corn on the table."

Jeff recalled when the entirety of the sweet corn picking was done with a wheelbarrow. Now the family has more space in the field and utilizes a garden tractor and wagon, which has made the work easier. Spending less on production helps the fam-

ily to keep its prices low. Seebach and Buskohl enjoy being able to point to the field where the sweet corn is hand-picked from when customers ask where it's grown. The corn is picked fresh, depending on need for the day.

Jeff said he likes that the sweet corn operation gives him something to work on throughout the growing season and the summers.

"Being out here and doing this my whole life, it's all I've ever known to do," Jeff said. "It always kept me busy. I never had

a chance to get into much else. I come out here in the evenings and check on the sweet corn or plant or work the ground."

Jeff enjoys seeing and talking with the people that come out to buy sweet corn every year.

"It means a lot to us that we have such loyal customers," Jeff said. "We greatly appreciate them. I think it's a great thing. The community comes out and supports us and they get fresh vegetables and corn. I think it's a win-win type of deal."



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Friday, Seebach's Sweet Corn kicked off its 2022 season of selling at 11594 E. Kyte Road. The stand is open 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.



The Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability will be built on NIU's west campus, near this site where a study on prairie restoration is already underway. NIU President Dr. Lisa C. Freeman says NICCS will "educate the next generation of environmental scientists and stewards."

State green-lights \$23 million sustainability center

DEKALB — The State of Illinois has announced it will begin the design phase of the planned Northern Illinois Center for Community Sustainability (NICCS), essentially green-lighting the \$23 million project.

The state's agency in charge of project construction, the Capital Development Board, is seeking formal bids from architectural and engineering firms for the planned sustainability research center.

Announced in October 2018, NICCS is part of the Illinois Innovation Network (IIN), a group of state-funded research and innovation hubs that are under development and aimed at driving economic growth in Illinois while addressing critical global issues.

"The Illinois Innovation Network exists to ensure the needs and ideas of every community are represented in the economy of the future, and I'm proud to dedicate \$15 million in state funding to bring this hub for groundbreaking research to DeKalb," Gov. J.B. Pritzker said. "The establishment of NIU's Center for Community Sustainability represents a climate advancement for our whole state, and

I'm proud to greenlight its development."

IIN centers will support interdisciplinary research, policy development and public-private partnerships to stimulate economic development and job creation, as well as to attract and develop talent. NICCS will be a world-class research facility focusing on water resources, environmental change, and food systems, while also promoting science-based policies and practices for communities.

"We appreciate the continued efforts by Gov. Pritzker and state legislators to support this project, which will benefit our region, the entire state and well beyond," NIU President Dr. Lisa C. Freeman said. "We have the opportunity to grow our economy in ways that promote equity, protect the environment and meet the needs of the present and future."

"NIU is a perfect fit for this new center because our distinctive peri-urban geography positions us to understand the stresses among cities, suburbs and farmlands and create sustainable solutions to span the gaps," Dr. Freeman added. "The new center will address statewide

sustainability issues, drive economic opportunity and spur public-private partnerships and investment. NICCS will also create opportunities for NIU faculty members to expand their research related to food systems, water resources and environmental change, and educate the next generation of environmental scientists and stewards."

The roughly 30,000-square-foot NICCS facility will be constructed on the university's west campus, in an area northwest of the NIU Convocation Center.

About two-thirds of the new building's cost, or \$15 million, will be financed from the \$500 million in state capital funding approved in 2018 to launch the innovation network. NIU will provide the remaining \$8 million through in-kind contributions. Additional contributions are anticipated through private investment and donations.

Construction could begin in 2023 with the facility coming online in 2026. A concept design calls for a building with classrooms, offices, laboratories, an atrium, an auditorium and collaborative and conference spaces. Two envisaged

wings are planned for research and external tenants.

"This unique multiple-use research, innovation and education center will itself serve as a testbed for new technology and operating strategies," said Gerald C. Blazey, NIU vice president for Research and Innovation Partnerships. Blazey also serves as chair of the Illinois Innovation Network Council, which coordinates collaboration between IIN members.

"In keeping with the entrepreneurial spirit of the Illinois Innovation Network, we aim to create a world-class destination for experts, university faculty, graduate and undergraduate students, government and business leaders, and citizens working to enhance sustainability in their communities," Blazey said.

Work at NICCS will focus on three key areas:

Improving water resources: NIU faculty, students and IIN partners will develop new sustainable water management systems for agriculture, industry and personal consumption.

Predicting and managing environmental change: Research will be conducted on topics that include biodiversity, ecosystem

restoration, environmental maintenance, natural disasters, climate change and response to extreme climate events.

Creating food-system innovation: The center will conduct multidisciplinary research into new methods of food production, working with partners from across the state, nation and world.

NIU has been busy preparing for the center. In addition to Blazey's leadership IIN role, the university completed its preliminary planning, identified and recruited faculty who will conduct center-related research and education, initiated research projects and sponsored internal research presentations, as well as a lecture series on food-system innovation.

Blazey said he foresees NICCS developing into a substantial economic engine as the center partners with private industry.

"NICCS addresses real-world challenges and promotes the kind of breakthrough discoveries that can create new products and companies," he said. "The entire statewide network aims to address critical global issues and drive economic growth in Illinois."

The center is expected to be a boon for faculty and students as well.

The university has a strong network of faculty members who have been working on sustainability issues for many years and have ongoing projects that feed into the mission of the new center. Since the center was first announced, faculty have won grants from the IIN and federal sources to conduct research on American prairie restoration, soil microbes, turning trash into usable products, exploring urban-rural connections and enhancing agricultural practices.

Additionally, NIU has seen strong student interest in sustainability. The university has more than 100 students pursuing bachelor's degrees in environmental studies, and many hundreds more pursuing degrees in areas ranging from meteorology and geology to engineering and law where sustainability issues regularly come to the fore. The new center's classrooms, laboratories and collaborative spaces will further promote sustainability education, collaboration and research conducted by faculty and students alike.

Tails Humane Society
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Sophie & Betsy

Hiya, I'm Sophie! I need your help and have a special request. I was recently surrendered to Tails because my family was moving and they couldn't take me with. I was surrendered with my little buddy, Betsy. Without Betsy I am very sad, so Tails is hoping a family can adopt the two of us together. I am much larger than Betsy, but I can tell you one thing is for certain, she wears the pants in this friendship! We are both house trained and very good girls. You can even trust us to be loose when you aren't home. If you can't adopt both of us could you maybe pass the word on to your friends?

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LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Holcomb Bank is celebrating 130 years of banking in Ogle County. Holcomb State Bank was originally organized as the Exchange Bank of Holcomb.

Holcomb Bank celebrates 130 years of banking

ROCHELLE — Holcomb Bank is celebrating 130 years of banking in Ogle County.

Holcomb State Bank was originally organized as the Exchange Bank of Holcomb in Holcomb, Illinois. The bank opened for business on July 5, 1892, in downtown Holcomb. Holcomb State Bank started as a partnership, but on Jan.

1, 1921 it became incorporated under the laws of the state of Illinois and has operated under the charter without interruption to the present time.

During the 1930s, Holcomb State Bank was one of only three banks in the county to survive the great depression of 1929-1932. Holcomb State Bank expanded to Rochelle in

1984 and to New Milford in 1986. Growth continued in 2005 with the addition of the Creston branch. In 2018, newly-branded Holcomb Bank expanded operations in Ogle County and added a branch in Byron. With the home office now located in Rochelle, Holcomb Bank is well positioned to serve customers across Ogle County.

RMU billing service provider change beginning this month

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Municipal Utilities Customers will notice an update to their utility bills later this month and in early September as the utility undergoes a complete overhaul of its billing software system.

“Customers have long asked for more detail in their bill and the ability to see usage data through an online portal,” said City Manager Jeff Fiegeschuh. “We’re excited to provide that additional service to our residents and businesses this fall.”

In mid-August, the first bills through the new system will roll out. Once the newly-formatted bills go out in mid-August, customers will be able to

visit rmu.net/bill with their new account number to sign up for the new payment processor, paperless billing, online payments and to see their daily usage. Customers utilizing ACH bank payments will need to update their utility account number with their bank to ensure the payment is credited properly. Once the switch to the new system takes place, all customers will receive a paper bill for the first cycle, regardless of whether they have signed up for paperless billing in the past. This paper bill will include the customer’s new account number.

While the change-over happens, credit card and ACH payments will be

unavailable between Aug. 12 and 22. Credit card processing will resume through the new processor on Aug. 23. Since some bills are typically due during that period, due dates will be extended to Aug. 30 to accommodate the change. Payments may be mailed or dropped off at the office, either in person or through one of two drop boxes located at the front and back of the 333 Lincoln Highway building.

“We understand that this is a complex and sometimes confusing process,” said RMU Utility Finance Director Sarah Brooks. “Our staff is here to assist customers in any way necessary during the transition.”

Ogle County Sheriff’s Department

Deputies respond to one-vehicle accident

OREGON — On July 29 at approximately 10:28 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Fisher Road and Illinois Route 38. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Magdalena Cortes, 54, of Rochelle, for no driver’s license. Cortes was taken into custody without incident and released on a \$2,500 individual bond. Cortes was also issued a written warning for no taillights.

On July 30 at approximately 9:09 p.m. deputies were dispatched to the 100 block of Main Street in Holcomb for the report of a disturbance. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Austin M. Keaster, 24, of Rockford, for domestic battery. Keaster also had an active Rockford arrest warrant for domestic battery. Keaster was taken into custody without incident and transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held with no bond.

On July 30 at approximately 7:51 p.m. deputies

conducted a traffic stop on Illinois Route 251 at Baxter Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Brandon E. Bloom, 33, of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Bloom was taken into custody without incident and released on scene on a \$2,500 individual bond with a return court date set. Bloom was additionally cited for no valid registration and operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

On July 31 at approximately 3:06 a.m. deputies were dispatched to the 1,400 block of North River Road for a reported one-vehicle accident. After investigation, Hanna Borys, 34, of Carol Stream, was arrested for driving under the influence combination drugs/alcohol. Borys was transported to a local hospital for non-life-threatening injuries and released on an individual bond. Borys was also cited for improper lane usage, no insurance, and

failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

On July 31 at approximately 8:55 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 7,000 block of North River Road. Upon further investigation deputies arrested Brandon Bjerga, 33, of Rock Island, for driving on a revoked license. Bjerga was also cited for possession of cannabis and no registration light.

On Aug. 1 at approximately 2:52 a.m. deputies responded to the 10,000 block of North Illinois Route 2 for a reported one-vehicle accident. After investigation, Jose Velazquez-Mejia, 25, of Mt. Morris, was arrested for driving under the influence. Velazquez-Mejia was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond. He was also cited for improper lane usage and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident.

All individuals are presumed innocent until proven guilty.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers issue citations

ROCHELLE — On July 29 at 11:08 p.m. Bushiri Bulako, 24, of Chicago was cited for speeding. He was released on an I-Bond and given a Sept. 2 Rochelle court date.

On July 30 at 10:28 a.m. Miguel S. Monroy, 24, of

Rochelle was cited for speeding. He was released on an I-Bond and given a Sept. 2 Rochelle court date.

On July 31 at 9:28 p.m. a 16-year-old juvenile male of Rochelle was cited for improper backing. He signed a promise to com-

ply and was given a Sept. 2 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 1 at 10:08 a.m. Adam Bergeron, 24, of Rochelle was arrested for disorderly conduct. Bergeron was released on an I-Bond with no court date listed.

Driver’s license, ID card expirations extended

SPRINGFIELD — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White announced that expiration dates for

driver’s licenses, ID cards and learner’s permits are being extended until Dec. 1, 2022. The previous extension was set to end on July 31, 2022. As a result, expired driver’s licenses, ID cards and learner’s permits will remain valid until Dec. 1, 2022, so customers do not need to rush into driver services facilities. This extension does not apply to commercial driver’s licenses (CDL) and CDL learner’s permits.

White’s office expanded online renewals for expired driver’s licenses and ID cards and continues to mail letters to eligible customers. The letter provides driver’s license and ID card holders with a unique PIN needed to renew online instead of visiting a facility and waiting in line. Customers may call 217-785-1424 to confirm their eligibility for online renewal or to obtain their PIN. They may also visit <https://apps.ilsos.gov/renewal/dlid/eligible.jsp> to look up their

eligibility status.

Customers who must visit a facility include first-time driver’s license or ID card applicants, first-time REAL ID applicants and drivers ages 75 and older who are required by state law to visit a facility when renewing their license.

White continues to encourage people to conduct other business online at ilsos.gov. In addition to driver’s license and ID card renewals for those who qualify, online services include obtaining a duplicate driver’s license or ID card, ordering a driver record and purchasing license plate stickers.

White noted his office is also extending the expiration dates of Restricted Driving Permits (RDPs) to Dec. 1, 2022 for those that expired on or after Dec. 1, 2021 through Dec. 1, 2022.

As a reminder, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has extended the federal REAL ID deadline to May 3, 2023.

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Franklin Grove Harvest Festival
August 5, 6, 7

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Saturday – Garage sales, art show and free popcorn at the library, Chaplin Creek tours and more, Missouri Guerilla display, Rustic Ridge axe throwing, kick ball tournament, Big Rig Show, kids activities at Altlasta Park, including a Duck Derby, American Legion Pork Chop dinner, tractor parade, beer garden with live music, Living History Antique show, Rooney’s Beer garden with live bands:

Just for Fun plays 5 - 8
Route 38 plays 9 - midnight

Sunday – Community church service, Living History Antique show continues, water fights hosted by the Franklin Grove Fire Department

A fun filled weekend for folks of all ages
Hope to see you there!

ROCHELLE News-Leader

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Women of the Moose sponsoring ice cream social

ROCHELLE — Rochelle’s Women of the Moose Family Center will be sponsoring an ice cream social on Sunday, Aug. 21 at the gazebo downtown from 3-6 p.m. Vanilla ice cream with choice of toppings, sundaes and banana splits will be available.

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

CHAMBER: Herrera reflects on two years as executive director

From page 1

“We wanted to be here where we can walk to a lot of our retailers or see people on the street and answer their questions and talk about ideas. We’re very big on collaborations. We can reach more people if we do that.”

New collaborations have included a kickball tournament with the Flagg Rochelle Community Park District to benefit the chamber’s scholarship fund and the park district’s ENGAGE program. The chamber also started a Community Cash program with the City of Rochelle and the Office of Mayor John Bearrows where a local currency can be bought for a one-to-one dollar ratio and redeemed at participating local businesses to encourage shopping locally.

A Lawn of the Week program has been started by the chamber and Rochelle Ace Hardware. The chamber also conducts its Merry & Bright decorating contest during the holiday season.

“Those are all kinds of community events,” Herrera said. “That’s very important for us to kind of establish that focus of the chamber. When I was growing up, if you moved to a new community or wanted to know about something new, you called the chamber of commerce. That was kind of like the directory in that time. That’s kind of what I wanted us to get back to.” Herrera called her po-

sition at the chamber her “dream job.” She served on the chamber board for eight years prior to becoming executive director, which helped her to be prepared, especially to start at the beginning of the pandemic.

“That was a little crazy, but it kind of helped me in establishing my focus,” Herrera said. “When you take a new job, you always want to put your stamp on it. And my stamp has always been that I love all businesses, but small business has always been what’s dear to my heart. And especially in the community that I grew up in. That had to be a big focus during the pandemic. How do we keep these businesses going and open and functioning as part of Rochelle?”

The chamber relies on membership dues and fundraising to run its programs to help local businesses. Fundraising became an issue during COVID-19 when people were unable to gather, Herrera said. She said it was a “fine line” to try to help businesses while also needing local dollars to keep the chamber financially able to do so.

“I think we navigated it really well,” Herrera said. “I think we were conscious of how we did it and what we asked for and were more streamlined on what we definitely needed to continue our programs. One of the things that was really impressive to me was that some of the industries and banks and



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Thursday, Aug. 4 will mark Tricia Herrera’s two-year anniversary since being named executive director of the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce. Herrera spoke to the News-Leader last week and detailed changes at the chamber since 2020 and spoke on the state of the Rochelle business community.

the city continued to help us. They still stepped up and sponsored things and asked how they could help. I think that’s a small town thing and we were very fortunate for that.”

Herrera said only 1-2 businesses in Rochelle had to close due to the effects of the pandemic. She credited the City of Rochelle for a lot of that outcome for its efforts including the Rochelle Municipal Utilities Shop Local program and doing things like helping restaurants with outdoor seating when state mandates required it.

Herrera called the state of the Rochelle business

community “excellent.” She said the city is very fortunate to have so much industry, and industry that is “community-involved.”

“You’ll see staff from our industries out working in the community and volunteering,” Herrera said. “We have several industries that send the chamber volunteers and asks how they can help. I think that trickles down to small businesses because they see that happening. Those industries are very focused on shopping locally and giving back to Rochelle.”

A number of ribbon cuttings have been held

over Herrera’s time as executive director for new businesses and members. She’s enjoyed seeing people starting businesses, especially younger entrepreneurs.

“To celebrate with a new business, we did a ribbon cutting recently and the business owner sent me a message and said it was the best day of their life,” Herrera said. “To me, that was so exciting. Not all days are going to be like that, but to have that day and start off and see that community support is always exciting to me.”

The chamber’s membership numbers are at

an all-time high, Herrera said, and are currently just short of 300. It has a 96 percent retention rate for members, and to her that means Rochelle businesses are seeing value in the chamber’s services.

“I feel like every day when we come into the chamber office, our goal is to help our members and businesses,” Herrera said. “We are helping them every day. We’re just really proud of the changes and the growth we’ve made. Growth is the biggest thing. I’m just really proud of this organization, our members and our board of directors.”

Midwestern farmer feedback requested for project

URBANA — The Diverse Corn Belt project is seeking farmer input through focus groups and in-field research. This is a multidisciplinary project exploring alternative crops, longer rotations, integrating livestock and perennials that could help increase resilience in Midwestern agriculture.

The project’s 30 partners are exploring diversification at the farm, market and landscape level that can broaden new opportunities for Indiana, Illinois and Iowa farmers and rural communities, says Dr. Linda S. Prokopy of Purdue University, who is leading the five-year, \$10 million project. The team will conduct research, extension and modeling in all three states.

“We are seeking farmer involvement at every stage of the Diverse Corn Belt project, starting with understanding how different

producers define diversity, and getting their direction on the questions they want us to explore,” Prokopy said. “We want to know what is working for them in the current system and what the barriers are to diversification.”

She says they will explore a wide range of approaches to diversification of production systems and markets that can help producers and rural communities become more economically and environmentally resilient in the future. They will examine the social, infrastructure and policy changes needed to make diversification viable.

Farmers and other stakeholders can learn more about the Diverse Corn Belt project at diversecornbelt.org, and volunteer to participate at bit.ly/GoDCB. Farmers can participate in a variety of ways.

Focus groups, in which producers with a wide

range of approaches, from traditional corn/soybean rotations to highly diversified operations, gather to discuss the challenges and opportunities posed by diversification.

Hosting in-field research, allowing agronomists, entomologists, hydrologists and soil scientists to study farmers’ existing management systems, ranging from conventional corn/soybean rotations to more complex cropping and/or grazing programs. Host producers will not be asked to change their

management; researchers will share and help interpret data produced on participating farms.

Joining Reimagining Agricultural Diversification (RAD) Teams, engaged conversations among producers, agricultural advisors, community leaders, and others. RAD Team members will work closely with the research team and each other to share their insight on research findings, explore policy implications, and envision what the agricultural landscape of the

Midwest should look like in the future.

“We are developing a vision of a Corn Belt beyond the corn-soybean system and its infrastructure, a future that provides farmers and communities with a more profitable and resilient agriculture,” says J. Arbuckle at Iowa State University. “To do that, we’re working with farmers with highly specialized systems that are prevalent today and with highly diversified farmers who provide examples of what’s possible.”

The Diverse Corn Belt project is funded by the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture through an Agriculture and Food Research Initiative competitive grant. Members of the research team represent land-grant institutions, federal agencies, and non-profit organizations.

For more information, contact Emily Usher at (765) 496-0997 or usher@purdue.edu, or Steve Werblow at (541) 951-4212 or steve@stevewerblow.com.

School supply kits available at Chana UMC

CHANA — Starting Aug. 1, Chana UMC will have new school supply kits available for children ages preschool through high school. Supply kits include: a new backpack, pencils, eraser, glue sticks, pencil sharpener, crayons, ruler, pencil pouch, three folders and a packet of wide-lined loose leaf paper (college ruled for upper grades).

Chana UMC’s Family Clothes Closet is open for clothing Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. Much of the clothing is new or gently worn and is all at no cost. There are a variety of clothes for infants, children and adults. Everyone is wel-

come. The school supply kits will be available in the clothes closet for you to pick up. Kits are also available Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings.

WHO IS UNITY HOSPICE?

- Care provided by the entire hospice team: physician, nurse, social worker, certified nursing assistant, chaplain, dietitian, pharmacist, and volunteers.
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RALPHIE & LULU’S

Rib Night

Wednesday, Aug. 10 5 - 8 p.m.
Serving Ribs,
chicken and sandwich
Choice of potato, side salad

Full menu, 5 - 8 p.m.
Wednesday, Friday and Saturday
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We are now offering
LIPO MINO MIX injections
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This lipotropic combination of B12 and methionine, an essential amino acid and other B vitamins can promote:

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Insurances and
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SAT. AUG. 6th
10:00 AM to 3:00 PM

LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Consider this: Roe v. Wade

ARE you an advocate for telling any individual what to do with their life? I am certainly not. How could I ever think that I would know anyone well enough to do that, let alone know what they are thinking or what their personal circumstances are. After all, even the various faiths preach to us in our churches, if you are of a religious nature, and don't, I think, expect each one of us to follow these teachings to the letter. This could be why most faiths instruct that there is forgiveness within the pages of their teachings. To me, this means that you apply what you hear to your own life to the best of your capabilities. What this means to you is none of my business.

So, without stirring the pot too much, let's tackle this Roe vs Wade situation for a bit. Let's not assume whether there is a right or wrong. Let's just look at it as individual citizens living life to the fullest, to the best of their abilities. You can decide later, or maybe already have, which side of the fence you are on.

When I take my last breath, I will be dead. Yes, there are times that an individual can be brought back after that supposed last breath. But it is a current act. Does a doctor see a patient lying in bed, in a coma or on a ventilator and pronounce them dead? Does a doctor, whose patient is unresponsive and has no vital signs, say to the loved ones around them, "Let's wait a bit before pronouncing death."? So, what happens with a baby still in the womb or after birth? What is said about their life?

Does a person who enthusiastically provides a decisive action in the beginning of life hold the same level of responsibility as does the other individual in this situation? How about the mandate of the needs that are required

during the term? Events such as morning sickness, alternate weight distribution, back pain, sweats and mental and physical stress? There are probably more, but of course



Reed Harris

I am not of the female gender so I can't say. And this is probably what happens only in a normal situation. What is that level of mandate for each of the two parties?

What are your feelings about a situation where one of the parties is undesirable and has forced themselves into the position of being one of the two participants? What about when one of the participants is a child? Does age or health affect any conclusion? In these situations, do both parties hold equal responsibility, equal mandate?

Now a child is born. Will both parties equally participate in the life of this child? An older person can and usually requires some help or comfort on the last leg of their life's journey, right? Is a baby the same? For a baby, isn't this usually constant help, constant comfort? Yet for any number of reasons let's say that the two parties have been reduced to one. Can each person participate alone in the life of the child? Could be possible. Will they, do it? I don't know. Whether it's two parties or one, what happens when they need help? What help do our communities supply them? What help do our governments provide?

Of course, a child can be adopted or placed in foster care, a children's home, or any number of child service programs. Can we count on this? There are probably many people who love to provide these services. Many of these services, however, rely on the government funding which is relying on our taxes. Do we want to pay more taxes? Are we ready to become a nation of compassion? Are we all ready to do our part?

Letter to the Editor

More concerns than the economy

Dear Editor,

In Sunday's column Scott Reeder seemed to indicate that the economy is the only issue that will send people to the polls, dismissing the likelihood that the recent decisions and direction of the Supreme Court might also be a concern to many.



Sigh. The questions regarding the overturning of Roe v. Wade are bigger and more far-reaching than simply the right of a woman to have an abortion. There is the question of whether or not a woman has the same rights of citizenship as a man. Does she have a right to make the same

kinds of personal decisions as a man? Does her full citizenship depend on the state in which she resides? It's not solely about abortion, but about treating women as competent adults able to make decisions based on their needs and beliefs.

Mary Ann & Dixon Montgomery
Rochelle

The fair is here

THE Ogle County Young Leaders Committee will be hosting an educational and interactive booth at the fair to help promote grain safety awareness. Various activities will be set up for all ages to observe and take part in, including mini treasure hunts for the kids and simple demonstrations for adults on how difficult it is to rescue someone that has become trapped in grain. We hope to bring more awareness and thought to the safety measures that need to be taken to prevent such incidents on the farm as well as what farmers to do that can actually help when a grain accident occurs. Look for our tent at the Ogle County Fair.

Livestock

Fairgoers at the Ogle County Fair will be seeing blue this year; blue ribbons that is! This year as part of an initiative to recognize young people for their efforts in caring for their show animals the Farm Bureau has designated these youngsters as "Champions of Animal Care."

Each livestock exhibitor at the 2022 Ogle County Fair will display their blue ribbon designating them as a Champion of Animal Care. As part of the initiative each exhibitor was required to sign a pledge card indicating their responsibility to care for all of their animals in a responsible and appropriate manner.

Each year over 220 Ogle County youth participate in the various livestock shows at the county fair featuring goats, sheep, hogs, cows, chickens, rabbits and horses. These youngsters

take great pride in the opportunity to show their animals, and take their animals' welfare seriously throughout the year.

The Ogle County Fair runs from Aug. 3-7. For more information on the Champions of Animal Care contact the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 732-2231.

Battle of the Barns

The Ogle County Farm Bureau Young Leaders are bringing back the Battle of the Barns at the 2022 Ogle County Fair.

The County Fair Exhibit Building will have designated area for each livestock barn. Those wishing to support their favorite barn can drop off non-perishable canned food items in support of their favorite barn.

The winning barn will receive \$1000 to be used towards upgrades and maintenance.

Last year Ogle County exhibitors and residents donated over 2,000 food items representing over \$3,000 worth of food that was donated to the Northern Illinois Food Bank for distribution to Ogle County food pantries.

Items can be donated between Aug. 3-6.

Donation

The Ogle County Farm Bureau Young Leaders through financial support from COUNTRY Financial recently donated grain bin rescue augers to three area fire departments serving Ogle and

Lee Counties.

Augers were purchased by COUNTRY Financial and distributed to the Byron, Rochelle and Rural Dixon Fire Departments.

The augers are used in conjunction with grain bin rescue tubes in extracting individuals trapped in collapsed grain bins. The rescue augers allow first responders to extricate grain more rapidly saving vital minutes in life saving situations.

The three fire districts were chosen as they were to only ones serving Ogle County that did not currently have a rescue auger on-site.

COUNTRY Financial is a group of US insurance and financial services companies with customers in 19 states. The group of companies offers a range of insurance and financial products and services, including auto, home, life, farm, commercial insurance, retirement planning, investment management and trust services, with offices in communities across Illinois.

The COUNTRY Financial group is ranked annually in the Fortune 1000 list.

The Ogle County Farm Bureau Young Leaders are a Farm Bureau members between the ages of 18-34 with an invested interest in agriculture and community service.

Broadband

Ogle County is spearheading a broadband partnership with other

northern Illinois counties and communities: Putnam County, Growth Dimensions Economic Development (Boone County), and Lee County. This is a program through the Accelerate Illinois Broadband initiative.

The vision statement for the partnership is to "Ensure availability of reliable, high-performing, high-speed, affordable broadband to all residents and entities in the north central Illinois region that promotes educational, economic and information opportunities."

Goals for the region are: To create a technologically advanced broadband network that is affordable, accessible, adaptable, and reliable; To leverage partnerships and resources across the region to support and expand network development; To serve and provide support for all the inclusive services for residents, education, businesses, agriculture, and tourism; and incorporate scalable improvements that will enhance existing infrastructure and new developments.

The initial objectives developed by the Broadband for All in Northern Illinois partnership focus on: Identifying existing broadband networks in the region, both private and public; identifying underserved areas by means of a needs assessment, community survey and other tools; identifying funding opportunities, both public and private; and identifying physical, policy and other barriers to network development.

To take the survey follow this link: <https://go.aces.illinois>.

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

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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

RPD officer graduates from law enforcement academy

Recently-hired Rochelle Police Department Officer Sydney Jackson graduated from Macon County Law Enforcement Academy after 14 weeks last Friday. She was also awarded the Commander's Choice Award. RPD congratulated Jackson on her graduation and award and welcomed her as she began her training this week.



RTHS Class of 1972 to hold 50th reunion Sept. 16-17

ROCHELLE — The 50th Reunion of the Rochelle Township High School Class of 1972 has been set for the weekend of Sept. 16-17, 2022. Reunion celebrations will include a gathering at a local barn venue on Friday night followed by a banquet at Kennay Farms Distilling Saturday evening. For information and registration materials, please send an email to RTHSClassofNineteenSeventyTwo@gmail.com. You are also welcomed to visit the Class on Facebook at [RTHS CLASS OF 72 and Hubs Seventytwo](https://www.facebook.com/RTHSCLASSOF72andHubsSeventytwo).



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Aug. 2
Mary Criddle

Aug. 4
Jeff OBrien

Aug. 6
Kyle & Darah Bridgeman
Preston McBride

Aug. 10
Phyllis Vaught

Aug. 12
Kevin Sherburne
Hayden Smith

Aug. 13
Adam Baker

Aug. 13
Becky Anderson

Aug. 14
Windy Turner

Aug. 15
Carter Johnson

Aug. 15
Corey Gilliam

Alana Rodriguez

Haley Simmons

Aug. 16
Kenzi Perkins

Aug. 17
Brian Smith

Aug. 17
Josh Perkins Jr.

Jenson South

Aug. 18
Kelise OBrien

Dyandre OBrien

Aug. 19
Eddie & Melissa Villalobos

Aug. 20
Jose & Amanda Avila

Kim Patrick

Nick Henson

Oaklyn South

Benjamin Navejas

Aug. 22

Larry & Teresa Baker

Aug. 23
Lyle Allen

Aug. 24
Alex Avila

TJ & Kelsey Rogers

Aug. 25
Megan South

Kevin & Amie Eggenburg

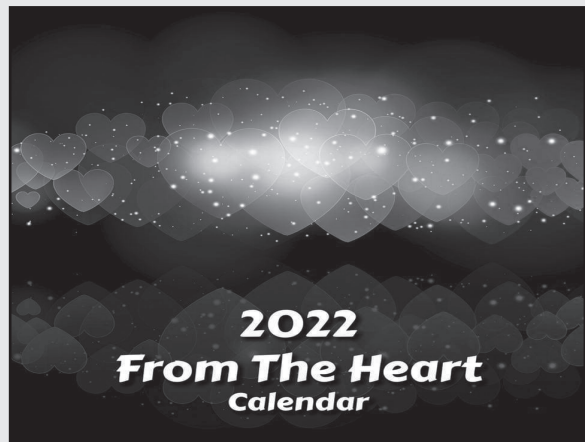
Aug. 26
Derek & Christy Oleson

Mandy Ferrari

Aug. 27
Quade Dickey

Aug. 29
Brad Arnold

Aug. 31
James OBrien



July 7 - Steve Katzman, Creston, \$25

July 8 - Sharon Gardner, Rochelle, \$25

July 9 - Kristie Johnson, June Beach, Fla., \$25

July 10 - From the Heart, \$50

July 11 - Taylor Stacy, Byron, \$25

July 12 - From the Heart, \$25

July 13 - Deborah DaCosta, Rochelle, \$25

July 14 - Sarah Meadows, Batavia, \$25

July 15 - Betty Henley, Rochelle, \$25

July 16 - Sara Martinez, Rochelle, \$25

July 17 - Michelle Mairs, Rochelle, \$50

July 18 - Rochelle Hospitality, \$25

July 19 - Hope of Ogle County, \$25

July 20 - Claude Blasing, Lindenwood, \$25

July 21 - Evan White, Oregon, \$25

July 22 - Joelle Buita, Rochelle, \$25

July 23 - Aubrey Meinen, Davis Junction, \$25

July 24 - Lori Miller, Dixon, \$50

July 25 - Robert Gemmell, Oregon, \$25

July 26 - Rich Vogeler, Ashton, \$25

July 27 - Megan Alexander, Plainfield, \$25

July 28 - Rochelle Rescue Mission, \$25

July 29 - Rochelle Food Pantry, \$25

July 30 - Marcy DeLille, Steward, \$25

July 31 - Rochelle Hospitality, \$50

Aug. 1 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25

Aug. 2 - Village of Progress, Oregon, \$25



Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Witty one
- 4 Brings in
- 9 Rail
- 12 Mess up
- 13 Unconventional
- 14 Quarterback Manning
- 15 Airhead
- 17 Heavy weight
- 18 Verily
- 19 Made finer, as flour
- 21 Rope parts
- 24 "Holy —!"
- 25 Prefix with gram or center
- 26 Spasm
- 28 Picture puzzle
- 31 Towering
- 33 "Eureka!"
- 35 Nickelodeon's "Explorer"
- 36 Politico Stevenson
- 38 Branch
- 40 Klutz
- 41 Village People hit
- 43 Place of worship
- 45 Thief
- 47 Equal (Pref.)
- 48 Terre Haute sch.
- 49 Inflatable pool toy

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
54				55						56		
57				58						59		

- 54 Prof's degree
- 55 Point of view
- 56 Noon, on a sundial
- 57 Blue
- 58 Portals
- 59 Moray, for one
- 6 — glance
- 7 Spectrum creator
- 8 Soon-to-be grad
- 9 Cartoon vamp
- 10 Medicinal plant
- 11 Peel
- 16 Coloring agent
- 20 Skedaddded
- 21 Greek salad cheese
- 22 Apple tablet
- 23 Melville sailor
- 27 Dance syllable
- 29 Russian river
- 30 Ump's call
- 32 Gentle soul
- 34 Newspaper piece
- 37 Headache aid
- 39 Fits together
- 42 Where the action is
- 44 Unruly group
- 45 Tears
- 46 Job-safety org.
- 50 Literary rep
- 51 Chopping tool
- 52 Fish story
- 53 Dogpatch adjective

DOWN

- 1 Entanglement
- 2 "Entourage" character
- 3 Spike's warning
- 4 Actor De Niro
- 5 Turkey is part of it

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: X equals C

GYN ZJT IFEMHDZ FJG RG GYN ZTU
IFJCQD'G GRMN GYN GHUN GF
GRCM GF LNFLCN. YN YRQ GFF
URDT LENKKHDZ XFDXNEDK.

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

S	A	D						
P	A	N						
I	S							
R	O	B						
A	D	L						
A	F							
F	I	B						
N	O	I						
E	L	I						
W	A	G						

Solution time: 22 mins.

Answers

The guy working out at the gym wouldn't take the time to talk to people. He had too many pressing concerns.

CryptoQuip

LOCAL NEWS

HEART: Calendar sales support local nonprofit organization

From page 1

From the Heart raises money through the calendars and its annual gala in February that is given equally to eight area nonprofits including HOPE of Ogle County, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Focus House, the Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Pegasus Special Riders, the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry and the Hub City Senior Center. "You're essentially making a donation of \$20," Eckhardt said. "It helps eight local nonprofits. All of those organizations make a major impact locally."

Eckhardt said the calendar program has grown to be successful because of the

support of the community. Recently the City of Rochelle has gotten involved by selling calendars through its staff members and encouraging businesses to take part, which has "helped a lot," Eckhardt said. Corporations in town have bought calendars in bulk for their employees.

From the Heart will be celebrating its 15th anniversary this year. Its annual gala will be held on Saturday, Feb. 5 at Flight Deck Bar & Grill at 6 p.m. Over 14 years between calendars and the gala, From the Heart has raised over \$630,000.

"Getting to the 15th anniversary is kind of unreal for us," Eckhardt said. "When we started we never dreamed we'd get this far

and it would be its own not for profit. It's been nothing short of spectacular. The support from the community has been amazing. Every year we wonder if it will work again and it gets better every year."

In From the Heart's early years, it gave each of its groups \$10,000. But it only had two beneficiary organizations then. Eckhardt said his hope is to present \$10,000 checks to all eight nonprofits in 2023 with a total goal of \$80,000.

"It's incredible how much it's grown," Eckhardt said. "It speaks volumes about Rochelle. Every dollar we raise goes to these organizations. For a lot of these nonprofits, this money is a huge deal. They've

all struggled, especially recently. They can't raise prices when labor costs go up. They need dona-

tions like these to continue providing their services to those in need. Even during COVID-19 when times

were tough, we raised money online and still set a record. It's been totally incredible year after year."



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Ticket sales will end on Saturday, Aug. 27 at noon, at the Dixon, Ohio and Sublette locations.

Amboy locations will sell until noon on Sunday, Aug. 28.

Depot Days Drum is located at Amboy Food and Liquor.

For more information, check out the Amboy Depot Days 50/50 Facebook page.

Drawing Sunday, August 28 after the Car Show Proceeds to benefit Community Projects

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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 3, 2022

SPORTS

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1



GERBER SIGNS WITH KISH

RTHS senior graduate Forrest Gerber will play baseball at Kishwaukee College.

See page 2 for more details

Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament



(COURTESY PHOTO) The 3rd Annual Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament was held on Friday and Saturday at the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District tennis courts. Pictured above are the six athletes, including first-place finisher Liam Kerbel (left) and second-place finisher Ryan Beck (right), who competed in the High School Boys Singles Division.

Local netters take the court

3rd Annual Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament held Friday and Saturday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The 3rd Annual Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament concluded Saturday evening, with 73 athletes from 225 different cities playing over 150 total matches. The two-day tournament began Friday morning at the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District tennis

courts. Athletes competed in 11 different divisions and combined to play 23 hours worth of tennis.

Oregon's Cian Ferb won the Junior High Singles Division with 22 points and a 3-0 record. Ferb defeated Angelina Sala 7-3 and Auston Sala 7-3 before winning 8-2 over Noah McKinney to seal the division title. Auston Sala and Angelina Sala won the

Junior High Doubles Division with eight points and a 1-0 record, taking down John Williams and Mason Bolhaus 8-0.

Sycamore's Liam Kerbel won the High School Boys Singles Division with 23 points and a 4-1 record. Kerbel defeated Brenden Christensen 6-0 and Jon Locascio 4-2 over the first two rounds before falling 2-4 against Ryan Beck

during the fourth round. Kerbel bounced back with a 5-1 victory over Tyson Phillips and a 6-0 victory against Zachary Dreska in the final round.

Oregon's Kristy Eckardt won the Women's Singles Division with 23 points and a 5-0 record. Eckardt swept Abi Tarvestad and Emma Stumpf 6-0 before defeating Jeanne Trowbridge 5-1 and beating Uli

Dornhagen 6-0. Eckardt won the final match over Samantha Hathaway 4-3.

Janesville's Tristan Plaut won the Men's Singles Division with 22 points and a 5-0 record. Plaut scored victories over Alp Sala (6-0), Andy Eckardt (5-1), Christian Ciembronowicz (5-1) and Dhinesh Ravi Krishna (6-0) before outlasting John Michael Loggins 4-2 in

the final round.

Naperville's Samantha Hathaway and Rockford's Chris Voekler won the Mixed Doubles Division with 17 points and a 4-1-1 record. The duo defeated John Michael Loggins/Melisa Young 4-2 before winning 6-0 over Dave Cartwright/Lizzie Cartwright.

See TENNIS pgs 7-8

Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District



The Rochelle Rays Swim Team faced the Geneseo Gators at Spring Lake Pool on Thursday, July 14. The Rays competed against the Dixon Dolphins on Thursday, July 21 for their final head-to-head meet of the season. The Rays are an annual summer swim team organized by the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District.

Rochelle Rays take on Geneseo, Dixon teams

Local swimmers record top times in head-to-head meets at Spring Lake Pool

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Rays Swim Team faced the Geneseo Gators at Spring Lake Pool on Thursday, July 14. Several local athletes recorded top times during the head-to-head meet.

Jillian Bruns, Tess Kissack, Rowan Thompson and Daphne Wise won the 11-12 Girls 200-yard medley relay at 3:03.43. Savannah Goodrich, Gwen Hildreth, Josie Slattengren and Aeriss Williams were second at 3:40.25. Olivia Sergeant won the 200-yard freestyle with a time of 2:40.76 while Natalie Wagner took second (2:57.70) and Mary Chadwick finished third (3:04.43). Owen Haas swam the

15-18 Boys 100-yard freestyle and finished first with a time of 58.67 seconds. Caleb Johnson received second in the 100-yard freestyle for his time of 1:17.06.

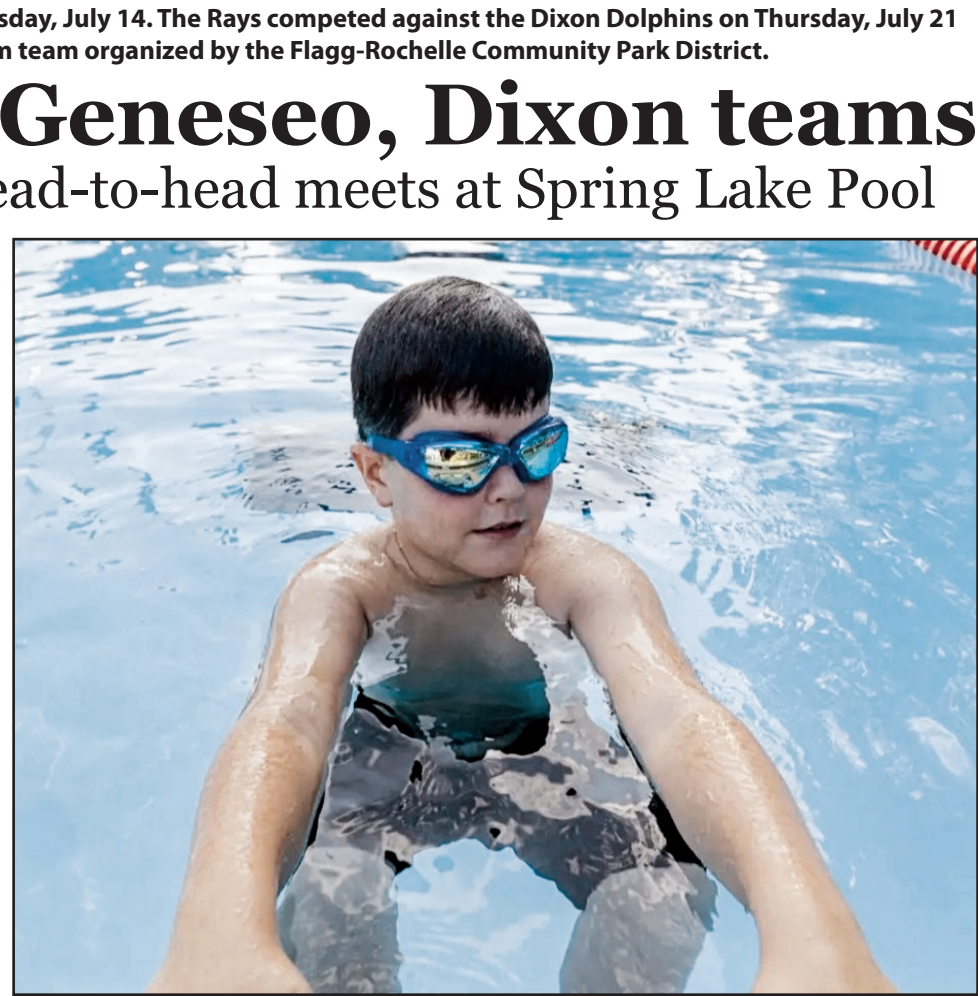
Dixon

The Rochelle Rays Swim Team competed against the Dixon Dolphins on Thursday, July 21 for the team's final head-to-head meet of the season.

Aubrey Burton, Leyna Dicus, Joey Haedt and Scarlett Hildreth won the 8 & Under Girls 100-yard medley relay with a time of 2:20.73. Annalyn Good and Gwendolyn Good came in a close second with a time of 2:21.37.

Tanner Williams won the 11-12 Boys 50-yard freestyle at 42.48 seconds and Carter McCandless clocked in at 54.10 seconds. Roxy Taft and Reese Kissack raced the 13-14 Girls 100-yard individual medley with Taft claiming first in 1:33.73. Owen Haas swam the 15-18 Boys 100-yard freestyle with a strong time of 1:17.84. To end the season with extra laughs, coaches added kickboard races and relays for swimmers and their families to do together.

The Rochelle Rays concluded the season with a team awards banquet on Thursday, July 28. See Sunday's News-Leader for more details.





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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTOS BY MARCY DELILLE)

Rochelle Township High School graduate Forrest Gerber will continue his academics and his baseball career at Kishwaukee College next year.

Gerber signs with Kishwaukee College

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE Township High School graduate Forrest Gerber will be continuing his academics and his baseball career with Kishwaukee College next year. Gerber intends to earn his associate's degree before transferring to Western Illinois University, where he'll study forensic psychology.

"The choice to continue my baseball career and my academics at Kishwaukee College was based on economics and preparation for the future," Gerber said. "The level of competition will be greater and that will make me a better player and person. Playing baseball at RTHS taught me to focus on the fundamental skills that will better prepare me for my collegiate career."

Gerber spent four years with the Rochelle Hub baseball program including two years with the varsity team. The former RTHS student-athlete appeared in 30 varsity games

over the last two seasons, totaling seven hits along with six runs, two doubles, two RBIs and a stolen base.

"I've been working on my hitting and other fundamentals over the summer," Gerber said. "I will be there to play any position that coach [Mark] Hernandez needs me to play. I will bring a high level of enthusiasm, competitiveness and encouragement to the Kishwaukee College team."

A multi-sport athlete, Gerber also spent four years with the Rochelle Hub basketball program and two years on the varsity team. Additionally, Gerber ran cross country at RTHS for two years.

"I appreciate everything Forrest did for the baseball program," RTHS head coach Jarrod Reynolds said. "I'm happy to see him continue his career at Kishwaukee College. It's a tremendous opportunity to continue playing baseball and I'm excited to see how it goes for him. Forrest was a good teammate for our program and he worked hard over the offseason."

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SPORTS

NIU Football

Huskies first in MAC Preseason Media Poll

Potter, Brown named to Outland Trophy, Bronco Nagurski Trophy watch lists

CLEVELAND – The defending champion Northern Illinois University Huskies topped the 2022 Mid-American Conference Preseason Media Poll released Tuesday by the league at the annual MAC Media Day.

The Huskies garnered 122 points and 11 first-place votes from the 24 voting media members to out-point second place Toledo by two points in the West Division poll. Central Michigan was third with 112 points, followed by Western Michigan (56), Eastern Michigan (52) and Ball State (42).

Miami earned the top spot among East Division teams with 139 points, ahead of second place and defending MAC East Champion Kent State's 116, with Buffalo (78), Ohio (72), Bowling Green (71) and Akron (28) in the three through six positions, respectively.

NIU was selected to win the MAC Championship game by nine voters, with Toledo (6 votes), Miami (5) and Central Michigan (4) also named by the media panel. See the complete poll below.

Fourth-year NIU head coach Thomas Hammock said whether the Huskies are picked first, or last – as they were a year ago – the approach is the same.

“Nothing changes for us,” Hammock said. “We have to keep the focus on us. It’s about how we go about our business and the work that we put in. Last year, we were picked last and that didn’t matter. So wherever we’re picked in the preseason, it doesn’t have any effect on us. The only thing that matters is what we believe about ourselves and how we go about our business.”

The Huskies were atop the media’s preseason poll for the fourth time since 2009 and the first time since 2018, when NIU went on to win the MAC Champion-



(PHOTO BY SCOTT WALSTROM/NIU PHOTOGRAPHY)

ship. Last year marked the first time over the 12 years of the poll that the Huskies were voted lower than third in the West as NIU became the first team in FBS history to go from winless to conference champions.

“Top to bottom, the MAC is a great conference,” Hammock said. “Any team can win each and every week and that’s been proven year after year. You have to be ready to play every single week, our players understand that.”

“Our players have confidence. They have put a lot of work in since January. I can tell you that we are a much-improved football team. We’re bigger, we’re faster, we’re stronger. Our guys have worked extremely hard and they’re bonded. They are working together as a football team and we are anxious to get to the practice field and continue to sharpen all our tools to try to get ready for the football season.”

Hammock, quarterback Rocky Lombardi and de-

fensive tackle James Ester are representing the Huskies in Cleveland Tuesday at the annual MAC Media Day event, being held at the House of Blues in downtown Cleveland. The Huskies will be featured at 10:50 a.m. (CT) during the ESPN+ broadcast from MAC Media Day, which begins at 10 a.m. (CT). Follow the NIU Athletics social media channels on Instagram, Twitter and Facebook for additional coverage throughout the day.

Watch Lists

Northern Illinois University offensive lineman Nolan Potter and safety C.J. Brown have been named to the 2022 preseason watch lists for the Outland Trophy and the Bronco Nagurski Trophy, respectively, as the Football Writers Association of America announced the watch lists for those awards Tuesday.

Potter is one of 89 returning standout linemen on both the offensive and defensive sides of the ball

named to the Outland Trophy Watch List. A redshirt junior from Cedar Rapids, Iowa, Potter enters the 2022 campaign with 20 consecutive starts at right tackle and earned All Mid-American Conference honors from Pro Football Network, Pro Football Focus (PFF), Phil Steele and league coaches a year ago.

Behind Potter and his linemates, the Huskies ranked fourth in the Football Bowl Subdivision in rushing offense a year ago with an average of 241.4 yards per game. In addition, NIU quarterbacks were sacked just 10 times in 14 games as the Huskies ranked second in the country in fewest sacks allowed.

“Nolan has been a staple up front for us at the right tackle position,” said NIU head coach Thomas Hammock. “He’s a guy that has grown as a leader and he’s a guy that we expect big things upfront from the right tackle position.”

Brown, a Canton, Michigan (Walled Lake West-

ern HS) product who was named to the Paycom Jim Thorpe Award Watch List earlier this week, led the Huskies in tackles in 2021 with 109 stops, 61 solo, en route to earning first team All Mid-American Conference honors. He finished the season ranked 10th in the MAC in tackles per game and had double-digit tackle totals in four games. The Bronco Nagurski Trophy is presented to the nation’s top defender.

He was named the Defensive Player of the Game in the MAC Championship game win over Kent State after leading NIU with 10 tackles, including a sack and tackle for loss, breaking up a pass and returning his first career interception 26 yards for a touchdown to give NIU a 24-3 lead late in the third quarter.

“C.J. is a young man that has worked extremely hard from the day he’s arrived on campus,” Hammock said. “When the opportunity presented itself when Devin Lafayette went down

against Georgia Tech, all he did was go out there and have 100 plus tackles this offseason. He has been one of the hardest working guys on our defense. He’s put himself in position to have a great season and I couldn’t be more excited about his development and about his potential.”

Six different Huskies have now earned recognition on six different preseason watch lists in 2022. Brown on both the Paycom Jim Thorpe Award and Bronco Nagurski Award Watch Lists and Potter on the Outland Trophy list joined wide receiver Trayvon Rudolph (Crete/Crete-Monee HS), who earned a spot on the Biletnikoff Award list, running backs Harrison Waylee (Johnston, Iowa/Urbandale HS) and Antonio Brown (Savannah, Georgia/Beach HS), who were selected to the Doak Walker Award watch list. Junior linebacker Nick Rattin (Palatine/Palatine HS) was nominated for the Allstate AFCA Good Works Team.

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The Rochelle News-Leader

ON THE FARM

Discovering career paths in agriculture

AS the world population grows, the role of the agricultural sector will become even more prominent. There should be significant demand for agricultural professionals capable of meeting the challenges facing the world as it confronts climate change and food shortages. That makes now a perfect time for students to explore potential career paths in the agricultural sector.

Agricultural engineer: Agricultural engineers employ engineering principles to solve issues related to agricultural production. An agricultural engineer may design facilities or machinery or develop solutions to address problems related to irrigation and soil conservation, among other projects. Students interested in a career as an agricultural engineer can expect to study mathematics, physics, chemistry, computer engineering, and, of course, engineering analysis and design as they pursue their degrees.

Agronomist: Agronomists work with crops and soil management and may work as analysts, environmentalists or forecasters. Agronomists may be tasked with analyzing soil structure and chemistry and study how water is moving



within soil. Students will study agriculture, biology, chemistry, and physics en route to earning a degree that will help them become an agronomist. Mathematics also will be part of their studies, and statistics courses will be part of those studies.

Biochemist: Biochemists study the chemical and physical principles of living things and biological processes. Within the agricultural sector, biochemists will contribute to the development

of agricultural products, including those that will serve a medicinal function. Biochemistry, chemistry, biology, calculus, and physics will be part of students' coursework as they pursue degrees that prepare them for a career as a biochemist.

Climatologist: Climatologists will figure prominently in the agricultural sector as the effects of climate change manifest themselves more readily over the next several decades. Climatologists

study climate change, variability and the biosphere. Climatologists offer insight about the effects of climate change on the growth and development of agricultural products, including fruits, grains and vegetables. The natural sciences feature prominently in climatologists' educations, and students also will study meteorology as part of their coursework.

Food scientist: Food scientists study chemistry, biochemistry, microbi-

ology, and engineering so they can assist in the development of new food products. Food scientists may manage processing plants and some serve as researchers in an effort to solve problems related to food production.

Plant pathologist: Plant pathologists specialize in analyzing issues related to plant diseases. Research features prominently in plant pathologists' work, and many work in university settings. Some plant pathologists work

for companies attempting to develop pest-resistant plants. Advanced degrees are necessary to work as a plant pathologist, and students will study mycology, bacteriology, virology, and physiology, among other subjects, as they pursue their degrees.

The agricultural sector employs millions of people across the globe. Many of those people do interesting work as they attempt to address issues facing the agricultural sector.

Signs your soil might be compacted

COMPACTED soil can result from any number of activities, including walking on a lawn. When soil on a lawn is compacted, grass roots might not receive the water, oxygen and nutrients they need to grow in strength. The can lead to weak lawns that are vulnerable to various issues. However, homeowners need not avoid their lawns to prevent soil compaction. Rather, learning to recognize signs of soil compaction and paying special attention to heavily trafficked areas of the yard can help homeowners identify the problem early and address it before grass begins to suffer. Cooperative Extension, which is supported by the United States Department of Agriculture and the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, notes that the following are some design potential indicators of compacted soil.

Hard soil: Soil that is difficult, if not impossible, to penetrate with a shovel is likely compacted. Even healthy soil is sometimes resistant to penetration, but if homeowners put some muscle into their efforts to penetrate the soil and still can't do so, then the soil is compacted.

Standing water: Water standing on top of soil for a long time is doing so because the soil is likely so compacted that the water, which roots need to thrive, cannot get through.

Excessive water runoff: Runoff occurs when watering lawns. But if nearly all of the water intended for the lawn and the soil beneath it is seemingly being diverted away from the grass, then that means the water cannot get through to the soil or that so little is getting through that the lawn's health is in jeopardy.

Loss of vegetation or poor plant growth: Compacted soil prevents water,



nutrients and oxygen from accessing the root zone. As a result, plants, including trees, are vulnerable to disease and even death.

Surface crust: Surface crust, which blocks oxygen and water from penetrating the soil and tends to inflict areas like foot-

paths and playgrounds due to heavy foot traffic, contributes to runoff and soil erosion.

Compacted soil is rela-

tively simple to fix. But when untreated, compacted soil can threaten lawns, plants and other vegetation.

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ROCHELLE
News-Leader

Rochelle
Community Unity

Shop • Play • Stay

9 Biggest Benefits Of Shopping Rochelle First



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

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



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

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



Seeking health care in your hometown brings the comforts of receiving qualified

care from people you know and trust. Whether it be a trip to the dentist, regular health care screenings, a visit to a specialist or an emergency, you need not travel. It's all right here.



Banking with people who know you is a luxury found only in hometowns.

You don't have to show your ID every time you go in. You can get a loan from people who know you and understand your needs, whether it be money for your first car or to help your business grow. Local banks believe in the value of community members helping one another.



No one wants to have to make an insurance claim, but it's painless when your agent is your neighbor.

You don't have to convince them that there was a hail storm, or that the wind nearly took your roof off. They know because they live here. Which do you want when you've had a bad day: A face-to-face meeting with your local agent, or a machine answering the phone at that big national insurer that advertises on TV?



Time is money.

It's simple math (especially when you figure in gas mileage.) Shopping locally can actually save you both time and money!



Customer service after the sale is invaluable. Local retailers not only take responsibility for the product

they sold, they will often fix it or replace it – no questions asked. Appliances, furniture, computers and electronics sometimes have glitches. Would you rather box yours up, send it to who knows where, and wait six to eight weeks, or just go back to the nice guy that helped you when you bought it?



Keeping it local encourages community growth. By choosing to do business locally,

you help maintain Rochelle's diversity, charm and appeal; which attracts new community members.



One word: Jobs.

When you do business of any kind in Rochelle, it creates and maintains jobs for others in our area. A healthy employment rate is the cornerstone of all economies. How can you help the economy recover? Start at home.

Classified Marketplace

FREE!

Sell your household items for free.
Total value of item must be \$200 or less. (15 words
- one week - 7 publications - price must be listed)



ROCHELLE • HILLCREST • CRESTON • STEWARD • KINGS • ASHTON

101 LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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113 FINANCIAL

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

119 ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

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.

303 APPLIANCES

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

Part-time mailroom position

The Rochelle News-Leader has a part-time mailroom position open that would include inserting flyers, banding bundles and occasionally help stacking papers coming off the press.

The position typically calls for 24-28 hours per week over four or five days per week, and includes mandatory shifts on Fridays and Saturdays when work load is heaviest. Applicants must be able to quickly insert advertising flyers into newspapers, strap and lift medium-sized bundles onto a delivery truck, and work well as a team with others to follow instructions, pay attention to detail and get newspapers out the door. Mailroom staff members are also asked to perform other basic duties in the department as needed, and may be trained to drive a fork lift.

Anyone (18 years or older) interested in this position should apply in person at the Rochelle News-Leader office, 211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle, IL 61068.

HW

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/RUMMAGE SALES

HILLCREST: 204 Roy Ave. Thursday August 4th 9am-Noon, Friday August 5th 9am-4pm, & Saturday August 6th 9am-Noon. Men's Clothes Size Medium/ Large, Women's Clothes Size Medium, Girl's Size 7/8, Boy's

305 GARAGE/RUMMAGE SALES

Size 10/12 and 14/16. Toy Kitchen, Toy Organizer, Saddle, Kid's Toys, & Household Goods. (08-03-22)

CHANA: 1484 Garnhart Rd. ESTATE SALE Friday August 5th, Saturday August 6th 9am-5pm & Sunday August 7th 9am-3pm. Antiques, Glassware, Vinyl Records and Much More. Something For Everyone. (08-03-22)

ROCHELLE: 817 N 7th St. Looking for Some Great Things Come Check out our Garage Sale on Friday August 4th 7am-6pm. We Have Lots of Clothes, Electronics, Furniture, Lawn Equipment, Kitchen Stuff and More. (08-03-22)

FRANKLIN GROVE - Friday August 5th, 8am-4pm and Saturday August 6th, 8am until at least 1pm. Presbyterian Church Basement, 106 S. Walnut Street. Men's, Women's and Kids' Clothing (4 racks name brand, many with tags); 500+ New T-Shirts; Shoes and Sandals, Household, Home Décor, Suitcases, Books, CDs, DVDs, Bedspreads and Linens, and SO MUCH MORE> Unlike the Stores, Our Prices Haven't Gone Up. (08-03-22)

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

FREE Conn Floor Model Organ. Needs a New Home. Paw Paw IL 815-685-3218 (9am-5pm) (08-07-22)

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

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509 HOUSES FOR RENT

ATTRACTIVE 3-BEDROOM House With Garage. No Pets. Franklin Grove Area, 815-456-2453. (08-7-22)

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

6331 11th Street, Rockford
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HIS FACE FUR, HE'S
FUNNY LIKE THAT.**

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SPORTS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The 3rd Annual Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament was held on Friday and Saturday at the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District tennis courts. Pictured above are the first-place and second-place finishers in the Junior High Singles (left) and Junior High Doubles (right) Divisions.

TENNIS: Third annual tournament held in Rochelle

From page 1

After a 4-2 win over Matt Trowbridge/Margaret Trowbridge, the two drew Uli Dornhagen/Ed Schraedermeier 3-3 to earn their place in the finals against Andy Eckardt/Kristy Eckardt, where they won 4-2.

Rochelle's Randy Paisley and Gurnee's Rick Paisley won the Men's Doubles Division with 17 points and a 4-1-1 record. The Paisleys defeated both Liam Kerbel/Barry Kerbel and Mark Grosso/Ryan Grosso 5-1 before downing Tristan Plaut/Zach Richard 4-2 and drawing Matt Trowbridge/Kelly Johnson 3-3. The duo beat Chris Voekler/John McKenzie 4-1 in the finals.

Oregon's Kristy Eckardt and Rochelle's Lizzie Cartwright won the Women's Doubles Division with 19 points and a 5-0 record. Eckardt and Cartwright defeated Ashley Knight/

Sylvia Hasz 4-2 and Emma Stumpf/Amy Stumpf 6-0 before topping Leah Kuehl/Grace Ferguson 4-2 and Jill Kohlert/Jessica Timm 5-1. The duo won the finals over Lindsey Kalis/Debbie Schaefer 4-2.

Rockford's John McKenzie and Matt Trowbridge won the Senior Doubles Division with 18 points and a 3-0 record. The duo swept all three of their opponents in the tournament, winning 6-0 over Richard Rice/Greg Waas, Alan Cooper/Greg Gromann and John Prabhakar/Roy Threlkeld.

Dixon's Grace Ferguson and Leah Kuehl won the High School Girls Doubles Division, defeating Catherine Williams/Francesca Williams 8-2. Rochelle's David Wanner and Owen Haas won the High School Boys Doubles Division with a 3-6, 6-3, 10-7 win over Mark Green/John Green.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Pictured above are the first and second-place finishers in the Men's Singles (left) and Women's Singles (right) divisions. Tristan Plaut won the Men's Singles title and Kristy Eckardt won the Women's Singles title.

Super

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SPORTS



3rd Annual Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament held Friday and Saturday

(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The 3rd Annual Rochelle Summer Tennis Tournament was held on Friday and Saturday at the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District tennis courts. The tournament featured 73 athletes across 11 different divisions. Pictured above are the first and second-place finishers in the High School Girls Doubles (above left), High School Boys Doubles (above right), Women's Doubles (middle left), Men's Doubles (middle right), Mixed Doubles (below left) and Senior Doubles (below right) Divisions.



Nomination Phase
Monday, August 1st
Through
Monday, August 15th.

Live Voting Starts
Monday, August 15th!

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Nomination Phase

