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Vol. 101 • No. 58

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020

\$1

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Projections

Long-term state deficits, growing backlogs projected by forecasters.

See page 8

WEATHER

| | |
|-----------|----------|
| | |
| WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
| HIGH LOW | HIGH LOW |
| 51 40 | 61 46 |
| | |
| FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
| HIGH LOW | HIGH LOW |
| 59 36 | 50 44 |

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:

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BODY WORKS
Body Werks of Rochelle

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OBITUARIES

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 - THOMAS DICUS
 - DORIS MARTIN
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Rec center to open Dec. 1

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Flag-Rochelle Community Park District recreation center at Helms South remains on schedule to open its doors to the public on Tuesday, Dec. 1. The Board of Commissioners received an update on the project during its monthly meeting Monday night.

Executive Director Jackee Ohlinger said that members who purchased pre-sale Platinum and Silver packages will be invited to tour the facility over the next few weeks. Ohlinger also said the recreation center will have limited hours for pre-sale members to utilize

the facility prior to the general public receiving access on Dec. 1. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Ohlinger said that any members looking to use the facility must register online for one-hour time slots.

“We’ve started our member tours and we’ve reached out to our 800-plus Platinum and Silver members and invited them to come tour the facility,” Ohlinger said. “We will close our Second Street office and move everybody over to the recreation center on Dec. 1 and the recreation center will be open in its entirety on that day... Because of the COVID-19 restrictions, we will be following all of the guidelines and we will have a reservation system in place on our website.”

Ohlinger said the one-hour time slots will include 45 minutes of activity and 15 minutes for park district staff to clean the facilities. Ohlinger also said members may sign up for consecutive time slots based on the availability of each facility. Members looking to register for time slots may do so through the park district website, through calling the park district or visiting the rec center.

Commissioners concluded Monday’s meeting with approvals of a one-year leasing agreement with the Flag-Township Museum and a three-year agreement with the KSRA. Board members also approved the park district’s updated surveillance and service animal policies.

Petition filing open for council seats

ROCHELLE — Petitions for Rochelle City Council may now be filed with the Rochelle City Clerk.

Three, four-year term council member openings are on the ballot for the Feb. 23, 2021 Consolidated Primary Election.

The Consolidated General Election will be held on April 6. There will be a Primary Election in Rochelle if there are 13 or more candidates on the ballot.

Petitions can be turned in at city hall through Friday from 7:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m. and Monday, Nov. 23 from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

Candidates began circulating petitions in August.

Hybrid learning still in place

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Rochelle School District 212 will continue with its hybrid learning model despite recent recommendations from the Ogle County Health Department to move to remote learning from Thanksgiving break until mid-January due to rising COVID-19 cases in the area.

Board members took no definitive actions during

“The district will continue to analyze both school and community-based data and information regarding a possible transition to remote learning.”

Jason Harper



the November meeting at Rochelle Township High School on Monday. RTHS will continue with its plan to add a fifth in-person class next semester as well. Principal Chris Lewis said students

conducting in-person learning will have five 47-minute classes next semester as opposed to four 60-minute classes this semester.

See RTHS page 3

Thanksgiving Food Drive

Two-Ton Food Drive set for Thursday

Distribution set for Saturday morning at Anderson Plumbing

ROCHELLE — 102.3 The Coyote, SuperHits 93.5 with Anderson Plumbing and Heating in downtown Rochelle, along with many community-minded businesses present the 15th Annual Two Ton Thanksgiving Food Drive on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m. at Anderson Plumbing and Heating, 621 1st Ave.

“The need in the community is great and we need everyone’s help. We are looking for donations of food, or a \$20 bill or two, or even \$5 goes a long ways.”

Gary Petersen

All food and money collected will be donated to the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry to help families in need this holiday season.

“The need in the community is great and we need everyone’s help. We are looking for donations of food, or a \$20 bill or two, or even \$5 goes a long ways.” SuperHits 93.5 and 102.3 The Coyote General Manager Gary Petersen said. “For every \$20 donation, a family of four will have everything they need for a great Thanksgiving meal.”

Donors have stepped

up to the plate every year. For every \$1 donated the Food Pantry can buy up to \$8 worth of food.

“The last 14 years have been tremendous and we hope this year can be even better. We ask everyone to gather whatever they can, food, cash, or write a check, and drop it off at Anderson’s on Nov. 19,” Petersen added.

The food will be distributed from Anderson Plumbing and Heating on Saturday, Nov. 21 from 9 a.m. until 11 a.m., or until all the boxes are gone.

SuperHits 93.5 and 102.3 The Coyote will be broadcasting throughout

the event Thursday from 7 a.m. until 5 p.m.

This year donations online are being excepted by going to www.1023TheCoyote.com or www.SuperHits935.com click on the food drive icon or click on the Events tab, to make a secure online monetary donation.

Donors

A big thank you to area businesses that care enough to help this holiday season: Anderson Plumbing and Heating, Allstate Insurance, City of Rochelle/RMU, Fairways Golf Course, Kunes

Country Auto Group in Oregon, Holcomb Bank, Rochelle Rotary Club, Tyson Foods, Rochelle Foods, Central Bank, Iron Skillet/Hub City Express, United Way of Ogle County, Hidden Timber Gardens, Rochelle Chamber of Commerce, Rochelle Community Hospital, Raffie’s BBQ, Salinas Chiropractic, Weichert Realtors, Illinois Lottery, Terri Schaefer State Farm Insurance and Bright-Farms in Rochelle

Social distancing and COVID-19 rules will be in effect. Please have your mask on. Hand sanitizer will be provided.



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LOCAL NEWS

Offices open by appointment only

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Municipal Utilities customer service office and City of Rochelle Community Development and Engineering Departments located at 333 Lincoln Highway are open by appointment only due to the increase in COVID-19 cases in the area.

In order to best serve customers, anyone needing to conduct business in person is asked to make an appointment by calling 815-562-4155 (customer service) or 815-562-8717 (community development). The timing of appointments will be staggered due to limited lobby space and to maintain social

distance. Anyone entering the building for an appointment will be required to check their temperature and wear a mask. Anyone experiencing symptoms of illness is asked to stay home.

As always, several bill payment options are available to customers. Online and automatic payments are available through website at www.rmu.net. Two drop-boxes are located at 333 Lincoln Highway: one in the alley and one near the front door. Additionally, customer service staff will be available by phone to assist with phone payments or to assist with online payments.

College president's contract extended

MALTA — The Kishwaukee College Board of Trustees have approved a contract extension for President Dr. Laurie Borowicz.

The four-year contract begins July 1, 2021 and goes through June 30, 2024.

Dr. Borowicz will have a salary of \$200,676 in 2021 with a 2.5 percent increase each contract year. She will also receive a \$10,000 annual vehicle allowance to reimburse costs for owning or leasing a personal vehicle for



Dr. Laurie Borowicz

college business.

She has been president at Kishwaukee College since January of 2016.

Goodrich, Crandall exchange vows

BEECHER — Stephanie Goodrich and Mitchell Crandall, both of Beecher, were united in marriage on July 25, 2020 by Dave Patterson during a 4:30 p.m. double-ring outdoor ceremony in Lowell, Indiana.

Parents of the couple are Joseph and Carol Goodrich of Lowell, Indiana, Kevin Crandall of Rochelle and Heidi Mann of Rochelle.

The bride wore an all white lace dress with an open lace back. She carried a romantic cascade bouquet of white roses with greenery. The wedding color scheme was black and white.

A small intimate reception was held at the bride's parents home on Lake Dalecarlia, decorated with the wedding colors of black and white and hints of greenery.

The couple took a wedding trip to Avon, Colorado.

The bride is a graduate of Paul Mitchell School. She is Co-owner of Leaps and Bounds Preschool.

The groom is a graduate of Western Illinois University. He is a grand administrator at the Will County's State's Attorney's Office.

The couple resides in Beecher.



Mitchell and Stephanie Crandall

City electricity rate decrease announced

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle announced Tuesday a decrease in the Small General Service electric rate which serves commercial, retail and other light industrial customers.

"It is essentially important that we analyze our rates every few years to be sure they are in line with the cost of providing service to our customers," said Mayor John Bearrows.

Utility Financial Solutions conducted a cost of service and rate design study of the current electric rates. The study included a thorough review of the rate design in comparison to the actual cost of service. In the last couple of years, there have been a few changes that have positively impacted the cost of power and electric rates.

As a result of the rate study, we can to provide a 9 percent rate reduction to our Small General Service rate 130 which includes most of our commercial, retail, and other light industrial customers. The Small General Service rate 140 will also have a 1 percent decrease although this particular rate serves a very small number of commercial customers.

"While this has been in the works for some time, the rate decrease couldn't have come at a better time for our small businesses suffering due to the pandemic," said city manager Jeff Fiegenschuh.

The new rate takes effect in the first billing cycle of 2021. For questions, please contact the RMU Customer Service office at 815-562-4155.



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.

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.



RCH COVID-19 TRIAGE LINE

If you are experiencing COVID-19 symptoms, please call to be screened to determine what testing is right for you.

CALL 815-561-8829

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

CALL 815-561-3100

Saturday, 9:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

State police release October activity figures

STERLING — Illinois State Police District 1 Commander, Captain Matthew Hodgdon, has announced District 1 enforcement figures and activity for October.

Illinois State Police District 1 Troopers issued 401 citations, 468 written warnings, and made 25 criminal arrests during the month of October. Speeding accounted for 271 citations, 42 citations were issued for occupant restraint violations, and 14 citations were issued

for distracted driving violations.

Troopers investigated 21 traffic crashes, assisted 114 motorists, and conducted 44 commercial vehicle inspections, 7 of which were placed out-of-service for safety reasons. There were 2 arrests for driving under the influence.

District 1, which encompasses Carroll, Lee, Ogle, and Whiteside counties, investigated no fatal traffic crashes in October.

LOCAL NEWS

Register for music lessons, ensembles, and classes at the NIU Community School of the Arts

DEKALB—For more than 30 years, NIU Community School of the Arts has offered music education and instruction for children and adults of all ages. The CSA offers activities for personal enrichment year-round for community members who participate in classes, lessons, and music ensembles in person or online.

Registration is open now for a variety of programs in person and online for the 2020-21 school year. The programs and activities that meet in person in the NIU Music Building will strictly adhere to the safety measures outlined by Northern Illinois University and the NIU Community School of the Arts. Program and safety information is available at the CSA website www.csa.niu.edu.

Scholarships

Financial assistance is available for students age 18 or younger who want to pursue their study of music. Funding for scholarships is provided through private donations, fundraising activities, and support from the Fanny R. Wurlitzer Foundation Fund. The deadline for submitting a need-based scholarship application for the spring semester is Jan. 15, 2021 and families with an adjusted gross income less than \$75,000 annually are eligible to apply. Scholarship applications are available at the CSA website and by calling the NIU Community School of the Arts.

Music lessons

Learn to play a musical instrument. The CSA offers traditional private music lessons on nearly all instruments – violin, guitar, piano, cello, percussion, brass, woodwinds and many more. Music lessons using the Suzuki approach, combining private and group lessons,

are taught on violin, cello, piano, and guitar.

Music teachers meet with students weekly in person or online for private lessons, and students are invited to prepare for and participate in a recital at the end of each semester. Music lessons begin the week of Jan. 18.

Young children

Piano Starter for Children Limited to four children ages 5 to 7, this small group class is an ideal beginning class for children to prepare for private music lessons. Piano Starter meets online on Tuesdays from 4 to 4:40 p.m. and begins on Jan. 26. Taught by piano teacher Soo-Yon Choi, this class meets 12 times.

Guitar for Kids Teacher Quentin Dover introduces children ages 8 to 12 to guitar playing through a fun, song-oriented approach to learning. Exposure to music fundamentals such as scales, chords, rhythm, melody, harmony, and playing technique allows students to begin building their own toolbox of musical skills, promoting confident and comfortable playing. No previous guitar experience is required, and each student will use their own guitar during class. Class meets online on Wednesdays 12 times from 5 to 5:50 p.m. starting Jan. 27.

Older children and adults

Guitar Basics and Intermediate Guitar are taught by guitarist and long-time CSA teacher Quentin Dover on Wednesday evenings. Students bring their own guitar to this online class and learn to play songs, scales and chords along with beginning music theory and guitar techniques. Guitar Basics meets from 6 to 6:50 p.m. and Intermediate

Guitar meets from 7 to 7:50 p.m. Both classes welcome students ages 13 to adult, begin on Jan. 27, and meet online 12 times.

Square One Piano: Group Basics Class meets from 6:15 to 7 p.m. and is for beginners. Piano Forte: Building Piano Skills meets from 7:15 to 8 p.m. and is for intermediate players. Both classes meet online for 12 weeks. Adults learn to play piano in a fun, online atmosphere when popular CSA teacher Soo-Yon Choi leads group piano classes for ages 13 to adult on Monday evenings starting Jan. 25.

Ensembles

Musicians share a love of music and learn to play with others through the ensemble experience. The NIU Community School offers several music ensembles, some for young musicians and others for older children and adults. Every ensemble performs a concert in the NIU Music Building or online at the end of each semester.

CSA Symphonette is a string orchestra for ages 8 to 16 that rehearses in person in the NIU Music Building on Tuesdays from 6 to 7 p.m. Directed by Linc Smelser, this group plays lively and challenging music and performs in concert twice during the year. The first Symphonette rehearsal is on Jan. 26.

CSA Sinfonia is directed by Kishwaukee Symphony Orchestra conductor Linc Smelser and meets in person for rehearsals on Wednesdays beginning Jan. 27. For spring 2021, the youth orchestra has been divided into three groups for rehearsals to reduce density: strings will meet from 7 to 7:45 p.m., woodwinds from 8 to 8:40 p.m. and brass from

8:55 to 9:30 p.m. CSA Sinfonia plays a wide variety of music and performs two concerts during the year. Musicians age 14 to 20 are admitted by audition; first-time members should call the NIU Community School to schedule an audition.

CSA Guitar Ensemble meets online on Wednesdays from 8 to 8:50 p.m. Directed by CSA teacher and musician Quentin Dover, guitar players ages 14 to adult work on ensemble skills, build confidence and skill on the guitar, and perform two concerts during the year. The first rehearsal is on Jan. 27.

CSA Steelband encourages everyone to experience the unique sound of the steel pan. Directed by Yuko Asada, CSA Steelband welcomes members ages 12 to adult. No previous experience on the instrument is needed, but it is recommended that students can read music. The steel pan family ranges from soprano to bass, and each student chooses an instrument. The ensemble plays many types of music arranged for steel pan, including calypso, classical, rock, and rhythm and blues, and performs in concert several times during the year. CSA Steelband rehearses in person in the NIU Music Building on Mondays from 6:30 to 7:25 p.m. beginning on Jan. 25.

The NIU Community School of the Arts is sponsored by the College of Visual and Performing Arts at Northern Illinois University. More information, including the scholarship application form, activities registration form, teacher biographies, safety protocols and online registration can be found at www.csa.niu.edu, or call 815-753-1450 from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Obituaries

Doris Martin

ROCHELLE—Doris Ann Martin, 83, passed away on Monday, Nov. 16, 2020 at the OSF St. Anthony Medical Center in Rockford. She was born on Feb. 28, 1937 in Rochelle, the daughter of Ellsworth and Edna (Reints) Stocking.



Doris worked as a secretary at the local quarry. She loved celebrating each and every holiday and spending time with her family.

She is preceded in death by her parents; sister, Dellouise Byars; and son, Roger Lee Martin, Jr.

She is survived by her son, Randy (Lisa)

Martin; two daughters, Cindy (Randy) Calvert and Nancy (Tony) Abin; five grandchildren, Chris and Cameron Zies, Stephanie (Corey) Dir, and Derek and Gabriel Abin; four great-grandchildren, Cali and Olivia, and James and Ezra; and sister, Donna Walk.

A private family grave side service will be held at 2 p.m. on Friday, Nov. 20 at White Rock Cemetery in Kings. The service will be live streamed on the Unger Horner Facebook page to virtually attend.

In lieu of flowers, memorial may be made to the American Cancer Society.

An online guest book is available at www.UngerHorner.com.

RTHS: Board opts to continue in-person learning

From page 1

“While we prefer in-person learning, we realize that COVID-19 continues to spread in our community and region,” Rochelle Superintendent Jason Harper said. “The district will continue to analyze both school and community-based data and information regarding a possible transition to remote learning. We also understand that high school students are generally in a better position to succeed in remote learning than younger learners. All factors will be taken into consideration as we seek to meet our students’ needs and the needs of the community.”

Board members discussed the Ogle County Health Department recommendations during executive session Monday evening. The Rochelle School District 231 Board of Education met this past week, with members opting to continue with in-person learning as well.

Levy

Business manager Kevin Dale presented board members with the 2020 tax levy numbers during Monday’s meeting. The district EAV grew roughly 5.4 percent from last year, moving from \$438,406,583 to \$462,077,743 for an increase of nearly \$24 million. The board will approve the tax levy during its next scheduled meeting on Monday, Dec. 21.

Kishwaukee College set to hold several virtual registration events for Spring 2021 semester

MALTA — Kishwaukee College is hosting virtual registration events Nov. 19, Dec. 9, Jan. 7 and 13, for students planning to attend Kish in the spring. The virtual registration events will begin at 9 a.m. and be conducted through Zoom video conferencing.

The virtual registration event is for all new incoming students to assist with technology access, academic advising and registration for the Spring 2021 semester. Sessions will include: setting up myKC, technology session and overview of student

portal, paying for college, and academic advising. The event is scheduled to conclude at 11 a.m., with individual academic advising appointments between 1 p.m. to 4 p.m.

“The virtual registration events are designed to help new students prepare for

the upcoming semester. As we continue to offer support services in the virtual environment, we want to be able to support our students throughout this time as best as we can,” said Graciela Horta, Kish’s student outreach coordinator. “The new semester is

approaching quickly with January only weeks away. Be prepared by attending one of the virtual registration events to learn more about Kish technology and be set for success. We are here to help you.”

To get the most out of the virtual registration events,

students are encouraged to apply to Kish prior to event. To apply, visit <https://kish.edu/get-started/apply/index.php>. For more information and to register for the virtual registration event, visit <https://kish.edu/get-started/visit/regevent.php>.

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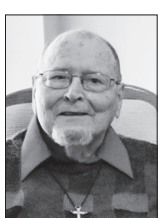
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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Thomas Dicus

BENT TREE, Ga. — Thomas “Tom” J. Dicus, 85, of Bent Tree, Georgia, passed away Monday, Nov. 9, 2020 at Northside Hospital Cherokee. He was born Dec. 13, 1934 to Hazel and Lloyd Dicus in Rochelle.



and Tom Rabic and Connie and Randy Jackson; sister, Susan Andracke; 10 grandchildren; and five great-grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his parents, Hazel and Lloyd Dicus and his brother, Bobby Dicus.

AMasonic Memorial Service will be held at a later date.

Memorial contributions in Tom’s honor may be made to Rochelle Township High School Alumni Association at PO Box 622, Rochelle, IL 61068 or Jasper United Methodist Church at 85 W. Church St., Jasper, GA 30143 or the National Rifle Association at 11250 Waples Mill Road, Fairfax, VA 22030.

The family would like to express their gratitude to Piedmont Mountinside Hospital, Woodstock Nursing Home and Northside Cherokee Hospital.

Arrangements are entrusted to the Staff of Roper Funeral Home and Crematory.

Online condolences may be made at www.ropersfuneralhome.com.

Mary “Lois” Burke

ROCHELLE — Mary “Lois” Burke, 75, of Rochelle, passed away Nov. 11, 2020 at OSF St. Anthony Hospital in Rockford. Lois was born on Sept. 9, 1945 to Elijah and Mabel Johnson in Campbellsville, Kentucky. She was married to Michael Burke, had two children Keith (Carol) Mayes, and DeAnna Ramsey; five grandchildren, Ashley (Will) Patrick, Chante Ramsey, Kelsey Ramsey, Trevor Ramsey and Heather Daniels; six great-grandchildren, Evan, Jace, Ella, Erin,

Rosaleigh and Autumn; seven siblings, William (Oreda) Johnson, Frances (Marion) Davenport, Emmett (Janet) Johnson, Barbara (Bill) Newcomb, Dorthy (Jimmie) Craig, Melvin (Billie Rae) Johnson and James Johnson; and many nieces and nephews.

She is preceded in death by her parents, Elijah and Mabel Johnson; her daughter, DeAnna; and her siblings, William (Oreda) Johnson, Frances (Marion) Davenport, Janet Johnson, Barbara (Bill) Newcomb.

Lois was the most kind and caring person, always putting others before herself. She was strong in her faith and always had a positive attitude. She enjoyed spending time with her family, playing Scrabble, and having coffee with her close friends.

At Lois’s request, no services will be held. In lieu of flowers, a memorial fund has been established for the family through Beverage-Lyons Funeral Home in Rochelle.

Lula Meacham

ROCHELLE — Lula “Evelyn” Meacham, 85, passed away on Monday, Nov. 16, 2020 at the Serenity Home in Oregon. She was born on Feb. 5, 1935 in Wedowee, Alabama, the daughter of John and Louise (Patterson) Hill.



Evelyn married Jerry Meacham on Sept. 14, 1955 in Rome, Georgia; he preceded her on Jan. 16, 2016. She retired in 1998 from Eaton Corporation.

Evelyn is also preceded in death by her parents; four sis-

ters; two infant brothers; and three grandchildren, Mackenzie Downing, Tessa Sidebottom and Charlotte Mae Gocken.

She is survived by her three daughters, Melissa Prewett, Melinda (Brad) Gocken, and Sheila (Butch) Beck; seven grandchildren, Emily (Brian) Bailey, Zach (Kara) Prewett, Grace (Marshall Maddox) Prewett, Daniel Gocken, Bailey (Austin) Stollsteimer, Mathew Downing and Jennifer (Scott Etes) Sidebottom; 17 great-grandchildren, Noah, Mary-Therese, Jack, Felicity, Zelig, Flannery, Truman, Delia, Lucas, Nicholas, Mackayla, Ev-

elyn, Ivan, Royce, Ethan, Dylan, Bentley and expect No. 18 in December; and six brothers and sisters.

The family would like to thank Rochelle Community Hospital and Serenity Home in Oregon for their care.

Unger Horner Funeral Home and Cremation Services assisted the family with arrangements.

In lieu of flowers, a memorial has been established to the Baptist Children’s Home and Family Services, 949 County Road 1300 N., Carmi, IL 62821

An online guest book is available at www.UngerHorner.com.

James Peters

ROCHELLE — James T. “Jim” Peters, 92, passed away at his home on Nov. 13, 2020. He was born on Sept. 9, 1928, the son of Russell and Margaret Peters.

He married L. Christine Stone on Nov. 19, 1949 in Rochelle; she preceded him in death on March 16, 2000. On July 20, 2003, he married Sue Lawson.

Jim owned and operated Peters GMC, a family-owned business started by his father in 1928.

He is preceded in death by his parents; sister, Virginia Colby; and two sons, Gary and Thomas Peters.

He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church, Tebala Shrine, Golden K, Tres Dias and the Rochelle Masonic Lodge. He was a volunteer fireman for 42 years with the Rochelle Fire Department, retiring as assistant chief. One of his favorite things was

hanging out at the fire department and eating popcorn with the fire-



fighters. He also enjoyed visiting with friends at the local coffee shops. In earlier years, Jim was a pilot and enjoyed giving people rides in his Beachcraft airplane. He loved traveling in their RV and spending time with his family.

He is survived by his wife, Sue Peters; two sons, Rev. David (Jacalyn) Peters of Rancho Cucamonga, California, and Joseph (Dawn) Peters of Rochelle; daughter-in-law, Joanne Peters of Clermont, Florida; two step-children, Kim (Randall) Salsbury of Rochelle, and Kent (Terri) Lawson of Danville, California; eight grandchildren; seven step-grandchildren; and 24 great-grandchildren. Jim is also survived

by his brother, Donald (Peggy) Peters of Homosassa, Florida, and many nieces and nephews and their families.

A private, family memorial service will be held at 10 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 20 at the First Presbyterian Church with Rev. Dr. Doug Forsberg officiating. The service will be live streamed on the Unger Horner Facebook Page for you to virtually attend. A public viewing will be held at the funeral home on Thursday, Nov. 19 from 5 to 7 p.m. with Jim’s Urn and memorabilia present, but due to Covid restrictions, there will be no family to greet.

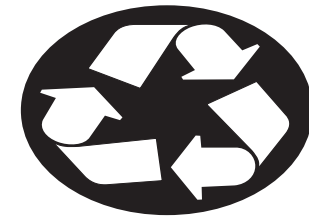
An online guest book is available at www.UngerHorner.com.

In lieu of flowers, memorials can be made to Rochelle Fire Department, First Presbyterian Church, Masonic Lodge, Golden K or Northern Illinois Tres Dias.

Marvin Wagner

ROCHELLE — Marvin E. Wagner, 86, passed away with his family at his side on Tuesday, Nov. 17, 2020 at the Serenity Hospice Home in Oregon.

Arrangements are pending at the Unger Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. Sixth Street, Rochelle. An online guest book is available at www.UngerHorner.com.



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LOCAL NEWS

Malta man arrested for DUI

On Nov. 3 at 9:40 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Anthony Solorio, 48, of Malta, for DUI, operating an uninsured vehicle and failure to yield turning left. He posted an I-bond and received a Dec. 4 court date.

On Nov. 4 at 2:01 a.m., Rochelle police cited Shelli Delatorre, 52, of Rochelle, for speeding 53 m.p.h. in a 35 m.p.h. zone. She posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 4 at 8:12 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Aaron Engberson, 45, of Rochelle, for driving while license suspended, operating a vehicle without proof of registration and operating a vehicle not equipped with BAID driver's license restriction.

On Nov. 4 at 11:11 a.m., Rochelle police cited Gary Venrooy Jr., 51, of Rockford, for disobeying a traffic control device. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 4 at 11:37 a.m., Rochelle police cited Michael Maise Jr., 29, of Rochelle, for speeding 60 m.p.h. in a 45 m.p.h. zone. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 4 at 7:11 a.m., Rochelle police cited Linda Hernandez, 43, of Rochelle, for no insurance. She posted a promise to

comply.

On Nov. 4 at 2:52 p.m., Rochelle police cited Donald Florian, 29, of Oregon, for failure to notify Secretary of State of address change and speeding 64 m.p.h. in a 45 m.p.h. zone.

On Nov. 5 at 1:22 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Natalia Garza, 26, of Rochelle, on an Ogle County warrant. She posted \$331 bond and was released.

On Nov. 5 at 9:38 a.m., Rochelle police cited Eric Nanz, 43, of Cordin, Kentucky, for no insurance. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 6 at 12 a.m., Rochelle police cited Renae Gordon, 45, of Naperville, for disobeying a traffic control device and driving while license suspended. She posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 6 at 10:10 p.m., Rochelle police cited Wayne Ostrom, 31, of DeKalb, for speeding 61 m.p.h. in a 40 m.p.h. zone. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 7 at 11:36 p.m., Rochelle police cited Israel Bautita, 21, of Montgomery, for speeding 56 m.p.h. in a 35 m.p.h. zone. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 8 at 2:54 a.m.,

Rochelle police arrested Cristian Garcia, 26, of Rochelle, for criminal trespass to a residence. He was transported to jail.

On Nov. 9 at 2:50 p.m., Rochelle police cited Richard Engelkes, 44, of Rochelle, for no seatbelt—driver. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 10 at 7:50 a.m., Rochelle police cited Rachel McDermott, 28, of Loves Park, for speeding 69 m.p.h. in a 40 m.p.h. zone. She posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 10 at 7:44 a.m., Rochelle police cited Frances Olsen, 44, of Rochelle, for speeding 46 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone and no valid driver's license. She posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 11 at 1:01 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Zachary Hernandez, 27, of Rochelle, for DUI and operating a vehicle with expired registration. He posted an I-bond and received a Dec. 18 court date.

On Nov. 12 at 7:39 a.m., Rochelle police cited Jose Garcia-Romero, 22, of Rochelle, for no valid driver's license. He posted an I-bond.

On Nov. 13 at 7:06 a.m., Rochelle police cited Diana Garcia, 33, of Rochelle, for speeding 63 m.p.h. in a 45

m.p.h. zone. She posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 14 at 2:30 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Vidal Mancilla, 28, of Rochelle, for obstructing a police officer. He posted an I-bond.

On Nov. 14 at 12:14 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Kimberly Porter, 27, of Mississippi, on a DeKalb County warrant and for retail theft. She was transported to jail where she posted an I-bond and received a Dec. 18 court date.

On Nov. 14 at 4:27 p.m., Rochelle police cited Karen Mueller, 75, of Rochelle, for disobeying a traffic control device. She posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 14 at 2:04 p.m., Rochelle police cited Samson Price, 18, of Des Plaines, for speeding 49 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone. He posted a promise to comply.

On Nov. 14 at 7:51 a.m., Rochelle police cited Joel Meyer, 22, of Caledonia, for speeding 51 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone.

On Nov. 15 at 1:45 p.m., Rochelle police cited Rene Molina-Avila, 46, Rochelle, for speeding 48 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone. He posted a promise to comply.

Deputies investigate truck, tractor crash

On Nov. 14 at 2:48 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies, along with Rochelle and Creston Fire/EMS, were dispatched to the 8,000 block of South Woodlawn Road for the report of a two-vehicle crash.

After an investigation, it was determined that a tractor pulling farm equipment was driving northbound in the 8,000 block of South Woodlawn Road by Mark Hill, 64, of Rochelle. The tractor and farm equipment were partially in the southbound lane.

A Dodge truck driven by, Brian Bozarth, 32, of Shabbona, was traveling southbound, and struck the farm equipment being pulled by the tractor. The Dodge truck then veered toward the east guardrail, and came to rest after striking the guardrail. Bozarth was transported to Rochelle Community Hospital to be evaluated.

Hill was uninjured in the crash. Bozarth was later ar-

rested for driving under the influence of alcohol, driving on a revoked license and operating uninsured motor vehicle. The crash remains under investigation.

On Nov. 13 at approximately 10:36 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 5,000 block of North Illinois Route 251. After investigation, deputies issued Seth Rodriguez, 24, of Rockford, a citation for driving while license suspended. Rodriguez was released on an I-Bond and was given a future court date.

On Nov. 17 Ogle County Sheriff's deputies arrested Tanya Vega, 42, of Rochelle, for driving while license suspended. Vega was arrested by Ogle County Sheriff's deputies on Interstate 39 near Rochelle after being stopped for improper lighting. Vega was released on an I-bond and will appear in Ogle County court at a later date.

Report policy

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

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

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LOCAL VIEWS

The impact of COVID on Kishwaukee College and what's next

THE pandemic has significantly impacted our communities and citizens. People have lost their lives and their livelihoods. The stress we are experiencing is profound and traumatic.

Like all of higher education, Kishwaukee College has felt the impact of the COVID-19 virus. As a collective college community, we have responded to the pandemic by moving the majority of our instruction and support services online this fall, and are planning the same for spring. We have taken a number of precautionary steps to ensure our students, faculty, and staff on campus are safe. The number of new and innovative technologies we have implemented to serve our students remotely is impressive. We have created a short-term training program in contact tracing, with the first class now underway. This spring, the college will be offering a few classes in math and science on campus to help support learners needing face-to-face instruction to be successful.

The question now is, what comes next? We are all anxious to see what a vaccine will mean for us, and we are hopeful we can resume to "normal" sometime in 2021. What will our community college and higher education look like in the new "normal," and what will our students and communities want and need from us?

As devastating as the pandemic is, it is giving us a chance to pause, examine, and plan for what we will look like in the future. We are paying close attention to the needs of our business community. I have been participating in the Career and Technical Education program advisory committee meetings, and it energizes me to hear how we can work together



Dr. Laurie Borowicz

to strengthen our local businesses and communities. We are discussing how to provide additional internship and on-the-job training programs, ensuring our students have the skills they need on the job, day one.

As our economy rebounds, the demand for short-term education and training will be greater, so individuals can get back into the workplace quickly. We have significantly increased the number of short-term and continuing education programs offered, being responsive to the requests and needs of our local businesses, communities and residents.

Internally, we are having conversations on how we continue to move our College Equity Plan forward and create an educational environment to meet the unique needs of all our learners. Supporting their needs, and helping them improve their lives through higher education, will have a long-term impact by strengthening our communities. Our learners look differently now than they did even a few years ago, and we are studying how to best serve them going forward.

A community college exists to serve the residents and businesses of the district; we improve lives by providing a quality, affordable education. During my almost five years leading Kishwaukee College, we have continued to evolve, striving to be a leader in innovative education in our local communities. A number of challenges have been before us as an institution and an industry, and change has been a constant. It has not been easy, but we recognize that we cannot survive, without doing things differently.

As I walk around campus, for now it is incredibly quiet. But I can feel the excitement and anticipation of what comes next.

#KishProud.

Dr. Laurie S. Borowicz is president of Kishwaukee College

Guest column

FOID card applications still backlogged

ILLINOIS is one of only four states that require a license to own a firearm, but the state is routinely failing to process applications and renewals in a timely manner.

"I have constituents who have waited more than a year to get a FOID card. That is denying them a basic constitutional right," state Rep. Tim Butler, R-Springfield, said.

Twelve years ago, in Heller vs. District of Columbia the U.S. Supreme Court interpreted the Second Amendment of the U.S. Constitution as a right to own firearms.

Liberals hate this decision almost as much as conservatives hate Roe vs. Wade.

"How would a woman feel if she were told she had to wait five or six months to exercise her constitutional right to an abortion?" said Todd Vandermyde, a lobbyist for licensed gun dealers in Illinois. "That's what's happening with our constitutional right to bear arms. A woman may be the victim of abuse and wants to buy a gun to protect herself but she may have to wait months and months to get a FOID card before she can even buy a gun."

Firearm Owners Identification, or FOID card, must be presented when purchasing guns and ammunition. And it is a requirement for possessing a firearm. The average wait time for new FOID card applicants is 122 days according to the Illinois State Police.



Scott Reeder

If you are an otherwise legal gun owner and are arrested for possessing a firearm without a valid FOID card, you could be facing an offense punishable by up to a year in jail. Before issuing FOID cards, the State Police conduct a full criminal background checks on applicants.

There are a number of reasons why the state has fallen behind in processing FOID applications and renewals. They are inadequately staffed, the volume of applications has gone up two or three fold and COVID restrictions have made it more difficult for office workers to process the paperwork.

For example, between July and October of last year Illinois processed 52,077 new FOID applications. For the same period this year the state processed 114,512, Beth Hundsdoerfer, a spokesperson for the Illinois State Police, said.

State Sen. Neil Anderson, R-Moline, said rioting in cities across the country has sparked the growing desire to own firearms.

"Before folks didn't think this could happen in their town or their neighborhood. Now they know that it can," he said. "So, they want to find a way to protect themselves."

Anderson wants to eliminate the FOID card requirement for Illinois.

"Now that the federal government requires instant background checks when a gun is purchased, the FOID card is redundant," he said.

Hundsdoerfer said within the past "several months," the State Police have hired 21 Firearms Eligibility Analyst Trainees

and will continue to hire additional analysts in the coming months. She added, on average, the current staff works an extra week in overtime hours each month to address application processing needs.

Illinois law has required FOID cards for more than 50 years. The cards typically expire after 10 years. But Hundsdoerfer said cards that expire during the current COVID crisis have had their expiration dates extended by 18 months through an executive order from Gov. JB Pritzker.

But this is far from a satisfactory solution.

Individual police officers don't always know about executive orders, Vandermyde said.

"If someone hands an officer a FOID card that appears to have expired that person is likely to get arrested," he said.

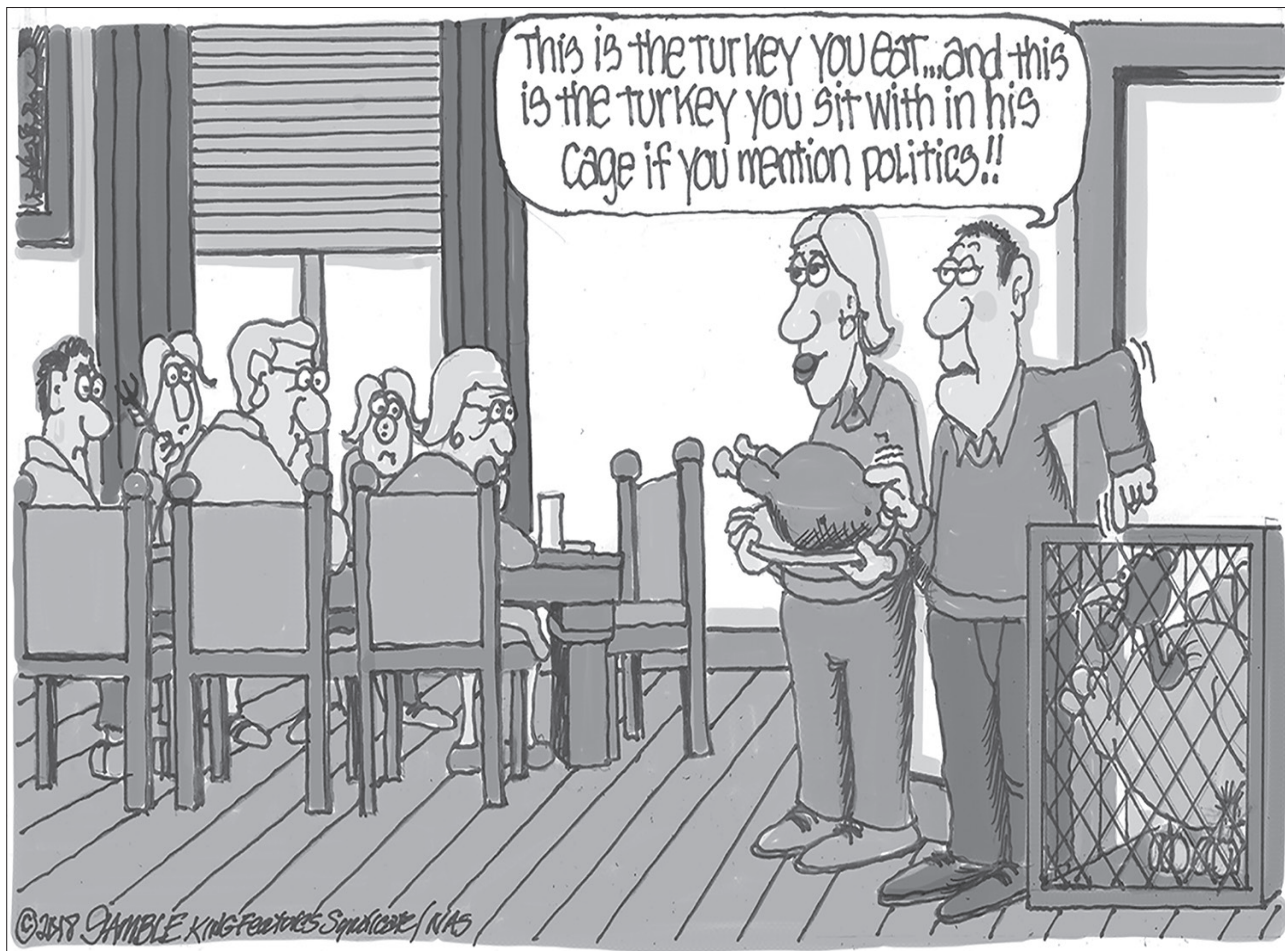
He added that many stores selling firearms and ammunition won't accept a FOID card that appears to have expired.

"It's not like when you go into a store to buy ammunition, you have a state trooper standing behind you telling the clerk its ok to accept that FOID," Rep. Butler said.

Butler noted firearm deer season begins this week in Illinois.

"I have one constituent who really wants to go deer hunting. But he is still waiting for his FOID card so he won't be able to go hunting. That's just not right."

Scott Reeder is a veteran state-house journalist and a freelance reporter. ScottReeder1965@gmail.com.



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

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

COMMUNITY

Pork chops for C.A.N.



(PHOTO SUBMITTED)

Rochelle firefighters grilled up pork chops last Friday for the Community Action Network's pork chop dinner. The drive-thru dinner was held at the Firefighter's Social Hall, 311 6th Ave. Proceeds from the pork chop dinner benefit the Community Action Network's annual Children's Shopping Trip.

The Kitchen Table menu

Nov. 19 (Thursday) – Thanksgiving Dinner : Turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, corn, green beans, stuffing, cranberry sauce
Nov. 24 (Tuesday) – CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
Nov. 26 – (Thursday) – CLOSED FOR THANKSGIVING
Dec. 6 (Sunday Brunch) – Sausage gravy and biscuits, sausage links, breakfast burritos

*The Kitchen Table is located at 7034 S. Klondike Road, Rochelle. The suggested donation is \$5 unless

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

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Nov. 18
Ethan Huff
Jenna Jackson
Nov. 20
Tony Fry

Nov. 22
Tim Dougherty
Nov. 23
Seth House
Kevin & Katie Sherburne

Nov. 24
Brenda Jones
Nov. 27
Makayla Ludwig
Nov. 29
Sam South



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Oct. 29 - Ralph Papke, Rochelle, \$25

Oct. 30 - Caryn Fisher, Rochelle, \$25

Oct. 31 - Ron Schabacker, Rochelle, \$250

Nov. 1 - Dennis Stewart, Rochelle, \$50

Nov. 2 - Roslyn Martinez, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 3 - Joan Woksa, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 5 - Brett & Rachel Jellen, Los Angeles, Calif., \$25

Nov. 6 - Dan Daub, Oregon, \$25

Nov. 7 - Carmen Herrada, Rochelle, \$25

Nov. 8 - Alfano's, Rochelle, \$50

Nov. 9 - Joe Shrader, Rochelle, \$25

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 Sandord, 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

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

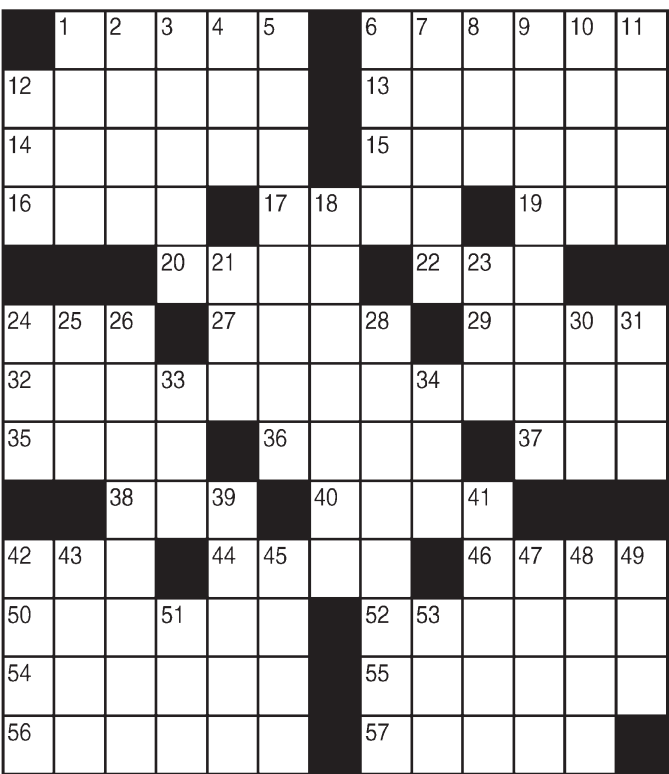


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6 "Rabbit, Run" author
12 Tearjerker
13 Construction piece
14 "Anna Christie" playwright
15 Coats
16 Lima's place
17 Father of Thor
19 Away from WSW
20 Style
22 LummoX
24 Most Wanted List org.
27 Elite alternative
29 Bart's sister
32 Lincoln's election year
35 Region
36 Location
37 Storm center
38 Inseparable
40 Osso buco base
42 A cont.
44 Level
46 Apiece
50 Boardroom props
52 Prophet
54 Half a story-book duo
55 "My heavens!"



DOWN

- 1 Part of N.B.
2 Lecherous look
3 Poppy drug
4 Lubricate
5 Tunes
6 Wrinkly fruit
7 Challenge for Laurel and Hardy in "The Music Box"
8 Saharan
9 Obsession
10 "Show Boat"
11 Gaelic
12 Doo- — music
18 Fool
21 Make a choice, with "for"
23 "The Greatest"
24 Shriner's cha-peau
25 Life story, for short
26 Unknowing
28 Waiting area
30 Pigpen
31 Nay canceler
33 Coop denizen

- 34 Multitude
39 Old anesthet-ic
41 Starts
42 Turkish poten-tate
43 "Animal House" group
45 Capri or Wight
47 Dogfight participants
48 23-Down's old name
49 The lady
51 Sixth letter after 53-Down
53 See 51-Down

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ◆

◆ Moderate ◆◆ Challenging
◆◆◆ HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: S equals T

MFUO XBY MOFDJ SMFS SMO
UFKJFGH JOHSDBXOJ DBFJ HQTKH,
NYGGQKT BYS FGG SMO HSBNH?

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

Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| A | T | I | R | E | M | O | S | S | O | W | A | R | Y | 4 |
| E | A | R | H | A | L | E | S | N | O | D | E | A | 1 | 7 |
| G | R | A | P | A | R | O | S | H | A | F | O | L | 1 | 7 |
| A | F | R | T | I | E | R | S | H | A | F | O | L | 1 | 7 |
| C | H | A | C | H | A | L | E | A | L | E | A | L | 1 | 7 |
| E | I | G | H | T | E | N | S | I | S | I | T | Y | 1 | 7 |
| F | E | I | P | I | C | A | V | E | S | I | T | Y | 1 | 7 |
| P | E | R | M | O | D | E | I | N | E | N | E | 1 | 7 | 7 |
| S | E | R | S | L | A | V | E | R | S | 1 | 7 | 7 | 7 | 5 |
| W | E | E | P | I | E | G | I | R | D | E | R | 2 | 2 | 2 |
| B | L | O | M | U | P | D | I | K | E | 1 | 9 | 8 | 8 | 8 |

Answer

King Crossword

Cryptoquip
Have you heard that the
vandalists destroyed road signs,
pulling out all the stops?

STATE NEWS

Forecasters project long-term deficits, growing bill backlog

Pritzker to seek federal aid, possible business tax increases

BY PETER HANCOCK
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS/PHAN-
COCK@CAPITOLNEWSILLINOIS.
COM

SPRINGFIELD — A new report from the Governor's Office of Management and Budget shows that without significant new revenue, spending cuts or a combination of both, the state will face a budget deficit of \$3.9 billion in the current fiscal year and continuing deficits of \$4 billion or more in each of the next five fiscal years.

It also projects that the state's backlog of unpaid bills could grow to as much as \$33 billion by fiscal year 2026, up from the current backlog total of about \$7.8 billion, if lawmakers do not make structural changes.

"Sizeable deficits in the general funds budget are projected for fiscal years 2022 through 2026, ranging from \$4.8 billion in fiscal year 2022 and falling to \$4.2 billion by fiscal year 2026," the report stated.

The report does not actually predict that those deficits will occur. Instead, it is intended to show what would happen under the state's current revenue structure and spending obligations.

The report, which was released late Friday, attributes much of the current fiscal year's deficit to the economic impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, which has resulted in dramatic revenue losses for state and local governments throughout the country.

But it also notes that voters' rejection of Gov. JB Pritzker's proposed constitutional amendment to allow for a graduated income tax on the Nov. 3 ballot — which would have



Gov. JB Pritzker speaks at his daily COVID-19 briefing in Chicago Monday. (Credit: Blueroomstream.com)

allowed higher tax rates to be levied on people with higher incomes — means the state will have fewer tools at its disposal to address its ongoing "structural" budget deficits.

Revenue officials had estimated that passage of the amendment would have brought in an additional \$1.2 billion during the last six months of the current fiscal year, and roughly \$3.2 billion per year after that. But the rejection of that amendment now means lawmakers and the administration will have to look elsewhere for solutions.

"Looking ahead to the fiscal year 2022 budget (which begins July 1, 2021) and recognizing that Illinois continues to face significant financial challenges, there are limited ways to address the structural deficit of the state budget in the absence of the tax rate structure flexibility that would have been provided under the changes in the proposed constitutional amendment," the report stated.

Earlier this year, Pritzker advised state agency directors to prepare for a 5-percent budget reduction this year, and to make plans for a potential 10-percent cut

in fiscal year 2022, which begins July 1. But the report says even that would not be enough to close the gap between anticipated revenues and expenditures, and that Pritzker is unwilling to make deeper cuts, which means he will have to seek legislative approval for some form of tax increases.

According to the report, one of the options being considered is some form of tax increase or elimination of corporate and business tax "loopholes."

"As the cuts that would be required to bring Illinois' budget to balance would harm education and human services programs and damage essential areas of the state's economy, the Governor continues to believe that cuts alone cannot be the solution and revenue adjustments need to be considered as well," the report states. "The Governor will work with the legislature to identify corporate and business tax loopholes that can be closed and tax adjustments that can be made that will minimize the impact to lower- and middle-class families while ensuring that Illinois can meet its financial responsibilities."

It remains unclear,

though, how much the state could raise through such measures or whether that would be enough to address the state's long-term revenue problems.

In a statement issued immediately after the ballot measure's failure, the credit rating agency Moody's said raising the state's flat tax rate by 0.7 percentage points, to 5.65 percent, would generate nearly same amount as the proposed graduated tax. But Pritzker so far has expressed reluctance to consider an across-the-board tax hike.

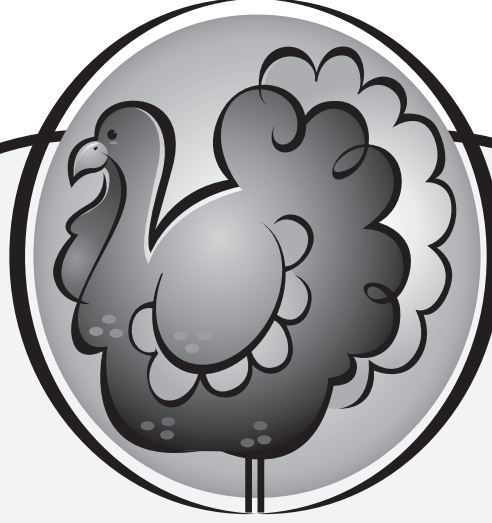
"There's a lot on the table. We've got to look at cuts first, and we're all looking at that," Pritzker said during his daily COVID-19 briefing in Chicago Monday. "I think those cuts will be somewhat painful, and then we'll consider all the other options about what we need to do in order to get to balance for FY21 and moving forward."

Another short-term option is to borrow from the Federal Reserve's Municipal Liquidity Facility, which lawmakers authorized during their special

session in May, but the GOMB report notes that would only add to the state's debt obligations, and the projected budget deficits in future years.

The report also notes that Pritzker remains hopeful that the federal government will provide another round of economic stimulus to help troubled state and local governments offset the revenues they have lost during the pandemic.

But it also acknowledges that federal aid will not solve Illinois' ongoing budget problems.



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WEDNESDAY, NOV. 18, 2020

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



LEADING THE WAY

RTHS senior Alexis Sanford looks to step up for the Lady Hubs this coming season.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Boys Bowling

Hubs on the lanes

Rochelle rollers return to practice for upcoming season

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—There was a sense of normalcy inside T-Byrd Lanes on Monday as the Rochelle Township High School boys bowling team held its first practice of the 2020-21 winter season.

Despite the COVID-19 pandemic limiting many athletic programs across the state, Hub bowlers put on their masks, laced up their shoes and loaded the racks with their balls Monday in preparation for the upcoming season. It will be Rochelle’s second straight season under head coach Jim Lyles, who took over the program last year.

“I’m excited because I wasn’t sure whether or not we would be able to compete,” Lyles said. “I’m happy for the boys that we can do this and I’m excited that we have a lot of the boys back from last year who have some experience. I think we should be competitive this year.”

The Hubs are back in action this winter after graduating two players from the varsity roster

including Most Valuable Player Award winner Logan Ortega and IHSA Sectional qualifier John Henson. Juniors Devansh Patel and Sergio Guevara will highlight a new group of varsity bowlers looking to build on a one-win season this past year. Patel earned the Most Improved Player Award this past season, while Guevara brought home the Most Dedicated Player Award.

“I thought our season went really well last year,” Lyles said. “We had one kid advance to sectionals and a lot of kids who were close. I thought the kids learned a lot and I think they’ll bring that experience back this year. I think we can be a .500 team and I know a lot of the kids have been practicing over the offseason. Sergio and Devansh are two kids who can step up.”

Seniors Hayden Smith and Leo Hernandez, as well as juniors Luke and Max Orlikowski, are four bowlers who could make the leap from the JV team this winter as the Hubs rebuild their varsity roster. Sophomores Evin Odle



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Junior Devansh Patel headlines Rochelle’s returning varsity starters on the Hub bowling team this winter. Patel was named the Most Improved Player as a sophomore.

and Ben Wengelewski are two more players who Lyles said have shown tremendous growth over the offseason after recently bowling with the JV team.

“Evin practiced a lot over the summer and Hayden came on strong at the end of last season,” Lyles said. “Ben’s a solid bowler who’s very consistent all of the time... I’d like to see the boys improve their concentration and focus. I don’t want the boys to be down on themselves when they’re bowling bad.

We’re going to emphasize with the boys that they’re going to have bad frames or bad games and they have to forget about those and move forward.”

RTHS Girls Bowling

Widick takes over as head coach of Lady Hubs

Mickley, Schwanert highlight returning varsity players

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Eric Widick has been bowling for nearly 40 years and his experience coaching athletics and activities including baseball, softball and color guard extends over two decades. Widick will be looking to utilize his wealth of knowledge in both bowling and coaching as he takes over the Rochelle Township High School girls bowling program from Joey Johanning.

Johanning coached the Lady Hubs for 14 years before resigning to take the head coaching position with Sycamore earlier this fall. Widick held his first practice as head coach of the Rochelle team at T-Byrd Lanes on Monday. Widick will inherit a promising varsity roster featuring a handful of returning players including juniors Alyssa Mickley and Alyssa Schwanert, who are both entering their third varsity seasons with the Lady Hub bowl-

ing team.

“I was a little nervous about coaching and I had no idea what to expect on my first day,” Widick said. “Rebuilding the program will be a challenge for me, but it’s something I’m looking forward to... I was impressed with what I saw on Monday. We talked about what has worked well and what hasn’t worked well for the girls in the past and we talked about what they want to learn.”

Senior Kiya Porter and junior Carly Summers are also returning to the Lady Hubs this winter. Rochelle will be aiming to build on a three-win season this past year that saw the girls finish fifth in the Interstate 8 Conference Championship and 10th in the IHSA Dixon Regional.

“I’m a very competitive person, but I also understand that we won’t have much fun if that’s all we care about,” Widick said. “Winning comes from having fun and enjoying the sport. My goal is to start with the fundamentals



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Junior Alyssa Mickley will be among the Lady Hub bowlers hitting the lanes for the varsity team this winter. Mickley qualified for the IHSA Sectional Series as a freshman.

and I was impressed with what I saw from the girls on Monday. I don’t want to

change how the girls bowl, but my goal will be to fit the basic fundamentals into

their style of play... I want the girls to set small goals for themselves because if

they set small and attainable goals, those goals will help them in life.”

SPORTS

RTHS Girls Basketball

Sanford's leadership showing for Lady Hubs

Senior forward staying positive

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

SENIOR forward Alexis Sanford has two goals for what she wants to bring to the Lady Hub varsity basketball team this coming season. One of those involves improving her game on the court, while the other means stepping up and being a role model for her teammates off the court.

A three-sport athlete who played tennis this fall and will compete for the Lady Hub volleyball team in the spring, Sanford earned minutes as a reserve forward for the basketball team this past season. As she works toward her senior season, Sanford said she's looking to improve her outside shooting ability, score in every game and increase her production on the boards.

"I'm hoping that I bring positivity and cheer everybody on," Sanford said. "I don't want to bring any negativity to the team and I don't want us to split up during the season. I want to lead as much as I can, and even if we don't have as much of a season this year, I want us to stick together through team bonding... I've been working out more individually to better my body for the season, and wearing masks has helped with my endurance. I'm increasing my weights in the weight room and I'm



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Senior Alexis Sanford attempts a jump shot during Rochelle's game against Ottawa this past season.

doing as much as I can so I don't struggle as much on the court."

While the fate of the basketball season remains in the balance, Sanford said she's been taking advantage of fall contact days and the team's skills days to practice with her teammates and build up her individual skills. Sanford will be a key role player in the Lady Hub frontcourt this coming season, and she'll look to help the varsity team bounce back from a five-win season.

"I thought we tried our best with the players we

had and how young we were," Sanford said. "I think this year will be much better because we only lost a few seniors and we're like family... My role is to get the ball and dish it out to our guards who can shoot. If we have a season, I think we have a lot of potential as long as we stick together and stay positive throughout it... I'm hoping that, with the practice I had over the summer and what we've been able to do during the ball, I can shoot the ball better and be more consistent from outside of the lane."

RTHS Boys Basketball



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Junior Noah Brown goes for a contested layup during Rochelle's basketball game against Stillman Valley this past year. Brown is one of several young players looking to step up for the Hub varsity team this coming season.

Brown bringing shooter's mentality to varsity team

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Throughout his freshman and sophomore seasons, Noah Brown watched his older brother Austin run the offense for Rochelle Township High School's varsity basketball team. A varsity reserve for the IHSA 3A Sterling Regional this past winter, Noah cheered from the bench as Austin and the Hubs battled against Sterling and Geneseo for a regional championship.

Having seen first-hand what it takes to succeed at the varsity level, Noah has taken the torch from his older brother, and he will look to help Rochelle back to the regional finals this coming season. While both players share the same name, their

styles of play differ greatly, with Austin playing a more traditional point guard and Noah finding his role as a shooting guard.

"Austin sees the game a lot differently than other players because he has great vision," Brown said. "He sees things that other players don't think about. I've learned from him that I always have to keep my eyes open and pay attention to what other players are doing before I think about scoring. We're very different players. We're both very good on defense, but he likes to drive and kick the ball out and let others score. I feel that I'm a really good shooter."

While Austin and the varsity Hubs pushed their way to a 20-12 record this past season, Noah and the

sophomore Hubs were busy finishing 24-5 and bringing home an Interstate 8 Conference Championship. Another up-and-coming player with size and skill, the 6-foot guard said he's been using the offseason to improve his handles and his shooting mechanics.

"We came together and we played really hard because none of us like to lose," Brown said. "My role last season was to be a vocal leader and I want to be more vocal this year, especially on defense. I think I can help the offense draw defenders away from the basket with my shooting. I've been working on my ball handling and setting my feet when I shoot. Coach [Tim] Thompson wants me to set my feet more so I can knock down any shot."

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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Junior Sergio Guevara said his consistency and a positive attitude will be the keys to his success with the Hub bowling team this winter.

Guevara becoming confident on the lanes

BY RUSSELL HODGES
 SPORTS EDITOR

CONFIDENCE has enabled Sergio Guevara to continuously improve over his last two seasons with the Rochelle Township High School boys bowling team. As a sophomore, Guevara rolled well enough to earn a spot on the varsity roster and take home Most Dedicated Bowler honors.

Now an upperclassman and an experienced competitor, Guevara will be taking on a leadership role with the Hubs this winter. In addition to upgrading his equipment, Guevara said his consistency and mental toughness motivated him to find his mark more often and score higher during his first varsity season than he did with the JV team as a first-year freshman.

"I felt that I bowled a lot better than I did as a freshman and I improved a lot overall," Guevara said. "My consistency was there and I felt more confident as a bowler. I want to improve my overall average this year and maintain the consistency

I showed before everything shut down. I think having a positive attitude has a lot to do with showing leadership and being a good role model. When your teammates see that you have a bad attitude, it affects the whole team."

Guevara's sophomore season with the Hubs peaked during a home victory against Geneseo. During the match, which was Rochelle's second-to-last of the season, Guevara recovered from two rough games and rolled a career-best 266 to help the Hubs defeat the Maple Leafs for their only win of the season. Guevara will be looking to carry his strong finish into this season.

"Last year, I thought I did a lot better at finding my mark and consistently throwing the ball where I wanted to," Guevara said. "This year, I want us to place better and perform better in the conference than we did last year... Having a positive attitude reflects better on everybody overall because everybody's in good spirits when we're staying positive. When your teammates see you have a bad attitude because you're not bowling well, it reflects badly on the team."

"I think having a positive attitude has a lot to do with showing leadership and being a good role model. When your teammates see that you have a bad attitude, it affects the whole team... Having a positive attitude reflects better on everybody overall because everybody's in good spirits."

Sergio Guevara



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SPORTS



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Pictured above (left to right) are Connie Dougherty, executive director with the Hub City Senior Center, with Northern Rehab's physical therapist Janet Truckenbrod Sarver.

Northern Rehab health challenge raises funds for Hub City Senior Center

DEKALB—Northern Rehab Physical Therapy Specialists recently presented a donation to the Hub City Senior Center.

The funds were raised during the recent "Choose to Move Northern Rehab Challenge" event held the end of September through mid-October. As part of National Physical Therapy Month, Northern Rehab created a new virtual event to encourage our community to get up, get out, and enjoy a variety of physical activities while raising funds for the Hub City Senior Center.

"We chose the Hub City Senior Center as the recipient of our fundraiser because of the important programs they provide in our community. We're pleased to present the Senior Center with a dona-

tion to help support their valuable programs such as providing transportation and Meals on Wheels in partnership with Life Scape to the seniors in our community" comments Aaron Nevdal, physical therapist and partner of Northern Rehab.

Northern Rehab extends their gratitude to the community members that participated in this event and supported the Hub City Senior Center. Northern Rehab, voted Ogle County's Best Physical Therapists for two consecutive years, is a physical therapist owned and operated physical therapy practice dedicated to providing clients with quality customized care and has built a solid reputation and strong relationships within the communities

it serves.

If you stopped or missed your physical therapy treatments, need pre or post-operative care, are deconditioned due to being more sedentary during COVID-19, or have current or reoccurring pain, now is the time to focus on rebuilding and improving your health. A physician's prescription is no longer required to receive physical therapy treatment, which means you can contact us directly to start feeling better right away.

To schedule an appointment or for more information, please call Northern Rehab at 815.562.3299 or visit www.northernrehapt.com. You may also find Northern Rehab on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn.

Healthy Hand Hygiene Habits



Protect yourself against COVID-19 and other diarrheal and respiratory illnesses, and help prevent the spread of germs to others, by following these simple hand hygiene guidelines:

1. Wash your hands with soap and warm water, lathering for at least 20 seconds.
2. If soap is unavailable, use a hand sanitizer containing at least 60 percent alcohol to clean your hands.

Wash your hands throughout the day, and particularly under these circumstances:

- Before preparing food
- Before eating
- After using the toilet
- After changing a diaper or helping a child use the toilet
- Before and after exposure to someone who is sick
- After coughing, sneezing or blowing your nose
- After touching an animal or picking up animal waste
- After handling pet food or treats
- After handling garbage or garbage cans
- Before and after attending to a cut or wound

Information resource: Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

ROCHELLE News-Leader

Proper handwashing helps all of us stay healthy, so remember to be aware and do your part to help protect yourself and others!

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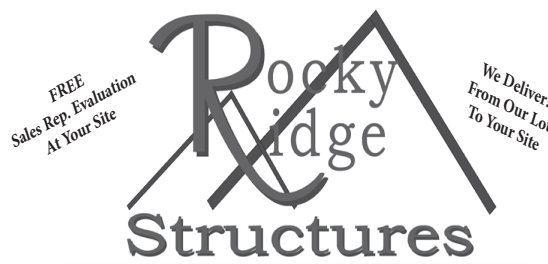
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• No collecting

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ROUTE 28 SOUTHVUE DR., WILLIS AVE., LAKE LIDA LANE AREA

Contact Wanda at the Rochelle News-Leader office
211 E. Hwy. 38, 561-2112

Part-time mailroom position

The Rochelle News-Leader has a part-time 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.

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