



ROCHELLE News-Leader

MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

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Vol. 103 • No. 36

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, AUG. 31, 2022

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Local 4-H Fair winners crowned

Local winners were crowned during the recently held Ogle County 4-H Fair. **Page 3**

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
82 54	83 57
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
85 64	79 59

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:

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JOHNSON TRACTOR
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OBITUARIES

- NORMA 'JO' WATSON
- LOWELL L. HAYES

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INSERTS

- ALDI
- HOW TO GUIDE
- FOOTBALL GUIDE

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City planning intermodal services

'We hope that... we'll be back into the intermodal business'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — City of Rochelle Economic Development Director Jason Anderson said Tuesday that progress has been made to get intermodal services re-established in Rochelle through the railroad the city owns.

The city has been working for over three years to re-establish intermodal services since the Union Pacific Railroad's decision to close the intermodal ramp at Global III in Rochelle in May 2019. Anderson said the city is "very close" to having a deal done to establish a new, small container yard right next to the city's Rochelle Transload Center on Steward Road.

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

Key factors in rees-



(COURTESY PHOTO)

City of Rochelle Economic Development Director Jason Anderson said Tuesday that progress has been made to get intermodal services re-established in Rochelle through the railroad the city owns.

tablishing intermodal services include getting the cooperation of at least one of the railroads (the BNSF or Union Pacific). Anderson said he thinks the city will have that through an arrangement with the BNSF.

The operation will also require intermodal containers, which are owned by shopping companies that will have to decide that they want to reposition the containers to a new location. The new intermodal location

on the city's rail line will be a "brand-new, from the ground up, container business," Anderson said.

The city has been working closely with GREDCO on the project and that 10 acres has been annexed and zoned properly for intermodal use. The Burlington Junction Railway, which manages the day-to-day operations of the RTC and the city's railroad, has arranged to have the intermodal equipment.

"There's a lot of mov-

ing parts to this, but we hope that by the first of the year, we'll be back into the intermodal business," Anderson said. "We hope to expand it and once we get started with one customer, we hope to add more customers."

Anderson said that most of the industries in the area are suffering because of the cost of fuel that comes from trucking items to Joliet, the nearest intermodal operation.

See CITY page 5

Wheatland Tube-Western Tube donates to RACF

Zekelman's Hays: 'We're ecstatic to be a part of the Rochelle community'

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Friday, Wheatland Tube-Western Tube, divisions of Zekelman Industries, presented a check for \$7,500 to become a presenting sponsor of the Rochelle Area Community Foundation's Planes, Trains & Automobiles event on Sept. 10.

The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Rochelle Municipal Airport and proceeds will support the RACF and its nonprofit mission as it looks forward to strengthening its community impact. Along with unique aircraft and train exhibits, the event will feature cars from each decade going back an entire century including select vehicles from The Hamilton Collection, which will be exhibiting several hyper cars from its \$30 million collection.

The City of Rochelle and Rochelle Municipal Utilities are presenting sponsors of the event as well. It will include an online-only silent



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Friday, Wheatland Tube-Western Tube, divisions of Zekelman Industries, presented a check for \$7,500 to become a presenting sponsor of the Rochelle Area Community Foundation's Planes, Trains & Automobiles event on Sept. 10. The event will take place from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Rochelle Municipal Airport.

auction (galabid.com/RACF2022) that is now open. Food vendors will be on-site. Tickets are on sale at the RACF office at 350 May Mart Drive and required wristbands will allow attendees to come and go as they please.

Wheatland Tube-West-

ern Tube recently joined the community when Zekelman Industries purchased the former Nippon Sharyo buildings. The manufacturer has been working on updating the buildings and plans to have 200 employees.

"We're very excited to

be here today to accept this donation," Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows said. "This check represents their support of not only the RACF, but also the support they show for our local community. They want to be involved."

RACF Executive Director Emily Anaya said the sponsorship donation means a lot to her and shows Wheatland Tube-Western Tube wants to show its support early on in the community.

See RACF page 3

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Kiwanis Golden K Peanut Days scheduled Sept. 9-10

throughout Peanut Day will be donated to these organizations. With the effects of COVID-19 the



to the Golden K other than through its Peanut Days can do so by mail at Rochelle Kiwanis Golden K, P.O. Box 644, Rochelle, IL 61068.

(COURTESY PHOTO)

If you are interested in learning more about 100 WWC, contact Deanna Forrest at 815-384-5555 or visit the 100 WWC Facebook page.

2022

LOCAL NEWS



Above at left is Hannah Seaworth, Lindenwood with her pig at the 4-H Swine Show that took place on Thursday, Aug. 4 at the Ogle County 4-H Fair. Above at right, 4-H Sheep judging took place on Thursday, Aug. 4 at the Ogle County 4-H Fair. Exhibitors are eyes on the judge in hopes to take first.



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Locals win awards at Ogle County 4-H Fair

OREGON — Local residents were crowned at the Ogle County 4-H Fair. Winners are as follows:

Beef department: Reserve Champion All Other Breeds Steer: Boone Alderks, Chana; Reserve Champion Crossbred Steer: Cooper Alderks, Chana; Reserve Champion Purebred Other Breeds Female: Caleb Nadig, Rochelle; Reserve Champion Crossbred Female: Joseph Nadig, Rochelle.

Clothing department: Top of Class STEAM Clothing 2 – Sewn Non-Clothing Exhibit: Cheyenne Somers, Lindenwood; Grand Champion Sewn Non-Clothing Exhibit: Cheyenne Somers, Lindenwood; Top of Class Visual Arts Quilting – You Can Quilt: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana and Grand Champion Visual Arts Quilting: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana.

Dairy department: Champion Junior Showmanship: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana; Champion Grade Female: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana; Supreme Champion Female Overall Breeds: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana

Multi-county dog show: Reserve Ogle Champion Junior Showmanship: Charli DeShazo, Rochelle; Reserve Champion Agility on Leash (8"): Charli DeShazo Rochelle and Reserve Champion Rally Novice: Charli DeShazo, Rochelle.

Exhibit building: Top of Class Goat Study Exhibit (1-2 years): Alyse Rogers, Chana; Top of Class Goat Study Exhibit (three or more years): Braden Rogers, Chana; Top of Class Horse & Pony Study Exhibit (three or more years): Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle; Top of Class Soybeans Exhibit: Cooper Alderks, Chana; Reserve Grand Champion Crops Exhibit: Cooper Alderks, Chana; Top of Class Electricity II Exhibit: Preston Taylor, Kings; Grand Champion Electricity Exhibit: Preston Taylor, Kings; Top of Class Vegetable/Fruit Display: Cora Mickley, Rochelle; Top of Class Vegetable Plate: Preston Borris, Rochelle; Top of Class Decorated Vegetable: Cora Mickley, Rochelle; Top of Class Photo Editing Exhibit: Briley Berns, Chana;

Top of Class Small Engine Exhibit: Trey Somers, Lindenwood; Grand Champion Small Engines Exhibit: Trey Somers, Lindenwood; Reserve Grand Champion Small Engines Exhibit: Braden Rogers, Chana; Top of Class Tractor A Exhibit: Cora Herring, Kings; Top of Class Tractor B Exhibit: Veronica Vaughn, Rochelle; Res. Champ. Orig. Chalk/Carbon/Pigment: Canvas/Paper/Glass Exhibit: Elijah Nadig, Rochelle; Champion Computer Generated Art Exhibit: Briley Berns, Chana; Champion Original Fiber Exhibit: Joseph Nadig, Rochelle; Reserve Champion Leather Exhibit: Cheyenne Somers, Lindenwood; Top of Class Non-original Glass/Plastic Exhibit: Alexis Vaughn, Rochelle; Grand Champion Non-Original Visual Arts Exhibit: Caleb Nadig, Rochelle; Top of Class Quilting – You Can Quilt: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana; Grand Champion Quilting Exhibit: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana; Top of Class Weather & Cli-

mate Science 1 Exhibit: Liliana Smith, Chana and Reserve Grand Champion Weather & Climate Science Exhibit: Liliana Smith, Chana.

Foods department: Champion 4-H Cooking 101, Cereal Bars Exhibit: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana; Reserve Champion 4-H Cooking 101, Cookies Exhibit: Cheyenne Somers, Lindenwood and Reserve Champion 4-H Cooking 201, Muffins Exhibit: Alyse Rogers, Chana.

Goat department: Champion Junior Showmanship: Alyse Rogers, Chana; Champion Senior Showmanship: Braden Rogers, Chana; Champion Dairy Purebred Dry Doe: Braden Rogers, Chana; Reserve Champion Dairy Purebred Milker: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle; Champion Dairy Goat Purebred Dam & Daughter: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle; Grand Champion Dairy Dry Doe: Braden Rogers, Chana; Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Milker: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle; Grand Champion Dairy Goat Dam & Daughter: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle; Reserve Grand Champi-

on Dairy Goat: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle and Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Goat Wether: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle.

Horse department: Champion Junior Showmanship: Alyse Rogers, Chana; Junior Grand Champion Performance Horse: Alyse Rogers, Chana; Junior Grand Champion Horsemanship: Alyse Rogers, Chana; Junior Equine Sportsmanship Award: Piper Johnson, Rochelle; Junior Performance High Point Award: Alyse Rogers, Chana and Junior Horse Speed Award: Piper Johnson, Rochelle.

Poultry department: Top of Class English Pullet: Preston Borris, Rochelle; Reserve Grand Champion English: Preston Borris, Rochelle; Top of Class Other Standard Breeds Hen: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana and Reserve Grand Champion Other Standard Breeds: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana.

Rabbit department: Champion Jr. Showmanship: Shelby Harbaugh, Chana and Top of Class Sr. Doe Lop: Cora Mickley, Rochelle.

Sheep department: Reserve Champion Blackface Market Lamb: Ty Horn, Kings; Champion Heavy Weight Crossbred Market Lamb: Ty Horn, Kings; Reserve Grand Champion Overall Market Lamb: Ty Horn, Kings; Champion Pair of Black-Face Market Lambs Ty Horn, Kings and Grand Champion Pair of Market Lambs: Ty Horn, Kings.

Swine department: Fourth Place Breeding Gilt: Cooper Alderks, Chana; Fifth Place Breeding Gilt: Hannah Seaworth, Lindenwood; Reserve Grand Champion Market Swine: Cooper Alderks, Chana; Fourth Place Market Swine: Hannah Seaworth, Lindenwood; Grand Champion Pair of Barrows: Hannah Seaworth, Lindenwood; Grand Champion Pair of Gilts: Cooper Alderks, Chana

Reserve Grand Champion Pair of Gilts: Grand Champion Ogle County Born & Raised Gilt: Cooper Alderks, Chana and Reserve Grand Champion Ogle County Born & Raised Barrow: Hannah Seaworth, Lindenwood.

RACF: Foundation receives donation for upcoming event

From page 1

The Planes, Trains & Automobiles event is new to the community as well and she said it's an exciting partnership for RACF and the area.

"I think it shows that we're all in this community together," Anaya said. "We're all striving to make this an even more thriving community. We're growing and highlighting our strong points. We're celebrating our community's rich history in transportation with planes, trains and automobiles. We're the Hub City. I think it's great that we show our partnership through the businesses and this will ultimately support our nonprofits."

Bearrows said the city wanted to sponsor Planes, Trains & Automobiles to show its support for local organizations and he hopes it will draw people to Rochelle. Anaya said preparation for the event has been going well.

"My board has been extremely busy and our extra partners have been helping us with sponsorship," Anaya said. "We've had great sponsorship and a lot of community support. It really shows that there's a big interest. We have people coming all the way from California flying into the event."

Jim Hays, president of Zekelman Industries' electrical division, said the company is "ecstatic"

to be part of the Rochelle community.

"We've been here going on three years quietly," Hays said. "We're ecstatic about getting the operation up and running. We have about 50 full-time employees and when everything is said and done we'll have close to 200 employees. We're working very hard to become part of the fabric of the community. This is going to be our life going forward, so we're making the appropriate investments and networking with the appropriate people in the community to make sure

we're absolutely part of the fabric going forward."

Plant Manager Ray Falk said the manufacturer has two of its four lines started and the other two will be commissioned in the next few months. Wheatland Tube-Western Tube will be running three shifts five days a week and is hiring and ongoing work has been "going well."

"We're also networking with Rochelle Township High School, Kishwaukee College, Northern Illinois University and the institutions in this marketplace that really will be critical to being

a feeder system for our business going forward," Hays said. "They've been very supportive as well."

Since purchasing the Ritchie Court buildings, Zekelman Industries has been making improvements and re-engineering the site with automation, robotics and state-of-the-art equipment.

Falk said the investment and processes put into place have set the manufacturer up for the next 50-75 years.

"We're just pleased to be part of the community and we're working very hard to make sure everybody is aware that we'll be

open for business shortly and want to make sure we continue to be part of the

Rochelle community's fabric for many years to come," Hays said.

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Norma ‘Jo’ Watson

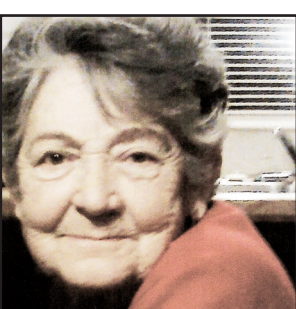
MELBOURNE, Ark. — Norma “Jo” Watson, 85, of Melbourne, Arkansas passed away Sunday, Aug. 28.

Norma was born Feb. 4, 1937 in Fair Oaks, Arkansas to Ulyses Grant and Jewel Faye (Davis) Meredith.

Survivors include two daughters, Tammy Vernon (David) and Jodi Frey (Jon) of Melbourne; one brother Murl Meredith; three sisters, Lee Jackson of Fayetteville, Arkansas, Marie Massengill of Selmer, Tennessee and Faye Prater of Bartlett, Tennessee; six grandchildren, Lisa Barn-

hill (Jeremy), Amy Engles (Brent), Codi Godfrey (Matt), Paige Walls (Josh), Eric Frey (Destinee), and Abby Olivencia (Jose); fifteen great-grandchildren, Makayla Barnhill, Courtlyn Davis (Jamen), Memphis Engles, Ashton Godfrey, Jaxson Lowery, Lexy Richard, Kenzie and Cecily Walls, Trinity Ni, Jaxon Olivencia, Leela Fisher, Rayna and Kai Olivencia, Landon and Korbin Frey and one great-great-grandchild, Maverick Blaylock.

She was preceded in death by parents; husband, James “Pete” Watson; two brothers, John and Bud



Meredith; one sister, Pat Dishion.

There will be a celebration of life at a later date but In Memory of Norma Watson donations can be made to Marley’s World Dog Sanctuary, 336 AR-58, Melbourne, AR 72556 or animal shelter of your choice.

Lowell L. Hayes

KINGS — Lowell L. Hayes, 93, passed away

Tuesday, Aug. 30 at his home in Kings. Services

are pending with the Unger-Horner in Rochelle.

Ogle County Sheriff’s Department

Deputies conduct several traffic stops

OREGON — On Aug. 26 deputies arrested Tavaris Hunter Bell, 20, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin for driving while license revoked. Hunter Bell was arrested by deputies on Interstate 39 near Illinois Route 64 after being stopped for speeding. Hunter Bell was held in lieu of bond at the Ogle County Jail.

On Aug. 26 at 2:43 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at East Illinois Route 72 and German Church Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Kevin McLaughlin of West Union, Iowa for driving while license suspended, two in-state warrants and one out-of-state warrant. McLaughlin was transported to Ogle County Jail, where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 27 at 12:51 a.m. deputies with assistance from Byron Police Department conducted a traffic stop at Mill Road and Tower Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested William Owens of Davis Junction for driving while license suspended. Owens was released on a \$2,500 I-Bond with a return court date. Owens was also issued a citation for expired registration.

On Aug. 27 at approximately 1 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop within the 15,000 block of East Illinois Route 64. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Ciarra A. Morgan, 21, of Rockford, for driving on a suspended driver’s license. Morgan was taken into custody without incident, and released at the scene on an individual bond with a return court date set. Morgan was additionally cited for no front registration and provided a warning for window tint.

On Aug. 27 at approximately 6:13 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 500 block of east Mason Street in Polo. After a brief investigation, Brandon Fenton, 21, of Polo was arrested for unlawful possession of cannabis as a passenger. Fenton was released on an individual bond and issued a return court date.

On Aug. 28 at approximately 1 p.m. the Ogle County Sheriff’s Office located a vehicle that had been previously pursued by the Winnebago County Sheriff’s Office and the Oregon Police Department. The vehicle was located in the 16,000 block of East Illinois Route 64 traveling eastbound at 110 m.p.h. A short time later the car crashed just west of Mulford Road on Illinois Route 64. The driver, and only occupant, of the vehicle fled on foot after the crash and later gave herself up to deputies. The female was taken to Rochelle Community Hospital for minor injuries sustained in the crash by Lynn-Scott-Rock Ambulance. The driver was identified as Krystal Quigley, 37, of DeKalb. She was charged with driving under the influence of drugs, possession of controlled substance, reckless driving, speeding (110 in a 55-m.p.h. zone), no insurance, improper lane usage and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. The Ogle County Sheriff’s Office was assisted by the DeKalb County K9 unit.

On Aug. 28 at approximately 7:38 p.m. deputies were dispatched to the 14,000 block of West Milledgeville Road for

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make multiple arrests

ROCHELLE — On Aug. 27 at 3:14 a.m. Christiaan D. Davis, 33, of Woodridge was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

On Aug. 26 at 8:33 a.m. Beatriz Duran-Contreras, 34, of Rochelle was cited for failure to reduce speed. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Sept. 23 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 28 at 12:53 a.m. Thomas J. Price, 37, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle

County warrant and transferred.

On Aug. 28 at 2:48 a.m. Susan K. Cervac, 62, of Rochelle was arrested for driving under the influence and cited for improper lane usage. She was released on an I-Bond and given a Sept. 23 Rochelle court date.

On Aug. 29 at Alec J. Rolczynski, 27, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding DeKalb County warrant. He paid \$375 and was released with a Sept. 26 DeKalb County court date.

On Aug. 29 at 9:55 p.m. Robert L. Cook, 32, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding DeKalb County warrant and an outstanding Ogle County warrant and transferred.

On Aug. 29 at 10:02 p.m. Jorge Florentino-Hernandez, 36, of Rochelle was arrested for aggravated domestic battery, an outstanding Boone County warrant and an outstanding Ogle County warrant.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Kishwaukee College instructor edits book to help Kenyan students

MALTA — Ami Irmen, associate professor of English at Kishwaukee College, has edited

a book that directly aids female Kenyan students in achieving an education.

“Voices of Jane Adeny Memorial School” was released on Amazon in April and explores memoir writing by the students at Jane Adeny Memorial School (JAMS) in the summer of 2014.

JAMS is a not-for-profit institution in Muhoroni, Kenya, that focuses on providing learning opportunities for Kenyan girls who often face obstacles in completing their education. On average, school fees can cost up to a quarter of a family’s earnings for one child, and if Kenyan families cannot afford to send all their children, it is often the girls who are taken out of the classroom. JAMS was founded by Teresa Wasonga and Andrew Otieno to help address this issue. Both Wasonga and Otieno live in DeKalb and work as educators. Irmen said she was introduced to Wasonga when she took a feminist theory class at Northern Illinois University, where Wasonga was a guest speaker. Wasonga shared about the school in Kenya, which struck a chord with Irmen.

In 2014, Irmen visited the school in Kenya and helped lead the curriculum “Memoir Writing for Empowerment.” The stories the students wrote went on to be the main component of the book,

with all proceeds directly benefitting scholarship opportunities for future students. Along with teaching memoir during her trip to Kenya, Irmen teaches composition, developmental English and creative writing at Kishwaukee College with a focus on globalizing her classroom by providing diverse readings to her students.

“JAMS students told the stories they wished to tell in their own voices,” Irmen wrote. “Students were given the option to publish within this collection, and they were excited knowing that their work would go on to help other girls who wished to study at JAMS.”

The stories were then transcribed and edited with the goal of preserving each writer’s individual voice. While the publishing process took several years, it offered an opportunity for the authors to follow up with the students who wrote memoirs and learn about their successes in their professional lives following their time at JAMS.

“Voices of Jane Adeny Memorial School” is available on Amazon, with all proceeds going to the JAMS scholarship fund. To learn more about JAMS, visit jamskenya.org.

To learn more about Kishwaukee College, visit kish.edu.

Adolph joins RTHS English faculty

BY VICKI SNYDER-CHURA
SPECIAL TO THE NEWS-LEADER

ROCHELLE — Mrs. Anna Adolph has come to Rochelle Township High School from Rochelle Middle School. She is teaching English 1 and speech. She, her husband and their three children reside in Rochelle.

Growing up, Adolph always thought she wanted to be an elementary school teacher. During her first job teaching middle school, she said she quickly realized that teacher older students was where she belonged. “I like to encourage students to take pride in themselves,” Adolph



Anna Adolph

said. “I tell them to take pride in everything they do and everything they say and to always ask yourself, ‘Am I proud of this?’”

Report policy

Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from the

Rochelle Police, the Ogle County Sheriff’s Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.



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LOCAL NEWS

CITY: Rochelle officials planning to bring back intermodal service

From page 1

“This makes us a very ideal location, as long as we can get all the collaboration and coordination from everybody,” Anderson said. “The real benefit is that all of these trucks that currently have to go all the way to Chicago to drop a load and then wait sometimes an entire day to get an empty container to drive back. The benefits are going to be businesses and industries that use the local intermodal service that the City of Rochelle’s railroad will provide and save literally millions of dollars in transportation costs, labor and fuel to be able to drop containers in Rochelle and pick up another and go back to wherever they come from. It will save thousands of hours and a lot of wear and tear on trucks.”

Anderson said the city is working with the idea that the intermodal operation will get one train per week to start with. One train per week will generate about \$350,000 of revenue that will be direct to the city. The contractual agreement between GREDCO and the container company is not clear yet, because it has not committed yet. Anderson guesses about \$150,000 a year of revenue could be generated through that.

When news of the Global III closure came three years ago, city officials held a press conference and said efforts would be made to reestablish intermodal services in Rochelle. They didn’t know then how it would be done. Anderson said the city railroad has become a “major economic development engine” for Rochelle.

Eighteen years ago, the city’s railroad revenue was about \$250,000 a year. It has reached as high as \$2.2 million per year since and is now around \$1 million a year.

“We serve 14 industries directly with rail service,” Anderson said. “And now we’re serving another 6-10 companies through our transloading services. That’s lumber and pipe and other things that come in on rail that we can now transfer to a truck or vice versa. Farmers and agriculture are going to be a major factor in all of this. Because so much grain gets shipped internationally. It used to just go to Global III. This is where we think the greatest potential for our railroad is. To be able to help the agricultural economy by being able to move containers of grain here as opposed to Chicago.”

The city’s railroad helps to attract and retain



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Rochelle Economic Development Director Jason Anderson said the city is working with the idea that the intermodal operation will get one train per week to start with. One train per week will generate about \$350,000 of revenue that will be direct to the city.

businesses in town and can lead to large capital investments, Anderson said.

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said that revenues from the railroad have a “huge impact” on the city overall. It pays debt service on the quiet zone system the city put in at crossings. About five percent of rail revenue is transferred to the city’s general fund to help pay for police, fire and other city services.

The local expenses for improvements at the Rochelle Municipal Airport have been funded by railroad revenues, Fiegenschuh said.

“I think we’re the only community in the state with its own short-line railroad,” Fiegenschuh said. “And nationwide, we’re probably the smallest community with one. We’re very blessed to have this utility just like our other utilities. We’re able to utilize those revenues to not just support the rail, but also the airport, the quiet zone and quality of life-type projects. It’s a huge benefit to the community.”

Anderson said items related to the intermodal container yard development will be on the agenda of the city council’s Sept. 12 meeting and more information will become available then.

SCHOOL: District 231 enters second year of attendance center model

From page 1

Additionally, second and third-graders attend Central School and fourth and fifth-graders attend Tilton School. Rochelle Middle School has seen no change with the model.

With the shift to the model came changes for students, families, teachers, staff, transportation personnel and administration. District Superintendent Jason Harper discussed the attendance center model entering its second year with the News-Leader on Aug. 19.

“With any change like this, there are ups and downs,” Harper said. “We have seen that increased collaboration by specific grade levels has improved. Each building has gone to great lengths to create a family atmosphere in each building which has been great to see.”

Harper said the new procedures and processes

of the attendance center model took time to “iron out.” He believes one of the best things the district did last year was surveying staff and parents on what was going well with the model and what priorities of improvement were.

“We received a lot of great feedback on how to improve a lot of aspects of attendance centers,” Harper said. “We took that list and we worked from there. I think as the semester and year went on, we were able to address concerns that came up. Implementing a new structure is always a challenge because all the routines and processes are new. We continue to try to improve our systems each year.”

One of the primary goals in the change to attendance centers was to increase collaboration between teachers and staff. Harper believes “major strides” were made in that area.

“Just the ways in which

we went about increasing ways for our teachers to professionally collaborate and interact with each other was a great step in the right direction,” Harper said.

Harper said he feels like some parents liked the model, and others are still getting adjusted to it, which the district “completely understands.”

“With such a great change for our community and for our schools came a lot of different adaptations that we made along the way,” Harper said. “That sometimes means we try things and they do work, and sometimes we try things and they don’t work. We are continually learning as a district and trying to make it a better experience across the board, whether it’s transportation or anything for our teachers, parents and students. We’re continuing to try to get better each year.”

As far as whether the attendance center model



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

District Superintendent Jason Harper discussed the attendance center model entering its second year with the News-Leader on Aug. 19.

will continue in the years to come, Harper said that’s tied to enrollment numbers and the future of currently-empty May School.

If enrollment increases, the district will run into space issues with the three-elementary school building approach. A current “great unknown” for the district is the possibility of state guidelines changing in regards to preschool education for birth to five-year-old students.

Funds were passed at the federal level to expand preschool education, and Illinois school districts are waiting to hear from the state about whether an expansion will be mandated. If there was a mandate, the Rochelle elementary district would require more space and staff, Harper said.

“We’re going to need to reexamine what the next-best approach will be if we need to expand the number of students we’re serving,” Harper said. “The attendance center model works with a certain number of students. If that number goes up, that’s a good problem and we’re serving more students or it means that Rochelle has grown and we’ll have to make changes.”

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Student loan forgiveness

WHEN I first met my wife 21 years ago, her mother wasn't so sure about me.

After all, I was a decade older than her daughter and we were engaged to be married within five weeks of meeting. So, she tried to come up with things that might scare me off.

"Has Joan mentioned that she has \$85,000 in student loan debt?" she said to me one day. I replied, "Yes, she has; I still want to marry her."

For those economists reading this column, that's \$142,000 in today's dollars. Add interest paid on top of that and you are talking about really big bucks.

But the debt is now paid off.

And now we have three daughters who will soon be leaving for college themselves.

President Joe Biden's recent announcement that he will unilaterally forgive \$500 billion in student loan debt sounds magnanimous until you figure out it really means folks who either didn't go to college or who have already paid for college will end up footing the bill for someone else's college education.

After all, these are federal loans that are underwritten by the American taxpayer.

The predicament we are now in is not all that different than the housing crisis in 2008.

Back then bank presidents were giving loans to homebuyers who would not likely be able to pay the loan off. Why would a banker do such a thing? Because they could immediately sell off those loans to the federally sponsored organizations Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac and leave the taxpayers on the hook if the borrower defaulted.

University presidents are doing the same thing today. They are admitting students into degree programs where there is little chance individuals will earn enough to pay for the cost of their education.

Why would a college president do this? Because students are able to borrow federally-backed student loans, and if they can't pay it back, again, the taxpayer is responsible.

The current student loan

system contributes to the tuition hyper-inflation we are now experiencing in higher education.

Colleges raise tuition because they know students will cover the cost with borrowed money. Students borrow more money because tuition has been raised. And the self-perpetuating cycle continues.

The interesting thing about this cycle is where the money is going.

"The student/professor ratio has remained unchanged over the years," Antony Davies, a professor of economics at Duquesne University told me a couple years ago. "The growth we have seen is in the area of administrative overhead. More and more people are being hired to do things like make sure the university is complying with government regulations. They have no direct contact with students."

Now President Biden says the debt should be forgiven.

This is a reverse Robin Hood program. It is disproportionately benefitting wealthier households at the expense of others. More significantly it does nothing to solve the underlying problem of the cost of education.

The Washington Post noted in an Aug. 24 editorial, "Widely canceling student loan debt is regressive. It takes money from the broader tax base, mostly made up of workers who did not go to college, to subsidize the education debt of people with valuable degrees. Though Mr. Biden's plan includes an income cap, the threshold does not reflect need or earnings potential, meaning white-collar professionals with high future salaries stand to benefit. Student loans, moreover, are a poor proxy for household income: An analysis by policy researcher Jason D. Delisle found that, in 2016, students from high-income and low-income families were just as likely to take on debt for their first year in an undergraduate program — and students from high-income families borrowed the largest amounts."

So how do we reform the system? The most obvious way is to have student loans underwritten by the college the student

is attending rather than the federal government. This would force university administrators to ask tough questions like can someone earning an art degree pay off a \$100,000 debt?

Another option would be for the government to treat colleges the way Biden wants to deal with big pharmaceutical corporations. Since taxpayers foot the bill for medicine purchased through Medicare, he wants to use that clout to negotiate down the price of prescriptions for all of us. Good for him.

But he ought to be doing the same with colleges and universities. If they want their students to be eligible for federally-backed student loans and grants, they need to lower the cost of a college education.

In the 1970s, 25 percent of high school graduates between 18 and 25 attended college. Today that number is 50 percent. But don't fool yourself. Kids are not twice as smart as they were back then.

Instead, we are putting more and more people on the path toward credential seeking. Some people even make the mistake of confusing learning with credential seeking.

When my dad taught me carpentry and concrete masonry skills as a teenager, that was just as much a learning experience as sitting in a classroom and memorizing the periodic table. But there are some highfalutin folks who don't think much of such learning experiences. To them, education only counts if it comes with a degree (and a price tag) attached.

Trade unions, employers and others offer excellent training opportunities that don't require the assumption of debt. Some of the best journalists I've worked with never attended college. They started at small weeklies and worked their way up.

When a plumber comes to my house, it doesn't matter to me if the person attended college. And yet they are paid well and their work is critical to society.

College isn't for everybody. But opportunities to succeed should be available for everyone.

Scott Reeder, an Illinois Times staff writer, can be reached at sreeder@illinoistimes.com.

Illinois State Fair roundtable discussions rally groups around agriculture

SOME of my favorite memories from the Illinois State Fair go back to the years I spent in high school showing dairy cattle owned by family friends. I remember the nervous excitement and feeling of anticipation as I entered the ring, praying the Holstein I was leading would cooperate.

Flash forward to the 2022 fair and I've now become a spectator in the stands, watching youth exhibitors show in the same arena I had when I was their age. I'm reminded of how special the experience is for those in the show ring and for the friends and families cheering them on from the sidelines.

I'm also reminded of the many ways agriculture brings people together.

Ag Day at the Illinois State Fair is an annual event that brings together some of the best and brightest in the farm and food sectors. This year's celebration took place on Aug. 16 and included events to help connect people living in suburban and urban areas to where their food comes from.

From the Master Showmanship Contest and other youth livestock shows, to fresh produce sold by the Illinois Specialty Growers Association and pork chop or brisket sandwiches offered in the commodity pavilion, agriculture was literally around every corner and on every table.

In addition to fairgoer activities, commodity group leaders also had the chance to work collaboratively on issues that affect rural communities. I was proud to see so many farm-

ers meeting with elected officials and representatives from universities and government entities to talk about programs that can benefit Illinois agriculture.

Illinois farmers and other ag business leaders at the Illinois State Fair had a unique opportunity to participate in a farm bill discussion this year. The panel discussion, hosted by Congresswoman Cheri Bustos and Illinois state Sen. Patrick Joyce, allowed us to talk about pressing concerns facing agriculture ahead of the 2023 farm bill, which lawmakers have already begun working on.

As a speaker on the panel, the main points I shared are areas of concern Illinois farmers have expressed to me in the past. The first is the need to protect crop insurance as an essential risk-management tool in farmers' toolboxes. The second is the need to maintain voluntary conservation efforts, rather than imposing mandates on farmers who are already doing their best to preserve farmland for the next generation.

My hope is that as this next farm bill is written, we will see overwhelming support from both sides of the political aisle. Bipartisan support for legislation like this can bring people together over issues that impact us all, from commodity prices to supplemental nutrition assistance programs.

Just eight days after Ag Day at the Illinois State Fair, more than 100 ag industry leaders met to conduct the Illinois Agricultural Legislative Roundtable

(IALR) Candidate Forum in rural Lexington. Candidates for Illinois governor and U.S. Senate talked about issues they would address if elected. The IALR does not endorse statewide candidates, nor does Illinois Farm Bureau, so this candidate forum offered an excellent venue to hear from candidates about their plans for supporting Illinois agriculture.

Discussion topics included 2023 farm bill priorities, along with issues facing the general farm economy, livestock sector and biofuels industry. Candidates also addressed transportation and infrastructure projects needed in rural areas. To watch each candidate's presentation at the roundtable forum, visit farmweeknow.com/vote2022.

As the November election approaches, I urge Illinois residents to learn more about candidates running for office and take into consideration the tremendous commitment public officials make to serving constituents with a broad range of expectations.

While recent discussions between farmers, ag leaders and elected officials is important, there is still a lot of work to do. But one thing is certain — agriculture will continue to bring people together to find common solutions.

Richard Guebert Jr. is the president of the Illinois Farm Bureau. This story was distributed through a cooperative project between Illinois Farm Bureau and the Illinois Press Association. For more food and farming news, visit FarmWeekNow.com.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Take action to stop suicide

DEAR editor, September is National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month. As a volunteer advocate with the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention, I am calling on my members of Congress to pass legislation to prevent suicides and support crisis care.

After losing my father to suicide this year, I feel it's important that we come together as a community to educate everyone on mental health, and end suicide. The 988 Suicide and Crisis

Lifeline must be sustainably funded so that confidential, voluntary services by trained counselors are accessible. H.R. 7116, the 988 Implementation Act, would provide federal funding and guidance to states for 988 crisis services across the nation.

An alternative to 911 for mental health crises, 988 connects callers to Lifeline centers. These centers de-escalate 98 percent of crisis calls without dispatching emergency services. Well-resourced crisis support systems can

connect callers with local resources, including someone to talk to (call centers), someone to respond (mobile crisis teams) and somewhere to go (crisis stabilization centers).

We must ensure that every state has the capacity to provide comprehensive crisis response services to help save lives. For more information, go to afsp.org/988.

Join me in urging Congress to take action to #StopSuicide!

Stephanie White, 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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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

COMMUNITY



Rochelle VFW hosts pizza party for Little League team

The VFW Little League team pizza party was recently held at the Floyd J. Tilton VFW Post 3878. Those pictured are: Front row: Jackson Olszewski, Vaughn Manning, Quentin Ansteth, AJ Milan, Ryley Ginn and Christopher Nambo. Second row: Brock Heller, Kolton Cragin, Tyson Pavlak, Riley Wittenberg and (not pictured) Eli Good. Back row: Post Commander Joe Drought, assistant coach Grant Manning, head coach Corey Ansteth, Post Trustee Dave Norris, Post Chaplain Paul Bearrows and assistant coach Matt Tourdot.



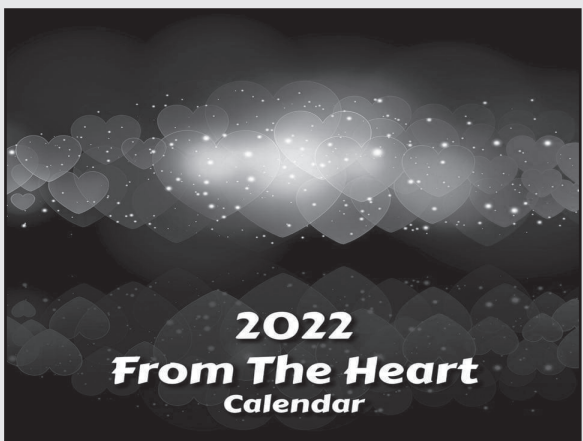
Christophersons celebrate 63rd anniversary

Dale and Ginnie Christopherson recently celebrated their 63rd wedding anniversary. Pictured is their original wedding picture and the 63rd in front of his 1959 Rambler. The couple has four boys: Jim, Dave, Steve and Jeff.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Aug. 31 James OBrien	Melissa Villalobos	Ianna Smith
Sept. 1 Weston Peterman	Greg & Liz Danekas (anniversary)	Sept. 14 Alivia Law
Sept. 3 Charles & Kayla Peterman (anniversary)	Sept. 7 Kyleigh-Ann McPherson	Blakely Avila
Sept. 4 Jeff & Michelle Larsen (anniversary)	Sept. 9 Georgia Rogers	Sept. 15 Emily Lopez
Sept. 6 Micah Coffman	Sept. 11 Melinda Pourchot	Robert Lee
	Sam Oyamaian	Sept. 17 David Jones
	Wyatt Sexton	Jenny Rosenbach
	Sept. 12	Richard & Beverly Hermann (anniversary)

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



- 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
- Aug. 18 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
- Aug. 19 - Myra Chattic, Sterling, \$25
- Aug. 20 - David Long, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 21 - Rochelle Masonic Lodge, \$50
- Aug. 22 - Kyle Kissack, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 23 - Tom Hill, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 24 - Jane Schell, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 25 - Lucinda Zoeller, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 26 - Stephanie A. Guerrero, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 27 - Edward Jones, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 28 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$50
- Aug. 29 - Caroline Kessen, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 30 - Scott A. Stevens, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 31 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25



Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Beach accessory

6 Altar promise

9 Wd. modifier

12 Blazing

13 At once

14 Singer Rawls

15 Lightweight wood

16 Old Pontiac

18 More tightly packed

20 "Star Wars" royal

21 Photo, for short

23 "Fresh Air" ailer

24 Party beverage

25 Unforeseen problem

27 Say

29 Elk's horn

31 Wheel cover

35 Playful sea critter

37 Only

38 Barber's tools

41 Aug. and Sept.

43 Knock

44 Region

45 Halloween sprite

47 Young shopping center regular

49 Milk dispens-

12

15

21

25

29

38

44

47

52

55

er

52 Paris summer

53 Flamenco cheer

54 Cat calls?

55 Shelter

56 Slugger

57 Actress Debra

DOWN

1 Bar bill

2 One — kind

3 Villanova athlete

4 Gaelic

5 "Blue" singer Rimes

6 Loose news-paper ad

7 Gloomy

8 Have

9 Sci-fi visitor

10 Column style

11 A son of Jacob

17 Book jacket promos

19 Sudden gush

21 Unpaid TV ad

22 Hostel

24 Little, in Lille

26 Worldwide

28 Pulsate

30 UFO crew

32 Deep-fried frank

33 Pie — mode

34 Zing

36 Acted badly?

38 Caravan beast

39 Emulate Lincoln

40 Donnybrook

42 Batter's dry spell

45 Big wind

46 Notion

48 Decay

50 Ram's ma'am

51 Trio after Q

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging

♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: Z equals R

FN E LZEKH DN OMFKEPEZU FB

JKDPK RD LU ZUBFBREKR RD

LZUEJFKC, FR MEB E CDDH OZEOJ

ZUODZH.

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King Crossword

Answers

Solution time: 26 mins.

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

Answers

record.

breaking, it has a good crack

known to be resistant to

If a brand of chinaware is

answer

September

HUB NEWS

@ ROCHELLE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL

HOME COMING

What Is Happening



Senior T-shirts will be on sale in the Commons before and after school on Thursday & Friday Sept. 1 & 2. The cost is \$13.

Sept 1	Before & After school in the Commons: Senior Tshirt sales \$13
Sept 2	Before & After school in the Commons: Senior Tshirt sales \$13
Sept 5	Labor Day No School
Sept 6	Summertime Silver Service claims are due in the office
Sept 9-10	Kiwanis Peanut weekend – volunteers needed! Contact Golden K member John Gruben jgruben@rochelleil.us
Sept 10	1st marching band competition
Sept 11	4th annual Tyler Smith Memorial 5K



This 5K provides for the RTHS Tyler Smith Memorial Scholarship

For more information: <https://bit.ly/22Sep11TylerSmith5K>

Volunteer @ Creston Booster Days Sept. 16-18
Use the link to sign up for volunteer opportunities in the food pavilion at Creston Booster Days:
<https://bit.ly/22CrestonBoosterDaysVolunteers>

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Sept 14	Hispanic Heritage Month begins
Sept 16	RTHS Athletic Hall of Fame Induction before Rochelle HUBS football kicks off against Harvard SS volunteers set up Fiesta Hispania - to sign up, contact Mrs. Arteaga rarteaga@d231.rochelle.net Creston Booster Days kicks off
Sept 17	Volunteers at Fiesta Hispania in downtown Rochelle Volunteers at Creston Booster Days
Sept 18	RTHS HUB Marching Band in Creston Booster Days parade
Sept 19	RTHS Board of Education 5:30 pm It's Homecoming Week in HUBLAND!
Sept 20	National Voter Registration Day
Sept 21	Purple bus routes PM
Sept 22	5:30 pm HC Parade lineup downtown Sixth Street Homecoming parade 6 pm kicks off at Rochelle City Hall 7pm Pep Rally & Coronation in the RTHS gym 8pm Powder Puff football at the RTHS stadium
Sept 23	Renaissance study hall release day No KEC PM classes Homecoming football at the stadium vs Sycamore Cooks & Carpenters Fundraiser at The Kitchen Table 4:30–8:30pm. This year's fundraiser benefits the Foundation of Focus House.
Sept 24	8-11 pm Homecoming Dance in the Commons
Sept 25	11:30 am Spina Bifida Walk and Roll fundraiser at Helms Track. More information at: https://e.givesmart.com/events/rBN/
Sept 29	Phantom Tollbooth opens on the RTHS Stage
Sept 30	Phantom Tollbooth 7:30 pm; tickets \$2 for students/educators and \$5 for general admission
Oct 1	Final performance of Phantom Tollbooth File a FAFSA form https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa If you plan to file for financial aid in college or trade school

RTHS cheerleader Bryn Kissack was born with Spina Bifida. For her 16th birthday she will host a Walk 'N Roll for Illinois Spina Bifida Association. A \$25 registration includes a Walk 'N Roll custom t-shirt, Ralphie's BBQ lunch, entertainment from Buzzed By Sonset + birthday cake! Junior Chariots will provide extra wheel chairs at Helms Field at 11:30 am Sunday, Sept. 25. Register at <https://e.givesmart.com/events/rBN/>



ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

See page 7 for more details

Hubs win defensive battle

Inman throws two touchdown passes as Rochelle outlasts Woodstock 14-7

See HUBS page 3

Hubs finish fifth at Colin Smith Invitational

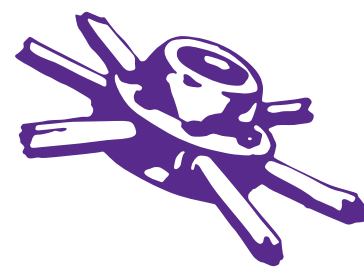
Rochelle defeats DeKalb JV, Stillman Valley to claim consolation bracket title

A group photo of the Rochelle Varsity Soccer team. There are 15 players and one coach posing on a grass field in front of a soccer goal. The players are wearing white jerseys with "ROCHELLE" and their numbers. Two players on the left are wearing dark blue jerseys with "ROCHELLE" and numbers 16 and 17. The player on the far right is holding a trophy labeled "Colin Smith Memorial Cup" and "Consolation". The background shows a soccer field with a goal net and a building with a red roof.

well. We've started dropping our line more and moving the ball back so we can move the ball around the field and switch the field. We have talent all over the field and we have a lot of players with skills on the offensive side."



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HUB SPOTLIGHT



**Brode
Metzger**

Year: Freshman

Sport: Football

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

A: Five years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Being with the team. I like to be physical and football is a great sport for that.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Ag because it's a fun class and I like the stuff we talk about.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: My dad because I want to be just like him and be as successful as he was.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My dad because he works hard and is a great person.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a mechanic because I like hands-on work and they make good money.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Hawaii because it seems really relaxing there.

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

A: The sports and being a Hub.



**Roman
Villalobos**

Year: Freshman

Sport: Football

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

A: This is my fifth year.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: When I score and everyone is cheering for me.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Conditioning because I get to lift weights and sweat.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Walter Payton because of the discipline he had.

Q: Who is your biggest role

model and why?

A: My father because he pushes me to be better.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a pro athlete because I love sports and I'm good at them.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Mexico because it's where my family is from.

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

A: Everyone knows my family so coming to RTHS is welcoming.

GO HUBS!



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SPORTS



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Hub varsity football team won 14-7 over Woodstock on Friday. The fresh-soph team was also victorious Friday evening, cruising over Woodstock 44-0 to start the season with a 1-0 record. Above at left, sophomore Grant Gensler looks to block Woodstock's Jared Kniola. Above at right, senior Trey Taft takes the carry as Woodstock defender Chris Sostre chases from the rear. Below at right, freshman Roman Villalobos runs with the ball for the fresh-soph team.

HUBS: Fresh-Soph team cruises over Woodstock 44-0

From page 1

Woodstock found a glimmer of hope in the third quarter, where the Blue Streaks blocked a punt and cashed in with a 17-yard touchdown rush from Lyons to bring the Hubs within one score.

A series of untimely penalties resulted in another turnover on downs for the Hubs, who committed eight penalties for 76 yards in the game, midway through the fourth quarter. Needing one final defensive stand, Rochelle bent but didn't break, with Woodstock moving the ball into Hub territory before junior linebacker Brock Metzger, who led the Rochelle defense with five tackles, made the decisive tackle to stop Lyons short on fourth down late in the fourth quarter.

Garrett Gensler led the

offense with 100 rushing yards on 18 carries, while Taft added 62 yards on 13 carries and Cullum recorded 51 yards on 10 carries. Senior Landon DeLille totaled four tackles and four players chipped in three tackles to assist the Rochelle defense in the win. Friday marked the first win in a home opener since 2017 for the Hubs, who will look to avenge last season's loss against Herscher when Rochelle faces the Tigers on the road next Friday.

"We were outplayed in the physicality department tonight, but we're not going to let that happen again," Cullum said. "We're going to get our pads down and play Rochelle football. We want to win every game, but losing to Herscher last year really stung, so we want that one even more."

Fresh/Soph

The Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football team cruised over Woodstock 44-0 on Friday to start the season with a 1-0 record. Rochelle will face Herscher on the road this Friday at 5 p.m.

Sophomore quarterback Carson Lewis tossed three touchdown passes in the win, hitting freshman Brode Metzger for scoring receptions of 24 and 55 yards as well as a 65-yard scoring reception for sophomore Ethan Goodwin. Freshman Roman Villalobos rushed for two touchdowns and totaled 90 yards on the ground.

Freshman Gavin Neale scored on a 40-yard rushing touchdown and sophomore Cayden Moore returned a punt 40 yards for a touchdown on special teams. Sophomore Ryan Senne recorded two sacks.



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

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The Rochelle News-Leader

SPORTS

RTHS Golf

Hubs compete in Geneseo Invitational at Deere Run Ohlinger, Metzger lead Rochelle to win over Amboy at Fairways on Thursday

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

SILVIS — The Rochelle Township High School varsity golf team competed at TPC Deere Run on Saturday for the Geneseo Invitational. The Hubs took 11th out of 12 teams with a 397 score.

Senior Griffin Ohlinger led Rochelle with an 85 and freshman Ian Metzger carded 95. Seniors David Wanner and Damen Harrington rounded out the top four team scores for the Hubs, shooting 104 and 113. Rochelle (1-4, 0-0 Interstate 8) will travel to face LaSalle-Peru on Tuesday before returning home and taking on Oregon and North Boone on Wednesday.

“The kids were excited to be there,” head coach Glen Mehrings said. “It’s a penalizing course with very difficult greens. Griffin and

Ian finished about where I thought they would. The course puts a huge premium on lag putting, which is something we can’t practice much around here. The kids were dealing with 6-foot lips in front of the bunkers, so some of our bunker shots hurt us. The course emphasized several nuances of the game that our kids aren’t quite familiar with.”

Thursday

The Rochelle Township High School varsity golf team returned to Fairways on Thursday for a non-conference match against Mendota and Amboy. Mendota finished first with 179, while Rochelle took second with 184 and Amboy placed third with 197. Senior Griffin Ohlinger led the Hubs with 43, while freshman Ian Metzger followed with 45 and senior David Wanner fired 46.



The Rochelle Township High School varsity golf team played in the Geneseo Invitational at TPC Deere Run on Saturday, finishing 11th out of 12 teams. Rochelle defeated Amboy in a meet with Mendota on Thursday.

“We knew we had a chance to win the meet, but we had a few players struggle,” Mehrings said. “I think our top four players can compete with the top four players from most schools. We have to begin trimming away at those scores and minimize those small mistakes around the greens.”

Healthy Hand Hygiene Habits



Protect yourself against COVID-19 and other diarrheal and respiratory illnesses, and help prevent the spread of germs to others, by following these simple hand hygiene guidelines:

1. Wash your hands with soap and warm water, lathering for at least 20 seconds.

2. If soap is unavailable, use a hand sanitizer containing at least 60 percent alcohol to clean your hands.

Wash your hands throughout the day, and particularly under these circumstances:

- Before preparing food
- Before eating
- After using the toilet
- After changing a diaper or helping a child use the toilet
- Before and after exposure to someone who is sick
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- After touching an animal or picking up animal waste
- After handling pet food or treats
- After handling garbage or garbage cans
- Before and after attending to a cut or wound

Information resource: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

**Proper
handwashing helps
all of us stay healthy,
so remember to be
aware and do your part
to help protect yourself
and others!**

PRIME TIME

Experiential gifts for seniors

HOLIDAY shoppers know that, seemingly every year, there's one person on their shopping list who's hard to shop for. Seniors may fit that bill, as many have already accumulated a lifetime's worth of goods and gadgets. That's why experiential gifts can be such a good fit for seniors come the holiday season.

Experiential gifts are wildly popular. In its 2021 Winter Holiday Shopping Report, the market research firm Mintel revealed that nearly half of individuals surveyed for the report felt that experiential gifts are superior to tangible items. Seniors who already have everything they need might be even more enthusiastic about experiential gifts, which may encourage them to get out of the house or pursue passions they've long had a passing interest in. This holiday season, shoppers can consider these experiences as they look for something new and unique for the seniors on their shopping lists.

Biplane flight: Few

experiences are as exhilarating as a flight in an open cockpit biplane. Biplane flights are unique to each company that offers them, but some planes can accommodate two passengers (in addition to the pilot), making this an ideal gift for senior couples who aren't afraid of a bird's eye view. The length of a flight depends on shoppers' budgets, but no matter how long seniors are in the air, they're sure to return to the ground having enjoyed a truly unique experience.

Hot air balloon ride: If riding shotgun with a pilot in a tiny plane is more adventure than your favorite senior may be seeking, a hot air balloon ride may be more suitable. Hot air balloon rides provide a truly stunning way to experience idyllic settings and a calm way to take to the skies on a beautiful day. Rides tend to last around an hour, but companies typically offer various packages and may even let shoppers customize rides for their loved ones.

Theatre tickets: The COVID-19 pandemic



hasn't been easy for anyone, but seniors were among the groups most vulnerable to serious infection if they caught the virus. As a result, many seniors strictly adhered to social distancing guidelines prior to getting vaccinated. Now that seniors are eligible to be fully vac-

inated and even receive two rounds of booster shots, a trip to the theatre can reignite their passion for live entertainment and make for a memorable night out.

Cycling tour: Modern seniors are among the most physically active demographics. A 2020 study

published in the Journal of Medical Internet Research found that, within months of the pandemic being declared, adults age 65 and older averaged 100 more minutes of physical activity than the next closest cohort. A cycling tour can make for a perfect gift to active seniors. Tours may

be designed to visit local places of historical significance, idyllic natural settings or local eateries. Wherever the tours ultimately end up, they're sure to put a smile on active seniors' faces.

Experiences can make for the perfect holiday gifts for seniors who have it all.

How empty nesters can overcome boredom

RAISING children is a significant responsibility. Parents know there's no such thing as a day off, which is why the first day they come home to an empty nest can be so confounding.

After roughly two busy and likely hectic decades or more of looking after their children, parents whose sons or daughters have left home for the first time may experience feelings of sadness and loss. That's not unusual, as the Mayo Clinic notes it's a phenomenon known as "empty nest syndrome." Though it's not a clinical diagnosis, empty nest syndrome can be a difficult hurdle to overcome, especially for parents who find themselves suddenly bored after years of being so busy. Empty nesters looking to banish boredom can consider these strategies.

Give your home a new look. Parents go to great lengths to make their homes welcoming safe havens for their children. Moms and dads often joke that, between play rooms and study areas, kids get the bulk of the real estate under their roofs. Now that the children have moved out, parents can take back that space and refresh their homes. A home that's adapted for empty nesters will look quite different from one designed for families with young children. So a renovation or redesign can provide plenty of work that can fill idle time and instill a sense of excitement about the future.

Become a weekend road warrior. Newly minted empty nesters are likely still working full-time. But now that there's no soccer practices or band recitals taking up valuable real estate on your weekend schedule, Saturdays and Sundays can provide perfect opportunities to travel. Plan routine weekend get-aways, choosing different locales for each trip. Visit a city one weekend and devote a subsequent trip to the great outdoors.

Reconnect with old

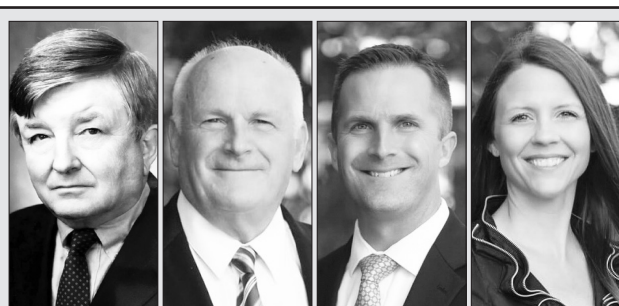
friends. Some individuals experiencing empty nest syndrome may be hesitant to admit they're experiencing feelings of sadness and loneliness. But a recent Sky Mobile study of parents of teenagers in England found that 47 percent were fretting about having an empty nest. So it's likely that old friends and fellow parents are experiencing feelings associated with empty nest syndrome. Reaching out to old friends is a great way to reconnect and can provide an outlet to discuss feelings parents might be hesitant to share with others. But empty nesters who experience significant feelings of sadness and loneliness are urged to speak with a health care professional as well.

Replace kids' activities with your own. After years of toting kids from one extracurricular activity to another, empty nesters can now do the same for themselves. Visit local community centers and libraries and ask about classes for adults. Many offer classes on everything from crafts to sports. Adults also can research continuing education programs at local colleges and universities if they're interested in a career change or pursuing an advanced degree for personal enrichment.

Newly minted empty nesters can look at their empty nest as an opportu-



nity to engage in activities that pique their interests after years of catering to the needs and wants of their children.



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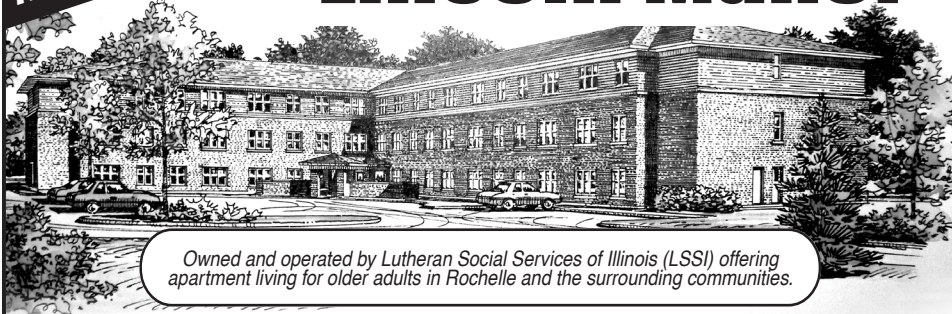
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Notice of Availability of Audit Report of Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District
Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District hereby provides public notice that an audit of its funds for the period May 1, 2020 through April 30, 2021 has been made, and that a report of such audit dated August 4, 2022 has been filed with the County Clerks of Ogle County and Lee County, in accordance with 30 ILCS 15/01 et. seq. The full report of the audit is available for public inspection at 401 5th Avenue Rochelle, IL 61068. Please contact David Sawlsville, District Fire Chief, Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 3:30 pm at (815) 561-2070 or e-mail him at dsawlsville@rochelleil.us.
No. 0831 (Aug. 24)

PUBLIC NOTICE
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Dated: August 18, 2022
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk
No. 0832 (Aug. 24, 31, Sept. 7)

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When Mark Twain was editing a newspaper in Missouri, one of his subscribers wrote in, saying that he had found a spider in his newspaper and wondered whether it was a sign of good or bad luck. Twain's response: "Finding a spider is neither good luck nor bad. The spider was merely looking over our newspaper to see which merchant was not advertising, so that he could go to that store, spin his web across the door, and lead a life of undisturbed peace ever afterward."

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SPORTS

RTHS Volleyball



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The RTHS varsity volleyball team took fourth in the Rockford Jefferson Invitational with a 1-1-3 record. The team includes Macy Ramos, Makenzie Liezert, Dempsey Atkinson, Kendell Frankenberg, Isela Vasquez, Casandra Garcia, Macenzie Glosser, Kennedy Adamski, Payton Hale, Ali Ohlinger, Taelynn Rodeghero, Addie Friestad and Alivia Henkel. The girls are coached by Molly Sly.

Lady Hubs take fourth at Jefferson Invitational

Sophomore team wins four consecutive matches to earn second-place finish

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCKFORD — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity volleyball team played five matches at the Jefferson Invitational on Saturday, splitting three matches while winning one and losing one to finish fourth out of 10 teams.

The Lady Hubs opened the tournament against Rockford Jefferson, winning 25-17, 25-14 for their first victory of the season. Senior Macy Ramos totaled six aces, while junior Kennedy Adamski had four kills and sophomore Ali Ohlinger recorded five assists.

"I thought we played really well," Ohlinger said. "Our back row is working hard to get the ball to me and I thought we did well behind the service line. We made a stronger connection as a team and we played some really close matches. It's been a great opportunity to play on the varsity team and coach [Molly] Sly trusts me to be the setter. We have a great attitude and we have a lot of energy. We're very competitive and we're going to get better throughout the season."

Rochelle's next three matches ended in draws, with the Lady Hubs rallying to split their two-set

match with Marengo 16-25, 25-18. Junior Alivia Henkel and senior Payton Hale each had two blocks, while Hale totaled five kills and senior Addie Friestad finished with four aces. Rochelle split its match against North Boone 25-11, 19-25, with Ohlinger netting seven assists.

"I thought the tournament was probably the best we've played since the start of the season," Hale said. "We all get along really well and we communicate well. We play to our strengths and we know who to set and who can receive serves. We're pretty good at getting our



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The RTHS sophomore volleyball team finished second in the Rockford Jefferson Invitational with a 4-1 record. The team includes Payton Cesarone, Lauren Dyer, Meredith Bruns, Sydney Carmichael, Cassidy Vincent, Natalie Wagner, Emma Kennay, Anna Blanton, Kendyl Darby, Abby Metzger and Erin Murphy. The girls are coached by Lindsay Sueess.

passes up, but we need to focus on scoring and we need to keep working on putting the ball away."

The Lady Hubs fought hard to split their final pool-round match against Woodstock 23-25, 27-25. Friestad led Rochelle with four kills and Ohlinger compiled nine assists and six aces. Sophomore Dempsey Atkinson led the defense with six digs and Hale recorded five digs. The Lady Hubs (1-2-3, 0-0 Interstate 8) dropped their final tournament match 20-25, 10-25 against Rockford Christian to finish second in the silver bracket and fourth overall in the tournament.

"We're starting to figure out how we can help each other and how we can adjust during each match," Friestad said. "We're working out our kinks but I think we work well with each other. Our serving has been much better and we've aced a lot of teams this season. We want to lose fewer than seven matches this season because we have a lot of faith that we can play really well."

Sophomores

The Rochelle Lady Hub sophomore volleyball team finished second in the Rockford Jefferson Invitational with a 4-1

record. The team includes Payton Cesarone, Lauren Dyer, Meredith Bruns, Sydney Carmichael, Cassidy Vincent, Natalie Wagner, Emma Kennay, Anna Blanton, Kendyl Darby, Abby Metzger and Erin Murphy.

Rochelle defeated Rockford East 25-15, 25-14 before taking down Rockford Christian 25-15, 25-18 to move to 2-0 in the tournament. The Lady Hubs then outlasted Vernon Hills 25-23, 25-22 and Rockford Christian 25-23, 25-22 to advance to the championship match against Huntley. Rochelle fell 15-25, 9-25 in the final round.

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SPORTS

Rochelle Junior Tackle



(PHOTOS BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

The Rochelle Junior Tackle program hosted DuPec at Helms Park on Saturday. At left, seventh-grader Eli Schweitzer hangs on for a tackle. At right, eighth-grader Angel Hernandez avoids two DuPec defenders. Both the eighth and seventh-grade teams suffered their first losses of the season, while the sixth-graders took a forfeit.

Junior Hubs suffer home losses against DuPec

Rochelle fifth-graders remain undefeated with 28-0 victory over Winnebago

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Junior Tackle teams hosted DuPec at Helms Park on Saturday, with the seventh and eighth-graders suffering

their first losses of the season while the sixth-graders received a forfeit and the fifth-graders won to remain undefeated at 3-0. The Rochelle eighth-graders battled hard but fell just short in a 22-16 loss to DuPec. The Junior

Hubs (2-1) scored two touchdowns in the game, with Brody Bruns firing two touchdown passes including a 55-yard strike to Dylan Manning and an 8-yard connection to Mason Ludwig. The Rochelle seventh-

graders were held scoreless in a 14-0 loss to DuPec. The Junior Hubs (2-1) will look to bounce back against Stillman Valley on the road Sunday, Sept. 4. The Rochelle sixth-graders received a forfeit from DuPec and will take a 3-0

record into next week's matchup. The Rochelle fifth-graders battled Winnebago on Saturday, winning 28-0 and moving to 3-0 on the season. Maddex Jackson threw two touchdown passes in the victory, find-

ing Korbin Milos twice for a 13-yard score and a 12-yard score. Quentin Ansteth barreled ahead for a 1-yard touchdown run and Elijah Underwood found the endzone on a 20-yard touchdown run in the win.

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