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MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS WEDNESDAY, FEB. 23, 2022 \$1

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Basement fire in Flagg Center

Local fire departments responded to a basement fire at a home in Flagg Center on Monday.

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WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
24 12	27 16

FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
26 13	36 12

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OBITUARIES

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- VIRGINIA MAY GOOD

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Rochelle native reflects on COVID-19 fight

21-year-old braved ventilator, ECMO machine over four months

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Carlie Hamburg and her family celebrated Thanksgiving during mid-February.

That's because from Sept. 29, 2021 until Jan. 28, the Rochelle native was in hospitals and a rehabilitation facility battling and recovering from COVID-19.

Hamburg's story starts with her wedding. On Sept. 18, the 21-year-old married her husband, Brandon. The couple lives in Dixon. On Sept. 24, she went to work and left early because she felt sick. Carlie went to the emergency room that night but was sent home and told to take Tylenol.

Five days later without improvement, Carlie called her mother, Tracy Elder, who works at Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital in DeKalb. She went to the emergency room there and her oxygen levels were in the 50s. She doesn't remember much after that.

"She went straight to the ICU from there," Elder said. "We tried really hard



On Oct. 8, Carlie Hamburg was flown by helicopter to Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and put on an ECMO machine, which takes blood out of a patient's body and puts oxygen in it and takes out carbon dioxide before putting it back into the body. That's how Carlie survived until Christmas Day.

to keep her off the ventilator because we didn't want to put her on one. She made it for a week. We had a big discussion about it. We had to put her on the ventilator and she still wasn't making it on the highest settings. She still wasn't going to make it."

On Oct. 8, Carlie was flown by helicopter to Northwestern Medicine Central DuPage Hospital and put on an ECMO machine, which takes blood out of a patient's body and puts oxygen in it and takes out carbon dioxide before putting it back into the

body. That's how Carlie survived until Christmas Day.

On Dec. 25, Carlie was taken off the machine and able to breathe on her own. Later on, she went to Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital in Wheaton for three weeks before com-

ing home.

Carlie and her family dealt with a number of complications along the way. She had internal bleeding and at one point was given 11 units of blood in two days.

See CARLIE page 3

Engineering begins on Route 251 project

IDOT-owned route project could begin in 2024 or 2025

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Rochelle City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said last week that engineering has begun on the Illinois Department of Transportation's Illinois Route 251 reconstruction project through the northern part of town.

The deteriorating portion of the state-owned route through town will see a widening to five lanes with bidirectional turn lanes from Fairview Drive south to the location of the new Starbucks. City officials meet with the IDOT quarterly to discuss the future project. The IDOT owns and maintains the route and city officials hope to see it reconstructed as soon as possible.

"The project gets done when they determine it," Fiegenschuh said. "We think right now it's looking like the engineering has begun on the project and plans for the project should be finalized by July 2023. It's a pretty significant project. There's right of way purchases they need to make. Last time we talked



Rochelle City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said last week that engineering has begun on the Illinois Department of Transportation's Illinois Route 251 reconstruction project through the northern part of town.

to them, they said it could be 2024 or 2025 before the project even starts."

One of City Engineer Sam Tesreau's top priorities is making sure the project gets done, Fiegenschuh said. Those were the dates

given during the city's last quarterly meeting with the IDOT. Fiegenschuh said the city hopes to expedite the process and there are things it can do to try to speed up the process.

"We're going to start

meeting with our lawmakers and trying to get them to help with it," Fiegenschuh said. "At the end of the day, it's on IDOT's timeline. It gets done when they have the money and they have everything ready to go."

The city has done its best to keep lines of communication open with IDOT staff, which Fiegenschuh called important for a project like this one.

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LOCAL NEWS

Pritzker touts initiatives aimed at expanding healthcare workforce

PATH program will focus on attracting and retaining workers

BY GRACE KINNICUTT
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker continued to promote his budget proposal for the upcoming fiscal year Tuesday, outlining his plan for rebuilding the state's health care workforce during a stop at a Peoria community college.

He joined local leaders at Illinois Central College to talk about the Pipeline for the Advancement of the Healthcare Workforce program, a proposed initiative modeled after an existing statewide grant program, the Workforce Equity Initiative.

The PATH program would run through the state's community college system, providing financial assistance to students enrolling in courses to obtain certificates in high-need health care areas. The targeted programs include nursing and certified nursing assistant positions, respiratory therapists and emergency medical technicians.

Assistance would also be available to address other barriers such as transportation, child care, food vouchers and

tutoring.

Pritzker has asked lawmakers to invest \$25 million in the program in the upcoming fiscal year.

"We are creating opportunities in underserved communities for Illinois residents to build great careers," Pritzker said.

Peoria Mayor Rita Ali said the initiatives will help address the workforce skills shortage.

"These new opportunities, the PATH program, the WEI program, will enable us to take many people that we already have in our community and give them, through this investment of workforce education and training, the skills that they need to fulfill all the jobs that we have available now and in the coming future," Ali said.

Pritzker also proposed a \$2 million increase in funding to the state's Nursing Education Scholarship program which is aimed at retaining and recruiting nursing professionals. The governor also proposed eliminating licensing fees that will save health care workers about \$21 million.

His budget also proposes doubling funding for a Nurse Educator



(CREDIT: BLUEROOMSTREAM.COM)

Gov. JB Pritzker joined local officials at Illinois Central College Tuesday morning to talk about a health care initiative proposed in his budget for Fiscal Year 2023. Pritzker is proposing a \$25 million investment aimed at increasing health care opportunities.

Fellowship program and a Competitive Grants for Nursing Schools program aimed at increasing the number of nursing school graduates.

Pritzker also touted the Workforce Equity Initiative program, which launched in 2019 with the backing of Rep. Jehan Gordon-Booth, D-Peoria. That initiative offers 120 training programs through 18 colleges across the state to increase workforce skills and expand training opportunities for minority students. Funds can be used for tuition, child care, transportation and educational supplies, and the program receives about \$18.7 million annually.

Gordon-Booth said the data from the WEI program are "the best in the country" and that the program serves as a "blueprint" for the national education system.

As of Dec. 31, 2021, the collective outcomes of the FY20 and FY21 students showed that 5,221 students had enrolled in WEI, with 3,885 being African American students.

Danielle Pate, a graduate of the WEI program at ICC, said she was going to attend another college but was recruited to join the WEI program at the school. Pate said the program helped fund her college along with providing stipends, tutoring and any other help she

might have needed.

"It was definitely a blessing to focus mainly on school and receive any assistance I needed at the time," Pate said.

Pritzker said he had three goals for higher education programs, including increasing Monetary Award Program grants, working toward making Illinois a top five state in receiving more federal funding for student assistance and increasing state support directly for higher education institutions.

In the FY 2023 proposed budget, Pritzker proposed \$122 million increase for MAP grants, bringing the program's total funding over \$600 million. He also proposed

a \$2.5 million increase to Adult Education and Career and Technical programs for community colleges, and \$2.3 million for a Minority Teacher Scholarships program.

"We're finally making it more affordable for students to get their degrees in Illinois, and our future is bright as a result," Pritzker said.

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Serenity Hospice hosting free eight-week support group

OREGON — Serenity Hospice and Home will facilitate a free, eight-week grief support group open to the public starting Thursday, March 14 to May 2 from 1-2:30 p.m. at the Serenity

Home.

Based on the book "Understanding Your Grief: Ten Essential Touchstones for Finding Hope and Healing Your Heart" by Dr. Alan Wolfelt, this group is de-

signed to help individuals along their grief journeys by connecting them with a supportive community and providing helpful resources.

The program will be facilitated at Sereni-

ty Hospice and Home, 1658 S. Illinois Route 2, Oregon Individuals who would like to attend should register by calling Denise Watts of the Serenity Bereavement Team at 815-732-2499.

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LOCAL NEWS

CARLIE: RTHS graduate details battle with COVID-19

From page 1

At another point, her heart stopped, and she had to be brought back with CPR.

Carlie's father, Bruce Elder, called her battle with COVID-19 a roller coaster ride and said he wouldn't wish it on his worst enemy.

"The last two months were brutal," Bruce said. "I'd get a call at work from Tracy with such good news and I was running around happy and we were all in a good mood. 12 hours later I'd be back at work and get a call and be running out the door bawling. It was crazy. The story is long and brutal. I'd never want to do it again. Ever."

Since coming home, Carlie said she's doing good for the most part. She currently uses oxygen and a wheelchair and walker while she gets her strength back. She did suffer a fall that will require surgery on her knee in the future when she's healthy enough to become a surgical candidate again. That will all come in time.

"Compared to what we've already done, my knee is nothing," Carlie said.

Tracy finds it hard to put what her daughter's fight was like into words. She found it difficult having limited contact with Carlie while she was in the hospital due to COVID-19 restrictions. When she was taken to Central DuPage in the helicopter, doctors were unsure if she'd even make it through the flight. And when she did, Tracy and the rest of the family were unable to see her for a time.

"We had to sit at home wondering what she was going through and if she was going to make it," Tracy said. "I didn't ever want her to think we had deserted her. Because she was scared and she wasn't in her right mind. That was the worst torture, not being able to



(COURTESY PHOTO)

On Dec. 25, Carlie was taken off the ECMO machine and able to breathe on her own. Later on, she went to Marianjoy Rehabilitation Hospital in Wheaton for three weeks before coming home.

see her and hold her hand and tell her it was going to be okay."

"The look on her face the first day they let us into the hospital to see her, she was out of it but she knew exactly who we were," Bruce said. "She was mad we couldn't go into the room. She wanted to hold our hands. We asked the nurse if she would hold her hand and maybe she would think it was us. She wasn't having it. She knew it wasn't us. It was hard."

Tracy said the ordeal put life in perspective and showed what's important. Bruce believes it brought the family a lot closer. Their daughter agrees.

"We've gotten close," Carlie said. "And we were already a close family before this. Sometimes I think that's why this all happened."

Carlie and Brandon never got a chance to go on their honeymoon, but hope to when Carlie is able. Before September, the couple were always the type to take a trip and do what they wanted in life. Now after a near-death experience, they plan to do even more of that

once they're able.

Carlie spoke of Brandon's support for her through her battle with COVID-19 and since. Her parents are brought peace by the fact that Brandon is with her.

"I would be a nervous wreck if I didn't know he was taking care of her and making sure she's taking her medicine and doesn't fall and that she's comfortable," Tracy said. "Brandon has 150 percent stood by her and had her back the whole time and never wavered. As parents, that's huge because I have to trust that she's okay and I do. Brandon is a very quiet strength for her. They're definitely getting the 'in sickness' part of their vows out of the way."

Brandon has had to deal with COVID-19 on another front. His father is currently in the hospital on a ventilator fighting it. He's still been able to find a silver lining.

"Even though there are a lot of things that have happened, I'm still happy my dad is here and I can go see him," Brandon said. "And I'm grateful that Carlie is still here."

As hard as it was having her family's visits limited while in the hospital due to the pandemic, Carlie said she got lucky with the healthcare workers that took care of her. There were times when all she wanted to do was hold somebody's hand, and Carlie's nurses did that for her. For so long that they had to beg her to get up to go to the bathroom.

The nurses didn't just take care of Carlie. When Bruce would call looking for information, they'd always fill him in on ev-

erything that was going on. He was never put on hold. When Tracy would leave the hospital room because she didn't want to cry in front of her daughter, a nurse would often follow her out and hug her and tell her it was going to be OK.

"I still talk to the nurses to this day," Carlie said. "They turned into family for me. I was close to my doctor and my rehab nurses."

Carlie and her family gathered at T-Byrd Lanes in Rochelle last week, a place her family frequents. One after another, patrons approached her and hugged her and told her how glad they were that she was doing better.

Bruce doesn't think Carlie yet realizes the thousands of people that showed support and prayed for her during her fight.

"We're very thankful," Bruce said. "People raised a lot of money for us. 'There have been so many people that came together to help us when we needed it. Bracelets and stickers that say Carlie Strong were made. I see them all over the place. It's just awesome. We have a good town and community of people and a lot of people that love Carlie.'"

Bruce did a Christmas card drive for Carlie, which yielded a big stack that she was finally able to open in recent weeks. An online fundraiser was started that raised thousands of dollars and updated the community on her progress.

"The community that surrounds us came together and held us up when we needed it the most," Tracy said. "Not even just finan-



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Since coming home, Carlie said she's doing good for the most part. She currently uses oxygen and a wheelchair and walker while she gets her strength back. Carlie and her mother Tracy are pictured above.

cially. Emotionally too."

Carlie's mother recalled one moment during her fight after she was put on a ventilator. Tracy realized that she might never hear Carlie talk again. She broke down at her home and cried.

"The first time they took that ventilator out and she talked, it was huge because I was so scared it would never happen again. I get up every day, and the first thing out of my mouth is thanking God for another day for Carlie. Another day I get to talk to her."

Carlie has found it hard to come to terms with how COVID-19 impacted her at such a young age. She didn't think she'd spend half of her 21st year laying

in a hospital bed.

"There are two ways I looked at it," Carlie said. "I could have either come home angry hating the world, or I could come home and say I made it and I was okay and be grateful. Even on the mornings that I wake up at 5:30 a.m., I thank God I'm seeing the sun again. Because there were a lot of days when I didn't think that was going to happen again."

Bruce recalls wishing "a thousand times" that it was him in the hospital bed instead of his daughter. But he doesn't believe he would have made it through the fight the way she did.

One of the moments that sticks in his memory the most was seeing Carlie get up out of bed for the first time.

"She didn't go far, but just to see her out of the bed was huge," Bruce said. "We're just glad she's sitting here and we can talk to her. We got to have Thanksgiving. We're going to have Christmas. We haven't decided on that yet. But we'll do it eventually."



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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

William Paul Cupp Jr.

ROCHELLE — William Paul Cupp, Jr., 59, passed away Friday, Feb. 18 at his home in Rochelle. Bill was born on Nov. 5, 1962 to William Paul and Pauline (Morgan) Cupp in Rochelle. On Feb. 14, 1991, he married Tina Justice in Rochelle.

Bill was an avid Cubs and Chicago Bears fan and he especially loved to fish. He worked as a chef for many years but was also a jack-of-all-trades especially carpentry work. In

addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his grandmother, Frances Morgan.

Bill is survived by his wife, Tina of Rochelle; two sons: Patrick (Cassandra Brick) Gaffet and Justin Gaffet both of Rochelle; brother, Ronald Cupp; special niece, Sophia Gabrielle Castillo; nephew, Larry Barnes and his dog, Jennie Faye.

Memorial visitation will be from 5-7 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28 at the Unger-Horn-



er Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St, Rochelle. Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Virginia May Good

ROCHELLE — Virginia May Good, 86, passed away on Monday, Feb. 21 in Rochelle with her family at her side. She was born on Sept. 9, 1935 in Rochelle, the second daughter of eight children to Jewell and Marion (Eckhardt) Holloway. Beginning with a blind date, Ginger married the love of her life, Orville Good, on March 22, 1952; he preceded her on May 13, 2007. While driving to her family's home, she stopped, applied and was hired on the spot at Eaton in material control. Ginger loved to have her family around her and will be dearly missed. Ginger enjoyed feeding her family and baking, known to make the best cinnamon roll cookies. The exceptional, loving care and companionship of her sister, Judy, was evident and the entire family was truly honored and grateful.

In addition to her parents and husband, She was preceded in death by

two brothers: Loyd and Ronald Holloway; sister, Jean Smith; brothers-in-law, Ted Everest and John Smith; sisters-in-law: Sue Holloway and Norma Holloway; two granddaughters: Jodi Pifer and Tricia Lodico and two nephews: Greg Crisp and Brian Holloway.

Survived by her four children: Jean (Carroll) Cordes of Rochelle, Kathy (Bill) Pifer of Rogers, Arkansas, Orville (Linda) Good Jr. of Rochelle and Diane Good of Rochelle; two brothers: George Holloway of Rochelle and Richard Holloway of Hiawatha, Kansas; two sisters: Dixie (Ronald) Crisp of Rochelle and Judy Everest of Rochelle; sister-in-law, Carrie Holloway of Dixon; 11 grandchildren: Brad (Karen) Cordes, Julie Pifer, Amy (Jacob) Daigle, Derek (Karen) Good, Jeremy (Lisa) Good, Jacob (Rosemary) Good, Andrew (Alyssa) Good, Russ (Liz) Gittleson, Nicky



Gittleson, Jesse (Sky) Myers, and Kelsey Myers; grandson-in-law, Kent Lodico;

26 great grandchildren, five great great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews.

Visitation will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 25 at the Unger-Horner Funeral, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. Funeral service will be at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, Feb. 26 at Faith Lutheran Church, 14206 E. Flagg Road, Rochelle with Rev. Joy Alsop officiating. Memorials may be made to the Faith Lutheran Church. Burial will be at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle. Visit www.UngerHorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Rochelle Police Department

Officers make multiple arrests

ROCHELLE — On Feb. 18 at 1:19 p.m. Myqwon A. Greer, 21, of Rockford was cited for speeding 65 m.p.h. in a 40-m.p.h. zone and possession of adult-use cannabis in a motor vehicle. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 Rochelle court date. As part of the same traffic stop, Taquan C. Anderson, 20, of Rockford was cited for possession of adult-use cannabis in a motor vehicle. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 2:29 p.m. Mitchell G. Jones, 22, of Villa Park was cited for speeding 84 m.p.h. in a 40-m.p.h. He was released on an I-Bond and given a March 25 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 2:41 p.m. Edward A. Cummings, 54, of Rochelle was cited for failure to yield turning left. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 19 at 5:10 p.m. Esteban J. Estrada, 31, of Rockford was arrested for an outstanding Winnebago County warrant for failure to appear for a traffic offense. He paid \$300 and was given a March 15 Winnebago

County court date. He was also arrested by Rochelle police for driving while license suspended and cited for obstructing identification, speeding 60 m.p.h. in a 40-m.p.h. zone, no insurance, no front plate and operating a vehicle with suspended registration. He was released on an I-Bond.

On Feb. 20 at 9:52 a.m. Angel J. Randle, 26, of DeKalb was arrested for an outstanding DeKalb County warrant for failure to appear for suspended registration. He was given a recognizance bond and a DeKalb County court date of March 15.

On Feb. 20 at 7:57 a.m. Rivera Ignacio Ponce, 46, of Rochelle was cited for no insurance. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 20 at 10:37 a.m. Gabriel G. McGuire, 20, of Dixon was cited for speeding 50 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 court date.

On Feb. 20 at 8:44 a.m. Joni L. Voight, 38, of Rochelle was cited for no insurance. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 20 at 11:40

a.m. Joshua A. Marcoux, 19, of Rochelle was arrested for driving while license suspended and cited for aggravated speeding (73 m.p.h. in a 30-m.p.h. zone), no insurance, unsafe tires and loud muffler. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 25 Rochelle court date. Later on at 1:18 p.m., Marcoux was arrested for violation of sex offender registry and transferred.

On Feb. 20 at 6:57 p.m. Leonel Ramirez, 38, of Cary was arrested on an outstanding DeKalb County warrant for failure to appear for a traffic offense. He paid \$200 and was given a March 22 DeKalb County warrant.

On Feb. 20 at 11:18 p.m. James Kasmar, 29, of Rochelle was arrested for driving under the influence (drugs) and cited for improper lane usage, driving without lights when required and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. He was released on an I-Bond and given a March 25 court date.

On Feb. 21 at 8:30 p.m. Maria Martinez-Andrade, 29, of Rochelle was arrested for driving while license suspended. She was released on an I-Bond and given a March 25 court date.

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

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

LOCAL NEWS

Monday fire damages basement in Flagg Center

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

FLAGG CENTER — Rochelle Fire and all Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District departments were called to a Flagg Center home for a basement fire on Monday afternoon.

The call at 10312 E. Kuehl Court came in at 4:45 p.m. with a report of heavy smoke and an orange glow coming from the basement, Rochelle Fire Lt. Jeremy Good said. A box level response was called for due to the nature of the report and it being in a rural area without hydrants, but Good said the homeowner put out a lot of the fire with an extinguisher before Flagg Center Fire Department put out the rest.

Both homeowners sus-

tained some smoke inhalation, but refused medical treatment at the scene and opted to ride with a family member to the hospital, Good said.

It appears the fire started due to an electrical strip melting and lighting a wall on fire, Good said. The fire was limited to a living area in the basement. Rochelle Fire estimated about \$10,000 worth of damage due to the impacts of the smoke that will have to be cleaned.

“The homeowners being home and having that extinguisher probably saved that home, or at least from a lot more damage,” Good said.

Also responding to the call Monday was Oregon ambulance. First responders were on scene until 6:01 p.m.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Rochelle Fire and all Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District departments were called to a Flagg Center home for a basement fire on Monday afternoon.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

City of Rochelle employees help with Northern Illinois Food Bank mobile pantry

Some City of Rochelle employees and community members braved the cold on Feb. 12 to help out with the Northern Illinois Food Bank's Mobile Pantry at Shangri La. 393 neighbors from 108 families received nutritious food at this distribution and left-over food was delivered to the Kitchen Table and Rochelle Food Pantry. City Staff pictured are Jason Anderson, Dave Sawilville, Casey Heuer and Sam Tesreau.



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ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

The sad story of the Driscolls

IN 1842, the United States Land Office opened the last portions of Ogle County for public sale.

This meant that one could now purchase land from the government and have a legal deed to the property. Persons who had purchased land prior to this date had land titles, which were not considered legal documents.

The Blackhawk Wars had ended in 1832. As you can imagine, for every settler running toward a new exciting life in the wilderness, there were two who were running one step ahead of the law. Rochelle and Ogle County were the new frontier, and for a period of time, frontier justice was the law of the land.

Whether called Banditti, Prairie Bandits, or outlaws, the area around Rochelle was under constant threat from a thriving criminal element. John Driscoll and his sons David, Pierce and Taylor controlled the Driscoll Gang along with John Brodie, William Bridges and Norton Royce.

They were known from Wisconsin to Texas and Illinois to Ohio. In 1841, Ogle County was ready to open their courthouse. The first trials would be seven members of the Driscoll Gang. The day before the trial was to open, the courthouse mysteriously burned to the ground. The evidence was not in the courthouse and the trial was held on schedule.

Eleven members of the jury felt the evidence was overwhelming. One member of the jury refused to agree with the verdict. It was only after the 11 threatened to lynch the holdout that justice was served and three members of the Driscoll Gang were found guilty.

With crime running wild, the local citizenry decided to form their own protective society. The Regulators started as a group of 15 men willing to take law enforcement into their own hands.

The concept was simple, if the Regulators felt a person was involved with the Driscolls, or any other gang, they told that person they had 20 days to disappear from the area. If the person did not leave, they were threatened with a whipping or worse.

Soon the ranks of the Regulators swelled into the hundreds. As the strength of the Regulators grew, so did the impact that they had on the Driscoll Gang.

The Regulators elected John Long as their captain. The Driscoll

Gang burned his saw mill to the ground, leading to Mr. Long stepping down. Mr. Chaney was the second captain elected by the Regulators. John Driscoll sent a letter threatening the health and welfare of Mr. Chaney. He too stepped down.

The third captain of the Regulators was John Campbell. Once again John Driscoll sent a letter challenging Campbell to come and take him in if he felt he could. This time, the Regulators did not back down. Campbell and 196 Regulators surrounded John Driscoll's home.

Driscoll accepted the offer to leave the area in 20 days.

Once the Regulators left, the Driscoll Gang met to decide their next move. On June 27, 1841, Campbell, captain of the Regulators, was walking from his house to the barn. Three men rose from the bushes and shot Campbell and he died almost immediately.

The Regulators followed the tracks left by the assassin's horses. The county sheriff arrested John Driscoll. The Regulators brought in William and Pierce Driscoll. On June 29, 500 citizens gathered at Washington Grove near Grove Creek at Stephenson's Mill for the trial of the Driscolls.

John Stephenson provided a barrel of whiskey to keep the process moving. 111 men were selected to be the jury. Each juror had a personal grievance against the Driscolls. The trial was short and William and John Driscoll were found guilty. Pierce Driscoll was released.

The Driscoll's were given a choice of hanging or facing a firing squad. They chose the firing squad. The 111 jurors were divided into two groups. William stood first and John followed. The bodies were buried in a shallow grave and frontier justice was done.

A few days later, the bodies were recovered and moved to the family farms. In keeping with their strong sense of propriety, a trial was held for the 111 men of the firing squad. With a jury that included friends and family members, all were found innocent. To this day a large stone marks the spot where the Driscoll's met their fate at 3410 S. Watertown Road in Oregon. The stone is on private property, but there are markers by the road that tell the sad story of the Driscolls.

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



Tom McDermott

What banning books means

BANNING books is a sure sign of a culture in decline. It actually makes me, as an American, truly feel sick to my stomach. But book banning seems to be back in some southern states, and we are not the better for it.

Texas has moved to ban books including "Maus," which is aimed at younger readers. It illustrates the dangers of racial segregation and genocide. Those sound like topics that should be taught to younger students to me.

Tennessee, Alabama, Oklahoma – all looking at banning books. Books about racism and sexual identity are favorite targets.

Alabama's governor talked with pride about banning books. Alabama ranks near the bottom in education in the nation, and in the past has ranked dead last. Maybe the governor should be talking about people reading more books instead of banning ones that don't match up with her world view.

To be clear, this is about the culture wars people yell about these days. Things that make you uncomfortable? Ban them.

It is like this critical race theory nonsense. Not teach-

ing kids about the horrible racial past – and present – in this country doesn't mean it didn't and isn't happening. It did and it is and trying to bury that will only come back to haunt all of us.

I understand that some topics can make people of a certain age or religion or even political slant uncomfortable. Hey, the world is changing and that can be scary, especially for people

who have always seen the world through their own narrow lens.

But banning books and refusing to teach true history because it makes some uncomfortable is simply wrongheaded. These books will be even more sought out. And the history some hope to bury will be taught and discussed in even more depth.

If you can't face the fact that white people have a long history of horrible treatment of minorities in this country, you are burying your head in the sand. I am not saying you, as an individual. But in a general way? It is impossible to deny.

In many of your lifetimes black Americans couldn't enter the same door of a restaurant or drink at the same

water fountain.

Black veterans did not get the same benefits as white veterans after World War II. Is that fair? Should we ignore that?

No, it is not fair. No, we should not ignore it.

The New Yorker wrote an interesting piece about this horrible injustice to those veterans back in 2016. It makes me feel a pit in my gut just thinking about it.

Yes, those things should be taught. We need to make sure we move forward together in this country. One way we do that is by facing the past and present and working to make things better.

Banning books and burying horrible history that makes a certain group uncomfortable is not what America is all about. America is not a place for a single group of like-minded people to flourish while others suffer.

If you think it is, you are in the wrong country.

Look at the history of banning books in other countries – it is not a good thing. Knowing more will help us as a nation, not knowing less.

We are better than this, and we need to show it.

Brad Jennings is the editor of the *Ogle County Life*.



Brad Jennings

VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

What temperature do you keep your home's thermostat at during the winter?

"66."

Joyce Fruit

"I have a wood stove. I throw on another log when it gets cold."

Carol Forbes-Zumalt

"Depends. 70-72."

Angie Hendren-Lampson

"68 during the day and off at night."

Virginia Lane Bender

"63."

Nancy Leathers-Larsen

"I like 68. It's set on 72 for Mom."

Denise Montgomery

"65."

Sharon Kamps Adams

"67 year-round."

Terry Reints

"71 last winter, 68 this winter."

Bill Tracey

"It's set on 72 but it's always about 66. You don't get to be comfy with electric heat...the bills would choke a cowboy."

Karen Poole Smith

"70."

Marilynn Bulthaus Roberson

"Varies, depends on if my husband is home!"

June Donna

"65."

Jacki Case Nauman

"74."

Kay Beguin McGrath

"68-72, 62 in the summer."

Tyler Isham

"68."

Dorothy Lockard

"68."

Dawn Estes Johnson

"62."

Kathleen Hall Williamms

"In the winter: 60 at night and when not home. 64 when home. In the summer: 76 when not home 70-72 when home and 62 when sleeping."

Emily Dysart

"68."

Dustin Bell

"68."

Becky Baumgartner

"64. Too cold? Put on a sweater."

Kevin Nay

"65."

Paula Sinderson Bender

"72."

Katie Paulsen

"60 when we are not home and 63-64 when we are at home."

Henry Bunger

"72."

Stacy Primrose Reed

"68."

Willie Watson

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

Mother's Day brunch planned at NIU Taft Field Campus

OREGON — Reservations are now being accepted for a delicious and relaxing Mother's Day brunch in the uncrowded and quiet atmosphere of the NIU Taft Field Campus in Oregon overlooking the beautiful Rock River.

After your meal, consider a relaxing walk through the lovely Lowden State Park. What a wonderful way to honor our mothers

and with a day she will always remember!

The NIU Taft Field Campus is located at 1414 N. River Road, Oregon in Lowden State Park. The brunch is \$ 20 for adults and \$15 for ages 12 and under. For more information and to make reservations online, go to: <https://secure.actblue.com/donate/mothersdaybrunch> or <https://oglecountydems.org/>

calendar/special-events/mothers-day-brunch

Alternatively, you can send a check to: Ogle County Democrats, PO Box 312, Davis Junction, IL 61020. Please include number of reservations and contact information, phone/email. The deadline for reservations is April 20 and reservations are limited to a first-come, first-served basis.

Jahn promoted to Fehr Graham associate engineering technician

ROCHELLE — Fehr Graham, a leading midwest engineering and environmental firm, announced the promotion of Tyler Jahn to associate engineering technician.

Jahn, who joined Fehr Graham in 2015, works on land surveying, construction staking and transportation engineering

projects. He performs topographic surveys and completes surveying phases, including courthouse research, GPS mission planning, data collection and reduction, drawing preparation, quality assurance monitoring and property description preparation. He also works with CAD files drafting project

calculations.

Jahn, who works in the firm's Rochelle office, earned his bachelor's degree in probability and statistics and geography, geographic information systems (GIS), land use planning and urban geography from Northern Illinois University in 2014. He is also certified in GIS.



Birthdays & Anniversaries

Feb. 26
Natalie Powell

Feb. 27
Beth Bolhous

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

THE KITCHEN TABLE MENU

February 24 – (Thursday) – Parmesan Pork Chops, Macaroni and Cheese, Peas, Dinner Rolls

March 6 – (Sunday Brunch) – Waffles with Eggs, Sausage Patties, Sausage Gravy and Biscuits

**All menus are subject to change.

If you would like to check before coming out, please call us at 815-561-9074 as we will put the menu on the answering machine. www.KitchenTableRochelle.org

2022 From The Heart Calendar

Jan. 27 - Tyler Post, Somonauk, \$25

Jan. 28 - Pam Payne, Amboy, \$25

Jan. 29 - Rochelle Rescue Mission, \$25

Jan. 30 - Amy Hayden, Rochelle, \$50

Jan. 31 - Michael Martinez, Cortland, \$25

Feb. 1 - James Jakymiw, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 2 - Susan Stover, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 3 - Jeannette Mingus, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 4 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 5 - Noel Allison, Rochelle, \$250

Feb. 6 - Luisa Nambo, Rochelle, \$50

Feb. 7 - Foundation for Focus House, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 8 - Ashley Hoffman, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 9 - Rylen Ramos, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 10 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$25

Feb. 11 - Stephanie Bailey, Oregon, \$25

Feb. 12 - Melinda Vickrey, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 13 - Becky Anderson, Rochelle, \$50

Feb. 14 - Alan Durbin, Rochelle, \$250

Feb. 15 - Kim Crull, Byron, \$25

Feb. 16 - Hope of Ogle County, \$25

Feb. 17 - Blake Tollwer, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 18 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25

Feb. 19 - Rochelle Rotary Club, \$25

Feb. 20 - From the Heart, \$50

Feb. 21 - Mario Pineada, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 22 - Brett Johnson, Rockford, \$25

Feb. 23 - From the Heart, \$25

Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Atlas page

4 Ivy League University

9 Science room

12 GPS suggestion

13 Haunting

14 Docs' org.

15 1989 Al Pacino film

17 Decks in the ring

18 Small battery

19 Yard tools

21 "Understood"

24 Membership

25 Tolkien beast

26 Civil War soldier

28 Pulitzer category

31 Abound

33 Narc's org.

35 Dr. McGraw

36 Anticipate

38 Chips go-with

40 Sugar suffix

41 Mark Harmon TV series

43 School break

45 Shun

47 Owned

48 Sashimi fish

49 New York City's — Park

54 Decay

55 Ryan or Tatum

56 Gaiety

57 Sauce source

58 Actions

59 Turf

DOWN

1 "— Miniver"

2 Packed away

3 Shell-game item

4 "No cheating!"

5 Akin

6 Acapulco gold

7 "The First — Club"

8 Required

9 Sierra Nevada resort

10 Cupid's specialty

11 Low range

16 Granola grain

20 John Irving hero

21 Teeny bit

22 Got bigger

23 Maryland beach town

27 Nap site

29 Avoid

30 Pub orders

32 Lansing's st.

34 Dunce

37 Steering system part

39 Gems from oysters

42 Pigs

44 LPs' successors

45 Jug handles

46 "Scram!"

50 Churchill gesture

51 Conditions

52 Pair

53 Conclusion

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: **M** equals **L**

SJJM SGJJ HN JFTNQ HZJ
ZJPMHZZSAM KGPWHLWJ NS
GJPBLFO MJBNEV NG NGPFOJV,
LS QNA VN TALWJ.

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

Answer

SOY	DEEDS	SOY	DEEDS	SOY	DEEDS	SOY	DEEDS	SOY
RI	AV	NO	OT	RI	AV	NO	OT	RI
ES	CH	EW	SC	ES	CH	EW	SC	ES
RE	CE	RE	CE	RE	CE	RE	CE	RE
AW	AT	DI	PA	AW	AT	DI	PA	AW
TE	EM	DE	AF	TE	EM	DE	AF	TE
OR	OB	DA	PH	OR	OB	DA	PH	OR
IG	OT	IT	SE	IG	OT	IT	SE	IG
AA	VE	ED	GO	AA	VE	ED	GO	AA
SE	AO	FL	OV	SE	AO	FL	OV	SE
OS	OS	OS	OS	OS	OS	OS	OS	OS
RT	EE	RE	EE	RT	EE	RE	EE	RT
MA	BP	BR	OW	MA	BP	BR	OW	MA
LA	AB	LA	AB	LA	AB	LA	AB	LA

Solution time: 22 mins.
Answers

Feel free to enjoy the
healthful practice of
rearing lemons or oranges.
if you so juice.

CryptoQuip
answer

LOCAL NEWS

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251: Fiegenschuh provides update on state route project

From page 1

Phase one of the project was completed in 2009 at the intersection of Flagg Road and Illinois Route 251. That went from the Illinois Route 251 bridge down to Fairview Drive. Tesreau has said in the past that the rest of the project was shelved due to funding.

Tesreau has also said in the past that he believes construction would take “a little over a year” to complete. The city would be responsible for adding things like sidewalks and street lighting in the project.

In the past, the city has fielded complaints about the condition of the road, namely in the past couple of winters with issues brought about by snow and ice.

The state will have to do some right of way acquisition to widen the road.

“An example is Hickory Grove, they’re going to have to purchase some portion of that front parking area,” Fiegenschuh said. “Which I don’t think the city will have any problem with, because a widening of that road and having sidewalks in there is going to have greater pedestrian access and in the long term it’s going to be better for every business on that route.”



Rochelle City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh

Fiegenschuh said he’s excited for the future of that area of town after other recent and future improvements such as the construction of The REC Center, the new Starbucks and the demolition and future development of Hickory Grove. Reconstructing that stretch of road will add further value to the area.

“It will just look better, for one,” Fiegenschuh said. “It will be safer. Just increasing safety is important. It will allow for more pedestrian traffic to go along that corridor and connect the Flagg Road sidewalks all the way down to Starbucks. That opens up that entire corridor to pedestrian overflow. That intersection at Illinois

Route 251 and Illinois Route 38 can be scary at times for pedestrians. Certainly, safety is the most important part.”

Fiegenschuh said the city will continue to work with the IDOT and be a partner with it to try to see the project done sooner rather than later.

“But again, it’s based on funding and it’s based on their ability to do acquisition of property and right of way,” Fiegenschuh said. “And those things don’t happen overnight. That’s why their time frame is further out. But we’re going to continue to work with them and communicate with them and do everything we can to help move that project forward.”

Family Closet announces winter hours

CHANA — The Chana United Methodist Church is announcing its winter hours for the Family Closet. The Family Closet is open Mondays, Wednesdays and

Fridays from 9 a.m. to noon through appointments only. To make an appointment, please call the church at 815-732-7683 and speak with an employee. Many

new and warm clothes are stocked for fall and winter, including coats, boots and accessories. All clothes are free and everyone is welcome with an appointment.

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PRIME TIME

Travel perks and discounts for seniors

Having made it to their golden years, seniors enjoy not only the privilege of earned wisdom, but also a few perks that come with aging. Many adults who have reached a certain age are entitled to an array of discounts, which take into consideration seniors' fixed retirement incomes. Discounts are available on various services, including many travel options.

Seniors have a lot of time to devote to recreational pursuits. This list of available travel discounts can help seniors get the most bang for their vacation bucks.

Before booking a flight, it is worth investigating if a particular airline carrier offers senior discounts. The global pandemic has changed how some airlines do business, and many have faced significant adversity since early 2020. Airlines may offer more affordable flights to drum up business. In the past, American Airlines,

Southwest Airlines, British Airlines, and United Airlines have offered various discounts for people ages 65 and older.

Flying isn't the only mode of travel available. AARP partners with various car rental companies to offer senior discounts. Seniors also may be entitled to discounts of 5 percent or more on tickets from Greyhound, Amtrak, and Trailways. Seniors who live in metropolitan areas also may get reduced fares on public buses and trains through providers like New York City's Metropolitan Transportation Authority.

Getting there is one thing, but seniors also can receive discounts on hotel stays or cruise cabins. AARP reports that many major hotel and motel chains offer senior discounts between 5 and 15 percent. Royal Caribbean has offered senior discounts on select sailings and stateroom categories. Smarter Travel notes that



most chains require travelers to book directly rather than through an online booking agency/deal site to be eligible for discounts.

Many restaurants, and national chains in particu-

lar, offer senior discounts with or without AARP membership. Applebee's offers 10 to 15 percent off to those age 60 or older. Brick House Tap & Tavern, Carrabba's Italian Grill,

Denny's, IHOP, Outback Steakhouse, and many others provide discounts or special senior pricing.

Seniors also can speak with travel agents or booking services about dis-

counts on sightseeing tours and other vacation excursions.

One of the perks of getting older is the chance to save money on travel-related services.

How to determine if it's time to downsize

INDIVIDUALS work hard to save enough money to purchase their homes. And the hard work doesn't end there. Once homeowners settle into a new home, they may set their sights on renovations that suit their individual needs. And even when buyers find a home that needs no such work, maintenance requires homeowners' utmost attention.

All that hard work is perhaps one reason why seniors may be a little reluctant to downsize as they advance through their golden years. In addition to the sweat equity homeowners

put into their homes, all the memories they've made within their walls can make it harder to put a home on the market.

Downsizing is a difficult decision that's unique to each homeowner. Seniors who aren't quite certain if downsizing is right for them can consider three key factors to make a decision that's in their best interests.

Cost: Perhaps no variable affects senior homeowners' decisions to downsize their homes as much as cost. No one wants to outlive their money, and downsizing to a smaller home can help seniors reduce their monthly ex-

penses by a significant margin. Even homeowners who have long since paid off their mortgages can save substantial amounts of money by downsizing to a smaller home or even an apartment or condominium. Lower property taxes, reduced insurance premiums and the need to pay for fewer repairs are just some of the ways downsizing can save seniors money.

Space: Many people

love the extra space that single-family homes provide. But seniors can take a walk through their homes and see how many rooms they still use on a consistent basis. If much of the home is unused, seniors can probably downsize without adversely affecting their daily lives.

Market: The real estate market is another factor to consider when deciding if the time is right to downsize. A seller's market can

help seniors get the biggest return on their real estate investment, potentially helping them make up for meager retirement savings. For example, home prices skyrocketed across the country during the COVID-19 pandemic, making that a great time for sellers to put their homes on the market. Seniors selling to downsize may capitalize on such spikes since they won't be looking to turn around and buy larger,

equally expensive homes once they sell their current place. If the market is down and seniors can withstand the work and cost a little longer, it may be best to wait until things bounce back in sellers' favor.

Downsizing requires careful consideration of a host of variables. No two situations are the same, so seniors should exercise due diligence to determine if downsizing is right for them.

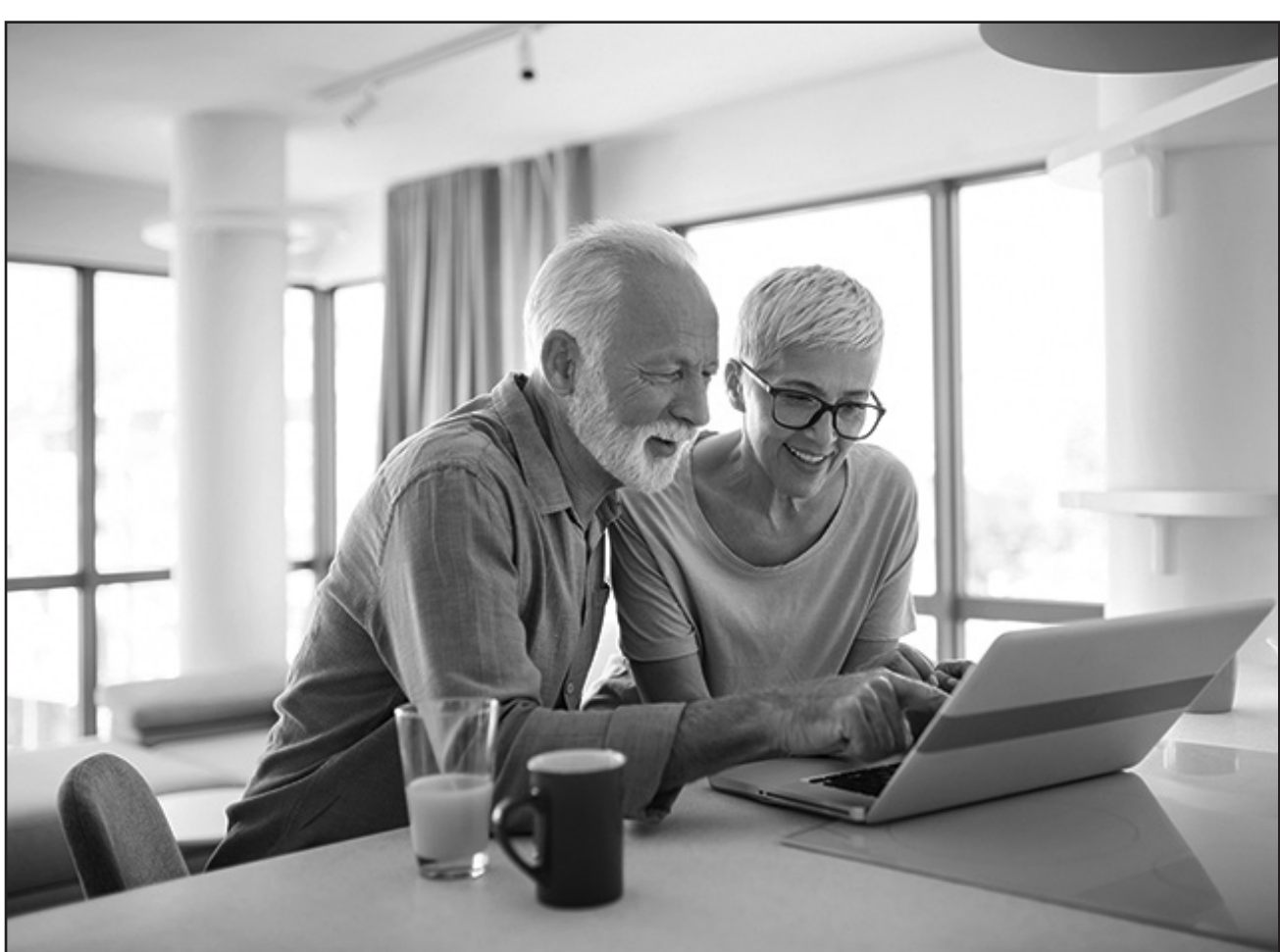


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SPEC

SPORTS

STATE: Rochelle sends three athletes to Champaign

From page 14

Having knocked off the No. 5 ranked wrestler, Morton's Zane Ely, at the sectional tournament in Sycamore, Villalobos began his run to the state finals with an opening-round fall over St. Ignatius College Prep's Nate Sanchez on Thursday. Defeating Sanchez advanced Villalobos to the quarterfinals, where he took on No. 4 ranked Mattoon senior Brady Foster, who beat Villalobos 9-1 earlier this season.

Unfazed by the previous defeat, Villalobos stayed with Foster throughout the quarterfinal match, using a quick reversal during the second period to even the score at 2-2 before riding out Foster in the third period to send the bout into overtime. After regulation and overtime, Villalobos and Foster remained tied at 2-2, which sent the bout into two 30-second tiebreaker periods.

Villalobos successfully rode Foster out during the first tiebreaker before taking the down position for the second tiebreaker, where the freshman executed the same reversal maneuver he scored on earlier in the match to score again and ride Foster out to win the match in a 4-2 tiebreaker.

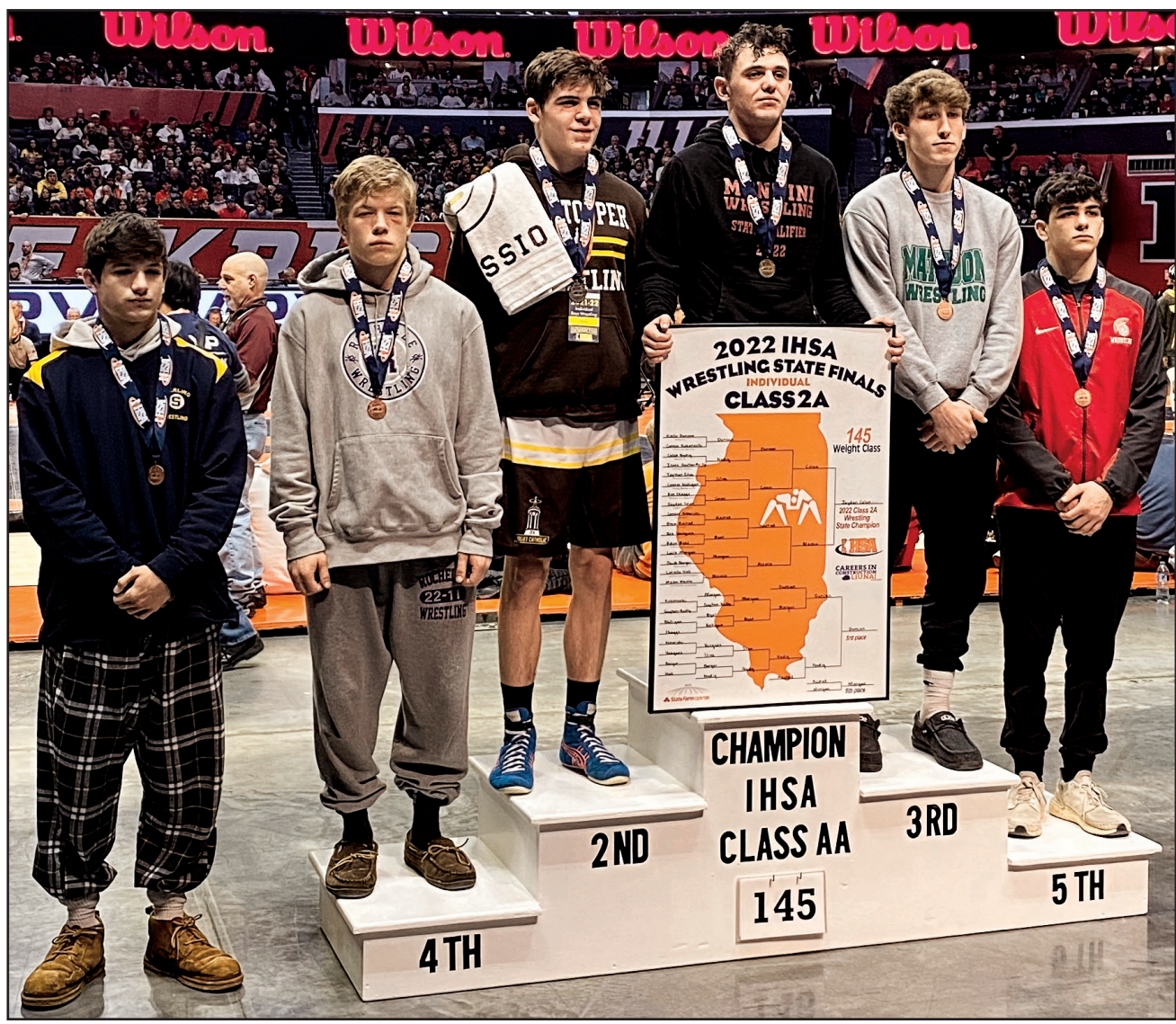
"I thought I had more confidence this time around," Villalobos said. "I thought I wrestled him

flat the first time I faced him and I didn't give my best effort. But I knew this was the state tournament and he was a senior so I had to give everything I had and I came out on top."

Villalobos was one of three Rochelle wrestlers competing at the state meet this weekend. Senior Caleb Nadig medaled in fourth place at the 145-pound weight class, finishing with a 36-6 record for the season. Ranked No. 4 in Class 2A, Nadig split his first two bouts on Thursday, scoring a 17-1 technical fall over St. Rita's Isaac Gaytan-Reilly before conceding a tough 5-2 loss to Mattoon's No. 6 ranked senior Kiefer Duncan, who edged Nadig 1-0 in the third-place bout.

"This weekend was an unforgettable experience and I'm happy that I finally had the opportunity to compete at the state tournament," Nadig said. "I thought I wrestled some really good matches where I performed my best, but there were a few matches where I came up a little short."

Nadig bounced back with three impressive victories during the wrestlebacks, defeating Bloomington's Jacob Barger 9-4 on Friday before returning Saturday morning with a 3-2 win over Aurora Christian's Taythan Silva, who entered the weekend ranked No. 3 in Class 2A.



Senior Caleb Nadig finished fourth in the 145-pound bracket for Class 2A during the IHSA State Championship meet in Champaign this past weekend. Nadig ended the season with a 36-6 record.

(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Nadig held off Sterling's No. 5 ranked senior Drew Kested 3-2 in overtime to seal a top-4 finish.

"I've enjoyed being there for my team over the last three years," Nadig said. "We had a lot of fun during duals and I always encouraged my teammates to be fired up for each

other and go out there to do their best in the sport. My advice for my younger teammates would be to give everything you have because anything can happen, especially at the state tournament."

Freshman Grant Gensler (33-20) competed in the 138-pound bracket, falling

against Civic Memorial's No. 1 ranked sophomore Bryce Griffin in the opening round before recovering to score a third-period fall over Hillcrest's Jovan Williams in the first-round wrestlebacks.

Gensler bowed out in the second-round wrestlebacks with an 8-3 loss to

Brother Rice's Al Perez. Gensler and Villalobos were Rochelle's first freshmen to qualify for state in school history.

The IHSA State Championship meet concluded the 2021-22 wrestling season for the Rochelle Hubs, who finished 19-7 in duals this winter.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX DEED NO.: 2022TX7 FILED: 2/4/2022 TAKE NOTICE County of Ogle Date Premises Sold: November 5, 2019 Certificate No.: 2018-00206 Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property Located at: SE 1/4 CITY OF ROCHELLE A N N E X A T I O N 201806754 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 24-13-426-003 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 29, 2022. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 29, 2022. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Ogle County in 106 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061, Room 302, on August 18, 2022 at 9:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 29, 2022 by applying to the County Clerk of Ogle, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Oregon, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK 105 South 5th Street Suite 104 Oregon, IL 61061 (815) 732-1110 Equity One Investment Fund LLC Purchaser

or Assignee February 9, 2022 Oakbrook Bank as Trustee, Trust #3331 Chicago Title Land Trust Company as Successor Trustee to Oakbrook Bank as Trustee u/t/a dated 3/01/2004, a/k/a Trust No. 3331 Christian Van Christian Van Christian Van J. Cook, County Clerk of Ogle County, Illinois Claimants, Judgment Creditors, and Decree Creditors, if any of the above described as "Unknown Owners" "Unknown owners or parties interested in said land or lots" No. 0216 (Feb. 16, 20, 23)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX DEED NO.: 2022TX8 FILED: 2/4/2022 TAKE NOTICE County of Ogle Date Premises Sold: November 5, 2019 Certificate No.: 2018-00227 Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2018 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A THIS PROPERTY HAS BEEN SOLD FOR DELINQUENT TAXES Property Located at: 821 6th Avenue, Rochelle, IL 61068 Legal Description or Property Index No.: 24-24-307-005 This notice is to advise you that the above property has been sold for delinquent taxes and that the period of redemption from the sale will expire on July 29, 2022. The amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before July 29, 2022. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Ogle County in 106 S. 5th St., Oregon, IL 61061, Room 302, on August 18, 2022 at 9:00 AM. You may be present at this hearing, but your right to redeem will already have expired at that time. YOU ARE URGED TO REDEEM IMMEDIATELY TO PREVENT LOSS OF PROPERTY Redemption can be made at any time on or before July 29, 2022 by applying to the County Clerk of Ogle, Illinois at the Office of the County Clerk in Oregon, Illinois. FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT THE COUNTY CLERK 105 South 5th Street Suite 104 Oregon, IL 61061 (815) 732-1110 Equity One Investment Fund LLC Purchaser

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PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE TO BIDDERS SEALED BIDS will be received by the City of Rochelle, Illinois until 11:30 a.m., March 8, 2022, for the City of Rochelle - 2022 14th Street Pavement Improvements - Phase I, which will consist removal and disposal of 4589 square yards +/- of existing HMA pavement and aggregate base course, limited removal and replacement of combination concrete curb and gutter as directed by the Engineer, HMA base and surface courses, storm sewer structures, pavement markings, landscape restoration, traffic control and protection, as well as other associated work located in the City of Rochelle. Specifications and/or plans may be obtained at the Office of the City Engineer, Engineering Department, located at 333 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, Illinois. The office is open Monday

through Thursday 8:30 am to 3:30 pm or other times by appointment by emailing cward@rochelleil.us. Bidders will be required to sign for the specifications and/or plans before they are released. There is no cost for specifications and/or plans picked up at the Engineering Office. A fee of \$100.00 will be required for any specifications and/or plans that are mailed to prospective Bidders. All bids are to be returned to the Office of the City Clerk, 420 N. 6th Street, Rochelle, IL 61068.

THE CITY OF ROCHELLE PREFERS THE SEALED BID BE HAND DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, CITY HALL, 420 NORTH SIXTH STREET, ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS BEFORE 11:30 A.M., MARCH 8, 2022; HOWEVER, BIDS MAY ALSO BE MAILED. ANY BID RECEIVED AFTER 11:30 A.M., MARCH 8, 2022, WILL BE RETURNED, UNOPENED. ALL completed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a bid opening at 11:30 a.m., March 8, 2022, in the Council Chambers at City Hall in Rochelle, Illinois.

ANY OBJECTIONS, QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS on the City's specifications shall be submitted in writing on or before 1 p.m. March 3, 2022. If deemed necessary by the City, an addendum will be distributed to all prospective bidders by facsimile transmission at least two (2) business days prior to the bid opening date. The decisions of the City shall be final.

THE CITY OF ROCHELLE is an equal opportunity employer. All Contracts for Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1-12).

A CONTRACT may be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder whose bid is found to be in the best interest of the City of Rochelle. The City of Rochelle reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding. The City further reserves the right to review and study any and all bids and to make a contract award within forty-five (45) days after the bids have been opened. A Hold Harmless Agreement and a Non-Collusion Affidavit of Compliance must be submitted with the bid. The City of Rochelle does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities. Each BID must be accompanied by a BID

BOND payable to the CITY OF ROCHELLE. The City of Rochelle will decide within 45 days if it intends to proceed with the project and award the contract. Written Notice of Award and instructions for the execution of the Agreement will be issued to the Selected Bidder. The BID BOND of all BIDDERS will be retained until the agreement has been executed and approved, after which all BID BONDS will be returned. A certified cashier's check may be used in lieu of a BID BOND. A Performance Surety will be required as specified in the contract documents and specifications. No. 0228 (Feb. 20, 23)

101 LEGAL NOTICE

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

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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113 FINANCIAL

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

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DISCLAIMER:

If your advertisement appears incorrectly, notify us immediately. We will not be responsible for more than one incorrect insertion, and will only credit customer for one insertion.



103 AUCTIONS

REAL ESTATE AUCTION Saturday March 19th, 2022 10 AM

We will offer at Public Auction the following described Real Estate at Public Auction. This auction will be **held on site at 10411 E Kyte Rd., Rochelle IL 61068**. On Auction Day, watch for Bearrows Real Estate & Auction signs From Skare Rd. & Flagg Blacktop, West of Rochelle on Flagg. **Contact Auctioneer John Bearrows at 815-739-9150 for a private viewing or visit our web site at www.bearrows.com** for further information & pictures.

DESCRIPTION OF REAL ESTATE: This auction will feature a 5.88 Acre tract of land with a very large (3144 sq ft) 4 Plus bedroom 2-story home, complete with 3 full bathrooms. The home has 2-furnaces, 1 being newer, (Natural Gas) and 2 central air units. Home features a 26'x24' master bedroom suite with walk in closet & full bath, Gas fireplace, hardwood floors, and a family room addition that has an office or extra bedroom and so much more. Large walk-in attic, and a partially finished basement with wet bar. The outbuildings include a 54'x 42' cold storage pole barn with concrete floor, another 90' x 42' pole barn with a heated 42'x 30' garage/rec room. Other buildings include a large barn with a newer horse barn attached, and a lean-to horse pen area. There is a large machine shed and smaller garden shed as well. This truly is a spectacular offering. Contact Auctioneer John Bearrows at 815-739-9150 for full details. **REAL ESTATE TERMS:** \$10,000.00 down the day of the auction, with the balance due on or before April 29th, 2022, at which time full possession will be given. Seller to provide an appropriate executed deed as well as a merchantable Title Policy in the amount of the purchase price. This property is being conveyed in its "As-Is" condition without any contingencies with regard to financing and/or the sale of another piece of property. All announcements made the day of auction take precedence over all prior advertising.

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Auctioneer: John Bearrows – 815-739-9150
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SPORTS

RTHS Girls Basketball

Lady Hubs record winningest season in nine years

Rochelle finishes 15-17 in first year under new head coach McQuade

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball team found immediate success in head coach Ryan McQuade's first season at the helm, finishing only two games under the .500 mark and totaling the most victories by any varsity team in a single season since the 2012-13 campaign. With all three Lady Hub basketball teams totaling double-digit wins this winter, McQuade has set high goals for next season. "Looking back over the last couple of years, we haven't won a lot of games," McQuade said. "Having our senior class buy in and become the leaders of our program really helped us start on the right foot, especially because we have so many young girls in our program... Getting to that 20-win mark will definitely be one of our goals next season. We want to finish in the upper half of the conference like we did this season and we want to compete for a regional championship, which is goal that we want to have for every season."

Rochelle finished with a 15-17 overall record while placing fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference with a 7-7 record at the varsity level this season. The Lady Hubs went 1-1 during the IHSA 3A Rochelle Regional tournament, defeating Plano before falling against state-title contender Sycamore in the semifinal



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Zoey Tabor is one of three Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball players who spent four seasons on the varsity team. Tabor will be one of six seniors departing from the varsity roster this season.

round. Rochelle split the conference season series with LaSalle-Peru while sweeping Morris, Plano and Sandwich.

"Our seniors brought great leadership," McQuade said. "They had a lot of experience at the varsity level which helped us a lot this season. They

really did a great job of sharing their experiences with our younger girls and that helps us because we have a really solid freshman class and a really solid sophomore class."

The Lady Hubs will graduate six seniors from the varsity roster including four-year varsity players

Zoey Tabor, Josie Lundquist and Lucy Bunger as well as three-year varsity players Jordin Dickey, Abby Luxton and two-year varsity player Adriannah Davis-Carter. Rochelle will have several players eligible to return next season including junior Torrin Nantz, who qualified for

the IHSA Sectional 3-Point Shootout. Sophomores Alivia Henkel, Sydney Tabor and freshman Kendyl Darby also played a lot of varsity minutes this winter.

"I thought girls like Sydney and Kendyl really progressed as the year went on and that's really going to benefit us going into next

season," McQuade said. "We have some talented juniors coming back next season as well and I really like the mixture of youth and experience we'll have. We want to build our program at the younger level and I'm really looking forward to our future and the progress we'll make."

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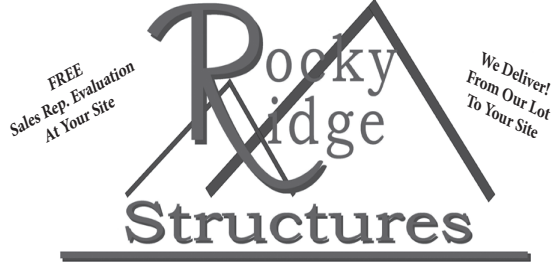
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HUB SPOTLIGHT



Nantz advances to IHSA Sectional 3-Point Shootout

Rochelle Township High School hosted the IHSA 3A Rochelle Regional 3-Point Shootout on Thursday, with junior Torrin Nantz hitting eight triples to qualify for the IHSA 3A Kaneland Sectional 3-Point Shootout later this week. Nantz was one of four players including Sycamore's Faith Feuerbach, Plano's Josie Larson and Plano's Mikayla Walls to advance to the sectional shootout. The girls are pictured above.



Smith receives final send-off as RTHS dance coach

Rochelle Township High School recognized head dance coach Kass Smith during halftime of the varsity boys basketball game against LaSalle-Peru this past Wednesday. It was the final halftime performance for the Chellettes under Smith, who has led the program to multiple IHSA State Championship appearances as head coach. Smith and her husband Chris will be moving to Bloomington. Smith is pictured with 2021-22 Rochelle Chellette dance team members Macy Ramos, Ava McGee, Kelsey O'Brien (bottom row), Damaris Macias, Miranda Dubek, Kayden Kannheiser, Jasmine Sarabia, Taylor Ponto (middle row), Olivia Mitchell, Julia Livingston, Alexis Huerta, Kayla Ortega, Addison Stewart, Kylie Davis and Abby Dall.

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SPORTS



SECTIONAL SHOOTER

Junior basketball player Torrin Nantz qualified for the sectional 3-point contest.

See page 13 for more details

RTHS Wrestling

Hubs medal at state

Villalobos takes second, Nadig finishes fourth in IHSA State Championship

CHAMPAIGN — Rochelle freshman Xavier Villalobos had to do something no other wrestler in Illinois had done this season in order to reach the finals of the IHSA State Championship meet.

Standing between Villalobos and the state finals was undefeated Crystal Lake South senior Josh Glover, who entered the tournament ranked No. 1 in Class 2A at the 113-pound weight class. The two standout wrestlers faced off in the semifinal round Friday evening, with the match entering the final seconds of the third period tied at 3-3 after a back-and-forth first two periods.

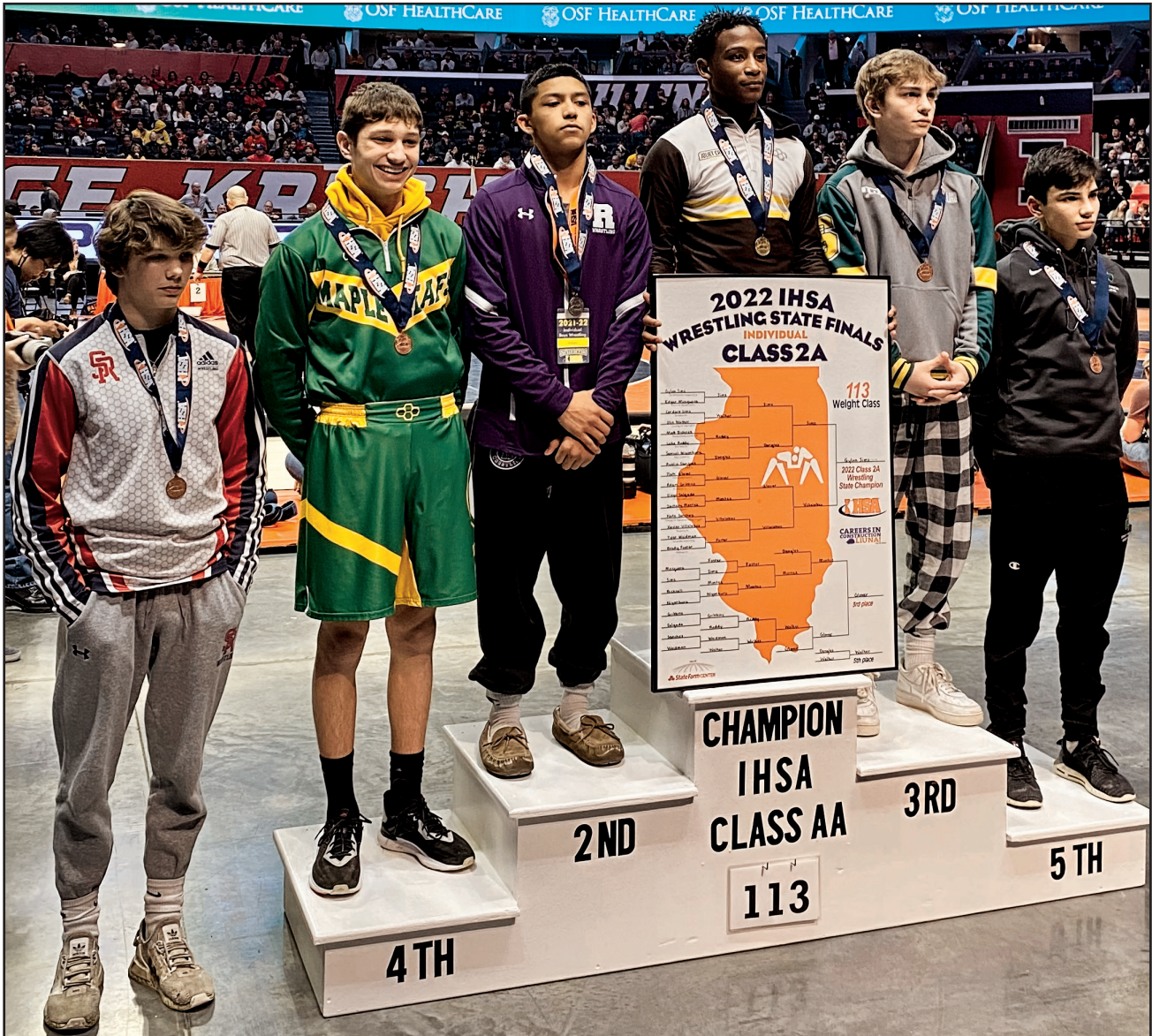
As thousands of fans including a large contingent of his family and friends watched from the bleachers of the State Farm Center, Villalobos stunned the crowd in the last moments of the match, bringing Glover to the mat and working around his body to score a final-second takedown to win the match 5-3 and hand Glover his first and only defeat of the season. With the historic victory, Villalobos became Rochelle's first freshman to qualify for the state finals.

"It was an amazing feeling and my confidence

increased dramatically," Villalobos said. "I knew the match was tied and I could feel him grabbing my arm, but I knew if I could keep moving around him the other way, I could shuck him and score the takedown. I don't think [Glover] saw it coming at all. I knew I was down early in the match, but when it comes to wrestling in the state tournament, you're never down and you're never out of the match until the last second comes."

Villalobos battled Joliet Catholic's Gylon Sims in the state finals on Saturday, suffering a tough 17-6 loss to medal in second at the 113-pound weight class. Despite the loss, Villalobos became Rochelle's first freshman to medal at the state tournament and the school's first state runner-up finisher since Alex Harvey during the 2017-18 season. Villalobos ended his freshman season with a 45-6 record, setting another school mark for the most wins in a season by a freshman.

"It's a great feeling and it feels even better knowing that I have three more chances to win the state championship," Villalobos said. "Finishing second hurts, but I feel like I'm right there and I know I'm



Freshman Xavier Villalobos took second in the 113-pound bracket for Class 2A at the IHSA State Championship meet in Champaign this past weekend. Villalobos finished with a 45-6 record for the season.

only a freshman. I know I have to get better next season and I have to continue

getting better every season after that, but I would say that my confidence is very

high right now."

Villalobos entered the state meet ranked No. 6 in

Class 2A.

See STATE page 10

RTHS Girls Bowling

Lady Hubs build on COVID season with seven wins

Two-time sectional qualifier Mickley headlines departing senior players

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team struggled to earn wins during the shortened 2020-21 season this past year, rostering only four players under then first-year head coach Eric Widick. With athletics and activities returning to normal, Widick saw the Lady Hubs make significant strides on the lanes during his second season at the helm, more than doubling their win total during the 2021-22 season. "I was really pleased with how our season went this year," Widick said. "We had a full year together and we put in a lot more work. I saw tremendous improvements from our girls and we had our ups and downs, but I thought we all worked together really well... We want to improve our finish in the conference next season and we want to build on what we accomplished this year. We need to keep working on our spares as well. What we told the girls is that when we're not carrying our strikes, our spares are where we score."

Rochelle finished with a 7-10 overall record and a 4-6 record in the Interstate 8 Conference this season. The Lady Hubs swept their conference series with both Kaneland and Morris before placing fourth at the Interstate 8 Conference tournament and seventh at the IHSA DeKalb Regional. Rochelle finished fifth at the LaSalle-Peru Cavalier Classic and scored three nonconference victories against Sterling, Lisle and Mendota.

The Lady Hubs will lose four seniors from the varsity team including two-time All-Conference Honorable Mention and IHSA Sectional qualifier Alyssa Mickley. Seniors Anna Samo, Carly Summers and Zoe Rourke will also depart from the roster, creating opportunities for the team's younger players to earn varsity spots.

"Carly really impressed me with our she took our newer bowlers under her wing and coached them up," Widick said. "Alyssa brought a lot of experience with her and Anna was much like a team captain for us. She was really upbeat and helped bring our morale



Seniors Zoe Rourke (left) and Carly Summers (right) are two of the four players who will depart from the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team this season. The Lady Hubs went 7-10 in match play this season.

up a lot. I enjoyed working with our seniors a lot."

Rochelle will have three key underclassmen eligible to return next season including All-Conference First Team bowler and IHSA Sectional qualifier Cassidy

Vincent. Sophomore Faith Adams completed her second season on the varsity team, while junior Aarchi Sorathia and sophomore Anahi Alanis each earned varsity experience for the first time this winter. Fresh-

man Anyssa Contreras bowled on the JV team this season.

"Cassidy came in with a skill set and I'm looking for her to step up and be a motivator for our girls next season," Widick said.

"Faith has really developed as a leader and she does a great job of keeping the girls focused. Our numbers will be down a little bit but I'm hoping we can bring in some new girls to the team next season."



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)