PAGE 2





Hub tailback Angell ready to roll for RTHS

SEE SPORTS

News-Leader

MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

Today's RNL issue

815-562-7813

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2020

Vol. 101 • No. 62

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

Your life. Your education. Your way.

C KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE **Enrolling Now for Fall!**

www.kish.edu/fall

KNOW IT TODAY



Honor

U of I Extension's Doty honored. **See page 3**

WEATHER



THURSDAY HIGH LOW LOW **39** 25



HIGH LOW

SATURDAY

HIGH LOW





815-562-2611

OBITUARIES

RALPH GLEISSNER

See page 4

INSERTS

 FARM & FLEET ALDI

STOCK & FIELD

INSIDE

Social News......2, 3, 4, 5, 7 Obituaries.....4 Opinion6



Foundation awards \$30,050

Rochelle Area Community Foundation announced Tuesday the award of \$30,050 in Coronavirus Response Fund Grants to nonprofit organizations serving the needs of people in the local area.

Thanks to the generosity of donors, the Rochelle Area Community Foundation will distribute funds to aid local nonprofit organizations in their service to the community related to COVID-19. In this third

ROCHELLE — The round of grant making, seven organizations applied to the Coronavirus Response Fund and each application was funded in full.

Grant Awards

The Rochelle Christian Food Pantry: \$6,600 to make necessary improvements for safe and effective food distribution in winter months, and additional funds to purchase food through the Northern Illinois Food Bank.

The Kitchen Table Com-

munity Kitchen: \$5,000 to purchase food and containers to assist them in continuing to provide hot, nutritious meals.

The Northern Illinois Food Bank: \$4,100 to host two mobile food pantries in the Rochelle area.

Farmworkers and Landscapers Advocacy Project (FLAP): \$8,000 to provide resources for the needs of very low income Latinx populations in the Rochelle area.

Pegasus Special Riders:



www.rochellefoundation.org

\$3,500 to replace income lost due to cancelled fundraisers, allowing the therapeutic horseback rid-

ing program to continue in the coming year.

See GRANTS page 2

Food, WiFi available for Rochelle students

Remote learning taking place until Jan. 19, 2021

ROCHELLE—Monday marked the start of a temporary move to all remote learning for students in the Rochelle elementary and high school districts. Rochelle schools currently plan to resume in-person learning when the eight-week pause concludes on Tuesday, Jan. 19, 2021.

Rochelle schools will continue to provide food for students during remote learning. Distributions will be on Mondays and Thursdays from 11-1 p.m. and 3-5 p.m. in the east parking lot at Rochelle Middle School.

Public WiFi

Rochelle district students will have public access to WiFi at the following locations: Downtown Rochelle (Main Street parking lot at Fifth Avenue, network name is COR-free, connect with splash page). Esmond and Lindenwood (Lynn-Scott-Rock Fire Station, 15940 E. Lindenwood Road, 6 a.m. to 10 p.m.). Flagg-Rochelle Public Library (hotspot in parking spaces between library and city hall, no password required). Kings (call

Kings School at 815-562-7191). Rochelle Middle School (WiFi in four corners of the building, username is D231guest and password is elearner). Rochelle Township High School (north end

of the student parking lot. Chromebooks will automatically connect). Steward (Steward Fire Station, 311 Main St., 6 a.m. to 10 p.m., no password necessary). Creston (Creston School parking lot, call 815-384-3920 for password).

Mobile WiFi

Rochelle district students will also have access to mobile WiFi shared from district busses during the remote learning period. The WiFi password is smartbus. The mobile WiFi connections will be available at the following locations during the week: Shangri La park area (Monday, Wednesday and



Friday from 8-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 12-3 p.m.), Treatment Plant Road at old car wash (Monday Wednesday and Friday from 12-3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m.), Spring Lake Marina parking lot (Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 12-3 p.m.), St. Patrick Church west parking lot (Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 12-3 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m.).

Memorial Park parking lot (Monday and Friday from 8-11 a.m. Wednesday

from 12-3 p.m.), VFW Park parking lot (Monday and Friday from 12-3 p.m. Tuesday from 8-11 a.m.), Connolly Park area on Gary Street (Tuesday and Thursday from 12-3 p.m. Wednesday from 8-11 a.m.).

Rolling Green front entrance (Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8-11 a.m. Tuesday and Thursday from 12-3 p.m.), Carrie Avenue Apartments (Monday from 12-3 p.m. Thursday from 8-11 a.m.), Aldi parking lot (Tuesday from 8-11 a.m. Wednesday and Friday from 12-3 p.m.).

Kings School parking lot (Monday from 8-11 a.m. Wednesday and Friday from 12-3 p.m.), Eswood School parking lot (Monday from 12-3 p.m. Friday from 8-11 a.m.), Hillcrest Park on Scott Avenue (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8-11 a.m.), Short Court cul-de-sac area (Tuesday and Thursday from 12-3 p.m.).



(NEWS-LEADER STAFF PHOTO)

Join Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows and Santa on the City of Rochelle Facebook live Thursday, Dec. 3 at 5:30 p.m. as they light the Community Tree and announce this year's Community Gratitude Award recipient. The award honors an individual or group that has gone above and beyond to serve Rochelle in the past year. Above, City of Rochelle employees decorate the tree outside of Rochelle City Hall on Tuesday morning. Also on Dec. 3, the Downtown Rochelle merchants kick off their Christmas Cash promotion. Every visitor to participating stores will receive an entry and for every \$25 spent, shoppers will receive an additional entry. On Dec. 6 and 13 winners will be drawn to receive a \$100 cash prize and on Saturday, Dec. 19, three winners will be drawn with cash prizes of \$100, \$125 and \$425. See page 8 for more information on events planned for Friday, Dec. 4.





Special thanks



Dave Tess, Russ Crull and Eric Arnquist of Tess, Crull & Arnquist made a surprise visit to the Rochelle Food Pantry on Tuesday, Nov. 24. After Tess thanked the more than 15 volunteers for their hard work and compassion in rain and snow, Arnquist and Crull gave each volunteer a From the Heart Calendar. "We wanted to thank those volunteers working behind the scenes organizing, packing boxes, and carrying them to the cars in the rain and at the same time help Rotary after the From the

Heart dinner had to be cancelled," Crull said. Dave Eckhardt, chairman of the From the Heart fundraiser, said that a lot of business people and groups have stepped up the sales effort of the calendars to donate them to other volunteers and essential workers in the community. Calendars are still available through Rochelle Rotary Club members, at First State Bank in Rochelle, Hope Chest in Rochelle, Merlins in Oregon, Shining Star in Dixon or online at fromtheheartrochelle.org.

GRANTS: Seven groups awarded funds

From page 1

Girl Scouts of Northern Illinois: \$1,100 to support virtual programing for girls grades kindergarten through 12 in order to develop a strong sense of self, positive values and to seek challenges.

Creston Booster Club:

\$1,750 to replace lost income from fundraisers that could not occur. The grant will provide utility payment assistance for the Creston Opera House.

The RACF Coronavirus Response Fund grant application will remain open as long as funds are available and the need

for relief continues. The Rochelle Area Community Foundation supports the needs of nonprofit organizations serving the local community.

The Foundation does not make grants to individuals or for-profit businesses but encourages the community to seek

resources available to them through the nonprofit organizations which the Foundation funds.

A complete list of local COVID-19 resources is available on both the City of Rochelle's website at cityofrochelle.net and the foundation's website: http://rochellefoundation.org/coronavirus-response-fund.

The Rochelle Area Community Foundation is a 501(c)(3) public charity whose mission is to improve the community through charitable giving, encourage a spirit of philanthropy, develop collaborative partnerships and enhance the quality of life of the community. Our work is only possible through the generosity of others.

For more information contact Kim Montgomery, executive director at 815-561-3600 or by email at kim@rochellefoundation.



Getting Sick Isn't Convenient; Accessing Care Should Be

Getting sick never comes at a good time. Rochelle Community Hospital offers Convenient Care that works for you with our extended Convenient Care hours and "Save My Place" online scheduling. Simply reserve a place in line using your computer, tablet or smart phone before you arrive and check in at the Convenient Care kiosk when you get here. We'll have you on your way and feeling better in no time.

The right care, right here in Rochelle.

RCH COVID-19 TRIAGE LINE

Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please call

to be screened to determine what testing is right for you.

Convenient Care Hours:

Monday-Friday

11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Saturday

9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Closed Sundays and Holidays

No appointment necessary! Walk in or use "Save My Place"

online at rochellehospital.com.



Recipe books still available

Foundation for Focus House and Community Programming will be holding a Recipe Book Fundraiser to generate money for Focus House youth and programs.

Recipe books are \$10 each and they can be purchased by contacting Jeni Hardin at jhardin@ oglecounty.org or calling 815-562-5881. Payments can be made in person or online through PayPal at https://www.paypal.com/ paypalme/FoundationFocusHouse.

Hardin said there will be no deadline for sales and the foundation hopes to keep the fundraiser running through the holiday season. Hardin also said those who purchase recipe books can either pick them up or have them delivered for an added shipping charge.

Focus House is a shelter care facility that has been operating in Ogle County since 1975. The facility

ROCHELLE — The serves primarily in-county youth that need residential treatment, but over the years, Focus House has also taken out-of-county youth

> Focus House treats Ogle County youth that are involved in the justice system, not just residentially, but also through outpatient mental health services and alternative programming for kids that are suspended from school.

> Hardin would like to thank Jennie McLaughlin at ReMax for sponsoring the recipe book fundraiser and making it possible for Focus House to have no upfront costs.

The fundraiser will help make up for donations and funds lost after the foundation was forced to cancel its Spaghetti Supper and Car Show due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Recipes were submitted from Focus House staff members and the local community through Facebook.



Recipe books are \$10 each and they can be purchased by contacting Jeni Hardin at jhardin@ oglecounty. org or calling 815-562-5881. **Payments** can be made in person or online through PayPal at https://www. paypal.com/ paypalme/ Foundation FocusHouse.

CALL 815-561-3100 Saturday, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

CALL 815-561-8829

Local educator wins University of Illinois **Individual Extension Excellence Award**

URBANA – Peggy Doty, energy and environmental stewardship educator serving Boone, Dekalb and Ogle counties, was honored by University of Illinois Extension for dedicated and innovative work in natural resource educa-

Doty received an Individual Extension Excellence Award in recognition of the research-based natural resource education she consistently delivers to youth of all ages throughout the state. Doty's passion reso-

nates in her presentation

tion in terms easily understood by all learners. Doty continually seeks new revenue streams to support her work while conserving annual grants. She has taught generations and says she looks forward to continuing her work teaching people about their role in the future of the environment. Doty's Extension ca-

science-based informa-

reer spans 21 years. Her prior awards include the Outstanding Alumnus Award from Northern Illinois University's College of Education in recognition of contributions to the field of outdoor and environmental education.

Doty serves as co-chairperson for the DeKalb County Community Foundation's Land Use committee and associate director on the DeKalb County Soil and Water Conservation District Board.

Illinois Extension leads public outreach for University of Illinois by translating research into action plans that allow Illinois families, businesses, and community leaders to solve problems, make informed decisions, and adapt to changes and opportu-



as she helps translate Latest recruitment drive ensures girls can join in time for annual cookie program

NORTHERN ILLI-**NOIS** — In these changing times, Girl Scouts offers girls a unique chance to be part of something larger than themselves. The organization gives girls the opportunity to experience friendships both in-person and virtually, make memories, and build skills to be leaders in their own lives and communities. Girl Scouts is perhaps best known for the Girl Scout Cookie Program which empowers millions of girls across the country to become entrepreneurial small business owners.

This year, Girl of

girl scouts of northern illinois

Northern Illinois is offering a recruitment drive right ahead of the cookie program, so girls who join now will be able to take part in the largest girl-led business in the world! Through the cookie program, girls learn the five skills of goal setting,

decision making, money management, business ethics, and people skills. The 2020–21 Girl Scout Cookie Program begins online on Dec. 14.

Due to recent health and safety guidelines, GSNI is using technology to provide girls with the

necessary benefits of the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. Interested families can check out the Girl Scout program during Girl Scout Snap-Shots—20-minute virtual activities for girls in Kindergarten and grades 1–3 and their families. Girls

meet new friends online in real time while choosing between activities like building an edible campfire, making a robot friend, crafting a bird's nest, or designing a fairy house. SnapShots are available in both English and Spanish.

After participating in a SnapShot event, interested families are invited to an online family meeting where they can choose to register their girl as a Girl Scout. Families can sign up for a convenient Girl Scout SnapShot that fits their schedule at www.girlscoutsni.org/ snapshot.

"SnapShots give families the chance to preview Girl Scouts. We meet online and do virtual activities together in real time, but we talk about safe ways Girl Scouts can currently have adventures. Then, as interested girls register, they're placed in new and existing Girl Scout troops in their area to start their own Girl Scout journey," says MaryBeth Markwell, GSNI recruitment resource manager.

Interested families can learn more and get started at www.girlscoutsni.org/ snapshot.

The 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients: YMCA/Rochelle Childcare Center, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.

OUR CHARITIES NEED OUR SUPPORT **NOW MORE** THAN EVER!



For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of

365 DAILY WINNERS TOTAL CASH PRIZES \$18,250

PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your **2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar!**

• **ONLINE:** Go to http://fromtheheartrochelle.org and click on **PURCHASE CALENDARS.** Once the calendar is purchased we will mail it out to you!

Shipping and processing fees will be added to cost.

• IN PERSON: You can pick up a 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:

In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest

In Oregon at: Merlin's

In Dixon at: Shining Star

In Amboy at: Amboy News Office

• BY MAIL: Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail a 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar to you! Shipping fees are added to cost.

YES! Send me my 2021 From The Heart Cash Calendar! (Please Print)
NAME:
ADDRESS:
CITY, STATE, ZIP:
PHONE:
NUMBER OF CALENDARS:
Clip and mail this form along with \$22
(\$20 per calendar plus \$2 per calendar postage) to:
Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068



Christmas Cash begins Thursday, December 3rd

Sign up for the CHRISTMAS CASH GIVEAWAY

No purchase necessary. Visit a participating DRA member's business to receive your entry.

(Receive an additional entry for every \$25 (before tax) spent!

A \$100 cash winner will be drawn on

Saturday, December 5th at Noon and Friday, December 11th at 5PM.

Three Winners will be drawn on

Friday, December 18th at 5 PM. Grand Prize \$425 cash, Second Prize \$125 cash and Third Prize \$100 cash!

Saturday Shopping Celebration All December Long!

Be welcomed by hometown hospitality and old fashioned, friendly service

at your favorite Downtown Rochelle Businesses.

Extended holiday hours so you can enjoy discovering:

♥ unique gifts ♥ fresh floral designs ♥ antiques ♥ craft items ♥ custom designs

♥ boutique items ♥ new furniture ♥ handmade soaps ♥ jewelry ♥ spa treatments ♥ handcrafted spirits ♥ gently used furniture ♥ and much more!



Enjoy the deli	cious creations
mad	le by:
Ralfie's BBQ	Friday December 4 th :
DETT OF	During "Cut The Square
STAC .	festivities
	Saturday December 5 th :
man of the same of	11 AM – 1 PM

Flagg-Rochelle **Public Library is** offering "Grab and Go" Services! Call to schedule your visit (815) 562-3431

Participating Downtown Rochelle Association Business:

- •926 Embroidery •All Things New and Used •Artists Garden Bill's Trading Post • Cheri Picked Vintage
- Colonial Flowers & Gifts ◆Hope Chest ◆Hub City Furniture •Joyeria •The Kitchen Table •Premium Phone Store
- Rochelle Pharmacy
 Remedy Boutique
 Sweet Blessings

Kishwaukee College welcomes new members to Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society

MALTA — Kishwaukee College's chapter of the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society (PTK) inducted 11 new members this month during a virtual ceremony.

The Alpha Rho Eta chapter held its traditional candle-lighting induction and installation ceremony on Nov. 17 with college leadership welcoming the new inductees.

PTK is the largest honor society in higher education with more than 3.5 million members worldwide. The society recognizes academic achievement of two-year college students and provides them with opportunities to grow as scholars and leaders. To be eligible, students must complete a minimum of 12 credit hours of coursework towards an associate degree and earn a 3.5 GPA or higher. Students must maintain a high academic standing throughout their enrollment at the College. Membership is by invitation only.

The following Kish students were inducted to PTK during the Fall 2020 ceremony:

Mallory Beck of Sycamore; Ericka Biekert of Oregon; Edwin Camargo of Genoa; Eddith Encho Endack; Eyanyeh of DeKalb; Christina Fisher of Kingston; Jennifer Gonzalez of Rochelle; Lisa Guzinski of Cortland; Zachary King of DeKalb; Melissa Laurie of Sycamore; Lilian Ndicu of Sycamore; and Kaitlynn Ost of Rochelle.

The Fall 2020 inductees and their guests were welcomed to the College

by Kishwaukee College President, Dr. Laurie Borowicz, and Chapter Advisor, Tim Anderson. The induction ceremony was presided over by Past Chapter President Gwendolyn Papke. Also participating were the current officers of the Alpha Rho Eta chapter: Kaitlynn Ost, President; Eddith Encho Endack Eyanyeh, Vice President; Edwin Camargo, Hallmark Officer; Jennifer Gonzalez, Publicity Officer; and Katelyn Ackland, Recording Officer. Past Chapter President Gwendolyn Papke swore in the new officers. For more information, contact

Chapter Advisor and Associate Professor of Philosophy and Modern Languages, Tim Anderson, at tanderson@kish.edu or 815-825-9484.

Obituaries

Ralph Gleissner

ASHTON — On Friday, Nov. 27, 2020, Ralph Gleissner, a treasured husband, proud father

of five boys and beloved grandpa of 10 grandchildren, passed away at the age of 74. Ralph was

born on Dec. 8, 1945 in Albany, Oregon, to Ralph and Donna (Harley) Gleissner.

He attended Rochelle High School where he played on their undefeated championship football team, earning the nickname "Rhino." He attended Northeast Missouri State University where he obtained his Master's in Education and played football. He went on to continue his football career with the Delevan Red Devils and the Rockford Rams. On Jan. 12, 1974, Ralph married Lucinda Crownhart. Together they raised five boys, Michael (Stephanie) Gleissner, Joseph (Holly) Gleissner, Thomas (Sydni) Gleissner, James (Laura) Gleissner and

David (Laura) Gleissner. Out of Ralph's many passions, he got the most joy from mentoring others. He coached AFC youth sports including Jr. Tackle Football and baseball for many years, was an EMT on the Ashton Fire Department and was an avid Scout leader. Throughout his career

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

Creston trustees

to School funds

approve Safe Routes

CRESTON — The Village of Creston approved two

resolutions during its monthly meeting Tuesday evening.

Trustees voted to approve \$156,279 in federal funds for

the Safe Routes to School project and revised an ordinance

allowing for tenants to be billed individually for utilities.

2021 meeting schedule. The next meeting will take place on Tuesday, Jan. 5, 2021 at 7 p.m. Village Hall will be closed on Dec. 26 in observance of Christmas Day and

Jan. 2, 2021 in observance of New Year's Day.

Pre-filing notice

Village trustees also approved the 2021 tax levy and

Ralph worked in industrial management before returning to his true passion, education, as the Dean of

Students at Chana Education Center. Ralph enjoyed the years of athletic involvement with his boys from coaching on the side-lines to announcing and running clock from the Eagle's Nest and wrestling meets. He

also had a keen interest in history and loved to teach others about events that shaped our world today. While Ralph completed many projects with his children, perhaps his proudest was building their forever home alongside his five boys.

Ralph is preceded in death by his father, Ralph; his mother, Donna; and his brothers, Steve, Rick

He is survived by his wife, Cindy; his five boys, Mike (Stephanie), Joe (Holly), Tom (Sydni), Jim (Laura) and Dave (Laura); his brothers, John (Nancy), Jim and Ron; his sister, Barb; and his 10 grandchildren, (Mike) - Xander, Keiragan and Asher, (Joe) – Caitlin and Ben, (Tom) – Callum and Mitchell, and (Dave) Makenna, Alexa and Erika.

A memorial service will be held at a later date. Should friends desire, memorial contributions may be made to the Ashton Fire Department.

Kishwaukee College Adult Education classes open for Spring 2021

MALTA — Kishwaukee College will offer a variety of free classes for English Language Learners and those seeking their High School Equivalency/ GED (in English or Spanish) this spring.

ESL classes are available for beginning, intermediate and advanced English learners. Classes emphasize speaking, listening, reading, and writing in English.

Citizenship classes will start in April. This course will cover an overview of the information relevant

including American history and government. High School Equivalency classes prepare students

to take the GED. Subject areas covered in class include reading, writing, social studies, science, math and the U.S. Constitution. These classes emphasize practical applications of the subjects and the total development of the learner. Enrollment for all these classes is happening now through Jan. 20, 2021. For more information, including the registration

to the U.S. Citizenship test and citizenship process

process and class times and locations, visit www. kish.edu/adulteducation.

To reserve your spot for registration, contact Mari Vesey, administrative assistant for adult education, at mvesey@kish.edu or 815-825-9420. Registration sizes are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Dental office holding nonperishable food drive

ROCHELLE — Midwest Dental, located at 1223 N. Caron Road, is hosting a non-perishable/ canned food drive.

Now through Dec. 10, donations are being accepted. All donations will be delivered to the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry two weeks prior to Christmas.

For each donation, receive a free toothbrush. Also, each donor's name will be entered into a drawing to win an electric toothbrush.

QUESTIONS about

MEDICARE - PART D SUPPLEMENTS DRUG BENEFITS

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Meadows

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Up to 5 quarts.

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rews-Leader **HOW TO CONTACT US**

211 IL Route 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068

News-Leader Main Switchboard

(815) 562-4171

(815) 561-2124

Mike Feltes

General Manager

Newsroom Staff Jennifer Simmons, Managing Editor (815) 561-2151 Russ Hodges, Sports (815) 561-2152

To Place a Display Ad Tiffiny Smith

Andrew Heiserman

(815) 561-2123

(815) 561-2153

To Place a Legal Ad

(815) 561-2124

Mike Feltes

Kelly White

To Place a Classified Ad

(815) 562-4171

Subscriptions and Delivery

Wanda Brimhall (815) 561-2112 given for election School Board of Edu-

County Clerk and Recorder Laura J. Cook will be open from Monday, Dec. sessors 14 to Friday, Dec. 18 from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and Monday, Dec. 21 from 8:30 a.m. to 5: p.m. to accept candidate petitions for Oregon. the Consolidated Election

OREGON — Ogle

to be held on April 6, 2021

for the following offices:

cation Trustees Multi-Township As-

The County Clerk's Office is located in the Ogle County Courthouse at 105 S. 5th St Suite 104,

All other candidates are to file with their local election authority/clerk.



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> RT. 251 & 64 - Kings, IL 815-562-3430 **Carryout Available**

Visit our website at www.rochellenews-leader.com

not arrive, contact Wanda Brimhall at 561-2112.

Call (815) 561-2112 or

(815) 562-4171

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• \$26.99 for three months • \$10.99 for one month

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Speeding stop leads to arrest

County Sheriff's deputies arrested Aljeuel Steel, 23 of Rockford, for driving while license suspended. Steel was arrested by deputies on Interstate 39 near Illinois Route 64 after being stopped for

speeding. Steel was released on a I-bond and will appear in court at a later

On Nov. 27 the Ogle County Sheriff's Office arrested Valerie Power, 29, of Aurora, for driving under the influence. Power was arrested by deputies on Illinois Route 64 near the Illinois Route 251 intersection. Power was held in lieu of bond at the jail.

Nov. 27

On Nov. 27 at approximately 9:33 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic of Condon Road just into Winnebago County. After investigation, deputies placed Erika Villalobos-Miller, 20, of Oregon, under arrest for driving while license suspended and also issued

her a citation for operating an uninsured vehicle. Villalobos-Miller was released on an I-Bond at the scene.

On Nov. 27 at 10:22 p.m., deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 5000 block of Illinois Route 251. After a short investigation deputies arrested Dustin Dovle, 24, of Davis Junction, for driving while license suspended and unlawful possession of cannabis. Dovle was released on a notice to appear with a court date of Jan. 1.

On Nov. 27 at approximately 6:17 p.m., deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 100 block of Main Street in Leaf River. After further investigation, Derrick Simmons, 40, of Leaf River, was placed under arrest for no valid driver's license. Simmons was released from the scene on an I-bond and will appear in court at a later date.

Nov. 28

On Nov. 28 at approximately 4:26 p.m., deputies responded to a single vehicle accident in the 14000 block of West Sterling Road. An investigation determined that an eastbound vehicle driven by Adriana Wiggins, 17, of Polo, lost control and entered the north ditch. The vehicle then continued into a residential yard where it struck a tree. Minor injuries were reported. Deputies were assisted on scene by Polo Police and Polo Fire/EMS. The accident remains under investigation.

On Nov. 28 at ap-

Report policy

proximately 11:20 p.m., Ogle County deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate 39 at mile marker 99. After investigation, deputies arrested Pablo Reyes- Perez, 26, of Rockford, for unlawful possession of cannabis as the driver. Reyes-Perez was also issued a citation for an equipment violation. Reyes-Perez was given an I-bond with a return court date later next month.

Nov. 29

On Nov. 29 at approximately 2:14 a.m., deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 1500 block of West Montague Road. After further investigation, Elizabeth Bell, 44, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol and possession of a controlled substance. Bell was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held in lieu of bond.



Donations being accepted for Rangers stationed in Africa

ROCHELLE — Rochelle resident Sgt. Tom Sprowl has been stationed in Africa with a unit of 25 Rangers since August 2020. These soldiers are not scheduled to return home until April 2021.

Pete Blassage, United States Marine Corps veteran and U.S. Postal Service mail carrier, will be accepting donations to ship to these men. All donations are appreciated.

"These boys are far from home, this is our way of showing our support and appreciation," Blassage said. "Let's let them know we care."

The following is a list of acceptable and desired items:Dehydrated soups, beef jerky, candy that will not melt, crackers, gum, nuts, chips such as Doritos and Fritos, Lysol wipes/ disinfectant wipes, money to help pay the postage to mail the gifts, Kleenex, cards/letters of appreciation - these go a long way with troops, Chapstick, baby wipes for hygiene, protein bars. Canned goods are not

accepted. Donations may be dropped off at the Rochelle Post Office in the front lobby during regular business hours from through Dec. 11.

MyRosatis.co

• 4 lbs Italian Beef w/ Italian Bread Full Tray Penne Pasta

30 Pc of Chicken

24 Garlic Bread Pieces

Add Full Tray of Salad for only \$25

Served with Sweet Peppers & Rosati's

own Hot Giardiniera

Offer valid at Rosati's of Rochelle only. Must mention coupon when

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exception. Requests to omit particular reports will

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not be considered or honored at any time.

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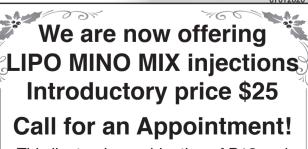
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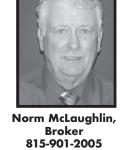
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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Fat "jokes" have become more commonplace

a society where it is unacceptable to ridicule a candidate's race or religion, but increasingly

a politician's size is fair game. As politics has become increas-

ingly mean spirited, fat "jokes" have become more commonplace.

Scott Reeder

Politicians such as former New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie, Gov. JB Pritzker and, yes, Donald Trump, are subjected to mockery because of their weight. Democratic consul-

tant James Carville expressed some nasty comments about our president earlier this year on a podcast, basically calling him a big fat loser who was so fat he couldn't see below his belt. Regular readers of

this column know that I'm no fan of Trump. But I find no humor in these remarks. And, yes, I realize that Trump has done much to coarsen public discourse during the last five years. Still, criticize his ideas, his positions on issues but not his belt

Much the same can be said of the cutting remarks I've heard about Pritzker.

Commentary on an Illinois conservative website alternately refers to him as "Jelly Bean," "Jelly Belly" and "Jelly Biscuit."

Hey, I get it. You don't like his stand on taxes or the pandemic. But what does his weight have to do with those issues? Nothing.

Unsuccessful legislative candidate Peter Breen suggested to me several

months ago, that the reason Gov. Pritzker wasn't venturing out of Chicago more was because of his "comorbidity."

> After a long pause, I said, "Are you saying he's too fat?" His response: yes.

Sorry, Peter. I'm not a fan of some of the governor's positions either. That

said, he has been an engaged governor who works hard. He's actively working and available — more than most of his recent predecessors. I've seen no indication that he is anyway impaired in getting his job done.

So, talk about his fiscal policies, not his physical size.

Back when I supervised statehouse reporters in various states, I had a reporter in Trenton, N.J. who routinely referred to Christie as "Gov. Krispy Kreme" during our daily staff meetings. I bit my tongue on a near daily basis wanting to say, "Do you realize how stupid and petty that makes you sound?"

In hindsight, I should have spoken

After more than 30 years of covering politicians, I can say usually those who joke about obesity are folks who have never struggled with it themselves.

I know the struggle. At one point, I weighed 100 pounds more than I do today. Although I'm now at a healthy weight, I'm humble enough to realize the recidivism rate on weight loss is

frighteningly high. Over the past 33 years, my weight has yo-yoed more than a Duncan Butterfly. It's a daily struggle.

Obesity isn't a personal failing, it's a disease.

Early in my career, I had a supervisor who continually ridiculed my weight and inferred that I and several other overweight reporters had no business in "his" newsroom. He was not a nice

person. But he was the boss and I just had to sit there and take it. It always seemed to

me that what I wrote, how I reported or how I otherwise conducted myself as an employee

was fair game for him to judge. But what business was it of his - or anyone else's what my suit size was? Well, we're these

politicians' bosses. Let's evaluate them the way we would like to be judged. Let's look at their performance, policies and positions and leave the measuring tape at home.

Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist and a freelance reporter. ScottReeder 1965@gmail.

Letter to the Editor

Grateful for experience with program

Dear Editor,

My name is Gabrielle Gonzales, and I am a high school graduate of ful we were able to work Rochelle Township High School.

I recently worked with Sinnissippi Centers participating with the ELC program

at Northern Illinois University. This is a real-world educational experience that allows students to work with a team as consultants to an organization. This opportunity allowed me to gain leadership experience as

well as a further my understanding to mental health.

My team and I are gratewith Sinnissippi

Centers, during this Fall 2020 semester, to research ways to reduce stigma of mental health.

I would like to thank my team, the ELC program and Sinnissippi Centers for this opportunity. Not only did I enjoy this project, but it allowed me to step out of my comfort zone.

Regards,

Gabrielle Gonzales



VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

Many people kick-off the holiday shopping season by making purchases on Black Friday and Cyber Monday. What is the best deal you found on a gift when shopping either of the two days?

"I can't post what it was yet but I got a gift that was originally \$174 for \$50."

Chelsea Ewing



How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Adam Kinzinger 1218 Longworth HOB Washington, D.C. (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

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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



Card shower set for Thompson's 90th bday

FRANKLIN GROVE -Arline Thompson will be celebrating her 90th birthday on Dec. 10, 2020. Her family is having a card

corn, green beans, bread if desired

shower for her to celebrate this milestone. Cards can be sent to Thompson at 510 N. State St., Apt. 224, Franklin Grove, IL, 61031.

RTHS speech team competes virtually

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Township High School speech team participated in its first virtual tournament on Nov. 21 in the Freebird Tournament hosted by Freeport High School.

Several speakers earned top honors at the varsity and novice levels during the tournament.

Varsity

Megan Thiravong, second place, extemporaneous speaking and second place, radio speaking;

Faith Worthington, sec-

Dec. 24 – (Thursday) – CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Dec. 29 – (Tuesday) – Shredded beef brisket, roasted

cornbread skillet, pork roast, black eyed peas, collard

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

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.

Rochelle. The suggested donation is \$5 unless otherwise

ond place, impromptu speaking;

Morgan Haas, second place, oratory;

Ariel Zuercher, third place, poetry reading; Layla Pelan, fifth place,

prose reading;

Danica Ward, sixth place, radio speaking;

Novice

Jessica Nguyen, first place, extemporaneous speaking;

Aiden Ramsey, first place, radio speaking, and first place, extemporaneous speaking.



FROM THE HEART **DAILY CASH WINNERS**

Nov. 10 - Ralph Dauphin, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 11 - Chelsea Bird, Davis Junction, \$250

Nov. 12 - Willa Hood, Elk Grove, \$25

Nov. 13 - Judy Hayes, Chana, \$25

Nov. 14 - Chris & Marilyn Sanford, Earlville, \$25

Nov. 15 - David Peak, Chicago, \$50

Nov. 16 - Jose & Bertha Ortiz, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 17 - Janine Lemar, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 18 - Mike Blaine, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 19 - From the Heart Auction, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 20 - Noel Allison, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 21 - Lanet Erickson, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 22 - Kim Stahl, Oregon, \$50

Nov. 23 - Matt Wolf, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 24 - Erie Foods/Dean, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 25 - Liz Shank, Byron, \$25

Nov. 26 - Dawn Peters, Rochelle, \$500

Nov. 27 - Tonja Greenfield, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 28 - Dick Hart, Elgin, \$25

Nov. 29 - Pamela Shore, Monroe Center, \$50

Nov. 30 - Sean Saweikis, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 1 - William Jandak, Rochelle, \$25

Dec. 2 - Dallas Schuler, Rochelle, \$25

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

Dec. 6 – (Sunday Brunch) – Sausage gravy & biscuits, potatoes, steamed broccoli and cauliflower, dinner rolls sausage patties, grits, ham and cheese casserole, Dec. 31 – (Thursday) – New Year's Eve Dinner: Good Luck

greens

The Kitchen Table menu

breakfast bits Dec. 8 – (Tuesday) – Chicken enchiladas, rice and beans Dec. 10 – (Thursday) – Chicken sandwich or chicken tenders with honey mustard dipping sauce, French fries,

Dec. 3 – (Thursday) – Meatloaf, mashed potatoes, gravy,

baked beans Dec. 15 – (Tuesday) – Christmas Dinner: Porcupine meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, stuffing, pea salad

Dec. 17 – (Thursday) – Christmas Dinner: Porcupine meatballs, ham, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, stuffing, pea salad

Dec. 22 - (Tuesday) - CLOSED FOR CHRISTMAS

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Dec. 3 Ty Vongsiri Dec. 4 Teresa Dodillet Dec. 6 Kelly Smith **Dec. 10 Dec. 11**

Mary Helfrich Samantha Johnson **Dec. 12** Tim & Megan South Jax Sullivan

Dec. 13 Kellen Eggenburg **Dec. 15** Mario Messer Dec. 20 Amanda Avila **Dec. 21**

Jacob King Bill Patrick **Dec. 22**

Maribel Ortiz Dec. 26 Annette Sulser **Dec. 28** Chris Prosser Dec. 29 Kelsey Rogers

Dec. 25

Jamey & Nicole King Ruth Allen Hayleigh Jones

Dec. 31



Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS 1 "Grand"

- 5 Letterman's network
- 8 Out of control
- 12 Suspend
- 13 Weeding tool 14 Wise one
- 15 Killer whale
- 16 Lineage
- 18 Astronauts' descent to Earth
- 20 Locations
- 21 Comic DeLuise
- 22 Satchel 23 "Forget it!"
- 26 Nation
- 31 Sly one 32 Nay oppo-

30 Lawyers' org.

- nent
- 33 Racism, e.g. 36 Aden's land
- 38 Bill and -
- ware
- e.g. 47 Immoderate
- devotion
- 49 Met melody
- 51 Trouble
- 52 Ring up

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41 42

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- 55 Duel tool
- 39 Adams or
- Ameche 40 Clean soft-
- 43 Turducken,
- 50 Taj Mahal city

- 53 Lecherous

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- 24 26 28 29 31 32 33 34 35 36 37 38 39

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42 Drill

36 Second per-

Intertwine

39 Senior mem-

40 Soap brand

41 Advantage

43 Front of a

ship

44 Snare

45 Irritate

48 Pair

46 New Haven

campus

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52

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- 50 51
- 54 Possess

DOWN

- 1 Valhalla VIP 2 Aesopian
- also-ran
- 3 Formerly 4 Landlocked
- 5 Amulet
- 6 Skeletal
- 8 Delegate
- 9 Dillon or
- 7 Moment
- Damon

- 10 Shrek, for one 35 Forum gar-11 Jailer's jan-
- glers 17 Jacob's
- brother 19 Plaything
- 22 Carton 23 Apprehend 24 Japanese
- sash African nation 25 Witty one
 - 26 Coquettish 27 Scot's hat
 - 28 Deli bread 29 Longing
 - 31 To and -34 Eye-related © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc.

Deb Wooten **Dec. 24** Luke Gilliam

KitchenTableRochelle.org.

Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◀

Moderate

Challenging HOO BOY! © 2020 King Features Synd., Inc

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: U equals B

PCXXIPG FIC OLDNM ESKK MNGXGHPIV LV HIUUGHF ENSHDG IR S

EIOOSVZGH-LV-MNLGR.

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Answer — Meeki) SODOKO – Solution time: 21 mins.

Answers — Kind Crossword —

the commander-in-thief. berson in charge of a robbery enbbose you might call the SUSMEL

Rochelle For the Holidays

"Cut a Square" and get ready for Christmas in Rochelle

Reverse Christmas Parade, various events set for Dec. 4

pening in reverse this year. Bundle your family into the car and head downtown for the "Cut the Square" reverse parade on Friday, Dec. 4 from 5 to 7 p.m. Stationery floats will be decorated along the way, giving out goodies to those driving through. Head down Lincoln Highway, around Lincoln Avenue and back up Sixth Street to see Santa parked on the Flagg Township Historical Museum's front lawn.

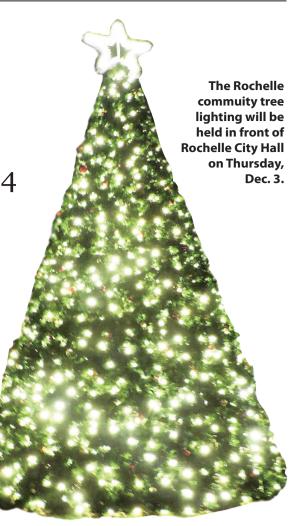
Santa's reindeer will be stationed at Terri Schaeffer State Farm at the corner of Sixth Avenue and Lincoln Highway from 4 to 6 p.m. Downtown windows will be decorated as part of the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce "Merry and Bright" decorating contest.

Speaking of decorating, bring out your inner Clark Griswold because the Rochelle Chamber has invited local households to decorate for the holidays and enter the "Merry and Bright" decorating contest for homes. To enter, simply contact the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce with your address at rochellechamber@gmail.com. Prizes for first, second and

THE City of Rochelle annual lighted parade is happening in reverse this year. Bundle your family into and businesses.

Join Mayor and First Lady Bearrows on 102.3 The Coyote on Dec. 10 from 5 to 6 p.m. as local children are invited to call in and have their holiday eishes heard by Santa and Mrs. Claus. Lists may be dropped off at the radio station office in the May Mart shopping center anytime between now and Dec. 10. Children may also call into the show at 815-561-1023 to speak with Santa and Mrs. Claus.

New this year, the City of Rochelle is hosting Christmas Light Carriage rides through the Squires Landing and North Ridge subdivisions. Families may reserve a six-person carriage or a 10-person wagon ride throughout the neighborhoods in 20 minute increments throughout the month of December. The cost for a six-person carriage ride is \$38 and \$48 for a 10-person wagon ride. The rides begin and end at St. Paul Lutheran Church. To reserve a time, please contact Jenny Thompson at City Hall at jthompson@rochelleil. us or 815-561-2006.



Join the fun during the Rochelle Christmas Walk!

We are a Christmas Cash participant!

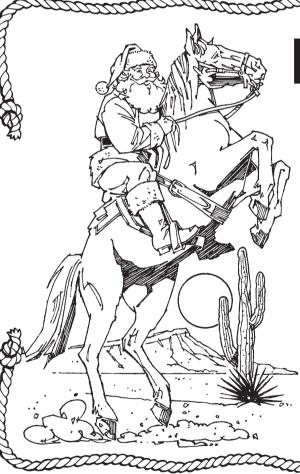
Unfortunately, with Covid we are unable to serve refreshments this year. Stay safe and healthy!



ROCHELLE PHARMACY

314 Lincoln Hwy., Downtown Rochelle 815-562-4444 rochellerx.com

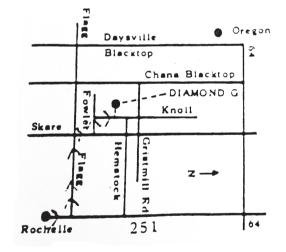
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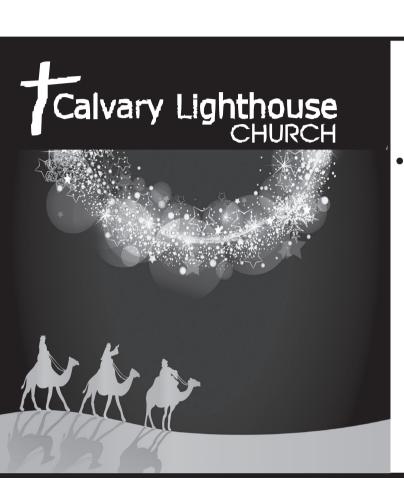


310 Eagle Drive, Rochelle

All loans subject to our normal credit requirements and policies.







HOPE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 10:00 A.M.

CANDLELIGHT SERVICE AND FAMILY CHRISTMAS TALENT NIGHT

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20 AT 6:00 P.M. MUSIC, DANCE, POETRY & SKITS. FOLLOWING PERFORMANCE WILL BE A COOKIE WALK.

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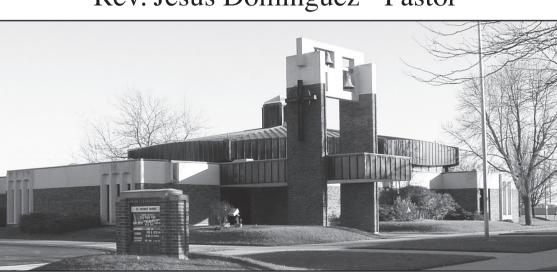
St. Patrick Catholic Church

Welcomes you and your family Rev. Jesus Dominguez - Pastor

Please join us weekly

Saturday Vigil: 5pm

Sunday Mass: 7:30am, 9am - English; 11am - Spanish



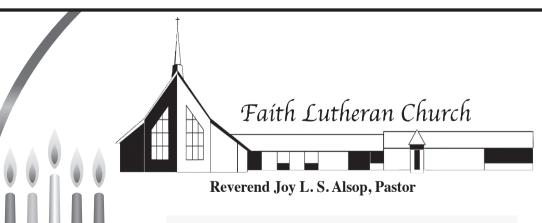
Please join us in celebrating the miracle of our Savior's birth!

Christmas Eve: 4pm & 7pm - Spanish 11:30pm - English

> Christmas Day: 8am - English 11am - Spanish

Reservations are asked in advance so that we may prevent the potential problem of overcrowding at any of the Christmas Masses.

Kelley Drive & Caron Road, Rochelle • 815.562.2370



Please join us virtually as we prepare for and celebrate the birth of Christ!

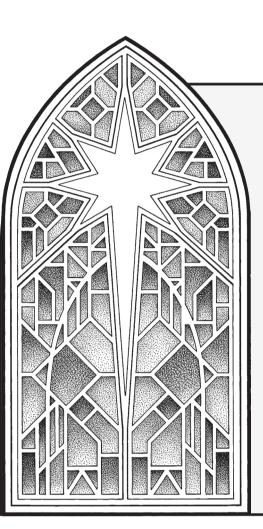
Worship is live each Sunday at 9:00 a.m.



Find us on YouTube -"Faith Lutheran Soial"

14206 E. Flagg Rd. • Rochelle, IL 61068 • 815-562-7575





St. Paul Lutheran Church

1415 Tenth Ave., Rochelle, IL • 815-562-2744

December 24 4pm Festival Worship

7pm Candlelight Worship - Available on Facebook Live

December 25 9am Hymns and Word - Available on Facebook Live

December 26 NO Saturday Worship

December 27 9am Worship - Available on Facebook Live or Listen at

10am on WRHL 1060AM and 93.5 FM

Facebook Live can be found at St. Paul Lutheran Church

We are following Covid guidelines of masks, social distancing and sanitizers.

12022020

Celebrate Christmas 2020 with your local United Methodist Churches!

Whether you plan to celebrate Christmas online, in-person, on the radio, on Youtube, or Facebook the 10 Hub Cluster United Methodist Churches welcome you and your family to join us for Christmas Services. Check out www.UMCHub.org/Christmas or the listed webpage or Facebook page listed for the most up to date info for service or streaming options.

HUB Cluster Wistmas Carol Cruise

THIS CHRISTMAS

Ready to get in the holiday spirit?
Checkout the Hub Cluster
Christmas Carol Cruise. Dec 4-6.
Drive by each of the Hub City
area churches to sing
along and learn the
history of 10 different
Christmas Carols. Scan

this code to learn more.

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Chana United Methodist Church www.ChanaChurch.org

Creston United Methodist Church www.facebook.com/CrestonUMCIL

Esmond United Methodist Church

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Franklin Grove United Methodist Church

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WEDNESDAY, DEC. 2, 2020

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS ...



SHOOTING HER SPARES

RTHS bowler Alyssa Schwanert is looking to improve her accuracy this season.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Football

Returning to form

Junior tailback Angell motivated to perform after injury-shortened season

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Owen Angell's first varsity season with the Rochelle Township High School football team was cut short due to a devastating foot

"My foot

losing the

sophomore

majority

season

of the

hardest

I've been

through..."

Owen Angell

injury. It was one of Angell's toughest experiences to re- injury and cover from, but the 5-foot-10, 180-pound tailback and outside linebacker of my has been working hard to return to form for when the Hubs eventually take were some the field this coming season.

Angell began the 2019 season as one experiences of only two sophomores to earn starting roles on offense. Now an upperclass-

man, Angell said he's pass and running for a progressed through physical therapy and offseason workouts to rehab his foot to 100 percent health.

Angell also said he's been staying active however he can while team activities remain limited due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

"My foot injury and losing the majority of my sophomore season were some of the hardest ex-

periences I've been through, bothphysically and mentally," Angell said. "I thought I did well overall during the games I played and I thought I got along well with my teammates. I want to work on everything I can to improve both myself and my team for next season."

Angell showed promise early in his sophomore season, catching a 29-yard

9-yard touchdown against the Morris Redskins.

See ANGELL page 4



Junior Owen Angell breaks through a Morris tackler during Rochelle's varsity football game against the Redskins this past year. Angell missed nearly his entire sophomore season to a foot injury.

NIU Football

Late field goal lifts Broncos over Huskies

Richie tops 100 receiving yards as NIU falls to Western Michigan 30-27

KALAMAZOO. Mich. — Western Michigan kicker Gavin Peddie made a 24-yard field goal with 2:23 to play to lift WMU to a 30-27 win over the Northern Illinois University Huskies Saturday at Waldo Stadium.

NIU, whose starting line-up included 11 freshmen, seven on defense, held a powerful Western Michigan offense to 20 points and 200 yards below their season average while controlling the ball for 40 minutes and running 80 plays to the Broncos' 49. NIU outgained the Broncos, 350-325 and had 18 first downs to WMU's 15 while not committing a turnover for the first time this season.

Despite the loss to the 4-0 Broncos, which dropped the Huskies' record on the season to 0-4, NIU head coach Thomas Hammock was encouraged by his team's performance.

"I liked the mentality and the approach of our football team," Hammock said. "We started seven freshmen on defense, four freshmen on offense and you couldn't tell the difference during the game. They don't know any better. They don't know they're not supposed to be out there making plays. These guys play hard, they're fearless, they expect to win. We're going to keep working, we're going to keep grinding. I love working with this team."

The Broncos used a trio of big plays, leading to 20 points. La'Darius Jefferson scored WMU's first touchdown on a 43-yard run in the first quarter to give the Broncos a 7-3 lead; kickoff returner D'Wayne Eskridge scored on a 100yard kickoff return in the second quarter as WMU took a 20-17 halftime lead; and Eskridge caught a pass between a pair of Huskie defenders in the fourth quarter and went 57 yards to set up WMU's gametying touchdown with 9:12 to play in the game.

"Obviously we knew [Western Michigan] was explosive [on offense]," Hammock said. "We had

to try to play keep away,

keep our offense on the field as much as possible. They had one player better than our guys, [Eskridge] was a difference maker, we tried to minimize him as much as possible. He had the KOR, he had the big play downfield in the fourth quarter."

Eskridge finished with seven catches for 134 yards, three kickoff returns for 124 yards and gained 27 yards on a reverse to total 285 all-purpose yards. For NIU, senior wide receiver Tyrice Richie caught a career-high 12 passes for 131 yards and two touchdowns. NIU quarterback Ross Bowers completed 22-of-36 passes for 230 yards and three touchdowns.

Defensively, cornerback Jordan Gandy led NIU with seven tackles while his five pass breakups tied the Huskies' single game record for pass break-ups in a game. The Huskie defense allowed WMU to convert just one of nine third downs.

See NIU page 3



(PHOTO BY ASHLEY HUSS/WMU PHOTOGRAPHER)

The Northern Illinois University football team faced Western Michigan on Saturday, falling 30-27 and moving to 0-4 overall.



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HUB SPOTLIGHT



Junior Alyssa Schwanert throws her ball during match play this past year. Schwanert said improving her accuracy will be the key to her success with the Lady Hubs.

Schwanert seeking to convert more spares

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

LYSSA Schwanert surged toward the end of her sophomore bowling season with the Lady Hubs, knocking down over 1,000 pins during the Interstate 8 Conference Championship and recording Rochelle's highest series in the IHSA Dixon Regional. Schwanert said that improving her release and her accuracy will lead to more success on the lanes when she begins her junior season.

Schwanert immediately earned a role on the varsity team as a freshman, notching a top-40 finish in the IHSA Sycamore Regional and a top-32 showing in the Northern Illinois Big 12 Conference Championship. She upped her game during her sophomore campaign, helping the Lady Hubs to three victories after Rochelle went winless over its 2018-19 season.

"I felt that I performed my best in each of my previous two seasons, but there was definitely room for improvement," Schwanert said. "I've looked back and seen what I could do better so I can make those changes for this season. My release

has greatly improved since last season, but I want to improve my accuracy for this season. I want to be confident in picking up my spares. Hitting my mark as much as I can and picking up more spares are some of my main goals."

Schwanert will be a leading returner for the Lady Hubs, who bring back multiple upperclassmen under new head coach Eric Widick, who replaced Joey Johanning after 14 years at the helm. Schwanert, who has been bowling since fourth grade, said she learned how to avoid getting down on herself through working with Johanning. She also said she's looking forward to working with Widick on improving her technique and her approach on different lanes.

"I've always loved how bowling is a mentally challenging sport," Schwanert said. "It's really improved my ability to focus and knowing that I can forget about everything and only focus on bowling has always been nice. Coach Johanning taught me that I shouldn't be so hard on myself because I can always improve during the next frame. Coach Johanning helped me overcome that mindset and be easier on myself, and I hope coach Widick can keep our team motivated."

"I want to be confident in picking up my spares." Hitting my mark as much as I can and picking up

Alyssa Schwanert









Johnson





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more spares are some of my main goals."







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SPORTS

NIU: Huskies face Toledo in home finale on Dec. 5

From page 1

"We're going to keep going to Tyrice," Hammock said. "If they double team him, that opens it up for someone else. How about Dennis Robinson? He's a guy people have been down on, we've kept confidence in him to be a playmaker and he made some plays today. I'm proud of him. We're going to keep coaching our players. Jordan Gandy played a heck of a ball game on defense."

NIU took a 3-0 lead on the opening possession of the game on John Richardson's 38-yard field goal. The drive was a sign of things to come as the Huskies took 12 plays and 5:16 to go 50 yards with Harrison Waylee's 22-yard run setting up NIU at the 20-yard line.

Western Michigan responded by going 58 yards in three plays and 42 seconds to take a 7-3 lead. La'Darius Jefferson scored on a 43-yard run and finished the game as WMU's leading rusher with 81 yards in the game.

The Huskies then embarked on an epic 18-play, 75-yard drive that took more than nine minutes off the clock. NIU converted three fourth downs on the drive, with the first coming

on a fake punt with backup quarterback Andrew Haidet completing an eight-yard pass to Messiah Travis on fourth-and-five. On fourth-and-two from the WMU 26, quarterback Ross Bowers hit Tyrice Richie, who went 17 yards to the WMU 9-yard line. Then on fourth and goal from the Western Michigan 3-yard line, Bowers found Richie open in the back of the end zone. After the PAT, NIU took a 10-7 lead with 14:54 to play in the second quarter.

A Huskie penalty on an onside kick attempt gave WMU the ball on NIU's 34-yard line and the Broncos drove to the 13, where Thiago Kapps missed a 30-yard field goal. The Huskie offense was stymied by a holding penalty on its ensuing possession and a short punt once again gave Western Michigan starting position in Huskie territory.

Six plays later, WMU re-took the lead on a 1-yard run by quarterback Kaleb Eleby. The PAT was missed and Western Michigan led 13-10 with 8:45 left in the half.

The seesaw affair continued as NIU drove five plays in 65 yards to re-take the lead, 17-13. Bowers hit Dennis Robinson, who set career highs for catches

(three) and yards (36) in the game, for 30 yards to the WMU 29. Back-to-back completions to freshman tailback Harrison Waylee, the last for 9 yards was taken to the end zone for Waylee's first career score.

Eskridge scored on the ensuing kickoff to give Western Michigan a 20-17 lead with 6:25 left in the half. Despite a 56-yard kickoff return by NIU freshman Trayvon Rudolph following the score, the Huskies were forced to punt.

The third quarter began with three straight threeand-outs before NIU started a drive from its 20-yard line with 10:23 on the clock. The Huskies converted a pair of third downs on the drive, with Bowers hitting Richie, who caught the ball between two defenders and escaped to the WMU 3-yard line. One play later, Bowers connected with Dennis Robinson and the PAT gave NIU a 24-20 advantage with 6:56 on the clock.

That was the only score by either team in the quarter as the NIU defense forced four WMU punts in the period. The Huskies started its next scoring drive at the 2:35 mark of the third and drove 58 yards in 13 plays and 7:07 with Richardson hitting a 40-yard field goal



(PHOTO BY ASHLEY HUSS/WMU PHOTOGRAPHER)

The Northern Illinois University football team will face Toledo on Saturday, Dec. 5 for its final home game.

with 10:28 to play to take a 27-20 lead.

Western Michigan came back to tie the game in just 1:16, driving 79 yards in three plays. One play after the Eskridge play put WMU at the Huskie 27-yard line, Eleby hit Skyy Moore down the middle for a 26-yard touchdown and the PAT tied the game at 27 with 9:12 to play.

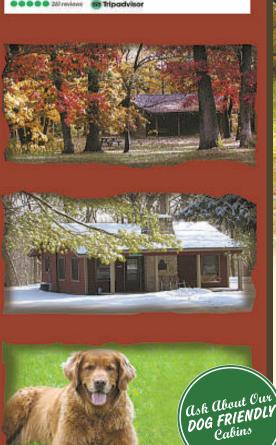
The next three possessions ended in punts before WMU took advantage of the Huskies' third kick-catching interference penalty of the game to start a drive at the 50. Eskridge caught a 14-yard pass from Eleby and then went 27 yards on a reverse to put the Broncos on the NIU 9-yard line. Three plays netted just 4 yards and

Peddie's 24-yard field goal was good.

The Huskies play the last of three home games next Saturday, Dec. 5 when NIU takes on Toledo at 11 a.m. at Huskie Stadium. The game can be seen on

Fans, including families, will not be allowed in the stands for the home finale

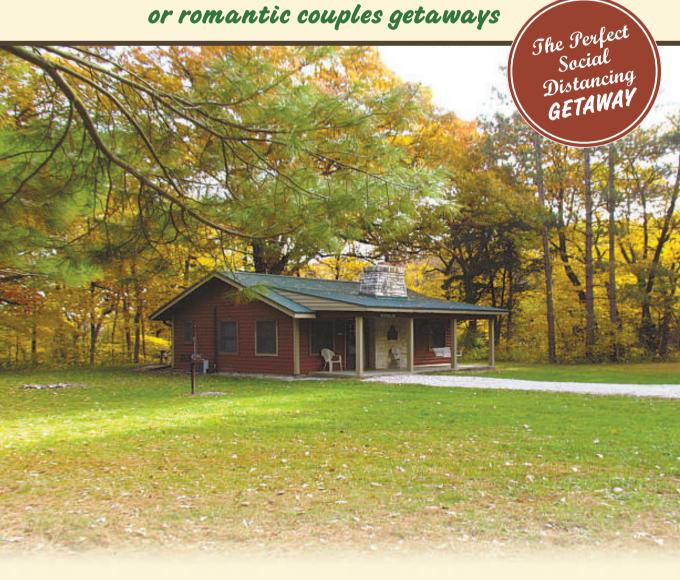




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SPORTS

ANGELL: Hub tailback healthy after foot injury

From page 1

Angell averaged over 6 yards per carry in Rochelle's season-opener at Pekin, where the tailback ran for 51 yards on eight carries. Angell impacted special teams as well, returning five kickoffs for a combined 100 yards. Angell finished his sophomore campaign with two catches for 41 yards and 69 rushing yards on 19 carries.

"Iplayed a lot of tailback last season and I see myself playing the same position this season," said Angell,

"I've made a lot of really good friends throughout the years and I've met a lot of new people. We've definitely become like a family."

Owen Angell

who has played football since third grade. "I expect us to be successful during the regular season and I think everybody would agree that our goal is to make a run in the postseason and hopefully make the state finals... The reason I

enjoy football so much is because it's an outlet for me to release my stress. I've made a lot of really good friends throughout the years and I've met a lot of new people. We've definitely become like a family."

Ricketts earns American Rivers Conference All-Academic Team honors

PELLA, Iowa — Central College landed 48 student-athletes on the fall sports American Rivers Conference all-academic team Tuesday.

Across the league, 522 total student-athletes were honored. Rochelle Township High School graduate Greg Ricketts was among the honorees from the Central College football team.

Central's football team led the way with 14 selections. The volleyball team had 10 while the women's soccer and women's tennis team each had six.

To qualify for the distinction, a student-athlete must be at least a sophomore in academic standing with one year at his/her current school, achieve a 3.5 GPA or better and compete at the varsity level.



Greg Ricketts

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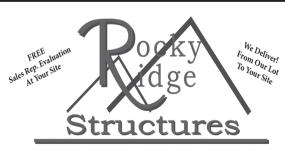
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ON THE FARM

Illinois Farm Bureau creates **Presidential Memorial Scholarship**

Fund to honor previous leaders, support farm bureau families

BLOOMINGTON —Illinois Farm Bureau's rich history includes a list of former Presidents that reads like an honor roll of well-known and well-respected individuals. In recognition of the past presidents who shaped and influenced Illinois Farm Bureau, the Board of Directors, at the suggestion of the IAA Foundation Board of Trustees, recently voted to create the Illinois Farm Bureau Presidential Memorial Scholarship fund.

"As a tribute to all former Presidents of this organization, we feel strongly that this scholarship is a meaningful gesture that acknowledges the leadership they provided" said Richard Guebert Jr., President, Illinois Farm Bureau. "It is a genuine privilege to support the next generation of leaders and encourage degrees in agriculture related fields."

Generally, the award amount will be \$1,000 and presented in honor of all former Presidents of IFB. However, in the scholarship program year immediately following the passing of a former IFB President, the award amount will be \$2,500 and presented specifically in that person's memory.

An important consideration for the Board was inviting contributions from individuals, organizations, and County Farm Bureaus who wish to pay tribute to a specific leader, or all former Presidents. Guebert went on to say, "we feel strongly that this is an initiative that others will choose to support." Gifts to this fund can be accepted at any time on the IAA Foundation website or by contacting the IAA Foundation.

Scholarship recipients will be selected based on their proven

leadership experience and an emphasis will be placed on their work/ internship experience as outlined in their application.

A full listing of available scholarships and eligibility guidelines for the 2021 Scholarship Program is available on the Foundation website, www.iaafoundation.org. NEW TIMELINE: The application opens Jan. 1, 2020 and must be completed online by Feb. 15, 2021.

For more information, contact your county Farm Bureau, the IAA Foundation at 309-557-2232, or e-mail Jennifer Smith at jsmith@ilfb.org.

The mission of the IAA Foundation, Illinois Farm Bureau's charitable arm, is to fund education. research, and charitable activities that benefit Illinois farm families and agriculture.

Books By the Bushel grant applications available

AMBOY — The Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation is excited to announce that they are once again giving away Books by the Bushel grants to organizations in the county that can benefit from a bushel basket of agricultural themed children's books.

Books by the Bushel is a program, now in its tenth year, that is designed to help increase agricultural awareness among children. The books are geared for children on a variety of ag topics which include: The Hundred Year Barn, Farmer George Plants a Nation, Pick a Pumpkin, and more.

Applications

Applications to apply for "Books by the Bushel" are available one the Lee County Farm Bureau Foundation website, www.lcfbfoundation.org. Applications are open to all organizations in Lee County.

For questions or more information, contact the Lee County Farm Bureau, 815-857-3531 or leecfb@comcast.net. Completed applications are due by Feb. 1, 2021.

Dec. 11 deadline approaching for USDA program for farmers and ranchers impacted by COVID-19

WASHINGTON, **D.C.** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture Farm Service Agency reminds farmers and ranchers to apply for the Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2 by Dec. 11, 2020. This program provides direct relief to producers facing market disruptions and associated costs because of COVID-19.

"With over 300 eligible commodities, from livestock and row crops to specialty crops and aquaculture, most farmers and ranchers are potentially eligible for CFAP 2," said Richard Fordyce, Farm Service Agency administrator. "FSA offers several options for farmers and ranchers to apply. Don't wait to check out our online resources and connect with our employees who are ready to answer

ELIGIBLE COMMODITIES

Row crops Wool Livestock Specialty livestock Dairy Specialty crops Floricutlure and nursery crops Aquaculture Broilers and eggs

your questions and help you get started on your application."

Producers have several options for applying for the CFAP 2 program by the Dec. 11 deadline. Producers can find eligible commodities, payment rates, calculations and options to apply on farmers.gov/cfap.

Customers seeking one-on-one support with the CFAP 2 application process can call 877-508-8364 to speak directly with a USDA employee

ready to offer general assistance. This is a recommended first step before a producer engages the team at the FSA county office. The call center can also provide service to non-English speaking customers. Customers will select 1 for English and 2 to speak with a Spanish speaking employee. For other languages, customers select 1 and indicate their language to the call center staff.

Additionally, farmers.

gov offers a number of resources for producers interested in applying for CFAP 2, including:

Eligible Commodities

Videos, including "How to Apply for CFAP

Blogs, including "Myth Debunked: Coronavirus Food Assistance Program 2"

A correction to the CFAP2 rule is pending. In case a producer is affected by this correction, FSA will provide additional time to apply or edit their application.

CFAP 2 is a separate program from the first iteration of CFAP, now referred to as CFAP 1. Participating in CFAP 1 is not a prerequisite for participating in CFAP 2. Additionally, producers who applied for CFAP 1 will not be automatically enrolled in CFAP 2 and

must complete a new application to be eligible for assistance.

Both CFAP 1 and CFAP 2 are self-certification programs, which means the applicant certifies the information submitted is correct. As part of the internal controls portion of CFAP 1, FSA is conducting spot checks of applications, asking producers to provide supporting documentation to verify the information on them. Producers are being selected using a statistically sound methodology. These CFAP 1 applicants will be contacted by FSA staff and asked to provide supporting documentation to verify the information certified by the producer on their CFAP 1 application.

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ness, including those that restrict in-person visits or require appointments. All Service Center visitors wishing to conduct business with FSA, Natural Resources Conservation Service or any other Service Center agency should call ahead and schedule an appointment. Service Centers that are open for appointments will pre-screen visitors based on health concerns or recent travel, and visitors must adhere to social distancing guidelines. Visitors are also required to wear a face covering during their appointment. Our program delivery staff will continue to work with our producers by phone, email and using online tools. More information can be found at farmers. gov/coronavirus.

USDA announces Commodity **Credit Corporation lending rates**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's Commodity Credit Corporation Tuesday announced interest rates for December 2020, which are effective Dec. 1 through Dec. 31, 2020.

The Commodity Credit Corporation borrowing ratebased charge for December is 0.125 percent, same as in November.

The interest rate for crop year commodity loans less than one year disbursed during December is 1.125 percent, same as in November.

Interest rates for Farm Storage Facility Loans approved for December are as follows:

0.250 percent with three-year loan terms, up from 0.125 in November;

0.375 percent with five-year loan terms, up from 0.250 in November;

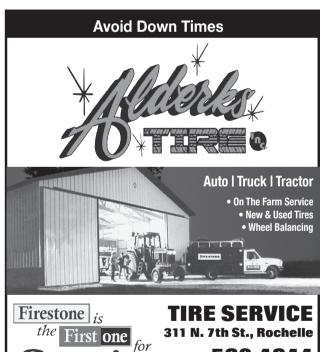
0.625 percent with seven-year loan terms, up from 0.500 in November;

0.875 percent with 10-year loan terms, up from 0.750 in November; and

1.000 percent with 12-year loan terms, up from

0.875 in November. The interest rate for 15-year Sugar Storage Facility Loans for December is 1.125 percent, up from 1.000 percent in November.

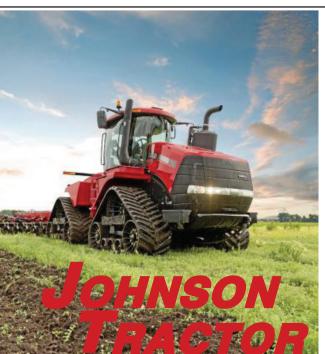
Visit https://www.farmers.gov for more information on loan eligibility, the application process or to find your local service center.



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CENTRAL BANK ILLINOIS, Successor in interest)No. 2020 FIRST

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to

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Block Two (2)as designated upon the Plat of Palmer's First Addition in the City of to the Plat thereof recorded in Book A of Miscellaneous, page 30 in the Recorder's Office of Ogle County, Illinois; situated in the Township of Flagg, the County of Ogle and State of

Tax Code No. 24-24-329-003

Illinois.

has been filed in the Circuit Court of Ogle County. You have 30 days to reply or otherwise answer the Complaint filed in this case. The 30 days will begin upon when this Notice first appears in publication. Should you fail to answer or otherwise appear in this case, a default judgment may be taken against you for the relief stated in the Complaint which will include the

foreclosure of the property located at 709 Main Street, Rochelle, Illinois. Answers or appearances can be filed in the above captioned case with the Ogle County Circuit Clerk at the Ogle Courthouse, County

Oregon, Illinois Kimberly Stahl Ogle County Circuit Clerk

1124 Lincoln Highway Rochelle, IL 61068 Telephone (815) 562-2704 Attorney for Plaintiff.

HEWITT & WAGNER

No. 1133 (Nov. 25, Dec. 2, 9)

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INDIVIDUAL. unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in it's care.

203 **HELP WANTED**

PLOW Sub Contractor With Truck Needed in Rochelle 815-748-3782. (12-09-

NEWSPAPER CARRIERS Wanted. (Rochelle) Several Routes Open. Call 815-561-2112 For More Information.

301 **ANTIQUES**

WANTED TO BUY: Vintage Metal and Wood Signs, Milk Bottles & Local Advertising, Oak Icebox, Iron Door Stop and Antique Lighting... Call Dick Harms at

815-562-2928 or email

dickharms@hotmail.

ANTIQUES WANTED: I pay cash for antiques; furniture, glassware, pottery & crocks, tin & iron toys, sterling silver, decoys. If it's antique, I'm interested in looking! Call 815-562-2928 or email dickharms@ hotmail.com

307 **MISCELLANEOUS** FOR SALE

1999 Arctic Cat Z440, Great Suspension, Well Garage Kept, Maintained. 1660 Miles. \$1250. 815-245-7391. (12-02-20)

FOR SALE: Love Seat, Like New Condition. Flowered, Dark Brown Cover Included. \$45 Call 815-764-1777. (12-02-20)

BUNDLED Newspaper -\$3 per Bundle. End Roll- Cost Depends on Weight of Roll. Available Monday-Friday NOON ONLY. SEE **RECEPTIONIST** COUNTER FRONT Rochelle News-Leader.

309 **PETS AND SUPPLIES**

FOR SALE: Mixed Jack Russell Terrier Puppies Call 815-501-2718.

405 **HOUSES FOR SALE**

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Housing which makes it illegal advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preferences, limitation or discrimination. We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are

405 HOUSES FOR SALE

hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

501 APARTMENTS FOR **RENT**

1 & 2 - B E D R O O M Quiet Available Now. Some Utilities Included. Call For Showing 815-762-6650 or 815-761-3968. (12-20-20)

507 FARM AND FARM LAND

PASTURE WANTED to Rent for 2021 Beef Cattle. John Nadig Rochelle, 815-748-3782. (12-09-20)

509 HOUSES FOR RENT

ROCHELLE: 3-BEDROOM. 2-Bath. All Appliances, Near School. 2-Car Garage. \$1250/Month 815-761-6635 after 6:30pm. (12-06-20)

601 VEHICLES FOR SALE

1960 CHEVY BLUE BELLE AIRE, 4-Door Runs & Drives. Project. 815-762-1127. (12-02-

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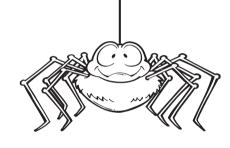
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leader.com Address:

211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle Mail: P.O. Box 46

Rochelle, IL 61068

DEADLINES: Sunday News-Leader: Thursday, 2 p.m.

Tuesday Shopping News: Friday, 10 a.m. Wednesday Leader: Monday, 4 p.m. (Deadlines subject to change

during holiday times)

line ads will appear in the following 7 print publications and on 5 hightraffic newspaper websites:

Rochelle News-Leader Ogle County Life • Rochelle Shopping News • Ashton Gazette • Amboy News Mendota Reporter Mendota Money Saver

Call for pricing that starts at \$32.99 for private party ads and \$44.60 for commercial business ads and \$19.99 for garage

DISCLAIMER: your advertisement

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

203 **HELP WANTED**

Want To Teach Your Kids About Responsibility? The Rochelle News-Leader has three

openings for newspaper carriers. Must be 10 years or over

2 deliveries per week Most routes take less 1an 45 minutes

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teach your child about responsibility - and the rewards ofearning their own spending money Adult carriers are welcome, too!

Rochelle News-Leade 211 E. Hwy. 38, 561-2112

Contact Wanda at the

ROUTE 11-12 300-800 BLOCK N. 8TH STREET

N. 9TH STREET N. 10TH STREET N. 11TH STREET

N. 12TH STREET

ROUTE 24-25 SOUTH 1ST, 2ND 3RD STREETS & AVENUE IN

> **BETWEEN ROUTE 28**

SOUTHVIEW DR., WILLIS AVE., LAKE LIDA LANE AREA

Part-time mailroom position

The Rochelle News-Leader has a parttime mailroom position open that would include inserting flyers, banding bundles and occasionally help stacking papers coming off the press.

The position typically calls for 24-28 hours per week over four or five days per week, and includes mandatory shifts on Fridays and Saturdays when work load is heaviest.

Applicants must be able to quickly insert advertising flyers into newspapers, strap and lift medium-sized bundles onto a delivery truck, and work well as a team with others to follow instructions, pay attention to detail and get newspapers out the door.

Mailroom staff members are also asked to perform other basic duties in the department as needed, and may be trained to drive a fork lift.

Anyone (18 years or older) interested in this position should apply in person at the Rochelle News-Leader office, 211 Hwy. 38 E., Rochelle, IL 61068.



HOLIDAYS

Get crafty with homemade ornaments

ANDMADE gifts, trinkets and treats help make the holiday season special. Although cookies and other baked goods are some of Lethe most popular homemade creations this time of year, gift-givers young and old can put their talents to use with various craft projects. Ornaments and decorations are one such idea. Here are some clever and, not-too-time-consuming craft projects to try this holiday season.

• Mini sleighs: Create miniature replicas of Santa's famous sleigh. Paint several popsicle sticks to form the main body of the sleigh and glue them together. Put one at the top perpendicular to the others to serve as the steering rudder. Two silver-painted popsicle sticks placed on their thin sides act as the blades of a sled.

 Popcorn garland: Garland made of popcorn is a classic handmade holiday project. For a new twist, toss the popcorn with food coloring and allow it to dry before stringing for some bright color on the tree.

• Photo ornaments: Print out several different photos that you love. Purchase round or square thin wood pieces from a craft store and attach the photos with Mod Podge®. When dry, drill a hole through the top and

Advent calendar: Make an Advent calendar to count down to Christ-

mas by covering a foam board with fabric. Use paper tags or small ornaments and write a number on each for each day of the month. Hang these all from the board. As each day passes, move the tag or ornament to the

• Wooden snowflakes: Have children collect small twigs from outdoors, as well as holly leaves and some sprigs of evergreen. Arrange similarly sized twigs in the shape of snowflakes and glue together, or tie with twine. Embellish with stickers, glitter, dried berries, and more.

• Dough ornaments: Anyone can have fun molding their own ornaments, letting them dry and then painting them. Use cookie cutters to get perfect holiday shapes. Craft stores sell various types of modeling clays and lightweight modeling materials. Or, make your own salt dough.

• Reindeer bottle topper: Put to use any wine corks you have lying around. Attach googly eyes and a small fuzzy nose to the front of a cork. Insert twisted, brown pipe cleaners to make the antlers up top. Add ribbons, small snippets of faux fur or any other extras you desire.

• Sweet sentiments: Use old Scrabble® letter tiles to form a favorite holiday phrase, like "Joy to the World." Glue the tiles together and hang from the tree on a piece of ribbon.

How to make holiday wreaths the easy way

THERE are many different ways to decorate homes and businesses for the holidays. Tall evergreen trees are among the most visible symbols of the holiday season. However, wreaths hung on doors, windows or fences also are ubiquitous this time of year.

Wreaths adorn homes primarily during the holidays of Easter and Christmas. Wreaths have also been worn around the head or neck in ceremonial events around the globe for centuries. It is believed the first wreaths date back to ancient Greece and Rome. Members of the Greco-Roman society were known to handmake ring-shaped items using fresh tree leaves, small fruits, flowers, and twigs. Oftentimes these headdresses symbolized a person's social status. Others suggest wreaths evolved to become a Christian symbol of immortality.

Regardless of how wreaths are viewed, many people like to display wreaths for the holidays. Wreaths can be purchased premade, but making a wreath on your own can make the holidays even more fun.

One of the easiest ways to make a wreath is to design it around a circular floral foam form. Gather supplies to make the wreath. For traditional wreaths, supplies will include sprigs of evergreen (real or artificial), ribbon, floral wire, bows, and artificial berries. Working around the foam form, arrange the boughs of evergreen, using the floral wire to wrap or pin into the foam itself. Keep the layers coming

until you get the desired coverage. Embellish with a ribbon or place a bow.

The blog A Piece of Rainbow

says that creating a wreath jig is an easy way to make a wreath. Cut a dollar-store laundry basket bottom from the top ring to make

a template, on which you can place wreath-making materials so they keep their circular form. Use floral wire or natural jute string to tie the materials together. Experiment with fresh evergreen, twigs, holly branches, or whatever materials you choose.

Thick card stock also can serve as the wreath template. Attach artificial flowers or leaves, spray snow, ornaments, or other items to the card stock ring with a firm adhesive.

Many craft stores sell wreath forms made of natural vines that have been strung in a ring. These can be decorated in their entirety or left a little sparse to let the natural twine show through.

Wreaths may seem like complicated creations. But a little imagination and the





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