

ROCHELLE News-Leader

MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 19, 2020 \$1

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Results released from 4-H virtual fair. **See page 3**

WEATHER

 WEDNESDAY HIGH LOW 80 55	 THURSDAY HIGH LOW 82 56
 FRIDAY HIGH LOW 84 59	 SATURDAY HIGH LOW 85 64

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Work on schedule

Park district commissioners approve landscape work, furnishings for REC

BY RUSSELL HODGES
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — As exterior work begins on the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District's community center at Helms South, board commissioners approved two resolutions for furnishings and landscaping work at their monthly meeting Monday evening.

The park board approved a \$17,867.50 bid from Wilson Nurseries for trees and scrubs that will be placed around the community center as part of a landscaping project that will run from Sept. 15-30 and be completed by local volunteers including Joel Thompson and the Gensler family. The board also approved a \$22,999.60 bid from River Plus for furnishings that will be placed on the north end of the community center near the front

entrance. Executive director Jackee Ohlinger said the community center remains on schedule for substantial completion by the end of August and that park administrators will begin transitioning operations over to the community center in early September.

Spring Lake

Board commissioners approved the purchase of an Aqua Zip'N water zip line for Spring Lake Pool, at the cost of \$13,499, that will be installed by the park district staff. Board commissioners also approved a \$77,800 bid from Sjostrom & Sons for painting and sandblasting work on the pool. The bids are part of a \$610,000 Spring Lake renovation project that includes \$310,000 in funding from the state's OSLAD grant program.



Fencing around the REC Center construction site was removed Tuesday. The park board approved landscaping work for the facility at Monday night's monthly board meeting. That work is set to begin mid-September.

A different kind of orientation

Rochelle Township High School principal details modifications to board

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — During the monthly high school board meeting, Rochelle Township High School Principal Chris Lewis updated the board on freshman orientation and students returning to classes.

Lewis began by informing the board on how freshman orientation days were modified in order to meet all CDC requirements. The school has approximately 200 new freshmen beginning school this year and to accommodate the 170 that attended orientation, the school split the students into groups of approximately 40 and conducted the orientations in five, two-hour sessions.

"We usually have many events leading up to the beginning of the school year that we just weren't able to do this year," Lewis said. "So, we thought of a way to still get the freshman

into the building while following all CDC and social distancing guidelines and using our new temperature systems."

During orientation, all freshmen received their Google Chromebooks, set up their Skyward accounts and Google passwords and received a building tour and update on the new RTHS policies. Lewis also clarified to the board that students will be attending classes all five days a week, even though they only attend in person two or three days.

Some of the community was under the impression when students were not attending in person, they would not be attending classes or completing work. Lewis clarified that on the days students do not attend in person, they will be required to complete E-learning assignments.

Students will also be required to complete E-learning assignments when they return home from being dismissed at 12:30 p.m. Lewis ex-

plained that students usually take six classes at once, so they can expect to attend four classes in person and the other two virtually.

"The hybrid approach that we are taking means that kids will do some things in person and some things at home," Lewis said. "Attendance will be taken daily in Skyward learning, so in a full school week, kids will see five attendance days. Students will be expected to do work every day."

One concern brought up by the board was how students will get extra help if grades begin to slip or they feel they need more one-on-one practice. Beginning next week, the building will be open from 1 to 3 p.m. for either in person or virtual help with teachers. Anybody entering the building will once again go through the screening process.

See RTHS page 2



May School first grade teacher Diane McGinn sits at her desk at the front of her classroom. Teachers prepared their classrooms this week for students, including socially distancing desks.

Prepping for students

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — With elementary school students returning to class on Monday, Aug. 24, staff members are hard at work prepping the buildings and classrooms for the beginning of the school year.

All teachers, administrators, paraprofessionals and custodians have returned to each of the elementary school buildings in the district a week early to get everything set up for students next Monday. With students learning both in person and virtually as well as the new safety measures and guidelines, teachers needed the extra time to prepare everything this year.

"This entire first week leading

up to the beginning of the year consists of various online trainings for teachers," May Elementary School Principal Becky Cox said. "Things like Seesaw, Zoom and Screencastify. Then they are spending time determining how they will manage both online and in-person learning as well as setting up their classrooms."

When students return to school, they will be required to wear a face mask in the building, or a face shield during certain circumstances such as dual language programs. Hand sanitizer will also be readily available, social distancing will be practiced and the entire building will be sanitized at the end of each day.

See PREP page 2

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LOCAL NEWS

PREP: Teachers getting ready for students

From page 1

The building will also be sanitized a second time before the beginning of the day to ensure the entire building is sanitized before students return. While not all students will be returning to class, teachers and staff members are very excited to welcome students back into the building.

"We have been missing our students so much, five

months is way too long to not see our kids in person," Cox said "I think I speak for everybody in the building and the district that we are very excited to see our kids again. Everybody is excited to be back and to do the job that we know how to do."

While the elementary schools are very excited to begin the upcoming school year, the schools know that it will be new for everybody involved and pose new

challenges or change very quickly. May Elementary School would just like to thank the community for its continued support during this process.

"I would just like to remind the community that we are all in this together and our plan does change as new things come up," Cox said. "We just really appreciate the parents support at home and the communities support across the board."

REC center package announced

Early member pricing available

ROCHELLE — From an idea that started more than 20 years ago, the construction of a new community center in Rochelle has been a long time in the making. The Flag-Rochelle Community Park District is nearing the completion of the year-long construction for the new, REC Center.

The REC has over 91,000 square feet of recreation opportunities for all ages. Combat the "quarantine 15" at the 24-hour REC Fitness Center, start the morning with a splash in the REC Aquatic Center, or have join a pick-up game in the REC Fieldhouse. Whatever your passion may be, The REC offers healthy fun for the community to play, learn, connect and compete.

The park district is announcing a limited time package filled with bonuses and privileges before REC membership sales open. An early member Platinum Package is the best deal to become a part of the park district community with an all-inclusive membership that includes access to the following: The REC, REC Fieldhouse, REC Aquatics and the REC Fitness Center plus Spring Lake Pool and the new splash pad. Platinum Packages go on sale beginning Aug. 27.

The Platinum Package requires no contract and includes a REC t-shirt and VIP privileges such as guest passes, jump-start orientation, and REC Fitness @ 5 classes. The package also includes 50 percent off your access fee, 50 percent off REC Fitness classes, 50 percent of Skare Park Driving Range tokens, and a discount on park district facility rentals.

All these amenities in a state-of-the-art facility will be available for only \$45 per month for our residents. Military, student, senior and family prices are also available. Join now and get ready for the grand opening at The REC.

There's no risk, because you won't be charged until doors open. For more information, call the park district at 815-562-7813 or visit online on Facebook or the website at www.rochelleparkdistrict.org.

The Flag-Rochelle Community Park District has been serving Rochelle and the surrounding area for over 50 years. Now more than ever, the park district understands the value of social interactions and physical wellness. Rochelle's REC Center is more than just a gym; it is the centralized HUB to improve the quality of life for Rochelle.



A 2-step process
As students enter Rochelle Township High School, they are scanned for temperature and then spray their hands with an antibacterial to minimize the spread of germs. Above, Lady Hubs Basketball Coach Tony Rowan and Library Media Center Assistant Teresa Haggstad greet and monitor students at Door 17 on Tuesday morning. Students started back to class this week.



Pavia begins on-campus SRO position at high school

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle and Rochelle Township High School District #212 partner this school year to bring a School Resource Officer into RTHS. Rochelle Police Officer Pete Pavia has filled the position.

The proposed agreement mirrors one in place

with Rochelle Middle School. The RTHS Board of Education will contribute 66 percent of the officer's compensation. This is a 3-year agreement with an additional year if both parties agree. The city is responsible for the salary and benefits during the summer.

"The Rochelle Elementary District has enjoyed a positive experience with Officer (Jim) Jakymiw in the middle school over the past several years and we look forward to the same with Officer Pavia at RTHS," said Jason Harper, superintendent of Rochelle schools.

Officer Pavia has 23 years of law enforcement experience, has



Pavia

been to school resource officer training, and is an A.L.I.C.E. (active shooter) instructor.

"Being a School Resource Officer has always been a goal. I very much look forward to this new journey," Pavia said.

Pavia began his position at the school on Monday.

RTHS: Board sets date for budget workshop

From page 1

Freshmen and sophomores returned to classes on Monday and Lewis told board members that it was a very good first day, nobody had a temperature or any symptoms of COVID-19 and the students did a good job social distancing in the hallways.

"Overall, I think today was a great first day," Lewis said. "I feel good where we are at, if classes get too big, we have lots of other spaces in the building that can meet social distancing requirements. If we get to the that point, there is a lot of space in this building that we can move too."

Budget

Following the principal's report, board members approved a motion to adopt the new updates to the student handbook that were presented at July's meeting. Board members also passed a motion to set the date and time for an upcoming budget workshop which will take place on Monday, Sept. 14 at 5:30 p.m.

"The entire handbook is pretty much the same, except for a few updates that are directly tied to COVID-19," Superintendent Jason Harper said. "We need to set aside the time to talk about the budget. With everything going on this year, the budget is currently unknown."



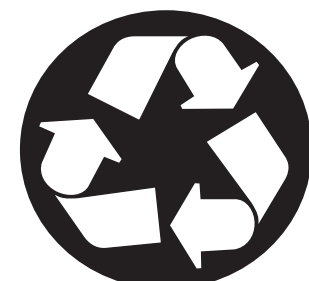
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RCH is taking these precautions:

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- Offering the COVID-19 triage line to safely separate sick and healthy patients



Read and Recycle

LOCAL NEWS

4-H Fair results announced

OREGON — In July, Ogle County 4-H staff, with guidance from the State of Illinois 4-H office, hosted the 2020 Ogle County 4-H Virtual Fair.

Despite unusual circumstances for this year's show, local 4-H staff were excited to give Ogle County 4-H members the opportunity to display their hard work. All participants were encouraged to upload either photos or videos for a judge to review. The following are results from the 2020 Ogle County 4-H Virtual Fair. (The following is the continuation from the Sunday, Aug. 16 edition)



Pictured is Cooper Alderks, of Chana, with his Grand Champion Market Beef.

Kendall Boatman, Rockford

Reserve Champion Hereford Junior Yearling Heifer: Megan Hagemann, Mount Morris

Champion Hereford Female: Kendall Boatman, Rockford

Reserve Champion Hereford Female: Kade Boatman, Rockford

Champion Shorthorn Cow/Calf: Robbie Thuro, Davis Junction

Champion Shorthorn Female: Robbie Thuro, Davis Junction

Champion AOB Calf: Casey Besse, Freeport

Champion AOB Early Summer Heifer: Max Thuro, Davis Junction

Champion AOB Spring Yearling Heifer: Casey Besse, Freeport

Reserve Champion AOB Spring Yearling Heifer: Bode Martin, Oregon

Champion AOB Female: Casey Besse, Freeport

Reserve Champion AOB Female: Casey Besse, Freeport

Champion Crossbred Calf: Lacie Williams, Leaf River

Champion Crossbred Spring Yearling Heifer: Casey Besse, Freeport

Reserve Champion Crossbred Spring Yearling Heifer: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris

Champion Crossbred Cow/Calf: Lacie Williams, Leaf River

Champion Crossbred Female: Casey Besse, Freeport

Reserve Champion Crossbred Female: Lacie Williams, Leaf River

Champion Bred & Owned Heifer: Casey Besse, Freeport

Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Heifer: Casey Besse, Freeport

Champion Production Cow/Calf: Robbie Thuro, Davis Junction

Reserve Champion Production Cow/Calf: Ayden Alderks, Monroe Center

Grand Champion Female Overall: Kendall Boatman, Rockford

Reserve Grand Cham-

pion Female Overall: Casey Besse, Freeport

Champion Light Weight Angus Steer: Bode Martin, Oregon

Champion Medium Weight Angus Steer: Robbie Thuro, Davis Junction

Reserve Champion Medium Weight Angus Steer: Allissa Martin, Oregon

Champion Heavy Weight Angus Steer: Brandon Whelan, Byron

Champion Angus Steer: Bode Martin, Oregon

Reserve Champion Angus Steer: Brandon Whelan, Monroe Center

Champion Light

Weight Hereford Steer: Megan Hagemann, Mount Morris

Reserve Champion Lightweight Hereford Steer: Emily Buttel, Leaf River

Champion Hereford Steer: Megan Hagemann, Mount Morris

Reserve Champion Hereford Steer: Emily Buttel, Leaf River

Champion Light Weight Shorthorn Steer: Allissa Martin, Oregon

Reserve Champion Lightweight Shorthorn Steer: Jared Glendenning, Oregon

Champion Shorthorn Steer: Allissa Martin, Oregon

Reserve Champion Shorthorn Steer: Jared Glendenning, Oregon

Champion Light Weight AOB Steer: Alayna Swanson, Oregon

Reserve Champion Light Weight AOB Steer: Emma Thuro, Davis Junction

Champion Medium Weight AOB Steer: Brandon Whelan, Monroe Center

Reserve Champion Medium Weight AOB Steer: Evan Kosick, Leaf River

Champion Heavy Weight AOB Steer: Casey Besse, Freeport

See FAIR page 5

Beef

Department

Champion Angus Calf: Ayden Alderks, Monroe Center

Champion Angus Early Summer Heifer: Bode Martin, Oregon

Champion Angus Spring Yearling Heifer: Ayden Alderks, Monroe Center

Champion Angus Junior Yearling Heifer: Allissa Martin, Oregon

Champion Angus Cow/Calf: Ayden Alderks, Monroe Center

Champion Angus Female: Allissa Martin, Oregon

Reserve Champion Angus Female: Bode Martin, Oregon

Champion Hereford Spring Yearling Heifer: Kade Boatman, Rockford

Champion Hereford Junior Yearling Heifer:

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Connie Rivera

ROCHELLE — Connie Rivera, 81, of Rochelle, passed away Tuesday, Aug. 18, 2020, at her home surrounded by her loving family.

Arrangements are pending with Unger-Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle. Visit www.ungerhorner.com.

Kish offering variety of English Language Learners courses

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

ESL classes are available for beginning, intermediate and advanced English learners. Classes emphasize speaking, listening, reading, and writing in English. 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 place emphasis on practical application of the subjects

and total development of the learner. As part of the GED preparation classes, a special Bridge to Healthcare Careers course will run this fall. This special GED course will help learners gain tools and experience to prepare for employment in the healthcare field. Enrollment for all these classes is happening now through Sept. 10.

For more information, including the registration process and class times and locations, visit www.kish.edu/adulteducation or to register, contact Mari Vesey, administrative assistant for adult education, at mvesey@kish.edu or 815-825-9420. Class sizes are limited due to COVID-19 restrictions.

Several issued speeding citations

On Aug. 14 at 4:33 p.m., Rochelle police cited Jesus A. Penaran, 24, of Rochelle, for a dog at large.

On Aug. 14 at 9:37 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Nicholas D. Pillion, 20, of Rochelle, on an Ogle County warrant. He was transported to jail.

On Aug. 14 at 6:02 p.m., Rochelle police cited Fernan O. Logeland, 83, of Dixon, for improper lane usage. He issued a promise to comply. His court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 15 at 12:07 p.m., Rochelle police cited Rosa A. Morales, 59, of Davenport, Iowa, for driving with a suspended license. She issued a promise to comply. Her court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 15 at 10:21 a.m., Rochelle police cited Brajesh Sahu, 37, of Prospect Heights, for speeding 97 m.p.h. in a 70 m.p.h. zone.

He issued a promise to comply. His court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 15 at 11:07 a.m., Rochelle police cited Hao Jiang, 31, of Chicago, for speeding 116 m.p.h. in a 70 m.p.h. zone. He issued a promise to comply. His court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 15 at 2:20 p.m., Rochelle police cited Gretta A. Hermes, 28, of Chicago, for speeding 95 m.p.h. in a 70 m.p.h. zone. She issued a promise to comply. Her court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 15 at 1:47 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Rosa A. Morales, 59, of Davenport, Iowa, for retail theft. She posted I-Bond. Her court date is set for Sept. 18.

On Aug. 3 at 4:36 p.m., Rochelle police cited Logan Beaird, 30, of Stillman Valley, for speeding 50 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone.

On Aug. 16 at 9:40 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Maxwell F. Sloan, 21, of Chicago, for speeding 98 m.p.h. in a 70 m.p.h. zone. He posted I-bond. His court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 16 at 10:40 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Brian M. Nakayam, 43, of Seattle, Washington, for violating Scotts Law. He posted I-Bond. His court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 16 at 11:29 a.m., Rochelle police cited Jesus Ruiz-Vgalde, 20, of Des Moines, Iowa, for speeding 95 m.p.h. in a 70 m.p.h. zone. He issued a promise to comply. His court date is set for Sept. 11.

On Aug. 16 at 11:41 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Brett R. Melton, 51, of Rochelle, for aggravated battery. He was transported to jail.

Man arrested on several counts after fleeing to elude deputies

The following were arrested on Ogle County arrest warrants by Ogle County Sheriff's deputies:

Nicole S. Palmeno-Gonzalez, 39, of Rockford, for battery. Palmeno-Gonzalez has a bond of \$3,000/10 percent. Palmeno-Gonzalez was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 14.

Shaina L. Gorman, 18, of Rockford, for battery. Gorman has a bond of \$3,000/10 percent. Gorman was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 14.

Jesse J. Baldwin, 47, of Freeport, for failure to appear. Baldwin has a bond of \$1,215.98 and was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 14.

Zachary B. Arachikavitz, 22, of Whitewater, Wisconsin, for failure to appear. Arachikavitz has a bond of \$1,321 and was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 14.

Armando Losoya, 33, of Franklin Grove, for failure to appear. Losoya has a bond of \$3,749 and was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 14.

Garth Anderson, 56, of Rockford, for driving on suspended license for \$1,000/10 percent. Anderson was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 14.

On Aug. 14 at approximately 11:07 a.m. Ogle County deputies responded to the area of Powers Road in reference to a reckless driver. Ogle County deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 200 block of Powers Road on a blue Jeep Grand Cherokee. After an investigation, Richard J. D'Onofrio, 61, of Esmond, was arrested for driving on a suspended Illinois driver's license. D'Onofrio was also cited for improper lane usage. Ron's towing

removed the vehicle from the location and D'Onofrio was transported to the Ogle County Jail for processing.

On Aug. 15 at approximately 9:34 a.m. Ogle County Sheriff deputies along with the Rochelle Police department responded to an unwanted subject in the 100 block of Ramona Avenue. After an investigation, Daniel Roman, 37, of Rochelle, was taken into custody for an outstanding Ogle County arrest warrant. Roman was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 15 at approximately 3:55 p.m. Ogle County deputies responded to the area of the 7000 block of North Illinois Route 2 for a complaint of a reckless driver. Ogle county deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Blackhawk Drive and Walnut Street in Byron. The driver of the vehicle, Stevie Moore, 40, of Bellwood, was arrested for no valid driver's license, driving on a suspended driver's license, fleeing to elude, possession of a controlled substance (cocaine), possession of a controlled substance (ecstasy), obstructing identification. Moore was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle, no seat belt, and expired registration. Moore also had an outstanding Iowa City arrest warrant. The vehicle was removed by Nielson towing. Moore was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Aug. 16 at approximately 2:28 p.m. Ogle County deputies responded to 1450 North Illinois Route 2 in reference to a noise complaint. After an investigation, Jason E. Stombaugh, 35, of Oregon, was arrested for disorderly conduct. Stombaugh was given an I-bond and released.

On Aug. 16, Miranda Garcia was arrested by Ogle County Sheriff's deputies on a valid failure to appear warrant. Garcia has a bond of \$3,280.25 (Full Cash). Garcia was scheduled to appear in court Aug. 17.

On Aug. 17 the following people were arrested on outstanding Ogle County warrants:

Brian Boyland, 41 of Rockford, for failure to appear. Boyland went to court and was released on a \$1,000 recognizance bond. Boyland will be back in court on Sept. 27 at 9 a.m.

Roger Hauseman, 61, of Rockford, for failure to appear. Hauseman posted his \$271 full cash bond and was released from the Ogle County Jail with no further court dates.

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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 NEWS

FAIR: 4-H virtual event results announced

From page 3

Reserve Champion Heavy Weight AOB Steer: Jackson Glendenning, Oregon
 Champion AOB Steer: Casey Besse, Freeport
 Reserve Champion AOB Steer: Alayna Swanson, Oregon
 Champion Light Weight Market Heifer: Lacie Williams, Leaf River
 Champion Market Heifer: Lacie Williams, Leaf River
 Champion Light Weight Crossbred Market Steer: Brandon Albano, Polo
 Reserve Champion Light Weight Crossbred Market Steer: Robbie Thurow, Davis Junction
 Champion Medium Weight Crossbred Market Steer: Boone Alderks, Chana
 Reserve Champion Medium Weight Crossbred Market Steer: Brandon Albano, Polo
 Champion Heavy Weight Crossbred Market Steer: Cooper Alderks, Chana
 Reserve Champion Heavy Weight Crossbred Market Steer: Wyatt Swanson, Oregon
 Champion Crossbred Market Steer: Cooper Alderks, Chana
 Reserve Champion Crossbred Market Steer: Boone Alderks, Chana
 Champion Light Weight Bred & Owned Steers All Breed: Alayna Swanson, Oregon
 Reserve Champion Light Weight Bred & Owned Steers All Breeds: Allissa Martin, Oregon
 Champion Medium Weight Bred & Owned Steers All Breeds: Casey Besse, Freeport
 Champion Bred & Owned Steers All Breeds: Casey Besse, Freeport
 Reserve Champion Bred & Owned Steers All Breeds: Alayna Swanson, Oregon
 Grand Champion Market Beef: Cooper Alderks, Chana
 Reserve Grand Champion Market Beef: Casey Besse, Freeport

Rate of Gain and Quality Beef 2000

First - Brandon Albano, Polo
 Second - Lucas Thurow, Davis Junction
 Third - Brandon Whelan, Monroe Center
 Fourth - Joseph Thurow, Davis Junction
 Fifth - Brandon Albano, Polo
 Sixth - Allissa Martin, Oregon
 Seventh - Bode Martin, Oregon
 Eighth - Robbie Thurow, Davis Junction
 Ninth - Wyatt Swanson, Oregon
 10th - Brandon Albano, Polo
 Champion Jr. Bucket Calf: John Glendenning, Oregon

Horse Department

Champion Stock Type Horse at Halter (Horses 14 & under): Cassidy Vincent, Rochelle
 Grand Champion Horse at Halter: Cassidy Vincent, Rochelle
 Champion Junior English Pleasure (8-13): Cassidy Vincent, Rochelle
 Champion Junior Western Pleasure (8-13): Cassidy Vincent, Rochelle
 Junior Grand Champion Performance Horsemanship: Cassidy Vincent, Rochelle
 Junior Performance High Point: Cassidy Vincent, Rochelle

Rabbit Department

Champion Market Pen: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Reserve Champion Market Pen: Alexander Williams, Leaf River

Champion Single Fryer: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Reserve Champion Single Fryer: Alexander Williams, Leaf River
 Champion Production Class: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Jr. Doe Meat Breed: Emma Hunderman, Stillman Valley
 Top of Class Jr. Buck Meat Breed: Emma Hunderman, Stillman Valley
 Top of Class Sr. Doe Meat Breed: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Top of Class Sr. Buck Meat Breed: Kyle Beckman, Davis Junction
 Grand Champion Meat Pen: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Reserve Grand Champion Meat Pen: Emma Hunderman, Stillman Valley
 Top of Class Jr. Doe Mini Rex, Rex: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Top of Class Sr. Doe Mini Rex, Rex: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Top of Class Sr. Buck Mini Rex, Rex: Alexander Williams, Leaf River
 Top of Class Jr. Doe All Other Breeds: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Jr. Buck All Other Breeds: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Sr. Doe All Other Breeds: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Sr. Buck All Other Breeds: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Sr. Doe Lop: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Sr. Buck Lop: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Grand Champion Fancy Rabbit: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Reserve Grand Champion Fancy Rabbit: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Top of Class Jr. Doe Crossbred: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Jr. Buck Crossbred: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Top of Class Sr. Doe Crossbred: Alexander Williams, Leaf River
 Top of Class Sr. Buck Crossbred: Brooke Hammond, Oregon
 Grand Champion Crossbred Rabbit: Brooke Hammond, Oregon
 Reserve Grand Champion Crossbred Rabbit: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Champion Sr. Pet Bunny Class: Cassie Pals, Leaf River
 Reserve Champion Sr. Pet Bunny Class: Josie Pals, Leaf River
 Champion Costume Class: Xanna Armbruster, Polo
 Best of Show: Mason Zabran, Byron
 Best of Show - Opposite Sex: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo

Goat Department

DAIRY GOATS
 Champion Junior Kid: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle
 Champion Intermediate Kid: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Champion Senior Kid: Lacie Williams, Leaf River
 Champion Dry Yearling - Under 2 years: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Reserve Champion Dry Yearling - Under 2 years: Ashley Williams, Leaf River
 Grand Champion Dairy Dry Doe: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Dry Doe: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Champion Milker - 2 years & under 3: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Reserve Champion Milker - 2 years & under 3: Evan

Kosick, Mount Morris
 Champion Milker - 3 years & under 5 years: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle
 Reserve Champion Milker - 3 years & under 5 years: Braden Rogers, Chana
 Grand Champion Dairy Milking Doe: Sawyer Stockton, Rochelle
 Reserve Grand Champion Dairy Milking Doe: Braden Rogers, Chana
 Champion Dairy Goat Wether: Lacie Williams, Leaf River
 Reserve Champion Dairy Goat Wether: Braden Rogers, Chana
 Champion Pet Dairy Goat: Ashley Williams, Leaf River
 Reserve Champion Pet Dairy Goat: Lacie Williams, Leaf River
 MEAT GOATS
 Champion Jr. Kid, 0-6 months: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo
 Reserve Champion Jr. Kid, 0-6 months: Ashley Williams, Leaf River
 Champion Sr. Kid, 7-12 months: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo
 Grand Champion Meat Goat Kid: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo
 Reserve Grand Champion Meat Goat Kid: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo
 Champion Doe, 1 year & under 2: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Reserve Champion, 1 year & under 2: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo
 Champion Doe, 2 years & under 3: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Reserve Champion 2 years & under 3: Aylivia Griffin-Danekas, Polo
 Champion Doe, 3 years and older: Katelyn Rockwood, Polo
 Grand Champion Meat Goat Doe: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Reserve Grand Champion Meat Goat Doe: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Champion Meat Goat Wether: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Reserve Champion Meat Goat Wether: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 PYGMY GOATS
 Champion Jr. Doe Kid - 0-3 months: Kyra Rimstidt, Rochelle
 Champion Intermediate Doe Kid - 3-6 months: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Champion Sr. Doe Kid - 6-12 months: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Grand Champion Pygmy Doe Kid: Kyra Rimstidt, Rochelle
 Reserve Grand Champion Pygmy Doe Kid: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Champion Jr. Doe - 1-2 years old: Kyra Rimstidt, Rochelle
 Reserve Champion Jr. Doe - 1-2 years old: Hayden Harvey, Forreston
 Champion Intermediate Doe - 2-3 years old: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Reserve Champion Intermediate Doe - 2-3 years old: Kyra Rimstidt, Rochelle
 Champion Sr. Doe - 3 years & older: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Reserve Champion Sr. Doe - 3 years & older: Kyra Rimstidt, Rochelle
 Grand Champion Pygmy Doe: Brooke Ewald, Byron
 Reserve Grand Champion Pygmy Doe: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Champion Weather 1 year & under: Evan Kosick, Mount Morris
 Reserve Champion Wether 1 year & under: Kyra Rimstidt, Rochelle
 (See the Sunday, Aug. 23 edition for more 4-H fair results)



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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Off to school

THIS week, I watched my three daughters head off for school after a long and frustrating five months away from their classrooms.

Like any parent, I felt a mixture of pride and apprehension as they went out the door.



Scott Reeder

My children are among the 10 percent of school-age Illinois youngsters who will be attending school in-person 5-days a week.

That number in itself is stunning. COVID-19 has so altered our society that 90 percent of the state's pupils are learning in a different setting than they were just a year ago.

According to the Illinois State Board of Education, most public school students, 59 percent, will be beginning the school year in a remote-learning setting, usually over a computer. The remaining 31 percent will be learning in a blended environment where some days they are being taught remotely and other days they are in a classroom.

After months of studying the different educational paths, I have to concede that they all have drawbacks.

I don't want my children — or anyone's — to contract a virus.

On the other hand, I believe the ideal environment for youngsters to learn is in school with a teacher present.

That's not such a radical notion. It is how students have been taught for centuries.

Before choosing to send my kids back to school, I reviewed their schools' COVID-19 safety plans. Mask wearing and social distancing will be strictly enforced in the Catholic schools they attend. Desks will be disinfected between students. Hand washing augmented with hand sanitizing will occur multiple times during the

school day.

Is it a risk-free plan? No. But it would seem the best of less than ideal alternatives.

Unfortunately, many school boards have focused on reducing liability for school districts rather than holistic solutions for the child.

We need to ask ourselves if children are safer in a structured environment such as a school or being home without parental supervision. Even when alternate adult supervision is available while a parent works, it's often with an older family member such as a grandparent.

Elderly people are the most vulnerable group during this pandemic. We should be seeking to limit their exposure rather than increase it.

And let's be honest; if they aren't in school they will likely be somewhere in a group which may be a greater risk to disease spread.

And if students are left alone at home, while parents work, this too can be dangerous.

But more importantly, let's not downplay the value of teachers in this equation. They are trained professionals who know how to impart knowledge. The more miles you put between the educator and pupil the more difficult that becomes.

High-speed internet availability is far from universal due to family income or geography. The presumption that all students will have ready access to the internet is false.

There are no easy solutions.

But it is important to remember that youngsters will eventually have to return to a classroom. Parents, educators and school board members need to ask: What are the risks of not having them there now?

Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist and a freelance reporter. ScottReeder1965@gmail.com.



VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

Classes are resuming for students at the high school this week and will begin for elementary students next week. Did you choose for your child to attend classes or to participate in E-learning for the beginning of the school year?

What was the deciding factor for your decision?

"E-learning for my sophomore. We let him choose."

Jeni Hardin

"In-person. After speaking with our family physician I felt confident they would be safe returning to school."

Michelle Ann

"My son is a senior so he really wanted to see his friends. I also didn't think there was much learning done last year via E-

learning, but it was the best they could do with what they had. Hopefully the school district is better prepared to provide meaningful classes online this year."

Silene Q. Walters

"In-person. The kids need to get back into a routine and have that socialization factor. The downfall of having a large district is only attending two-to-three days a week."

Tiffany O'Brien Balch



How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Adam Kinzinger
1218 Longworth HOB
Washington, D.C.
20515
(202) 225-3635

IL Sen. Brian Stewart
M104A State House
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0180

IL Rep. Tom Demmer
314 Capitol
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 782-0535

Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to (news@rochelle-news-leader.com

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

The Rochelle News-Leader encourages responsible letters to the editor on subjects of interest to our readers. Editing may be necessary for space, clarity or to avoid obscenity or libel, but ideas will not be altered. All letters must bear the handwritten signature of the writer and include address and phone number or e-mail address for verification purposes. Neither the street address nor phone number will be printed. Letters should be typed or legibly

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

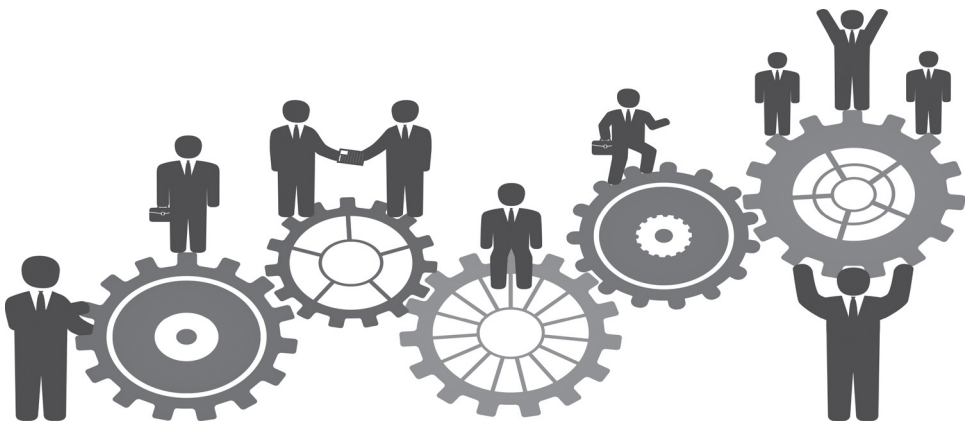
however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed. Letters may be dropped at the News-Leader office (211 IL Route 38 East), mailed to the News-Leader (P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068) or e-mailed (news@rochellenews-leader.com.) The News-Leader reserves the right to edit or reject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

COMMUNITY

Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act financial assistance available at Kishwaukee College

MALTA—The DeKalb Workforce Development Office, through Kishwaukee College, has financial assistance available through the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act Grant. The WIOA grant can fund up to \$10,000 toward the completion of WIOA approved programs at Kishwaukee College.

The Illinois WorkNet Center and DWDO recently added a new listing of approved programs at Kishwaukee College eligible for WIOA funding. New programs include: Sterile Processing Technician; EMS Paramedic; EMT Certificate; Paramedic Certificate; Google IT Support; Medical Assistant; and Technology & Manufacturing. A link



to the complete listing of eligible programs can be found at www.kish.edu/worknetcenter.

Program eligibility varies and includes, but not limited to, assessing one's income vs. family size. People who have recently been laid off/receive unemployment insurance and/or

are considered low income based off of Illinois State guidelines are strongly encouraged to apply.

In addition to financial assistance for approved programs for those who qualify, the DWDO also assists with job searching and professional development for community

members- with all services currently being offered remotely.

For more information, including an online application, visit www.kish.edu/worknetcenter or email Nicole Speizio-De Paz, coordinator of job seeker services, at nspeizio-depaz@kish.edu.

The Kitchen Table menu

Aug. 20 – (Thursday) – Beef pot roast, potatoes, carrots, onions, green beans, cornbread
Aug. 25 – (Tuesday) – Grilled BBQ chicken, potato salad, baked beans, Lays chips
Aug. 27 – (Thursday) – Italian beef sandwiches, onion rings or fries
Sept. 6 – (Sunday Brunch) – Sausage gravy and biscuits, sausage links, pancakes, breakfast casserole
*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

Aug. 19

Eddie & Melissa Villalobos

Aug. 20

Jose & Amanda Avila
Kim Patrick
Nick Henson
Oaklyn South
Benjamin Navejas

Aug. 22

John Murphy

Aug. 24

Alex Avila
TJ & Kelsey Rogers

Aug. 25

Megan South
Kevin & Amie Eggenburg

Aug. 26

Derek & Christy Oleson

Aug. 29

Brad Arnold

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



FROM THE HEART DAILY CASH WINNERS

July 28 - Dakota Ames, Rochelle, \$25

July 29 - Lynette Alcock, Monroe Center, \$25

July 30 - Shirley LeMar, Rochelle, \$25

July 31 - Carter Shaw, Amboy, \$25

Aug. 1 - Janice Prusator, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 2 - Jeff Stevens, Excelsior, Minnesota, \$50

Aug. 3 - Keith Holland Sr., Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 4 - Joan Woksa, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 5 - Ralfie's BBQ & Catering, Oregon, \$25

Aug. 6 - Dakota Ames, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 7 - Evi O'Rourke, Steward, \$25

Aug. 8 - Megan Egyed, Amboy, \$25

Aug. 9 - Sheena Hessler, Stoughton, Wisconsin, \$50

Aug. 10 - Alex Hutson, Rochelle (CHS), \$25

Aug. 11 - John Dreska, Rochelle (CHS), \$25

Aug. 12 - Melissa Long, Tomahawk, Wisconsin, \$25

Aug. 13 - Hoover and Mary Mercado, Reno, Nev., \$25

Aug. 14 - Ken Simandhar, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 15 - Teresa Strum, Dixon, \$25

Aug. 16 - Joann Orr, Rochelle, \$50

Aug. 17 - Sharon Duncan, Rochelle, \$25

Aug. 18 - Steve Kuhn, Sycamore, \$25

Aug. 19 - Sherri Drew, Mount Morris, \$25

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

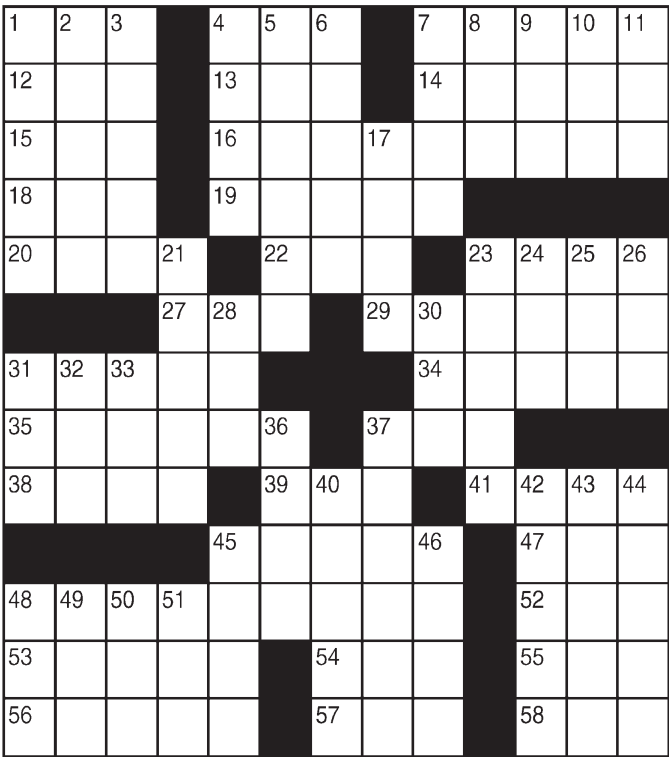


Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Homer's cry
- 4 Commotion
- 7 Couturier Bill
- 12 — out a living
- 13 America's uncle
- 14 They're usually covered in white
- 15 Auto
- 16 Cartoon canary
- 18 Suitable
- 19 Point of view
- 20 Effervescence
- 22 Squirrel's home
- 23 Mediocre
- 27 Samovar
- 29 Sister of Venus



- 31 Kin of "Abra-cadabra!"
- 34 Crucifixes
- 35 Sufficient
- 37 "Brady Bunch" girl
- 38 Cash-drawer compartment
- 39 Swelled head
- 41 Marvel Comics group
- 45 Clutch
- 47 Anger
- 48 16-Across' pursuer
- 52 Legislation
- 53 Praiseful rendition
- 54 Clean Air Act org.
- 55 Consumed
- 56 "Excavating for —"
- 57 Bashful
- 58 Neither partner
- 8 Myrna of Hollywood
- 9 Matterhorn, e.g.
- 10 Tackle moguls
- 11 Away from NNW
- 17 Reindeer kin
- 21 Boer fighters
- 23 Cheer-ful part of NYC?
- 24 Zodiac feline
- 25 Moreover
- 26 Owns
- 28 Tatter
- 30 Detergent brand
- 31 Dog's doc
- 32 Individual
- 33 Tiny particle
- 36 Towel word
- 37 Andrew Lloyd Webber title role
- 40 Microsoft big-wig
- 42 Where to see "The Last Supper"
- 43 Poets' Muse
- 44 More recent
- 45 Hackman or Wilder
- 46 Beseech
- 48 Masseur's workplace
- 49 Sweet potato
- 50 Mainlander's memento
- 51 U-Haul rental

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: **C** equals **T**

PL RWA OPTYZ CW IYJB DWOZ
CPJBJK, P DAYKK HYWHOY IWAOZ
BYLYB CW RWA JK "TJBJC CWH."

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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

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Answer

King Crossword

refer to you as "karat top."

It's a guess people would like to wear gold

answer

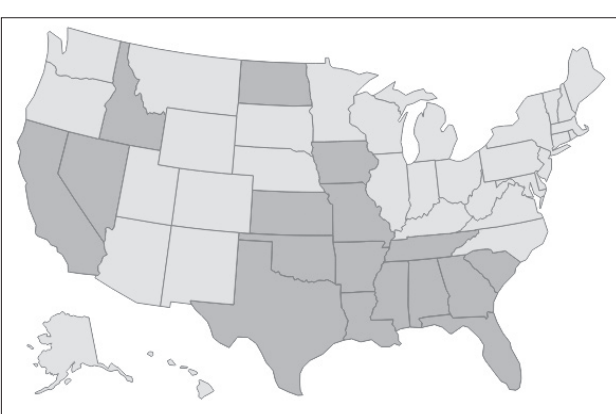
CryptoQuip

STATE NEWS

IDPH launches travel map to provide guidance on travel risk

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois Department of Public Health this week launched its new coronavirus disease (COVID-19) travel map to help inform residents of potential risks associated with traveling during the pandemic. The map indicates countries and U.S. states with increased risk of COVID-19 based on case rates.

"Travel may increase the chance of becoming infected and spreading COVID-19," said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. "To help inform residents where they might be at greater risk of being exposed to COVID-19 when they travel, IDPH has launched a map that clearly shows states and other countries where case rates are elevated. While staying home is the best way to protect yourself and others from COVID-19, we know that it may not be possible to avoid all travel. We encourage people who are traveling, whether for work or otherwise, to check



States With Lower Risk **States With Higher Risk**

out the map before making plans."

Locations that have an average daily case rate of 15 cases per 100,000 or greater are designated as "higher risk" on the map, which can be found here <http://www.dph.illinois.gov/covid19/travel>.

Airports, bus stations, train stations, and rest stops are all places travelers can be exposed to the virus in the air and on surfaces. The more people you come into contact with, for longer periods of

time, the greater your risk of infection if you are exposed to someone with COVID-19.

Do not travel when you are sick or with someone who is sick. When traveling, it is especially important to wear your mask, to keep 6 feet of distance between you and others you are not traveling with, and wash your hands frequently or use hand sanitizer if soap and water are not available.

When considering travel, think about the destination. It is also important to think

about needed precautions for moving through bus, train, or airport terminals, check-in and security lines, as well as the actual bus, train, or plane ride. Remember to take precautions when stopping for gas, food, and bathroom breaks when traveling by car or RV and as you interact with others and frequently touched surfaces.

For more, call 1-800-889-3931 or email dph.sick@illinois.gov.

Deadline to apply for emergency rental assistance extended

CHICAGO—Tuesday, Governor Pritzker announced the Illinois Housing Development Authority has extended the deadline for Illinois renters to apply for aid by one week to 12 p.m. on Aug. 28 due to those impacted by the storms last Monday. In addition, landlords will be given an additional two days, through Aug. 30, to complete their portion of the application.

The Emergency Rental Assistance program provides \$5,000 to eligible tenants who have seen their household income decline as a result of the COVID-19.

"With over 750,000 Illinoisans losing power as a result of the strong derecho that swept across northern Illinois a week ago, it's important we provide additional time to file and complete application for assistance," said IHDA Executive Director Kristin Faust. "I am pleased to extend the deadline as there were many renters and landlords without power for nearly a week, which negatively impacted their ability to apply to the Emergency Rental Assistance program."

For an application for to be considered complete, landlords are required to submit additional documentation before their application period closes on August 30th. It is recommended that renters be proactive in notifying their landlords they have applied for assistance under the Emergency Rental Assistance program and that they will receive an email from the IHDA inviting them to submit required documentation.

Renters affected by the storms, or those requiring assistance navigating the application process, are encouraged to reach out to one of the 62 Community and Outreach Assistance organizations with which IHDA has partnered. These organizations can be found on the 'resources' page at era.ihda.org. For additional help, applicants may also contact IHDA's call center at: (312) 883-2720, or toll-free at: (888) 252-1119. For those who are deaf, hard of hearing or speech-impaired, please contact Navicore Solutions for free assistance at: (877) 274-4309 (TTY). Extension of the ERA program will not affect or delay the launch of the Emergency Mortgage Assistance program on Aug. 24.

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OGLE COUNTY,
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IN THE)
MATTER)
OF THE)Case
ESTATE)No.
OF)2020
CYNTHIA)
L.)
OVERSTREET)P48
ROCHELLE)
IL 61068)

**PUBLICATION
NOTICE**
INDEPENDENT
ADMINISTRATION
TO: CREDITORS,
CLAIMANTS,
UNKNOWN HEIRS
AND LEGATEES

1. Notice is hereby
given of the death of
Cynthia L. Overstreet
who died on 07/20/14,
a resident of Rochelle,
Illinois.
2. The Representative
for the estate of: Carolyn
K. Overstreet, 621 7th
Street, Rochelle, IL
61068.
3. The Attorney for the
Estate is: Patrick M.
Flaherty, 2114 Deerpath
Road, Aurora, IL 60506.
4. Claims against the
estate may be filed on
or before February 19,
2021. Claims against
the estate may be
filed with the Clerk of
the Circuit Court, 540
S. Randall Rd., St.
Charles, IL 60174 or
with the Representative,
or both.
Any claim not filed within
that period is barred.
Copies of a claim filed
with the Clerk must be
mailed or delivered to
the Representative and
to the attorney within 10
days after it has been
filed.
5. On 6-22-202
an appointing
representative was
entered.
6. Within forty-two (42)
days after the effective
date of the original
Order Admitting the
Will to Probate, you
may file a petition with
the Court to require
proof of the validity of
the Will by testimony
or witnesses to the Will
in open Court, or other
evidence, as provided
in Article VI 5/6-21 (755
ILCS 5/6/21).
7. Within six (6) months
after the effective date
of the original Order
Admitting the Will to
Probate, you may file a
petition with the Court
to contest the validity
of the Will as provided
under Article VIII 5/8-1
of the Probate Act
(755 ILCS 5/8-1).
8. The estate will be
administrated without
Court supervision
unless an interested
party terminates
i n d e p e n d e n t
s u p e r v i s i o n
administratation by filing
a petition to terminate
under Article XXVIII
5/28-4 of the Probate
Act (755 ILCS 5/28-4).
I n d e p e n d e n t
Administrator,
Carolyn Overstreet
No. 0820 (Aug. 19, Aug.
26, Sept. 2)

105 BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

asking for money in
advance."

113 FINANCIAL

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127 SERVICES AND REPAIRS

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permit issued by the
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before placing a child in
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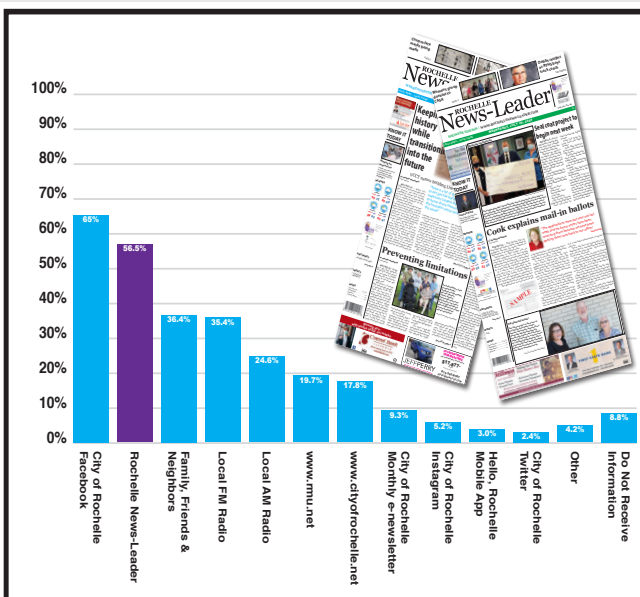
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The City of Rochelle recently conducted a survey of residents asking where they looked for city news, and the top two sources listed by those polled were the city's own Facebook page at 65% followed closely by the Rochelle News-Leader at nearly 57%!

No other sources were within 20% of the News-Leader as evidenced by the graph the city provided at the left.

There are many media options in today's world where area residents can look for important local news, but when it comes to credibility, timeliness and details, a significant majority are still relying heavily on the Rochelle News-Leader print and online sources!

In response to these poll results during these economic tough times, the News-Leader is offering all readers special discounted subscription prices during the entire month of August so more residents can also stay in the loop like their friends and neighbors!

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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Junior student-athlete Josie Lundquist has been working over the summer to improve her shooting and her defensive skills.

Lundquist ready to step up for Lady Hubs

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

LADYHub basketball player Josie Lundquist knows where she needs to grow as she prepares for her third varsity season at Rochelle Township High School. Lundquist has been working in the gym throughout the summer to sharpen her skills, and she's looking forward to showing her improvements when the Lady Hubs take the floor this coming winter.

Although the Lady Hubs have courted a young team in each of the past two seasons, that youth has allowed players like Lundquist to gain varsity experience early in their high school careers. With many former freshman and sophomore players coming back as upperclassmen next season, Lundquist and the Lady Hubs are battle tested and ready to raise their expectations.

"I thought I could've played better last season, but I've made a lot of improvements this summer," Lundquist said. "I know that I can add more to the team. We had a young team last season, but I thought we

all did our part and we did our best to work together. I definitely want to improve on defense, but I want to improve my overall skills as well. I want to work on my shooting so that I can score more next season if the team needs me to score more."

After sharing the floor with her older sister Abby, Rochelle's all-time scoring leader, during her freshman season, Josie earned a starting role in the varsity backcourt as a sophomore. She finished second on the team in scoring this past year, averaging just over eight points per game. Now a junior, Lundquist is one of five starters who could return to the hardwood next season.

"I thought we worked really well together and we stayed really close," Lundquist said. "We were young, but our development is really going to show next season and I'm hoping that we'll have a really good season. We want to improve our record, which is always an important goal for us. We've had a losing record over the last few years, but I want to try and finish over the .500 mark next season and I want us to challenge more teams and keep games competitive."



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SPORTS

NIU Football

Huskies react to fall season postponement

Players focused on improving

DEKALB — The Northern Illinois University football team was in the middle of its second day of preseason practice Saturday morning when news broke that the Mid-American Conference would be the first Football Bowl Subdivision (FBS) league to postpone the 2020 football season.

The timing of the mid-morning announcement hit perfectly for the Huskies. The news broke just as the team, which is practicing in two separate groups this preseason, was transitioning from one group to the next, allowing head coach Thomas Hammock to relay the MAC's decision to the entire team at the same time.

NIU players said they were not surprised by the news, because both Hammock and Associate Vice President and Director of Athletics Sean Frazier took time during the week to speak to them regarding the possible scenarios for the season prior to the opening of camp on Friday.

"I don't want to say I was disappointed, because we were prepared," said junior safety Dillon Thomas. "Still, it is kind of shocking because we've never seen anything like it. Coach Hammock and [athletic

director] coach Frazier told us that [potentially moving to spring] was a possibility. I've got to look at it positively and try to get our bodies right and give us time to be better as a team."

Hammock said he believes in having open and honest communication with his team, and the importance of that has been emphasized over the last several weeks and months.

"We've been transparent," Hammock said. "There wasn't shock, we've given them scenarios and alternatives and talked openly about those. We had a couple of team meetings early in the week where I spoke to them and Sean [Frazier] spoke to them about these are some of the scenarios that may come about over the next couple of days."

Senior offensive lineman Brayden Patton said NIU's commitment to player health and well-being is not new and expressed his support for the decision not to play this fall.

"Our coaches, our athletic department, our president - they focus on player safety," Patton said. "This decision by the MAC is the right thing to do, and I believe that, even being the competitor I am and how much I



want to play. I truly believe this is what's right. It's obviously disappointing as a player, you want to play, but this [potential move to spring] is the best option for us as student-athletes. There are too many unknowns right now with the virus."

When practice resumed Sunday morning with the players continuing to work in helmets and shorts, Hammock saw the same energy and commitment to improving on the practice field.

"We had a good practice, and I think we have a good plan [for the preseason]" he said. "Our administration has done an excellent job all summer with the procedures and the protocols to make sure our young men are safe. We've been at this for six weeks [since players returned for voluntary workouts in June] and we have a lot of information of ways that we can navigate and do the right things to keep our young men safe this preseason."

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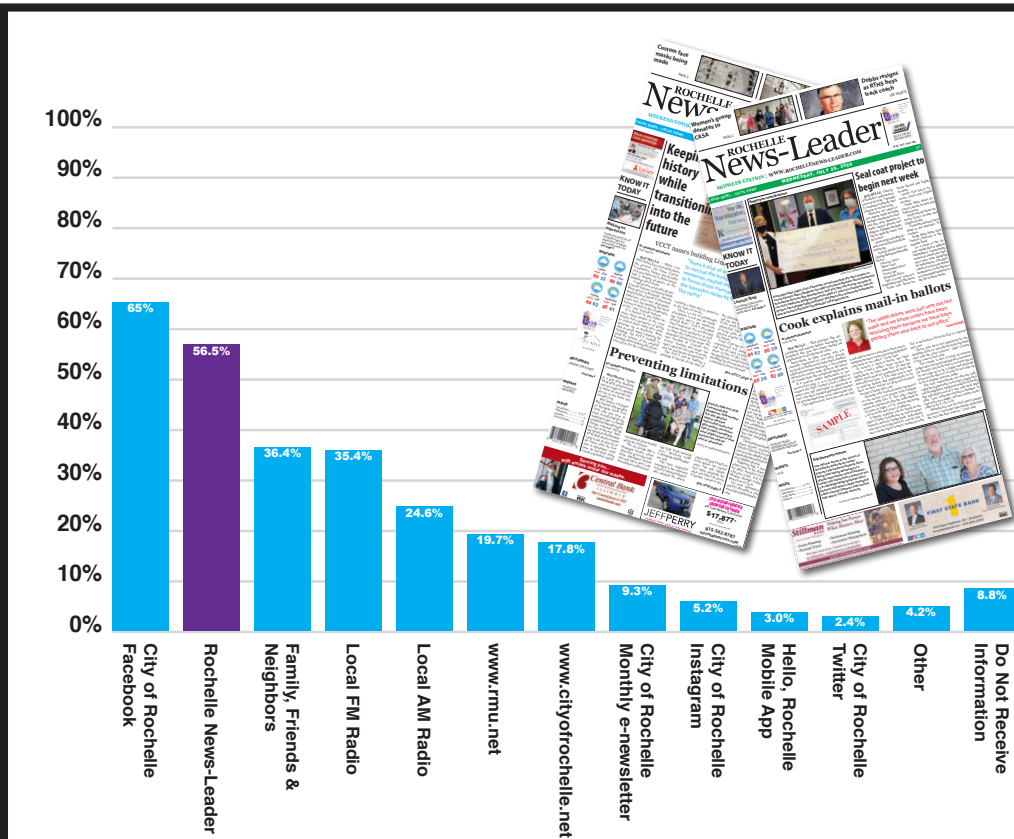
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The City of Rochelle recently conducted a survey of residents asking where they looked for city news, and the top two sources listed by those polled were the city's own Facebook page at 65% followed closely by the Rochelle News-Leader at nearly 57%!

No other sources were within 20% of the News-Leader as evidenced by the graph the city provided at the left.

There are many media options in today's world where area residents can look for important local news, but when it comes to credibility, timeliness and details, a significant majority are still relying heavily on the Rochelle News-Leader print and online sources!

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SPORTS



WORKING TO IMPROVE

RTHS junior Josie Lundquist has continued her development this summer.

See page 2 for more details

RTHS Golf

2020 season tees off

Ohlinger, Thiravong lead Hubs to wins over Dixon, Freeport

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

DIXON — Narrow fairways and difficultly slow greens didn’t hold Rochelle sophomore Griffin Ohlinger back from firing one of the lowest scores of the afternoon on Tuesday, when the Hub golf team opened the 2020 season against Dixon and Freeport at Timber Creek. Ohlinger’s extensive offseason work was on display Tuesday, as his putter and wedges keyed a team-low 43-stroke round that pushed Rochelle’s varsity team to wins over both the Dukes and the Pretzels. The Hubs scored 191 on the afternoon, while Dixon totaled 196 and Freeport finished with 198. Rochelle is 2-0 to start its season for the second straight year. “My heart was still racing through the first couple of holes,” Ohlinger said. “I’ve been trying to get 18 holes in every day and hit the driving range on days where I’m not playing any holes. It felt great to be back out there with my teammates. My putting is 10 times better than where it was at the start of last season and my wedge shots were really good as well.” Senior Megan Thira-



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)
Senior Megan Thiravong looks at an upcoming putt during her Tuesday afternoon round against Dixon and Freeport.

vong finished one stroke behind Ohlinger, carding 44 while senior Reese Kirk added 51 and senior newcomer Dominic Williams rounded out Rochelle’s top four varsity scores with 53. While Timber Creek presented players with many challenges, Ohlinger and the Hubs managed the course just well enough to walk away with a pair of victories. “There were a lot of hills around the course so I had to hit my drives in the right places, otherwise I’d be left with a tough second shot where I’d have to leave an iron short,” Ohlinger said. “The tee

boxes were hard and the greens were slow and a little bumpy... I’ve been working on my putting a lot over the summer, and I want to continue hitting my wedges well.” Tuesday was the first of three days in which the Hubs will be competing this week. Rochelle will host Ottawa for an Interstate 8 meet at Fairways on Wednesday before traveling to Hughes Creek in Elburn for another conference match against Kaneland on Thursday. The Hubs could certainly use more low-40 scores from Ohlinger, who immediately played his way

up to the varsity level as a freshman and is looking to continue improving his game this fall. “The boys are really improving,” Thiravong said. “Reese has been putting the ball well and Griffin’s hitting the ball straight and getting nice cuts in his drives. I believe we’re going to have a great season and I’m really proud of the boys... I want to help the younger boys improve their ball contact in the fairways and on the greens and tee boxes so that when us seniors are gone, they’ll be ready to take our places and perform just as well as we have.”



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)
Sophomore Griffin Ohlinger led all Rochelle players with 43 in the varsity team’s wins on Tuesday.

RTHS Girls Tennis

Serves, forehands key on-court success for Hicks

Lady Hub junior looking forward to upcoming season

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

EMMA Hicks was beyond excited when she and her Lady Hub teammates learned the Rochelle Township High School tennis team would be allowed to compete this fall. With the team’s season-opener against Harlem less than one week away, Hicks will be looking to build on the improvements she made as a first-year varsity player this past season. Hicks will be entering her third year with the Lady Hubs and her second on the varsity team. After beginning her freshman season on the JV team, Hicks moved up to varsity doubles as a sophomore, moving back and forth between Rochelle’s No. 2 and No. 3 doubles pairings. She said her serves and her

“It feels really good to be back out here. I was really excited when we found out we could play tennis this year. I felt that I played pretty well last season. I thought my serves and my forehand shots definitely improved the most, and those were two areas I was really struggling earlier in the season. I want to keep getting better on my serves this year.”

Emma Hicks

forehand shots were her greatest improvements this past season, and she’ll be seeking to continue making strides throughout her junior season this fall. “It feels really good to be back out here,” Hicks said. “I was really excited when we found out we could play tennis this year. I felt that I played pretty well last season. I thought my serves and my forehand shots definitely improved the most, and

those were two areas I was really struggling earlier in the season. I want to keep getting better on my serves this year.” Hicks is one of several upperclassmen returning to a Lady Hub varsity tennis team that will aim to build on a two-win season this past year. Doubles play was the key to success for Rochelle this past season, and the girls are confident they can carry their chemistry over to

this season. “I want to win a lot more matches this year,” Hicks said. “I want to be faster to the ball and I want to be quicker on my hits... We’re really close with each other and we get along really well. We help each other a lot and I think we’re going to have a really good season this year. We have a lot of things we can work on, but I think we have a really solid team overall.”



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)
Junior Emma Hicks said her serves and forehands were her greatest improvements this past season.