



# ROCHELLE News-Leader

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15, 2020

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Kishwaukee College makes donations to local groups. See page 2

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WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
41 23	44 30
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
48 28	56 41

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• DARRELL RINEHART  
• PAUL YAROLEM

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## Keeping essential workers fed

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN  
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE – With help from community donations, two local businesses have set up a program to make sure essential workers are fed as they continue to work through the stay-at-home order.

Samantha Barkus of Sunshine Bakery and Tricia Herrera of Ralfie's BBQ, both located in Rochelle, have set up an online meal donation program. People go online, purchase a meal option and then the business delivers the meals to local workers. The meals are donated to any worker who is considered essential and continues to work through this pandemic.

“We have created an online website that has a couple of different options to purchase, such as lunches, cookies or pastries,” said Barkus. “The link is on the bakery page and I know the city has helped share it, as well as Ralfie's and the chamber of commerce.”

Ralfie's BBQ and Sunshine Bakery began donating meals on March 22 and will continue to do so as long as people continue to donate. Anybody who would like to donate a meal can do so online, through a link on Sunshine Bakery, Ralfie's BBQ and the City of Rochelle's Facebook pages. People have multiple options to

choose from when donating.

“So far, we have taken meals to the Rochelle Veterinary Hospital, Rochelle Community Hospital, Rochelle Street Department and a Rock River Valley Blood Drive,” said Barkus. “We have taken

meals to Stock & Field, Shell gas station, Amboy Grocery store, Americold, ALDI, Ace Hardware and other local business that remain open.”

When the meals are purchased by an individual, they are donated to workers within a day or two, depending on the amount of donations and the workers schedule. When people hear the term “essential workers,” many of them first think of police officers, firefighters, EMTs and hospital workers.

But many people forget that gas station employees, grocery store workers, factory workers and many other professions are also considered essential. While all essential workers are important during these tough times, this program focuses on feeding even the ones that may not come to mind first.

“Tricia and I came up with the idea to be able to give back to everybody who is still working,” said Barkus. “It is also a positive way for each person to do something small, that will make a big difference together.”



Immanuel LUTHERAN CHURCH  
Lindenwood, IL

19 MILES OF SOCIAL DISTANCING FOR FAMILIES  
I JOHN 4:5-10

TO HELP SUPPORT LOCAL FOOD BANK SERVICE

## Spreading passion

Local pastor raising awareness for food banks

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN  
STAFF WRITER

ONE local church pastor is using the current social distancing guidelines and his passion for running to help local food banks in need.

Matthew Rosebrock is the pastor at Immanuel Lutheran Church in Lindenwood and has also been an avid runner for almost 20 years. He was looking for a way to help raise awareness for his church's food bank, as well as other local food banks in the area.

Running is something he loves to do, so he decided to use his passion to help bring awareness and raise funds. He started a GoFundMe page titled “19 miles of social distancing for families”, the 19 miles being inspired by COVID-19. The initial goal of \$1,000 was met in the first 24 hours and the support continues to exceed all expectations.

“The initial goal was to raise \$1,000 for the food bank at our church and we have already surpassed that goal at \$1,185,” said Rosebrock. “Since we have already passed our goal, anything we collect from here on out, will go to other local food banks.”

Rosebrock will begin his run on May

3 at 1 p.m., from his home in Oregon and will run 19 miles, mainly through country roads, to the church in Lindenwood. He will then do a small loop to meet his goal of 19 miles. Along the way, Rosebrock will be posting photos and updates for people to follow along through the church's Facebook page or website at <http://immanuel-lindenwood.org/index.html>.

During these tough times, many food banks throughout the country can use all the help they can get, and this is Rosebrock's way of giving back.

For anybody who would like to contribute, they can do so through the GoFundMe page at <https://www.gofundme.com/f/19-miles-of-social-distancing>.

The best way to help a food bank is through monetary donations, every \$1 donated can be used to purchase \$8 worth of food for families.

While this fundraiser aims to help local food banks in need, Rosebrock says his inspiration comes from the love receives through Christ and spreading that love during the Easter holiday.

“For me, the motivation behind this is the love that has been shown to us in Christ, especially as we focus on this holy week,” said Rosebrock. “Because his love is for the world, we love others and seek ways to share his love.”

### CONTRIBUTIONS

GoFundMe page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/19-miles-of-social-distancing>

## Matching space grant being offered to local businesses

ROCHELLE — News Media, Inc. newspapers, the parent company of The Rochelle News-Leader, has established a \$100,000 matching space grant to help local businesses get back to full strength by subsidizing local marketing efforts through matching advertising dollars.

“We know businesses and workers here are hurting,” said Mike Feltes, RNL general manager. “We're hurting, too. But if we can pull together as a community, we can weather this. Here at the Rochelle News-Leader, we want to do everything we can to help everyone get through the pandemic and get back to work.

With these matching space grants, we can help local businesses tell their story as they rebuild.”

Businesses operating in the Rochelle market can apply for a matching grant of up to \$10,000 today at <https://rochellenews-leader.com/communitymarketinggrant/>. Applicants will receive a response to their application within one to two business days.

The matching space grant is open to all locally owned and operated businesses impacted by the coronavirus whether or not they are current Rochelle News-Leader advertisers. The matching grant can be

used for local print and online advertising in the Rochelle News-Leader and on [www.rochellenews-leader.com](http://www.rochellenews-leader.com) between April 15 and June 30, 2020.

“Community journalism is only as strong as the community it serves,” Feltes said. “As a family owned business operating for almost 45 years, we know the only way to get through tough times is to stand with our partners, customers and readers. We are proud to offer any assistance we can to locally owned businesses, which are the heartbeat of the community we publish in.”

For more information and to apply, visit <https://rochellenews-leader.com/communitymarketinggrant/>.



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# LOCAL NEWS



## Youth WORKS: Providing services to kids ages 11-24

**I**N the month of April, LSSI wants to bring awareness to National Child Abuse Prevention Month and National Crime Victims' Rights Week begins Sunday, April 19. As a community, we need to advocate together for all victims.

The Youth WORKS program was created to address the specific needs of youth in Ogle County pertaining to violence, delinquency, and access to services. In the 2018 Illinois Youth Survey, 46 percent of Ogle County eighth-graders said they had experienced one or more types of bullying in the last year and 7 percent of 10th graders report they have experienced physical aggression from a dating partner.

LSSI believes that prevention plays an important role in keeping youth safe and healthy. Services offered by Youth WORKS can be done in many different ways. Some of these options are through distribution of the Youth Resource Guide, presentations on violence prevention, parent forums, and a school curriculum for middle school and high school students called Too Good for Violence. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the services Youth WORKS provides within the schools and communities are currently on hold.

Although we cannot provide services currently, Youth WORKS is always looking for individuals that would like to make a difference in their community. Whether you are a parent, student or a resident, everyone can take part in the activities that Youth WORKS will be planning.

We are looking for individuals to participate on our Area Project Board which meets every other month and Community Committee which meets quarterly to help us keep up to date about the violence-related issues in the area.

To find out more information on the Youth WORKS program or if you would like to serve on a committee, please contact Danielle Horst with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois at 815-284-7796 Extension 4141.

*Youth WORKS is a program funded by the Illinois Department of Human Services*

## Kishwaukee College donating to local organizations during pandemic

**MALTA** — Kishwaukee College donated supplies to numerous local organizations in support of those in need and those on the frontlines during COVID-19. Multiple healthcare facilities, a food pantry and a domestic violence organization all received donations from the college in late March following the College's decision to go fully remote.

"We are grateful to be able to help our community in such at time of need," said Angie Delmont, Kishwaukee College director of nursing. "Many of our students and clinical adjuncts are working in these facilities right now. It's important that we contribute and assist as we can." The college's automotive, basic nursing assisting, dental assistant, nursing, phlebotomy and vet assistant programs along with the biology and chemistry departments pooled resources together to give.

Supplies donated included over 50 goggles, 14 cases of isolation gowns, approximately 230 boxes of gloves, 43 boxes of face masks including single use and N95 respirator masks and over 150 bottles of individual-sized hand



**Kishwaukee College makes multiple donations to local organizations to assist those in need and those on the frontlines during COVID-19. Pictured left to right, Kelly Kempson and Diana Johnson accept a food donation in behalf of HOPE of Ogle County from Kishwaukee College.**

sanitizers. Donations were made to Bethany Health Care Nursing Home and Rehabilitation Center, Center for Family Health, Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital and Rochelle

Hospital. Food from the College's food pantry, Koddy's Cupboard, and the Kish Café was given to local organizations. Instead of allowing food pantry items to expire,

the College donated those items to HOPE of Ogle County, a domestic violence agency. Perishable items from the café were donated to the Salvation Army Food Pantry in DeKalb.



## Health department identifies 27 positive cases of virus in county

**OGLE COUNTY** — On Monday, Ogle County Health Department officials identified two more positive cases of novel coronavirus disease (COVID-19), for a total of 27 positive cases in Ogle County.

One individual is in their 50s and the other is in their 60s.

On Sunday, three positive cases were identified — one adult in their 20s, one adult in their 30s, and one adult in their 50s.

On Saturday, officials identified five positive cases — one individual is in their teens, two in their 30s, one in their 60s, and one in their 70s.

Further details about the individuals will not be released to protect the privacy of the individuals and their families. All individuals who have tested positive are being closely monitored as are their close contacts.

These cases reinforce the importance of actions the public can take to protect themselves and prevent the spread in the community. The healthcare partners in Ogle County are working closely with IDPH, the CDC, and regional partners to monitor, respond, and help limit the spread of the disease.

Unless it is an emergency, officials advise individuals who think they may have COVID-19, or have had close contact with someone diagnosed or under evaluation for possible exposure, to stay home and call their healthcare provider for further direction. Close contact means having been within 6 feet of that person for an extended time or being exposed to their cough or

sneeze. Do not go to the emergency room, a walk-in clinic, health department, or to your doctor's office. Call ahead and follow your healthcare provider's instructions. Symptoms of COVID-19 include fever, cough (or other cold or flu-like symptoms), difficulty breathing and/or shortness of breath.

### What the public can do:

Stay calm. You are not alone in this, your community is here to support you. Talk to your friends and family and let them know if you are having concerns.

Stay apart. Keep at least 6 feet away from others.

Stay put. Stay home, keep non-essential trips to a minimum. In an effort to slow down the spread of the COVID-19 disease, Governor J.B. Pritzker issued an order for Illinois residents to remain in their homes starting Saturday, March 21. This statewide order means residents will only be able to leave the house for basic needs, including visiting the doctor or buying groceries, medicine, gasoline or similar supplies.

For more information about coronavirus (COVID-19), and the latest updates and guidance please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> or for local resources visit <https://coronavirus-response-ogle.hub.arcgis.com>.

For general questions about COVID-19, call the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) hotline at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

## Residents reminded to use triage line

**ROCHELLE** — Rochelle Community Hospital has activated its Coronavirus (COVID-19) Triage Line. For questions about Coronavirus (COVID-19), please call 815-561-8829 Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

You will receive screening over the phone, followed by potential

influenza and COVID-19 testing.

For those who feel they have symptoms of COVID-19 or other respiratory illness and wonder if you should be tested or be seen, stay home and call the COVID-19 Triage Informational Line at 815-561-8829.

Do not go to the emergency room. Do not go to

Convenient Care. Do not go to the doctor's office. If it is an emergency and you are in respiratory distress, please call 911 and share with them your symptoms.

For general questions about COVID-19, call the IDPH hotline 24/7 at 1-800-889-3931 or email [dph.sick@illinois.gov](mailto:dph.sick@illinois.gov).

Visit <https://rochellehospital.com/news-events/coronavirus-covid19/> for additional resources.



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**\*Summer tuition due date is now July 1, 2020.**



# LOCAL NEWS

## Helping businesses

### Council passes ordinance amendments amid COVID-19 pandemic

BY JENNIFER SIMMONS  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Assisting local businesses amid the COVID-19 pandemic has been a top priority for City of Rochelle officials and actions taken by the city council Monday night continue to do just that.

Council members voted unanimously on several recommendations that will assist local business owners amid recent closures of certain establishments as well as limited service to customers due to orders in place from the governor due to COVID-19.

Council members approved amending Article II (License), Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) of the city's Municipal Code allowing for the extension of the expiration of existing liquor licenses to Dec. 31, 2020 instead of May 31 and maintain Dec. 31 as the license expiration date going forward.

Council members also approved a resolution amending Article II (License), Chapter 6 (Alcoholic Beverages) of the Municipal Code relating to the liquor commissioner's COVID-19 Related Emergency Order 20-02.

"On March 23, Mayor Bearrows, as liquor commissioner, issued Emergency Order 20-01 regarding the temporary sale of packaged alcoholic liquor," city clerk Sue Messer read during Monday night's meeting. "This order allows liquor licensees holding a Class B, C and R to apply for an emergency package rider to permit the sale of alcoholic liquor in original package for consumption off the premises for a period of 30 days or as continued by the city council. On April 1 Gov. Pritzker issued another Executive Order suspending business operations for restaurants and bars from April 1 through April 30, 2020. The proposed resolution extends the COVID-19 Related Emergency Order 20-02 for 90 days, or until the expiration of the Governor's Executive Order suspend-



ing business operations for restaurant and bars for until the termination of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation, whichever comes first."

Council members voted 7-0 to approve the amended resolution.

The third item council members approved that benefit local businesses amid the COVID-19 pandemic involves local hotels and motels.

The proposed amendment involved suspending the city's 5 percent hotel/motel tax collection for 60 days retroactive to April 1.

"I have been approached by some hotel/motel operators about any assistance the city might be able to give during this crisis," City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said. The state of Illinois recently informed convention and visitor bureaus that they should anticipate a 40 percent reduction in tourism dollars due the current state of the economy. I am asking the council to consider the attached ordinance that will suspend the city's local 5 percent hotel/motel tax collections for 60 days."

Council members approved the amendment 7-0.

Approval of the ordinance also allows the city manager to authorize the

suspension of collections an additional 30 days if necessary. This move allows the hotel/motel operators to keep those funds to use for their daily operations.

### Other items

City officials approved engineering agreements for Phase III of the South Main Street project. This project is between Steam Plant and Steward roads at a cost of \$190,000 and Mulford Road in the amount of \$80,000.

Council members also approved extending contracts for improvements on the Rochelle Industrial Rail and the agreement between the City of Rochelle and the Burlington Junction Railway.

The contract between the city and BJR was extended until June 30, 2020.

Council members present in council chambers Monday included Tom McDermott and Don Burke along with Mayor Bearrows. All other council members — John Gruben, Bil Hayes, Dan McDermott and Kate Shaw-Dickey — were present by telephone as per the governor's order due to COVID-19. Also present at Monday's meeting was clerk Messer and city manager Fiegenschuh.

## Amboy company pays it forward

**AMBOY** — Dinges Fire Company, a locally owned business in Amboy that sells fire, EMS and rescue equipment all across the Midwest, is "paying it forward" to local organizations and businesses during COVID-19 while also striving to source and deliver much needed PPE to healthcare systems across the Midwest.

Recently, Dinges Fire partnered with Raynor Garage Doors, Johnson Tractor and the Amboy, Sublette, Compton and West Brooklyn Fire Departments and loaded up 60 plus hospital beds for KSB Hospital in Dixon Medical Surgical Floor. The hospital is gearing up for an influx of patients in the coming weeks due to COVID-19.

They have also announced they are teaming up with Kennay Farms Distilling in Rochelle and delivering hand bulk sanitizers to fire departments, hospitals, nursing homes, post offices, city government or businesses in general who are in need. Several weeks ago the local distillery temporarily changed its operations from making vodka and gin to mass producing a much-needed item, hand sanitizer.

Dinges Fire is delivering sanitizer to organizations and businesses all throughout the Midwest including Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan and other states. To order, e-mail Dinges Fire at [info@dingesfire.com](mailto:info@dingesfire.com).

Additionally, Dinges Fire is doing all it can do to support local Dixon City Fire Department firefighter/paramedic Eric Bergemann who was recently diagnosed with Stage 3 cancer, amidst everything else that is currently happening in this world. Dinges Fire has coordinated a raffle to help Eric and his young family with funds as he fights his battle. Raffle tickets are a \$20 donation and individuals have the opportunity to win one of 20 items including fire and EMS equipment to a one week stay in Jamaica that includes a maid, cook and caretaker. As of today, Dinges Fire has raised more than \$5,000. The drawing will take place on April 24.

Lastly, Dinges Fire is making it a goal to keep 100 percent of its staff working, without any layoffs. The company is abiding by the Stay Home ordinance and is all working from home. Due to COVID-19 and having 40-plus team members as active firefighters and EMS professionals, the company is working hard to ensure that all local healthcare professionals have proper PPE. Staff are sourcing and delivering much needed medical supplies and respiratory equipment all over the Midwest to ensure healthcare workers and patients are safe during this time.

"As a retired Rockford firefighter and current assistant fire chief of Sublette Fire Department, I know firsthand how tough it is right now for all healthcare professionals," said Dinges Fire Company CEO Nick Dinges.

To learn more about Dinges Fire Company, visit [www.dingesfire.com](http://www.dingesfire.com). To give back and donate to the causes the company is supporting, email [info@dingesfire.com](mailto:info@dingesfire.com).

## Federal REAL ID deadline extended to October 2021

**SPRINGFIELD** — Illinois Secretary of State Jesse White has extended the federal REAL ID deadline an additional year to Oct. 1, 2021.

The Department of Homeland Security cited the COVID-19 pandemic and the impact the virus is having on the general public and driver's license and ID card-issuing agencies nationwide. Earlier this month, White, along with other state and business leaders from around the country, called on DHS to extend the REAL ID deadline.

Current Illinois driver's licenses or ID cards will continue to be accepted at airports, military bases and secure federal facilities until Oct. 1, 2021. Once driver services facilities reopen, White is suggesting that people who want a REAL ID wait until their current driver's license or ID card is about to expire before visiting a facility to apply for a REAL ID. For those whose driver's license or ID card expires after Oct. 1, 2021, and want a REAL ID, they can use their valid U.S. passport or other TSA-acceptable documents to fly

domestically until they must renew their current card.

"The decision to extend the REAL ID deadline to Oct. 1, 2021 — a year past the old deadline — is the proper and necessary action during this time of uncertainty and crisis," said White. "I urge Illinoisans with valid driver's licenses and ID cards not to rush to our facilities to obtain a REAL ID once they reopen."

As a reminder, in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, White closed all offices, including Driver Services facilities statewide to the public, through April 30, due to the health and safety recommendations by experts endorsing social distancing efforts to minimize transmission of the virus. Many other states have followed with similar actions.

White is reminding residents that many transactions with the Secretary of State's office may be conducted online at [www.cyberdriveillinois.com](http://www.cyberdriveillinois.com). Some Secretary of State employees continue working to process these transactions as efficiently as possible.

### Sinnissippi Centers Services during the Coronavirus outbreak

Sinnissippi Centers is continuing to provide care and offer hope to individuals with a behavioral health concern during the COVID-19 outbreak.

We are taking advantage of technology and are able to use video and phone to provide most of our services at this time.

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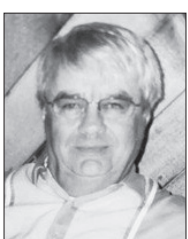


# LOCAL NEWS

## Obituaries

### Darrell Rinehart

**MOUNTAIN HOME, Ark.** — Darrell E. Rinehart passed away on Sunday, April 5, 2020, in Mountain Home, Arkansas at the age of 82.



He was born Sept. 23, 1937, in Rochelle, the son of Clyde and Edna Brauer Rinehart. He graduated from Rochelle Township High School, Rochelle. He was a machinist at Del Monte Can Plant in Rochelle for 36 years.

He married Sandra Gruben in November of

1968. In 1998, they retired to Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Darrell is survived by his wife of 51 years, Sandra Rinehart of Mountain Home, Arkansas; daughter, Kelly (Doug) Johnson of Rochelle; son, Carson (April) Van Cura of Fountain, Colorado; five grandchildren, Ryan (Melissa) Messer of Ashton, Zach Messer of Clearwater, Florida, Brooke (Jeff) Monson of Byron, Josh Perry of Fountain, Colorado, and CJ Van Cura of Florissant, Colorado; and four great-grandchildren, Parker Magne, Rhett

Monson, Landric Messer, and Josie Messer.

He was preceded in death by his parents, grandparents, and a son. Funeral services for Darrell will be private.

Memorials may be made to the Twin Lakes Walleye Club, PO Box 2625, Mountain Home, AR 72654 or Serenity Hospice and Home, 1658 Illinois Route 2, Oregon, IL 61061.

Arrangements were handled by Kirby and Family Funeral and Cremation Services - Mountain Home, Arkansas.

Visit an online obituary and guestbook at [www.kirbyandfamily.com](http://www.kirbyandfamily.com).

## Give the park district a virtual 'high five'

**ROCHELLE** — National High Five Day falls on Thursday, April 16, and the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District has found a new way for local residents to celebrate.

With shelter-in-place orders in effect around the country due to the coronavirus, the park district is encouraging locals to "Give Five" to its ENGAGE program. Donors will receive one entry into a \$100 recreation center gift card raffle drawing for every \$5 given to the program.

"Providing financial resources to those in need is going to be more important this year than ever before," park district executive director Jackie Ohlinger said. "The COVID-19 pandemic has certainly changed the operations of the park district. Like many other organizations, Monday marked the start of our



fourth week of shelter-in-place. While our physical work environment has changed, our mission to provide recreational opportunities to the community has not."

ENGAGE is a financial assistance program created to help offset the cost of programs for those who would otherwise be unable to participate. Donors can "Give Five" to the ENGAGE program and receive a virtual high five from the park district at [www.rochelleparkdistrict.com/donate](http://www.rochelleparkdistrict.com/donate).

"The importance of play in sports and recreation to our youth is vital to their development," Ohlinger said. "There are benefits like improving physical and psychological health and well-being while enhancing the formation of character and moral principles. Participating in sports and recreation can also lead to a boost in self-esteem and overall confidence that will in turn create lasting friendships."

### Paul H. Yarolem

**SAVANNA** — Paul H. Yarolem, 56, of Savanna, and formerly of Nashville, Iowa and Rochelle, passed away on April 11, 2020, from injuries received in an automobile accident on Illinois Route 84 north of Fulton.

A private graveside service and burial celebrating Paul's life will be held at a later date at Canton, Iowa Cemetery. There is no public visitation. Cremation rites have been accorded.

The Carson Celebration of Life Center in Maquoketa is caring for the family. Visit at [www.CarsonAndSon.com](http://www.CarsonAndSon.com).

## Emergency outdoor siren procedure updated

**ROCHELLE** — An Emergency Outdoor Warning Siren System is an all-hazards siren system used to warn the general population of potential danger.

Going forward, the city will sound sirens in the following situations:

Tornado Warning including radar-indicated or trained spotter sighting

Severe Thunderstorm Warning with winds 70mph or greater; whole trees down by wind; or golf ball sized hail

The emergency outdoor siren is

tested on the first Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. in a state-wide test. Sirens are intended to warn those outdoors to seek shelter immediately. It is important to have other means of notification inside your home or place of employment such as a weather radio or mobile app.

What should I do if I hear the sirens?

If the sirens are activated - and it is not a monthly siren test - the public should see it as a signal to seek shelter; tune in to radio or television to get information about type of emergency and instructions and recommenda-

tions; and

listen to your local media for indications that the emergency is over.

There will be no "all clear" signal from outdoor warning sirens. Citizens are expected to be indoors and should monitor local media for additional information. The public should not call 9-1-1 unless they have an actual emergency.

For more information on how to prepare for severe weather, visit: <https://www2.illinois.gov/iema/Preparedness/Documents/severeweatherpreparedness.pdf>

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## Man arrested for domestic battery

On April 9 at 5:11 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Owen Minard, 19, of Mount Cory, Ohio, for domestic battery. He was transported to jail.

On April 14 at 4:39 p.m., Rochelle police cited Todd Gorski, of Rochelle, for failure to report damage to property, failure to reduce speed unattended property and failure to report accident to police.

On April 14 at 1:57 p.m., Rochelle police cited Lissette Milan, 19, of Rochelle, for speeding 50 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone. She posted an I-bond and was given a June 12 court date.

On April 14 at 8:27 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Lawrence Harmon, 28, of Rockford, for domestic battery. He was transported to jail.

## All April recycling events cancelled

**OGLE COUNTY** — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department, in following the state-wide guidelines for COVID-19 restrictions, has cancelled all recycling events scheduled for April.

Both the April 18 collection event for latex paint and paper shredding and the April 24 residential electronics event are cancelled. The OCSWMD plans on holding the scheduled May residential electronic recycling events, scheduled for Saturday, May 16 and Friday, May 29, if the state-wide

restrictions are lifted.

The county annex building, at 909 Pines Road in Oregon, is currently closed to the public and no entry is permitted. No dumping of electronics or other items is permitted.

For more information regarding county recycling events and cancellations, residents are asked to call the OCSWMD office at 815-732-4020 between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. or check the county website at [www.oglecounty.org](http://www.oglecounty.org), or Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

**ROCHELLE News-Leader**

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(815) 562-4171

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# STATE NEWS

## House Republicans call for beefing up state's unemployment system

Pritzker says agency is coping with unprecedented number of jobless claims

BY PETER HANCOCK  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

**SPRINGFIELD** — Illinois House Republicans on Monday called on Gov. JB Pritzker to do more to handle the unprecedented volume of new claims for unemployment benefits coming into the Illinois Department of Employment Security, even if that means reassigning workers there from other state agencies.

"Every day, my office and my colleagues' office, Democrat and Republican, are inundated with calls and emails asking for help in filing for unemployment," House Minority Leader Jim Durkin, of Western Springs, said during a video news conference. "These are people desperately asking for help telling me they can afford to pay their rent, buy their groceries for their family."

Since the week that ended March 14, IDES has reported receiving more than half a million new claims for unemployment, due mainly to people being laid off from businesses that have been ordered closed during the COVID-19 pandemic. That number far exceeds all previous records for new unemployment claims.

Durkin was joined in the video conference by Reps. Grant Wehrli, of Naperville, and Mike Marron, of Fithian, both of whom said they have had similar experiences with constituents.

"Since the stay-at-home order has been issued, my office has been flooded with calls from constituents that have been laid off and



**House Minority Leader Jim Durkin speaks to reporters during a video conference Monday expressing frustration about the logjam of new unemployment claims at the Illinois Department of Employment Security. (Credit: Blueroom-stream.com)**

are desperate for help in filing for unemployment insurance," Marron said. "We get at least 10 people a day who call and ask, 'How can I get my application processed?' Many of these individuals were unexpectedly notified that they were out of work due to how fast the situation materialized."

The GOP news conference took place just a few hours before Pritzker's daily news briefing in Chicago in which he said IDES has been doing everything it can to handle the volume of claims coming in, including upgrading its online application system and hiring back recently-retired employees. But he said the system used to process applications wasn't designed to handle the volume of claims coming in.

"Remember that the computer system that was built to handle unemployment claims for our state was built in 2010 in the wake of the Great Recession, and it was built

with the idea that unemployment would never really exceed what we saw in 2008 and 2009," Pritzker said. "But today, we are seeing five times that number of claims."

Durkin, however, said the administration should have anticipated the flood of new jobless claims that would come in to IDES before Pritzker issued executive orders closing nonessential businesses.

"This should have been thought about and I believe that the state of Illinois has failed those Illinoisans, who have been left out, that were cut out as nonessential, but they have not been able to survive and also rely upon the state of Illinois through the Department of Employment Security," he said.

Pritzker said the IDES call center operates with a staff of 173 employees and that it recently updated its phone system to handle more calls. He also said the agency is establishing an outside call center with an additional 200 agents to field calls.

In addition, he said, the state has worked with a number of tech companies to upgrade the unemployment website to launch an automated "web bot" that can provide answers to frequently asked questions during all hours.

Since March 1, Pritzker said, IDES staff have worked a combined 6,500 hours of overtime and have processed more than 273,000 unemployment claims. That, however, is only a little more than half of the 513,000 new claims that have been filed during that time.

Since issuing a disaster declaration last month,

Pritzker has dominated the statewide news cycle with his daily briefings and updates on actions his administration has taken to slow the spread of the disease. Illinois Republicans, meanwhile, have been largely silent and supportive of Pritzker's handling of the pandemic, even as Pritzker

has doled out blistering criticism of the Trump administration for its handling of the crisis at the national level.

Monday's news conference represented the first time Illinois Republicans as a group offered verbal pushback.

"Now we hear on a daily basis from Governor

Pritzker about his frustration with the federal supply chain, and I share that frustration," Wehrli said. "But he has absolutely no oversight of the federal government. He has 100 percent oversight of IDES, the Illinois Department of Employment Security, and this needs to get fixed right now."

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# ROCHELLE News-Leader

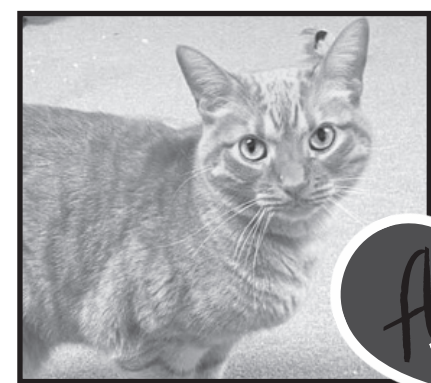
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Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from the Rochelle Police, the

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.

**Tails PET OF THE WEEK**  
Humane Society  
**815.758.2457**  
[www.tailshumanesociety.org](http://www.tailshumanesociety.org)



*Woozle*

"There's a Woozle in the house!!" I'm hoping I can say that one of these days soon and maybe, with your help, I can. Woozle is my name and I've been having a hard time finding a home because I'm shy at first. But once I feel safe and secure, I'll look for you for some lovin'. One of my charms is that you'll never know just what strange place you'll find me sleeping in. I keep to myself except when there is food involved. A shake of that box and I'll come a runnin'! If your lap is warm and cozy, I might just curl up for a snooze and some cuddles! I'd prefer a calm home without rambunctious animals or wild youngsters. Please make an appointment to meet me ASAP! All you need to do is email [info@tailshumanesociety.org](mailto:info@tailshumanesociety.org) to ask for a time.

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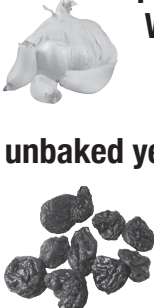
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# LOCAL VIEWS

## Guest column

# A different kind of Holy Week

**M**Y daughters didn't wear new dresses for Easter this year.

And I didn't have to arrive at church early to compete with the Christmas-and-Easter-only crowd for a place to sit.

For Good Friday, I sat in my home office in front of my computer watching my church's service. I had a glass of grape juice and a saltine next to my keyboard to participate in a virtual communion with the rest of congregation.

But the internet in my rural area is so poor that the live service kept stopping and buffering for longer and longer periods. As I waited for the broadcast to continue I nodded off.

I woke up an hour after the service was over with the juice and cracker untouched. I felt ashamed. I'd failed at even this attempt at Holy Week normalcy in these abnormal times.

Jesus' disciples had a hard time staying awake too.

I think of my Jewish friends having seders away from relatives and friends. And for Christians it was a difficult week, too. In a week steeped in tradition, it's too easy to compare.

Most of us were confined to our homes avoiding a virus. I never thought I'd live to see a day when most church doors were locked on Easter Sunday.

Of course, the church isn't a building. It is imperfect people joined by belief and love.

On Easter Sunday, I once again found myself in front of my computer hoping

this time I would get it right. There was a little bit of buffering but I rode it out and heard the sermon.

Pastor Steve said during the hardest seasons of life, God does great things.

I was left thinking of one of those hard seasons — when I stood alone in a cemetery almost seven years ago.

The preacher had spoken, the hearse had left the cemetery and my mother's coffin had been slowly lowered into the ground. My family milled around the gravestones, paying respects to loved ones long passed and I stood alone staring into the grave as workers shoveled dirt back into the hole. I thought: Is this it? You live and then you die?

Just days before I found myself sitting by my mother's bedside.

Her breathing was ragged.

I held her left hand with each labored gasp.

My dad, her husband of almost 59 years, gripped her right.

As she breathed slowly, shallowly, my dad cried out,

"Save a place for me in heaven."

Tears fell down the face of my sister, who sat at the foot of the bed.

We watched 79 years of life and an 11-year battle with breast cancer come to an end.

Our mother was gone.

I felt helpless watching the cancer take her life. The chemotherapy left her bald. Sores developed on her feet. The cancer sapped her energy. Nausea haunted her for years.

It was not an easy life.

And now death...

As I stood at her grave I thought, "Is this it? Is this all we have to look forward to?" The woman who had brought me to life is gone. I felt alone.

And then words from a hymn rolled through

my mind:

"Up from the grave He arose,

With a mighty triumph o'er His foes

He arose a Victor from the dark domain,

And He lives forever with His saints to reign.

He arose! He arose! Hallelujah! Christ arose!"

It was June, but I kept thinking of Easter.

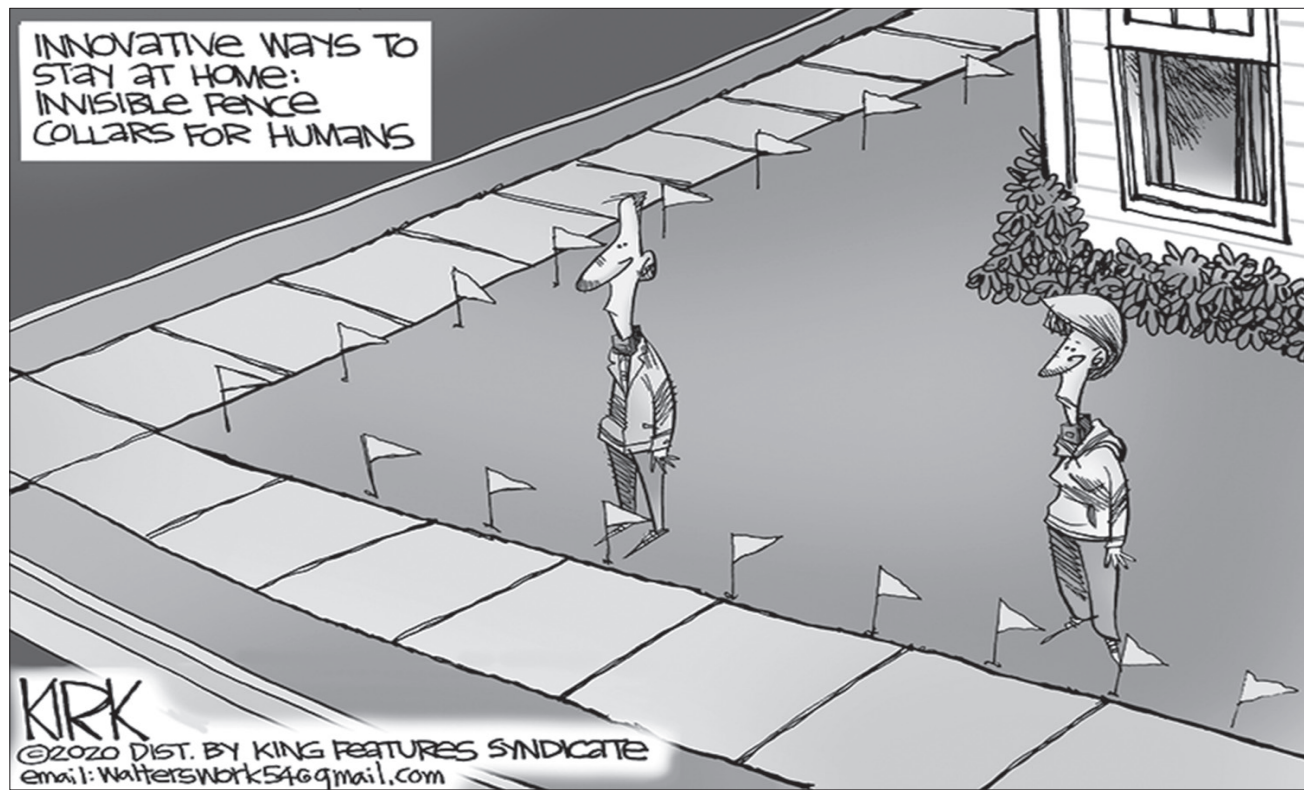
I'm not a musical person, but the song ran through my mind as each shovelful of dirt landed in the grave.

I believe I was being reminded that Jesus reigns supreme — even over death.

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



Scott Reeder



## VOICE ON THE STREET

### Question:

*In keeping with social distancing practices, we are asking our weekly Voice on the Street question here. This week's question is: What is the biggest obstacle you have come across with teaching children at home during the home school e-learning since the shelter at home order?*

*"There are many distractions at home. It's difficult to know exactly what each child is supposed to do especially when the child tells you that they did everything even when the school is communicating. Not only that, it's difficult when no one is allowed to go anywhere. There are no activities outside of the home so it's hard to motivate them to do their work. I feel like this week is even harder with the colder weather."*

Patricia Goodwin

*"Trying to get them motivated to do get onto the e-learning platforms and guide them into the activities has been frustrating for the kiddos, and as a parent. Kids behave differently in a school setting with strangers than they do in their own home, in their safe place. In the home where other tasks and activities have to be done by all members also conflict with scheduling time to complete daily assignments."*

Danielle Arrendondo

*"We don't have Internet at our house so that is our biggest challenge. The other is our high schooler has been working crazy hours and isn't getting enough work done."*

Jody Brazee



## 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  
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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

## Kishwaukee College class registration underway

**MALTA** — Kishwaukee College opened registration for summer and fall classes. The college is making changes to ensure college remains accessible during the pandemic. Summer courses will be primarily online courses due to the current COVID-19 recommendations. Kishwaukee College is planning to be fully operational this fall, with both online and face-to-face course offerings. The summer semester begins May 26 and the fall semester begins Aug. 17. The college has taken numerous proactive measures to ensure all students have access to

an education this summer. The tuition due date for summer 2020 classes has been extended to July 1, and students will not be dropped for non-payment. Students who register for summer classes and do not drop within the refund period will be responsible for tuition and fees. The college is waiving the \$25 fee for students who enroll in a payment plan for both summer and fall. Additionally, Kish is exploring other options to ensure college remains affordable throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. Online courses can help students earn their

degree and achieve their academic goal. Along with a variety of course selections this summer, Kishwaukee College offers a completely online associate degree. Summer courses can help students get closer to transfer, graduate in less time or explore a field. New students must complete a Student Information Form before registering. To learn more about online learning at Kish, visit [www.kish.edu/online](http://www.kish.edu/online). For more information about enrollment, visit [www.kish.edu/get-started](http://www.kish.edu/get-started) or contact Student Services at [onestop@kish.edu](mailto:onestop@kish.edu).

## St. Paul honor roll announced

**ROCHELLE** — St. Paul Lutheran School has announced its third quarter honor roll.

### Honor Roll

Molly Boehm, Jack Lodico, and Stella Tornabene, David Bialas Josiah Erickson, Olivia Faivre, Naleia Fonfara, Ethan Goodwin, Lydia Osborne, Evan Patrick, Mina Trandinh, Natalie Wagner, Paloma Albaugh, Isabella Biggs, Ashley Dickey, Alison Dyer, Caden Goodwin, Xavier Lepperd, Bane Workman, Johnny Chadwick, Taylor Rogers and Benjamin Miller

### High Honor Roll

Allie Dickey, Sophia Gittleson, Mackenzie Glosser, Alivia Henkel, Cale Workman, and Elin Zheng, Emma Kennay, Abby Metzger, Erin Murphy, Ali Ohlinger, Taelynn Rodeghero, Meredith Bruns, Hailey Bunker, Cambrey Rodeghero and Brody Bruns

**Birthdays & Anniversaries**

**April 16**  
Marissa Gonzalez  
James Doering

**April 18**  
Millie Danekas

**April 19**  
Pastor Angelo Bonacquisti

**April 20**  
RoseAnne  
Kersten (91)

**April 21**  
Emma Waters

**April 24**  
Lainie Arnold

### CALENDAR

#### Cancellations

• The Annual Town Meeting for Flagg Township scheduled for April 14 has been cancelled per Governor Pritzger's Executive Order 2020-22. The meeting will be suspended through the duration of the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation. The Annual Town Meeting will be held at a later date.

• These support groups **WILL NOT** be meeting at Rochelle Community Hospital until further notice:  
• Alcoholics Anonymous

• Group Hope

• Narcotics Anonymous

• Lodge rentals at the Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club will be suspended for the month of April.

• The monthly meeting the Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club has been cancelled.

### Thursday, April 23

Due to recommendations of the Ogle County Health Department, the regular monthly meeting of the Ogle County Regional Planning Commission scheduled for Thursday, April 23 has been cancelled. The next meeting of the Regional Planning Commission is scheduled for Thursday, May 21 at 6 p.m. at the Old Ogle County Court House, First Floor Conference Room #100, 105 S. 5th St., Oregon.

(Submit items for the calendar to [jsimmons@rochellenews-leader.com](mailto:jsimmons@rochellenews-leader.com))



### FROM THE HEART DAILY CASH WINNERS

- March 25 - Mike Dale, Edgerton, Wis., \$25
- March 26 - Mike & Sarah Wiseman, Latham, NY, \$25
- March 27 - Cathy Cox, Rochelle, \$25
- March 28 - George Bigelow, Kings, \$25
- March 29 - Christine Kyler, DeKalb, \$50
- March 30 - Chris Harrington, Hazel Crest, \$25
- March 31 - Dan Harper, Rochelle, \$25
- April 1 - Brandon Spandet, Fort Hood, Texas, \$25
- April 2 - Yvette Yarbrough, Dixon, \$25
- April 3 - Mary May, Amboy, \$25
- April 4 - Tammy Kettleson, Rochelle, \$25
- April 5 - Scott Rothchild, Chicago, \$50
- April 6 - Karla Steder, Rochelle, \$25
- April 7 - Marge Kuehl, Rochelle, \$25
- April 8 - Anita Bowers, Byron, \$25
- April 9 - Beth Speier, Rochelle, \$25
- April 10 - Marta Pineda, Rochelle, \$25
- April 11 - David Peak, Chicago, \$25
- April 12 - Mary Willett, Dixon, \$300
- April 13 - Cal Jacobs, Rochelle, \$25
- April 14 - Jessica Aldridge, Aurora, Colorado, \$25
- April 15 - City of Rochelle, \$25

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



## Coffee Break

### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Pythias' pal
- 6 Try the tea
- 9 Cleveland cager
- 12 Memorable mission
- 13 "— Little Teapot"
- 14 Blackbird
- 15 Make obscure
- 16 "Material Girl" singer
- 18 Bold alternative
- 20 Check
- 21 Dogtag wearers
- 23 — good deed
- 24 Founded (on)
- 25 Love god
- 27 Ill-suited
- 29 Praying bug
- 31 Tiny
- 35 Vote for
- 37 Prego rival
- 38 Start a rally
- 41 Moon vehicle acronym
- 43 — Perignon
- 44 Shaving cream additive
- 45 Cut aid
- 47 Insanity
- 49 Free of frost
- 52 Inseparable
- 53 Bullring bravo
- 54 Beetle
- Bailey's bully

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#### DOWN

- 1 Slight touch
- 2 Hearty quaff
- 3 Wisconsin's capital
- 4 Leave out
- 5 Wanderer
- 6 Ape
- 7 Apple product
- 8 Cushion
- 9 Christmas candies
- 10 Warbucks'
- 11 Food item
- 17 Speaker
- 19 Grown-up nit
- 21 Prized session
- 22 A Gershwin brother
- 24 Morsel
- 26 Spielberg or Soderbergh
- 28 In the cards
- 30 — -de-France
- 32 Fortified Portuguese wine
- 33 "But — on forever":
- 34 Summa — laude
- 36 Storage area
- 38 Pago Pago's place
- 39 Savanna grazer
- 40 Wild West show
- 42 Interior
- 45 Capri, e.g.
- 46 Approach
- 48 A billion years
- 50 Movie trickery (Abbr.)
- 51 Wet wriggler

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

### DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ♦♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ 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: O equals P

ZC UTJ OXJOWX YBX GXNYUZVQ UDX  
RXBZUI JC UDXBRJIUYUI, TJSWG ZU  
NX Y DXYUXG YBQSRXVU?

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Answer

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

Weekly SUDOKU

Answers

L	T	R	A	V	E	S	T	E	N	E	O	D	V	A	D
E	G	R	A	S	E	L	O	E	N	O					
E	C	I	E		S	S	E	N	D		M	A	V		
M	O	D													
U	I	G	A	V											
C	I	O	T												
D	E	S													
N	N	O													
A	V														
A															
L	A														

Solution time: 27 mins.

Answers

King Crossword

be a heated argument?  
ments of thermostats, would it  
If two people are debating the  
answer  
CryptoQuip





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# SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Tips for waterproofing a basement or crawl space

**W**ATER can be a homeowner's worst nightmare. Few things have the potential to damage a home as much as water. From leaks to flooding to moisture problems like mold, water can wreak havoc on a home. Basements or crawl spaces are areas of a home where water can do the most damage. Basements and crawl spaces tend to be the lowest-lying spots in a home, and therefore prime spots for water to enter. Water problems in these areas can contribute to the demise of the structural integrity of the foundation.

According to Olshan, a foundation solutions company, water can enter homes in numerous ways. Many building materials, including concrete, that seem solid at first glance actually are quite porous. As ground water collects around these materials, the weight of the accumulated water, called hydrostatic pressure, can weaken the materials, causing cracks where water can seep through. Water also can enter subterranean spaces through basement windows and gaps between footings and concrete slabs, or push up through foundation floors when homes are in areas with high water tables.

Remedying water issues in a home generally breaks down into two methodologies: exterior waterproofing and interior waterproofing. Depending on the cause and severity of the water issue, one or the other, or even both, may be recom-



mended.

### Exterior waterproofing

Exterior waterproofing aims to keep water away from and out of the home. The home improvement information resource Do-It-Yourself.com says that exterior waterproofing generally includes the application of a waterproofing agent to the concrete foundation. In addition, exterior waterproofing also could include excavation so a drainage system can be installed around the entire footing of the home. Regrading a property and properly relocating gutters and downspouts can help with many water issues.

### Interior waterproofing

When water in a basement or crawl space needs to be remediated indoors, a system to collect, drain and remove water may be necessary. This can include sump pumps, drains, gravity discharge systems, and more. Moisture barriers, which can include special

paints or products applied to the foundation walls and floor, also can help keep water from entering the space.

### Moisture solutions

Keeping water out is only one part of the equation. Homeowners also need to manage moisture, like excessive humidity. A marriage of HVAC and waterproofing techniques may be necessary to improve air flow and remove humidity in the air.

While many homeowners have attempted to address water issues on their own, many times it is a job best left to the professionals. Because water penetration can have multifaceted causes, a professional can best assess the situation and create solutions that fit with homeowners' budgets and needs. The review and advice site Angie's List suggests finding at least three waterproofing companies that offer both interior and exterior waterproofing services that can provide the best ideas for fixing the issue.



## Best methods to repair damaged driveways

**A**SPHALT and concrete driveways are common throughout suburban neighborhoods. They are as much a part of a home as lawns, decks and other exterior elements. Regardless of how they're utilized, driveways need to be cared for and maintained to retain their appearance and function.

Even the most durable driveways can suffer from cracks and pits over time. As cracks form, they pave the way for more deterioration if they are not addressed. Water infiltration can break down the integrity of the driveway during freeze and thaw periods, and any little hole or crack can promote weed growth. Driveway repair can be a do-it-yourself project, but pay attention to the details to ensure the job is done right.

### Asphalt

The home improvement resource The Family Handyman says it is key to first repair cracks and pits in an asphalt driveway before planning to topcoat it, which is generally done every year or so to maintain its appearance and durability. A variety of topcoat products are available at various price points. Experts recommend investing in a quality product that will not shrink and crack. A melt-in material that is similar to products used by highway crews can be purchased for around \$100. This product also will require use of a propane torch. Caulk-style crack repair products may not require as many tools, and are much easier to apply. They may not last as long, however. Homeowners must weigh the

pros and cons to each before beginning.

The experts at Popular Mechanics say that there also are other asphalt patch mixes available at home supply retailers. Serious holes, rather than cracks, can be addressed with a coarse-aggregate filler commonly referred to as cold patch.

After cracks and holes are filled, use a sealer to lock everything in place and create a smooth topcoat appearance. Speak with a store employee if you are unsure which product is needed for your application.

### Concrete

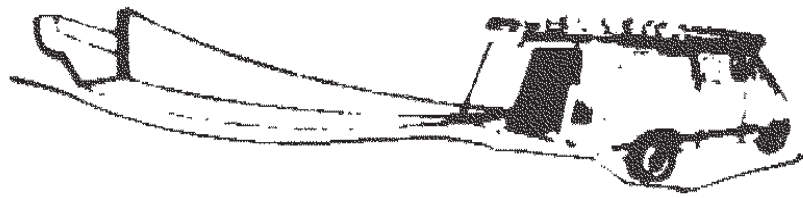
The process is similar with concrete driveways, yet the products differ. Small driveway cracks can be repaired by scrubbing out the crack to remove debris and then filling using a mortar repair compound, suggests the repair advice site Home Guides. Larger cracks and potholes should be cleaned. Once that's done, apply a painted-in bonder to the crack or hole, followed by a dry concrete patching product mixed with water. The material can be worked into the damaged area with a trowel, and then leveled using a wood board. Afterward, a liquid concrete sealer can be applied to help prevent future cracks and holes.

Homeowners who are hesitant to fix their driveways can contact masons or asphalt specialists to perform the job. Keeping up on driveway repair can prolong the life of the surface and help delay a complete driveway replacement for several years.



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# SPRING HOME IMPROVEMENT

## Valuable renovations

EACH year, Remodeling magazine publishes its “Cost vs. Value” report to give homeowners a greater understanding of how much popular home projects will cost across the nation, as well as which renovations will offer the greatest return on investment.

According to their research, these projects improved in value between 2017 and 2018 and can be smart choices for homeowners looking to add popular features to their properties. Below are the popular projects and the average cost of the renovations.

Midrange bathroom addition: \$44,717  
Midrange bathroom remodel: \$19,134  
Midrange deck addition (wood): \$10,950  
Midrange entry door replacement (steel): \$1,471  
Upscale garage door replacement: \$3,470  
Midrange manufactured stone veneer: \$8,221  
Midrange minor kitchen remodel: \$21,198  
Midrange siding replacement: \$15,072  
Midrange universal design bathroom: \$16,393  
Upscale window replacement (vinyl): \$15,955

## Did you know?

WHEN planning spring landscapes, homeowners should always group plants with similar water needs together. According to the U.S. Department of Energy, grouping plants with similar water needs together helps to conserve water, which can be an especially useful strategy if or when drought restrictions go into effect in summer. Homeowners also can embrace additional strategies to landscape with water conservation in mind.

For example, aerating soil helps to improve water flow to plants’ roots and reduces water runoff, helping to ensure that plants get all of the water they need while reducing the likelihood that homeowners will have to use excessive amounts of water to keep plants healthy.

In addition, using low-water-using types of grass can help homeowners who live in areas prone to drought conserve water while still maintaining lush, green lawns.



## When it can be smart to hire a painting pro

FEW things can revitalize a home more readily than a fresh coat of paint.

Thanks in part to the affordability of paint and its ease of application, painting is something that even novice DIYers can typically handle. According to the marketing advice guru Brandon Gaille, it is estimated that residential interior paint only lasts around three years before it needs to be updated. Exterior paint can fade, chip and peel due to various environmental factors. As a result, many homes can likely use a fresh coat of paint in at least one room.

As DIY-friendly as painting can be, when attempting to paint the interior or exterior of their homes, homeowners may learn that some painting projects are best left to the professionals. Painting requires skill, patience and a knowledge of how various paints — including finishes for

particular applications — will hold up. Novice painters may do more harm than good by dripping paint on expensive carpeting or floors or fail to recognize the nuances that indicate a spot-on painting job.

Professional painters have spent hours upon hours learning the ropes of what works — and what does not. Painters often understand that painstaking preparatory work is crucial to getting pristine finished results. Walls and ceilings must be properly repaired and prepared even before a base coat is applied.

Professional painters also have an eye for details. And because professional painters make a business out of doing interior and exterior surfaces, they understand which techniques can improve efficiency. That means a professional job can typically be completed much more quickly than a

DIY project.

Even though some people think they’ll save money by painting their own homes, that’s not necessarily true. Professionals already have all the equipment necessary, unlike novices who may need to make repeated and potentially costly trips to the hardware store for supplies. Plus, if mistakes happen, DIYers have to spend additional time and money fixing them.

Safety can be a large motivator for turning painting over to a pro. Navigating exterior areas or tall interior ceilings can be challenging and may require scaffolding or tall ladders DIYers do not have. Risk of falls or other injuries increase with lack of experience.

Painting can give a home a facelift, and oftentimes it is smart to turn the work over to professionals to ensure the job is done just right.



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ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

# SPORTS

**DANCING TO DAVENPORT**

RTHS senior Erin Decker qualified for the St. Ambrose University dance team.

See page 2 for more details

## RTHS Wrestling

# All-State honoree

Harvey earns academic recognition from IWCOA

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Rochelle student-athlete Ben Harvey earned 2020 Academic All-State honors from the Illinois Wrestling Coaching & Officials Association this season. Harvey went 40-6 overall for the Hubs, winning the Interstate 8 Conference Championship at 182 pounds and reaching the IHSA Class 2A State Championships for the second straight year.

“Receiving the honors this year was very exciting,” Harvey said. “It was very nice to be recognized for my achievements this season... What helps me balance wrestling with schoolwork are really paying attention during the school day and getting the most out of my lectures. I also do as much schoolwork as I can during the day so I can rest my mind and my body when I get home. It’s definitely a grind, but it’s well worth it.”

With the coronavirus suspending athletic and academic activities around the nation, Harvey said his current

Junior Ben Harvey shares a smile after winning a match during the IHSA State Championships earlier this year. Harvey was named to the 2020 IWCOA Academic All-State Team this season. (COURTESY PHOTO)

focus is on completing his schoolwork from home and gearing up for his senior football season. With the help of some home workout equip-

ment, Harvey said he’s doing whatever he can to stay in shape and stay prepared for his future athletics.

“It’s been really nice to

be able to lift weights at home during this time,” Harvey said. “I’m also trying to do some sprints and running to help stay in shape.”

Additionally, Rochelle athletic director Richard Harvey received a nomination for the 2020 IWCOA Administrator of the Year Award. Harvey,

who has served as RTHS athletic director for the last two years, brought home the IWCOA Class 2A Head Coach of the Year Award in 2018.

## RTHS Cross Country

# Schramm reflects on career at Webster University

Rochelle graduate planning to pursue master’s degree in biochemistry

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

For Rochelle Township High School graduate Megan Schramm, running cross country and track for Webster University was a once-in-a-lifetime experience. With her senior season now over, Schramm will be finishing her undergraduate studies and taking the next step in her academics.

Schramm competed in roughly 20 events over four years for the Webster University cross country team, helping the Gorloks win the St. Louis Intercollegiate Athletic Conference Championship in three straight seasons. Her career highlights include a personal-best 6K time during the 2017 SLIAC Championship, where she finished 25<sup>th</sup> overall in 25:46.8.

“I was worried that collegiate running would put

a lot more pressure on me than high school running, but it’s been so fun and it’s always a great challenge to push myself to run farther and run faster, all while finding my purpose for running,” Schramm said. “My coaches give great individual attention to each student-athlete, and they helped me create a great training program, which has helped me be in the best running shape I’ve ever been in.”

Schramm also recorded 5K and 4K personal bests during her 2017 campaign, clocking in at 22:11.1 during the Calvin Knight Invite and 17:43.2 at the WIU Early Bird Invitational. With the track and field program, Schramm showed her versatility, competing in multiple events over her four-year career including the 800, 1500, 1600, 3000, 5000 and 10000-meter runs. At the 2018 SLIAC Championships, Schramm finished

fifth in the 5000 and fourth in the 10000.

“My favorite part about running for Webster has been the relationships I’ve fostered on the team and throughout our conference,” Schramm said. “I’ve made some lifelong friends, both near and far. I’ll miss the moments when I’m hurting during a race and one of my competitors turns back and waves me on to catch up. No matter what, we always work together in cross country. Plus, each race is an individual opportunity to get better and I love that challenge.”

Schramm plans to continue her education after Webster University and seek a master’s degree in biochemistry in order to pursue a career in research and development. She also said she’s considering serving in the U.S Navy Reserve. She said her desire to study biochemistry stems from her interest in

(PHOTO COURTESY OF WEBSTER UNIVERSITY)

Former Rochelle student-athlete Megan Schramm is preparing to pursue a master’s degree in biochemistry after concluding up her four-year cross country and track career at Webster University.



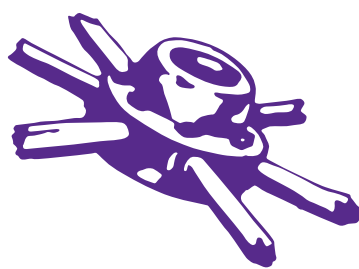


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## HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO BY MARCY DELILLE)

Rochelle senior Erin Decker will be continuing her dance career and studying nursing at St. Ambrose University next year.

## Decker qualifies for St. Ambrose dance team

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

With stay-at-home orders in place around the country to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, Rochelle senior captain Erin Decker had quite the unique experience when trying out for the nationally-ranked St. Ambrose University dance team this past month.

Because formal tryouts were canceled this past month, Decker submitted videos to the St. Ambrose coaching staff, with each video showcasing certain skills necessary to qualify for the team. The disappointment of being unable to perform live quickly faded, however, when Decker opened an email response from the team that she had earned a spot on the roster.

"When I received the email that I had made the team, I was very excited," Decker said. "It gave me a lot of confidence knowing that someone from a higher level in the dancing world was impressed with my talent... I'm looking forward to continuing my passion for the sport and creating lifelong bonds with new teammates... I didn't experience an in-person tryout this year, but I'm hoping that I will be able to experience one first-hand next year."

Decker will arrive at St. Ambrose as arguably the most accomplished dancer in

Rochelle Township High School history. A two-time All-Conference First Team performer, Decker helped lead the Chellettes to three IHSA State Championship appearances, including a sixth-place finish this season, during her four years with the program under head coach Kass Smith.

"Coach Smith helped me become the dancer I am today," Decker said. "She has been coaching me since I started competing. She pushed me every day, whether it was during practice, game days or competitions. She really shaped the dance program at RTHS and I can't wait to see the program evolve over the next several years."

Decker plans to study nursing in order to pursue a career as a trauma nurse or an emergency room nurse. Along with the university's dance program, which finished the 2019-20 season rated No. 1 in the NAIA rankings, Decker said that both the nursing program and the welcoming atmosphere on campus motivated her to choose St. Ambrose.

"Erin has been an absolute joy to work with and be around," Smith said. "She has shaped the team this year with her determination, her caring attitude and her give-it-your-all mentality. She has set high standards for the team going forward and a dancer like her doesn't come around very often. I'm so thrilled she gets to continue dancing at the collegiate level."

"I'm looking forward to continuing my passion for the sport and creating lifelong bonds with new teammates"

Erin Decker



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# SPORTS

## Northern Rehab offering telehealth virtual option for physical therapy

### Action taken in response to COVID-19

**ROCHELLE** — Physical therapy services are considered an essential health care service during the Shelter in Place order. Therefore, Northern Rehab Physical Therapy Specialists remains open and available to ensure patients receive the physical therapy treatments they need during the ever-evolving COVID-19 pandemic.

“The health of our patients, staff, and community remain our top priority at Northern Rehab,” comments Ken Olson, physical therapist and president of Northern Rehab. “While we’re still available for those patients that need us in the clinic, Northern Rehab is now offering patients the ability for Telehealth, or ‘e-visit’, physical therapy appointments for patients from the comfort and safety of their homes as an additional option.”

Once a telehealth appointment is scheduled, an e-mail invitation is sent with instructions how to proceed for the virtual appointment.

If you have not had physical therapy in a while and wish to return, remember that patients can receive physical therapy treatment without a physician prescription. This is especially important if you would like to avoid the doctor’s office or hospital at this time.

Patients can schedule a telehealth appointment at any of our four locations including DeKalb (Sycamore Road or Lincoln Highway), Genoa and Rochelle by calling Northern Rehab at 815-756-8524. Northern Rehab office staff is avail-

able to explain virtual appointments more in detail, answer questions, help you understand your insurance benefits and coverage, and schedule an in-clinic or telehealth appointment.

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or email [tgittleson@afcschools.net](mailto:tgittleson@afcschools.net). Application at [www.afcschools.net](http://www.afcschools.net) (04-15-20)

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**Address:**  
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**Mail:**  
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# Coronavirus Stimulus Guide

How the \$2 trillion CARES Act will assist local residents, businesses



## The CARES Act

- \$250 billion to make unemployment insurance available to more categories of workers and to extend the duration of benefits to 39 weeks from the 26 weeks typical in most states. It would also provide an extra \$600 a week for four months.

- \$301 billion in direct payments to households.

- \$349 billion in loans to small businesses, with the amount spent on payroll, rent or utilities converting into grants that don't have to be repaid.

- \$500 billion for loans, loan guarantees or other aid to businesses, states and municipalities—including the possibility that the government will take direct equity stakes in distressed companies. Of the total, \$29 billion is set aside for cargo and passenger airlines, and \$17 billion is for businesses deemed critical to national security, such as Boeing. The remaining \$454 billion would go to backstop losses in lending facilities established or expanded by the Federal Reserve.

- \$32 billion in grants to cover wages at passenger air carriers, cargo air carriers and contractors.

- \$150 billion in direct aid to states, distributed according to population size. A municipality could apply to receive aid directly, reducing the amount available to the rest of the state.

- \$221 billion in a variety of tax benefits for businesses, including allowing businesses to defer payroll taxes, which finance Medicare and Social Security, for the rest of the year. It would also temporarily allow businesses to claim deductions using today's losses against past profits to claim quick refunds for cash infusions.

- \$340 billion in supplemental spending, which includes \$117 billion for hospitals and veterans' care. It also includes \$25 billion mostly for public transit to make up for revenue lost because of dwindling ridership.

## Households and Workers

### Individual checks

The CARES Act provides for direct payments of \$1,200 to adults and \$500 per child to American households, structured as tax refunds to allow the Internal Revenue Service to distribute the funds quickly.

There is no provision for future direct payments in the event the economic disruption lasts into the later spring. The direct grants are phased out for upper income brackets, starting with \$75,000 of

individual income.

The grants aren't available at all, for example, for individuals without children making more than \$99,000 and married couples without children making more than \$198,000.

### Unemployed workers

The CARES Act would extend the duration of jobless benefits to 39 weeks from 26 available in most states, and includes a \$600-a-week increase for the first four months, with the bonus payment avail-

able through July 31.

These benefits would be extended to contract workers, freelancers and other nontraditional workers, who lack benefits in some states. The aim is to replace lost wages as completely as possible.

### Freelancers

The CARES Act expands some benefits and grants to independent contractors, such as Uber drivers and freelance film editors, that normally go only to employees or small businesses. For example, it extends unemployment benefits to self-employed

workers, including independent contractors, freelancers and other nontraditional workers who are unemployed, partially unemployed or unable to work because of COVID-19.

It includes a \$600-a-week increase on top of current levels of unemployment benefits for four months. Independent contractors also can apply for the \$10 billion set aside for emergency EIDL—economic injury disaster loan—funds, which are normally available only to a narrower category of small businesses.

## Personal Financing and Taxes

### Bankruptcy

According to the CARES Act, the law ensures that people who file for bankruptcy don't have to use stimulus checks to repay past debt, and it extends the time that bankrupt people have to repay a portion of their debt as a condition to getting a fresh start. The current repayment time limit is five years; the bill extends the repayment time frame to seven years.

bearance of up to 360 days to borrowers who say they have been harmed by the coronavirus outbreak. Servicers are prohibited from initiating foreclosure and processing foreclosure-related evictions for 60 days beginning March 18. Owners of multifamily properties can request a forbearance of up to 90 days, during which tenants cannot be evicted for nonpayment of rent or other fees.

### Retirement

According to the CARES Act, the law temporarily loosens the rules on hardship distributions from retirement accounts, giving people affected by the crisis access to up to \$100,000 of their retirement savings without a 10 percent penalty. The law doubles the amount 401(k) participants can take in loans from an account for the next six months to the lower of \$100,000 or 100 percent of the account balance. (IRAs don't permit loans.)

For retirees, the law suspends for 2020 the mandatory distributions the government requires most



to take from tax-deferred 401(k)s and individual retirement accounts starting at either age 70½ or age 72.

### Student loans

Per the CARES Act, the law would allow most Americans with federal student loans to suspend their monthly payments through Sept. 30, 2020, without any interest accruing. It would also enable employers to make tax-exempt contribu-

tions toward their workers' student-loan payments.

### Taxes

Under the CARES Act, people who don't itemize their deductions would be able to claim up to \$300 for charitable contributions. Businesses get the ability to apply losses from 2018, 2019 or 2020 to past years' profits and claim refunds. Restaurants and retailers would benefit from the

fixing of a mistake in the 2017 tax law that curbed their depreciation deductions on renovations.

Employers would be able to defer paying their share of 2020 payroll taxes. They could then make half of those payments in 2021 and the other half in 2022. In addition, the bill creates a new tax credit for retaining employees that's aimed at companies that are too large to benefit from the

small-business assistance elsewhere in the bill.

Those employers would be able to get a tax credit equal to 50 percent of payroll. That is limited to \$10,000 per employee per quarter, and for employers with more than 100 employees, it is available only to those companies and nonprofits that had their businesses limited or closed by government actions.



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# Businesses and Industries

## Airlines

Under the CARES Act, for passenger airlines, the bill includes \$25 billion in direct funding for worker salaries and benefits, as well as up to \$25 billion in loans and loan guarantees. The bill hews to what airlines had been asking for. Carriers had lobbied aggressively for direct grants rather than just loans, warning that without an immediate infusion of cash, they would have to make sharp job cuts.

The bill also includes \$3 billion in assistance to keep paying contract workers that provide airline catering, baggage loading, ticketing and check-in, and other services at airports. Cargo airlines will be eligible to receive \$4 billion in loans and guarantees, and \$4 billion in payroll assistance.

In exchange for the payroll grants, carriers must agree not to furlough, lay off or cut pay for employees until Sept. 30. Assistance also hinges on companies agreeing not to buy back shares or pay dividends, and to limits on executive compensation.

The package also allows the Transportation Department to direct airlines to maintain specific flights based on their schedules on March 1, before carriers had instituted the deepest cuts to their flying. This would include services to rural communities and to support delivery of health-care-related cargo.

## Banks

The CARES Act delays implementation of a new accounting rule that would have required banks to sock away reserves for any estimated loan losses all at once, instead of spreading them out over the life of the loan. The Act gives the office of the comptroller of the currency the authority to allow banks to make loans that would typically trip up size restrictions. Smaller community banks with less than \$10 billion in assets get more lending flexibility through a higher maximum leverage ratio and more wiggle room if they exceed it. Banks will also get more leeway on how they account for troubled consumer loans,



allowing them to work with struggling borrowers who have fallen behind on their payments.

## Energy

The CARES Act contains no major provisions to specifically aid the U.S. energy industry. Beleaguered U.S. oil producers had sought a range of remedies, including preferential tax treatment, direct subsidies and a \$3 billion purchase of oil by the federal government for the Strategic Petroleum Reserve. The renewable energy industry had sought extensions to tax provisions that would have helped wind-and-solar developers secure valuable tax credits even if there were construction delays.

## Farmers

The CARES Act directs more than \$48 billion to agriculture and nutrition programs, helping cushion the blow for producers reeling from the latest in a string of hits to the U.S. farm economy, as prices sank for corn, soybeans, wheat and cattle. The law designates \$14 billion to replenish the Commodity Credit Corp., a Depression-era program designed to stabilize farm

incomes, and \$9.5 billion to support producers of specialty crops, livestock and dairy, as well as those who supply farmers markets, restaurants and schools.

## Health industry

The CARES Act adds \$27 billion to an emergency fund that could give a boost to dozens of projects by pharmaceutical companies and academic groups developing drugs and vaccines against coronavirus. The emergency fund received a smaller amount of funding under a coronavirus response act signed earlier in March. There is no COVID-19 vaccine, but dozens are in development. The package allows the government to take steps to ensure that products developed with the emergency funding will be "affordable in the commercial market," but that these steps shouldn't delay development of the products.

The bill also includes provisions to increase reporting of potential shortages from drug manufacturers and companies that make active pharmaceutical ingredients, which are the building

blocks of prescription drugs. Many of these raw materials are produced overseas and drawn more attention during the virus outbreak. Companies that make respirators and other medical devices would be required to report to the federal government potential supply chain interruptions.

## Hotels

The hotel industry last week asked the White House for a \$150 billion financial-aid package, targeted specifically for hospitality companies. What it got instead from the CARES Act is a patchwork of loans, grants and tax help, much of it through the \$350 billion in loans and grants for small businesses. The majority of U.S. hoteliers qualify as businesses with fewer than 500 employees, making less than \$35 million in annual revenue.

The lodging industry even scored a victory in getting language in the Senate bill that defined each individual hotel as its own business. Hotel owners with several properties had been concerned that they would not qualify as a small business because taken together, all their properties would have

pushed them over the current Small Business Administration's definition.

The federal boost in unemployment insurance will help the many hotel employees who have been furloughed across the U.S. Larger hotel companies can apply for loans through the Treasury Department's economic stabilization fund. But few in the lodging industry expect travel to bounce back by late spring, or even soon after.

## Postal Service

Under the CARES Act, the financially strained U.S. Postal Service is getting a \$10 billion Treasury loan to help the mail carrier during the pandemic. That should be welcome news for Amazon.com Inc., United Parcel Service Inc. and, to a lesser extent, FedEx Corp., which rely on postal workers for last-mile delivery in certain places.

The Postal Service is only allowed by law to raise its net debt by \$3 billion a year, so the bill loosens that restriction. But it does come with some strings attached. Mainly, the Postal Service can only use the financing for operating expenses and not to pay down outstanding debt. The bill also requires

the Postal Service to prioritize medical shipments and allows temporary delivery points to protect workers and recipients of mail.

## Private equity

According to the CARES Act, private-equity firms will likely find it a challenge to get access to stimulus funds. Based on available details of the stimulus package, private-equity-owned businesses wouldn't be explicitly barred from receiving assistance. But government lending requirements could prevent them from unlocking the aid, say lawyers, lobbyists and regulatory experts.

## Railroads

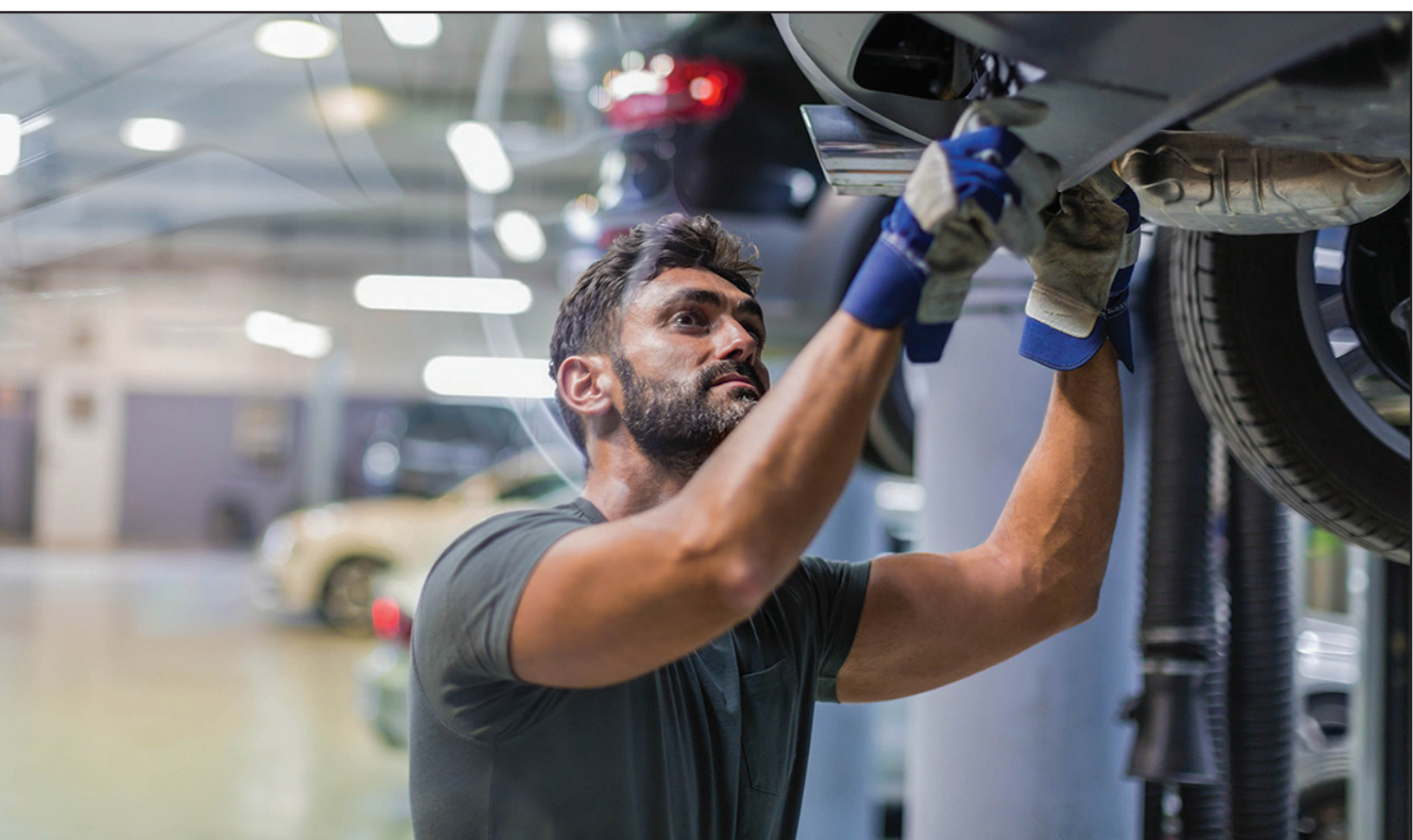
Per the CARES Act, national passenger railroad Amtrak secured about \$1 billion to cover revenue losses related to the coronavirus. The railroad industry won enhanced unemployment benefits that account for its workers not being covered under traditional state-run unemployment programs. Railroad workers instead receive unemployment benefits under a program administered by the Railroad Retirement Board.

The bill removes a seven-day waiting period to collect unemployment and provides \$50 million to cover the benefits tied to that waiver. It also provides \$425 million to double biweekly unemployment payments to \$1,200 through July.

## Small

## businesses

The CARES Act would allow businesses and nonprofits with up to 500 workers in a single location to apply through qualifying banks for loans backed by the Small Business Administration. The loans would convert into grants that don't have to be repaid for amounts spent on items such as payroll, rent or utilities, with the grants reduced when workers are laid off. The loans would be capped at \$10 million and cover wages up to \$100,000 a year.



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