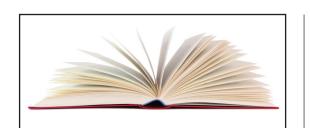
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### **Lady Hubs rally** for OT win over Kaneland

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### **KNOW IT TODAY**



#### **Candidate** announcement

Former State Senator announces candidacy for governor. **See page 2** 

#### **WEATHER**



WEDNESDAY

**THURSDAY** 

HIGH LOW

SATURDAY

**HIGH LOW** 

**23** 3

FRIDAY





1218 Currency Court 815-561-8595

#### **OBITUARIES**

 DARRELL DAVIS PAULETTE HARVEY

See page 4

#### **INSERTS**

ALDI FARM & FLEET

### INSIDE

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### Hubs to compete at state in eight events

ROCHELLE — Valentine's Day was especially sweet for the Rochelle Township High School speech team. The day before hearts and flowers day, the team competed in the IHSA Sectional competition, a 30-team semi-state contest, and finished in second place — including a pair of sectional championships.

Megan Thiravong bested the competition in Radio Speaking, also qualifying for the state tournament in Extemporaneous Speaking. The performance in the round cast is also a 2021 IHSA speech sectional champion.

Others qualifying for the state tournament include:

Faith Worthington, second in Impromptu Speaking and third place in Informative Speaking Ava Coglianese, third

place in Special Occasion Speaking as well as Original Comedy Morgan Haas, third

place in Oratorical Declamation The performance in the



The Rochelle Township High School speech team took second place at sectional competition this past weekend. The IHSA State Championships will take place Feb. 19-20.

round cast includes Heidi Cruz, Mateo Hughes, Jaela Ludwick, Bella Nauman and Jessica Nguyen.

The Hubs can also boast sectional finalists.

Paul Swartz placed fifth in Humorous Interpretation, Morgan Haas placed sixth in Oratory and Ariel Zuercher and Jenn Heinrich placed sixth in Dramatic Duet Acting.

Students competing in the state tournament will perform Feb. 19 and 20.



The RTHS performance in the round cast includes (left to right) Bella Nauman, Heidi Cruz, Jessica Nguyen and coach Russ Konstans as well as Mateo Hughes and Jaela Ludwick (not pictured). The PIR cast is the 2021 IHSA speech sectional champion and will compete at the state tournament next weekend.

## Foundation's grant season open

to announce the opening of the 2021 Community grants season.

Qualified nonprofit organizations now have the opportunity to apply for funding for projects and programs that enhance the quality of life in the community, serve to support individuals and

the COVID-19 pandemic.

In 2020, the foundation redirected Community Grant Funds to meet immediate and emergency needs due to the CO-VID-19 pandemic while community grant applications were put on hold.

This year the foundation plans to invest an a variety of projects, programs and organizations. This is only possible due to charitable contributions entrusted to the foundation by generous donors as permanent gifts that go on giving year after year.

The 2021 Community Grant application and in-

**ROCHELLE** – The families and for funding to estimated \$100,000 into formation can be accessed Foundation, visit the web-Rochelle Area Commu- supplement the budgets of the community for multi- through the foundation's site or mail a check to nity Foundation is excited organizations affected by purpose grants to support website at www.rochelle- P.O. Box 74. Rochelle. foundation.org under the grants tab. For questions or more information, contact executive director Kim Montgomery at 815-561-3600, or by email to: kim@rochellefoundation.org.

To make a charitable contribution to the Rochelle Area Community IL 61068.

The Rochelle Area Community is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization whose mission is to improve community through charitable giving, encourage a spirit of philanthropy, and enhance the quality of life of the community.

### Plans underway for kickball benefit

**BY RUSSELL HODGES** 

**SPORTS EDITOR** 

**ROCHELLE** — Plans for a charity kickball tournament hosted by the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District and the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce highlighted the February board of commissioners meeting Monday

The tournament would be played at VFW Park and proceeds from the tournament would benefit the park district's ENGAGE Program as well as the chamber's scholarship fund for Rochelle Township High School graduates.

Recreation & Fitness Superintendent TC Hager said the proposed tournament date would be Saturday, May 8. The tournament would host anywhere from 8 to 12 teams, with sign-up fees and sponsorship fees benefiting the ENGAGE Program, which provides financial assistance for local families who may not have the ability to participate in park district activities. The board said it will consider revising an ordinance to allow alcohol sales at the proposed tournament.

"It would be an adult kickball tournament and the goal would be to raise

money through team fees and sponsorship fees," Hager said. "There will possibly be some food and beverage sales as well... The money would be split to support both the chamber and the park district causes."

Commissioners may take action on the alcohol ordinance at next month's meeting on March 15.

### NHS induction set for March 8

BY RUSSELL HODGES

**SPORTS EDITOR** 

**ROCHELLE** — Rochelle School District 212 administrators announced during the February board of education meeting Tuesday evening that the upcoming National Honor Society ceremony at RTHS will be conducted with a virtual format on Tuesday, March 8.

Board members also renewed the district's dual office agreement with Rochelle School District 231 and sent out bids for a new lease on a 14-passenger cutaway van that will replace an existing van. The bids will be opened on Feb. 22 at 10 a.m. and a recommendation for board approval will be brought forward at next month's board meeting on Monday, March 15.

Superintendent Jason Harper said staff members who received COVID-19 vaccinations this past month will take their second round of doses next Monday, Feb. 22. Over 200 staff members across both the high school and elementary districts took vaccines last month.





### Former state senator, Republican AG candidate Schimpf to run for governor

CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS/JNOWIC-KI@CAPITOLNEWSILLINOIS.COM

#### SPRINGFIELD -

Former state Sen. Paul Schimpf, who spent four years representing the 58th District and was the Republican Party's candidate for attorney general in 2014, announced Monday he will run for governor in 2022.

Schimpf made the announcement via videoconference at 10 a.m., beginning a day of traveling the state with planned stops in Algonquin, Rock Island and Morris Monday and Decatur, Morris and his hometown of Waterloo Tuesday.

In his announcement, Schimpf sought to distance himself from Democratic Gov. JB Pritzker on both issues of policy and life experience. "My vision for Illinois

involves a return to responsible government, safe communities and economic growth in a free market," he said. "We need a governor who welcomes and insists upon legislative oversight of his administration."

A U.S. Naval Academy graduate and Marine Corps veteran, Schimpf was an outspoken advocate for veterans in the Senate, serving as minority party spokesperson on the Senate Veterans Affairs Committee. In 2005, Schimpf served as the chief American advisor in the trial of Saddam Hussein in Iraq. He rose to the rank of lieutenant colonel in the Marine Corps.

A biography distributed by Schimpf's campaign



(PHOTO CREDIT: BLUEROOMSTREAM.COM)

Paul Schimpf, a former Republican candidate for attorney general who retired as a state senator last month, on Monday announced a bid for governor in

emphasized that he wrote an article in 2004 for the Military Law Review on "the need to establish a victim-victim advocate evidentiary privilege within the Department of Defense" in an effort to improve treatment of sexual assault victims. Those practices were adopted in 2012.

Beginning in 2004, Schimpf was a judge advocate, or military attorney, at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego, Calif. There, he served as the head prosecutor, supervising other attorneys and litigating drug, sexual assault and attempted murder cases, according to his campaign.

He was elected to the state Senate in 2017, retiring in January ahead of his run for governor. He said his proudest accomplishment as state senator was his work with a higher education working group that produced legislative changes such as AIM High grants, which aim to provide Illinois' highest performing students with the means to remain in Illinois for college.

He is an of counsel attorney with the law firm of Stumpf & Gutknecht P.C. in Columbia, meaning he is not an equity partner in the firm.

"More important than all those experiences, however, is the perspective that I will bring to the governor's office," he said. "For far too long, we have had literally governors who were either career politicians or wealthy corporate executives who couldn't understand or empathize with the struggles that the people of Illinois face."

He touched on a number of issues that have been lynchpins of Republican legislative dissent in recent years and weeks, noting a governor should "give clear unambiguous support to the law enforcement community.'

He also addressed Illinois' tax burden, quoting Ronald Reagan and stating Illinois needs a governor who "understands those

day-to-day challenges that we all face" and who will "stand up to the entrenched special interest groups that have done so much damage to our state." "I know what it feels like

to wake up in the middle of the night wondering how my wife and I are going to pay for our kids' education, or what the next property tax increase is going to do to our family budget," he said.

While Schimpf tied himself to popular Republican icon Reagan, Illinois Democrats quickly sought tie Schimpf to a less popular, more recent Republican elected official - ex-Gov. Bruce Rauner, who presided over a two-year budget impasse which saw the state's backlog of unpaid bills balloon to over \$16

Mary Morrissey, Executive Director of the Democratic Party of Illinois, referred to Schimpf as a "Rauner/Trump acolyte" in a statement.

"Schimpf was a consistent vote for Bruce Rauner's catastrophic agenda, even going along with his attempts to continue the historic budget crisis that resulted in Illinois going 736 days without a budget," Morrissey said. "He supported Donald Trump's re-election, even after the former President failed at his central task of keeping Americans safe by lying about the dangers of the coronavirus and instead promoting conspiracy theories."

Schimpf's biography touted his vote against the compromise budget which raised the state's flat income tax and ended the two-year budget impasse in 2017.

Kristina Zahorik, president of the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association, referred to Schimpf as "Rauner 2.0" and "a wolf in sheep's clothing." "Paul Schimpf has built

a facade of being pro-labor and moderate," Zahorik said in a statement. "When given the opportunity to prove that during his short time in the Illinois Senate, he opposed key labor issues like supporting increasing the minimum wage. He also consistently voted to extend the Rauner budget crisis that crippled our state."

Schimpf, however, emphasized an "every man" image, distancing himself from the billionaire Pritzker and multi-millionaire

He said he expects to do better than he did in his last statewide run in 2014, when he challenged former Attorney General Lisa Madigan as the Republican candidate. In that election, he lost by nearly 800,000 votes, gaining 37.8 percent of the vote.

"I did not have enough financial resources to get my message out," he said. "That is one of the lessons that I learned when I ran statewide in 2014 for Illinois attorney general is that it doesn't matter how goodyourmessage is, if you don't have the resources to get it out, you will not be successful."

His candidate committee, Citizens for Schimpf, had \$149,529 cash on hand as of Feb. 15, according to

"I know that Gov. Pritzker has a lot of resources. I don't expect to be able to match him dollar for dollar, but I do expect to be able to get my message out with a lot of hard work."

#### **Paul Schimpf**

campaign database Illinois Sunshine.

Still, Schimpf said, money can only go so far, and he cited the failed Democratic presidential campaign of former New York City Mayor Michael Bloomberg.

"You can't buy elections with money," he said. "I know that Gov. Pritzker has a lot of resources. I don't expect to be able to match him dollar for dollar, but I do expect to be able to get my message out with a lot of hard work. I do expect to be able to win this race."

The primary election for statewide office is scheduled for March 15, and Schimpfjoins businessman Gary Rabine, who is chairman and founder of the paving, roofing and snow removal company Rabine Group, in announcing their candidacies for governor.





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### Deputies respond to several accidents due to road conditions

#### Feb. 9

On Feb. 9, the Ogle County Sheriff's deputies arrested Cedric Williams, 19, of Rockford, for driving while license revoked. Williams was arrested by Ogle County Sheriff's deputies on Illinois Route 251 near Davis Junction after being stopped for speeding. Williams was released on a I-bond and will appear in court at a later date

On Feb. 9 the following individuals were arrested on outstanding Ogle County warrants:

Dustin Doyle was arrested for an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Doyle posted bond and will appear in court at a later date.

Nicholas Rodriguez was arrested for an outstanding Ogle County warrant. Rodriguez appear in court on Feb. 10.

#### Feb. 11

On Feb. 11 at approximately 9:51 a.m., deputies performed a traffic stop in the 3000 block of South Illinois Route 2. After investigation, deputies placed Aaron Hubbell, 24, of Amboy, under arrest for driving while license suspended, improper cannabis container driver, and a valid Lee County Contempt of Court warrant. Hubbell was additionally issued a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Hubbell was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 11 at approximately 6:29 p.m., deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 1300 block of Pines Road. After further investigation, Mateo Kucera, 32 of Chicago, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license and unlawful possession of cannabis. Kucera was released on an Individual Bond at the scene.

#### Feb. 12

On Feb. 12 at 1:39 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies were patrolling in the 6000 block of East Illinois Route 72 when they observed a male subject walking on the side of the road. The male subject was identified as Jared Marsh, 36, of Stillman Valley. Marsh advised Deputies that he had driven his vehicle into the ditch. After an investigation, Marsh was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Marsh was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.



On Feb. 12 at approximately 9:26 p.m., Ogle County deputies were dispatched to 11539 W. East Road for the report of a vehicle stuck in the ditch. After an investigation, deputies arrested David E. Warner, 61, of Machesney Park, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Warner was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond. He was also cited for improper traffic lane usage.

On Feb. 12 at approximately 9:48 p.m., Ogle County deputies responded to a disturbance in Stillman Valley. After investigation, Ogle County Deputies arrested Isiah Blake, 22, of Stillman Valley, for domestic battery. Blake was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

#### Feb. 13

On Feb. 13 at approximately 6:24 p.m., Ogle County deputies were dispatched to the 9000 block of West Illinois Route 72 for the report of a single vehicle rollover accident. After further investigation, deputies arrested Marcos S. Serrano-Vides, 23, of Rockford, for aggravated DUI-alcohol and no valid driver's license. Serrano-Vide was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held with no bond. Serrano-Vides was also cited for improper traffic lane usage, failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident/too fast for conditions, and operating uninsured motor vehicle.

Feb. 15 On Feb. 15 at 4:39 a.m., deputies responded to the 15000 block of E. Twombly Road in reference to a vehicle in the ditch. After an investigation, deputies arrested Rebekah Emerson, 47, of Rochelle. Emerson was charged with driving under the influence of alcohol, driving on a suspended license, illegal transportation of alcohol, and improper lane usage. Emerson was given an I-bond at Rochelle Community Hospital where she was transported by the Rochelle Ambulance for evaluation due to the cold weather. Emerson will appear in court at a later date.

#### Feb. 16

On Feb. 16 at 8:44 a.m., the Ogle County Sheriff's Office responded to a three vehicle accident in the 10,000 block East Illinois Route 38. After an investigation, deputies determined that a Volkswagon driven by Charles Echelbarger, 37, of Rochelle, was westbound when Echelbarger lost control due to slippery road conditions. The Volkswagon made contact with a westbound Chevrolet driven by Carolyn Mcbride, 61, of Rockford, before colliding head-on with a Chrysler Minivan that was eastbound at the location. The driver of the Chrysler, Fred Koch, 79, of Ashton, and passenger Anita Koch, 78, of Ashton, were taken by Rochelle ambulnce to the Rochelle Community Hospital for treatment of non life threatening injuries. Echelbarger and Mcbride were not injured in the incident. Echelbarger was cited for failing to reduce his speed to avoid an accident. The Flagg Center Fire Department also responded to the

On Feb. 16 at approximately 7:46 a.m., deputies were dispatched to a two vehicle accident with possible injuries on Interstate 39 near mile marker 112 northbound. After investigation, deputies learned a Kia SUV driven by Laurie Sievert, 51, of Davis Junction, was traveling northbound on Interstate 39 in the right lane. While Sievert was traveling northbound she began to lose control of her vehicle on the icy road and entered into the left a lane. Daniel Drews, 48, of Belvidere was also traveling northbound on Interstate 39 at the time in his Jeep SUV while in the left lane. As Sievert's vehicle entered the left lane, Drews'vehicle struck the rear end causing heavy damage to both vehicles. Sievert was transported to SwedishAmerican Hospital for non-life threatening injuries by Kirkland EMS. Sievert was later issued a citation for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Monroe Center Fire and Stillman Valley EMS also

### State police remind drivers of "Move Over" law

**SPRINGFIELD** – With multiple recent crashes involving Illinois State Police Troopers, Governor JB Pritzker and ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly implores motorists to respect the Move Over Law and use caution when approaching emergency vehicles on interstates and roads.

In the past three days, six ISP squad cars have been struck due to motorists disobeying the Move Over Law (also known as Scott's Law), bringing the year-to-date total to 10 in 2021. Three of these recent incidents resulted in injuries, including one serious injury. These incidents occurred across the state in ISP District(s) 2, 5, 13, 16 and Chicago.

"Scott's Law is critical to keeping our first responders safe as they heroically serve us on our roadways," said Governor JB Pritzker. "Especially now, as we continue to experience extreme winter weather, it is imperative that drivers slow down and move over as they approach a vehicle with their hazard lights on. I'm praying for our Illinois State Police troopers who have been injured in the line of duty in recent days and imploring all Illinoisans to drive safely and follow the law."

"We are only six weeks into the new year and we've already had 10 squad cars struck because people do not obey the law," said ISP Director Brendan Kelly. "But this about more than just obeying the law- it's about basic decency and respect for the very lives of the brave souls on our streets simply trying to help the public."

#### Law

Governor JB Pritzker has been heavily involved in the effort to bring awareness to the Move Over (Scott's) Law and signed two pieces of legislation in 2019 as a part of his ongoing effort. Public Act 101-173 increased the fines for those violating this law. A person who violates Scott's Law, commits a business offense and faces a fine of no less than \$250 or more than \$10,000 for a first offense. If the

violation results in injury to another person, the violator's driver's license will be suspended for a mandatory period of anywhere between six months and two years.

Additionally, a Move Over Task Force, implemented through Public Act 101-174, was created to study the issues of violations of the Move Over (Scott's) Law and how to protect emergency responders. Both Senate bills were effective Jan. 1, 2020.

As chair of the Move Over Task Force, ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly continues to make the Move Over Law a top priority. "As an agency, we have responded to the preventable loss of four ISP Troopers in 2019 with resiliency and a focused mission to protect those who are trying to protect all of us. As long as the danger to our first responders exists, and the danger is obviously apparent, we will continue to raise awareness and aggressively enforce the Move Over (Scott's) Law," said ISP Director Brendan F. Kelly.

In the inclement weather that we are experiencing throughout the state, motorists are encouraged to stay home. If travel cannot be avoided or delayed, drivers should allow plenty of time for travel, avoid tailgating reduce speed, pay attention to the road and slow down and move over for emergency vehicles. Following winter driving tips will help reduce accidents and injuries, but staying home, if possible, is the safest choice right now.

The Move Over Law requires drivers to change lanes when approaching stationary emergency vehicles, including highway maintenance vehicles displaying flashing lights, and any stationary vehicle with their hazard lights activated. The law also states, if changing lanes would be impossible or unsafe, drivers are required to proceed with due caution, reduce the speed of the vehicle and leave a safe distance until safely passing the stationary vehicle. Move Over and Slow Down. Help us help you.



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**Obituaries** 

### Darrell Davis

**ROCHELLE** — Darrell Davis, 64, of Rochelle, passed away Monday, Feb. 15, 2021 at his home.

Arrangements are pending with Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 North Sixth Street, Rochelle. Visit www.UngerHorner.com.

### Paulette Harvey

ROCHELLE—Paulette L. Harvey, 69, of Rochelle, passed away on Tuesday, Feb. 17, 2022 at the Rochelle Community Hospital.

Arrangements are pending at the Unger Horner Funeral Home, 400 North Sixth Street, Rochelle. Visit www.UngerHorner.com.

### Weather causing federal vaccine delivery delays

SPRINGFIELD -

The federal government has notified all states of COVID-19 vaccine delivery delays across the entire country due to adverse weather and road condi-

To help offset delayed vaccine deliveries, the State of Illinois proactively ordered vaccine to be delivered to its Strategic National Stockpile Receipt, Store, and Stage site in anticipation of adverse weather. Illinois is distributing that vaccine to many providers around the state today and tomorrow, as weather permits, to continue to support vaccination operations.

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and Operation Warp Speed are projecting adverse weather impacts to operations at its partner and carrier facilities where vaccines and ancillary supply kits originate. HHS/OWS have advised that many regularly projected deliveries that were set for Tuesday would be significantly impacted by adverse weather occurring across the U.S. These impacts could continue throughout the week and could be affected by additional adverse weather projected later in the week.



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## **Creston library awarded funds**

Jesse White awards over \$1 million in CARES Act Grant Funding

**SPRINGFIELD**—Illinois Secretary of State and State Librarian Jesse White is awarding \$1,142,645 in CARES Act funding to 292 Illinois libraries, school districts and library systems. CARES Act funding was provided to the Illinois State Library from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to prevent, prepare for and respond to the COVID-19 pandemic. "Our public libraries and schools continue to be the

cornerstones of our communities, and they have never been more important to their patrons and students," said White. "We have to ensure they are safe and accessible to everyone. I am pleased to award these grants through the Illinois State Library to assist librarians, patrons and school districts during this unprecedented time.' Illinois libraries, school districts and library systems

are receiving CARES Act funding for three purposes:

Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for Illinois Public Libraries: 218 public libraries received a total of \$157,580. To assist libraries in addressing the unforeseen consequences of COVID-19, public library agencies could apply for up to \$500 per eligible public library building to address the proper handling of library materials and to purchase cleaning and PPE supplies, such as masks and acrylic barriers to ensure the safety of staff and patrons.

Digital Network Access: 70 school districts and public libraries received a total of \$485,065. To assist libraries in addressing the unforeseen consequences of COVID-19 public libraries, school libraries and community colleges could apply for up to \$10,000 to establish, or expand their digital network access. Students displaced by COVID-19 and disadvantaged

library patrons may not have reliable internet options to connect to remote learning or to access online library services and information. The State Library anticipates that distance education will be an ongoing need in the coming academic year. It is also expected that virtual networking, working remotely and requests for discovering information online may continue to increase. E-books: Four agencies received a total of \$500,000

During the pandemic, patron registrations for e-book access increased significantly. To assure that residents and students have direct access to e-book collections, the two regional library systems, Chicago Public Library and Consortium of Academic and Research Libraries each received \$125,000 to purchase e-books for their member libraries.

The Creston-Dement Public Library received \$500 for Personal Protective Equipment.

### **OSFM** encourages older Illinoisans to practice fire safety

SPRINGFIELD —

The Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal and the Illinois Department of Aging are encouraging older Illinoisans to keep fire safety a top priority. Some seniors have decreased sight, hearing and restricted mobility, needs that should be considered when creating a fire escape plan.

In 2019, out of the 110 fire deaths in Illinois, 47.6 percent of those deaths were people over the age of 60. According to the United States Fire Administration, older adults face the greatest relative risk of dying in a fire. In 2018, older adults represented 16 percent of the United States population but suffered 42 percent of all fire deaths. Those who are 85 and older were 3.8 times more likely

to die in a fire than the total population.

"As the population of older adults increases, it's essential to take the necessary steps to stay safe. People 65 and older, are twice as likely to be killed or injured by fires compared to the population at large. Speak with building managers and/or your family to ensure smoke/CO alarms are working properly. Check on elderly neighbors and encourage them to talk about their fire escape plans. Practice your escape plan to see if you can execute your plan and time it takes to escape. Keep a telephone nearby, along with emergency phone numbers so that you can communicate with emergency personnel if you're trapped in your room by fire or smoke," said Illinois State Fire Marshal Matt Perez.

"In addition to discussing and creating an escape plan with your loved ones, the Illinois Department on Aging offers an Emergency Home Response Service (EHRS) - available to individuals over the age of 60 who meet eligibility requirements. EHRS provides an extra level of protection and peace of mind," said Paula Basta, Director of IDoA. "Our Emergency Home Response Service is a 24-hour, two-way voice communication system that, when activated, links to assistance outside the home. Once you press the button, help will be on its way in any home emergency."

An alarming trend has been noted by fire departments in Illinois and across the nation of accidents involving people who depend on oxygen. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report that 89 percent of deaths related to fire and home

oxygen use are caused by smoking. Never smoke or allow someone to smoke around oxygen tanks. Post NO SMOKING signs in every room of your home. Keep oxygen containers at least 5-10 feet away from any heat source. Store oxygen canisters safely and securely in the upright position, away from any type of heat source in an approved oxygen storage cart.

Keep these tips in mind to create a fire safe home: Know two ways out of

every room. Practice using both ways.

Remove any items that may block your way out of the room or your home. Discuss your fire es-

cape plan with family and neighbors. Contact your building manager or fire department to discuss your plan if you need extra help escaping.

hearing aids and a phone within reach next to your

Keep eyeglasses, keys,

Practice your home fire escape drill twice a year.

815-732-2191





**Ogle County COVID-19 Weekly Update** As of Tuesday, February 16, 2021

Number Vaccinated: 8,067

**Total FULLY VACCINATED: 3.41%** 

Vaccinating Phase 1b: Essential frontline workers

and people ages 65+.

Sign up to Receive the Vaccine: If you are age 65+ pre-register online at health.oglecounty.org or

call these partners to pre-register by phone: **Hub City Senior Center** 815-562-5050 Flagg-Rochelle Public Library 815-562-3431 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 Mt. Morris Senior Center 815-734-6335 Polo Senior Center 815-238-8645 Polo Library 815-946-2713 **Bertolet Memorial Library** 815-738-2742

Everyone who registers is put on a waiting list. Calling more than one location will not move you higher on the list. You will be contacted to schedule your vaccination appointment. It could be some time before you receive your phone call. Vaccine supply continues to be limited. We ask for your continued patience.

### Ogle County COVID-19 Statistics\*

Number of Positive Cases: 4,793 **Recovered Cases:** 4,655 67 **Current Active Cases:** Deaths: 71 Positivity, 7 day rolling average: 1.8%

\*Most current statistics available

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

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### High court offers rules for remote criminal hearings

Chief Justice says guidelines will help address case backlog

By SARAH MANSUR CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS/ SMANSUR@CAPITOLNEWSILLI-

#### **SPRINGFIELD** –

The state's highest court issued new rules last week to help courts transition to remote hearings for criminal cases as the pandemic continues to disrupt court operations statewide.

Illinois Supreme Court Chief Justice Anne Burke said the order "provides guidance for our courts to address the backlog of criminal cases created by the COVID-19 pandemic,' in a news release last week.

Courthouses shut their doors last March, allowing only essential matters to be held in-person and temporarily halting jury trials in criminal and civil cases and affecting criminal defendants' right to a speedy trial.

In May, the Illinois Supreme Court issued an order that directed circuit courts to return to normal operations on June 1 and gave local judges discre-



Illinois Supreme Court building in Springfield.

tion to allow for remote or in-person hearings.

In-person civil and criminal jury trials have slowly resumed with social distancing and other public health guidelines in place in nearly all counties, except Cook County where in-person jury trials are still on hold.

The Feb. 11 order states

"I am positive, that for years to come, defendants who have had trials postponed (by the May order) are going to be filing motions to dismiss those cases. This isn't going be over

**Richard Kling** 

that certain criminal hearings, such as initial appearances or non-substantive status hearings, can be held remotely, even if the person charged with a crime objects to a remote hearing.

Other hearings, such as sentencing hearings or hearings where a plea of guilty will be entered, must be conducted in-person unless the person charged with a crime agrees to participate remotely, according to the order.

Bench trials, where a judge decides the verdict instead of a jury, can be held remotely if the person charged consents in writing and the judge finds that doing so will not jeopardize the integrity of the trial process.

However, the order does

not allow for remote jury trials under any circum-

The new rules contained within the order were proposed by Illinois Supreme Court's Court Operations During COVID-19 Task Force, which formed in June in response to challenges caused by the pandemic. The February order only applies to criminal cases where a person could face jail as a penalty.

Richard Kling, clinical law professor at Illinois Institute of Technology Chicago-Kent College of Law and a criminal defense attorney, said the latest order is the court's attempt to balance the necessity of conducting criminal hearings and trials with the safety concerns of COVID-19.

"The bottom line is if you can't get jurors because they won't come in or they can't sit safely, or you can't get witnesses who won't come in or can't testify safely, you have to do something and that's essentially what the Supreme Court did (with its order)," he said.

This new guidance expands the court's order from May that paused what is known as the speedy trial law, which affords a person charged with a crime the right to a trial by jury within a certain time period after arrest, generally 120 days.

A criminal defendant's right to a speedy trial is codified in Illinois statute, and is contained in the Illinois constitution. Defendants who are held in jail beyond the timeframe allowed under the speedy trial law without being given a trial must be released from custody.

The Illinois Supreme Court's May order paused the speedy trial clock retroactively from March 20. For criminal defendants who have been in jail since that time, the order excludes the past 11 months from the timeframe by which the defendant is allotted under the speedy trial law.

Chief Judge Eugene Doherty of the 17th Judicial Circuit said the latest order "gives some relief" to defendants who may be

unable to have an in-person jury trial.

"What the Supreme Court's rule makes clear is that you can do a (criminal) trial by bench in a remote setting," Doherty, who is vice-chair of the task force, said in a phone interview. "So, that's one additional option that might allow somebody to go to trial that couldn't go to trial if the remote option were not available.'

Doherty said this order is one of the more important developments from the COVID-19 task force.

"This recent rule, which is a temporary COVID rule, represents, I believe, an effort to clearly define what the rules of the road are with respect to remote hearings in criminal proceedings," Doherty said.

Still, Kling said the Illinois Supreme Court's May order has essentially paused the speedy trial clock "indefinitely" for criminal defendants who are jailed awaiting trial.

The question of whether the court has the authority to indefinitely pause a criminal defendant's right to a speedy trial will continue to be debated, Kling said.

"I am positive, that for years to come, defendants who have had trials postponed (by the May order) are going to be filing motions to dismiss those cases," he said. "This isn't going be over for a long

#### Illinois reports first case of B.1.351 VID-19 variant

**SPRINGFIELD**-The Illinois Department of Public Health announced the first case of coronavirus disease (COVID-19) variant B.1.351, which was first identified in South Africa. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) confirmed the variant in a Rock Island resident. Illinois is currently reporting 22 cases of the B.1.1.7 variant, first identified in the United Kingdom.

for a long time."

"We expected to see more cases of variants detected in Illinois, including the B.1.351 strain," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi

Ezike. "These variants seem to spread more rapidly, which can lead to more cases of COVID-19 and even another surge. Our best path to defeating this virus as quickly as possible remains wearing our masks and getting vaccinated when it's our turn.

"Having this new variant in our community underscores the need to take personal precautions to prevent further spread. Please continue to wear your mask when away from home, watch your distance when around others and wash your hands frequently," said

Rock Island County Health **Department Administrator** Nita Ludwig. Cases of the B.1.351

were first reported in the U.S. at the end of January. So far, studies suggest that antibodies generated through the current COVID-19 vaccines recognize these variants and may offer some protection. Additional studies are underway.

IDPH will continue to work with local health departments, academic partners, laboratories, and CDC to monitor for cases. IDPH has increased its surveillance for this and other variants using genomic sequence testing on an increased number of specimens.

Viruses constantly change and new variants are expected. In addition

to the B.1.1.7 and B.1.351variants, the P.1 variant has emerged in Brazil.

Public health experts are working to better understand the potential impact of this variant, including how the variant spreads and how it affects people who are infected. same measures that have helped protect Illinoisans from COVID-19 will also help protect residents from

mask, staying at least 6 feet apart from others, avoiding crowds, ventilating indoor spaces, and washing hands frequently remain the best tools for preventing the spread of this virus, no matter the strain.

the variant. Wearing a

COVID-19 vaccine information and data can be found on the IDPH website at https://dph.illinois.gov/ covid19/vaccine-faq.

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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

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.

### the Rochelle Police, the Looking for a new CPA



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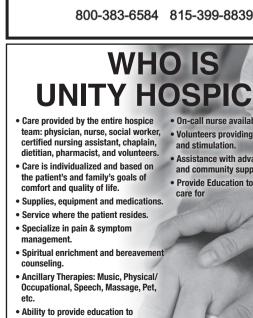


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### LOCAL VIEWS

#### VOICE ON THE STREET

### Question:

At last week's Rochelle Elementary District No. 231 board meeting, the concept of attendance center model schools was discussed. The concept would allow for grades pre-k through first to be moved to Lincoln School, grades second and third to be moved to Central School, grades fourth

"I personally think it's strange how parents are upset about kids not being with their neighborhood kids or won't be able to adjust to new environments every few years. I think it would have been nice to know ALL the kids in my graduating class and have been able to grow up knowing them. And although schools would change every few years, you'd still have the same people surrounding you. And how kids learn to adjust depends on the attitude parents present to them about it. If a parent is negative, then the kids will hate it. Give them more credit and be positive and encouraging about change. The concern I have is for families with multiple children and having to get them to different schools on time. It might be a pain in the butt but I suppose if this model is beneficial for the kids, it's worth the hassle."

Cristal Carr

"Why close a fully accessible handicap school? Central is also the oldest school?"

Rob Rose

"Ithinkit's ridiculous as my son would have to switch schools next year and then switch again the year after. He loves his school and I don't think some kids could handle switching schools every couple years. They'd have to learn a new layout for each one."

Ashley Bell

"Please listen to the parent's. Do not make a decision based on the opinions of the district employees."

Alisha Zinke Kirk

"I'm a former resident of Rochelle (23 years) and raised all three of my children in the Rochelle schools. I, myself, was raised in Bryan, Texas, and my graduating class was the among first to go to school under court-mandated bussing. I attended school for six years in my neighborhood (the last class to attend the same school for six years), then from that point on, went to a different school each year until my last three years of high school. The classes following mine went to even more schools.

It was a terrible system, although the teachers were great and the schools we attended were nice. Children could no longer walk to school from home. and fifth to be moved to Tilton School and May School to be closed. The overall decline in district-wide enrollment numbers is the force behind the change.

Do you think the attendance center model is the way to move forward?

There was no sense of belonging at any school. The teachers never got to know the families. The challenge of finding the way around a new building every year created anxiety for many students. The number of busses and drivers required went way up. Time spent traveling to and from school increased, making for a long day, not only for the students, but also the teachers.

Rochelle is a far smaller city than Bryan. The sense of community is tighter. Please consider, first, the negative impacts on the lower income families. With students attending schools all over town, will older children be home first to supervise younger children? Will parents be able to easily visit with teachers at multiple schools without taking large amounts of time off?

There is much to consider before making this decision."

Nicole N. McKinley

"I guess I'll be the odd ball out here. I think it's a fantastic idea. Yes, students will be moving schools every few years, but they're moving with the same group of kids. Transitioning to middle school and high school will be much easier and they'll already know all the kids with the exception of the students coming to the high school from feeder schools. If you're thinking of moving, but staying in the district you don't have to worry that the next house that you buy or rent is in your child's neighborhood school area. Locally, Dixon uses this method and has for several years. I work with schools all over the country for my job and I can tell you this is not an uncommon set up for schools."

Dani Kramer

"I'm for it as well ... it also blends the children from all areas of our town which should help reduce bullying and make transition into junior high much easier as children will already be around each other at some point."

Chad R. Slack

"Absolutely not. Try another method to get enrollment numbers up, such as boundary exception. There is no reason to bus kids away from their neighborhood look how that has impacted the Lincoln School children."

Laura Emke Salazar

#### **Guest column**

### Wrongful convictions are a persistent problem in justice system once spent Valentine's Day on Il-

linois' death row. This week I couldn't help thinking about the strangest Valentine's experience I've ever had. I spent February 14, 2000, in the death row visitor's room at the Pontiac Correctional Center.

I was there to interview a mentally-ill death row inmate who had become lost in the system. His schizophrenia had incapacitated him to such a degree that he couldn't assist with his appeals. When making arrangements for the

interview, I hadn't thought about it being Valentine's Day. The realization hit me when I walked through the prison gates and surveyed the visitor's room. Women from across Illinois were

there dressed in their nicest clothes, visiting their husbands and boyfriends on that day set aside for romance. And make no mistake, folks, there

was love in that room.

Our society doesn't like to talk about this. It's far easier to vilify those a judge

and jury have ruled so worthless that they shouldn't be allowed to live. But the more striking thing about the

room was how ordinary the men were, their faces could blend in at most Illinois diner -- or my high school yearbook. I shared this observation with actor

Mike Farrell, who played Captain B.J. Hunnicutt on the old MASH series. Farrell, an opponent of the death penalty, has spent a lot of time visiting those sentenced to death. 'You know, Scott, these guys don't

have horns growing out of their heads," he told me during a phone interview. My view on the death penalty has evolved. When I was young-

er, my trite philosophy on capital punishment was: "Some people just don't deserve to live.' But then I met a man named

Gary Gauger. He was wrongly convicted of murdering his parents in rural McHenry County. He served two years on Illinois' death row before his conviction was thrown out.

I met Gauger back in 2000 when he dropped by my office, which was then in the Illinois statehouse. He told a tale of wrongful conviction and left me speechless. He wasn't released on a technicality. He was freed because someone else did the crime.

In recent decades Illinois sentenced 13 men to die who were factually innocent. And those are just the mistakes we know about. Wrongful convictions are a persistent problem in our justice system.

In the past two decades, I've personally met more than 100 people convicted of murders they did not commit. Most had spent decades behind bars before

a judge determined a mistake had been made. Courts and police departments are like any human institution: they're prone to making mistakes.

> My faith commands me to speak up. After all, Christianity is a religion that had it beginning with an unfair trial, a wrongful conviction and a horrendous execution.

My political philosophy is libertarian, which means I support **Scott Reeder** limited government. And let's face it, there is no greater intrusion of government than when it chooses

> to kill one of its own citizens. For these reasons, I'm glad Illinois no longer has capital punishment.

The ending of this abhorrent institution can be credited to two governors: George Ryan and Pat Quinn.

Quinn signed the legislation outlawing the death penalty. It was a position different than the platform he ran for office on, but in hindsight I'm glad he changed his mind. Illinois is a better place without capitol punishment.

Gov. George Ryan also deserves credit. During his four years in office, he moved from being a supporter of the death penalty to being the nation's most vocal opponent of capital punishment. He is the man who emptied Illinois death row when he commuted 167 death sentences.

When he did this, many family members of victims were angry. They said they wanted the "closure" that they believed would only come if the person who killed their loved one was also killed. I'm sorry, but how can one death erase the pain of another death?

Three years ago, I was reporting in Santa Fe, Texas, where a gunman entered a school and killed 10 people and wounded a dozen more. Repeatedly, I heard those who had lost a family member bemoan the fact that the killer was only 17, which meant he was not eligible for the death penalty in Texas.

the community's wounds and make the pain go away? It's doubtful. But that's part of the mythology that surrounds capital punishment. I'm not naïve. I know there are bad

Would killing him somehow bind up

people among us who should be banished forever from society. That's a sad reality. And that is what prisons are for.

What does society gain by killing its own? Retribution? Justice?

Well, it's time to temper justice with a bit of mercy.

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

#### **How to contact** government officials

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

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nicoloff118@comcast.net

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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

### Red Cross offers safety tips for extreme cold and snow

OGLE COUNTY -

Residents across Northwest Illinois have continued to face sub-zero temperatures as more snow fell in the area. The American Red Cross has safety tips to help you prepare and deal with this winter weather.

#### Out in the cold

Description automatically generated.

Be aware of the wind chill. Avoid staying in the cold too long.

Wear layers of clothing to stay warm, along with a hat, mittens and waterproof, insulated boots to keep feet warm and dry. Avoid unnecessary exposure of any part of the body to the cold.

Be careful when tackling strenuous tasks like shoveling snow in cold temperatures. Take frequent breaks from the

Drink plenty of warm fluids or warm water but avoid caffeine and alcohol.

Get out of the cold immediately if the signs of hypothermia and frostbite appear.

Check on your neighbors, especially elderly people living alone, people with disabilities and children.

#### At home

Bring family pets indoors. If that's not possible, provide adequate shelter to keep them warm and make sure they can get to unfrozen water.

Prevent frozen pipes. Open cabinet doors to let warm air circulate around water pipes. Let the cold water drip from the faucet served by exposed pipes.

Do not use a stove or oven to heat the home.

Keep a glass or metal fire screen around the fireplace and never leave a fireplace fire unattended.

If using a space heater, place it on a level, hard, nonflammable surface. Don't place it on rugs and carpets, or near bedding and drapes. Keep children and pets away from the space heater and do not use it to dry wet clothing. Plug space heater power cords directly into outlets – never into an extension cord. Turn the space heater off when leaving the room or going to sleep.

If the power goes out, use generators correctly. Never operate a generator inside the home, including the basement or garage. Do not hook up a generator directly to the home's wiring. The safest thing to do is to connect the equipment needed

KitchenTableRochelle.org.

directly to the outlets on the generator.

#### On the road

Stay off the road during sever weather, if possible.

Carry an emergency preparedness kit in the trunk.

Keep the car's gas tank full for emergency use and to keep the fuel line from freezing. Make sure everyone

give your full attention to the road. Don't follow other vehicles too closely. Sud-

has their seat belts on and

snowy roadways. Don't use cruise control when driving in winter weather.

den stops are difficult on

Don't pass snowplows.

Know that ramps, bridges and overpasses freeze before roadways.

# from The Heart Calendar

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

Jan. 26 - Mabel Calderson, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 27 - Peter Mangan, Elgin, \$25

Jan. 28 - John D. Vandre, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 29 - Jeff Perry Chevy, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 30 - Tessa Sturgeon, New Albany, Indiana, \$25

Jan. 31 - Rochelle Community Foundation, \$50

Feb. 1 - Kenny R. Dougherty, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 2 - Lynette Alcock, Monroe Center, \$25

Feb. 3 - Chris Haas, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 4 - Rotary, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 5 - Ellen Katoll, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 6 - Peggy Holt, Rockford, \$250

Feb. 7 - Susan Helfrich, Oregon, \$50

Feb. 8 - Donna Trout, LaMoille, \$25

Feb. 9 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25

Feb. 10 - Denise Hoffman-Clark, Sycamore, \$25

Feb. 11 - Tiffeny Meyers, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 12 - Christopher Norkus, Creston, \$25

Feb. 13 - Roger & Susie Ahlensdorf, Kingston, \$25

Feb. 14 - Judith Faaborg, Rochelle, \$250

Feb. 15 - Cindy Stumph, Sycamore, \$25

Feb. 16 - Tom Hartnett, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 17 - Jordan Bernardin, Oregon, \$25

Checks to winners will be mailed out at the end of each

#### The Kitchen Table menu

Feb. 18 (Thursday) - Mardi Gras week: Jambalaya, Hush Puppies, chicken and andouille gumbo Feb. 23 (Tuesday) – BBQ chicken, pea salad, mashed potatoes, roasted veggies, dinner rolls

Feb. 25 (Thursday) – Salisbury steak, roasted potatoes, green beans, corn, bread March 7 (Sunday brunch) – Grits, sausage gravy and

\*The Kitchen Table is located at 7034 S. Klondike Road,

Feb. 18

Sam & Jessica South

Feb. 20

Christian Losoya

biscuits, sausage links, eggs and pancakes

Kris Oleson Feb. 22 Jessica South

Lucy Hazlip

**Birthdays & Anniversaries** 

Feb. 21

Natalie Powell Feb. 27 Beth Bolhous

Feb. 26

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.

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



### Coffee Break

### **King** Crossword

16

18

#### **ACROSS**

- 1 Seize
- 5 Butte's kin Cardinal cap
- letters "Othello" vil-
- lain
- 13 In (lined up)
- 14 Weeding tool 15 Reality show
- entrepreneurs
- 18 Minor quib-
- 24 Pack (down) 25 Reverberate

- 31 All better
- Thurman 33 Hoedown
- musicians
- 35 Author Harte
- 36 Seeing things
- 38 Tribal emblem
- gily
- 42 Mess up
- 48 GPS sugges-
- tion
- 50 Despot
- 51 British verb

39

12

15

- for aspiring
- 17 PC kev
- bles 19 Hospital sections
- Type of beam
- 26 Rubber wedge, say
- 30 Small battery
- 32 Actress

- 37 Tubular pasta
- 40 Coffee, slan-
- 43 Temporary
- 49 Last write-up

- 52 Zilch 53 Bigfoot's

ending

- cousinl
- **DOWN** 1 USO audi-
- ence 2 Fan's cry
- 3 Khan title
- 4 Third-largest island
- actor Damon 6 Historic peri-
- ods 7 Junior
- 8 Clumsy
- 9 Mountain
- road feature © 2021 King Features Synd., Inc.

13

- 24 22 23 26 27 30 31 32 33 35 36
  - 40 43 44 45 49 50
    - 10 Snitched 11 Reply to "Shall we?"

52

- 16 White wine cocktail 20 Mornings
- (Abbr.) 21 Piece of lettuce
- 22 Exotic berry 23 Elm, for one
- 24 Low digits "The Martian" 26 Union payment
  - 27 Bruins legend 28 Portent 29 Canape
    - spread
  - 31 South Carolina uni-

versity 34 Decorate

53

46 47

10

14

17

19 20

> Easter eggs 35 Actor Warren 37 Beetle

> > Bailey's rank

- (Abbr.) 38 Garr of "Tootsie"
- 39 Scraps 40 Unite
- play 44 Showtime rival

41 Museo dis-

- 45 Jargon suffix 46 Squealer
- 47 Hosp. scan

### Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

8 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



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Challenging HOO BOY!

### **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.

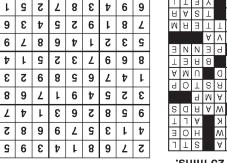
Clue: X equals A

EB XG W.X. CXRFCXWW AZL

TGXJT BLZ RTFIJNEGD AEJIQZFR,

ER NF XG XZIBQW OLODFZ?

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Answer **Meekly SUDOKU** 

King Crossword —

Solution time: 23 mins. Answers

is he an artful Dodger? s kusck tor sketching pictures, It an L.A. baseball pro has SUSMEL

### University of Illinois Extension offering variety of online learning opportunities

OGLE COUNTY - A variety of online learning opportunities are available from the University of Illinois

### Home fruit and vegetable gardening

Feb. 23, 6 p.m.: Growing Great Vegetables: Warm Season Vegetables — This session will cover warm-season crops which grow during the hottest part of the year. Learn how to make vegetables, such as peppers, tomatoes, and squash flourish while keeping pests at bay. Contact: Ken Johnson (kjohnso@illinois.edu)

March 2, 6 p.m.: Growing Great Vegetables: Diseases and Disorders — This session will cover the challenges of vegetable plant diseases and disorders of vegetable plants. Learn about diseases and wildlife pests and how to prevent and handle them. Contact Ken Johnson (kjohnso@illinois.edu)

### Local food, small farm, and specialty operations

Feb. 19, noon: Pumpkin Varieties: Stateline Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference research on pumpkin variety performance in Illinois and successful weed management programs for pumpkins. Contact: Grant McCarty (gmccarty@illinois.edu) Feb. 25, noon: Regen-

erative Grazing: Could It Work on Your Farm?: Small Farms Winter Webinars —Regenerative grazing is a livestock and land management system that helps improve soil health and reduces farm production costs. Learn the basics and see how it is being done in Illinois. The 2021 Small Farm Webinar Series gives small producers access to practical tools and knowledge to improve their profitability and sustainability by learning about leading practices on emerging topics in production, management, and marketing. Contact: Zach Grant (zgrant2@illinois.

Feb. 25, 1 p.m.: Curcurbit Insect Pests Control Techniques: Stateline Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference — Learn about the major cucurbit insect pests and control options, including spray options, and discuss insect exclusion techniques for conventional and organic operations. There will be time for for questions and discussion throughout. Contact: Grant McCa-



rty and Sarah Farley (gmccarty@illinois.edu, sfarley@illinois.edu)

Feb. 25, 1 p.m.: Research Studies on Cucurbit and Tomato Diseases: Stateline Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference — Dr. Mohammad Babadoost reviews outcomes of the recent research studies on cucurbit and tomato diseases. Contact: Grant McCarty and Sarah Farley (gmccarty@illinois. edu, sfarley@illinois.

Feb. 26, noon: High Tunnel Production Updates: Stateline Fruit and Vegetable Growers Conference — Hear about current research on pumpkin variety performance in Illinois and successful weed management programs for pumpkins. Contact: Nathan Johanning (njohann@ illinois.edu)

### Family, food and finances

Feb. 23, 6:30 p.m.: Let's Talk Money: Debt Repayment Strategies — Repaying debt is challenging in the best of situations, and today's economic situation makes it more difficult. Learn tried and true strategies for prioritizing debt repayment and paying it down effectively. Explore options for student loan

repayment, too. Contact: Kathy Sweedler (sweedler@illinois.edu)

Feb. 24, noon: Get Savvy: Save Money on Food — At the end of a busy day when you're hungry and tired, do you go home knowing you're all set to prepare a tasty, healthy dinner? Are you happy with how much money you spend on food? Would you like to learn some tricks for eating well for less money? Join us to get a grip on your food spending to have more cash to stash. Contacts: Kathy Sweedler, Camaya Wallace-Bechard, Andrea Pellegrini (sweedler@ illinois.edu, cawb17@

Feb. 25, 11 a.m.: Health at Home: Facts on Fats Fats provide body fuel, help absorb some nutrients, and add flavors to foods. Explore types of fats and their roles in heart health, and learn how to adapt recipes to be lower in fat or use more heart-healthy fats. Stay afterward for Q&A with Illinois Extension nutrition and wellness educators following each free session. Contact: Lisa Peterson (lap5981@illi-25, 3:30

p.m.: Happy Healthy Providers: Mindfulness in the Classroom -Mindfulness can help reduce your stress and improve job satisfaction and focus. Develop your own mindful practice by learning how to maintain a moment-by-moment awareness of your thoughts, emotions, bodily sensations, and surrounding environment with openness and curiosity. Contact: Michelle Fombelle (mfombell@ illinois.edu)

March 2, 6:30 p.m.: Let's Talk Money: Credit Scores Revealed Why is credit such a mystery? What's the difference between a credit score, credit report, and credit history? Learn this and more. Contact: Kathy Sweedler (sweedler@

### Freezer meal fundraiser to benefit Ag in the Classroom

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waiian chicken, and ham with potatoes and green beans. Is your mouth

Cost for the 10 meals is \$165. Proceeds will benefit the Ogle-Carroll Ag in the Classroom Program. To register please mail your name, phone number, number of meal sets (they come in a set of 10 meals), and payment to: 811 S Clay Street, Mt. Carroll, IL 61053. Make checks payable to: Ogle-Carroll Ag Partnership (OCAP).

You can also order online at: https://go.illinois. edu/meals. Place your order by Friday, March 19. Meal pick-up is March 23 from 3 to 5 p.m. at the



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### **SPORTS**

### **BOYS:** Hubs hosting Sandwich on Wednesday

From page 1

"I thought we were gaining momentum but he tied the game up and their guards kept pushing us out. We made a couple of turnovers that were costly during the overtime period and one of our defensive rotations was slow on Conroy's 3-pointer. I thought the kids battled, but we made mistakes all night that hurt us during overtime.''

Trailing 43-36 entering the fourth quarter, Rochelle rallied behind junior forward Zach Sanford, who recorded a double-double with 17 points and 11 rebounds on 22 post touches. Juniors Noah Brown, Adam Kemp and Ryan Simmons also stepped up with bigtime 3-pointers down the stretch. The three juniors combined for 27 points and seven triples in the

"I thought we rebounded the ball well offensively and we hit more shots in the second half," Thompson said. "We started pressing more on defense late in the game and Kaneland missed some easy shots that allowed us to make some plays in transition... We kept weathering the storm and I thought getting Zach more touches helped us wear them down late in the game.''

Conroy and Meeks carried the load for Kaneland on Saturday, teaming up for 42 points with Conroy scoring a game-high 22 while Meeks added 20. The Knights forced 24 Hub turnovers and limited Rochelle senior Garrett Burdin to 15 points on 1-of-7 shooting from beyond the arc. Kaneland led 11-4 after the first quarter and maintained a 25-19 advantage at halftime.

"I thought Kaneland played really solid halfcourt defense,"Thompson



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Junior Noah Brown attempts a free throw during the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball game against Kaneland on Saturday. Brown scored 10 points.

said. "Their guards were quick and they gave us problems early. I thought we had some good looks, but we weren't making shots and we were turning the ball over and letting them score points in transition."

### Fresh/Soph

The Rochelle Hub sophomore basketball team fell 63-33 against Kaneland on Saturday.

The sophomores are now 0-4 overall and will host Sandwich on Wednesday at 5 p.m.

The Rochelle Hub freshman basketball team has finished 2-1 over its first three games this season. After a 44-20 victory against Stillman Valley, Rochelle defeated Sycamore 49-43 on Wednesday before falling 57-22 against LaSalle-Peru on Thursday.



### **GIRLS:** Lady Hubs rally over Kaneland for first win

From page 1

"We've had some really good practices recently and we feel we've taken some steps forward," said junior Josie Lundquist, who scored eight points for the Lady Hubs. "We knew they could cut to the basket really well and they were going to play with so much intensity every possession. Our defense had to be on point and we couldn't be beat to the basket because that would be an automatic two points... We haven't had a win like this in the three years I've been here."

Rochelle and Kaneland stuck together throughout the game, with neither team taking a lead larger

than six points. Lundquist and senior forward Afi Gati sparked the Lady Hubs early, scoring eight firstquarter points and helping Rochelle take a 12-8 lead. Lundquist hit Rochelle's only 3-pointer of the afternoon in the second quarter, where Kaneland slipped ahead 16-15.

Senior forward Elise Hayenga gave Rochelle a boost early in the second half, sinking a pair of shots under the basket for four third-quarter points. Tabor made three second-half shots and scored eight of LaSalle-Peru on Thursday her team-high 10 points over the final two quarters and overtime. While free throws allowed Rochelle to seal the win in overtime,

those same shots doomed Kaneland in regulation, as the Knights missed 15 free throws including five in the fourth quarter.

The Lady Hubs (1-1) will play their next game at Sandwich on Wednesday, Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.

#### Fresh/Soph

The Lady Hub freshman and sophomore basketball team tipped off its season this past week. Rochelle defeated Sycamore 27-19 on Wednesday before falling 24-19 against and losing 33-19 against Kaneland on Saturday morning. The fresh-soph Lady Hubs are now 1-2 overall.

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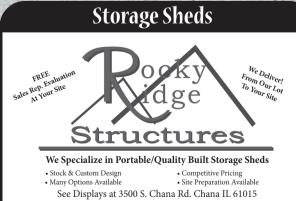
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Drive, Stillman Valley, IL

61084 of Ogle County

and whose attorney is

Ashley Davis of Berger

Law Firm LLC, 418 W.

Blackhawk Dr, Suite

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of the Circuit Court

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Courthouse, Oregon,

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or both, within six (6)

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that period is barred.

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ten (10) days after it has

No. 0210 (Feb. 10, 17,

**PUBLIC NOTICE** 

IN THE CIRCUIT

COURT OF THE

FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL

**CIRCUIT** 

OGLE COUNTY,

**ILLINOIS** 

**CLAIM NOTICE** 

Notice is given of the

WHIPPLE.

)Case

)2020

)P84

of PATRICIA

)No.

been filed.

Clerk of Court

Witness,

IN RE

**ESTATE** 

**PATRICIA** 

WHIPPLE

THE

ANN

estate

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representative,

102, Byron IL 61010.

whose

HOLDER.



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101 LEGAL NOTICE

**PUBLIC NOTICE** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT FOR THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT

OGLE COUNTY, **ILLINOIS MATTER** OF THE )No. **ESTATE** )2021OF: **DONALD** CRAIG **HOLDER** Deceased.

**CLAIM NOTICE** NOTICE IS GIVEN of the death of DONALD **HOLDER** CRAIG who died on MAY 14, 2018, a resident of LINDENWOOD, Illinois. The representative for the estate is PAUL J. HOLDER, 218 W. MILNER, DEKALB, IL 60115. The Attorney for the estate is Deborah L. Ullrich, 1590 E. Lincoln

Hwy., Suite B, DeKalb, Illinois 60115. Claims against the estate may be filed on or before AUGUST 17, 2021 (DATE IS TO BE SIX MONTHS FROM DATE FIRST PUBLICATION). Claims against the estate may be filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court, 106 S. 5th Street, Suite 300, Oregon, Illinois 61061, or with Representative, or both. Any claim not filed within that period

is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the Representative and to the attorney within ten (10) days after it has been filed Deborah L. Ullrich Ullrich Law, LLC

Suite B DeKalb, IL 60115 (815) 787-0321 No. 0220 (Feb. 17, 24,

1590 E. Lincoln Hwy.,

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

303

**APPLIANCES** 

JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY **EVELIN** MICHEL I OPF7 )Case **TORRES** )No. )20 D 91 FERNANDO) VAZQUEZ **GOMEZ PUBLICATION** 

NOTICE NOTICE IS GIVEN YOU, Fernando Vazquez-Gomez defendants, that this case has been commenced in this Court against you and other defendants, asking Dissolution of Marriage and for other relief.

UNLESS YOU file your answer or otherwise file your appearance in this case in the office of the Ogle County Clerk, Ogle County Judicial Center, 106 S. 5th Street, Suite 300, Oregon, IL 61061 on or before April 21, 2021, JUDGMENT OR DECREE BY DEFAULT TAKEN AGAINST YOU FOR THE RELIEF ASKED IN THE COMPLAINT. Witness: February 3,

Kimberly A. Stahl, Clerk of the Circuit Court By: Megan (Deputy)

No. 0211 (Feb. 10, 17,

**PUBLIC NOTICE** IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL **CIRCUIT** 

OGLE COUNTY,

**ILLINOIS** IN RE THE **ESTATE** )Case OF **WILLIAM** )2020 **HOLDER** )P89

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#### 405 **HOUSES FOR SALE**

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203



Ogle County, Byron, Illinois. Letters Office were issued on December 21st of 2020 . to BRADLEY G. FRYE. whose address is 127 Perene Ave Byron, IL 61010 of Ogle County and whose attorney is Law Firm LLC, 418 W. Blackhawk Dr, Suite 102, Byron IL 61010. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the Office of the Clerk

the Circuit Court of the Ogle County Courthouse, Oregon, Illinois 61061, or with representative, the or both, within six (6) months from the date of the first publication of this claim notice and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the Attorney within

been filed. Witness, 2020 Clerk of the Court No. 0209 (Feb. 10, 17,

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### **HUB SPOTLIGHT**



Jack Lodico

Year: Freshman
Sport: Basketball

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

A: Five years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: Playing with my friends and having fun.

Q: What is your favorite

school subject and why?

A: Math because I love solving problems.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Steph Curry because I love how he plays basketball.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My mom because she pushes me to be the best and she's always there for me.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be in the NBA because they make a lot of money and I'd get to do what I love.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Hawaii because it's beautiful

there and I love the ocean.

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

A: I get to be with my friends and play the sport I love.



### Jack Tracey

Year: Freshman

Sport: Basketball

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

A: About 10 years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: I enjoy the competitive nature of the sport.

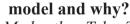
Q: What is your favorite

school subject and why?
A: Math because I feel I will
always need it.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Dwyane Wade because he's been through many ups and downs but he's still succeeded.

Q: Who is your biggest role



A: My brother Tyler Tracey because he always pushes me to be better no matter how well I do.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: Anything in basketball because I love the game.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Costa Rica because it's the happiest place on Earth.

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

A: I enjoy representing my school.









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WEDNESDAY, FEB. 17, 2021

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 1 • PAGE 12

# SPORTS 2



#### MEET THE HUBS

Q&A sessions with freshmen from the RTHS Hub basketball program.

See page 11 for more details

RTHS Varsity Girls Basketball

# Overtime victory

Lady Hubs outlast Kaneland 37-32, earn first win against Knights since 2014

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Junior Zoey Tabor delivered a big-time moment for the Lady Hub varsity basketball team when Rochelle tried for its first win over Kaneland in seven years on Saturday.

With the Knights leading 32-30 and less than a minute in regulation, Tabor sprinted down the court after an inbounds pass and found a driving lane behind the Kaneland defense, converting a game-tying layup at the 38-second mark that ultimately sent the Interstate 8 Conference contest into overtime. Rochelle then held the Knights scoreless over the entire overtime period, sealing a 37-32 victory and the varsity team's first win against

"We really prepared for what Kaneland was going to bring us," Tabor said. "We worked really hard during the week to clean up our offense... We knew we had to stay in front of them, jam them up and not let them cut to the basket... We worked on our shooting during the

Kaneland since 2014.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Zoey Tabor keeps the ball away from Kaneland's Kelsey Modaff during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity game against the Knights on Saturday. Tabor scored a team-high 10 points in the win, Rochelle's first over Kaneland since 2014.

week and seeing what we had on the floor. It was an awesome experience being in an overtime game."

Rochelle outscored

Kaneland 5-0 in the overtime period, with all five points coming on free throws. Senior Sofia Lenkaitis made a pair of free throws to put the Lady Hubs ahead 34-32 early in the period before Tabor converted two more to make it a two-possession game with less than a minute to play. Rochelle forced 17 Kaneland turnovers on Saturday and held Knight forward Kylie Holubecki, who had a game-high 11 points, to zero points during overtime.

See GIRLS page 9

RTHS Varsity Boys Basketball

### Hubs battle, but fall short to Knights in OT

Junior forward Sanford nets double-double in 64-61 loss at Kaneland

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

MAPLE PARK

The Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team refused to fold despite scoring only four points in the first quarter of its Interstate 8 Conference battle at Kaneland on Saturday.

Rochelle conceded a sizeable lead early in the game, but the Hubs battled back and finished strong, holding Kaneland to seven fourth-quarter points and pushing the game into overtime. Knight seniors Porter Conroy and Jamari Meeks stepped up late however, sinking a pair of clutch 3-pointers including a 27-footer from Meeks that sealed Kaneland's 64-61 victory. The Hubs (1-3) will look to bounce back against Sandwich on Wednesday,

Feb. 17 at 7 p.m.

"Meeks hitting that 27-footer when we were up three points was a key shot for them," head coach Tim Thompson said.



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

See BOYS page 9