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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17, 2022

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Cop On A Rooftop Aug. 19

The Rochelle Police Department's Cop On A Rooftop event will be Friday at Dunkin' Donuts. **Page 7**

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW
79 54

THURSDAY
HIGH LOW
78 54

FRIDAY
HIGH LOW
80 59

SATURDAY
HIGH LOW
75 60

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OBITUARIES

- BERNETTA DESHAZO
- RALPH SCHULTZ
- DENNIS LEE STARNIS

See page 4

INSERTS

- ALDI
- DEPOT DAYS

INSIDE

Local News.....2, 3, 5
Obituaries.....4
Opinion.....6
Community.....7



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Tutoring service contract approved

RTHS school improvement plan presented Monday

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At Monday's monthly meeting of the Rochelle Township High School Board of Education, a presentation was made by RTHS Principal Chris Lewis and Assistant Principal David Perrin on the district/school improvement plan for 2022-2023.

Priorities of RTHS's district/school improvement include student behavior expectations, teacher expectations, on-track performance, reading and math growth, academic behaviors, SAT growth and college and career readiness.

"We've been going in a lot of different directions getting through the past couple of years and these are things we really want to focus on or 'tighten up' this year," Lewis said. "Prior to last year, some students didn't go to school for about a year and weren't in the building. So, there were some behavioral concerns and we're working on cleaning up those expectations so kids have a clear concept of what's going on."

Lewis said on-track



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At Monday's monthly meeting of the Rochelle Township High School Board of Education, a presentation was made by RTHS Principal Chris Lewis and Assistant Principal David Perrin on the district/school improvement plan for 2022-2023.

performance has been "a big topic" at the school in the past couple of years with a number of students not being in-person at school and getting off track for graduation.

"The big thing in high school is credit attainment," Lewis said. "We're getting closer to being on-track with that and it's something we still need to focus on and we're still not out of it yet."

RTHS's student profile initiative is the main component of the district/

school improvement plan for 2022-2023. The student profile is the "focal point" of all key data points related to student goals at RTHS. Freshmen create a student profile at orientation and follow and update it during their time at the school. It includes narrative of goal, college and career readiness benchmarks, GPA/credits earned, courses corresponding with student goals, SAT performance, academic behaviors and links to career information.

See **RTHS** page 3

Roberts Armory continues WWII legacy

'It's sort of a labor of love on the history of World War II'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Chuck Roberts started collecting World War II memorabilia in about 1987.

He served in the Army and worked on a lot of equipment during his service. His parents served in WWII. His father was in the Battle of the Bulge and his mother was in the Army nurse corps.

Roberts was always interested in WWII history. He bought one historical vehicle from the second world war, and he promised his wife, Lydia, that it would be the last.

What has resulted since for the Rochelle couple is the Roberts Armory, a WWII museum that specializes in the acquisition and display of armored vehicles, artillery and other artifacts used by the U.S. in WWII.

The museum participates in WWII-related displays, parades, motion pictures and reenactments throughout the United States. The purpose of the museum is to preserve the history of World War II and



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Chuck Roberts started collecting World War II memorabilia in about 1987. What has resulted since for the Rochelle couple is the Roberts Armory, a WWII museum that specializes in the acquisition and display of armored vehicles, artillery and other artifacts used by the U.S. in WWII.

to honor those who served. "It's sort of a labor of love on the history of WWII," Chuck said. "We get a lot of people that come in with post-war equipment. And we just can't handle more. We're overflowing with

just the WWII stuff. When I walk in here after all these years, I'm sort of shocked and I say, 'Holy cow, what are we going to do with all of this stuff?'"

"We say it's a hobby that got out of control," Lydia

said.

Exhibits at the Roberts Armory include: An M5A1 light tank "Stuart", MM22 light tank "Locust", M8 light-armored car "Greyhound", M16 half-track, 75 MM gun motor carriage

M3, T-16 universal carrier, M29C cargo carrier "Weasel", M7 snow tractor, WC51 and WC52 weapons carrier and an M6 37 MM gun motor carriage.

See **ARMORY** page 3

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LOCAL NEWS



Rochelle Township High School welcomes new staff members for 2022-23 school year

Rochelle Township High School recently welcomed its new staff members for the 2022-2023 school year. Pictured from left to right: Justin Otte, Anna Criswell, Max Basler, Band Director Keaton Shumard, Choral Music Director Cory Ellis, School Nurse Ashley Lawrenz, Anna Birska, Rachel Plock and Anna Adolph. Classes resumed Tuesday at RTHS. A total of 24 people have joined the RTHS staff for the year.



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(COURTESY PHOTOS)

On Tuesday, Aug. 9, the Rochelle Rotary Club installed three little libraries across Rochelle. Pictured are Greg Folmar and Josh Carney installing the Cooper Park location little library, and Carney, Sarah Flanagan, Folmar and Adam Heal with Girl Scout Troop 409.

Rotary installs little libraries across Rochelle

ROCHELLE — On Tuesday, Aug. 9, the Rochelle Rotary Club installed three little libraries across Rochelle. The little libraries were installed years ago and were taken down before COVID-19 to be repaired, repainted

and improved.

The three locations that there are now little libraries are Cooper Park, the Little League field by the bike path and along the bike path near First Presbyterian Church. Little libraries are a part of

one of the many Rotary goals of worldwide literacy, and it is full of mostly children's books but also appropriate books for all ages.

The libraries are free of charge and are completely based on the

honor system. Everyone is free to take any book they desire and return it when they are done. The little library at Cooper Park was painted by and books provided by the Girl Scout Troop 409 of Rochelle.

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LOCAL NEWS

ARMORY: WWII museum will be open this Saturday

From page 1

Additional exhibits include: Willys-Overland MB ¼-ton truck “Jeep”, Ford 1.5-ton truck GTBA “Burma Jeep”, 1941 Buick Century series 60 staff car, 1941 Plymouth P11 staff car, 1939 Cadillac staff car, 1942 Harley-Davidson type II, Army bicycle, Multiple cal. 0.50-machine gun mount M45 “quadmount”, 37 MM anti-tank gun M3, 40 MM automatic gun, M1 (anti-aircraft), 75 MM pack howitzer M8, 75 MM recoilless rifle M20, LCVP Higgins boat, DUKW 2.5-ton amphibian truck and Singer roadster SM 1500.

The museum will be open to the public this Saturday from 1-4 p.m. and is open two other times a year on Memorial Day and the Sunday before Veterans Day.

“It takes us probably a day or two of work just to open it up,” Chuck said. “We do maintenance on the vehicles. Everything here runs and all the guns have simulated fire. It’s getting to the point now where we’re the only experts that know how to fix these things. People call and email us from all over the world with questions. We do 3-D printing of parts that can’t be found anymore.”

The walls of the museum are lined with pictures

and stories of Rochelle veterans and it has historic copies of the Rochelle News-Leader that have pictures of the soldiers and information from when they were in the service. Other than local veterans, the museum has a lot of things relating to the 70th tank battalion, which is a group the Roberts’ reenact.

The vehicles at the museum participate in local parades and car shows. The Roberts’ have written five books on World War II history and currently have two more in with a publisher. Lydia’s specialty in collecting is women’s WWII uniforms.

“My closet is more packed with uniforms than regular street clothes,” Lydia said. “I kind of got interested because of Chuck’s interest. In high school, I hated history because it was just memorizing places and dates. And these things we have, you can touch and feel them and find out the history behind it all. It’s much more interesting than just opening a book.”

People have come from “all over the world” to visit the museum, Chuck said. He enjoys meeting people and sharing a common interest. Sometimes families of veterans that have since passed bring in items from their service.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The Roberts Armory WWII Museum will be open to the public this Saturday from 1-4 p.m. and is open two other times a year on Memorial Day and the Sunday before Veterans Day. Above are Lydia and Chuck Roberts.

“We’re continuing the legacy of the memories and technology of WWII,” Chuck said. “Once the veteran passes away and leaves behind things related to it, sometimes the family comes here and we can tell them what the photos meant to the best of our ability.”

The large vehicles at the Roberts Armory have been purchased through a broker. They’ve come from countries like Portugal, Chile, Norway and France. Chuck works on all of the equipment himself and enjoys the machinery aspect of it. Lydia’s only requirement for his “hobby” is that no more than one vehicle at a time can be inoperable.

“We’re into the machinery and not too many people are,” Chuck said. “It’s impressive to still see it. It’s to remind people that no matter what you think about this stuff, this is the reason why you’re not speaking German or Japanese as a primary language. Because your ancestors were in these things fighting the Germans or the Japanese.”

Over the years, the museum has seen visitors that are veterans of WWII or those that served in later wars like Vietnam and Korea, where the same or similar equipment was used. Those interactions have been meaningful to Chuck and Lydia Roberts.

“One of the things I enjoy most about having visitors here is, especially when we’ve had WWII veteran visitors come, they start to talk about their experiences and the family would say, ‘That’s the first time we’ve heard them talk about what happened in the war,’” Lydia said.

Kishwaukee College students learn at AIFD National Symposium

LAS VEGAS—Three students from Kishwaukee College’s horticulture program put their floral design skills on display at the national level during the American Institute of Floral Design (AIFD) National Symposium held in Las Vegas.

In July, Kish students and faculty attended the symposium with fellow floral designers, design instructors and horticulture students from around the United States. Representing Kish were Christina Fisher, Jayna Masters and Paisley Dhesse, along with floral design instructor and AIFD Chapter Advisor Janet Gallagher. The students received financial support through the Kishwaukee College Foundation to cover travel expenses for the event.

“It was quite an experience to see the creativity and uniqueness the pro-

fessional designers use,” Fisher said. “Between the presentations, seminars, competitions and receptions, it was a packed schedule. There was a lot to do, a lot to see and a lot to learn.”

The students spent the majority of the week exploring the different opportunities the horticulture field offers.

“We got to learn so much and meet so many different people,” Dhesse said. “It really showed us how many different careers you can get into in floral. The number of opportunities is unbelievable.”

Along with the instructional aspects of the symposium, the Kish students also got to make floral arrangements for competition in four categories — wedding, sympathy, flowers to wear and interpretive design. Kish

was one of eight colleges competing and placed third overall and second in the wedding category. Individually, the students placed 10th, 11th and 12th overall.

The students credited Gallagher and Kish’s floral design program for getting them ready for competition.

“Janet did a great job preparing us for the unknown,” Fisher said. “She was very good about bringing in different types of flowers and greenery for practice. We had the opportunity to be creative with a variety of things and having that time to practice was very important to get more experience.”

Gallagher and the Kish horticulture program work to help students discover different career opportunities through hands-on training and real-world applications. All three stu-

dents in this year’s competition are in their first year of Kish’s horticulture program and will have the opportunity to attend next year’s symposium in Chicago.

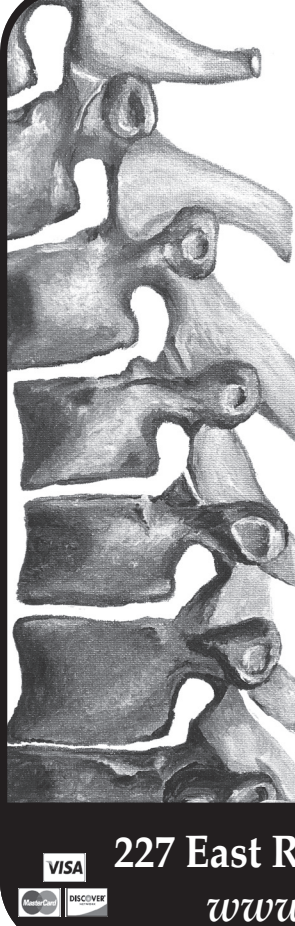
“It was an amazing experience — it’s inde-

scribable. You have to be there to even remotely understand,” Dhesse said. “I already know I’m going next year.”

Along with floral design, Kishwaukee College’s horticulture program allows students to

study greenhouse and garden centers, landscape design and construction, cannabis and hemp cultivation, and more. For more information on floral design and horticulture at Kishwaukee College, visit kish.edu/horticulture.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Dennis Lee Starns

LAGUNA WOODS, Cal. — Dennis Lee Starns, known affectionately as “Denny,” passed away Monday, Aug. 1 in Laguna Woods, California at the age of 75 after a brave battle with cancer.

Denny was born in September 1946 to Paul and Betty Jean (Reineck) Starns in Rochelle. He was a middle child, with his siblings Paula and Pam.

Denny graduated from Rochelle High School in 1965 where he was a talented football player on an undefeated team, as well as competing on the wrestling and track teams. He proudly served his country in the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War as a technician on the USS Jason repair ship where he made lifelong friends. In September 1967, while simultaneously serving in the military — he married his high school sweetheart — Marilyn Hickey, and they started their lives as newlyweds in sunny San Diego. They later returned to Illinois to raise their family in both Elgin and St. Charles over the course

of the next several decades. Denny and Marilyn retired first to Elgin and then to Laguna Woods, California where they found wonderful, close-knit groups of friends who supported him until the end.

After his military service, Denny completed an associate degree at San Diego State and then began his 36-year career in the telephone industry where he worked until his retirement in 2008 from AT&T. Dennis enjoyed spending time with his family and friends, and was a devoted father to his three children. He loved biking, golfing and playing bocce whenever possible. Most of all, Denny loved to laugh and be part of the buzz and hum of life with his friends, family and coworkers whenever possible. He spent 1992-1997 volunteering as Scoutmaster of Troop 56 in the Boy Scouts of America, and later as the president of the local Exchange Club, and for other various local veterans’ organizations. He was always known as a reliable, dependable



and honorable member of all his philanthropic and volunteer pursuits.

Denny is survived by his wife, Marilyn (Hickey) Starns, his daughter Kristin Starns of Burbank, California, his sons Chad (Crystal) Starns of Indianapolis, Indiana and Robert Starns of Los Angeles, California, his mother, Betty Jean (Reineck) Skretteberg, his sisters Paula (David) Pest and Pam (Lonnie) Lay, his nephews David (Robin) Pest, Stephanie Pest and Aaron Lay, and great nephews Trevor Pest and Foster Pest. He is preceded in death by his father, Paul (Aaron) Starns.

In lieu of flowers, Dennis’ family has requested those who wish to do so consider making a donation in his honor to a charity of their choice.

Bernetta DeShazo

RAPID CITY, S.D. — On Saturday, July 30, Bernetta DeShazo left this world and entered into her everlasting home. Interestingly, she was born during the height of the Spanish Flu and died as COVID-19 waned! She lived a challenging, generous, caring and enjoyable life of 103 years....Amazing!

Bernetta Kingsbury was born on June 30, 1919 in Boone County, Iowa. Her father, Ralph Kyle Kingsbury, of Irish decent, and her mother, Gladys Johnson Kingsbury, of Norwegian heritage, were expecting their third child. After the doctor arrived in his horse and buggy, he delivered her older brother, Bernard, and much to her parent’s surprise, child number four was born, Bernetta. Her mother’s apt words sum up the surprise twin birth, “Isn’t one enough?” In all, eight Kingsbury children were born and raised in Iowa and Minnesota.

After Bernetta graduated from Stanhope High School in Iowa, with the “class of ‘36”, she attended college and worked in Des Moines, Iowa. As a member of the Greatest Generation, she found her faith in the living God and was baptized in the local river by Reverend Heck at age 20. While quiet in her public confession of her walk with Jesus, His love for her sustained her through the many seasons of her long life and welcomed her home when she left us.

In 1940, she married Wayne Malone and together they had three children: Rodney, Doran and Dorinda. This union

ended in a divorce.

In 1955 she moved to Illinois to be near her family. Bernetta began to raise her children in Kings. While working at Walgreens in Rochelle, she met her soon to be husband, Harold DeShazo, who impressed her with a boat ride on the Rock River and dates in his fancy Chevrolet. They were married Dec. 5, 1958. With the marriage came his three sons: Mike, Larry, and David.

Harold and Bernetta celebrated 43 years of marriage until he passed March 22, 2001. They worked hard together and were a great team...growing large vegetable and flower gardens; running a home greenhouse business; owning the Kings Grocery Store; ending most days praying the Lord’s prayer, but best of all — operating the local post office. Bernetta was the post master at Kings for over 35 years. She was known by all and loved by the children in particular. Whenever they turned five, she would invite them to the lobby and teach them how to open their mailbox. With three numbers to learn, the soon-to-be kindergartner was successful.

After Harold died, Bernetta moved to Rochelle to begin apartment living. It fit her very well and she had many adventures with new and old friends...going to garage sales, lunches out with those friends, playing Bingo, exercising, and enjoying the Kentucky Derby with her then friend, Mary.

In August 2015, Bernetta moved out to Rapid City, South Dakota to be near her daughter. She was able to meet new friends and enjoy great grandkids. Her caregivers loved her very much and delighted in her sense of humor. Celebrating her 99th and 100th birthdays were with family, friends and pie! Due to



COVID-19, her #101 was celebrated in her then home, Avantara Arrowhead Healthcare Facility, through her bedroom window!! #102 was a big hit with the local newspaper with encouraging letters from Governor Kristi Noem and Senator Mike Rounds. #103 was spent sharing desserts with her many friends. Bernetta was always welcoming people into her room with a “Hello, hello, hello!”

Bernetta took her last breath at 10 a.m. July 30. She will be greatly missed but so fondly remembered.

Thankful for having known Bernetta and living life with her: children Rodney Malone (deceased), Doran Malone (wife Karyll, deceased) and daughter Dorinda Hays, Dee (husband Michael); five grandsons, eight great grandchildren; the DeShazo step sons Mike, Larry (deceased) and David (deceased, wife Judy); one sister, Ruth Fell and sister-in-law, Rosemary Kingsbury and many nieces and nephews. The family wants to thank the many dear and precious friends and caregivers who Bernetta loved on and who, in turn, cared for her deeply, particularly in her later years.

A memorial service will be held in Kings at Elim Reformed Church on Saturday, Sept. 3 at 11 a.m. All are welcome to come and celebrate Bernetta’s life. Lunch will be served immediately afterwards. In lieu of flowers, honorariums may be sent to your local hospice. To drop the family a note, email deeh.refc@gmail.com.

Ralph Schultz

MENDOTA — Dad wanted us to let you know that it is time for him to be with Lolla, his wife of 62 years. He passed away on Aug. 14 at Heritage Health, Mendota, not long after celebrating his 94th birthday.

Ralph was born in LaMoille Township to Otto and Bessie (Hicks) Schultz on Aug. 5, 1928, the youngest of nine children: Claude, Frank, Clarence, Harry, Irene (Stewart), Ruth (Hoffman-Haefner), Garney and Crystal (Alexander), all of whom preceded him in death.

Ralph married the love of his life, Lolla Faye Cox on Oct. 26, 1951. Ralph and Lolla raised their family in Compton, Illinois. They were the proud parents of Mike (Sue) Schultz, Cheryl (Steve) Argubright, Keith (Carol) Schultz and Kevin (Deb) Schultz. They have eight grandchildren and 12 great grandchildren.

Ralph was a friend to many and valued his customers to whom he delivered fuel when working for Lee FS. He was a skilled electrician, owner and operator of Ralph Schultz and Sons Electric. He enjoyed working for his customers and mentoring the next generation of electricians.

Ralph was communi-



ty minded. Ralph was a Compton Village Trustee, Elks Club member and member of Compton United Methodist Church where he served on the board for many years as well as many other committees. Ralph never met a stranger and could strike up a conversation with anyone. Ralph and Lolla enjoyed travel and time with family and friends. Ralph will be missed by many.

Funeral services will be held on Thursday, Aug. 18 at 10:30 a.m. at the Paw Paw United Methodist Church with Rev. Dana Cox officiating. Cremation rites will be held after the funeral and private burial will be at Melugin Grove Cemetery at a later date. Visitation will be Wednesday from 4-7 p.m. at the Merritt Funeral Home, Mendota.

Memorials will be designated to Mendota Area Senior Services. Online condolences may be left at www.merrittfh.com

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make several arrests

ROCHELLE — On Aug. 12 at 12:22 p.m. Bonnie M. Withrow, 64, of Rochelle was cited for improper lane usage. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 23 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 12 at 9:02 p.m. Dalton L. Thomas, 20, of Rochelle was arrested

for driving while license suspended and cited for no insurance. He was released on an I-Bond and given a Sept. 23 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 12 at 10:43 p.m. Maria Umanzor-Huerrera, 21, of Rochelle was arrested for no valid driver’s license. She was released

on an I-Bond and given a Sept. 23 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 13 at 5:17 p.m. Jeremiah N. Haynes, 21, of Sycamore was arrested on an outstanding Rockford Police warrant. He paid \$2,500 and was released with an Aug. 16 Rockford court date.

On Aug. 13 at 10:44 p.m. Kimberly D. Wessner, 53, of Champaign was arrested for retail theft. She was released on an I-Bond and given a Sept. 16 Ogle County court date.



Rochelle Masonic Lodge

2022 Gun Raffle

Drawing: Saturday, August 20 at 2pm

- First Winner Has Choice**
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 2. Glock G43-9mm
 3. S&W M&P9 Shield 9mm
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5. - 9 mm Holster
6. - 100 Rounds -38 Special Center Fire
7. - 525 Rounds -22 Lone Rifle Hollow Point

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LOCAL NEWS

Free concert in Mt. Morris on Saturday, Aug. 20

MT. MORRIS — Encore! Mt. Morris presents a free concert featuring local band, Swingbilly Rfd. on Saturday, Aug. 20, from 7-9 p.m. at the Mt. Morris Band Shell as part of the ongoing U.S. National Straw Sculpting Competition.

Swingbilly RFD is a Rockford-based group that plays traditional country and western swing music as it was performed in its golden age of the '40s and '50s. The group is comprised of some of the area's most accomplished musicians, and the instrumentation is the same as it was back in the day...vocals, upright bass, acoustic guitar, steel guitar, fiddle and drums. Repertoire includes material by the greats such as Hank Williams, Ernest Tubb, Lefty Frizzell and Bob Wills. The group is supremely entertaining and

their music will make you want to get up and dance.

Concessions for the evening will be provided by Spring Valley food truck, serving burgers, Italian beef, chicken tenders, cole slaw, chips and drinks. Just For Fun Ice Cream will be there as well, all starting at 6 p.m.

The campus will be extra festive that evening as the 7th Annual National Strawsculpting Competition continues, with four new sculptures and many winners from the past on display all around the south end of the campus until Aug. 29.

Please bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy the new benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic campus in the center of Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Illinois Route 64 on Wesley Avenue.



RTHS: Board holds budget workshop special meeting

From page 1

"We were reactive the past two years due to the pandemic. This year we're going to go back in time a little bit and try to get things back to normal. We're going to focus on the student profile. This tool is something that was put together in 2016 or 2017 and it's kind of like an individualized education plan for every kid. Our mission here is to prepare kids for their tomorrow and the best way we have of doing that right now is this student profile."

The student profile is built around what students have to do during their time at RTHS to be prepared for their goal after graduating, whether it's a career, the military or college.

Freshman student profile goals include declaring a student profile goal, demonstrating growth in math and reading from fall 2022 to spring 2023 based on the STAR test and earning 5.5 credits by June 2023. Sophomore student goals include improving academic behavior teacher ratings from their freshman year and earning 11 credits by June 2023. Junior goals include taking the SAT test and meeting benchmarks and/or expected growth based on their PSAT 10 scores and earning 16.5 credits by June 2023. Senior student goals include being career and/or college-ready based on their individual

student profile goal and graduating in May 2023.

"A student can change their goal at any time," District Superintendent Jason Harper said. "We can run multiple profiles for them to compare. And then we give them at least annual opportunities for them to modify their student profile so it can be most accurate."

Tutoring

The board unanimously approved a two-year contract for a 100-percent online, available 24/7 tutoring service for RTHS students with a company called Paper. All students will have access to the software at no cost to families.

"Obviously it's not meant to replace our teachers, but we know students are potentially working on their school assignments 24/7," Harper said. "They can log on with any device at home and from school. They'll have access to online tutors for all sorts of subjects we offer. We've seen other districts go to products like this to offer students support during the hours they're not with us."

Harper said the tutoring service is not video chat-based and all tutors are vetted and trained by Paper. The district plans to get usage data after the program begins and see how students are using it. Part of the service includes students being able to have papers proofread and sug-

gested corrections returned to them within 24 hours.

"It's a service we're going to push and provide," Harper said. "We'll see how our students and teachers use it and I think it can be a nice supplement to the things we have in place."

Principal's report

During his principal's report portion of the meeting, Lewis said the district recently held its new teacher orientation program ahead of the school year starting Tuesday. RTHS has eight new teachers this year.

"We've had some hiring take place this summer," Lewis said. "One thing

I'm really happy with, even though it's not a typical summer and you don't want to do that every summer, is that we're fully-staffed right now. If you've read anything about the teacher shortage you'd know that there are a lot of schools that can't say that. We have everyone in place and we're really happy that we're able to service our kids with a full staff here."

Budget

The board held a budget workshop special meeting prior to Monday's regular meeting. District Business Manager Kevin Dale said the tentative enrollment number for RTHS is currently 929 students. Last year, the district projected

865 students for this year.

"We'll get a final count once everyone is in," Dale said. "The enrollment data won't be confirmed until the October housing report. You can see in the data that it's declining enrollment that's consistent except for this little bump right now."

Projected revenue for the year is currently \$19.9 million with projected expenditures of \$19.5 million with a surplus of \$402,000.

A formal budget hearing will be held before next month's meeting and the budget will be voted on during the regularly-scheduled meeting that follows in September.

Employment

The board approved

the resignations of Andrew Evangelista (chorus teacher and head choir director), Victoria Evangelista (mathematics teacher) and Mae Furman (special education teacher at Focus House) along with the employment of Cory Ellis (chorus teacher and head choir director), Angela Pabon (substitute bus driver), Michael Palmer (maintenance), Jonathon Sandoval (custodian, second shift), Veronica Hernandez (paraprofessional), Nicole Canfield (math interventionist), Ron Duval (music department mentor), Justin Otte (assistant boys track coach and volunteer football assistant coach) and Deanna Jacobs (volunteer volleyball coach).

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LOCAL VIEWS

Annual farm bureau meeting and gas prices

THE Ogle County Farm Bureau has announced that they will host their annual member meeting on Sept. 8 at St. Mary's Community Center, in Oregon.

The meeting marks the one-hundred fifth anniversary for the Ogle County Farm Bureau, which was started in 1917.

Ogle County Farm Bureau members and their families are invited to attend the Sept. 8 meeting and participate in the dinner and business meeting of the organization.

The evening begins at 7 p.m. with a roast pork dinner. Following dinner, Ogle County Farm Bureau President Keith Poole will convene the annual business meeting of the members. During the business session members will elect directors for the farm bureau organization, receive committee and board reports and conduct business as scheduled prior to the meeting.

Guest speaker is Illinois Farm Bureau Director of Governmental Affairs Mark Gebhards.

Tickets for the annual meeting must be purchased in advance for \$5 each. Tickets can be obtained from the Ogle County Farm Bureau office, in Oregon or from directors of the organization.

For more information on the meeting or on obtaining tickets contact me at the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 815-732-2231.

Gasoline prices hit a new

high, rising above \$5.006 in June, according to the U.S. Energy Information Administration. This is up \$1.937 per gallon, 63 percent higher than the same week in June 2021. This new high price of gasoline is nearly two times higher than the five-year average price of gasoline before 2020 when COVID lockdowns pushed gasoline demand way down.

The U.S. Energy Information Administration breaks down the costs within a gallon of fuel. As of April 2022, the most recent data available, 60 percent of the cost of regular gasoline is crude oil, 17 percent is the cost to refine, 11 percent is costs associated with distribution and marketing, and 12 percent is taxes, which vary based on the state in which you are pumping gasoline.

In April 2022, the cost of diesel, the primary fuel option for farmers and ranchers, was also made up of four parts – 49 percent is based on crude oil, 28 percent is refining, 12 percent is costs associated with distribution and marketing and 11 percent is taxes, which varies by state.

The U.S. supply of weekly crude oil stocks, similar to ending stocks of corn or soybeans, is at its lowest point since 2004, meaning there is less supply on hand. And weekly ending stocks of regular motor gasoline are down 16 percent compared to the same first week in June last year, moving

from 258.661 million barrels a year ago to 218.184 million barrels. U.S. diesel inventories are down 21 percent compared to the same first week in June last year, lowering from 137.214 million barrels to 108.984 million barrels. It's important to note that in the U.S., it is normal for inventories to decline in the spring and summer months due to increased demand from road travelers.

The U.S. was at peak monthly production of crude oil in December 2019, producing just over 400 million barrels. In March 2022, the U.S. was producing just over 361 million barrels for the month. The U.S. has only just begun consistently producing over 300 million barrels monthly since November 2017 and in the past four years has only dipped below 300 million barrels in February 2018 and February 2021.

Since the U.S. started domestically producing over 300 million barrels monthly in November 2017, U.S. weekly imports of crude oil have averaged 8.85 million barrels. During high-demand seasonal times, the U.S. would typically import just over 10 million barrels of crude oil weekly, but imports have been declining as a result of the 2020 COVID lockdowns, when demand dropped and imports followed suit, with

the U.S. only importing a weekly average of 7.7 million barrels. In 2021, U.S. imports increased slightly to 8.7 million barrels weekly. Thus far in 2022, the U.S. is importing an average of 8.4 million barrels of crude oil weekly.

While the U.S. is relatively behind its normal domestic production of crude oil and limited imports are causing supplies to be short, demand is rising, both domestically and globally. As noted, mid-March through the end of September is the peak demand time for gas and diesel, so it is normal for inventories to lower during this time. What makes the situation difficult this year is that the U.S. does not have the same quantity of additional supplies, like imports, to supplement the increased demand.

This dynamic, however, is creating a market force that puts U.S. consumers at a disadvantage. Crude oil, gasoline and diesel are all considered global commodities.

Global market forces in the short-term are incentivizing suppliers to sell off inventory at the cash price today, rather than the lower posted future price. This creates a disincentive for suppliers to hold back any inventory that would likely move through domestic channels, thus shortening domestic U.S. supplies. It

has been reported that the spread between current and future prices has been as much as \$1 per gallon. This would mean that suppliers would lose as much as \$1 per gallon if they were to hold on to inventory for 30 days or more.

The most recently reported data for U.S. exports of crude oil says the U.S. exported nearly 103 thousand barrels of crude oil, about 8 percent behind the U.S. peak export quantity in March 2020. Year-over-year comparisons show the U.S. exported about 24 percent more crude oil in March 2022 compared to March 2021, however, in March 2021 the U.S. was exporting about 26 percent less crude than in March 2020. As the U.S. ramped up domestic production in the beginning of 2017 to reach the point of consistently producing over 300 million barrels monthly, U.S. crude oil exports took off, multiplying by nearly 7.75 times the quantity the U.S. was exporting in December 2016.

Fuel prices have risen sharply since Russia invaded Ukraine, and high fuel prices continue to add to the conversation of high input prices for all agricultural producers. In 2020, fuel represented about 3 percent of total on-farm expenditures. Earlier this year, USDA expected fuel costs to increase more than 2 percent as part of net farm income projections

compared to the cost of fuel in 2021 and we expect that increase to be larger when USDA updates those numbers in September. Since 2013, fuel has increased as a farm production expenditure cumulatively by 3 percent.

This expectation comes with the latest USDA cost of production data, which estimates that the cost of fuel, lube and electricity combined is projected to increase 34 percent in 2022 compared to 2021, after just a slight cost reduction, decreasing 1 percent from 2020 to 2021.

Limited domestic refining capacity for those crude oil supplies could further strain supply availability as demand rises, which could also contribute to increased costs. It will be important to keep an eye on domestic production to see if the U.S. can return to its peak production level of nearly 400 million barrels a month. To do this, two things need are needed.

First, domestic crude oil production companies must have regulatory flexibility and second, refiners need a business environment that fosters certainty and increases domestic capacity to deliver.

"I'm sorry to report that due to inflation your opinion has dropped down from two cents to nothing." -Anonymous

Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.



Ron Kern

Staffing decisions guided by strategic priorities

EARLIER this summer our mayor and city council met with staff to work on a new set of goals related to our city's strategic plan. Because of the success of the plan approved in 2018, Mayor Bearrows and the city council felt it was important to continue to focus on the five original strategic priority areas. These included economic and business development, community inclusiveness and engagement, core service delivery, financial and organizational management and infrastructure effectiveness and improvement. Based on the feedback the city heard from the three community groups that were interviewed by Northern Illinois University in 2021, the city added quality of life.

Each of these strategic initiatives work in coordination with each other to provide a better community for our residents. Part of our efforts from an organizational perspective is to prioritize services that provide the best benefit to our residents long-term. This includes investments in public safety and public works, infrastructure and business development. However, as our world changes so should the services that we provide.

Last year the city had several positions that came open through retirements and staff moving on for new opportunities. Because our decision-making processes are guided by our strategic priorities, our team looks for ways to improve quality of life and core service delivery when new staff are

added. In 2022, my leadership team recommended that several open positions be combined into two new positions they felt would help move our city forward. Thanks to the leadership of our mayor and city council, we implemented the city's first ever GIS and sustainability coordinator positions.

The use of GIS (geographic information systems) is incorporated into every city department for asset management and maintenance. This includes the garbage rollout and recycling maps, utility maps, the new zoning map, snowplow removal routes, sign dashboard for the public works department and utility atlases for industrial and commercial develop-

ment to name a few. Real time edits and maps can be made to address city concerns, asset management and data administration. GIS improves overall familiarity and efficiency in utility locating, construction, logistics, real-estate, transit, travel, engineering and many other sectors by providing informative systems to make decisions and help communicate things spatially, historically and to forecast patterns and trends.

As part of our efforts to promote green energy and sustainable practices beyond solar we created the position of a sustainability coordinator. A sustainable community is one that meets the needs of its resi-



Jeffrey Fiegenschuh

dents in the present, without compromising the resource needs of those in the future. Making sustainable steps forward helps promote community resiliency to climate change, lower costs of living and a healthier environment for Rochelle's residents.

Our goals for the next few years include developing a working group of staff and community members that has an interest in sustainability initiatives in the community and working towards building a comprehensive sustainability action plan which could include initiatives such as a rain barrel program, updating and promoting the residential energy efficiency rebate program, promoting the Rochelle Municipal Utilities energy audit program through Panoptic

Solutions and pursuing the Tree City USA certification.

If you have any questions related to GIS or sustainability programs please reach out to Casey Heuer, GIS coordinator or Molly Sedig, sustainability coordinator. Both positions will work in concert with the rest of the city staff and our elected officials to promote our six strategic priorities into the future.

"I see a time of Seven Generations when all the colors of mankind will gather under the Sacred Tree of Life and the whole Earth will become one circle again" - Crazy Horse

"Strategy without process is little more than a wish list" - Robert Filek

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

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

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*John Bearrows	jbearrows@rochelleil.us
Kathryn Shaw-Dickey	kshaw-dickey@rochelleil.us
Bil Hayes	bhayes@rochelleil.us
Rosaelia Arteaga	rarteaga@rochelleil.us
Dan McDermott	dmcdermott@rochelleil.us
Tom McDermott	tmcdermott@rochelleil.us
John Gruben	jgruben@rochelleil.us

Rochelle Elementary School Board

*Dave Casey	dcillini94@gmail.com
Steve Builta	sbuilt@gmail.com
Ashley Jackson	ajackson@d231.rochelle.net
Stephanie White	swhite@d231.rochelle.net
Eric Van Hise	eric.vanhise@gmail.com
Trisha Vaughn	jrvtlv02@msn.com
Javier Zepeda	jzepeda@rthsd212.org

Rochelle Township High School Board

*Tom Huddleston	tom.huddleston@rthsd212.org
Carol Hayenga	carol.hayenga@rthsd212.org
Bill Ravnaas	bill.ravnaas@rthsd212.org
Jacky Aguilera	jacky.aguilera@rthsd212.org
Jeff Tilton	jeff.tilton@rthsd212.org
Bobby Chadwick	bobby.chadwick@rthsd212.org
Brian VanVickle	brian.vanvickle@rthsd212.org

Flagg-Rochelle Park Board

Brent Carmichael	bcarmichael@rochelleparkdistrict.org
John Dobbs	jdobbs@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Dale Wells	dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org
*Tim Hayden	thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Jodie Hart	jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Joe Lenkaitis	jlenkaitis@rochelleparkdistrict.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 3

Lloyd Droege	ldroege@oglecounty.org
Dan Miller	dmiller@oglecounty.org
Greg Sparrow	gsparrow@oglecounty.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 4

Bruce McKinney	bmckinney@oglecounty.org
Skip Kenney	skenney@oglecounty.org
David Williams	dwilliams@oglecounty.org

Creston Village Board

Wayne Williams	jwdw13@yahoo.com
Jennifer Payton	
*Tom Byro	tommyb_47@yahoo.com
Greg Hopkins	ghopkins522@comcast.net
Steve Katzman	skatzman@essex1.com
Mike Kerns	ac.kerns@comcast.net
Mark Hibshman	
Curt Ward	caward92@comcast.net

Hillcrest Village Board

*Randy Salsbury	rsalsbury@hillcrestil.us
Pam Pittman	ppittman@hillcrestil.us
Dan Potter	dpotter@hillcrestil.us
Richard Rhoads	rrhoads@hillcrestil.us
Tim Ball	tball@hillcrestil.us
Renee Kerwin	rkerwin@hillcrestil.us

Flagg Township

*Bob Withrow	flaggtwp@rochelle.net
Joanna Patrick	scanlan@comcast.net
Susan Rothenberger	assessor@rochelle.net
Scott Seebach	scottseebach@gmail.com

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*Jaqueline Dickow	dickow@comcast.net
Teresa Haggstad	haggstads@comcast.net
Michael Scanlan	scanlan@comcast.net
Lanning Nicoloff	nicoloff118@comcast.net
Sheri Klindera	alwayslefty2@gmail.com
Susan Sevedge	nit1prl22@yahoo.com
Darci Waltrip	doobs12@comcast.net

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



‘Cop On A Rooftop’ scheduled Friday morning at Dunkin’ Donuts

The Rochelle Police Department will be collecting donations for Special Olympics Illinois with a ‘Cop on a Rooftop’ campaign at Dunkin Donuts’ in Rochelle from 5 a.m. to noon on Friday, Aug. 19. “Get your cup of coffee, a donut, and support these great athletes all at the same time,” an RPD Facebook post said.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

- 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

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

2022 From The Heart Calendar

July 22 - Joelle Builtta, 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

Aug. 3 - From the Heart, \$25

Aug. 4 - Judy Witasik, Steward, \$25

Aug. 5 - Joel Staley, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 6 - Heidi Martinez, Byron, \$25

Aug. 7 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$50

Aug. 8 - Michele Perez, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 9 - Peggy Phipps, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 10 - Caleb & Canyon Ritter, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 11 - Rochelle Foods, \$25

Aug. 12 - Laura Steinke, Davenport, Iowa, \$25

Aug. 13 - Debra Gorski, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 14 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$50

Aug. 15 - Roger Sheely, Oregon, \$25

Aug. 16 - Juana Hernandez, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 17 - Richard E. Bearrows, Rochelle, \$25



Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Felines

5 Discoverer's call

8 Brewer's kiln

12 Owl call

13 Massage

14 Leg joint

15 Not-so-noble protagonist

17 Rat- —

18 Green sauce

19 Realm

21 Penny

24 Help

25 Persian leader

28 Knitter's need

30 Assoc.

33 Bit of wit

34 Rehab process

35 — chi

36 Even so

37 Slanted type (Abbr.)

38 Darned

39 Hollywood's Lupino

41 Take five

43 Burning

46 Leslie of "Gigi"

50 Songs for one

51 Daughter of Oedipus

54 Mon. follower

55 Half of XIV

56 Send forth

12

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10 Char

11 Head, to Henri

16 Weeding tool

20 Tailless cat

22 Russian refusal

23 Early Mongolian

25 Covert agent

26 Coloration

27 Cuba, Jamaica, etc.

29 Actor's quest

31 Cold and damp

32 Tonic's mixer

34 Actress

Cameron

38 Put on, as a play

40 Dagwood's dog

42 High school subj.

43 Wine region

44 Boxing match

45 Roof overhang

47 Former Dallas QB Tony

48 Taking action

49 Tennis barriers

52 Wee bite

53 Spanish aunt

DOWN

1 Bloke

2 First-rate

3 Youngsters

4 Do needle-work

5 Raw mineral

6 "Ben- —"

7 Slender woodwind

8 Giraffe's kin

9 Poison remedy

10

13

16

19

22

25

28

31

34

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: Q equals F

WQ RGM R N G H W V G X Z R X V X S J K R

Q J Z J K N G E E J S S J Z S F H R N W R

I W V F W P V G Q X K K J V, N G S W I G J R

R N G P M F K N - X Q Q.

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King Crossword

Answers

Weekly SUDOKU

CryptoQuip

answer

After the paleontologist finished digging up that valuable fossil, he gave it the brush-off.

Solution time: 24 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

Weekly SUDOKU

LINCOLN HIGHWAY FESTIVAL



(PHOTOS BY ELLEN O'MALLEY)

Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival preparations ahead of its 2022 dates of Aug. 19-21 are going well, LHHF President Lisa Chrisco said. The heritage festival will be a full, three-day event for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. The event is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Heritage Festival scheduled for this weekend

LHHF President Chrisco: 'I look forward to everyone having a good time'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Lincoln Highway Heritage Festival preparations ahead of its 2022 dates of Aug. 19-21 are going well, LHHF President Lisa Chrisco said. The heritage festival will be a full, three-day event for the first time since the COVID-19 pandemic. The event is celebrating its 25th anniversary, and this year's theme is "Through the Years," celebrating the past of LHHF.

"It's this time of year when things get hectic and everything has to fall into place," Chrisco said. "And so far things have been perfect. The weather looks like it will be gorgeous right now. Our layout and plans are all ready to go. After the past two years, I'm ecstatic to get back to the full three days. Things are falling into place nicely. It's been a long time coming and I'm glad it's about to be here."

There will be a carnival and beer garden for all three days of the event. There will also be a 50/50 raffle, a vendor basket raffle,

craft, vendor and business booths, a food court and various local talents performing each day.

Friday, Aug. 19 will feature the Little Miss Peanut competition from 6-7 p.m. and Soul 2 Soul from 8-10 p.m.

On Saturday, Aug. 20, the Hub City Cruisers Car and Motorcycle Show will take place from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. There will be a pancake breakfast from 7:30-11 a.m. along with a free kids zone from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Rochelle Performing Arts will perform from 10-11 a.m. The Moose's haunted maze will be open from 4-9 p.m. Class Field Trip will be from noon to 1 p.m. Burn-n-Bush will perform from 2-4 p.m., followed by Project Nostalgia from 5-7 p.m. and Hi Infidelity from 8-10 p.m.

Sunday, Aug. 21 will start with a pancake breakfast from 7:30-11 a.m. and church service at 9:30 a.m. From 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Magic Matt's Family Fun Show will be strolling the festival grounds. Ballet Folklorico Xochicquetzal will be on the main stage

from 11:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.. There will be an old fashioned ice cream social from 3-6 p.m. The parade will begin at 1 p.m. After the parade, hacky sack world record holder Andy Linder will be strolling the festival grounds. The Beaux Band will perform from 4-6 p.m. and the Moose's haunted maze will be open again from 2-5 p.m.

"I think the community is very excited," Chrisco said. "It's been a full two years since we've had a carnival in town. The festival does bring a lot of families from other areas. People from all around attend. I think that helps our businesses in Rochelle and downtown."

Chrisco thanked the City of Rochelle, Stillman Bank, Rochelle Municipal Utilities, Flagg Township, Central Bank, Holcomb Bank, Rochelle Community Hospital, Americold, Tess & Crull, LLC and all of the sponsors that have donated funding, raffle money and give ways to LHHF.

The LHHF president said that planning is already



underway for LHHF 2023 and planning takes over a year. She called the festival committees' volunteers "the best group of people" for all of the time and effort they've put into the festival.

"They are a family," Chrisco said. "They've gone above and beyond to put it together. Without them, we wouldn't have the festival. And we could always use more people to get involved and help out."

If community members would like to volunteer during LHHF, they can come to the gazebo downtown during the festival and talk to someone from the committee wearing a

yellow shirt. LHHF is also looking for people to serve on its committees.

"It's an exciting part of Rochelle's downtown summer fun activities," Chrisco said. "It's family oriented, always has been and always will be. It's exciting to see it hit 25 years and

we want to keep it going. There's so much put into it to put it together. Seeing it come together is one of the greatest things a person could watch unfold. Seeing the kids enjoy themselves is what makes it worthwhile. I look forward to everyone having a good time."

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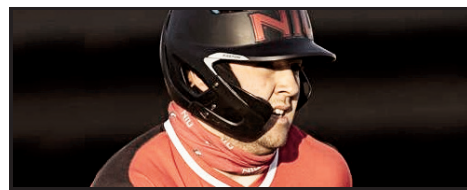
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WEDNESDAY, AUG. 17, 2022

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



JOHNSON STARTS AT NIU

RTHS alum Brandon Johnson worked his way into a starting role with NIU baseball.

See page 2 for more details

Rochelle Junior Tackle

Junior Hubs sweep Sterling

Rochelle teams start 2022 season strong with four victories on Saturday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Junior Tackle football teams hosted Sterling at Helms Park on Saturday, with all four teams emerging victorious to kick off the 2022 season with 1-0 records. The Junior Hubs will travel to battle Princeton for Week 2 matchups next Saturday, Aug. 20.

8th Grade

Rochelle's eighth-graders kicked off the season with a 16-0 win over Sterling on Saturday. Brody Bruns kickstarted the offense with a 15-yard rush and a 26-yard pass to Warren Schweitzer in the first quarter. Bruns then scored on a 2-yard touchdown run to give the Junior Hubs their first lead. Bruns finished the game with 60 rushing yards and 40 passing yards.

Dylan Manning and Tyler Gensler added big runs for the Rochelle offense during the fourth quarter, where Manning broke off a 35-yard rush and Gensler carried the ball for 17 yards before scoring on a 15-yard touchdown run to seal the win. Gensler finished with 59 rushing yards on nine

carries in the win, while Manning had a team-high 88 rushing yards on 10 carries. Jonathan Andrist chipped in 16 rushing yards and Mason Ludwig had one catch for 14 yards.

7th Grade

Rochelle outlasted Sterling 8-0 in a defensive battle to open the morning. The Junior Hubs scored the lone touchdown of the game during the third quarter, where Andrew Eyster found the endzone on a 17-yard rush before Cohen Haedt added the 2-point conversion on a rush. Eyster totaled 12 carries for 91 yards to lead the offense, while Bo Lundquist and Caiden Redlarczyk each added three carries for 16 yards, with Redlarczyk adding a 12-yard reception from Haedt.

Tyson Pavlak was a force for the Rochelle defense, compiling 11 tackles including four tackles for loss in the win. Three players including Redlarczyk, Eli Schweitzer and Sebastian Albertson recorded three tackles, while Haedt and Eyster each added two tackles for the RJT defense.

See RJT page 7



(PHOTO BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

A trio of eighth-graders including Joshua Lassiter (left), German Albertson (middle) and Brody Bruns (right) combine for a tackle during the Rochelle Junior Tackle eighth-grade game against Sterling on Saturday.

Triathlons reignite De La Cruz's competitive fire

RTHS alum races at 2022 World Triathlon Championships in Montreal

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

FROM her time as a Rochelle Township High School student-athlete to her earliest days as a dancing youngster, Nikki De La Cruz has always been a competitor. After earning her college degree, however, she found herself searching for a new outlet to reignite her competitive fire.

De La Cruz competed in three sports at RTHS including track and field, basketball and volleyball. She continued her athletic career at the University of Saint Francis in Indiana, where she played volleyball and earned her bachelor's degree in communication arts and graphic design before choosing to attend Northwestern University and earn her master's degree.

Now living in the Chicago neighborhood of Rogers Park, De La Cruz has found a new athletic vessel to channel her competitive spirit: triathlons. Her most recent event was the 2022 World Triathlon Sprint & Relay Championships in Montreal, where she finished in the top half of her division despite dealing with a plantar fasciitis injury that hampered



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Rochelle Township High School alum Nikki De La Cruz competed in the 2022 World Triathlon Sprint & Relay Championships in Montreal earlier this summer. De La Cruz has competed in around 25 triathlons over the last eight years.

some of her training.

"I was looking for something to compete in and keep me in shape," De La Cruz said. "There were days where I would be at the gym and ask myself, 'why am I here? I have

nothing to train for anymore.' Being an athlete and growing up playing sports in Rochelle, I was always motivated to reach the regionals or make it to the state meet, so I felt like the world triathlon was the

highlight of my athletic career and it was really special to compete at the highest level."

De La Cruz began competing in triathlons about eight years ago, when she first attended a small sprint

triathlon in Rockford. She's since competed in about 25 triathlons including this year's world championships, which had been canceled over each of the last two years because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

De La Cruz earned her way into the world championships, qualifying with a top-10 finish in her age group at a national event about two years ago.

See TRIATHLON pg 8

SPORTS

Rochelle Junior Tackle

(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)



Rochelle Flag Football NFL League teams kick off season at Helms Park

The Rochelle Flag Football season kicked off this past Tuesday and Wednesday at Helms Park, with the third and fourth-graders in the NFL League battling on Wednesday. There are eight teams in the NFL League this season including the Bears, Colts, Cowboys, Eagles, Falcons, Raiders, Steelers and Vikings. Seventy-six athletes have signed up for the NFL League this season. Games will run every Wednesday from 5:30-7:30 p.m. The schedule runs for eight weeks.

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OGLE COUNTY
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THE)No.
MARRIAGE)2022
OF:)DN
MARY A.)31
SIMSHAUSER,)
Petitioners,)
vs.)
MARK L.)
SIMSHAUSER,)
Respondents.)
COUNTY)
OF OGLE)
PUBUCATION NOTICE
The requisite Affidavit
for Publication
having been filed,
notice is hereby
given to you, MARK
L. SIMSHAUSER,
Respondent, in the
above-entitled action,

that this action has
been commenced in
the Circuit Court of Ogle
County by the Petitioner
against you
praying for a Judgment
of Dissolution of
Marriage and for other
relief.
NOW, THEREFORE,
unless you, MARK L.
SIMSHAUSER, the
Respondent, file your
answer to the Petition in
this action or otherwise
make your appearance,
in the
Circuit Court of Ogle
County, held in the
Courthouse in the City
of Oregon, Illinois, on
or before September
15, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.
default may be entered
against you at any time
after that day and
a Judgment for
Dissolution of Marriage

entered in accordance
with the prayer of the
Petition.
DATED this 9TH day of
2022
Kimberly A. Stahl,
Circuit Clerk
No. 0821 (Aug. 17)

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hereby given that the
proposed Combined
Annual Budget and
Appropriation
Ordinance of the
OGLE-LEE FIRE
P R O T E C T I O N
DISTRICT, Ogle and
Lee
Counties, Illinois for
the fiscal yell beginning
May 1, 2022,. and
ending Apr1 30, 2023,
will be available for
public inspection at the
Flagg Center, Creston,
Hillcrest, Rochelle and
Steward, Illinois, Fire
Stations from and after
August 9, 2022.
Notice js further given
that a public hearing
on the adoption of said
proposed Combined
Annual Budget and
Appropriation
Ordinance will be held
at the Creston, 103 E.
North Street, Creston,
Illinois, on September
13, 2022, at 7:30 p.m.
OGLE-LEE FIRE
P R O T E C T I O N
DISTRICT
By /s/ Richard Kasmar
Secretary
No. 0823 (Aug. 17)

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Appropriation

Ordinance of the L
YNNVILLE-SCO'T-
WHITE ROCK FIRE
P R O T E C T I O N
DISTRICT, Ogle
County, Illinois, for the
fiscal year beginning
May 1, 2022, and
ending April 30, 2023,
will be available for
public inspection at
the Lindenwood Fire
Station, Lmdenwood,
Illinois and Davis
Junction Fire Station,
Davis Junction, Illinois
from and after August
3, 2022.
Notice is further given
that a public hearing
on the adoption of said
proposed Combined
Annual Budget and
Appropriation
Ordinance will be held
at the Davis Junction Fire
Station, Davis Junction,
Illinois, on Wednesday,
September 7, at 7:15
p.m.
LYNNVILLE-SCOTT-
WHITE ROCK FIRE
P R O T E C T I O N
DISTRICT
By Isl Curt Fruit
Secretary
No. 0822 (Aug. 17)

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8/23, 8/26, and 8/29.
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If deemed necessary by
the City, an addendum
will be distributed to all
prospective bidders by
facsimile transmission
at least two (2) business
days prior to the bid
opening date. The
decisions of the City
shall be final.
THE CITY OF
ROCHELLE is an equal
opportunity employer.
All Contracts for
Construction of Public
Works are subject to the
Illinois Prevailing Wage
Act (820 ILCS 130/1-
12).
A CONTRACT may
be awarded to the
lowest responsible
bidder whose bid is
found to be in the best
interest of the City of
Rochelle. The City of
Rochelle reserves the
right to reject any and
all bids and to waive
any informalities or
irregularities in the
bidding. The City
further reserves the
right to review and
study any and all bids
and to make a contract
award within forty-five
(45) days after the bids
have been opened.
A Hold Harmless
Agreement and a Non-
Collusion Affidavit of
Compliance must be
submitted with the bid.
The City of Rochelle
does not discriminate
on the basis of
handicapped status
in the admission or
access to, or treatment
or employment in, its
programs or activities.
Each BID must be
accompanied by a BID
BOND payable to the
CITY OF ROCHELLE.
The City of Rochelle
will decide within 45
days if it intends to
proceed with the project
and award the contract.
Written Notice of Award
and instructions for
the execution of the
Agreement will be
issued to the Selected
Bidder. The BID
BOND of all BIDDERS
will be retained until

the agreement has
been executed and
approved, after which
all BID BONDS will be
returned. A certified
cashier's check may
be used in lieu of a BID
BOND.
A Performance Surety
will be required as
specified in the contract
documents and
specifications.
NO. 0826 (AUG. 17, 21)

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

"This publication does
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fraudulent or deceptive
advertising. Readers
are cautioned to
thoroughly investigate
all ads, especially those
asking for money in
advance."

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
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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.



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
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and Antique Lighting...
Call Dick Harms at
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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: 207
Avenue C Estate Sale,
Friday August 19th &
Saturday August 20th
8am-2pm.
Bedroom, Dining Room
Furniture, Lots of
Kitchen Items, So Much
More.

307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

BEAUTIFUL Oak Finish
Fireplace Mantel.
Length 6ft 7 inches,
Width 9 ½ inches. \$150.
Call 815-871-8063. (08-
17-22)

OUTDOOR Adult
Wooden Bench Swing
With Metal Frame, \$250.
Call 815-262-2470. (08-
17-22)

ASHTON: THE
KERTENS Are Taking
Orders For Michigan
Peaches. Should Have
Them Around August
21st Call 779-861-2546
to Order. (08-17-22)

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

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

ALL REAL ESTATE
advertised herein is
subject to the Federal
Fair Housing Act,
which makes it illegal
to advertise any
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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.



307 MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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- Washers/Dryers • Stoves

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Jolly Estate Sales...

Cheri Picked Vintage - Store Closing!

525 Lincoln Hwy Rochelle

Two Story Antique Store with four car garage loaded with goodies! Prices have been reduced and will continue during sale Hosted by Jolly Estate Sales!

Thurs Aug 18, 5-9pm
Fri. Aug 19, 9-4pm
Sat Aug 20, 9-2pm

Find Jolly Estate Sales on Facebook for photos!

103 AUCTIONS

FARM EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Since I have decided to move to Arizona, I will sell following Equipment At Auction To The Highest Bidder At No Reserve, Located 3 miles Northeast of LaMoille, Illinois on Old Chicago Road, Just off Rt. 34. GPS address 28876 Old Chicago Road, LaMoille, Illinois.

Friday, Aug. 26th Starting at 10:30 a.m.

Tractors & Equipment

John Deere 4555 2 wheel drive tractor. 2-Owner with only 5430 hrs. Quad Range, 3 remotes 1000 PTO, 3pt. Tractor will sell with 10 bolt duals, rear weights, quick hitch and 4 front weights. Always stored inside.

John Deere 5045D 2wheel drive tractor. w/ JD 512 loader, only 200 One owner hours! Tractor has single hyd, 3pt, PTO, 16.9-24 rear **tires and is in great shape.** Always stored inside.

Brent 472 Grain Cart. Very good shape, has surloc roll tarp, ag tires. Always stored inside.

Brent 544 Gravity wagon, side dump, just like new condition.

John Deere 980 26ft field cult. W/ 3 tine harrow, walking tandems, very good condition. John Deere MX 6 3pt mower, very good condition, stored inside; IH 18ft 3pt Vibra Shank Field cult. w. tine harrow; Wood Flare Box wagon on older JD gear, w/ IH endgate seeder; Kory 6872 running gear;

Trailer - Truck - Shop Tools

1993 Chevy 1500 Z71 4wd pick-up truck, regular cab, short box with topper, 157,900 miles, Runs and drives good; Atlas 18ft enclosed cargo trailer, rear fold down door, and side door. Trailer has some bumps and bruises in the rear door and side. Great dry storage; Winpower PTO generator on cart, works fine; 10 JD front suitcase works, for 50 series tractors; Rims off grain gart misc tires and rims, Aluminum ext. ladder, wood ladder; Cutting torch and cart; Lincoln welder; Craftsman tool box and Craftsman tool roller cabinet; Alkota 3850 hot water pressure washer; medium and light duty shelving. We will have a Hay rack full of hand tools, chains binders, cords, socket sets, long handle tools, jacks & other farm related tools & hardware items accumulated after years of farming.

Auctioneers Note: This equipment was used in a smaller operation and has had light use by the owner. This will not be a long auction, so be there on Time! We can help load on sale day, so bring your trucks and trailers!

Terms: Cash, Check, Credit Cards w/ 3% convenient fee added. All Items Settled For On Auction Day. Not Responsible For Accidents, Injury or Theft. Videos & Pictures @www.almburgauctions.com. Almburg Auctioneers will have Loader Available sale day, so bring your trucks and trailers. All sells at No Reserve! Almburg, Auctioneers. Malta, Illinois. Andrew, Eric, Adam, Steve. 815-739-3703.

AUCTIONEERING 815-739-3703. Steve, Andrew, & Adam Almburg
Jeff Hoffman Grain Farms, Owner

203 HELP WANTED

Maintenance Position

Rochelle, Oregon & Ashton Branches

Seeking qualified candidates for a Maintenance Position. This is a non-exempt part-time hourly position serving our Rochelle, Oregon and Ashton branches. This individual provides general maintenance and related duties ensuring facilities are well maintained, in good working order and have a clean internal and external appearance. Completes minor plumbing and electrical repairs as needed and assists staff when requested.

The successful candidate should be a self-starter with the ability to work with minimal supervision, have a good working relationship with employees, be dependable, have the ability to prioritize duties and perform tasks on a timely basis. Reliable transportation is required.

Currently scheduled hours are Monday through Friday from 7:00am to 11:00am. Hours can be subject to change depending upon weather related needs and/or assistance with bank sponsored events.

Qualified and interested applicants should send resume and cover letter to:

Central Bank Illinois
Attn: Jeff Glen
340 May Mart Drive
Rochelle, IL 61067

Or email recruiter@central-bank.com.

Central Bank
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ANNUAL TREASURER'S REPORT LYNNVILLE TOWNSHIP & ROAD DISTRICT FISCAL YEAR ENDING MARCH 31, 2022

TOWNSHIP --- REVENUE SUMMARY:

Property Taxes – 64,427 Replacement Tax – 5,094 Interest - 125; Truck Loan – 20,000; R&B Loan payback – 1 5,000 Miscellaneous – 2,951

TOTAL REVENUES: \$107,597

TOWNSHIP --- EXPENDITURE SUMMARY:

TOIRMA 3051; Com Ed. – 3,306; IRS - 3,228; Mow, Schindler LTD -3560
R&B Loan- 15,000

All other disbursements less than (\$2,500) – 10,458

TOTAL VENDORS: \$38,603

TOWNSHIP --- COMPENSATION SUMMARY:

Range: Under \$25,000.00: Marilyn Schlaf, Kathryn Korth, Walter Roush, Juanita Milton, Ali Harms, Glenn Hansen; Range: \$25,000.00 - \$49,999.99: Richard Drendel.

TOTAL COMPENSATION: \$42,198

ROAD DISTRICT --- REVENUE SUMMARY

Property Taxes – 97,680; Replacement Tax – 10,663; Interest Income 137; Miscellaneous – 574

TOTAL REVENUES: \$109,054

ROAD DISTRICT --- EXPENDITURE SUMMARY

Alta Equip.-4,727; Blake Oil-6,355; Bonnell, Inc.-5,205; CommEd-2,523; Hackbarth Enterprises LLC-2,855; Mackin Bros. Inc-6,145; Ogle County Hwy Dept-3,815; R.E. Wolber & Sons Excavating-2,560;

Toirma- 3,730; Wagner Aggregate Inc.-2,927; Truck Loan payment-20,000

All other disbursements less than (\$2,500) – 13,265

TOTAL VENDORS: \$74,107

	SPECIAL GENERAL	Capital Project	DEBT SERVICE	Capital Service	Project	Enterprise
Beginning Fund Balance	\$ 239,885	0	0	0	0	0
Revenue	216,651	0	0	0	0	0
Expenditures	154,908	0	0	0	0	0
Ending Fund Balance	301,628	0	0	0	0	0

Subscribed and sworn to this 2nd day of August 2022

Marilyn Schlaf
Marilyn Schlaf, Treasurer

I, Ali Harms, Clerk of Lynnvill Township, Ogle County, Illinois, do hereby certify that the above is a true copy of the Annual Treasurer's Report for the fiscal year ending March 31, 2022.

Ali Harms
Ali Harms - Clerk

SPORTS



(PHOTOS BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

At left, sixth-grader Braxton Bruns carries the ball while teammate Tyler Rowe sets a block. At right, seventh-grader Jace Spears takes the ball from to run out the clock for a Rochelle victory. Below, fifth-grader Quentin Ansteth runs while teammate Kamden Kessen sets a key block on the left side.

RJT: Junior Hubs score four victories over Sterling

From page 1

Zick had one tackle for loss.

6th Grade

Rochelle's sixth-graders knocked off Sterling 16-6 on Saturday. With the Junior Hubs trailing 6-0 in the first quarter, Braxton Bruns scored on a 65-yard touchdown run and Mikey Chadwick ran in the 2-point conversion to give Rochelle an 8-6 lead. Bruns added a 23-yard rush and a 12-yard rush in the third quarter, while Vinny Tornabene recovered a fumble during the fourth quarter, where Bruns capped off the win with a 34-yard touchdown run and 2-point conversion.

Bruns finished with a team-leading 146 rushing yards on eight carries. Joey Chadwick totaled 48 rushing yards on six carries and Mikey Chadwick added six yards on three carries. Bruns totaled eight tackles to lead the Rochelle defense and Tornabene recorded 4.5 tackles. Riley Smith made two tackles including one tackle for loss and Nolan

5th Grade

Rochelle concluded its four-game sweep with the fifth-graders defeating Sterling 16-0. Korbin Milos kickstarted the offense in the first quarter, rushing for 12 yards before Quentin Ansteth followed with an 18-yard rush and a 26-yard touchdown rush. Leading 8-0, Rochelle scored its second touchdown during the second quarter, where Milos rushed for 12 yards to set up a 57-yard scoring rush from Ansteth, who finished with a team-leading 101 yards on the ground.

Ansteth recovered a fumble during the fourth quarter to help seal the victory for the Junior Hubs. Kamden Kessen totaled five carries for 21 yards and Milos finished with five carries for 19 yards. Ansteth led the RJT defense with 11 tackles and 1.5 tackles for loss, while Eli Underwood added 5.5 tackles and Roger Navarro made one tackle.



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SPORTS

TRIATHLON: RTHS alum competes at world championship

From page 1

“It was an awesome experience,” De La Cruz said. “I was really excited to finally race. I made the 13-hour drive to Canada and I learned a few things about crossing the border. The race was really cool because I was able to compete with other athletes from countries like Poland, Germany, France, Australia and more. There was a competitive nature during the event, but a lot of the athletes were working together and everyone was pushing each other to be their best.”

Triathlons are races that combine three sports including swimming, running and cycling into one event. It’s a fitting match for a multisport athlete like De La Cruz, who stays active year round and trains from March through September for her triathlons. Her training includes specific swimming, cycling and running sessions. She also races with a Chicago-based cycling team called xXx, which she says has improved her physical strength and her racing strategy.

“What I enjoy most about racing in triathlons is being able to compete and push myself to new limits,” De La Cruz said. “Things can change on the day of the race and there’s always some kind of adversity such as the weather or whether or not I have the right equipment.



Rochelle Township High School alum Nikki De La Cruz intends to compete in the 2022 Chicago Triathlon later this month. De La Cruz said she trains from March through September and stays active year round in order to prepare for her triathlons.

I always have to be on my toes and it’s made me mentally stronger in other aspects of my life.”

De La Cruz, who currently works as a product designer for Wilson Sporting Goods, said her future plans include competing in the 2022 Chicago Triathlon later this month and possibly transitioning toward cycling next year in order to fully recover from her

plantar fascia injury. Of the three triathlon sports, De La Cruz said cycling has surpassed running as her favorite.

“Running was always my outlet and I haven’t had that recently because of my injury,” De La Cruz said. “I haven’t been able to train or run as well as I would like and cycling has taken that place. It’s become my go-to for workouts and my go-to

for getting around the city. I commute to work and run errands on my bike and it’s also been a great way for me to meet new people.”

A self-described competitor, De La Cruz recalled her mother signing her up for ballet, tap dancing and gymnastics when she was young. She also played soccer through the Rochelle AYSO and basketball through the

Rochelle Youth Basketball Association before arriving at RTHS, where she stayed involved in multiple sports before beginning her collegiate career. Her eagerness to explore the unknown is something she said she encourages for others.

“It was fun picking up different sports and trying something new,” De La Cruz said. “Sports were always my outlet when I

wasn’t working and it was a great way to stay in shape. It can be intimidating to try something new, but I’d encourage anyone who’s considering a triathlon to avoid having that feeling. I wouldn’t consider myself a swimmer, a runner or a cyclist, but I think anyone can pick it up and give it a try to see how it goes. It’s not as intimidating as it seems.”

BEAT THE PRICE INCREASE



Effective September 2022 we will be implementing a subscription price increase. This is the last thing we want to do, however we have seen significant price increases in our paper as well as all other costs. The new 1 year rate will be \$139 and a 6-month rate will be \$99.

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