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#### **Bakken leads** St. Francis to **NAIA** title

**SEE SPORTS** 

Today's RNL iss Community

# News-Leader

MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM



Vol. 101 • No. 101

**LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS** 

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021

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#### **Spring Home** section

Chances are you've got a home project in mind, let us help with ideas.

Section 2

#### WEATHER





**51** 34

**SATURDAY** 

**HIGH LOW** 





Today's RNL issue



Rochelle 815-562-4822

#### **OBITUARIES**

BRENDA POWELL HAUSMAN

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INSERTS

ALDI FARM & FLEET

### INSIDE

Obituaries.....4 County News.....5 Opinion .....6



# **Board bids farewell to Reif & Tess**

#### Served a cumulative 38 years

**BY ELLEN O'MALLEY INTERIM EDITOR** 

**ROCHELLE** — The highlight of Tuesday's Rochelle Elementary School board meeting was recognizing two retiring board members, but that moment was bittersweet as both women have been important leaders on the board for 20 years and will be missed.

Jean Tess and Shirley Reif have served 20 years and 18 years, respectively.

"Thanks for your many years of service ... and thanks to your leadership, the district has continued to grow and make strides. I feel we're in a better place because of you," Superintendent Jason Harper said of Tess and Reif.

Both women said the one of the greatest accomplishments was building a new Lincoln School during a recession, and having the community backing. They explained that because the board and school district were transparent with the community, it made the project a success.

The other accomplishment both are proud of is the integrative/bilingual language program the school district has embraced after years of planning. The two learned of the possibility of a



PHOTO BY ELLEN O'MALLEY

Retiring elementary school board members Shirley Reif, left, and Jean Tess reminisced about their time on the board.

program during a tour of Ruben Salazar Elementary School in Chicago while attending a school board convention.

"We came back all excited and told Todd [Prusator, former super-

See BOARD page 8

# Council recognizes dispatchers

City council also voted to extend the outdoor dining ordinance



PHOTO BY ELLEN O'MALLEY

This week is National Public Safety Telecommunications Week and the city council regonized its local dispatchers Monday night. Pictured is RochelleMayor John Bearrows with dispatchers Robin Olszewski, commications supervisor Luisa Nambo and Senada Ajvazi.

BY ELLEN O'MALLEY **INTERIM EDITOR** 

**ROCHELLE** — Last year the city worked with the local restaurants and bars to help them reopen to their customers safely. This involved allowing them to serve customers on the sidewalks and in some areas, such as Cherry Avenue, even on the street.

It went so well, everyone cooperating together to keep things clean and safe, that they city council voted unanimously Monday night to extend the ordinance to allow the same this year.

"We didn't have one complaint last year," said city manager Jeff Fiegenschuh.

When it was implemented last year, restaurants were not allowed to be open inside, so allowing

See CITY page 8

#### There's a board opening now

**ROCHELLE** — Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231 is accepting applications to fill the vacancy of board member, Jean Tess, who did not run for another term.

The open term starts on May 11, 2021 and the term expires after the April election of 2025.

Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231 continues to work to grow students for future success. Applicants should show familiarity with the board's policies regarding general duties and responsibilities of a board and a board member, including fiduciary responsibilities, conflict of interest, ethics and gift ban. The board's policies are available by request.

#### **Taking** applications

Applications and requirements may be obtained at the Shared Services Central Office located on the campus of Rochelle Township High School, 1401 Flagg Road or on the Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231's web site-www.d231.rochelle. net beginning Wednesday.

April 14. Applications will be accepted until 3 p.m., Friday. April 30.

Please return completed applications to Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231, 1401 Flagg Road, Rochelle, IL. 61068, Attn: Kathy Bull, board secretary, or via email to kbull@rthsd212. org

Rochelle Community Consolidated School District 231 is an equal opportunity employer.

## Frankin Kruger Remembered' at the museum

**ROCHELLE** — The Flagg Township Museum will present a reception for the new exhibit "Franklin Kruger Remembered" at the museum on Sunday, April 18 at 1 p.m. The

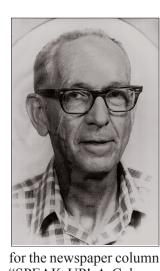
exhibit currently is on

display and continues

through May.

The museum is pleased to be able to put together the "Franklin Kruger Remembered" exhibit showcasing Kruger's artwork currently in the museum's collection. In addition, information highlighting the influence Kruger had on the community as an art teacher at Rochelle Township High School for more than 25 years, a community activist developing a series of newspaper drawings in the mid-60s, a history researcher resulting in numerous articles and his efforts that resulted in the establishment of the Historical Society and the Flagg Township Museum are a part of the exhibit.

In a letter to the editor of The Rochelle News-Leader (date unknown)



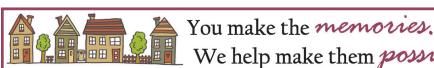
"SPEAK UP! A Column Where You Can Express

Your Views," Kruger wrote, "I would like to suggest a few names for the beautiful new park area located northwest of Rochelle and along Kyte River. I am especially interested in the area because I have done landscape painting and also historical research in and near the area." Kruger goes on to suggest three names, none of which to our knowledge were selected. Maybe a reader can

enlighten us all as to what this park was named. The editorial is just one example of many that Kruger submitted for publication over the years.

The "Franklin Kruger Remembered" exhibit continues at the museum through May.

The mission of the Flagg Township Historical Society and Museum is to stimulate interest in Flagg Township history through education, research, collection and preservation of information for the benefit of the public of today and in the future.



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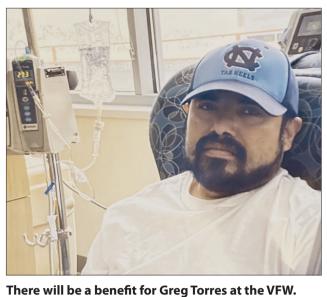
### 'Pasta with a Purpose' for local man with cancer

**ROCHELLE**—Come out and help support a local man battling cancer, enjoy some delicious pasta at the same time.

Greg Torres of Stillman Valley currently has stage 4 metastatic colon cancer and his friends and family are hosting "Pasta with a Purpose," a benefit for him at the Rochelle VFW.

The event will be Saturday, April 24 from 5 p.m. until midnight. Spaghetti dinners will be \$10 for adults, while the kids have a choice of spaghetti or a hot dog meal for \$5. Carryout meals are available as well.

There will be a 50/50



raffle, auction, bake sale as well as a DJ and dancing. For advance tickets,

carryout orders or 50/50 tickets, contact Yolanda at (779) 970-6275.

# **Everything's** coming up roses

**ROCHELLE**—The Rochelle Lions Club annual Rose Day is underway and the club is now accepting donations and

Rose Day will be on Saturday, April 17. All roses ordered can be picked up between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. in the alley behind Colonial Flower Shoppe, 408 Lincoln Hwy. in downtown Rochelle.

Rose Day is the biggest fundraiser for the Lions Club.

With the community's donations, the club helps supports several activities and programs, including scholarships to Rochelle Township High School seniors, the visually and hearing impaired, Leader Dog training, Camp Lions for blind and deaf children, Little League sponsorship and many other non-profit programs and projects.

Rose donations are \$18 per dozen and

delivery is available.

You can order your roses in advance at Colonial Flower Shoppe by calling (815) 562-8101, or you can contact Lion Tom Hill at (815) 980-8788 or Margie Kuehl at (815) 562-6711.



# Kersten celebrates 92nd birthday



**ROCHELLE**—RoseAnneKerstenwillbecelebrating her 92nd birthday on Tuesday, April 20. A family celebration is planned. She is the proud mother of four daughters and enjoys six grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren. Cards of celebration can be sent to Rose Anne at 5180 S. Center Road, Rochelle, IL 61068.

# It's spring planting season

Farm implements are taking to the fields via the state's roadways

SPRINGFIELD—IIlinois is home to 27 million acres of prime farmland, and as the spring temperatures warm, farmers will be taking their implements and heading to the fields across the state. Drivers and farmers are urged to be cautious during the planting season.

"Agricultural commodities generate more than \$19 billion annually to Illinois' economy, and that translates to a lot of activity in the fields this time of year. It's a time for all of us to be aware that large farm machinery

is on the roads and to be aware and patient when we encounter them," said Michael Kleinik, director of the Illinois Department of Labor. "Everyone practicing patience and common sense will make for not only a productive planting season but also a safer one."

Vehicle safety is an especially important focus this time of year. Tractor overturns are the leading cause of fatalities in the agriculture industry, according to the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. These accidents result in about 130 deaths each year na-

Speed, impatience and left-hand turns are the pose a major safety hazard. Too often a vehicle attempting to pass causes a collision before the tractor or farm implement

"[Ag] generates more than \$19 billion annually to Illinois' economy ..."

Michael Kleinik, director, Ilinois Department of Labor

leading causes of many accidents involving farm machinery.

While tractor rollover accidents most often occur on the farm, roadways

ROYER

can finish a left-hand turn. Some collisions occur simply because the driver fails to reduce speed for the slower moving farm implement.

Drivers should take precautions as they approach farm vehicles on the road as operators have limited visibility to the rear. Anyone passing needs to use extreme

Visibility is also a key to safety on the roads. All agricultural vehicles using the public roadways must display the fluorescent orange Slow Moving Vehicle triangle. Additionally, tractors and other self-powered farm vehicles must have proper lighting.

· Lighting is required from 30 minutes before sunset to 30 minutes after sunrise.

· There should be two white lamps on the front of the vehicle, visible from at least 1000 feet to the front of the vehicle. · There should be two

red lamps on the rear

of the vehicle, visible from at least 1000 feet to the rear of the vehicle. There should be at least one flashing amber signal lamp on the rear of the ve-

hicle, mounted as high as possible and visible from at least 500 feet, which can be used during daylight as well. Death and serious in-

jury from tractor roll overs can be prevented by roll-over protection structures – a roll bar or cage designed to provide a safe space around the driver. But too often workers fail to use a vital part of this safety device – a safety belt.

Likewise, safety experts caution farm workers not to ignore their own needs while rushing to get the spring crop planted. Three words sum up good safety protocol-Rest. Nutrition. Hydration. Taking the time to eat, stretch your legs and keep hydrated can make a big difference.



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# Police investigating Monday robbery

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Police Department is investigating a robbery that took place Monday afternoon.

The actual incident happened in the 100 block of First Avenue at 2:25 p.m. The victim said she was approached by someone she knew who asked for money. When she pulled out her wallet to give them a few dollars, the alleged perpetrator grabbed her wallet and took off, taking all her

The victim then walked to the Casey's General Store on South Seventh Street where police were contacted. Because the victim and the alleged robber are minors and students, the department's resource officer who works in the schools, Officer Jim Jakymiw, was called in to conduct the investigation which is ongoing.

#### April 5

On April 5 at 6:48 p.m., Rochelle Police cited Jorge Villaneuva-Velazquez, 30, Rochelle, for speeding and no valid driver's license. He posted an individual bond and is to appear in court May 7.

#### April 6

On April 6 at 4:36 a.m., Jacob P. Tolan, 22, DeKalb was ticketed for no insurance. He signed a promise to comply and will appear in court May 7.

On April 6 at 11:56 a.m., Cynthia C. Sheehan, 42, Rochelle, was arrested on a Winnebago County warrant. She was released on her own recognizance.

On April 6 at 3:48 p.m., Vince G. Sartino, 33, Rockford, was cited for driving while license suspended. He posted an I bond and is to appear in court May 7.

#### April 9

On April 9 at 11:22 a.m., Caitlin E. Hardcastle, 36, Rochelle, was arrested on an Ogle County warrant. She paid a \$300 fine and will appear in court in Oregon on April

#### April 11

On April 11 at 12:50 a.m., Trisha A. Booker, 40, Rochelle, was arrested on two warrants, one from Ogle County and the other from Lee County. She also was arrested for possession of a controlled substance, driving while license suspended and driving without lights. She was transported to the Ogle County Jail in Oregon.

On April 11 at 4:23 a.m., Nicholas C. Davis, 36, Rochelle, was arrested on two Ogle County warrants, a DeKalb County warrant as well as two counts of criminal damage to a residence. He was transported to the jail.

On April 11 at 12:03 p.m., was arrested on an Ogle County warrant, driving while license suspended and no valid registration. She was transported to the jail for the warrants and posted an I bond for the other two offenses.

# New 'Hello Rochelle!' app introduced

Residents will have access to all things Rochelle

**ROCHELLE** — As part of the citywide software system upgrade, a new mobile app has been designed to give residents and businesses a way to access the City of Rochelle at residents to download and utilize, it went live on Monday.

For those who had the previous version of the city's mobile app, "Hello, Rochelle!" simply visit the app

"This is so cool and innovative and why we're one step ahead of other communities."

their fingertips.

The newly-designed app, available at no charge in the App Store and Google Play, gives citizens the ability to easily contact city council members and staff; report issues online with a photo and GPS tagging; and to pay utility bills directly from a phone or tablet. A calendar of events that includes meeting dates and special events as well as a news icon that features the latest city happenings are also included on the home screen of the app.

#### On the back end

On the back end, staff will be able to communicate updates to residents who submit issues, track timelines and costs of making such repairs. Staff also has the ability to utilize the app for internal issues such as for IT assistance or entering information from phone calls received at city hall or Rochelle Municipal Utilties customer service. With the GPS capabilities included, requests for service are plotted on a map to give staff a big-picture look

at areas of concern. The updated app is already available for

Jeff Fiegenschuh

City Manager store and download the

new version.

Marketing plans for

the new app included

a presentation video at Monday's council meeting and a press release as well as a social media campaign, a scavenger hunt within the app with 10 \$25 gift cards as prizes and an all-resident mailer. The current app has been downloaded approximately 865 times to date and our goal is to double that number in the next year.

"This is so cool and innovative and why we're one step ahead of other communities," said City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh.







**Ogle County COVID-19 Weekly Update** As of Tuesday, April 13, 2021

#### Ogle County COVID-19 Statistics\*

**Number of Positive Cases: Recovered Cases:** 5,173 **Current Active Cases:** 280 Deaths: 78 5.3% Positivity Rate:

\*Most current statistics available.

The future of COVID depends on your decisions now. Cases are going up in our Region. Now is the time to:

Mask Up ● Vax Up ● Back Up

**Total Vaccinations Administered: 25,923 Total Fully Vaccinated: 10,485** Pct. Fully Vaccinated: 20.59%

**Vaccination Clinics**: Anyone age 16+ is now eligible to be vaccinated. Limited to those who live or work in Ogle County. As of April 13, the CDC and FDA have paused the use of the Johnson & Johnson vaccine until further notice.

**OCHD Vaccination Appointments**: The original online list is now depleted. Upcoming OCHD clinics can be found at health.oglecounty.org.

RCH Vaccination Appointments: Call the Triage Line at 815-561-8829 Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Scheduling appointments for age 18+, who live or work in Ogle County. Callers have the ability to leave a message and your call will be returned within one business day.

#### Call these partners for assistance with scheduling **OCHD** appointments:

815-562-5050 **Hub City Senior Center:** 815-562-3431 Flagg-Rochelle Public Library: City of Rochelle: 815-562-6161 Hispanic residents call LULAC: 815-570-3111 **Rock River Center:** 815-732-3252 Oregon Public Library District: 815-732-2724 Univ. of IL Extension Office: 815-732-2191 Mt. Morris Senior Center: 815-734-6335 Polo Senior Center: 815-238-8645 815-946-2713 Polo Library: Bertolet Memorial Library, Leaf River: 815-738-2742

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# Ceremony Friday

ROCKFORD—OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony Medical Center is partnering with Gift of Hope Organ & Tissue Donor Network to focus attention on the lifesaving and healing benefits of organ and tissue donation, and the importance of registering as a donor.

In light of this, a flag raising ceremony will be held on Friday, April 16, at 11 a.m., at the main entrance of OSF Saint Anthony Medical Center.

At the event, Gayle Boos of Freeport, a donor mom who lost her son, but he lives on through the gift of tissue donation, will be speaking at the flag raising ceremony. April is National

Donate Life Month (NDLM), a time designated to honor organ and tissue donors and celebrate the lives saved through the gift of do-

The ceremony honors donors and their families in a show of unity, remembrance and hope. "OSF Saint Antho-

ny is a proud supporter of organ and tissue donation," said Paula Carynski, President OSF HealthCare Saint Anthony Medical Center.

"We strive to create a greater awareness about the importance of donation and honor our organ and tissue donors, recipients and their families. Our Mission is to serve with the greatest care and love, and this partnership with Gift of Hope helps

### **Celebration of** life planned

**CRESTON** — Please join us on Saturday, April 24 for a Celebration of Life Ceremony to honor the memory of Pastor Al Roose

On Oct. 24, 2020, after a long struggle with brain cancer, Pastor Roose, of New Beginnings Baptist Church in Creston fell asleep on earth and woke up in heaven. During his 35 years as

a church planter, he started 11 churches. He was married to the only girl he ever dated, the love of his life, Linda Richardson, for 49 years. They had two children,

Bethany and Brian, and nine amazing grandchil-



The ceremony will be held at New Beginnings Baptist Church located at 305 N. Grove Street, Creston, and will begin at 1 p.m., with light refreshments to follow.

**Obituaries** 

### Brenda Powell Hausmann

ROCHELLE—Brenda Powell Hausmann, 75, Rochelle, passed away peacefully Sunday, April 11, 2021 at Serenity Hospice Home in Oregon.

Brenda was born Feb-

ruary 11, 1946 in Parkin, Ark., the daughter of Ottis and Catherine (Westmoreland) Bobo.

She married Loyd Powell in 1962 in Rochelle. She later

married Clifford Hausmann in 1989 in Oshkosh,

Brenda worked for many years at Caron International before enjoying early retirement. She was tender, sentimental and selfless.

She was fiercely protective of family, especially her daughter and grandson. Brenda enjoyed gar-

dening, classic film and television as well as all things Elvis. Brenda is survived

by her first husband,

and garden digging proj-

ects this Spring, to avoid

hitting any utility lines,

please call 811 to have

them marked before

you start. This is a free

service, but you must

call," said ICC Chair-

man Carrie Zalewski.

Illinois law requires res-

idents and professional

excavators to call 811

at least 48 hours or two

working days prior to

starting the excavation.

Safety first

plant a tree, install a

mailbox, plant a garden,

or build a deck - regard-

less of the depth and size

The project must begin

Whether you plan to

Loyd Powell; daughter Christina (Joe Anderson Powell; grandson, Jack Anderson; sister-in-law Barbara Bobo; and severa nieces and nephews.

In addition to her par-

ents, Brenda is preceded in death by her second husband, Clifford Hausmann; her son, Michae Powell; and two brothers Donald Bobo and James Bobo.

The family would like to thank friends Juanita Manley and Car-

ol McCarter, for their support. A graveside service and interment will take place a

2 p.m. Thursday, April 15

2021 at Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle with Pastor Lowell Woolbright officiating. Contributions in Brenda's memory may be directed to the St. Jude

Children's Research Hospital (www.stjude.org.). Please visit www.ung-

erhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

# Commodity board positions open

**SPRINGFIELD** — Farmers living in Ogle County who would like to run for a three-year-term on the Illinois Corn Marketing Board (ICMB) can now start circulating nomination petitions.

Petitions are available through the commodity organizations and at the Illinois Department of Agriculture



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these petitions is May 15. To be eligible, each candidate must be at least 18

in Springfield. The deadline to complete and return

years old, have produced and marketed the pertinent commodity during 2020, reside in the district to be represented and have submitted a valid petition by the

Ogle County is in District 2, along with Winnebago, Stephenson, Carroll and Jo Daviess. Elections for all three boards will be held on July

For more information, call the Illinois Department

of Agriculture at (217) 524-1083 or visit our website at http://www.agr.state.il.us/.

# Never forget to call JULIE

ICC reminding Illinois residents to call before starting projects

SPRINGFIELD — April is National Safe

Digging Month. The Illinois Commerce Commission (ICC) is reminding homeowners and excavators to call 811 before beginning any outdoor project that requires digging. "As you plan your home

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of the project you must call 811. within 14 calendar days

from the call, and locate requests have a 28-day life. The State One-Call Center, managed by JULIE (Joint Utility Locating Information for Excavators), is a 24-hour service network system established to prevent contractors and private citizens from hitting any existing utility lines when digging. In 2020, ICC staff issued 82 warnings and 219 citations for safe digging violations resulting in \$709,590 penalties. Violations issued to excavators and homeowners included not having a valid locate request, or not digging carefully around marked underground facilities, and for utilities, failure to mark their facilities in a timely manner.

The ICC levied penalties as part of its One-Call enforcement efforts In consideration of the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic, homeowners and excavators are reminded to follow CDC guidelines when interacting with one another by practicing social distancing and wearing a mask.

#### Delay projects

You might also consider postponing any non-essential projects until the public health emergency has passed For more information visit the ICC's website at www.icc.illinois gov or JULIE's website at https://www.illinois-1call.com/

# rochelle Leader

211 IL Route 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068 (815) 562-4171

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Illinois, will be sold by the Ogle County Sheriff at the Ogle County Sheriff's Office, 202 S. 1st Street, Oregon, Illinois, at a Sheriffs Sale on May 7, 2021, at 10:00 a.m. Information concerning this sale is as follows:

NOTICE OF SALE OF REAL ESTATE

The real property consisting of a residence located at 709 N. Main Street, Rochelle, Ogle County,

1. The person to contact for information of the real estate prior to the sale is: Hewitt & Wagner, 1124 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, Illinois, (815) 562-2704. The real estate may not be inspected prior to the sale.

2. The terms of sale are payment of 20 percent by cashier's check or certified funds on the date of sale with the balance to be paid in full by noon on the next business day after the sale.

3. This is pursuant to the court case, No. 20-CH-51, Ogle County, Illinois, in which a foreclosure was filed.

# **COUNTY NEWS**

# Man arrested on drug charges

**POLO** — A Polo man is in custody following his arrest this past weekend.

Robert Ennenga, 53, Polo, was taken into custody and charged with knowingly intent to deliver methamphetamine 15-100g Class X Felony, possession of methamphetamine 15-100g Class 1 felony, possession of controlled substance (cocaine) under 15g class 4 felony, possession of controlled substance (heroin) under 15g class 4 felony and possession of drug paraphernalia a class A misdemeanor.

After an investigation,

deputies were able to obtain a search warrant



Robert Ennenga

and on Friday April 9 at 1:12 p.m., Ogle County

Sheriff Deputies executed a search warrant in the 300 block of North Congress Avenue in Polo. During the search, deputies located Methamphetamine, heroin, cocaine and drug paraphernalia.

Ogle County Sheriff Brian Van Vickle explained that his department started a drug enforcement group of deputies who investigate drug-related crimes and which led to Ennenga's arrest. They began investigating Ennenga in January of this year.

Ennenga's last citation was a traffic offense in 2017; however, going

back to 2008 he was arrested for delivery of cannabis and disorderly conduct. Prior to that, he had arrests for unlawful delivery of cannabis, illegal possession of birds of prey and unlawful taking/possession of deer in 1999. In 2001, he was in court for illegal possession of ammunition, cannabis and drug paraphernalia.

Van Vickle doesn't expect any more arrests as a direct result of this investigation.

Ennenga was taken to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond, which was set at \$300,000.

# Recyling event this Saturday

\$8/5-gallon pail.

The remainder of

the cost will be paid

for by the OCSWMD

If you have additional

containers, the full

price cost structure

is as follows: \$2.50/

quart, \$5/gallon, and

\$18/5-gallon pail.

Giving away oak tree saplings

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will be hosting a paper shredding and latex paint recycling collection for Ogle County residents on Saturday, April 17 at the County Annex Building located at 909 Pines

Road in Oregon.

A variety of oak tree saplings will also be available, free of charge, provided by the Million

Trees Project from Living Lands and Waters, in partnership with the OCSWMD.

**Paper** 

shredding

ding will be held from

9 a.m. to 12 p.m. There

will be a limit of three

boxes of personal doc-

uments to be shred-

ded. No business or

institutional paper or

vided free of charge for

Ogle County residents

collected from 8 a.m.

to 12 p.m. Liquid latex

paint will be collect-

ed by Earthpaint for

re-blending and re-use

in community service

projects such as Habitat

to 10 containers of latex

paint are as follows:

\$1/quart, \$2/gallon and

The fees to recycle up

for Humanity.

by the OCSWMD.

This service is pro-

Latex paint will be

documents.

On-site paper shred-

reglocated Cash, card or check pay a ble to "Earthpaints.org" will be accepted for payment.

No bulking of paint to gether, as the mixtures cannot from Liv- be recycled properly.

No spray cans, oilbased paints, stains or varnishes accepted. Only liquid latex paint will be accepted, no dry cans.

Free trees

Red oak, burr oak and swamp white oak tree saplings will be available from 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. Trees will be limit-

rees will be limited to 10 saplings per household, and only what can be quickly planted. Information and brochures will be available as well for successful planting guidance.

Please call the OCSWMD at (815) 732-4020, visit www. oglecounty.org or visit the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department on Facebook if you have questions regarding this recycling and oak tree giveaway event.

# Snowmobile trail grants available

**SPRINGFIELD** — The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) today announced \$118,500 in grant funding that will allow for the operation and maintenance of snowmobile trails in the state through the Illinois Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund (STEF).

STEF grant funds are being awarded to the Illinois Association of Snowmobile Clubs (IASC) in the amount of \$118,500 for snowmobile trail insurance, purchase of a new snowmobile trail groomer, and snowmobile trail maintenance.

The STEF program provides financial aid to eligible private snowmobile clubs/organizations in Illinois (as

noted in Section 3020.10 of the Illinois Administrative Code) for the purpose of assisting them in the construction, maintenance, and rehabilitation of snowmobile trails and facilities on public lands, designated roadways, or private land opened to such use. Funds for the grant program come from a portion of snowmobile registration fees collected by the state and are derived from revenue generated in the State Treasurer's "Snowmobile Trail Establishment Fund."

For information on how to apply for a STEF grant, visit: https://www2.illinois.gov/dnr/Grants/Pages/SnowmobileTrailEstablishmentFund.aspx

## Sheriff deputies make arrests

#### April 10

On April 10 at 12:12 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff Deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 1000 block of North Illinois Route 2.

After an investigation, deputies arrested Mary Lindquist, 22, Rockford, for no valid driver's license.

Lindquist was also issued a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle.

**Davis Family** 

**1212 Currency Court** 

Rochelle, IL

815-561-8500

Appointments Available

Mon., Wed. & Thurs.

Most insurances accepted.

**Health LLC** 

Lindquist was transported to the Ogle County Jail in Oregon where she was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

#### Apri 12

On April 12 at 2:19 a.m., deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 8000 block of North Illinois Route 251.

After an investigation, deputies arrested Ericka Munoz, 28, Rockford, for no valid driver's license. Munoz was also issued citations for operating an uninsured motor vehicle and an equipment violation.

Munoz was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

On April 12 at 4:39 p.m., deputies located a vehicle stuck in the ditch just off of the northbound ramp on I-39 at IL Route 72.

The vehicle had also recently been called in as driving recklessly in the area.

After an investigation,

deputies arrested Richard Kinney, 65, Belvidere, for improper container of cannabis as a driver. Kinney was addition-

ally issued citations for improper lane usage and an expired registration.

Kinney was released

Kinney was released on an I bond at the scene and was given a future court date.









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# LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

# 'Qualified immunity' debated in every state

tate Rep. Curtis
Tarver is a man on
a mission to reform Illinois law enforcement by eliminating a special legal protection given cops. The Chicago Democrat's Bad Apples in Law Enforcement Accountability Act passed out of committee two weeks ago and awaits a vote in the House. The measure aims to remove the court doctrine of qualified immunity for officers, which would open them up to civil litigation if they participate in the "deprivation of any individual rights" guaranteed in the Illinois Constitution. The top priority of Illinois

law enforcement groups is to defeat this measure said Ed Wojcicki, executive director at the Illinois Association of Chiefs of Such opposition makes

passage of the measure far from certain. Tarver added some of his counterparts in the legislature fail to see the urgency of the reform. "Many of my colleagues will never have to be a black male worried about whether a traffic stop

<sup>202</sup>Wike Shellon cartoons, com

becomes the end of their life. That said, some do see the immediacy of the problem. Even though they may not experience this themselves, they recognize the problem," he said. Last year, Tarver, who is Black, was pulled over during a routine traffic stop. A Chicago cop asked if he had a gun with him. He said he did – along with a conceal carry permit. Tarver ended up handcuffed, held for seven hours and not allowed to call his attorney. It took nine months for the charges against him to be dropped. If police officers would treat a person who is a lawyer and a state representative this way, think how much worse it would be for an ordinary Joe. In 2020, U.S. police

officers fatally shot about 1,000 people. Black people were 2.5 times more likely to be killed than whites. This is a national disgrace. It is rare for police officers to face criminal charges even when they inappropriately use deadly force.

And qualified immunity makes it difficult to sue

police officers even when they have violated a person's constitutional rights, said Joanna Schwartz, a University of California - Los Angles law professor. "Qualified immunity as the

court has created it over the years is a really

Supreme



Scott Reeder

nonsensical and unjust defense," she said. "It protects officers from being found liable in cases so long as, as the case law from the courts is not clearly established. What that means in practice is that there has to be a prior court decision with virtually identical facts in order for a plaintiff to get past the qualified immunity defense."

For example, in a 2014 Nashville, Tenn., case police officers sicced a dog on a man sitting on the ground with his hands up. He sued for excessive force after being bitten. His lawyers cited a similar case in which a court had ruled against law enforcement after police had ordered a dog to attack a man lying on the ground. But a Tennessee judge

ruled qualified immunity protected the officers in the more recent case because in the earlier case the person was lying down and in the more recent case the man was sitting. This sort of bogus, protect

police officers at all costs, thinking leaves some believing they can get away with murder. Look no further than what

has been in the news this week. A former Minneapolis

police officer is on trial for the murder of George Floyd after kneeling on his neck for about nine minutes. Another Black Minnesotan was killed during a routine traffic stop after a cop apparently confused her pistol and taser. And a newly released video

showed a Black Army officer being needlessly tear gassed by two Virginia police officers.

Tarver said by eliminating the qualified immunity defense, municipalities will be more selective in who they hire, less likely to succumb to union pressure when greater job protections are demanded and more likely to fire bad cops.

Last year, Colorado eliminated qualified immunity for police officers. Last month, the New

York City Council voted to eliminate the special protection for cops. And earlier this month New Mexico ended qualified immunity for all government workers. These are steps in the right direction. We need greater accountability in law enforcement. Schwartz said the biggest misconception about

eliminating qualified immunity is that it leaves individual police officers vulnerable to being bankrupt by lawsuits. She noted that in more than 99 percent of cases that she has studied in which qualified immunity was found not to apply, the municipality employing the officer paid the judgement, not the officer. In the handful of cases in which individual officers were found liable, the average judgement was only \$2,000, she said. It's time for Illinois lawmakers to protect its

Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist. He works as a freelance reporter in the Springfield area. Scottreeder1965@ gmail.com

What do you think?

most vulnerable citizens

who would misuse their

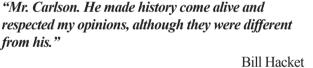
authority.

by holding in check those



### Question:

The Rochelle Flagg Township Museum is honoring longtime RTHS teacher and historian Franklin Kruger. Who was your favorite teacher and why?





Cody Dale

Steve Frye

"Mr. Donovan back at the old Lincoln School in the 90s. That dude inspired me to want to make art, and I still do."

"Pete Fader, hands down. He made learning fun, and had a unique way of

"Mr. Kruger. I adored him. He was the best."

connecting with his students."

Jennifer Payton

"Mrs. White, she was always kind and welcoming and made learning fun." Jennifer Leigh Patton

"Mr. Schutte didn't care who you were, treated everyone the same. And Mr. 'Shoe' was a great guy as well."

Jason Knight

"Definitely Mr. Schopp, industrial arts."

Jim Knight

"Don Romes, taught us life skills like income tax and the stock market."

Dan Roeglin



#### 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@rochellenews-leader.com

#### **KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS**

\* Denotes Chairman/President

Rochelle City Council \*John Bearrows Kathryn Shaw-Dickey Bil Hayes Don Burke Dan McDermott Tom McDermott John Gruben

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Jodie Hart

Joe Lenkaitis

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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 rom 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**

# Art festival this weekend | Trivia night planned

OREGON—On Sunday, April 18, a Senior Capstone group at Oregon High School will be hosting the Ogle County Art and Music Festival. OHS seniors Claire Labash and Whitney Kirk created the festival as an opportunity for young local artists and musicians whovve had events cancelled because of Covid-19. The students have also created a GoFundMe to help pay for supplies and rental spaces: gofundme.com/f/ community-art-and-music-showcase.

The festival will take place across Oregon from noon to 8 p.m. And is open to the public, with musicians performing at the Northside BarbaQ back



room stage and artists displaying their work in

the upper gallery of Cork & Tap in Oregon.

#### **FRANKLIN GROVE**

- It's trivia night at Franklin Creek Conservation Association, but from the comfort of your own home.

The fourth annual Trivia Night's theme is "The Beauty of Nature" is Saturday, April 17 from 6-8 p.m.

Prizes will be given to the winning team after every round. Please remember to use the honor system (and don't use Google).

This is a FUNdraiser event, please invite your friends, family and anyone else who might be interested. Tickets are \$5 per person, with a maximum of eight people per team.

Money raised from this online event will be



used to extend the ability to purchase and restore additional land near the Headwaters property —

truly making nature more beautiful.

For more information, call (815) 456-2718.



#### FROM THE HEART **DAILY CASH WINNERS**

April 3 - Calvin Jacobs, Rochelle, \$25

April 4 - Angeline Stuckey, DeKalb, \$300

April 5 - Scott & Lori Helms, Rochelle, \$25

April 6- Paul O'Grady, Chicago, \$25

April 7 - Timmy Jacobs, Panama City, Fla., \$25

April 8 - Ed Koeling, Davis, \$25

April 9 - Kelly Morris, Rockford, \$25

April 10 - Amy Hall-Rochelle, David Junction, \$25

April 11 - Anne Brodersen, Stillman Valley, \$25

April 14 - Kevin & Renae Connolly, Rochelle, \$25

April 12 - Andrew Clark Dietrich, Rochelle, \$25

April 13 - Sydney Weinstein, Deerfield, \$25

#### **Birthdays & Anniversaries** April 14 April 18 April 20 Millie Danekas Rose Anne Kersten, 92 Kristyn Sulser April 16 April 19 April 21 James Doering Pastor Angelo Emma Water Marissa Gonzales Bonacquisti

#### The Kitchen Table menu

April 15 - (Thursday) - Beef Stroganoff, 7-layer Salad, Baguette Bread w/Cheese

April 20 - (Tuesday) - Chicken Enchiladas, Rice and **Beans** 

April 22 – (Thursday) – Carnitas Rice Bowls, with Black Beans, Cheese, Lettuce, Salsa, Guacamole, Corn, Sour Cream

April 27 - (Thursday) - Smothered Chicken over Pasta or Rice, Peas, Garlic Bread

April 29 - (Thursday) - Grilled Pork Chops, Mac N Cheese, Peas, Salad, Dinner Roll

May 2 - Sunday Brunch - Sausage Gravy & Biscuits, Fried Bologna, Scrambled Eggs, Grits

\*The Kitchen Table is located at 7034 S. Klondike Road, Rochelle. The suggested donation is \$5 unless otherwise stated. A kid's menu is available each serving date and includes peanut butter and jelly, corn dog with chips or chicken nuggets. Please note that all menus are subject to change. Serving is from 4:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday. Sunday brunch is served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. The menu is always available on the answering machine by calling 815-561-9074 or visit www. KitchenTableRochelle.org.

If you would like to volunteer with us, please email us at volunteer@kitchentablerochelle.org

#### **ACROSS** 1 Repast

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- Wyatt 12 "Frozen"
- snow queen
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- brand
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- 17 Hindu royal
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- Dorothy
- 22 Peyton's brother
- 23 Commonest **English** word
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ety

- 33 Chopper
- 34 Hostel
- 35 "Becoming" author
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- 38 Read quickly
- 39 Knock
- 40 Wildebeest 42 "Yippee!"
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# Coffee Break

# King Crossword

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- 53 Fibs

- 2 North Sea

- 5 Carthaginian general

- 6 Swiss canton 29 "Shampoo"
- 7 Harvest 8 Sultry singer
- Kitt 9 Campus figure
- 10 Gambling mecca 11 Bluenose
- 19 Chicago transport 21 UFO crew
- 25 "Exodus" hero 26 Germs
- 28 Rocker Rose 51 Half of XIV © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

- Oscar winner
- pickle 31 Blitzer's channel
- 36 Badger 37 Clean-air org. 38 Hand in
- 41 "Forget it!" 42 Corridor
- 44 Tug 3 Largest conti- 24 "Let me think 46 Innocent one 47 Ms.

43 Theater award

Brockovich 48 June honor-

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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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. DIFFICULT THIS WEEK: <

Moderate

Challenging HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands

Clue: E equals R PISHKAI MQI DHMMEIAA YZ QIE

RKIAM PIU JA AY NJED, JM SEIHMIA CYMA YN QHEU NIICJZRA.

ynd., Inc.

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Answer Weekly SUDOKU

Answers – **King** Crossword –

Solution time: 25 mins.

creates lots of hard feelings. guest bed is so firm, it Recause the mattress on her SUSMEL

# Fairways Golf Course in good shape all around

The Kishwaukee College Cougars golf team will call the Rochelle course its home going forward

BY ELLEN O'MALLEY

INTERIM EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — If we've learned anything from the past year, it's to make the best of a notso-great situation. That's what they did at Fairways

Golf Course in Rochelle. "Last year, we had two golf outings," Mitch

Hamilton, di-rector of golf "Last year, we at Fairways had two golf said, adding that even outings ... this guests disthose outings were at 50 year we have pacity. "This 14 scheduled." rental clubs to entice visiyear, we have 14 scheduled," adding that capacity

restrictions

have been lifted.

And there's more good news, Fairways Golf Course will be the home course for the Kishwaukee College golf team going forward. Hamilton explained that outside the golf meets, the team also will do 16 hours of volunteer work, per teammate, at the course and they're going to host their fundraiser at Fairways. In addition, the

Kish golf team will assist the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park with its golf camp this summer.

The course opened March 13 this year, Hamilton said they typically shoot for St. Patrick's Day, March 17, to open so they got a jump on that. In addition to adding the college as regulars, Hamilton said

he's taking fliers to all the hotels in town and offering counts along with free Mitch Hamilton to entice visitors who come Director Fairways to the "Hub Golf Course City."

Currently, the golf course benefits from the city's hotel/motel tax, so he saw this as an opportunity to get visitors interested in the golf course.

Thus far, it'll be different than last year when they weren't allowed to open until May 1, and that was under restrictions.

"You'll probably never see a water cooler on a golf course ever again," Hamilton said.

Last year, golfers had



**COURTESY PHOTO** 

Fairways Golf Course has kept the greens in above par condition despite dealing with budget cuts last year.

to walk the course and all the benches had to be overturned so no one would sit on them.

He said that wasn't popular with the golfers as there weren't places to sit and rest anywhere on the course, even though they had to walk.

Financially, it could have been worse, but he said 2020 recorded 1,600 more rounds of golf than the previous year. "Our money comes from people playing golf," Hamilton explained, adding that they were capable of keeping the turf and playing

conditions the same as previous years.

Financially, the golf course is in good shape with "\$60,000 cash in hand," at the end of the

Hamilton explained that surplus came from the combination of the increase in golfers, which he didn't expect, as well as some budget cuts.

That gives them roughly \$100,000 in reserves if something like this comes

"We can survive if something like this comes up again," Hamilton said.

## **BOARD:** Saying goodbye

From page 1

intendent] about it and he had the same idea, but told us that the district wasn't quite ready," Tess said.

But eventually it all came together, and the program has been a success for the

district and community.

the diversity of those on the board. "We all bring something different to the board, different backgrounds and that really works," Reif said, adding she feels they represent all aspects of the community.

Both agreed that it was the "honor of a the old guys." lifetime" to serve on the school board and to represent the residents of Rochelle and the surrounding area. While Tess served as the board's president at one time, Reif said she preferred to work behind the

scenes on district issues.

Other board members thanked Tess and Reif for their time on the board, but Tess drew a huge laugh from the crowd when she pointed to the remaining members and announced. "You are now officially

#### Reif attributes the board's success to I feel we're in a better place because of you."

Jason Harper Superintendent

Additional coverage of the elementary school board will be in Sunday's edition of the News-Leader, but look for information on applying for a vacant board seat in today's newspaper.

## **CITY:** Outdoor dining returns in the 'Hub City'

#### From page 1

them an alternative and being able to serve their customers outdoors was a solution to a very new situation.

Fiegenschuh explained that the hours of operation are limited to 7 a.m. through 10 p.m. each day, and within specific, designated spots. He added that after hours public consumption will be enforced as well as public consumption outside the designated areas.

New entrance

The city hall and police department will see a long overdue upgrade to its entrances.

According to Rochelle City Clerk Sue Messer, neither entrance it ADA accessible. In addition, the entrance doors to the the past year, particularly police department are not lumber and metal. Other commercial grade exterior projects will be delayed doors, the original floor to offset the cost.

is failing and the thermostat for the lobby hasn' worked in years.

The council voted unanimously to award Larson & Larson Builders the projec at a cost of \$45,400. This is over the projected cos budgeted of \$38,000; however, building materials prices have gone up over

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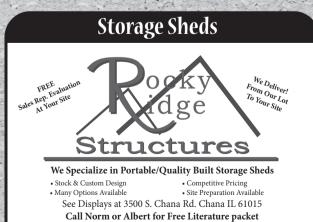
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The Rochelle News-Leader

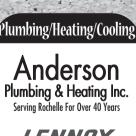


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**PUBLICATION** 

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Case No.

2021MR23

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to the new name of

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/s/ Patrick Lance

No. 0410 (April 14,

Patrick Lance Dixon.

113

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE** STATE OF ILLINOIS IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE 15TH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT COUNTY OF OGLE

CENTRAL **BANK ILLINOIS** )No. Successor )2020 )CH 51 in interest to the **FIRST** NATIONAL BANK OF ROCHELLE. Plaintiff,

JOHN VUKAD-INOVICH and HELEN VUKAD-INOVICH, Defendants. NOTICE OF

SHERIFF'S SALE PUBLIC NOTICE is hereby given that pursuant to a Judgment of Foreclosure entered by the Court in the above entitled cause the property hereinafter described or so much thereof as shall be

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paginate for every issue.

ings in both print and digital fashion.

judgment, will be sold to the highest bidder. A. The name, address

and telephone number of the person to contact for information regarding the estate is: Hewitt & Wagner, Attorney for

Plaintiff, 1124 Lincoln Highway, Rochelle, Illinois, 61068, (815) 562-2704. The common address and other

common description, if any, of the real estate is: 709 N. Main Street, Rochelle, Ogle County, Illinois. C. The legal description of the real estate is:

Lot Seven (7) Two Block (2)as designated upon the Plat of Palmer's First Addition in the City of Rochelle, according to the Plat thereof recorded in Book A of Miscellaneous, page 30 in the Recorder's Office

of Ogle County, Illinois;

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sufficient to satisfy said of Ogle and State of Illinois. Tax Code No. 24-24-

329-003 D. A description of

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at the Ogle County

Sheriff's Office, 202

S. 1st Street, Oregon, Illinois G. The terms of the sale are: 20 percent day of sale with balance due by noon on the next business day after the

sale.

H. The Judgment of Foreclosure amount is \$27,797.72 as of September 22, 2020. CENTRAL BANK ILLINOIS, Successor in interest to the FIRST

NATIONAL BANK OF ROCHELLE, Plaintiff, By HEWITT &

WAGNER, Its

#304.

Brunner

21, 28)

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#### 105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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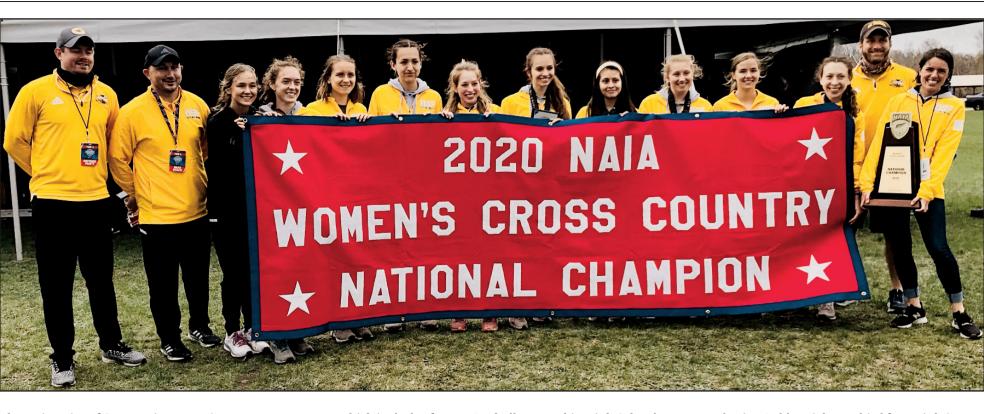
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News-Leader

# **SPORTS**



The University of St. Francis women's cross country team, which includes former Rochelle Township High School runner Katherine Bakken (above third from right), holds its championship banner after winning the 2020 NAIA National Championship race in Cedar Rapids, Iowa this past weekend.

### **NAIA:** RTHS alum Bakken named 2020 All-American

From page 1

Bakken's sophomore season began at the Tiger Cross Country Invitational in September 2020, where she took second place overall before finishing sixth at the Bethel Invitational in October 2020.

"I think I've gained a lot of physical strength from last season and I've gained a new passion for competing," Bakken said. "My experience at the University of St. Francis has been truly great. I really enjoy the sense of community here

and my coaches have also contributed to my enjoyment because they're so knowledgeable and they truly believe in me."

A two-sport studentathlete at the University of St. Francis, Bakken recently started her sophomore season with the Saint women's track and field program. Although Bakken missed the majority of her freshman track campaign because to the COVID-19 pandemic, her sophomore season is off to a solid start. Bakken finished sixth in the

Chicagoland Collegiate Athletic Conference Indoor Championships with a PR of 10:33.44. Her first outdoor meet was the ONU Spring Opener, where she took fifth in the 5000-meter run.

"My goal for the track 3000-meter run at the and field season is to

qualify for the national championships in either the 5K or the 10K," Bakken said. "We want to qualify as many runners as we can and it will take the same mental and physical strength we had at the cross country national championships."

**RTHS Boys Soccer** 

# **Hubs dominate I-8** tournament opener

#### Salinas returns as Rochelle wins 10-0

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Damian Salinas has seen anything but a smooth ride throughout his senior season with the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer team. A four-year varsity defender, Salinas saw nearly his whole season erased due to a family emergency and then COVID-19 quarantine

Monday was a different story, however, with Salinas returning to the Hubs and making his season debut in time for Rochelle to open the Interstate 8 Conference tournament with a dominant 10-0 victory against the Ottawa Pirates. The third-seeded Hubs will advance to the semifinal round on Wednesday, when Rochelle will face Sycamore on the road at 4:30 p.m.

"It felt really good to be out there," Salinas said. "I went through some rough times when I wasn't playing, but it was really great to be back with team. We know Sycamore will give us a pretty good match, but as a team, I know we can beat them because I think we have a good team as well. We passed the ball really well today and we communicated really well."

Starting at his center back position, Salinas helped the Hubs (5-4-1) to their third shutout win of the season. Rochelle broke the scoring open during the fourth minute on Monday, when senior Josh Hurtado received an inside pass from sophomore Jace Whitehead and canned the shot from just outside the Ottawa box. Freshmen Diego Salazar and Eli Luxton connected for another goal in the 18<sup>th</sup> minute, with Salazar finding Luxton to put



Senior Damian Salinas passes the ball up the field during the Rochelle Hub varsity soccer match against Ottawa on Monday.

Rochelle ahead 2-0.

"It was good to see Damian come back and show the same form he did last season," head coach Brad Male said. "I thought he keyed some of our ball movement today because we weren't afraid to move the ball to our back line, which helped us on the offensive end. Having Damian back there helps us move Jace forward and into an attacking position"

While Salinas returning was one storyline, Rochelle's freshmen took over the match Monday evening, with Luxton and Salazar each netting hat tricks in the Hub victory. Luxton pulled the Hubs ahead 3-0 with a goal on an assist from senior Zane Walters in the 24<sup>th</sup> minute, while junior Caleb Ritter added another highlight moments later, dribbling down the right sideline and scoring an unassisted goal during the 29<sup>th</sup> minute for his first score of the season.

Leading 4-0 at halftime and with Ottawa showing no ability to clear the ball, Rochelle continued pouring on the pressure in the second half. Senior Juan Cincire collected a pair of assists during the 45th and 47th minutes, feeding Luxton and Salazar to give the Hubs a 6-0 advantage. A short time after Luxton completed his hat trick, Salazar netted his second goal of the match in the 53<sup>rd</sup> minutes, converting a right-footed cross from sophomore Jared Montano. With a 7-0 lead, Sala-

zar stayed on the attack at the left forward position, cashing in an assist from Whitehead during the 61<sup>st</sup> minute for his hat trick. Rochelle closed the match out with two goals in the final two minutes including an unassisted score from Walters and a shot from Whitehead that found the Ottawa net with only 8.1 seconds remaining in regulation. **RTHS Volleyball** 



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Lady Hub volleyball players Clare Green, Addie Friestad and Payton Hale (left to right) have each played key roles in the Rochelle varsity team's recent success.

### Rochelle nets wins over LaSalle-Peru, Coal City

#### Lady Hubs beat Sycamore on Monday

LASALLE—Acollective team effort was what fueled the Lady Hub varsity volleyball team on the road Saturday afternoon, when Rochelle defeated Interstate 8 Conference rival LaSalle-Peru in three sets before beating nonconference opponent Coal City in two sets.

The Lady Hubs outlasted LaSalle-Peru 27-25, 19-25, 25-20. Junior Sylvia Hasz led the Rochelle offense with 16 kills, while sophomore Addie Friestad added 11 kills and senior Clare Green commanded the attack with 32 assists. Sophomore Anna Harvey stepped up for the Lady Hub defense, securing eight digs as Rochelle continues to rally from an 0-4 start to the season.

"We started off a little shaky, but we really came together and our bench was cheering everybody on," Harvey said. "Coming back to win the first set was a really big motivator for everybody... We knew we could come back after losing the second set and we really worked together. Our defense was much better and we were reading

their hits more often."

Rochelle had no trouble against Coal City, winning 25-14, 25-14 behind 14 kills from Hasz and four blocks from sophomore Payton Hale. Senior Morgan Haas recorded five digs in the match, while Green captained the Lady Hub offense with 18 assists in the Rochelle victory.

"Our offense was working really well and we had some great blocks up front," Harvey said. "Payton had an awesome match and we made some really hard swings. I think our communication and our chemistry off the court have improved a lot since the season started and it's been a lot of fun getting to know these girls. There's such a positive environment around our team and I think that's really helped me since I haven't played with many of these girls before."

#### Sycamore

With an Interstate 8 Conference victory on the line, Rochelle's varsity volleyball team turned to its Most Valuable Player from last season to deliver a big-time performance. Embracing the challenge, Sylvia Hasz shined for the Lady Hubs, scoring 26 kills as Rochelle outlasted Sycamore on the road 25-15, 24-26, 25-21 for its

third consecutive victory. "We really worked well together and we were all very consistent," Hasz said. "We were smart when we attacked the ball. Clare was putting up some really good balls for me and they were leaving the seams open. I always look for those openings when I go up and hit the ball and they couldn't seem to close out their blocks."

Senior Clare Green totaled 28 assists in the win, while sophomore Anna Harvey recorded eight digs as the Lady Hubs improved their record to 6-6 overall. Hasz added seven digs and three aces for the Rochelle team, which has won six of its last eight matches after an 0-4 start.

"It was a really competitive and fun match," Hasz said. "When we won our first match of the season, we learned that if we want to win, it's not going to come easy," Hasz said. "We have to work for every set and we have to come out with that mindset."



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# **HUB SPOTLIGHT**



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Rochelle Township High School graduates Ben Hickey and Gabrielle Harding were honored with the 2019-20 Rochelle News-Leader Scholar-Athlete Awards on Friday.

### Hickey, Harding receive **Scholar-Athlete Awards**

**BY RUSSELL HODGES** 

**SPORTS EDITOR** 

ORMER Rochelle Township High School student-athletes Ben Hickey and Gabrielle Harding were recognized as the 2019-20 Rochelle News-Leader Scholar-Athlete Award winners during halftime of the Rochelle Hub varsity football game against Sandwich on Friday night.

Harding currently attends Concordia University Chicago, where she competes for the women's track and field team. A three-sport student-athlete at RTHS, Harding competed for the Lady Hub varsity volleyball, basketball and track and field programs. An Academic All-Conference honoree in each of her three high-school sports, Harding is currently studying physical therapy.

"I always went hard in everything I did throughout my high school career," Harding said. "Being recognized for all of my hard work is something I really took to the heart and it feels amazing. The college

"Being recognized for all of my hard work is something I really took to the heart and it feels amazing."

**Gabrielle Harding** 

experience has been amazing and our track and field team is doing really well... The teachers and the coaches at RTHS give their all in everything they do and it really helps the student-athletes in the long run. I appreciate everything they did for me and my teammates."

Hickey currently attends Northern Illinois University, where he's majoring in industrial and systems engineering A three-sport student-athlete at RTHS, Hickey ran for the Hub cross country team and competed for the basketball and track and field programs. An Academic All-Conference honoree as well, Hickey maintained a 4.0 GPA throughout his four years at RTHS.

"This award shows that my hard work over the years really paid off," Hickey said. "The college experience has been great, even though it's been a lot different because of the COVID-19 restrictions. I'm really enjoying NIU and I've met a lot of new friends. The relationships I formed with my friends and coaches are what I enjoyed most about my time at RTHS."

"The relationships I formed with my friends and coaches are what I enjoyed most about my time at RTHS."

**Ben Hickey** 









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WEDNESDAY, APRIL 14, 2021

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 1 • PAGE 12

# SPORTS 2



#### SCHOLAR ATHLETES

RTHS alums Ben Hickey and Gabrielle Harding were recognized Friday evening.

See page 11 for more details

RTHS Cross Country

# All-American effort

Bakken leads St. Francis to first-ever NAIA women's cross country title

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ORMERLady ≺ Hub distance running standout Katherine Bakken was enjoying a fast start to her sophomore cross country season at the University of St. Francis. Some fortunate timing allowed Bakken to finish strong, with the Rochelle Township High School alum stepping up and delivering a big-time performance for the Saints at the 2020 NAIA National Championships.

Bakken began the 2020 season during the fall, competing in two meets before an injury sidelined her and nearly derailed the remainder of her sophomore campaign. But rising COVID-19 cases late last year forced the NAIA to postpone its national championship meet to the spring, allowing Bakken enough time to heal up and restart her sophomore season in March.

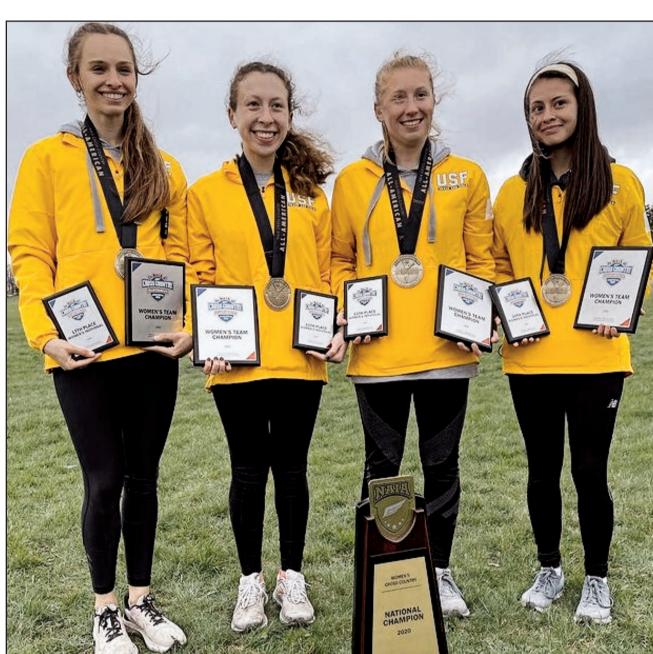
Stronger and more inspired to compete, Bakken was more than prepared to compete in the NAIA National Championship at the Seminole Cross Country Course in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, where she finished 15th out of 326 runners with a time of 18

minutes and 14 seconds. Bakken's efforts not only resulted in St. Francis winning the first women's cross country title in program history, but she was one of four Saints to earn NAIA All-American honors at the event.

"I'm so excited about being an All-American," Bakken said. "It's a testament to the hard work I've put in since joining the program. I loved helping our team win the national championship because each runner is so dedicated and hard-working. I thought we were all pretty confident in our ability to win and we knew what needed to be done. The course was muddy, but pretty flat and fast. We were prepared to run in the mud after training through tough conditions during the winter... I was really lucky that the meet was moved to April because of the pandemic so that I had enough time to recover and help lead my team at nationals."

The All-American performance was a significant improvement for Bakken, who placed 119th with a time of 19:35.2 during the 2019 NAIA National Championship as a fresh-

See NAIA page 10



Former Rochelle Township High School runner Katherine Bakken (middle left) was one of four St. Francis cross country athletes to earn All-American honors during the 2020 NAIA National Championship race this past weekend. Bakken helped lead the Saints to their first-ever women's cross country national title.

### **RTHS Football** Fresh-Soph Hubs cruise over Sandwich

DeLille runs for 143 yards, two touchdowns in 42-6 victory

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football team dominated for the second straight week, defeating the Sandwich Indians 42-6 and improving to 3-1 on the season.

Sophomore Landon DeLille rushed for a teamhigh 143 yards and two touchdowns in the victory. Sophomore Hayden Inman tossed two touchdown passes including a 12-yarder to sophomore Aidan Darby and a 17-yarder to

sophomore David Gerber. Sophomore Aidan Rodriguez and freshman Tommy Tourdot each recorded rushing touchdowns in the win, while freshman Landon Mickley led the Rochelle defense with two fumble recoveries and four tackles. Freshman Brock Metzger totaled seven tackles and sophomore Kyce Jaradat finished with six tackles including one



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Sophomore tight end Aidan Darby catches a touchdown pass over a Sandwich defender during the Rochelle Hub fresh-soph football game against the Indians on Monday.