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Vol. 103 • No. 2

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 2022 \$1

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## KNOW IT TODAY



**Kish welding receives donation**

The Kishwaukee College welding and engineering program received a donation from Enbridge, Inc. **Page 7**

**WEATHER**

<b>WEDNESDAY</b>	<b>THURSDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>59 36</b>	<b>60 39</b>
<b>FRIDAY</b>	<b>SATURDAY</b>
<b>HIGH LOW</b>	<b>HIGH LOW</b>
<b>54 46</b>	<b>60 44</b>

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**AUCTIONEERS:**

**BEARROWS** REAL ESTATE AUCTIONS

361 W. Illinois Route 38  
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**OBITUARIES**

NONE

**INSERTS**

- ALDI
- FARM & FLEET

**INSIDE**

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## Zoning board discusses Hickory Grove

Request for proposal for developers in the works

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — At Monday's meeting, the City of Rochelle Planning & Zoning Commission voted unanimously to continue two Hickory Grove-related agenda items to its June 6 meeting.

The first agenda item was a petition by the city to subdivide the property located at 1123 N. 7th St. to re-subdivide two lots and parts of others. One lot will be transferred to Rochelle Hospitality, LLC, the owner of the Comfort Inn & Suites next door to the Hickory Grove site.

The second item was Rochelle Hospitality, LLC petitioning to subdivide property located at 1133 N. 7th St. The purpose is to re-subdivide a portion of two lots into one. The newly-subdivided lot will be an exchange of land as per an approved development agreement with the city. The land exchange allows the hotel to build an exterior pool, in conformance with city codes, which is required by the franchise.

Both items will be up



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**At Monday's meeting, the City of Rochelle Planning & Zoning Commission voted unanimously to continue two Hickory Grove-related agenda items to its June 6 meeting.**

for public hearing and approval in June. If approved, the items would go before the city council for final approval. City Community Development Director Michelle Pease said the items had to be continued due to work still being ongoing on the preliminary and final plat of subdivision.

"They need to make sure they have everything spelled out in those plats before we can actually get it in front of the board," Pease said.

City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh has said in the past that the subdivision and replatting and coming to an agreement on a land

swap must be done so the hotel can put in a pool and several parking spaces in the Hickory Grove lot that are owned by the hotel would be given to the city.

The Hickory Grove building was demolished earlier this year by the city as it works to get the site sold and developed this

year. Pease said the city is still in the process of working on a request for proposal to send out to prospective developers that are interested in the site.

"I'm just excited to see how it will develop," Pease said.

**See ZONING page 3**

## Weather hindering planting season

Supply chain issues, fuel prices impacting county farmers

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**OGLE COUNTY** — Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said last week that wet and cold conditions have hindered the spring work of area farmers.

Kern is unsure whether farmers in the county have finished applying anhydrous ammonia to fields and said there's likely still field work to do that's left over from last fall. He knew of a few planters running, but "not many."

"Everyone is dealing with wet and cold conditions," Kern said. "Neither are conducive to planting. We need the fields to dry out and the weather to warm up. It looks like maybe next week temperatures will jump into the 60s and stay there. Up until now with soil temperatures, it was risky business to plant into cold soil. We're going to have to get some dryer weather. When you can only get into the fields two days a week due to weather it makes for a long planting season."

In usual years, corn



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said last week that wet and cold conditions have hindered the spring work of area farmers.**

starts to get planted by May and bean planting is wrapped up by June, Kern said. The farm bureau manager said he's read stories about farmers in central Illinois that are just getting started on planting now when they're usually finished by this time. The whole state is behind on spring work due to weather conditions.

Despite a dry year in 2021 for farmers, Kern said that crop yield turned out "pretty well." Price increases on commodities in the past 5-6 months have

helped as well after those numbers had been an issue for the past 3-5 years, Kern said.

"I don't know that any farmer doesn't always think the next year will be a better year," Kern said. "It's what you have to think. Unbridled optimism."

On top of weather issues, Kern described supply chain-caused hurdles that farmers have been dealing with since the COVID-19 pandemic began. Input prices for farmers have gone "sky high."

"They've shot up like a rocket," Kern said. "Since last year, anhydrous ammonia has doubled in price. Urea fertilizer has almost doubled. It's making people very nervous. When you start looking at planting with inputs like that, you better hope it's a good crop and there's no issues getting it into the ground like we've seen. I think people are nervous."

Kern believes "a lot of" those price increases are due to supply chain issues and inputs and tariffs are partially responsible.

When foreign imports were cheaper, that caused domestic producers not to invest in production. Now that some foreign supply has been cut off, there's not enough domestically, Kern said.

With supply chain impacts, Kern said there were delays in getting seed for the 2022 planting season. However, he said he hasn't heard of any issues with livestock farmers' ability to get feed or get livestock transported.

**See FARM page 5**

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# LOCAL NEWS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Of the 12 member school districts of Ogle County Education Cooperative, data shows there are 121 students who have a special education eligibility of Autism. 27 of 69 students in the Life Skills PLUS Programs have Autism, as well as, four out of 49 students at Chana Education Center.

## OCEC recognizes Autism Acceptance Month in April

**OGLE COUNTY** — April is now called Autism Acceptance Month. In 2021, the name was changed from Autism Awareness Month to Autism Acceptance Month. The Autism Society of

America suggested that this change in terminology, while simple, is significant. Instead of being aware that someone has autism, acceptance means that we work together to create connections, em-

powering everyone in the Autism community to live fully. It also means that everyone in the Autism community is connected to the support they need, when they need it.

The CDC estimates that

1:44 people are autistic\*.

\*The use of the term autistic is aligned with Identity First Language. We have chosen to use identity first language (autistic person) rather than person first language (person with autism) based on input from the autistic community, e.g. Autistic Scholar and Autistic Self Advocacy Network. Awareness is critical, acceptance is important, but can we do more? Dr. Amy Laurent, PHD, OTR/L and Dr. Jâquelyn Fede have written The Essential Guide to Leveling Up for Autism to help us do just that. Their guide helps us identify our own level of Autism knowledge,

which includes awareness, acceptance, appreciation, empowerment and advocacy. Once we find our own level, the guide provides us with ideas on how to “level up” to the next step of Autism knowledge. “Wherever you are, take the next step” towards Autism Advocacy year round.

Of the 12 member school districts of Ogle County Education Cooperative, data shows there are 121 students who have a special education eligibility of Autism. 27 of 69 students in our Life Skills PLUS Programs have Autism, as well as, four out of 49 students at Chana Education Center.

The OCEC continues to support, train, educate and advocate for students with all disabilities. In May, the Life Skill Program will be hosting an OCEC Prom for all students within the program to be held at Oregon High School. OCEC plans to add three classrooms to the overall program next year to serve the continued need in Ogle County.

As Autism Acceptance Month 2022 has come to a close, we encourage you to continue support for our autistic students.

Contributed By: Amy Henkel, LCSW associate director of special education and Cindy Poegel, NIA Autism team.







**High Performer**  
May 2022

To read Jody's nomination, go to the RCH Facebook page or [rochellehospital.com](https://rochellehospital.com)

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## Rochelle Community of Opportunity Spring 2022 Hiring Expo set May 6

**ROCHELLE** — The City of Rochelle and the Office of Mayor John Bearrows announce the Rochelle Community of Opportunity Spring 2022 Hiring Expo to be held on May 6 in the Blue Gym at the Rochelle Township High School, 1401 E. Flagg Rd. The in-person city-wide expo will feature over 40 commercial, retail and industrial companies offering full-time, part-time and seasonal work. Some will be offering signing bonuses, employee referral rewards and other incentives. The expo is open to the public from 12:30-4:30 p.m.

There are several factors contributing to a national decline in labor force participation including retirement, education, family responsibilities and disability. Collaboration at the local, state and federal level is necessary for developing impactful solutions. The

City of Rochelle created this hiring expo last fall to support the efforts of local businesses to strengthen the community's overall workforce.

“When Baby Boomers retire early, as many have during COVID-19, this creates additional gaps in the workforce leaving businesses struggling to hire and keep up with high demands for their products and services,” Mayor John Bearrows said. “We are inviting residents to reconsider Rochelle as a destination for growing their careers.”

Prior to the start of the Expo, employers will have the opportunity to network with students at RTHS. The *Hubs for Hire* hour will expose young people to opportunities for part-time, seasonal, job shadowing, mentoring and internships. Interested students can also learn what might be required academically to

fill future career positions.

Rochelle Township High School District #212 & Community Consolidated School District #231 Superintendent Jason Harp-er, a member of the expo planning team and host of the event, says, “We want to reach students early so they can discover, explore and learn real-world trade skills.”

The Rochelle Community of Opportunity Spring 2022 Hiring Expo is open to Rochelle employers only and there is no cost to attend. Companies must register through College Central Network at <https://bit.ly/3DGE9q0>. Registration will close after the first 40 companies complete a brief online process.

Job seekers are asked to register at Eventbrite to be eligible for an entry into a cash drawing of \$300. The link is <https://hubsgethired22.eventbrite.com>. Workers do not have to register online to attend but must be pre-registered to participate in the cash drawing.

The expo is sponsored by the City of Rochelle, Office of Mayor John Bearrows, Kishwaukee College, Rochelle Township High School, Rochelle Foods – Hormel, Tyson Foods and 102.3 The Coyote & Superhits 93.5. A targeted social media, radio and print campaign will be used to reach the largest segment of the unemployed as far east as Aurora.

“Talent attraction is more successful when collaborating with local partners,” City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said. “This is especially true when the collaboration involves industry and business partners coming together with a common workforce attraction and retention goal that supports the commercial and industrial growth Rochelle is experiencing.”



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# LOCAL NEWS

## ZONING: Two agenda items tabled for June meeting

From page 1

"It's a blank canvas. It's pretty exciting. "The preliminary and final plat need to be taken care of so that they call out everything associated with that. The RFP could be distributed before that, but before it's sold it will have to have the correct footprint and parcel. All those things will need to be spelled out."

Fiegenschuh said earlier this year that he has had conversations with developers that are interested in the site. Responders will likely have three weeks to a month to get a proposal to the city. Fiegenschuh guessed that development firms will be interviewed and top choices or all proposals will be brought to the council, which will decide who it wants to partner with.

The \$361,900 demolition project of the facility at 1127 N. 7th St. began in January. Half of the total cost of the project will be funded by a Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Rebuild Illinois grant reimbursement up to \$365,750.

The city assumed ownership of the deteriorating building in early 2020 for \$1 with the intention of demolishing it and developing the property. The building was previously owned by the Ogle County Civic Center Authority (OCCCA) board, which was under the Ogle County Board umbrella. The city decided to purchase the site so it could control it and likely would've had to deal with it later if it was abandoned due to OCCCA being in financial trouble.



Rochelle Planning & Zoning Commission member Jacob Becker speaks during the board's monthly meeting Monday evening.

(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

## Compeer Financial presents donation to Kishwaukee College

**MALTA** — Kishwaukee College welcomed representatives from Compeer Financial for a check presentation and tour of the college's greenhouse facilities recently. Kish received \$75,000 through Compeer Financial's Agriculture & Rural Initiative Grant to support technology improvements in the greenhouse.

Last spring, the Kishwaukee College Foundation applied for the grant and was one of six community colleges in Illinois to receive funding. Kish used the grant to purchase new cutting-edge equipment that will provide students the opportunity to learn and train on current tools they will use in the field. As many Compeer clients have noted, one of their biggest struggles on the farm is finding skilled and qualified workers.

"Technology is changing in the horticulture industry," Mark Ringhouse, financial officer for Compeer Financial in Sycamore, said. "To be on the front end of learning about this equipment will be great for these students as they seek employment. There is a huge need for qualified candidates."

To support students in the completion of their education, Compeer has also committed \$2,500 in scholarship support. Scholarships will be available annually through the Kishwaukee College



Representatives from Compeer Financial presented Kishwaukee College with a \$75,000 Agriculture & Rural Initiative Grant at the College's greenhouse facilities.

(COURTESY PHOTO)

Foundation.

"Your financial support helps our students immensely with scholarships and improvements to our greenhouse facilities to educate the next generation of our workforce," Dr. Laurie Borowicz, president of Kishwaukee College, said. "There is a longstanding agricultural

heritage at Kish, and this grant supports one of our key programs."

Kish faculty and students led a demonstration of the new equipment and a tour of the recently-renovated greenhouse facilities. The greenhouse recently went under extensive remodeling to improve hands-on learn-

ing. In addition to the \$75,000 grant from Compeer for technology improvements, the college also received a \$220,000 state grant from the Illinois Capital Development Board for the greenhouse renovations.

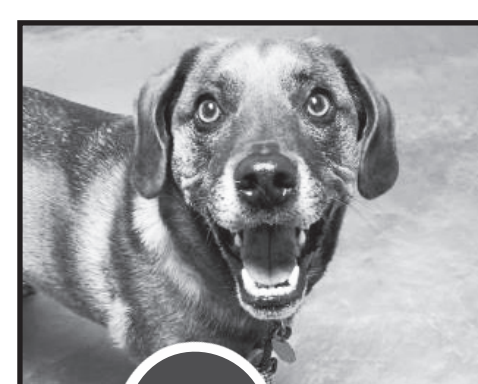
The horticulture program offers specialized certificates in several

fields, including floral horticulture, greenhouse and garden center, landscape design and plant ID, turf management, hemp and cannabis cultivation and sustainable horticulture. Students can also build on one or several certificates to earn an Associate in Applied Science degree. In addition to horticul-

ture, Kish offers several ag-related programs like agribusiness, precision agriculture and diesel power technology.

To learn more about horticulture at Kish, visit [kish.edu/horticulture](http://kish.edu/horticulture). To learn more about Compeer Financial's Agriculture & Rural Initiative, visit [www.compeer.com](http://www.compeer.com).

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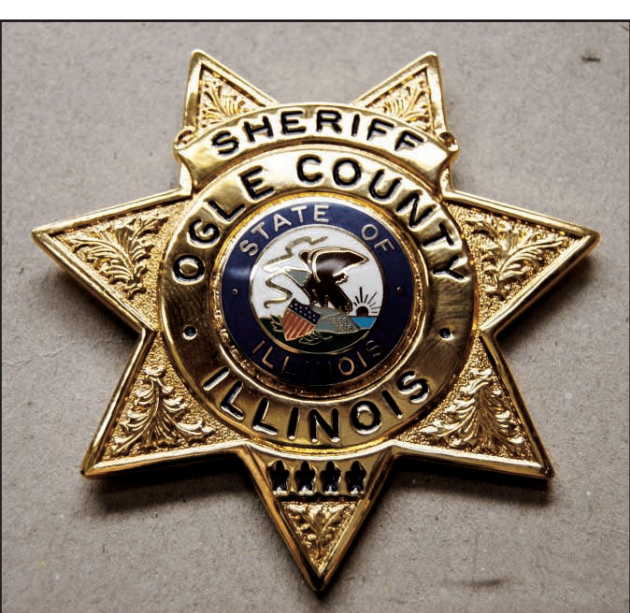
# LOCAL NEWS

## Ogle County Sheriff's Department

### Sheriff's deputies respond to two-vehicle personal injury accident

**OREGON** — On April 28 at approximately 12:27 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop at Pecatonica Road and Montague Road. After further investigation, Jason Maynard of Winnebago was arrested for driving while license revoked. Maynard was transported to the Ogle County Jail in lieu of bond. Jason was also cited for illegal transportation of alcohol.

On April 29 at approximately 5:50 p.m. deputies, along with Polo Fire Department, were dispatched to a two-vehicle personal injury accident at the intersection of West Pines Road and South Lowell Park Road. A preliminary investigation determined a blue 2017 Honda Civic operated by Elizabeth J. Henderson, 20, of Loves Park was traveling south on Lowell Park Road. The blue Honda disregarded the stop sign at Pines Road, striking a silver 2018 Chrysler Pacifica, operated by John R. McCormick, 74, of Sterling. The blue Honda then struck two signs before entering the southeast ditch, overturning, and then coming to a rest on its passenger side. The silver Chrysler entered the south ditch, east of the intersection, before coming to a rest. Henderson was transported to KSB Hospital in Rockford by REACT Helicopter for life-threatening injuries. McCormick was transported to KSB Hospital in Dixon for non-life-threatening injuries. A passenger of the silver Chrysler,



Julie R. McCormick, 74, of Sterling was transported to KSB Hospital in Dixon by Mt. Morris EMS. Henderson was arrested for driving under the influence of drugs, and issued an I-bond at the hospital. Henderson was also issued a citation for disregarding an official traffic control device. Polo Fire/EMS and Mt. Morris Fire/EMS assisted deputies at the scene. The accident remains under investigation.

On April 29 at approximately 5:30 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 1,500 block of North Illinois Route 2. After brief investigation, deputies arrested Robert Crenshaw, 49, of Rockford, for no valid driver's license. Crenshaw was given an I-bond with a return court date later this month, and released from the scene.

On April 29 at approximately 3:40 p.m. deputies, along with Dixon Rural Fire Department responded to a single-vehicle crash with injuries in the 7,600 block of South Illinois Route-26.

After an investigation, it was determined that a red Jeep Liberty, driven by Bridgette Falk, 50, of Polo, was travelling southeast on Illinois Route 26. The Jeep then left the roadway and entered the southwest ditch. The Jeep struck a concrete culvert in the ditch and came to rest. Falk was treated by Dixon Rural Fire and transported to a nearby hospital for her injuries.

On April 30 at approximately 5:53 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop near the intersection of Illinois Route 251 and East Illinois Route 64. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Adan Gonzalez-Ortega, 29, of New Milford, for no valid driver's license. Gonzalez-Ortega was also issued citations for no splash guards and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Gonzalez-Ortega was given an I-Bond with a return court date later next month and he was released from the scene.

On May 1 at 11:05 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 at mile marker 103 north bound for a traffic violation. After an investigation, Manuel A. Martinez, 35, of Fond Du Lac, Wisconsin, was arrested for no valid driver's license. Manuel was also issued citations for following too closely, operating an uninsured motor vehicle and expired registration. Martinez was released on a signature I-Bond and given a return court date.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

### Section 2 FFA elects new officer team

On April 26, the Section 2 FFA banquet was held in Rochelle and a new section officer team was elected. The new team includes Kelton Schwamberger (president), Emma Dinges (vice president), Natalie Pratt (reporter), Bruce Gehrke (secretary), Ally Cytrych (treasurer) and Megan Seebach (sentinel).

### Art group offers glass workshop

**OREGON** — Eagle's Nest Art Group is offering a workshop for beginners in the art of glass work on Saturday, May 28 from 9 a.m. to noon at its Conover Square Mall second-floor studio in Oregon at 201 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street.

This workshop is open to the public; membership in ENAG is not required. Participants will be guided by glass artist Valerie Butcher who will explain the tools and glass types needed to create a four-by-four-inch trinket tray.

The cost is \$30 which includes all materials, tools, and the double "firing" of each tray. Workshop size is limited so that participants can receive individual attention.

Participants must wear closed-toed shoes since they will be nipping, grinding and handling small pieces of glass.

Deadline to register is Monday, May 23. Register for the workshop by contacting Valerie at (815) 626-1423 or vabutcher@comcast.net. Please sign up soon since space is limited.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Eagle's Nest Art Group is offering a workshop for beginners in the art of glass work on Saturday, May 28 from 9 a.m. to noon at its Conover Square Mall second-floor studio in Oregon at 201 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> St.

### Online registration for RTHS classes now open

**ROCHELLE** — Online school registration for the 2022-2023 school year is open at Rochelle Township High School.

Parents of incoming freshmen will receive an email from Skyward (RTHS information management system) to the primary email account the school received from your student's previous school. Some messages may end up in spam folders, so check there as well for the important message.

If you do not receive an email please contact wwise@rthsd212.org to register an alternative email address.

In Sunday's email, you will receive your Skyward username, which is typically your first and last name together without a space, and a link to set your password. After you follow the link and your password is set you can log into Skyward and start the registration process.

Additional instructions and walkthroughs of the registration process are available on the RTHS website at <https://rthsd212.org/registration-information>.

## Rochelle Police Department

### Man arrested on county warrant

**ROCHELLE** — On April 29 at 9:17 p.m. Dalton Thomas, 19, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. He paid \$476 and was released with no court date listed.

On May 2 at 11:41 p.m. Carmen Rios-Avevedo, 27, of DeKalb was cited for operation of vehicle with suspended plates. She was released on an I-Bond and given a June 3 Rochelle court date.

### 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

## FARM: OCFB's Kern details current farming conditions

From page 1

High fuel prices have negatively affected Ogle County farmers as well. A lot of farmers buy their fuel on contract, but when those contracts were renewed this year, prices had already started to get high, Kern said.

"Guys are sort of getting a double whammy in dealing with fuel prices and other things," Kern said.

To combat a multitude of issues today, Kern said it's his hope that Ogle County farmers have good marketing and management strategies and a good lender that understands the issue so farmers can manage their way through the issues.

"A lot of it is us may-be coming into a perfect



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**High fuel prices have negatively affected Ogle County farmers as well. A lot of farmers buy their fuel on contract, but when those contracts were renewed this year, prices had already started to get high, Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said.**

storm of issues," Kern said. "Inputs are high, fuel prices are high. And input

prices aren't going down. I don't know if we've ever seen supply chain issues

like we are today. We've never had a pandemic. Everything that's normal

isn't normal anymore. It's hard to plan for the abnormal. You can play what if

until the cows come home. Things just aren't as easily managed today."

## 4-H Camp counselors impact youth in positive ways

**POLO**—Twenty local teens will soon be serving as 4-H Camp Counselors for over 100 youth for the 2022 4-H Day Camp in Polo. While camp is an amazing way to teach younger youth to make good decisions, learn to be independent, make life-long friendships, and gain new skills, the experience for camp counselors is just as impactful, if not more. Stepping in as a parent and taking on the responsibility for someone else's child is a powerful experience for our teen counselors who have been participating in mandatory trainings since February.

Because many of our camp counselors have been campers themselves, they understand the impact they can leave on a camper, for life. These teens also gain an appreciation for volunteerism and devote over 200 hours of their time to train, plan, and participate in the counselor experience. Collin Conderman, a counselor alumnus, related to his past counselor experiences by saying, "It made me realize that my actions can impact numerous people even in the smallest ways. It showed me how 4-H brings people together to learn by doing."

The opportunity to also build life skills like employability, responsibility, character, caring, and respect are also take-a-ways for these teenage counselors. Thomas Eden, a counselor alumnus had this to say about her experience as a camp counselor, "This experience has helped me realize what I want to do in life. I have made so many new friends that I know will last a lifetime. Overall camp counseling is a great experience for everyone."

Johnna Jennings, University of Illinois Extension 4-H & Youth Development Unit educator adds, "Our camp counselors are very dedicated and committed individuals, that are big believers in that 4-H camp experience for youth. They know the joys of 4-H camp and realize that many campers are looking forward to that one week this summer. The counselors work hard to make sure the youth are safe, healthy, and having a good time. These teen counselors are not getting paid to serve in this role, but instead, they are volunteering their time and talent to be trained to be the best possible counselors. What the teens do get in exchange for their

time is the development of tremendous leadership skills, the ability to work well with others, enhanced communication skills, and the admiration from our 4-H campers and camp staff for a job well done. We are thrilled to have so many wonderful teen counselors on our team for this year's 4-H camp."

A study conducted by the 4-H Camp staff with counselors and counselor alumni indicated that the top five skills counselors develop as a result of their training and on-the-job experiences are: to work with others as a team, to act as leaders by setting an example, how to make real, life-long friends, the importance of being prepared and to be responsible for the care of children.

The 2022 4-H Camp counselor team is ready for a fun-filled camp! Counselors include Armando Batista (Pecatonica), Carson Conderman (Byron), Grace Costello (Stillman Valley), Allison Duggan (Thomson), Paige Dykstra (Fulton), Katie Eggemeyer (Morrison), Jenna Haas

(Stockton), Carissa Hinderman (Warren), Quinn James (Morrison), Ashton Miller (Galena), Lucas Odle (Paw Paw), Maggie Penate (Sycamore), Gracie Prose (Oregon), Sarah and Ellie Rothermel (Durand), Campbell Russo (Rockford), Dawson Stache (Rock City), Logan Tesendorf (Freeport), Haley

Thies (Baileyville) and Hannah Zinke (Morrison).

4-H Day Camp is set for June 14, 15, and 16 at Rock River Christian Camp in Polo. Youth may choose to participate in all three days of camp or attend the dates that work best in their schedule. 4-H Camp is open to all boys and girls, ages 8-14 by June

14. 4-H membership is not required; however, all participants will be expected to comply with the same high behavior standards expected of 4-Hers. Youth need to be interested and excited to have a day of outdoor fun, away from television and technology.

The cost each day is \$70. All camp fees must

be paid in full by May 27. Download a camper application online or register online at: <https://extension.illinois.edu/bdo/northern-illinois-4-h-camp>. You may also call an office near you: Jo Daviess County at 815-858-2273; Ogle County Extension at 815-732-2191; or Whiteside Counties at 815-632-3611.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

**Twenty local teens will soon be serving as 4-H Camp Counselors for over 100 youth for the 2022 4-H Day Camp in Polo.**

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11/04/2020

### WHO IS UNITY HOSPICE?

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07/01/2020



### 10th Annual LINCOLN HWY CAR SHOW

Franklin Grove, Illinois  
Saturday, May 7, 2022  
9:00 am - 3:00 pm



#### 7 CLASSES!

Car 1900 - 1949  
Car 1950 - 1973  
Car 1974 - 1999  
Car 2000 - Present  
Rat Rod  
Truck  
People's Choice

**3 AWARDS PER CLASS!**  
(awards based on point judging)

\*50/50 Drawing\*  
\*Music by 3-D Sound\*

\*Company Vendor Booths Available\*  
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#### Registration

By April 8, 2022 - \$10  
Day of Show - \$12  
Day of Show Registration 9 - 12.  
\*Judging begins at 12:00.\*

04/20/2022

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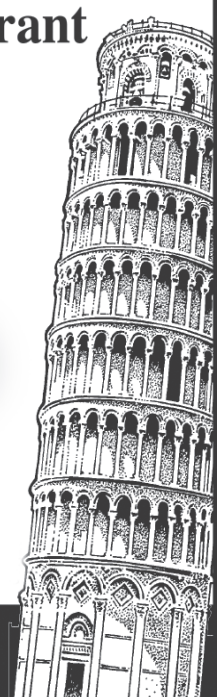
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2 Large, 2-Topping

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# LOCAL VIEWS

## Guest column

## Twitter: The alleged free speech platform

LATELY we have been privy to exhaustive discussions about Twitter, who is buying it, what he plans to do with it and whether it is truly a bastion of free speech. So what is Twitter? Twitter is a kind of social network platform on the internet where users post short messages limited to around 300 characters or 140 seconds of video or audio. According to the American Heritage Dictionary, a definition of twitter is “light, tremulous speech or laughter” (gibberish). The short posted messages are called tweets. If a user posts a message, it is said that that person tweeted out a message. If you get a tweet and want to share it with others, sending it out is called a retweet.

Twitter was created in 2006 by Jack Dorsey, Noah Glass, Biz Stone and Evan Williams. It was intended to be a short messaging service (SMS) where users could discuss various issues freely - essentially a digital town square. Twitter has become a significant way of communicating with people. In 2012 there were over 100 million users generating 340 million tweets per day. A user has the option of seeing what a particular person is saying by following that person, hence a follower.

Currently the person with the most followers is President Obama, who has over 100 million followers. Whatever he tweets, the followers get the message. Because of the popularity of Twitter (fourth most visited website on the internet) tweets from important or well-known people are viewed as official statements and are often deemed influential.

President Trump (who had over 85 million followers) tweeted over 25,000 times while president, bypassing unfavorable media and going directly to the people. Even those who are not on Twitter hear about tweets through reports from national news media.

Twitter also has the capability of magnifying the number of tweets using bots. A bot is a form of spam software that spits out several tweets associated with one

individual. For example if a politician tweets out a message, there may be thousands of tweets opposing the message. This sounds like huge opposition but can actually be generated by one person using bot software.

According to the Pew Research Center approximately 22 percent of the American public uses Twitter. A small number of Twitter users spit out most of the tweets. Now comes the rub: the free speech police. Twitter free speech policies called “content moderation” have been evolving in favor of ideas harbored by those running the platform. They preach tolerance but are often intolerant of different views; consequently opposing views are frequently banned.

For instance, during the past election, President Trump was banned from Twitter based on what the Twitter police determined was improper speech. Yet the Ayatollah Ali Khamenei, notorious for using his Twitter accounts to incite hate (death to America, etc.), violence and outright lying, is allowed on the platform.

It is apparent that an ideology has developed among those in control of Twitter which results in banning individuals who tweet contrary to their philosophy. This has turned off many users who have left the platform because of the limitations on free speech and have gone to competitors such as Parler or Gab.

Now enter the richest man in the world (Elon Musk) who has, at this time, purchased the company. Mr. Musk has been known to be politically neutral and believes in free speech, which is restricted at Twitter. He says he wants to clean up the biased policies and the fake accounts at Twitter that tend to be more influential than they really are, by making the platform more transparent.

Those in charge at Twitter have expressed concern that they may have lost control of a media platform as a result of Elon Musk’s intent of reinstating free speech. In the past, they have controlled the discussion by eliminating the presentation of alternative ideas. Good luck, Mr. Musk!



Chuck Roberts

## Letter to the Editor

## May is Mental Health Awareness Month

Dear Editor,

With May being Mental Health Awareness Month and considering all the violent events of last year and so on, CONTACT wanted to reach out to let everyone know there are resources and help available; we are just a phone call away. If you believe or even think you or someone you know is going through a crisis and need a listening ear, please call the CONTACT 24-hour helpline, where we are ready to listen and offer any resources we can.

There are about 40 million Americans, who are affected by anxiety disorders, 18 percent of Americans are experiencing a mental health disorder,

equivalent to over 45 million Americans (Mental Health America, 2021). Illinois ranks: number eight for mental health disabilities, number 31 for substance abuse, number five for thoughts of suicide (which has increased to over 450,000 since 2019), number 37 at 10 percent for teens with severe depression episodes (that are reported) and number 37 for substance abuse among teens (Mental Health America, 2021). We all know these numbers are dangerously under reported, as mental health is still considered taboo to speak about. Did you know that just in Stephenson County members of the Medi-

care population are 25 percent, while Illinois is 17 percent for depression (FHN’s Community Health Assessment, 2019)? This is not surprising, but more needs to be done.

CONTACT would like to be a guide and a resource for those in need. We are here to serve you! You do not have to suffer alone; you can have your loved ones stay in their homes without worrying about them through our Reassurance Program. Remember help is just a phone call away; please call 815-233-4357 (HELP). We are waiting to listen and help. Thank you.

Amber Macklin  
CONTACT of Northern Illinois  
executive director



## Farm input prices and their bottom line effect

THERE was much consternation this past winter concerning farm input prices and their bottom line effect on farm income. I will share with you an AFBF Market Intel report that does a great job of explaining the correlation.

### Revenue

The farmer revenue equation is quite simple: the price of the commodity times the quantity of the commodity produced. When estimating a crop farmer’s revenue per acre, simply multiply the expected yield per acre by the harvest price of the crop produced. For a livestock farmer, revenue is generated for each head of livestock produced times the price received at the point of sale. Market revenues for both crop and livestock farmers vary based on price fluctuations. At the very core of economics, a commodity is an economic good that has full or substantial interchangeability, meaning it is fundamentally the same no matter who produced it and where it is produced. Given the nature of commodity markets, price is fully dependent on how much supply is in the market and what amount of demand intersects that supply point. Thus, individual farmers have no control or say in the price they receive for their commodities; farmers and ranchers are price-takers.

### Production expenses

Though the revenue side of a farmer’s balance sheet may be simple, the expense side, or the cost of production, is far from simple. For farmers, production expenses cover everything from input costs, like operating costs and variable costs, to fixed costs. Input costs are the operating costs for a farm that require upfront purchases necessary to begin production. These are items such as fertilizer, pesticides, seeds, weaned animals, feed and any other production input. Variable costs are costs that will change depending on the amount of consumption on a farm or ranch and include items like fuel and oil, electricity, labor (hired and custom), repairs and maintenance, water use and storage. Fixed costs are costs that must be paid but are not dependent on the level of production.

These include operator labor, machinery, taxes, asset depreciation/capital consumption, rent and interest expenses. Chemicals and fertilizer continue to make up the largest share of on-farm expenditures, up to 17.5%, while fuels remain the lowest share, representing 3% of total on-farm expenditures.

When USDA estimates net cash income, the net difference between revenues and expenses, cash expenses include feed purchased, labor, livestock and poultry, fertilizer and lime, crop seed, net rent to landlords, pesticides, property taxes and fees, fuel and oil, interest on real estate and non-real estate, electricity and other intermediate expenses. “Other intermediate expenses,” typically the largest category of expenses, includes unexpected costs, making them often the most difficult to budget for. For example, while you can expect a few

unexpected events during planting season, it is difficult to estimate and budget for the planter to break down in the middle of a field and know what the repair costs plus labor could potentially be. That “other intermediate expenses” category also includes items like machine hire and custom work, marketing/ storage/ transportation of commodities, repair and maintenance, insurance premiums, irrigation and miscellaneous expenses associated with running a farm.

Diving deeper, USDA data is indicating that production expenses continue to rise into 2022. Just from 2021 to 2022, USDA estimates total production expenses to increase 5%; that’s after a 9% increase from 2020 to 2021. When looking closer at intermediate production expenses, like farm-origin and manufactured inputs, as well as others, this category is expected to increase 6% from 2021 to 2022, after a 12% increase from 2020 to 2021. The largest expected production expense increase in 2022 is fertilizer, increasing 12% from 2021 to 2022, after a 17% increase from 2020 to 2021. An interesting note is a potential shift away from renting ground, as rents decrease from 2021 to 2022 by 6%, and farmers transition to owning real estate, as shown by an 11% increase in real estate interest expenses from 2021 to 2022.



Ron Kern

## How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

## KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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



# COMMUNITY

## Man sentenced to combined 30 years for predatory criminal sexual assault of a child

**OREGON** — Ogle County State's Attorney Mike Rock announced on April 27 that Eric Simpson, 38, was sentenced to a combined 30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections for multiple counts of predatory criminal sexual assault of a child. The Ogle County State's Attorney Office and the Dekalb County State's Attorney Office jointly prosecuted the

defendant. On March 8, 2020, officers from the DeKalb Police Department met with the family of L.S. (age 17) and began an investigation that determined that L.S. had been sexually assaulted by the defendant for a number of years in both Ogle and Dekalb Counties. The case was reviewed by both the Ogle County and Dekalb County State's Attorney's Of-

fices and charges were authorized. Predatory criminal sexual assault of a child is a class X felony with a sentencing range of 6-30 years in the Illinois Department of Corrections followed by three years to natural life of mandatory supervised release. Truth in sentencing applies and the defendant will serve at least 85 percent of his sentence.



Eric Simpson



### Enbridge, Inc. donates to Kishwaukee College welding and engineering

Representatives from Enbridge, Inc., a longtime donor to the Kishwaukee College Foundation, stopped by Kish recently to donate a \$5,000 scholarship and share their expertise during a welding demonstration. The Kishwaukee College Alumni Community thanked Enbridge for attending and for the continued support of Kish's welding and engineering programs. To learn more about welding at Kish, visit [kish.edu/welding](http://kish.edu/welding).

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

#### May 4

Susan Morris  
Fred Koch

#### May 5

John & Kris Oleson  
Diana Dickey  
Troy & Minia Waters

#### May 6

Abbie Overstreet  
Kane Cromwell  
Kevin & Courtney South

#### May 7

Barb Aleman  
Darah Bridgeman

#### May 8

Ashley Komadina

#### May 10

Nanci Flynn  
Larry & Beverly Flanagan

#### May 11

Norm & Jennie McLaughlin

#### May 12

Bill & Mary Baskins  
Elizabeth Jerdee

#### May 14

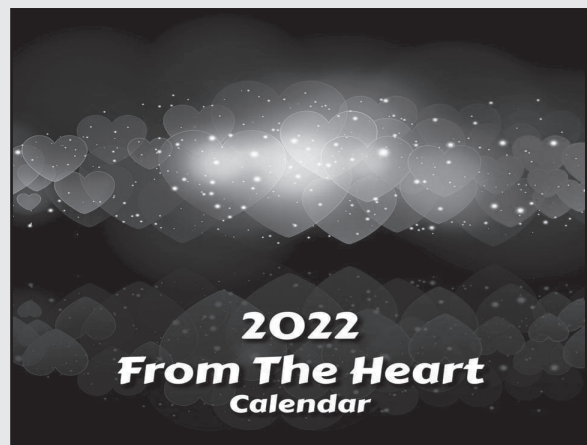
Bethany Steverwald

#### May 15

David Menez

#### May 16

Kathy Conant  
Ray & Valerie Newton



April 8 - Michelle Gittleston, Rochelle, \$25

April 9 - Debbi Ramsey, Rochelle \$25

April 10 - John Slattengren, Rochelle, \$50

April 11 - Chuck Watkins, Rochelle, \$25

April 12 - Ashley Peck, Rochelle, \$25

April 13 - Zech VanVickle, Rochelle, \$25

April 14 - Jessica Johnson, Rochelle, \$25

April 15 - Mary Gensler, Rochelle, \$25

April 16 - Betty Henley, Rochelle, \$25

April 17 - Rochelle Hospitality, \$50

April 18 - Sarah Flanagan, Rochelle, \$25

April 19 - Karen Marsh, Stillman Valley, \$25

April 20 - Kathleen Fuller, Rochelle, \$25

April 21 - Tracy Draper, Rochelle, \$25

April 22 - Sherry Good, Rochelle, \$25

April 23 - Jan Devore, DeKalb, \$25

April 24 - Paula Heitter, Byron, \$50

April 25 - Mildred Danekas, \$25

April 26 - Mandy Tilton, Rochelle, \$25

April 27 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25

April 28 - Stephanie Williams, Rochelle, \$25

April 29 - Dr. Lonn, DeKalb, \$25

April 30 - Jeff Fiegenschuh, Rochelle, \$25

May 1 - Jeffrey Birr, Rochelle, \$50

May 2 - Heather Fenwick, Broadhead, Wis., \$25

May 3 - Kathleen Wayman, Oregon, \$25

May 4 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25



## Coffee Break

### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Knock
- 4 "The Thin Man" dog
- 8 Tabloid writing
- 12 Post-op area
- 13 Pace
- 14 Alike (Fr.)
- 15 Sushi fish
- 17 "Hi, sailor!"
- 18 "Burnt" crayon color
- 19 Melody
- 21 Ordinal suffix
- 22 Game fish
- 26 Looks intently
- 29 Chaps
- 30 Man-mouse link
- 31 Has bills
- 32 — de deux
- 33 Mythical birds
- 34 Capote nickname
- 35 Stable diet?
- 36 Hill of "Moneyball"
- 37 Raw bar mollusk
- 39 Impose
- 40 Ms. Thurman
- 41 Tristan's love
- 45 Tibia's place
- 48 Saltwater fish
- 50 Mata —
- 51 Hotel chain
- 52 Hot tub
- 53 Rhyming tributes

1	2	3		4	5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15				16					17			
18							19	20				
			21				22			23	24	25
26	27	28				29				30		
31					32				33			
34				35			36					
37			38				39					
			40				41			42	43	44
45	46	47				48	49					
50						51				52		
53						54				55		

- 54 Lake bird
- 55 Fixed
- DOWN
- 1 Eyeglass frames
- 2 Antioxidant berry
- 3 Brownish purple
- 4 Reps
- 5 Jazzy Vaughan
- 6 Dead heat
- 7 Country stores?
- 8 June birth-
- stone
- 9 "This tastes awful!"
- 10 Asian language
- 11 Layer
- 16 Leg joints
- 20 Author Fleming
- 23 Earth orbiter
- 24 Killer whale
- 25 "One-L lama" poet
- 26 Attend
- 27 Wrong
- 28 Jupiter counterpart
- 29 Spring month
- 32 Sunshade
- 33 Copter blade
- 35 Skirt edge
- 36 Singer Timberlake
- 38 North African capital
- 39 Steinway product
- 42 Privation
- 43 Hoodwink
- 44 Coup d' —
- 45 HBO rival
- 46 Possessed
- 47 Hot temper
- 49 Comic Philips

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: F equals G

B FYNGGAR KBFSKCJ KT KSA  
GNQW TL KSNK FDJ'U LTTK  
YACAVKCAUUCJ, DVKBC NK CNUK  
SA QYBAR "NVWCA!"

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45
46	47	48	49	50	51	52	53	54
55	56	57	58	59	60	61	62	63
64	65	66	67	68	69	70	71	72
73	74	75	76	77	78	79	80	81

Answers

King Crossword

he cried "Ankle!"  
relentlessly, until at last  
back of that guy's foot  
I grabbed tightly to the  
answer  
CryptoQuip





# Teacher Appreciation Week

 *May 3-7*



## Rochelle Township High School Staff

### AGRICULTURE

Donna Page – Chair

### ART

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# SPORTS



## GRECO STATE MEDALISTS

Several local wrestlers competed at the USAW Greco-Roman state meet.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Softball

# Seniors shine in win

Lady Hubs celebrate Senior Night with 2-1 home victory over Sandwich

ROCHELLE—MeLi-sa Young and her senior teammates on the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team wanted at least one more win on their home field. The girls had their chance to come through during Monday’s Interstate 8 Conference matchup against Sandwich.

Junior Addie Friestad homered and scored two runs for the Lady Hubs, who played strong defense and delivered a timely late-inning hit to defeat the Indians 2-1 on Senior Night. The victory allowed Rochelle (3-9, 2-7 Interstate 8) to split the home-and-home set with Sandwich.

“We wanted to come out and give our best effort because we wanted to win on Senior Night,” Young said. “It’s one of the last times we’ll ever play here and we want to go out with a bang. I think we’re improving with each game and even though we had a shaky start to the season, I think our hitting has gotten stronger and our defense has improved a lot. We have to continue to be strong in the field and have good at-bats. I think those two things will take us really far.”

Junior Morgan Smardo shined in the pitcher’s circle for the Lady Hubs, throwing a complete game with seven strikeouts and holding Sandwich to two hits. Friestad’s home run in the bottom of the third inning gave Rochelle a 1-0 lead in the game, but the Indians responded when Breanna Sexton belted a solo shot of her own to lead off the top of the fourth in-



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

**The Rochelle Lady Hub softball team celebrated its senior class before taking on the Sandwich Indians in Interstate 8 Conference play Monday. Above from left to right are Leslie Rodriguez, manager Megan Thompson, Regan Underwood, Lauren Jackson, MeLisa Young, Jordin Dickey and Ashley Knight.**

ning and tie the score.

Looking for the go-ahead run, Rochelle opened the bottom of the fifth inning with a base hit from Friestad, who lifted a single into shallow right field to open the frame. After Friestad advanced on a passed ball, junior Layla Pelan stepped in and slapped a hard grounder through the third-base slide, allowing Friestad to score and put the Lady Hubs ahead 2-1. Senior Lauren Jackson and sophomore Ella Alfano each singled as well, but Rochelle couldn’t add more runs.

Smardo settled in over the final two innings, totaling three strikeouts and allowing only one Sandwich runner on base. Rochelle celebrated seven seniors prior to the game including manager Megan Thompson, MeLisa Young, Jordin Dickey, Ashley Knight, Regan Underwood, Lauren Jackson and Leslie Rodriguez.

“We’ve been struggling this year, but I felt like we really came together today,” Knight said. “Our fielding was good and our hitting has been a lot better. We have more games to

play, but it’s a good feeling to win on Senior Night. It’s a big confidence booster for us, especially with the regional coming up, but it feels good to know that we can win and we’re capable of winning. The seniors are doing our best to put in the work and be role models for the younger girls.”

## Oregon

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team took on Oregon in a nonconference matchup Friday evening, falling 12-1 with the game stopping after four innings due to rain. Senior

MeLisa Young tripled to lead the Rochelle offense in the loss.

## Morris

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team concluded its home-and-home set against Morris this past Thursday, falling 11-0 and conceding the two-game Interstate 8 Conference series.

Morris starter Kylee Claypool held the Lady Hubs hitless over the first five innings. Junior Layla Pelan broke through during the bottom of the sixth inning, pulling a single

through the third-base side for Rochelle’s first hit of the afternoon. Senior Ashley Knight sent a single through the first-base side in the bottom of the seventh inning, but the Lady Hubs were unable to score.

## Kaneland

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity softball team faced Kaneland on the road for an Interstate 8 Conference matchup this past Wednesday evening, falling 10-0 and finishing with one hit in the loss. Senior MeLisa Young recorded a single for the Lady Hubs.

RTHS Baseball

# Hubs shut out in Friday finale against Morris

Rochelle held to five hits as Redskins sweep Interstate 8 series with 4-0 win

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team endured rain and wind during Friday’s Interstate 8 Conference home-and-home series finale against Morris. Despite totaling five hits, Rochelle was unable to break through on offense, falling 4-0 and conceding a two-game sweep.

Senior Braden Alfano started on the mound, cruising through the first four innings with eight strikeouts while allowing only one hit and one unearned run. Senior Josh Lloyd entered in relief, throwing the final three innings and adding two strikeouts. Morris went ahead 1-0 in the top of the fourth inning, where Keegan Waters plated Jack Wheeler with an RBI single up the middle.

The Redskins added two runs in the top of the fifth

inning. Ryan Fischer led off the frame with a walk before scoring from first base on a throwing error. Griffin Zweeres drew a bases-loaded walk later in the frame to score Aidan Romak, who reached base on a single.

An RBI double from Wheeler brought AJ Zweeres home for the Redskins in the top of the seventh inning. Waters threw a complete-game shutout for Morris, recording seven strikeouts.

Senior Andy Buskohl reached base twice for the Hubs (5-8, 4-6 Interstate 8), finishing 1-for-2 with a double and a walk. Senior Owen Angell also finished 1-for-2 with a double and a walk for the Rochelle offense. Junior Noah Lara, senior Nate Burdin and Alfano each went 1-for-3 with a single.



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

**Senior Owen Angell (left) doubled and walked in the Rochelle Hub varsity baseball team’s home loss to Morris on Friday. Senior Braden Alfano (right) pitched four innings, striking out eight batters and allowing one hit.**





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# HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTOS BY MARA BAKER)

Nehemiah Andronic (left) and Roman Villalobos (right) each brought home medals from the 2022 USAW Illinois Greco-Roman State Championships this past weekend.

## Local athletes medal at USAW Illinois Greco-Roman State Championships

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

**DEKALB**—DeKalb High School hosted the 2022 USAW Illinois Greco-Roman State Championships this past weekend, with several Rochelle-area athletes competing for the Forge Wrestling Club and other local clubs and earning medalist honors in the two-day tournament.

Nehemiah Andronic finished second in the 8U 56 Division and Graham Kaskavage finished second in the 10U 59 Division. William Julian took third in the 14U 106 Division with a 1-2 record, scoring a 58-second fall win against Beat the Streets wrestler Josiah Willis.

Brandin Kirk took sixth in the 14U 136 Division and Tommy Tourdot did not place in the 16U 106 Division. Xavier Villalobos placed fourth in the 16U 120 Division with a 2-2 record, defeating unattached wrestler Brenden Rayl by 12-2 technical fall and Little Huskies Wrestling Club's Ruben Acevedo by 10-0 technical fall. Jackson Norris did not place in the 16U 126 Division.

Kaiden Morris finished first in the 16U 220 Division with a 3-0 record. Morris opened the tournament with a fall over Illinois American Gladiators wrestler Leonardo Tovar before scoring a 9-0 technical fall over Hurricane Wrestling Club's Travis Moore. Morris clinched the divisional championship with an 8-0 technical fall against unattached wrestler Henry Wurl.

**nWo**

Roman Villalobos finished first in the 14U 165 Division with a 2-0 record. Villalobos took down Beat the Streets wrestler Ismael



(PHOTO BY MARA BAKER)

William Julian (left) and Kaiden Morris (right) show off their medals from the 2022 USAW Illinois Greco-Roman State Championships this past weekend.

Martinez by 10-1 technical fall before sealing the divisional title with an 11-8 decision over Relentless Training Center's Blake Livdahl. Frank Nasca took fourth in the 14U 125 Division and Brenden Voight did not place in the 14U 149 Division.

**Hurricane WC**

Phinehas Nadig finished first in the 8U 70 Division with a 2-0 record, defeating Evanston School of Wrestling's Wells Kustok by fall and Hayes Kustok by 8-0 technical fall. Elijah Nadig placed third in the 12U 67 Division and Benjamin Nadig took fourth in the 14U 97 Division with a 1-2 record, scoring a 9-6 decision over Fox Lake Wrestling Club's Larry Quirk. Joseph Nadig went 1-2 in the 16U 120 Division, beating Alpha Wrestling Club's Izayah Olejniczak by fall.

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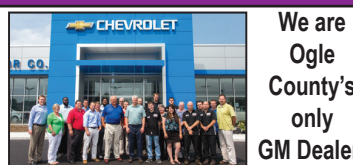
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# SPORTS

## RMS Track & Field

### Royals face DeKalb Huntley, Belvidere South

Rochelle Middle School continues North Central Junior Conference action

**DEKALB** — The Rochelle Middle School track and field teams battled DeKalb Huntley and Belvidere South on Tuesday, April 26. The seventh-grade boys finished second with 49.5 points and the seventh-grade girls took second with 34.5 points. The eighth-grade boys placed third with 29 points and the eighth-grade girls finished third with 23 points in the three-school meet.

#### 7th Girls

Sixth-grader Karli Klavanga finished second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:21.67. Cali Zies and sixth-grader Audrina Rodriguez placed third and fourth in the 800-meter run with respective times of 3:43.43 and 3:46.14. Sixth-grader Carol Carpenter and Jizell Cantu finished first and second in the 1600-meter run with respective times of 6:27.47 and 6:28.54.

Jasmine Walsh took second in the 100-meter hurdles with a time of 19.97 seconds. Rochelle's 400-meter relay team (Zoe Norberto, Bezzali Cadenas, Josselyn Ortega and Rodriguez) finished third with a time of 1:10.80. The 800-meter relay team (Paris Washington, Adyson Carter, Abby Losoya and Zies) finished third with a time of 2:22.81. The 1600-meter relay team (Klavanga, Norberto, Vanessa Ortiz and Loreley Gonzalez) placed third with a time of 5:44.00.

Rodriguez won the shot put with a throw of 20 feet

5 inches. Losoya placed second in the discus with a throw of 37 feet 5 inches and Carpenter took second in the high jump with a leap of 3 feet 8 inches. Vivian Worthington placed third in the triple jump at 17 feet 5 ½ inches.

#### 7th Boys

Eliud Lombardia finished second in the 100-meter dash with a time of 13.64 seconds and Victor Lombardia took third in the 200-meter dash with a time of 28.25 seconds. Montre Kelsaw placed fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:17.98 and Alejandro Pellicer finished second in the 800-meter run with a time of 3:03.88. Mason Ludwig placed second in the 1600-meter run with a time of 6:02.72 and Devin Macek took second in the 110-meter hurdles at 20.16 seconds.

Rochelle's 400-meter relay team (Angel Hernandez, Eliud Lombardia, Victor Lombardia and Macek) finished second with a time of 56.03 seconds. The 800-meter relay team (German Albertson, Pellicer, Macek and Pedro Rosales) won with a time of 2:00.84. The 1600-meter relay team (Albertson, Ludwig, Aaron DeClerck and Eliud Lombardia) won in 4:49.67.

Victor Lombardia finished second in the discus with a throw of 79 feet 3 inches. Macek and Zach Smith went first and second in the high jump with clearances of 4 feet 8 inches and



Carol Carpenter (left) and Valerie Saldana (right) race to the finish line during the Rochelle Middle School track and field meet against DeKalb Huntley and Belvidere South this past Tuesday.

4 feet 2 inches. DeClerck won the triple jump with a distance of 25 feet.

#### 8th Girls

Ryelee Bogle took fourth in the 100-meter dash with a time of 15.35 seconds and Valerie Saldana finished fourth in the 200-meter dash with a time of 31.76 seconds. Christina Jones placed second in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:21.05 and Brittany Ibarra took second in the 800-meter run with a time of 3:18.61. Saldana won the 1600-meter run in 6:32.92.

Rochelle's 800-meter

relay team (Kyrie Cragin, Bogle, Ashley Dickey and Saldana) finished second with a time of 2:18.51. Rochelle's 1600-meter relay team (Keirra Clark, Jones, Jaydin Dickey and Savanna Wilson) took third with a time of 6:13.00. Jazlynn Quinonez took fourth in the discus with a throw of 37 feet 11 inches and Cragin placed fourth in the high jump with a clearance of 3 feet 8 inches. Bogle finished second in the triple jump at 25 feet 5 inches.

#### 8th Boys

Kevin Orozco took third



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

in the 100-meter dash with a time of 12.39 seconds and Orozco finished second in the 200-meter dash with a time of 27.54 seconds. Parker Slattengren finished fourth in the 400-meter dash with a time of 1:07.09 and Declan McGee placed second in the 1600-meter run at 5:59.68. Wyatt Worthington took second in the 110-meter hurdles with a time of 20.62 seconds.

Rochelle's 400-meter relay team (Elijah Mayen, Orozco, Owen Tooley and Gabe Montes) finished second with a time of 55.85 seconds. The 800-meter

relay team (Van Gerber, Mayen, Miles Hunley and William Sunderlin) took third with a time of 2:00.04. The 1600-meter relay team (Levi Waddle, McGee, Worthington and Slattengren) placed second with a time of 4:47.86.

Montes took third in the high jump with a clearance of 4 feet 8 inches and Orozco placed second in the long jump with a distance of 15 feet 11 inches. Mark Green and Gerber finished third and fourth in the triple jump with respective distances of 31 feet 6 inches and 29 feet 10 ½ inches.

## RTHS Girls Soccer

### Lady Hubs finish fourth in Interstate 8 tournament

Rochelle varsity team concedes consecutive losses against Sycamore, Morris

**MAPLE PARK** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team finished fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference tournament, which concluded Saturday afternoon at Kaneland High School. Rochelle faced Morris in the third-place

match, falling 5-4 in a hard-fought consolation battle. The Lady Hubs lost 7-0 against Sycamore in the semifinal round Friday evening.

Freshman Makayla Lara led the Lady Hubs with three goals in the match,

while sophomore Sydney Thorne added one goal and sophomore Dani Ward totaled three saves in net. Rochelle (6-9, 4-2 Interstate 8) outshot Morris 20-9 and outpaced the Redskins 14-8 in shots on goal.

The Lady Hubs took the

lead late in the first half, scoring on Lara's first goal of the match during the 32nd minute. Trailing 1-0 at halftime, Morris responded with goals during the 46th and 50th minutes to regain control of the match. Lara connected with an equalizer

during the 64th minute to tie the score at 2-2 before the Redskins fired back with a goal during the 65th minute.

Rochelle refused to back down, with Lara tying the match in the 68th minute and evening the score at 3-3. The seesaw affair continued over

the final stretch, with Morris scoring in the 71st minute and Thorne connecting on a goal during the 73rd minute. The Redskins escaped with the victory, though, putting in the deciding goal during the 78th minute to seal the win.

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# ON THE FARM

## How to support local agriculture this fall

THE global pandemic that has upended daily life has exacted a toll on many industries. Businesses have been asked to close or temporarily scale back operations, while organizers of recreational gatherings have been tasked with reevaluating the practicality and safety of annual events.

Throughout the United States and Canada, autumn fairs, exhibitions and activities provide revenue for many people. But due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, many of these annual events have been postponed, adversely affecting local agricultural industries as a result. Governments in certain places have responded to the cancellations and offered assistance to local farmers and agricultural industries. For example, the Province of Ontario is providing nearly \$1 million to assist organizations that had to cancel fall events due to the coronavirus pandemic. In addition to supporting such efforts, the general public can pitch in to help offset

some of the financial losses accrued by local farms.

Check for virtual events. Some fall fairs or livestock events have been moved to the digital realm. That means competitors who were entering livestock or even home crafts into competitions can still participate. Organizers may ask for videos or photos of entries and then a committee will vote on the winners. This is one way to keep entry fees and even cash prizes moving along.

Support local farms or orchards. Fall is harvest season in many areas, making this a popular time of year to visit nearby farms and to purchase fruits and vegetables directly from the source. Many farms have implemented safety protocols that align with COVID-19 health recommendations to safely welcome visitors. Things may look a little differently at orchards and farms, but smaller crowds and wearing masks should not compromise the fun of picking your own foods.

Explore farm-to-table. Private individuals as well



as restaurant owners can develop relationships with area agriculture producers to increase the availability of farm-to-table offerings. Restaurants can revamp menus to include a greater share of items sourced from nearby farms. Individuals also can rely on produce

stands and farmers' markets to stock their pantries. Some farms may offer delivery and mail-order as well.

Offer financial services. Financial advisors can help farmers who are struggling with finances work through their options. Institutions

may be able to extend the terms of loan repayments, refinance loans, restructure debt, or get credit extensions. Lower interest rates have created some new opportunities farmers may not be aware of. Financial advisors can help farmers navigate an uncertain

financial time.

Farmers and agricultural organizations are facing greater challenges as fall fairs and other events are being canceled. The public can support agriculture in different ways to offset the financial losses stemming from the pandemic.

## Several viable methods to reduce food waste

PERHAPS nothing can spoil an appetite more than a crisper drawer full of fresh vegetables that have taken a turn for the worse. Spoiled food is not just unsafe to eat, but it is also very costly.

The Academy of Nutrition and Dietetics Foundation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture estimate that the average family of four throws out nearly \$1,500 worth of food and beverages each year. That means that, within seven years, the average family has spent more than \$10,000 on food they did not eat.

In recognition of the problems posed by food waste, the National Grange, the oldest farm and food advocacy organization in the United States, aims to create a cultural shift that reduces food waste. Individual consumers can do their part in supporting that shift by taking various steps to reduce food waste in their homes.

Take inventory before going to the grocery store. An inventory of the refrigerator and pantry can help shoppers avoid buying items they already have. This is especially valuable at reducing food waste in regard to perishable items



that can spoil before shoppers have a chance to eat them.

Make a meal plan and grocery list. The Environmental Protection Agency notes that meal plans and accompanying grocery lists help consumers reduce food waste and save money by decreasing the likelihood that they will buy items they won't need

for the meals they plan to eat in the week ahead.

Purchase frozen foods. Organic, fresh vegetables eaten when they are most ripe may be the healthiest way to eat vegetables. However, frozen vegetables still have ample nutritional value, and may even boast a higher nutritional value than off-season, fresh vegetables sold at

the grocery store. That's because frozen fruits and vegetables are picked when they're ripe and then immersed in boiling water to kill bacteria and prevent enzyme activity that can spoil food. They're then immediately flash frozen, a process that typically preserves nutrients. The long shelf life of frozen fruits and vegetables reduces the

likelihood that shoppers will throw them out before eating them. That's not the case with fresh vegetables, which the ANDF and the USDA note account for more than 30 percent of food waste each year.

Wash berries only as you eat them. When eating fresh berries, wait to wash them until you eat them. The risk of mold forming

increases when washing an entire container all at once, whereas only washing the berries as they're eaten increases the likelihood that they won't spoil before they're all eaten.

Food waste is a global problem that can be fixed. And that solution can start in the kitchens of consumers willing to do their part.



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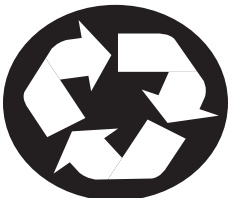
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**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN by the Board of Education of Kings CSD#144 in the county of Ogle, State of Illinois, that will hold a public hearing on Wednesday May 18th, 2022 at 5:45 P.M. at the Kings School located at 100 1st, Kings, IL 61068. The purpose of said hearing will be to receive public comment on a proposed waiver application to 105 ILCS 5/10-20.12a in regard to tuition for non-resident students. The waiver would allow students of Kings employees, currently working for the school district who do not live within the

district boundaries, to attend Kings CSD# 144 and not be required to pay the Per Capita Tuition Charge. Applicable registration fees will still be required to be paid. WE ARE NOTIFYING all citizens of Kings CSD#144 to attend this hearing to give input to the Board regarding the modification to the school code. No. 0515 (May 4)



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