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MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

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Vol. 101 • No. 6

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS WEDNESDAY, MAY 20, 2020 \$1

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Part of startup
Rochelle grad becomes consultant with NIU Experimental Learning Group.
See page 5

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
67 51	69 55
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
73 59	79 63

Today's RNL Issue sponsored by Community Unity member:

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JOHNSON TRACTOR
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OBITUARIES

- BETTY BRICKL
- JASON BROCK
- NANCY GOVIG
- DORIS RYAN
- DELBERT SUPLER

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INSERTS

- FARM & FLEET
- ALDI

INSIDE

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The Rochelle Fire Department responded to the Rochelle wastewater plant Monday morning for a chlorine leak.

Chemical leak at plant

BY JENNIFER SIMMONS
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Fire Department was called to the Rochelle Water Treatment Plant Monday morning at 10:54 a.m. by RMU at 1054 for a small chlorine leak.

“We had a very small chlorine gas leak that set off a building alarm so it is our protocol to call the fire department,” Utilities Superintendent Adam Lanning said. “They take precautions in case something further happens.”

According to Rochelle Fire Chief Dave Sawlsville, the leak was coming from a 150 pound chlorine cylinder with a valve that

had failed. Firefighters suited up in level A hazmat suits. “It took firefighters 15 minutes to cap the cylinder and confirm the leak was secured,” Sawlsville said. The fire department was on scene for an hour and 15 minutes. There were no injuries and no interruptions in water department operations during the incident.

Improvements on tap for Spring Lake

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Flag-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners held their monthly meeting Monday evening, with executive director Jackee Ohlinger presenting an outline for upcoming improvements to the Spring Lake Pool and Spring Lake Marina facilities.

renovations include the addition of a splash pad, which Ohlinger said will be available for free admission. Additional pool improvements include a new 1-meter diving board, a new drop slide that will replace the 3-meter diving board and a new zip line on the shallow end. The rock wall will be moved to the northwest end.

“We’ll be adding amenities to the baby pool and shade stretchers, as well as beautification and basic repairs to the pool,” Ohlinger said. “We’ll be adding lower-level parking and we’ll be painting

and adding new lighting to the bathhouses. We’ll be painting and improving the concession stand and there will be landscaping work. There are a lot of aspects to this improvement plan. We took a survey to find out what was most important to the community.”

Landscaping work will be done to remove timber on the north side of the Spring Lake Pool facility as well as small planted areas inside the facility. Removal work will also be completed on the west side near the waterfall. The park district plans to add 15 lower-level parking

stalls, and Spring Lake Marina will have its current decking and fishing piers removed in favor of an ADA accessible sidewalk and fishing pier, as well as a new deck to match Spring Lake Pool. Ohlinger said the target date for completion is June 4, 2021, which will also be opening day for the pool.

The board meeting closed with the approval of a resolution not to exceed \$35,000 for a new sign for the recreation center at Helms South, as well as the approval of a new five-year union contract for three workers in the park district.



Schabacker



Brown

Prom royalty crowned

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Township High School junior/senior prom was Saturday evening, a virtual event heard on SuperHits 93.5 organized in observance of the state’s Covid-19 social gathering prohibition.

The hour-long event included music chosen by the prom committee.

Morgan Schabacker, the daughter of Todd Schabacker and Anita and Mike Friedlund, and Austin Brown, the son of Daniel Brown and Jennifer Brown, reigned as Prom Queen and King.

Senior class attendants were Christina Alfano, Austin Greifenkamp, Erin Decker, Evan Horner, Cara Forsberg, Gavin Ansteth, Kylee Brown and Ethan Etes.

Princess was Bella Lodico, the daughter of Kent and Tricia Lodico, and the prince was Ben Harvey, son of Rich and Staci Harvey. Along with Lodico and Harvey, Junior class attendants were Madi Carmichael, Mary Coglianese, Lizbeth Ugalde, Nate Askeland, Juan Cincire, and Crue Larsen.

See page 2 for the senior and junior prom court.

Lewis updates board on graduation plans

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — The monthly high school board meeting began Monday, May 18 with Principal Chris Lewis updating board members on the new graduation ceremony planned for the summer, as well as drive-thru diploma pickups. The scheduled date for the new graduation ceremony is Aug. 1 at 10 a.m.

While the school has a date set, it would like parents to remember that the ceremony could be very modified or even cancelled due to restrictions in place at that time. The school will release more details this summer as the date approaches.

“We are going to try our best to hold a ceremony,” Lewis said. “But parents

and students need to be prepared for what we will have to follow with social restrictions. We are not going to present any definite plans until mid-summer into July, when we have a better idea of what this could look like.”

Diploma pick-up

Lewis also expressed his understanding that many students would like to receive their diploma before Aug. 1. So, the school will be passing out diplomas via a drive-thru process this Thursday from 3-5 p.m. and Friday from 9-11 a.m. The drive-thru process will be very scaled down and follow all CDC guidelines.

See RTHS page 3

Modified Memorial Day



BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — As Memorial Day approaches on Monday, May 25, Rochelle VFW Post 3878 plans to host a modified ceremony to honor America’s veterans while following all CDC guidelines.

While the VFW is unable to host its annual Memorial Day parade and put flags at each of the cemeteries in town due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it is very important to the organization to still honor this country’s veterans. The modified ceremony will take place on Monday, May 25, at 11 a.m. at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle.

“We are not putting flags out at the three cemeteries,” said Bill Bumgarner, VFW Post 3878 commander. “Because putting them up and taking them down would put everybody in close proximity. There will also be no Boy Scouts of America or band at the ceremony.”

The ceremony will be 15-to-20 minutes long and will include Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows as a guest speaker, as well as a possible speech from Chuck Roberts, owner of Roberts Armory WWII Museum. The VFW invites anybody to come out in their vehicles to attend and if somebody is not in a vehicle, the VFW asks that he or she wears a mask and practices social distancing.

All ceremony activities are weather permitting, as the VFW cannot move the ceremony indoors due to social distancing guidelines. While this may not be the big ceremony that is done every year, it is the best way to honor the veterans while maintaining the safety of everybody involved.

“What we are trying to do is keep people safe and protected, while still hosting some type of ceremony to honor our veterans,” Bumgarner said.

Woodlawn Cemetery

Woodlawn Cemetery has canceled Memorial Day services due to the virus restrictions.

Flags will be placed on all veterans’ graves to honor them. Weather permitting, there will be the avenue of flags.

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LOCAL NEWS

Requests being accepted for service funding

ROCHELLE — The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) National Board has made Phase 37 (FY2019 annual) and Phase CARES (FY2020 Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security CARES Act supplemental) available to help provide food and shelter services in Ogle County, for the amount of \$33,458.00.

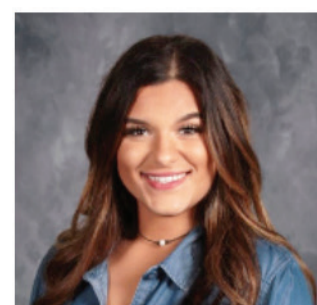
Nonprofits, faith-based or local government agency that provides food and shelter services in Ogle County may apply for funds in both phases. Current or former EFSP participation is not a requirement. Interested agencies must submit an application to the Ogle County Local Board. Each phase/fiscal year is considered new and funding to agencies is not guaranteed.

The local board is to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs run by local service organizations.

All agencies must turn in their funding requests to HOPE of Ogle County board chair Ruth Carter, through email only at hopeogle.admin@hopedv.org by 10 a.m. on Friday, June 5. Late applications will not be accepted.

Questions may also be submitted through this email.

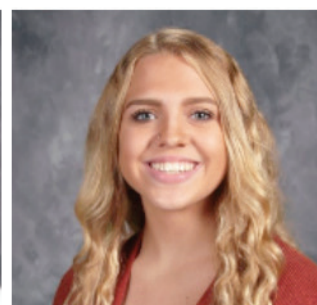
Senior prom court



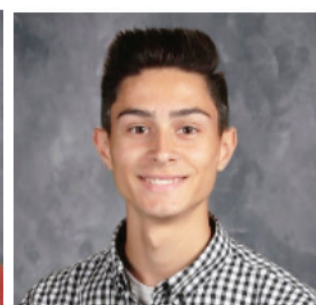
Cristina Alfano



Austin Greifenkamp



Erin Decker



Evan Horner



Cara Forsberg



Gavin Ansteth

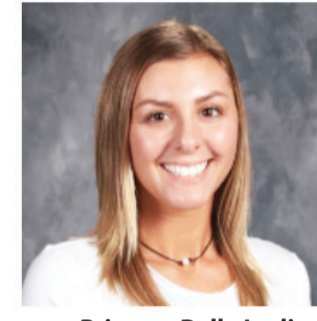


Kylee Brown



Ethan Etes

Junior prom court



Princess Bella Lodico



Prince Ben Harvey



Madi Carmichael



Nate Askeland



Mary Coglianese



Juan Cincire



Liz Ugalde



Crue Larsen

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Birthdays & Anniversaries

May 20 Darrell & Beth Bolhaus	May 21 Heather McPhearson	May 24 Heidi Bonilla Brad & Kelly Arnold Katie Sherburne	May 25 Dave & Mary Helfrich	May 27 Leland Hazlip
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LOCAL NEWS

RTHS: Board approves new technology fee

From page 1

"It is going to be very simple; I will stand out in front, they will drive through and I will hand out the diploma," Lewis said. "It won't be the big production like we were originally planning. I can't shake their hands, they won't be dressed up and they will stay in their car. We are going to make it as safe as possible."

Next, board members were updated on the financial impact the coronavirus pandemic has had on the school. The state is currently proposing a 32.5 percent, or \$2 billion cut, to educational funding.

"This cut equates to about \$1,000 per student and with our rough estimate of 900 students at RTHS, that is \$900,000 of lost state revenue," said Kevin Dale, RTHS business manager.

Following the financial update, a motion was passed to accept new board policy updates from

the Illinois Association of School Boards that were presented and discussed at last month's meeting. Next, board members passed motions to accept the resignation, employment and dismissal of teachers within the district. David Bergeson resigned from assistant girls track coach and Amy Schweitzer resigned from junior class advisor.

The school employed the following teachers: Sidney Lippens as the new special education teacher, Jodi Hill as a part-time dual credit speech teacher, Brock Hutchinson as a part-time dual credit math teacher and Brad Winterland as a volunteer assistant football coach. Additionally, Blake Stockton was dismissed from the custodial/maintenance staff.

The next item on the agenda was board members approving a motion to allow the City of Rochelle to provide a school

resource officer to replace Ogle County Deputy Sheriff Cheri Brodzik, who has recently retired. The Ogle County Sheriff's Department would have assigned an officer but did not have anybody to replace her spot. The motion passed and the city will provide the next officer to the school.

Next, the superintendent presented the board members with the new updated student handbook. Board members will review the handbook for the required month and a decision will be made at next month's meeting.

Lastly, under the recommendation of the superintendent, board members passed a motion for a new annual technology fee. Students will pay a fee of \$10 each year, which will give them access to their own Chromebook all four years. At the end of the four years, students will then get to keep their Chromebook. The fee will be waived for students who cannot afford the fee due to economic hardships and are currently part of the free and reduced lunch program.

"Essentially a student could walk away with a fully operational Chromebook at the end of their career at RTHS," Harper said.



Teachers and staff from Tilton School drove around the neighborhood Monday honking and waving to students and residents. Above, Mrs. Mairs waves to residents.

Farewell to students

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE – Tilton Elementary School staff members held a parade of decorated vehicles as an end of the year celebration in honor of its students and families in the community.

With the stay-at-home order and many CDC guidelines in place, Tilton Elementary was unsure it would be able to hold any type of end-of-year celebration. But, after consideration and seeing the success of other district parades, it thought this would be a safe way to honor as many students as possible.

"I know we are all really missing our kids," said Jennifer Derricks, Tilton Elementary principal. "So, we thought this would be a great way to see any many

of them as we could in a celebratory way to end the year."

School Resource Officer Jim Jakymiw led the parade, followed by all available Tilton Elementary School staff who decorated their vehicles with paint, balloons and other creative designs. The parade began at the Lincoln School parking lot, went west on Flagg Road and through the neighborhoods out west of town.

The parade then traveled back into town and through many of the neighborhoods surrounding Tilton Elementary School.

While the parade was unable to make it to every family's neighborhood, it hoped that many of the families were able to join in. The school is also putting together a video of the parade it will be sending

out soon.

"We had a couple people video the parade, some staff members took photos and I have asked some families to send in pictures they have," Derricks said. "We are hoping in about a week to get it put together, especially for families who were unable to make it."

The school has received feedback from a few families who have said the parade was very special and a great way to end the year. The entire staff loved seeing their kids again for the first time since the school closures.

"I knew that it would be great to see our families and students," Derricks said. "But, seeing them again for the first time in so long was just something that really warmed my heart and filled my soul."

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LOCAL NEWS

Obituaries

Betty Brickl

ROCHELLE — Betty E. Brickl, 78, passed away peacefully on Friday, May 15, 2020 with her husband and daughters by her side.



Betty was born on Sept. 28, 1941 in Portage, Wisconsin, to Burton and Leah (Freeland) Higley. She married Leon Brickl on May 6, 1960 and they just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary. She made Illinois her home for the last 58 years.

Betty was raised on a farm in Poynette, Wisconsin. She had fond memories of her childhood with her parents and eight siblings, forming a close bond, which she would maintain for the rest of her life.

She was a proud graduate of Poynette High School and enjoyed attending her class reunions. As times progressed, she took computer classes at Kishwaukee College to keep up with changes in her job and the new way to

keep in touch with family and friends.

Employed with and retired from AG Communication System in Genoa, after 38 years of service and regularly met for breakfast with the group she worked with.

She loved a good joke or prank and had so many stories she couldn't wait to share. She wanted everyone to be a part of any comical situation. Betty stayed connected with family and friends through Facebook. You could never disappear without her finding you.

Family ancestry was important to Betty. There were countless hours of research and documentation, creating a wealth of reference material, in which she loved to share with everyone, i.e. connecting the Higleys with the song, "Home On the Range."

She could yell as loud as any other fan when her Green Bay Packers were playing.

Betty was a talented and crafty woman, making everything from early day

sock monkeys, fancy Easter baskets, to Willie warmers. Halloween was her time to shine, creating detailed costumes that would always get the approval from anyone who saw them. Crocheting was her passion. She was well known for her tablecloths, gifting many of her beautiful and elaborate creations to hosts and loved ones across the U.S. and as far away as Scotland and Norway.

Betty is survived by her husband, Leon, of Rochelle; two children, Valorie Chandler of Amboy, and Chris McCaffrey of Monmouth; six grandchildren, Nicole (AJ) Gigler of Littleton, Colorado, Trenton Chandler of Amboy, Whitnie McCaffrey of Dixon, Laurin (Dee) Hankins of Heyworth, Patrick McCaffrey of Naperville, and Joseph McCaffrey of Davenport, Iowa; two great-grandchildren, Owen Smothers of Dixon, and Ellie Gigler of Littleton, Colorado; two siblings, Ray Higley of Portage, Wisconsin, and Judy (Chuck) Grotzke of Princeton, Wisconsin; sister-in-law, Ellen Jerrett of Baraboo, Wisconsin; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

She was preceded in death by her son, Derek J. Brickl born Dec. 9, 1969; and six siblings.

She will be dearly missed.

Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home. A memorial service at St. Patrick Catholic Church in Rochelle will be held at a later date with burial of cremated remains in St. Patrick Catholic Cemetery. Visit www.ungerhoner.com to sign the online guest book.

Nancy Govig

STERLING — Nancy Govig, 77, of Sterling, formerly of Steward, passed away on Sunday, May 17, 2020 at Rock River Hospice Home in Sterling. Nancy was born on July 4, 1942 in Chicago, to Milo and La Vergne (Lehmann) Heitmanek.



On Sept. 22, 1962 she married John D. Govig in Cicero, whom she met on a blind date. John passed in 2007.

Nancy was predeceased by her parents, her brother, Rick Heitmanek, and her in-laws, John L. and Helen Govig of Creston.

Nancy was a loving mother of three and grandmother of five. When her girls were young, she enjoyed sewing Barbie clothes, building blanket "forts" under the apple tree and baking brownies for camping weekends. More recently, Nancy relished spending time with her grandchildren, frequently indulging them with trips to Dairy Queen (banana split blizzards were her favor-

ite). She enjoyed painting, reading, sewing, traveling, photography, was an avid quilter and was a long-time member of the Kings of the Road camping club.

Nancy was a registered nurse and graduated from Mt. Sinai School of Nursing in 1963. Over the course of her career, she worked at Rochelle Community Hospital, was the director of nursing at Rochelle West nursing home, was a rehab nurse at Pine Acres nursing home in DeKalb, and served as school nurse in the Franklin Grove and Indian Creek schools before retiring in 2008.

Nancy also worked with her husband, John, on the farm, driving the grain truck to the elevator, disk-ing (in straight lines) while John planted, and running errands to pick up parts for the equipment. She also volunteered with a number of groups, particularly as her daughters were growing up. She was a member of Steward United Methodist Church and more recently the First Presbyterian

Church in Rochelle, where she enjoyed teaching ESL classes for several years.

Nancy is survived by three daughters, Karen Savage of Boston, Massachusetts, Julie (Dave) Carrion of Sterling, and Jill (Richard) Kane of Versailles, Kentucky; five grandchildren, Amanda Alexis, Andrew and Aiesha Savage, and Isaac Carrion; and her beloved dog, Odie.

A private burial will be held at the Union Cemetery in Steward and a Celebration of Life gathering will be held at a later date. Care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home.

In lieu of flowers, donations may be made in Nancy's memory to the English as a Second Language program at First Presbyterian Church. Checks can be made payable to First Presbyterian Church, please note the "ESL program in memory of Nancy Govig" on the check and mail to 1100 Calvin Road Rochelle, IL 61068.

Nancy's family also welcomes all to visit www.ungerhoner.com to sign the online guest book.

Doris Ryan

JANESVILLE, Wisconsin — Doris Ann Ryan, 72, of Janesville, Wisconsin, formerly of Rochelle, passed away Sunday, May 17, 2020 at Mercy Health in Janesville, Wisconsin.



Doris was born on May 26, 1947 in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, the daughter of Glen and Dorothy (Mueller) Rosa. She married Dwain Ryan on Sept. 8, 2012 in

Rochelle. Quilting was her passion. Doris owned and operated Doris' Sewing Barn for over 20 years. She was a loving and devoted wife, mother, and grandmother.

Doris is survived by her husband, Dwain, of Janesville; two children, Deborah (John) Wooten of Rochelle, and Michael (Reagan) Mulford of Elizabethtown, Kentucky; six grandchildren, Megan (Tim) South, Tarah Wooten, Madison Wooten, Marissa Mattingly, Zachary Mulford, and Johnia Mulford;

several great-grandchildren; and three siblings, Connie (James) Murray, Phyllis Fannon, and Steve (Janet) Rosa.

In addition to her parents, Doris is preceded in death by her first husband, Richard Ray Mulford.

There will be a private graveside service at 2:15 p.m. on Friday, May 22, 2020 at Woodlawn Cemetery in Creston. The service will be live streamed on the Unger-Horner Funeral Home Facebook page.

Visit www.ungerhoner.com to sign the online guest book.

Jason Brock

ESMOND — Jason Douglas Brock, 49, passed away Monday, May 18, 2020 surrounded by family.

There will be a Celebration of Life gathering at a later date.

Visit www.ungerhoner.com to sign guest book.

Delbert Supler

ROCHELLE — Delbert O. Supler, 102, passed away peacefully Saturday, May 16, 2020 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center in Franklin Grove.



Del was born on Sept. 27, 1917 in Verona, North Dakota, to Edward and Delia (Qualley) Supler. He married Marge V. Isley on Oct. 21, 1939. She preceded him in death on Feb. 12, 2008 after 69 years of marriage.

Over the years, Del was involved with farming, co-owner of Binz & Supler Insurance for 23 years and had a retail clothing store, the Town & Country. He also worked as a painter, drywaller and ceramic tiler for many years. He was a member of the First Presbyterian Church in Rochelle.

Because Del and Marge were very hard workers, they were able to afford many nice things that they enjoyed. They built three homes over their lifetime, in which Del did most of the labor. In order to buy their first lot, he sheet rocked several homes to pay for it. In fact, his hard work continued well into his late 80s as an expert ceramic tiler, finally retiring at the age of 87. Del's favorite

pastime was golfing and he and Marge loved to dance.

In addition to his parents and wife, Marge, he was preceded in death by his son, Roger, in January 2009; brother, Donald and sister, Edna Miller.

Del is survived by his daughters, Karen Lee of Newberg, Oregon and Bonnie Masterson of Rochelle; seven grandchildren, Dawn (Lonny) Anderson, Greg (Schon Lowe) Walters, Joe Hicks, Jennifer (Ben) Manning, DeAnna (Andy) Morris, Laura (Joe) Wilmarth Tyna, and Roxanne (Steven Herman) Hanna; 14 great-grandchildren, Lindsey, Taylor, Drew, Luke, Zach, Caden, MaKayla, Logan, Brookie, Noah, Dylan, Julia, Abigail and Owen.

There will be a private funeral service at 11 a.m. on Thursday, May 21 with Pastor Doug Forsberg officiating. The service will be live streamed on the Unger-Horner Funeral Home Facebook page. Burial will follow the service at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle.

Memorials may be made in Del's memory to Unity Hospice or the First Presbyterian Church.

Visit www.ungerhoner.com to sign the online guest book.

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ROCHELLE News-Leader

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LOCAL NEWS

Local student leads the way in startup launch

Rochelle graduate becomes consultant in promoting new vision loss treatment

ROCHELLE – Therome Innovation Partners, an ocular drug-delivery startup company, has partnered with the Experiential Learning Center (ELC) student team in the College of Business at Northern Illinois University to evaluate the current market and develop a strategy to propel the business forward.



“In these experiences, you learn skills that you can apply both in the classroom and outside now and in the future.”

Edgar Lopez

The Experiential Learning Center is a division of Northern Illinois University’s College of Business that provides undergraduate and graduate students with real-world projects with businesses from Fortune 500 to non-profits. Some of these companies include McDonald’s Corporation, Caterpillar Inc. and The YMCA.

experience and the skills that he learned throughout the process.

“As an aspiring entrepreneur myself, the ability to consult another start-up business was incredible,” said Lopez. “I am just thankful for the opportunity to get this hands-on learning experience.”

Company

Therome is a startup company based in DeKalb that offers a more effective way of administering drugs that help reduce vision loss linked to degenerative diseases, such as wet age-related macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy that effect many senior Americans in this country. On April 29, the team of student consultants

presented their research and business proposal to the owners of Therome and they were very impressed.

“The owners were really surprised and proud of the work we were able to accomplish,” said Lopez. “The two founding doctors were present and they were so proud of the work we did, they were speechless.”

The former Rochelle Hub serves as a consultant to Therome and has developed a business plan for the company. Lopez and the team of consultants worked on ways for Therome to attract partners and investors. Lopez and the rest of the team used what they had learned in their classes and built on their skills during this exceptional experience,

all while doing it for a good cause.

The team was comprised of students with a variety of majors and minors, such as accounting, business analytics, finance, marketing, management, and operations management information systems. Lopez plans to return to Northern Illinois University in the fall to attend graduate school and pursue his master’s degree in business administration. Lopez’s one piece of advice for anybody taking college classes is to apply for a hands-on experiential learning class.

“In these experiences, you learn skills that you can apply both in the classroom and outside now and in the future,” Lopez said.

Deputies issue 29 citations for underage drinking

On May 16 at approximately 1:33 a.m., deputies were dispatched to 4497 W. Otter Road in reference to a 911 hang up. Upon further investigation it was determined the hang up was accidental; however, deputies discovered a large underage drinking party at the location. Deputies issued 29 citations to individuals for consuming alcohol under the age of 21. The individuals were released on I-bonds and given future court dates.

May 12

On May 12 at approximately 5:05 p.m., deputies responded to a one vehicle hit and run accident that occurred near the intersection of North Junction Road and East Scott Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Jennifer Nash, 46, of Holcomb, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Nash was also issued citations for leaving the scene of an accident, failure to report a motor vehicle accident, improper lane usage and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. No injuries were sustained as a result from the crash. Nash was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released on an I-bond.

May 15

On May 15 at 10:54 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff’s deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 4000 block of West Illinois Route 72 on a Harley Davidson motorcycle for a traffic violation. After an investigation, John Flynn, 49 of Milledgeville, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Flynn was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released on a \$3,000 I-Bond.

May 16

On May 16 at approximately 12:58 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff’s deputies responded to the 3000 block of W. Illinois Route 64 in reference to a driving complaint where the Mt. Morris Police had made contact with the vehicle and driver. After investigation, deputies placed Arthur Harris Jr., 57, of Rockford, under arrest for driving under the influence of alcohol and driving while license revoked. Harris was additionally issued a citation for improper lane usage. Harris was later released on an I-Bond to appear in court at a later date.

On May 16 at approximately 8:41 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff’s deputies performed a traffic stop in the 4,000 block of South Chana Road. After investigation, deputies issued Kenneth Ankney, 56, of Bloomington, a citation for driving while license revoked. Ankney was released on an I-Bond at the scene.

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.

Emergency funding available

ROCHELLE — The Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP) National Board has made Phase 37 funds available to help provide food and shelter services in Ogle County, for the amount \$23,468.

Nonprofits, faith-based or local government agency that provides food and shelter services in Ogle County may apply for funds. Interested agencies must submit an application to the Ogle County Local Board. Each Phase/Fiscal Year is considered new and funding to agencies is not guaranteed.

The local board is to distribute funds appropriated by Congress to help expand the capacity of food and shelter programs run by local service organizations.

All agencies must turn in their funding requests to HOPE of Ogle County board chair Ruth Carter through email only at hopeogle.admin@hopedv.org by 10 a.m. on Friday, June 5. Late applications will not be accepted.

Questions may also be submitted through this email.

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

It's a tough time to be a hog farmer

IT'S a tough time to be a hog farmer.

The COVID-19 pandemic has adversely affected a variety of businesses, but perhaps none more than the swine industry.



Scott Reeder

Having grown up on a hog farm, I can tell you it has never been an easy business to be in. But now is different; for the first time in more than 90 years farmers are killing healthy livestock rather than shipping them to market.

This already is taking place in northwest Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and South Dakota. If it is to happen in Illinois, it will likely begin this week or next contends Joe Connor, a Carthage, Ill., swine veterinarian whose practice cares for more than 500,000 sows.

The virus has swept through packing plants across the Midwest, forcing many to shut down. Those that have reopened are not butchering as many animals because social distancing requirements for workers have reduced the number of carcasses that can be handled.

What this means is that there is less meat heading to grocery stores, which has bumped up prices and created less selection for customers.

But, it has created desperate times on the farm. Already, many farmers are marketing livestock at a loss. And the prospect of destroying animals is heart breaking for any farmer.

Beyond the financial loss, farmers take pride in producing quality food. To see animals destined a landfill rather than a meat counter

is disillusioning.

The Illinois Pork Producers are building a trailer to be used for mass depopulation of herds, said Jennifer Tiry, executive director.

"We hope we never have to use this trailer," she said. "It's so wasteful. But we need to have a contingency plan in case there are no other alternatives. And this is our Plan B."

Tiry declined to discuss the specifics of how the animals would be killed. But in Minnesota, Iowa and the Dakotas the most common method is to suffocate swine by releasing carbon dioxide into an enclosed space such as barn or trailer.

"It's done in a humane manner. The pigs just fall asleep. It's important to remember that they have a limited lifespan anyway. But this is such a waste," said Rachel Schulte, a veterinarian on the Pork Producers board. "Euthanizing pigs is against everything that we work for."

Farmers have taken to selling hogs directly to consumers, said John Powers, owner of the Elmwood Locker Service.

Instead of selling the hogs to large processing plants, customers pay the farmer for the hog and then the farmer ships it to a local locker such as the one Powers owns.

But this is just a stop-gap measure because local lockers have limited capacity too.

"I'm completely booked up until April 2021, Powers said.

Unlike cattle, the swine industry has little leeway on when an animal goes to market.

Raising hogs on the modern farm is a science.

Sows are bred at precise time, farmers know when they will

give birth and approximately how many piglets will be weaned. And they know when their hogs will reach market weight.

Hogs cannot exceed a certain weight, in part, because plants do not have the machinery to handle larger carcasses. Also, consumers are accustomed to uniform-size cuts of meat.

Hog farmers, who have long taken pride in the efficiency of their industry, are now trying to slow down rather than maximize swine growth.

They are reducing the amount of protein in feed, keeping barns warmer and feeding less in hopes as packing plant capacity rebounds eventually there will be a day

they can be shipped to market.

Pete Main, an Altona farmer, said he has been using social media to sell live hogs to deer hunters and others who have the knowledge to butcher for their personal consumption.

The prospect of farmers destroying animals is dismaying. But Main said he believes

he can avoid such an outcome.

"It's a disheartening time to be raising hogs," he said. "We are in the business of raising hogs so that people go to the store and enjoy that protein."

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

VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

Government officials are working to provide a plan to the governor's office to allow the opening of local businesses locally and in the region. Do you think small businesses that have been closed should be allowed to open with restrictions? If allowed to open locally, what businesses would you visit to shop/support?

"[They] should be open. This has more to do with politics than safety. We are adults I don't need to be told when and where I can go like a middle schooler. I can make decisions for me and my family on my own based on what I think is safe."

Doug Montavon

"Yes, open them up. We should still have our freedom to choose for ourselves if we want to go out, and someone else should also has the freedom to stay in if they choose. I for one would be going out to the places. Especially for a haircut."

Becky Goffinet

"I do think they should be allowed to open with restrictions. The idea of the closures were to make sure we did not over stress the healthcare system. It was not because we thought the virus would go away. As long as there is plenty of healthcare and testing for those who do get sick, we need to reopen and keep things opening. I just hope there is some type of monitoring so if we do start to use our healthcare resources too quickly, we can react in time. We don't want lives lost unnecessarily. People should not have to choose between losing their lives and losing their homes and businesses. I would love to get a haircut and my family would like to go bowling when things open up."

Denise Lanette

"The Cypress House and its farmer's markets, Flight Deck outdoor patio, Kennay Farms, The Artist's Garden and its new cafe, Alfano's and Zepi's."

Heather JoAnn

"Absolutely allow them to open. We try to

support small businesses whenever we can."

Sarah Kulwicki

"Everyone has an opinion but remember that these restrictions have been put in place to protect the vulnerable. Opening will have to be gradual and safe."

Silene Walters

"Yes, they should be allowed to open. I would visit Expressions. I need a haircut."

Brenda Bjorneby

"Yes they should be open. Small businesses, I feel are even safer to shop in. Big stores have been packed without social distancing and some people without masks. Activities for children should also open up with limit on numbers, and social distance requirements as long as well supervised. Parents have already been allowing play dates and gatherings."

Sheryl Holden



How to contact government officials

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Washington, D.C.
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(202) 225-3635

IL Sen. Brian Stewart
M104A State House
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IL Rep. Tom Demmer
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COMMUNITY

Eighth-graders



St. Paul Lutheran School is honoring its eighth-graders with each named on a sign in front of the school.

Celebrate your little hero

Drive-thru parade to recognize young students

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE – The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce is planning a special drive-thru parade in honor of the many children affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

When thinking of those affected by the pandemic and stay-at-home order, many people first think of businesses and adult workers, but forget to think of the effects it has on children. While the effects on children may not be as dire as parents losing their jobs, it is much harder for children to understand the dangers of the virus and importance of social distancing.

“During this time, we are doing things for adults and businesses when this is probably the hardest on kids, because they don’t understand what is going on,” said Tricia Herrera, Rochelle Chamber of Commerce president. “Kids don’t understand why they aren’t going back to school, why they can’t see their friends and why they can’t play at the playground.”

The event will take place on Friday, May 22 from 6-7:30 p.m. in the Rochelle Commons parking lot. Attendees can enter from either Route 38 or through the parking lot of the 102.3 Coyote radio station. Cars will funnel in front of Central Bank, drive down one side of the parking lot and back out on Route 38.

As cars drive down the parking lot, many different “sharers” will be handing out gifts for the kids to take home with them. All social distancing and CDC guidelines will be enforced at the event and vehicles will receive a bag and a number that identifies how many children are in the vehicle to

limit contact.

The chamber is also encouraging attendees to decorate their cars, as there will be a prize basket for the best decorated vehicle voted on by the chamber board. The main goal of this event is to get the children excited and provide them with gifts to play with at home.

“We have people giving out sunglasses, glow sticks, sidewalk chalk, squirt guns and much more,” said Herrera. “All things that are bright, colorful and would make a child smile. They collect all these items and go home to have summer fun.”

The event is completely free, but anybody that would like to donate to the best decorated prize basket can do so by bringing an item or gift card of \$5 or \$10 in value. Also, any individual or business that would like to be a sharer at the event can do sign up by contacting Samantha Barkus via email at sunshinebakery815@gmail.com.

The only requirements for sharers are they bring enough items to pass out to approximately 500 kids, make sure the items are safe for kids ages 2-12, wear a facemask, use hand sanitizer between vehicles and practice social distancing. If sharers are handing out food, it must be individually wrapped and come from a health department approved business.

Sharers must also contact Barkus no later than Wednesday, May 20, to sign up for the event. The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce is hoping for a great turnout and is excited to support the children in the community.

“There is a lot of pride and caring in our community,” said Herrera. “People are always looking out for their neighbor and we want to support now more than ever, people looking out for the kids.”



FROM THE HEART DAILY CASH WINNERS

April 28 - Ashlynn Tinsley, Rochelle, \$25

April 29 - Dulce Lopez, DeKalb, \$25

April 30 - Jaleesa Pernicek, Sycamore, \$25

May 1 - Brock Sutton, Rochelle, \$25

May 2 - Glen Hughes, Dixon, \$25

May 3 - Scott Eckhardt, Rochelle, \$50

May 4 - Joy Kohler, Davis Junction, \$25

May 5 - Joan Albrecht, Amboy, \$25

May 6 - Doris Lindaas, Rochelle, \$25

May 7 - Stephanie Crawford, Rochelle, \$25

May 8 - Jessica Morris, Rochelle, \$25

May 9 - Matt Wolf, (CHS) Rochelle, \$25

May 10 - Fred & Jensine Lingenfeiter, Kingman, AZ, \$500

May 11 - Jamie Arntzen, DeKalb, \$25

May 12 - Rick Egan, Northwood, Ohio, \$25

May 13 - Richard Clayton, Compton, \$25

May 14 - Becky Brown, Rochelle, \$25

May 15 - Karen Snortland, Thornton, Colo., \$25

May 16 - Elaine Bassett, Dixon, \$25

May 17 - Bonnie Diedrich, Sulton, Wash., \$50

May 18 - Ralph Dauphin, Rochelle, \$25

May 19 - Jackie Nauman, Rochelle, \$25

May 20 - Ron Arne, Rochelle, \$25

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



Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

- 1 Comes together
- 5 Sail support
- 9 Drenched
- 12 Met melody
- 13 From the beginning
- 14 Wall crawler
- 15 Voles
- 17 Back talk
- 18 Man's hat style
- 19 Confound
- 21 First word of "America"
- 22 Gotham City super-villain
- 24 Renown
- 27 Standard
- 28 Linger
- 31 Chicken-king link

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8		9	10	11
12					13					14		
15					16					17		
18								19	20			
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31					32				33			
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41	42						43		44	45	46	
47					48	49	50					
51					52				53			
54					55				56			

- 52 Beige alterations
- 53 North Sea 9 Grain also
- 33 Mongrel feeder called water
- 34 Two-wheeler 54 Buck's mate oats
- 36 Ph. bk. listings 55 Deli loaves 10 Satan's forte
- 56 Reps.' rivals 11 Work at the keyboard
- 37 Relinquish 40 — tai
- 38 Occurrence 16 Parched 41 Walk wearily
- 40 Letter after lambda 20 Society newbie
- 2 Great Lake 42 Prefix re planes
- 3 Told a whopper 22 Frilly blouse 43 Flightless flock
- 4 Biblical dancer 23 Spheres 44 — E. Coyote weapon,
- 5 One of the Three Bears 26 "Stop fighting" 45 Warhead briefly
- 6 Blackbird 46 The Bee —
- 7 Moment 27 Teller's partner 49 Unfriendly
- 8 Make slight 50 Exist

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: R equals L

WI H SVOUC WE QVAWTU EKHYFMM
HTO JMMJKFHEJC, YHAQC KC'RR
SVEJ FPCICP JPWHR-EWBC JVQCE.

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Answer

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

G	E	L	S	M	A	S	T	W	E	T
F	I	L	D	M	I	C	E	L	I	P
F	E	D	O	A	D	A	D	L	E	
F	A	M	E	P	A	R	B	I	D	E
F	A	L	A	N	E	S	O	S	C	E
B	I	L	A	K	E	N	O	S		
P	A	N	E	L	E	N	T			
M	U									
W	I	G								
L	E	I								
C	E	I								
O	R	O								
D	O	E								

Solution time: 25 mins.

just prefer trial-size tubes.
and toothpaste, maybe he'll
if a judge is buying shampoo
answer
CryptoQuip

King Crossword

Classified Marketplace

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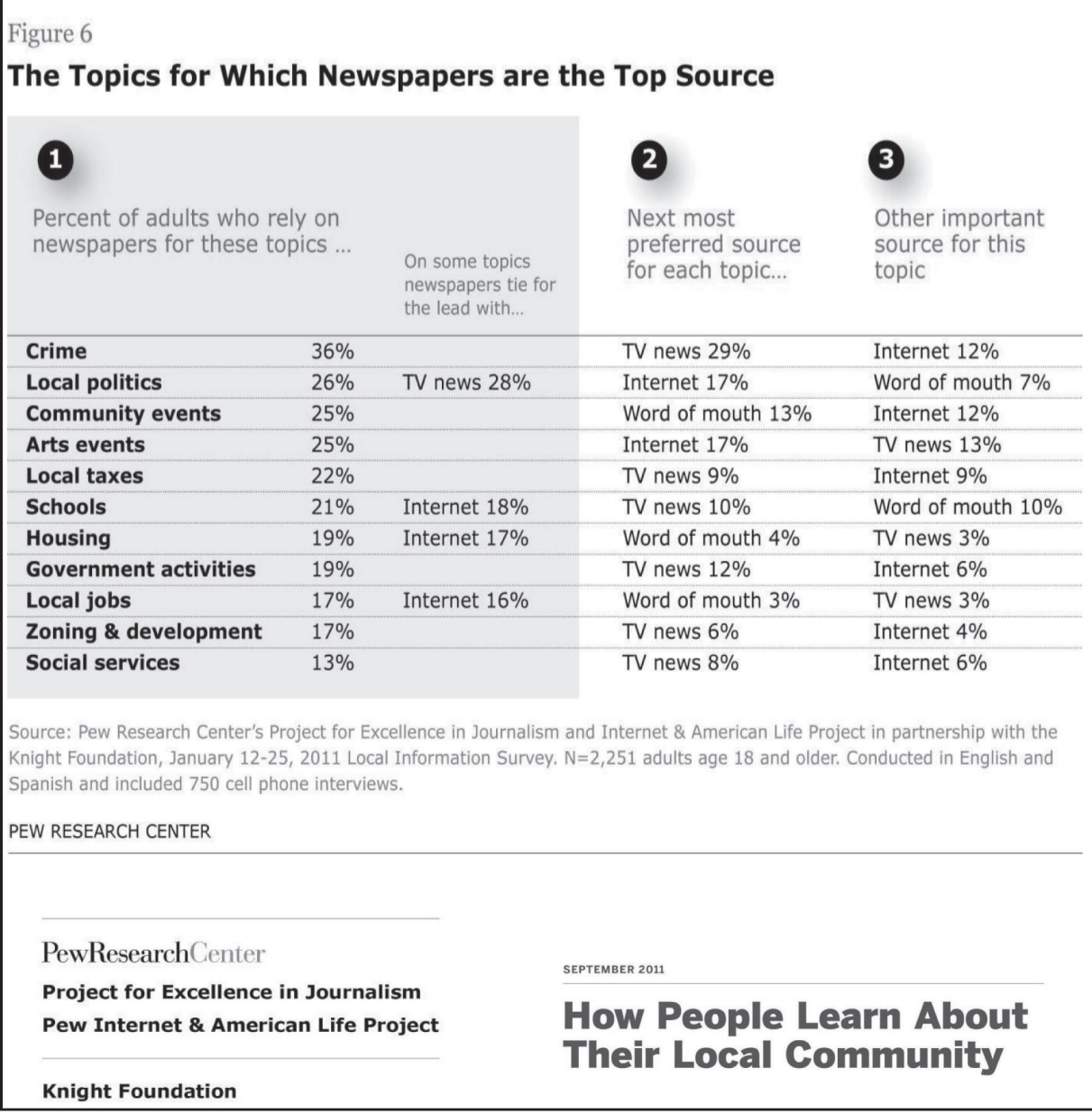
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HUB SPOTLIGHT

Park district offering online workouts

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Although fitness centers and recreation facilities across the state remain closed in efforts to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, local instructors and leaders with the Flag-Rochelle Community Park District are going virtual to help residents stay healthy and stay safe.

The park district is offering workouts and classes online through its Facebook page. Recreation supervisor TC Hager initiated the virtual campaign as shut-downs began taking effect around Illinois. Videos are posted to the Facebook page on a daily basis, and the workouts include Qi Gong with instructor Robert Sabin and biweekly fitness circuits with Hager. The park district has also partnered with Rockford Academy to offer karate with Master An, and residents looking to participate in the online classes can sign up through the park district's website.

"We had been running 3-or-4 exercise classes through Teen Town prior to all the COVID-19 restrictions taking place," Hager said. "We were waiting throughout the first month of the shutdown to see what would happen, but when we started realizing the shutdown would be in effect for a prolonged period of time, we began reaching out to our instructors and figuring out ways we could showcase our classes online... We thought it was important to reach out to the community and provide people with some resources to remain focused on their health."

Hager has been posting general strength and conditioning workouts on Tuesdays and Fridays at 9 a.m. while Robert Sabin's Qi Gong sessions are going online Mondays and Thursdays from 10:15-11:15 a.m. via Facebook Live. The karate classes with Master An are broadcasted on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 5:15-5:45 p.m. As communities around the state prepare for the third and fourth phases of Gov. JB Pritzker's Restore Illinois plan, Hager said the park district will be exploring the possibility of hosting outdoor group



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Recreation supervisor TC Hager leads a virtual workout through the park district's Facebook page.

fitness classes. "We're hoping we can get into those phases sooner rather than later," Hager said. "We're planning a scavenger hunt toward the end of May and we'll be releasing the details for that soon. We're also discussing take-home activities for kids, which is something new, and we've talked about doing some outdoor fitness classes. We had been planning to do an outdoor boot camp class at Helms Park before everything happened, so if we have the clearance to move forward with outdoor fitness, we have some plans in place to offer programming outdoors."

"... when we started realizing the shutdown would be in effect for a prolonged period of time, we began reaching out to our instructors and figuring out ways we could showcase our classes online. We thought it was important to reach out to the community and provide people with some resources to remain focused on their health."

TC Hager

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SPORTS



GOING VIRTUAL

The Flagg-Rochelle Park District is using Facebook to share online workouts.

See page 9 for more details

RTHS Football

Hubs changing course

Rochelle team beginning modified summer training program next week

BY RUSSELL HODGES
 SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—When the IHSA announced this past month that all spring state tournaments would be canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic, attention quickly turned to summer contact days and possible outlooks for the 2020-21 fall sports season. Schools around the state remain closed under Illinois Gov. JB Pritzker's stay-at-home order, and the IHSA has suspended summer contact days indefinitely. The combined restrictions have made offseason preparation difficult for fall programs including the Rochelle Township High School football team, which has seen activities slow down until restrictions are lifted. "It's had a significant impact on us on a day-to-day level," head coach Kyle Kissack said. "I'm fortunate to have some contact with our kids, but it's unfortunate that we didn't have the chance to be with the kids and grow together over the fourth quarter of the school year." With current restric-

tions in mind, the football staff has taken the creative route to jump-start its annual Hub Power summer strength and conditioning program, which will include virtual workouts for student-athletes to complete at home. Kissack said the team will meet on Thursday via Google Meet to get organized before student-athletes begin their summer workouts next week.

"We've built a program for the kids that really mimics the program we'd run during the summer, but we've made a number of adjustments based on what our kids may have available to them," Kissack said. "We think the structure of our program will give our kids the opportunity not only to develop their strength, but their speed and explosiveness as well."

The IHSA's summer contact suspension could pose issues for summer camps and practices. The football program typically holds its youth football camp and its two-week padded camp in late July. The IHSA schedule marks Monday, Aug. 10 as the



(FILE PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle football program will be taking a new approach to its summer activities after the IHSA suspended summer contact days indefinitely due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

start of the 2020 football season, but the current suspension may force the Hubs to proceed without their normal summer activities.

"Everybody in the state is in the same position," Kissack said. "We're in a holding pattern until we get clearance from the state. We're ready to hit the ground running as soon

as we get the green light, and we're planning for the opportunity to have those events, but we're at the mercy at the state. If we have the opportunity to get going, we'll be ready to go."

Kissack said the coaching staff has been in contact with its players on a daily basis. The Hubs are currently scheduled to

host Pekin for their 2020 season-opener on Aug. 28. The IHSA will hold its next board meeting on June 15 to determine what's next for high school sports in Illinois.

"I actually think that slowing down is good for our kids," Kissack said. "What's hard is that high school athletics are about the kids, and I feel bad for

the kids who weren't able to compete in the spring and who may not have the opportunity to compete in the fall. But time off isn't a bad thing either, and some kids have been playing sports every day for the last three years. Taking some time to rest, evaluate and appreciate the opportunity to compete is a good thing."

NIU Athletics

Huskies host 11th Annual Victors Award Show

DEKALB — While they couldn't gather together as one, that didn't stop the Northern Illinois University student-athletes from celebrating their accomplishments during the 11th Annual Victors Award Show broadcasted on NIU Athletic YouTube channel Thursday, May 7.

Huskie student-athletes from all over the world took part, submitting video clips and presentations that were compiled into one show. The show culminated in the always popular All Sports Video. Six repeat winners and a pair of student-athletes who took home multiple awards highlighted this year's list of 23 awards.

The NIU wrestling and softball teams were big winners on the evening. Both teams repeated as the Male and Female Victor's Cup winners, respectively. For the Huskie softball team, it was its eighth consecutive Victor's Cup award. The Huskie wrestling team also captured Male Team of the Year honors and their head coach, Ryan Ludwig, earned his second consecutive Male Team Coach of the Year award after leading the Huskies to their most wins

since 2004-05 with four Huskies qualifying for the NCAA Wrestling Championships.

Freshman Katie Keller, who was the NCAA doubles per game champion in 2019, took home Female Newcomer of the Year honors, while 2020 MAC Wrestling Freshman of the Year and NCAA qualifier Izzak Olejnik earned Male Newcomer of the Year. Another NCAA qualifier, Max Ihry, who moved up a weight class to heavyweight this season and finished fifth at the MAC Championships, earned Mr. Victor E. Huskie honors.

The men's tennis team earned Male Academic Team of the Year honors for the second straight year, while the gymnastics squad earned the Female Academic Team of the Year award.

The cross country team earned three awards on the evening, with Ashley Tutt taking home two honors. Tutt, who won the 2019 MAC cross country individual title, advanced to the NCAA Cross Country Championships and was named Most Valuable Performer at the 2020

MAC Indoor Track & Field Championships was named Female Athlete of the Year and garnered Miss Victor E. Huskie accolades. Head cross country coach Adrian Myers, who led NIU to a second-place finish at the MAC Cross Country Championships was named Female Team Coach of the Year.

Like Tutt, Ally May of women's basketball earned a pair of awards. May, who started all 23 games for the Huskies, was an Academic All-MAC selection this year and is finishing up her second degree in nursing and public health. She claimed the Unsung Huskie Hero Award for her leadership of the 2019-20 squad, and was named winner of the Female Presidential Award for Excellence.

May's teammate, Courtney Woods, who suffered a season-ending injury in 2018-19, earned the Huskie Comeback Award. Woods was a First team All-MAC selection after averaging 18.5 points, six rebounds and three assists per game this season. Another First Team All-MAC selection, football's Jordan Steckler claimed the Male Presiden-

tial Award for Excellence. Steckler, who started every game for NIU in 2019 and played nearly every snap, was also an Academic All-MAC selection and MAC Distinguished Scholar-Athlete.

The all-time leading scorer in NIU men's basketball history, Eugene German, was bestowed Male Athlete of the Year honors. The eighth All-American in Huskie men's basketball history, German finished his career with 2,203 points.

The Huskie track & field and baseball teams repeated as the Female and Male Community Service teams of the year, respectively, while Remy Amarteifo of track & field was crowned the Community Service Champion as she performed more than 136 hours of community service over the last year.

Play of the Year honors went to Enrique Banuelos of men's soccer. His golden goal helped lift NIU past Milwaukee and capture the Lewang Trophy.

Student-athletes who own a cumulative GPA of 3.5 or higher, including the 4.0 students, as well as the MAC President Award win-



ners (seniors with a 3.5 or higher) and LEaD Huskies were also recognized.

The one award not presented to an NIU student-athlete, the Huskie High Five Award, is presented to an NIU employee whose contribution to Athletics epitomizes the Huskie work ethic and dedication to student-athlete success. This year's recipient is Mike Storandt, who works in Transportation Services. Storandt goes the extra mile supporting Huskie sports teams both when he's driving them to their opponents or at home.

The awards were given for the 2019 spring and fall sports seasons, and the 2019-20 winter sports. Most awards were selected by a vote of Huskie athletic department staff, coaches and student-athletes while others were based on numerical metrics (academic and community service teams). The Victors Cup is a year-long competition based on multiple factors including community service hours, attendance at department-wide and university opportunities as well as supporting other programs.