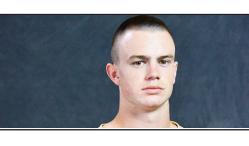
Board finalizing plans for rec center

PAGE 3





Knight recaps first season with Norwich

SEE SPORTS

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

\$1

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Course complete Svela completes banking course. See page 7

WEATHER



37 23

BY JENNIFER SIMMONS MANAGING EDITOR

OGLE COUNTY — The votes in Ogle County have been counted and Mike Rock has won the Republican Primary Election for Ogle County State's Attorney.

"I'm very happy to serve the citizens of Ogle County and am looking forward to getting to work in December," Rock said Wednesday morning. "I hope to develop a positive relationship with law enforcement and the county board as well."

Of Ogle County's 52 precincts, Rock received 3,240 votes (54.23 percent) while current Ogle



County State's Attorney Eric Morrow received 2,735 (45.77 percent).

Rock currently serves on the board of directors for HOPE of Ogle County and is currently chief of staff of the Winnebago County state's attorney office. He was first assistant to the state's attorney in Ogle County from 2010 to 2013 before being appointed interim state's attorney by the county board when Ben Roe became a judge.

Rock wins election

Rock was also previously in private practice from 2000 to 2010.

"I'm certainly disappointed in the election results, but the voters have spoken and I accept that," Morrow said. "I am proud of what our office has accomplished since 2014. I wish Mr. Rock the best and will work with him to make sure that there is a smooth transition."

In the race for District 3 of the Ogle County Board,

Daniel C. Miller won the race for the seat. Miller received 243 votes while Jamey Sulser received 119.

Other races

In the Presidential nomination race, Donald J. Trump won the Republican ballot with 5,329 votes while Joeseph R. Biden took the Democratic ballot in Ogle County with 2,274 votes.

United States Senator (Republican): Mark C. Curran Jr. -2, 081; Peggy Hubbard – 1,246; Robert Marshall – 885; Tom Carter – 740; and Casey Chlebek - 231

Delegate for National Nominating Convention

(Republican): John Cabello – 4,741; Jan Klaas -3.606

815-561-4035 Vol. 100 • No. 92

Alternate Delegate for National Nominating Convention (Republican): Susan Wynn Bence – 3,802: Larry Smith -3,795; and Judith Wooten -3,610

Delegate for National Nominating Convention (Democrat): Steve Stadelman - 2,353; Wendy LaFauce – 1,978; Amy Sipovic Boyles – 1,868; and Ashwin Puri – 1,809

District 1 Ogle County Board: Zachary Oltmanns -540 (uncontested)

District 2 Ogle County Board: Thomas K. Smith -1,028 (uncontested)

See RACES page 4

Need-to-Know Info

Coronavirus

Stay up-to-date on the latest by visiting www.rochellenews-leader.com

Restaurants operating on drive-up, delivery service

CHICAGO — As the state continues to take aggressive action to minimize the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, Governor JB Pritzker announced Sunday afternoon that all bars and restaurants in the state of Illinois will be closed to the public, beginning at close of business Monday, March 16 through Monday, March 30. "This is another hard step to take. I know how difficult this will be on small businesses around the state. But we must do everything we can to safeguard the health of the citizens of Illinois, and that requires this urgent action," said Governor JB Pritzker said Sunday. "The time for persuasion and public appeals is over the time for action is here. This is not a joke. No one is immune to this, and you have an obligation to act in the best interests of all the people of this state." "This is a make or break moment. Clear and bold actions are needed immediately to stop the spread of COVID-19 and strengthen public health in Chicago and across the state," said Mayor Lori E. Lightfoot. "In the days and weeks ahead, we will continue to keep our residents and businesses apprised of developing information, ensuring they understand







37 20



OBITUARIES

- KENNETH LEIFHEIT
- RODNEY MOREY
- JUDITH ROLLINGER
- HELEN HENERT

See page 4

INSERTS

- FARM & FLEET
- ALDI LIFELINE
- ACE HARDWARE

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Druw Reish and his dad, David, have started the **Drummers for Diabetes group.**

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN STAFF WRITER

father and son are using their passion for music to raise awareness and help others who are struggling with diabetes.

David Reish and his son, Druw, have always had a passion for music, specifically the drums. From the time Druw was 18 months old, he was

going to the drum shop that his father worked at in Colorado.

Even before Druw was 1 year old, his love for music was already beginning to show. Whether it was two wooden spoons and a pot, or literally anything solid he could get his hands on, he was

banging them together to make noise.

"I started drumming when I was not even one, my dad could always find me with two sticks playing on something," said Druw. "It could be the most random thing, but I was always beating two solid objects on something."

When Druw and his family moved to Rochelle in 2009, his father was the music pastor at the church next to their house. Druw would be at the church practicing on the drum set everyday after school.

Druw has had no formal training or classes and learned everything he knows from his dad and watching videos of drummers. His dad would play a beat and tell him to try it, then Druw would keep practicing it until he perfected it. Druw had never performed publicaly, until one day his dad needed a drummer for the church service.

See DRUM page 2

the measures we are taking and are following the latest guidance by public health officials. The City of Chicago is working to safeguard the health of our communities at every level of our operations. We are resilient, and we are all in this together."

The state is working closely with restaurant owners and food delivery services to ensure kitchens can safely remain open to continue food delivery and put in place drive-thru and curbside pickup options for restaurants to continue to serve the public.

"Public safety is the No. 1 concern of the Illinois Restaurant Association," said Sam Toia, president of the Illinois Restaurant Association. "First and foremost, we want to protect the health of our customers and team members. We remain vigilant in helping employers to navigate the immediate challenges that come with this rapidly changing situation. I want to thank Governor Pritzker and his team, and Mayor Lightfoot and her team, for leading us."

Restaurants and bars in Rochelle and the surrounding area made plans to accommodate the closures in order to be ready and in compliance beginning Tuesday morning. (See page 3 for a list of local businesses and their plans for serving the public)

See FOOD page 3







LOCAL NEWS **DRUM**: Father, son raising funds

From page 1

"One church service, my dad called me over, wrote down the beats on a blank piece of paper and asked me if I could count it out," said Druw. "He instructed me where to place my hands and feet and said, the drum kit is right out there, now go play."

Ever since then, he began playing drums for the church services every Saturday and his parents purchased an electric drum set that was his

correct size. The church band was made up of his entire family, him, his dad and both of his sisters playing the trumpet and the saxophone.

From then on, he kept adding new pieces to his electronic kit and both his drum set and passion for continued to grow. He kept practicing and improving his abilities until he was 13 years old and his diabetes started, making everything uncertain.

Being diagnosed at 13 was very shocking for him and his family, both the seriousness of the diagnosis and the cost to keep it under control. At this point, it was uncertain if Druw would be able to continue drumming or not.

"When he got diagnosed at 13, it changed everything," said David. "In drumming you exert a lot of energy."

After a marching band performance his freshman year in high school, Druw had to be taken away in an ambulance. It was after this incident that Druw decided he wanted to do something to give back to others going through similar situations.

He and his father decided to start a charity that would help musicians struggling with diabetes. They decided on the name "Drummers for Diabetes" and began making T-shirts, wristbands, a Facebook page and a GoFundMe.



It was during this time, exactly one year ago to the weekend, that Druw found out he was in diabetic ketoacidosis and got very ill. He was in a coma-state for just over a day at Rochelle Community Hospital. He was then transferred to St. Anthony's Hospital in Rockford where he stayed in the critical ICU for four days.

After four days, he was released and realized that he needed to do something for other diabetics. He and his father began creating pages for their charity through different social media platforms

and were shocked by the amount of responses from other families having to make difficult choices.

"The amount of responses from parents who would love for their kid to be able to be in marching band, but they can't afford it because they have a huge deductible or no insurance at all," said David, "So it is, do you play music or do you take care of your son or daughters' life."

Druw decided that he really wanted to do something for those kids, so they began selling T-shirts and wristbands, setting up social media pages and collecting funds. They then started to gain support from people all over the world.

We have seen photos of our shirts in Scotland and we just got one from South America," said Druw.

As the charity began to gain more publicity, organizations such as the American Diabetes Association, Juvenile Diabetes Association, and World Diabetes Day began to reach out. Through this, Druw began to realize that there are many other kids going through the same thing he is.

So, he began putting videos online of him and his band performing as well as videos of Druw performing in different competitions. One of the competitions Druw has been competing in is the Percussion Palooza in Rock

Falls.

This is a competition featuring drummers from all over the country who perform a drum solo in front of judges. There are different showcases for different percussion instruments and styles, ranging from solo, duets and trios.

For his solo performance, Druw used a 20-minute song that his dad wrote 15 years ago. He took different pieces of the song, added portions of other songs as well as a twist on his own style and used that as his performance.

He has participated in the competition for the last five years and won his showcase every year. This past year he won both his own showcase and the showcase featuring the top performers from each. For winning, he was awarded recognition as the winner, a trophy and a decorative drum head that had been hand designed.

"In the five years that he has been there, he has never scored lower than a 28 out of 30," said David.

While Druw enjoys performing in the competition, his favorite part about being a drummer is showing other kids that they can do anything they set their mind to. He wants everyone to know that a condition does not determine what can or can't be done.

"I like to tell people to never let diabetes stop your dream," said Druw.

Drummers for Diabetes is also earning funds that will be used to offer a scholarship of at least \$500. The scholarship is going to be offered during the 2021 school year for any Rochelle Township High School student who is pursuing a music degree, endocrinology (the study of the pancreas) or has diabetes and needs help funding college.

If anyone would like to donate to help support Drummers for Diabetes, they can do so through their Facebook page or GoFundMe. While David and Druw are very happy with what they have accomplished, they are far from finished.

"I am proud of what we have done so far, but we are not finished yet," said Druw.

New access restrictions announced at hospital

ROCHELLE — On Tuesday, March 17, Rochelle Community Hospital, the Family Healthcare Clinic and all outlying departments began implementing emergency measures for the safety of staff and patients. These measures will be in place until otherwise notified and include the following:

Please ONLY use the hospital's Main Entrance and Emergency entrance

Access is limited to patients requiring: **Outpatient Testing**

Convenient Care Acute Visits ONLY (these approved visits would be for minor illnesses and injuries including rash,

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sprains, UTIs, illness excluding fever and cough, etc.)

Infusion Services/Emergency Department

We have revised our inpatient visitor restrictions - no inpatient visitors under the age of 18, only one adult per patient, who is either a parent of a minor patient, patient is in hospice care or if the visitor is the medical Power of Attorney. These approved visitors must be symptom free/ no fever. You may be screened prior to entry at the Emergency entrance. ALL non-essential visitors are restricted.

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Family Healthcare Clinic

Patients wishing to reschedule Diabetes Management appointments should call 815-561-0009. Everyone else should call their provider directly. **Convenient Care**

815-562-3784.

Patients should use Second Street Entrance Only.

Patients wanting to reschedule non-emer-

gent appointments or well-visits, by calling

Multi-Specialty Clinic

Other areas of the Hospital closures:

The RCH Cafeteria is closed to the public.

RCH cashier and business office is

closed. Please mail in your payments or pay online. If you have any questions regarding billing, please call 815-561-1640.

The Health Information Management/ Medical Records Department will remain available for records. Please call ahead at 815-562-2181 ext. 2740 for assistance on retrieving your medical records. You can also register for the myRCHhealth patient portal at https://www.rochellehospital.com/ patients-visitors/hospital-patient-portal/

The RCH Auxiliary Gift Shop is closed Healthworks Fitness Center is closed Only Cardiac/Pulmonary Rehab patients are allowed.





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must have a photo ID, be able to understand English, and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a

Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Gift may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Gift card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with

any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Expires 3/31/20.

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MARCH 31 | 12 PM-6PM

LOCAL NEWS Taking final steps for rec center

BY RUSSELL HODGES STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE—At its monthly board of commissioners meeting Monday evening, the Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District continued taking steps forward in finalizing flooring, security and doorway plans for its \$14 million recreation center at Helms South.

The park board approved a bid from Seico Security allowing up to \$180,000 in funds to install security doors and cameras throughout the facility. Additionally, the park board



Park board director Jackee Ohlinger discusses pre-sale memberships for the rec center at Monday night's meeting.

approved a bid from Midwest Commercial Fitness allowing up to \$44,000 in funds to construct rubber flooring inside the rec- sure we selected quality

reation center's fitness facility. Three companies submitted flooring bids. "We wanted to make

flooring that can withstand the wear of a fitness facility," recreation supervisor TC Hager said. "We wanted to make sure it was a cost-effective solution and we want something that was aesthetically sufficient for a new fitness center. We also wanted to make sure that, with whatever layout we choose with our fitness products, that we can expand in the future. We want our flooring to support however we grow in the future."

The recreation center remains on schedule to be completed in September 2020. Electrical work is

will help arrange medical

treatment without putting

others at risk of exposure.

ment of Public Health has

a statewide COVID-19

The Illinois Depart-

currently being conducted inside the building, and painting is beginning in the aquatics area. Park district executive director Jackee Ohlinger said Monday evening that pre-sale memberships for the recreation center will be released in June.

Spring Lake

The park board approved a two-part bid from Ross Electric allowing up to \$28,000 in electrical work at Spring Lake Pool. The project will include an estimated \$11,000 to improve lighting inside the bathhouses as well

as about \$16,500 in filter room upgrades to the facility. Ohlinger said she thinks both aspects of the project can be covered by the park district's OSLAD Grant.

"One of our largest complaints from our swim questionnaires was the lack of lighting in our locker rooms," Ohlinger said. "We have wall packs on each side of the locker rooms, but no overhead lighting. Our women have complained about lighting the most, and the women's locker room has definitely been something we've wanted to upgrade."

Illinois Department of Natural Resources closes all state sites

SPRINGFIELD – To further prevent the spread of COVID-19, and in accordance with the Gubernatorial Disaster Proclamation issued on March 9, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) Monday announced the closure of all state parks, fish and wildlife areas, recreational areas, and historic sites as well as the cancellation of upcoming scheduled events.

IDNR will work tirelessly with the Governor's office and the Illinois Department of Public Health

(IDPH) to provide information as to the schedule for safely reopening our facilities.

All Illinoisans impacted by a cancellation or closure are encouraged to call the IDNR's Parks Administrative Information Line Monday through Friday at 217-782-6752. A complete listing of state sites can be found on the IDNR website at https:// www2.illinois.gov/dnr/ Parks/Pages/default.aspx or https://www2.illinois. gov/dnrhistoric/Experience/Sites/Pages/Default. aspx.



FOOD: Dining-in not an option

From page 1

Actions to protect state workforce

Gov. Pritzker also announced that he has directed state agencies to implement plans for a temporary reduction of government functions and workforce while maintaining core functions and essential operations.

Select employees will continue to report to work; while the remaining workforce will either work remotely or be asked to remain home on call while receiving pay. All state employees will continue to be paid during this period.

Over the next several days, the Pritzker administration will finalize these plans and update state employees and the public. The Office of the Governor will remain fully operational throughout this period.

Social distancing

crucial

Social distancing is the paramount strategy

Local restaurants

Abraham's Bar & Grill: Curbside pick-up for lunch and dinner with limited menu 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Arby's: Drive thru open Aldo's Pizzeria & The Red Brick Pub: Carryout and deliverv Alfano's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant: Carryout and delivery Butterfly: Closed March 17 through March 30 Casey's: Made-to-order pick up. Delivery only certain days Country School: Drive-thru open Culvers: Drive thru open Dog Hub: Curbside and delivery Dunkin Donuts: Drive thru open

for minimizing the spread of COVID-19 in our communities, and the Governor is committed to using every tool at his disposal to protect public health.

Those experiencing symptoms should call a health care provider who

El Senor De Los Tacos: Delivery or pick up at the window next to the main entrance Flight Deck: Closed until April 1 Grubsteakers: Closed The Kitchen Table: Delivery and carry out (drive-up) only on Tuesday and Thursday nights McDonalds (both locations): Drive thru open Rosattis: Delivery and curb pick-up Salt 251: Closed Subway (Dement and Illinois Route 38): Sunshine Bakery: Closed to retail sales. Scheduled pick up for business accounts. Sunrise: Closed through March 30

Taco Bell: Drive-thru open VFW: Call in lunch orders for pick up or delivery from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. 815-562-3878.

hotline and website to answer any questions: call 1-800-889-3931 or visit IDPH.illinois.gov.

> Wendy's: Drive-thru open *If unsure, be sure to call ahead for most up-to-date information at all local restaurants. Many can also be found on social media.

to immediate family only

Funeral services limited

ROCHELLE — Over the course of the next several weeks, local funeral homes will be implementing guidelines as mandated by the CDC, Governor of Illinois, and the National Funeral Directors Association due to the COVID-19 virus.

Unger-Horner Funeral Home announced they will be implementing the following public policy:

All gatherings for funerals and memorials will be limited to immediate family ONLY, and less than 10 people. No PUBLIC visitations will be held.

"We value our community we live in, and will continue to be available 24 hours a day. Please understand this is only temporary, and we hope to publicly gather in support of one another as soon as it is considered safe to do so. We will be implementing a live streaming service to allow the rest of our community to participate in the services of the families we serve. With understanding and patience, we will get through this together," Chad, Derek, Mike, Don, Fred, and Annette said in a release Monday morning.

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Delilah

Are you a patient, kind and caring person? If yes, then I'm looking for you! My name is Delilah, a bouncy and loving girl once I feel safe and secure. I'm still a pup as I will turn 10 months old in just a few days. Maybe because I'm shy I have had very few people ask to meet me. That makes me sad! I wish someone would give me a chance! I stayed in a foster home for a bit and they saw what a special girl I am. Though I like to play, once I've had some fun times in the yard or on walks, I settle down and relax. I'm a smart cookie who learns routines and commands quickly. I'm already house-trained and crate-trained. If you watched some playgroup live videos you may have seen me having a great time playing with other dogs. There were cats in my foster home and I was not aggressive towards them but I sure did want them to play with me! PLEASE come and meet me. I promise to love you til the end of time!



LOCAL NEWS

Business as usual for board

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE – With all of the schools in Illinois being closed, there was less than usual to discuss during the high school monthly board meeting. The meeting began with the principal giving his report to the board members. He informed the board that at the moment, spring break has been extended an extra week and classes have been cancelled until March 31. Before the kids were sent home for spring break, teachers were able to put together five days' worth of homework in a packet, that is also available online for those with access to computer. During this time, teachers are also available for questions via email.

Rochelle Township High School Principal Chris Lewis says he understands that everyone has lots of questions about the current situation.

"At this point in time there is a lot of questions on what is going to happen, and I don't have any answers," said Lewis.

Following the principal report was the superintendents report consisting or resignations, employment,

leave requests and re-employment. Board members passed a motion to approve the resignation request of Matt Hagermann as the WYSE coach. Next board members passed a motion to hire four new employees, Koby Stern as head girl's soccer coach, Katie Roush as assistant girls track coach, Rebekah Nicolosi as substitute bus driver and John Michael Loggins as a volunteer assistant boys tennis coach. The board then approved a motion to accept the leave request of Katie Strietelmeier who is requesting a leave for family reasons. Finally, during the superintendent's report, the board passed a motion to re-employ one first-year teacher, three, second-year teachers, three, third-year teachers, one third-year teacher that will become tenure and two, fourth-year teachers that will become

Following the superintendents report, the board members went into executive session. Following executive session, board members made the decision to expel students A and B until Jan. 1. 2022. Both students will receivealternativeplacement in lieu of expellment.

tenure.



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Obituaries

OREGON—Kenneth A. Leifheit, 85, passed away Saturday, March 14, 2020 at Serenity Hospice and Home in Oregon.

Ken was born on Dec. 15, 1934 in Aurora to Henry L. and Lillian R. (Campbell) Leifheit. After

marrying his first wife, Virginia "Jennie" (Johnson) Leifheit, he proudly served in Germany with the United States Army from 1957 to 1959 and then served in the United States Air Force Reserve stateside.

Upon returning home, he resumed his accounting clerk position at

ROCHELLE-Rodney Everette Morey, 93, passed away peacefully Thursday, March 13, 2020 in Ashton. Rodney was born on Aug. 28, 1926 to James and Pearl (Boardman) Morey in Winona, Minnesota. He married Carol Irish in Pickwick, Minnesota, on Aug. 25, 1945.

In addition to his parents, he is predeceased by his son, Scott Morey; granddaughter, Jennifer Wilcoxson; son-in-law, Larry Balk; and eight siblings, Mosey Morey

ROCHELLE—Judith "Judy" Ann Rollinger, 73, passed away peacefully with her family by her side Tuesday, March 17, 2020 at her home.

Judy was born on March 6, 1947 to Clyde and De-

Shopping around for car insurance? Don't.

Kenneth Leifheit

NIcor(formerly NIGas) and welcomed the birth of Sharon Leifheit of Metamora, and Sandra (Andrew) Bell of Plano.

Ken attended Our Savior Lutheran Church in Aurora, enjoyed golfing, and was an avid car enthusiast with his rebuilt dragster in the garage and his 1965 Ford Mustang in the driveway.

Ken married Judy Hill Stran in 1970 and had a son, James (Kristi) Leifheit of Leavenworth, Washington, and daughter, Kaycee (Paul) Chadwick of Rochelle. They designed and built a duplex before building a home outside Elburn.

Ken received his B.S. in Accounting and tran-

Rodney Morey

(Stillborn), Florella Jane Morey, Olive Lenora (Peggy) Morey, Loran Morey, James Oscar Morey, Gertrude Morey, Joseph Gilbert Morey and Belvadine Lorraine Morey.

Rodney was a great family man. His children were his delight. Seeing people come to know Christ as their savior was a true passion of his. Rodney loved the great outdoors. He was an avid hunter and fisherman. Rodney loved gardening and oil painting. He also

Judith Rollinger

loras (Kersch) Burrows in Dubuque, Iowa. She married Edward Joseph Rollinger on Sept. 11, 1965 in Dubuque, Iowa.

Judy touched the lives of many people in the Rochelle area. She worked as sitioned to a financial analyst role at Nicor. He was an active member of Grace Lutheran Church in Lily Lake and enjoyed camping, traveling, biking and fishing.

Ken married Marie M. Grabarek in March of 1987 and, after his retirement from Nicor in 1992, moved to a small hobby farm in Soldiers Grove, Wisconsin. He served as the Commander of the Boscobel American Legion Post. He also enjoyed his work with the Muskets and Memories Civil War re-enactment committee including researching and publishing the journal of their events. Ken is survived by his

four children; brother, Gene (Joan) Leifheit of

spent time volunteering at the Franklin Creek Gristmill.

Rodney is survived by his two daughters, Sharon Balk of Olathe, Kansas, and Patricia (Rodney) Frye of Ashton; five grandchildren, Elysha Frye, Matthew (Courtney) Frye, Brandyn (Jessica) Frye,

Amy (Patrick) Jacolenne and Rebecca Balk; and five great-grandchildren, Evan James Frye, Jaden, Triniti, Liam and Jenna

a nurses aide at Rochelle Community Hospital for 26 years. She also worked with hospice and local nursing homes. Judy had a

big heart and was one of the most caring people you would ever meet. She was selfless and always put the well being of others first. She was very family oriented and proud to be

able to witness the birth of

her four great-grandchil-

dren. Judy was a loving

and devoted wife, mother,

her daughter, Ann (Steve)

Osborne of Rochelle; two

grandchildren, Chelsea (Josiah) Christensen and

Steven Tyler (Alexandria

Ethridge) Osborne; four

great-grandchildren, Joc-

elyn, Jotham, and Joanna

Christensen and Ivorie Os-

Judy is survived by

and grandmother.

Oswego; four stepchildren, Scott Grabarek, Heidi Campbell, Svea Bylsma and Paul Grabarek; and grandchildren, Michelle (Joe) Spielman, Brittany (Brian) Boukal. Nathanial (Erika) Mayer, John, Joey, Jimmy, Jacob and Justin Chadwick, Arielle (Kyle) Nichols, Reilly Campbell, Sam (Taylor) Campbell, Keegan Campbell, Gia Campbell, Sydney Kopp, Arthur Patrick, and Noble Grabarek.

In addition to his parents, Ken was preceded in death by his wife, Marie, on Sept. 8, 2019.

Service and burial are private.

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

Bracey.

A private graveside service will be held Friday, March 20 at the

Ashton Cemetery with Pastor Doug Cowan and Pastor Farrel Stauffer officiating.

Memorials can be made to the First Baptist

Church of Rochelle or Franklin Creek Gristmill, Franklin Grove.

An online guest book is available at ww.ungerhorner.com.

borne; three sisters, Bonnie (Terry) Maas, Tammy (Ken)Plowman, and Linda (Jack) Plowman; and one brother, Danny (Kathy)

> Burrows. In addition to



her parents, Judy is preceded in death by her husband, Ed, and two brothers, Clyde Burrows Jr. and Timothy Burrows. Due to public health concerns, there will be a private funeral Mass at St. Patrick Catholic Church on Friday, March 20 with Father Ruben Herrera officiating. Burial will follow the service at St. Patrick Cemetery. Contribution in Judy's memory may be directed to Serenity Hospice and Home. Please visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.



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Helen Henert

ROCHELLE—Helen Henert of Rochelle, formerly of rural Ashton, passed away March 9, 2020.

Services for Helen have been postponed at this time. Please visit www.beveragefamilyfh.com for up to date information.

RACES: Election results

From page 1

01032019

District 6 Ogle County Board: Larry Boes -

District 4 Ogle County Board: David R. Williams - 622 (uncontested) District 5 Ogle County Board: Donald Griffin - 804 (uncontested)

546 (uncontested)

District 7 Ogle County Board: John W. Finfrock – 668 (uncontested) District 8 Ogle Coun-

ty Board: Marcia Heuer - 753 (uncontested)



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Online at www.rochellenews-leader.com

LOCAL NEWS Woman cited for obstructed view

On March 15 at 12:43 a.m., Rochelle police cited Josalyn M. Fode, 29, of Rochelle, for driver view obstructed. She issued a promise to comply. Her court date is set for April 17.

On March 15 at 2:53 p.m., Rochelle police cited Jordan A. Munoz, 21, of Rochelle, for disobeying a stop sign and not having insurance. On March 15 at 10:11 p.m., Rochelle police cited Christian Oropeza, 20, of Rochelle, for speeding 55 m.p.h. in a 30 m.p.h. zone. He issued a promise to comply. His court date is set for April 17.

On March 15 at 9:43 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Donald J. Bingham, 63, of Rochelle, for criminal trespassing. He was transported to jail.

Deputies make several outstanding warrant arrests

On March 13 the following people were arrested for Ogle County outstanding warrants:

Jean A. Bennett, 46, of Rockford, for failure to appear. Bennett had a bond of \$2,230 and was given a reduction bond at court. Bennett was given a \$1,000 recognizance bond.

Milo H. Gibson, 30, of Chicago, for failure to appear and suspended driver's license. Gibson has a bond of \$581 and \$5,000/10 percent. He was scheduled to appear in court March 16.

March 14

On March 14 at 9:50 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop in the area of Penn Corner Road and Butternut Road, for a traffic lane violation. After a brief investigation, Ogle County Sheriff's deputies arrested Jacob Bieber, 27, of Byron, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Jacob was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On March 14 at approximately 11:50 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies responded to a car in the ditch at the intersection of Illinois Route 2 and Kennedy Hill Road. After a brief investigation, Ogle County Sheriff's deputies arrested Tanner Iglima, 19, of Winnebago, for driving under the influence of alcohol and possession of alcohol by a minor. Tanner was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

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.

National Guard activated

BY GREG BISHOP

THE CENTER SQUARE

SPRINGFIELD — The Illinois National Guard has been activated to help in the state's response to COVID-19.

On Monday, Gov. J.B. Pritzker issued a new executive order impacting restaurants and bars and other places with gatherings of 50 or more people such as bowling alleys, fitness centers, and theaters.

Illinois' local governments will be first to enforce the governor's executive orders.

State health officials have confirmed 105 cases of the novel coronavirus that has since been declared a pandemic. Gov. J.B. Pritzker issued a disaster declaration last week that activated the National Guard.

On Monday in Springfield at the State Emergency Operations Center, the governor said some in the National Guard members have medical backgrounds and can help expand triage if needed.

"The National Guard can help with some of that, either putting up tents or being part of the provision of equipment," Pritzker said.

Such tents, or temporary shelters, would help with patient intake to prevent medical facilities from being overburdened.

Several law enforcement officials expect the National Guard to be used to enforce court-ordered isolation of certain individuals if those numbers were to increase beyond what local law enforcement agencies were able to handle.

Pritzker said he wants communities to manage themselves.

"There are few people who want to resist and want to talk about resistance against it, but I think, at this point, the public is kind of reigning in those outliers," Pritzker said.

As of Monday afternoon, there were 105 positive cases throughout the state. More than 1,000 negative tests conducted. No fatalities have been reported in Illinois.

The governor's Executive Order 2020-07, issued Monday, states private establishments are not permitted to allow on-site food or drink consumption "including restaurants, bars, grocery stores, and food halls."

"Such businesses are permitted and encouraged to serve food and beverages so they may be consumed off-premises ... through means such as in-house delivery, third-party delivery, drive-through, and curbside pick-up," the order said.

Hotels may continue to provide room service and catering services may continue, according to the order.

Illinois Municipal League Executive Director Brad Cole said he expected municipalities to uphold the governor's executive order of shutting down bars and restaurants.

"We are seeking compliance," Cole said. "We are not seeking enforcement, but we will be there to support the governor entirely as we get through this process."

As to whether other businesses such as gas stations or pharmacies would be ordered to temporarily close, Pritzker said that was unlikely.

"I cannot anticipate, I do not anticipate that. We'll be doing anything that will prevent people from getting into their own car if they absolutely need to," Pritzker said. "I would suggest that people stay home, but they may need to go to a grocer, or they may need to go to a doctor perhaps, so we're not going to prevent any of that."

The governor said he couldn't predict what future steps might become necessary to "flatten the curve" of new coronavirus cases.

The governor's order prohibited gatherings of more than 50 people, which would include "venues such as fitness centers/ health clubs, bowling alleys, private clubs, and theaters."The order explicitly said it does not include "venues that provide essential goods or services such as grocery stores, hospitals, pharmacies, gas stations, banks/ credit unions, and shelters."

The order also encouraged public bodies to postpone public business where possible and use video, audio or telephonic communications for meetings.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Jerome Adams said solutions weren't going to come from the federal government, it's going to come from a community level.

The federal government put out guidelines that said people should obey state and local guidelines.

Adams said the next several weeks would be difficult, but things would get better with help from everyone in the country.





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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Accommodate workers with childcare needs

G WHY don't you just order your wife to look after your daughter?" I'm rarely at a loss for words, but when a man who is no longer my boss said that

to me, I was left speechless.

What I should have said is, "I don't

order my wife to

do anything." Instead, like most working parents I just kept my mouth shut. My wife and I have an arrangement, when we have a sick child we take turns staying home and looking after her.

I thought it was a pretty equitable agreement. After all, my wife is employed, too.

My boss didn't see it that way. He viewed caring for a sick child as something an employer should not be concerned with.

(He'd also grumble about women taking maternity leaves while, at the same time, he'd send them flowers and congratulations from him and his wife.)

Charming fellow. To be fair, I've also had some understanding bosses over

the years who really worked to accommodate family needs. When I was supervising reporters and editors I tried hard to do this as well.

Today, I'm blessed to be self-employed and work from a home office. And my daughters can just stay home with me if they aren't feeling well. But I haven't forgotten what it was like to be stuck with a less than understanding boss.

desk saying Illinois schools will be closed at least until the end of March because of coronavirus concerns.

I imagine the news had some children dancing a jig and more than a few parents

scratching their heads.

Who is going to look after the kids? Some kids have nearby grandparents or other relatives who **Scott Reeder** can step into the gap. But not all families are so blessed. This means parents will need to take time

off work. And that is easier said than done.

Several decades ago, I took management training and was told by a human resources director: "Sick days are to be used for when employees are sick – not their children."

This forced many employees to lie about who was really ill if they had to stay home with a feverish child.

It would be easy to paint the bosses as the bad guys in this mix. But life is seldom so black and white.

Oftentimes, managers would make Herculean efforts to accommodate employees with child-care issues. Of course, this had to be done on the downlow because corporate policy dictated that it wasn't something they were to be concerned with.

But how do you make those accommodations and keep everyone happy? You can't

is keen on canceling plans or eating the cost of tickets to concerts or sporting events.

But in a time of crisis, like we are experiencing today, a little extra grace needs to be extended. It may mean filling in for a co-worker who is home looking after a child. If you are a middle manager, it may mean advocating for the needs of your employees.

And if you are a senior manager, it's time to acknowledge that family issues are also corporate ones.

After all, no employee should have to choose between pleasing a boss or caring for a child.

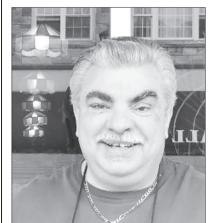
Scott Reeder is a veteran statehouse journalist and a freelance reporter. ScottReeder1965@gmail. com.

VOICE ON THE STREET

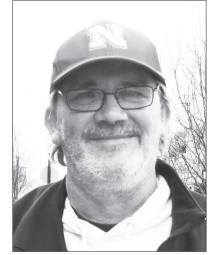


Question:

What are your thoughts on the state mandated closures due to precautions of the Coronavirus?







I was thinking about that Friday, when an email came across my

At the time I was single and childless. And I became a go-to guy to fill in for the night and weekend shifts of workers who stayed home caring for their kids. Looking back, I'd like to think I was magnanimous about helping out. I wasn't always. After all, no one



"I think that it is absolutely necessary to keep everyone and everything safe. We have to come together, show some kindness and we will get through this."

Aldo Barone



"I think that it is stupid to take all of the kids out of school. They are going to find a place to get together and hangout anyway. So, might as well have them be together at school."

"Some of it, like nursing" homes I understand, they are trying to keep the elderly safe. But, other things I don't really understand." Steve Von Seggern

tball@hillcrestil.us

Linden Smith

How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

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* Denotes Chairman/President

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

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

COMMUNITY

Svela graduates **Future Leaders** Alliance

ROCHELLE—Brandon Svela, Assistant Vice President of Commercial/Ag Lending at Rochelle's Central Bank Il-

linois branch. has graduated from the Future Leaders Alliance offered through the Illinois Bankers Association.

The graduation commencement washeld during the IBA's annu-

al ONE Conference at the Embassy Suites in East Peoria on March 6. The 13-month FLA program is dedicated to enhancing the professional development of promising bank leaders through three primary components: education, community service and networking.

Participants were involved in comprehensive training, which involved attending educational sessions and performing local community service. The education sessions covered core topics such as Leadership and Influence, Team Building, Coaching, Service Leadership, Collaboration Skills, Financial Marketing and Branding, Legislative Process, Presentation Skills, Accounting for Bankers, Asset Liability Management, Regulatory Hot Topics, Cyber Security, executing an online banking simulation and more.

"Brandon is a bright,

young leader in our bank. This is a great leadership program through the Illinois Bankers Association that will provide him with

additional skills further enhancing his service to his customers and the community. Brandon is truly an asset to Central Bank Illinois!"JeffGlen, Market President for the Ashton/ Oregon/Rochelle branches of Central Bank stated.

Svela is a life-long resident of the area, graduating from Rochelle Township High School and Illinois State University. He currently serves as a board member on Rochelle Area Chamber of Commerce and Rochelle Young Professionals and is actively involved in many other community events.

"The FLA program through Illinois Bankers' Association is an excellent program that helps bankers improve leadership qualities as well as other necessary skills to further their careers," Svela said. "I look forward to using the information I acquired to help better serve our customers and the bank for years to come."

The Illinois Bankers Associate is a full-service trade association dedicated to creating a positive business climate that benefits the entire banking industry and the communities they serve.

CALENDAR

Wed., March 18

1:30 p.m. - Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at St. Patrick's Learning Center, 903 N. Caron Road. (every Wednesday)

Thu., March 19

4:30 to 7:30 p.m. -Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu is chicken bacon ranch kabobs, sausage and chicken kabobs, veggie rice and salad. The kids menu is peanut butter and jelly, corn dog with chips or chicken nuggets. *Menu is subject to change. A \$5 donation is suggested.

Sat., March 21

9 a.m. to noon — Chana-Family Clothes Closet at **Chana United Methodist** Church is open the first and third Saturday mornings from 9 a.m. to noon. The closet is bursting at the seams. New donations are being hung weekly. They currently have a large variety of children's clothing from infant to teens. They also have a very nice selection of adult clothing. They are currently starting to bring out spring clothing to update the selection. All of the clothing is offered at no cost and everyone is welcome. If the Saturday hours are not convenient, give the church a call at 815-732-7683 to set up another time.

Mon., March 23

5 to 6 p.m.— Rochelle Christian Community free Monday supper for all in need. The supper is served at St. Patrick Parish Center, 244 Kelley Drive.

6:30 p.m. – Group Hope meets in the RCH Health



FROM THE HEART DAILY CASH WINNERS

March 4 - Sarah Moris (CHS), Rochelle, \$25 March 5 - Melissa Folkers, Sterling, \$25 March 6 - Dorothy Lockard, Creston, \$25 March 7 - Danielle Worley, Chana, \$25 March 8 - Linda Thompson, Rochelle, \$50 March 9 - Joan Bakken, Rochelle, \$25 March 10 - Madlyn Parks, Franklin Grove, \$25 March 11 - Amy Ritter, Rochelle, \$25 March 12 - Mari Fout, Rochelle, \$25 March 13 - Melissa Stacy, Byron, \$25 March 14 - Tom Remsen, Rockford, \$25 March 15 - Gary Bunger, Ashton, \$50 March 16 - Steven Truckenbrod, Rochelle (CHS), \$25 March 17 - Robert Eckhardt, Rochelle, \$250 March 18 - Bettye Chadwick, Rochelle, \$25

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

& Wellness Center Conference Room. Provides support with depression and bipolar disorder. Affiliated with the Rock River Mental Health Association. (every Monday)

6:30 p.m. — The annual meeting for Woodlawn Cemetery will be held in the Creston Village Hall.

Please don't put new flowers out until May 1 so it can all be cleaned without mistakenly throwing out new things. There will be a community cleaning of the cemetery with a date yet to be determined. Anyone interested in helping please call Lyle at 815-762-8257 and he will let you know when

and also answer any questions.

Mon., March 23 through Thu., March 26

6 p.m. to 8:15 p.m. — Crossroads **Community Church** will host Children's Easter Eggstravaganza for children ages 5 through fifth grade. Please RSVP at www. crossroadsrochelle.com.

Cancellations

 These support groups WILL NOT be meeting at Rochelle Community Hospital until further notice:

Alcoholics Anonymous

• Group Hope Narcotics Anonymous Also, the community presentation "Your Foot Health is Important" scheduled for Tuesday, March 31 has been canceled.

 The State of the **Community Dinner** scheduled for Thursday, March 19 has been cancelled.

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

(Submit items for the Community Calendar to jsimmons@rochellenewsleader.com)

HEALTH UPDATE

News-Leader YOUR #1 LOCAL NEWS SOURCE: cancellations & up-to-date information

Online at www.rochellenews-leader.com



Coffee Break

Weekly SUDOKU by Linda Thistle



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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: ◆

Challenging Moderate HOO BOY!

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CryptoQuip

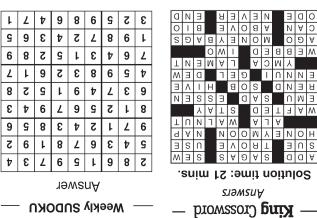
This is a simple substitution cipher in which each letter used stands for another. If you think that X equals O, it will equal O throughout the puzzle. Solution is accomplished by trial and error.

Clue: L equals D

FABK WTZNL B XYGTY XYQEGLQDK'E

LQDKZYQE VQ WBNNQL?

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proposal

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2022" on the lower

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District of Rochelle,

right to reject any or all

At the discretion of the

District, firms submitting

requested to make oral

presentations as part of

the evaluation process.

It is anticipated the

selection of a firm will

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101 LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE Oale-Lee Fire Protection District **REQUEST FOR** AUDIT PROPOSALS I. INTRODUCTION

A. General Information Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District

The Ogle-Lee fire Protection District is requesting proposals from qualified firms of certified public accountants to audit its financial statements for the fiscal vears ending April 30, 2020, 2021, and 2022. The District may negotiate an extension of these services for the two (2) subsequent fiscal years at the end of the three-year term. The audit is to be performed in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards, the standards set forth for financial audits in the General Accounting Office's (GAO) Government Auditing Standards (1994), the provisions of the federal Single Audit Act of 1984 (as amended in 1996) and the U.S. Office of Management and Budget (0MB) Circular A-133. Audits of States. Local Governments and NonProfit Any Organizations. special compliance and reporting requirements of the State of Illinois for Tax Increment Financing Districts

shall be followed. reserves without There is no expressed or implied obligation to reject any or for the Ogle-Lee Fire proposals.

103 AUCTIONS

LARGE EQUIPMENT AUCTION

Almburg Auctioneering Inc. Will Be Conducting A Consignment Sale Located At 907 State Rt. 251, Compton, IL. 12 miles south of Rochelle, Illinois or 12 miles North of Mendota, Illinois on Rt. 251. (Watch For Almburg Auction Signs)

SATURDAY MARCH 28th Starting at 9:30 a.m. CONSTRUCTION EQUIPMENT; CAT D5H LGP DOZER W/ 13FT WAY BLADE, WIDE TRACK, GREAT RUNNING CONDITION; DEERE 85D EXCAVATOR LONG STICK, 24" BUCKET: YANMAR C50R RUBBER TRACK DUMP TRUCK W/ 7FT DUMP BOX, DIESEL RUNS GREAT; LOTS OF SKID STEER QUICK TACH ATTACHMENTS FROM FORKS TO AUGERS, ROCK BUCKETS, GRAPPLES ROOT RAKES & OTHERS; DEERE 762B 11 YARD ELEVATOR SCRAPER, RUNS & OPERATES GREAT; KALMAR P30 FORKLIFT. PNEUMATIC TIRES, 3K LIFT, 21 FT 3 STAGE MAST, SIDE SIFT, LP GAS; GENIE Z-40/23N ARTICULATING BOOM LIFT, 2WD, BATTERY POWER, HARD TIRE, 40FT LIFT; WE WILL HAVE SEVERAL BOBCAT CANNIBALIZED SKID STEERS, SELLING FOR SCRAPE OR PARTS. 4, KAWASAKI KWT40 4" FULL TRASH PUMPS, 287cc GAS MOTORS.

No. 0326 (Mar. 18) Protection District to

respondina PUBLIC NOTICE firms for any expenses incurred in preparing Public Notice is hereby proposals in response given that on February 28, 2020, a certificate was filed in the Oale inquiries concerning the request County Clerk's Office proposal should setting forth the names be addressed to Carl and post office address Treasurer of all of the persons of the Ogle-Lee Fire owning, conducting and transacting the busi-Protection District of ness known as: Marco's considered Garage, 810 S. 7th St., copies of Rochelle, IL 61068. Dated: February 28, must be received by the 2020

Treasurer by April 1, Laura J. Cook, 2020. Late proposals Ogle County Clerk will not be accepted. No. 0309 (Mar. 4, 11, Clearly mark proposals 18)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 6, 2020. a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as: MNL Bookkeeping & Tax, 821 N. 11th St., Rochelle, IL 61068. Dated: March 6, 2020 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0317 (Mar. 11, 18, 25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 6. 2020, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and

transacting the business known as: Olivia's Veracruzanos Cuisine, 7161 S. Sunflower Ln., Rochelle, IL 61068 Dated: March 6, 2020 Laura J. Cook. Ogle County Clerk No. 0318 (Mar. 11, 18, 25)

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Public Notice is hereby given that on March 6, 2020, a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons ownand ing, conducting transacting the business known as: Todd Talks Real Estate, 9501 E. Flagg Rd., Rochelle, IL 61068. Dated: March 6 2020 Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk No. 0319 (Mar. 11, 18, 25)

PUBLIC NOTICE

TAX DEED NO .: 2017TX17 FILED: 2/28/2020 TAKE NOTICE County of Ogle Date Premises Sold: November 2, 2017 Certificate No.: 2016-00047 Sold for General Taxes of (Year): 2016 Sold for Special Assessment of (Municipality) and Special Assessment Number: N/A Warrant No.: N/A Installment No.: N/A

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Property Index No.: 24-12-304-009 This notice is to ad-

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12, 2020. amount to redeem is subject to increase at 6 month intervals from the date of sale and may be further increased if the purchaser at the tax sale or his or her assignee pays any subsequently accruing taxes or special assessments to redeem the property from subsequent forfeitures or tax sales. Check with the County Clerk as to the exact amount you owe before redeeming. This notice is also to advise you that a petition has been filed for a tax deed which will transfer title and the right to possession of this property if redemption is not made on or before August 12, 2020. This matter is set for hearing in the Circuit Court of Ogle County in

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113 FINANCIAL

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News

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105 **BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES**

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113 FINANCIAL

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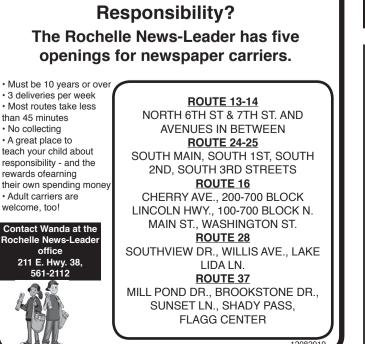
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WE SUPPORT OUR HUBS!

HUB SPOTLIGHT Knight balancing football, military time at Norwich

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

B ALANCING football and military obligations was initially challenging for Rochelle Township High School graduate and former All-Conference honoree Noah Knight. Since beginning his freshman year, however, Knight has formed a second family with his Norwich University teammates, and he'll be seeking to play a larger role on the football team next season.

Like many freshmen in the Norwich University program, Knight played on the junior varsity team and served a scout team role this year, learning the system as a strong safety. The former Hub student-athlete said he plans to switch positions next season, moving to outside linebacker where he'll earn more time in the starting defensive rotation and on special teams.

"It was a big adjustment not only playing college football, but also playing for a military school and balancing my military obligations," Knight said. "But the brotherhood here is like no other. We are all going through the same hard training and we all count on each other to get through everything. We are a family out here."

The JV team played four games this season, while the varsity team played a full 10-game schedule, finishing 5-5 overall. Knight said he's put on at least 20 pounds of good weight since arriving on campus in Northfield, Vermont, but he said he wants to continue getting stronger in the weight room. He also said he wants to study more film as he transitions to his new position. "I think I improved in learning how to play the game and how I study film and our playbook," Knight said. "I want to continue getting better in the weight room, and I need to understand and study outside linebacker more to make myself that much better."



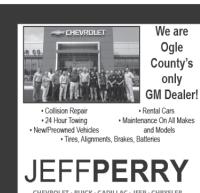
(PHOTO COURTESY OF NORWICH ATHLETICS)

Former Rochelle football player Noah Knight played on the junior varsity team at Norwich University this season.

were not on the football field, but fulfilling his military obligations, some of which included early mornings and late nights. While it hasn't been easy, he said the bonds he's formed with his teammates have made the experience much better.

"The biggest adjustment for me





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Knight said his biggest challenges

wasn't playing football," Knight said. "The biggest challenges have been the Corps of Cadets training program and the Naval ROTC program, which include 5 a.m. wake-ups and not getting to bed until I'm done catching up on homework at 1 a.m. This lifestyle isn't easy, but the family I have here makes it all worth it."

"It was a big adjustment not only playing college football, but also playing for a military school and balancing my military obligations. But the brotherhood here is like no other. We are all going through the same hard training and we all count on each other to get through everything. We are a family out here."

Noah Knight



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SPORTS

RTHS Football

Ricketts reflects on successful freshman season

Former Hub linebacker eager to work up from Central College scout team

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

Conference honoree Greg Ricketts described his first season with the Central College program as chaotic, but in a very good way.

Ricketts and the Dutch enjoyed a successful 2019 campaign, finishing 10-2 overall and winning the American Rivers Conference Championship. Central College reached the secondround of the NCAA Division III Championship, upsetting Wisconsin-Oshkosh in a thrilling 38-37 overtime affair before falling against thirdranked Wheaton College.

The regular season included a 57-56 overtime upset over seventh-ranked Wartburg College, where both teams combined for 16 touchdowns and over 1,200 yards. Ricketts said both overtime victories have been some of the most memorable moments of his football career.

"Our games against Wartburg and Oshkosh were by far the two crazi-

est games I've ever been a part of," Ricketts said. "We ended up with a conference championship and a playoff berth, but the journey along the way was crazy... My football knowledge is leaps and bounds ahead of where it was in high school. We put so much time into our meetings and our scouting, and as a result, I've approached playing defense much differently than I did in high school."

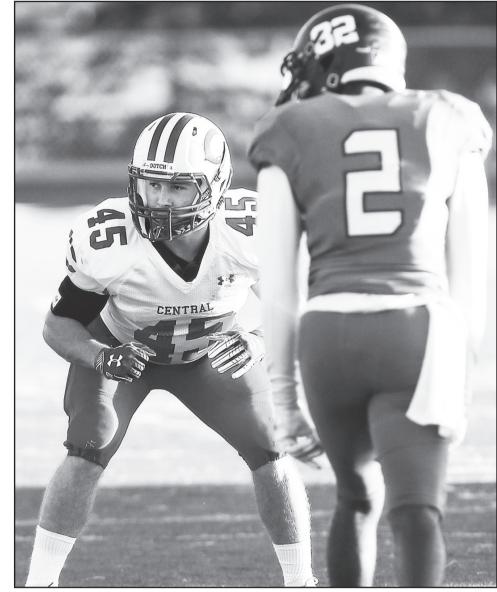
Ricketts played a defensive scout team role with the Dutch this season. The former Hub linebacker said he hopes to earn a role with the varsity team next season, whether it's on defense or special teams. He said the biggest adjustments he's had to make since graduating high school have been in preparation and training camp.

"I had a lot of good players ahead of me this season and I learned a lot from them," Ricketts said. "My goal right now is to get better every day through my diet, my actions and my workouts. As far as how the season went, I loved the togetherness of

the program. We eat, sleep, work out and go to classes together, and the actions of one player is always reflected on the rest of us. It's just really cool to be a part of this program."

Central College will kick off the 2020 season at home against Hastings College on Sept. 5. Ricketts said his biggest areas of improvement this season included his physicality and using his hands. He also said he wants to continue working on his tackling.

"I feel that I was able to adjust to the college game fairly well, but there were definitely some changes," Ricketts said. "Camp is the best example in that we'd wake up around 6 a.m. and work until 11 a.m. The amount of time we put into practicing and scouting is far different than what we did in high school... As far as improving in the future, my tackling can always get better and I need to focus on that because I'm useless if I'm in the right spot, but can't make the tackle, so I plan to keep working on that in order to become a consistent and solid tackler."



(COURTESY PHOTO) Former Rochelle football player Greg Ricketts had a chaotic, but enjoyable first season with the Central College program in Pella, Iowa.

T-Byrd Lanes



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Local league bowlers take home special honors

T-Byrd Lanes recognized several local league bowlers with special awards recently. Scott Brock and Conner Geske each took home Bumper Bowler of the Week (19) honors, while Parker Phelps was named Bumper Bowler of the Month (February). Levi Waddle and Sergio Ramos were both awarded Youth Bowler of the Month (February). Three bowlers including Josh Moser, Kylie McCullough and Landyn Dummer received Youth Bowler of the Week (18) honors. The bowlers are pictured above in order, with their awards, from top left to bottom right.

HELLO, SPRING

Great activities to embrace this spring

(MCG) — Spring arrives in the Northern Hemisphere on March 19, bringing with it visions of more hours of sunshine, warmer temperatures and ample opportunities to embrace the great outdoors.

Come mid-March, people who live in climates marked by cold winters have no doubt been anticipating spring fun in the sun for some time. Once spring arrives, the following make for some great activities.

Sports

Come spring, various sports fill up afternoon and weekend schedules. Whether these are professional sports or youth sports leagues, the games can be a great way to spend time outdoors in the fresh, suddenly warmer air.

Visit an orchard

Spring is a season when many berries, such as strawberries, blackberries, and blueberries, begin to ripen. Find your local pick-your-own establishment to spend a day having fun (and getting a little messy) grabbing sweet berries for salads, jams and pies.

Hit the links

It's time to dust off the clubs and play the greens at any of the thousands of golf courses in North America. The National Golf Federation says the United States is home to around 15,000 courses. The warmer temperatures are ideal for practicing your short game on the putting green or for playing all 18 holes.

Get the patio ready for entertain-

ing

the deck or patio and invest in some quality furniture to keep guests comfortable.

Plan a vacation

Many schools go on a hiatus for a week or two during the spring, prompting otherwise busy families to get away for some R&R. Book early to score the best deals on hotel rooms and flights.

Prepare

gardening equipment

Before long, the grass will need mowing and the shrubbery will have to be pruned. Ensure that lawn and garden tools and equipment are in top form before they are called into action. Stock up on fuel for gas mowers and sharpen those pruning shears.

Visit a local garden

Enjoy the sights at a garden when the first spring blooms start to peek out of the soil. Spring is known for tulips, daffodils, crocuses, and snowdrops.

Give your bike a tune-up

Take your bike out of storage and give it a once-over. Now is the time to put air in the tires, grease the chain and make sure that the brakes and other equipment are working properly. Most bike helmet manufacturers recommend replacing helmets every three years, even if you haven't been in a crash. That's because the polystyrene foam can degrade over time from environmental exposure.

Visit a farm

How to prevent crabgrass

EW things can give a home exterior that sought after wow factor as well as a nicely maintained lawn. A lush green landscape is a great way to show pride in home ownership and improve curb appeal.

As many homeowners know, lawns are under constant attack. The elements are rarely easy on lawns, and watchful eyes must always be kept open for other problems that can plague a lawn, including crabgrass.

Crabgrass can be a formidable adversary in the summer months. According to the Penn State College of Agricultural Sciences, crabgrass begins as seeds. These seeds germinate in spring or early summer. While crabgrass dies after the first hard frost in fall, crabgrass seeds remain dormant in winter, and the seeds then grow again in the following spring when ground temperature warms up. Without action to prevent crabgrass seeds from germinating, homeowners will likely end up with patches of crabgrass throughout their lawns every summer.

The home improvement retailer Lowes® notes that a healthy lawn is the best defense against crabgrass. The healthier a lawn is, the harder it is for unwanted grasses like crabgrass to thrive. The following are a handful of strategies that can promote a healthy lawn and make it more difficult for unsightly crabgrass to establish itself in the months ahead.

•Keep grass_ at a consis-tentlength, and don't cut too low. Maintaining a consistent length of grass by mowing at regular intervals can make it hard for crabgrass to thrive.

Crabgrass requires ample sunlight to germinate, so grass that is not cut too short may keep crabgrass from growing in. Of course, grass should not be allowed to grow kneelength, either. By raising blades to the mowing height appropriate for their type of grass, and mowing at regular intervals so the grass remains at that height through the summer, homeowners can promote healthy lawns and make it harder for crabgrass to germinate.

• Never cut too much of the blade off of the grass. When mowing, don't cut too much of the blade off the grass with each cut, even if the grass seems especially long. As noted, cutting too low allows sunlight to reach crabgrass seeds. But cutting too much off the blade, even if the grass is still high after a mow, can injure the grass. Injured grass can make lawns more vulnerable to weeds and crabgrass.

• Apply a pre-emergenceherbicide. Pre-emergence herbicides kill germinating grass seedlings before they emerge from the soil. Follow the manufacturer's instructions regarding when and how much herbicide to apply. If crabgrass has already started to grow, it's likely too late to apply a pre-emergence herbicide.

Crabgrass is an unwelcome invader in many lawns. Spring can be a great time to prevent this unwanted guest from returning this summer.

Clean off patio furniture or start shopping for new items if you didn't partake in end-of-season sales. This is just the start of the outdoor entertaining season, and it pays to refresh

Many farm animals give birth in the spring. Children may be excited to see piglets, foals, kids, and all the other adorable young animals draw their first breaths.







WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2020

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 1 • PAGE 12



CHAOS AND EXCITEMENT

RTHS alum Greg Ricketts enjoyed his first season with the Central College team.

See page 10 for more details

RTHS Athletics

Prep sports on hold

All practices, games canceled through March 30 amid COVID-19 concerns

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — As health organizations locally and around the country continue implementing guidelines to prevent the spread of the coronavirus, studentathletes and coaches in the Hub City are waiting to see what comes next.

Following recommendations from the Ogle County Health Department, Rochelle Township High School athletic director Rich Harvey announced the cancellation of all athletic events through March 30. Additionally, Illinois Gov. J.B. Pritzker announced this past week that all schools would be closed through that same date, meaning student-athletes are unable to practice with their respective programs according to IHSA guidelines.

While the IHSA hasn't made a decision regarding of RTHS athletic events beyond March 30 are to be determined. In the meantime, coaches and student-athletes are staying prepared in the event they are able to return to practice and compete once again.

championships, the future

"I feel for our kids who have put in a lot of hard work," head baseball coach Jarrod Reynolds said. "I'm sure that it's disappointing for the seniors to have this happen, but this is bigger than baseball. I think it's important that we listen to the health experts... We communicate with the players using an app, and I have been sending them a Thought of the Day so they are at least thinking about baseball a little bit."

"We told the girls to do their best to stay in shape during the suspension," head girls soccer coach Koby Stern said. "Obviously, we are disappointed to not be playing. The girls, Brad [Male] the entire spring sports The girls, Brad [Male] said. "We have posted affirmed that student- about our fundraiser. I YouTube t season and its spring and I were really look- optional workouts online athletes cannot practice want them to practice and more."

ing forward to the season starting and seeing where we were as a program... It makes us sad as a team because we had been working so hard to prepare, but we understand it was necessary, and we'll be ready when we return."

Rochelle's boys and girls track and field teams are the only spring sports programs to have competed thus far. The Hubs took second in the DeKalb triangular meet on Feb. 29, while the Lady Hubs finished fifth in the Sycamore Invitational on March 10. Both teams will have to wait until the outdoor season to compete again, however, with all remaining indoor events canceled including the 2020 Illinois Top Times State Championships.

"We're telling kids to do what they can at home while remaining safe and following the school's guidelines," head girls track coach Alison Vrana said. "We have posted for the kids to use. As of right now, our season is up in the air, but we always train for May and we'll continue training for May... Mr. Harvey has given us great support and we're grateful for him and his continued communication with us as we receive more information."

"I'm not surprised about the cancellations," head boys track coach John Dobbs said. "I've posted some workouts online that the kids can do. I've suggested the kids do the workouts, but they aren't required. If they don't feel comfortable doing the workouts, that's fine with me. We're at the mercy of whatever happens with this virus." The IHSA released

an additional statement Tuesday, which says that March 30 remains the target date for spring sports to resume. However, while sports remain cancelled, the IHSA reaffirmed that student-

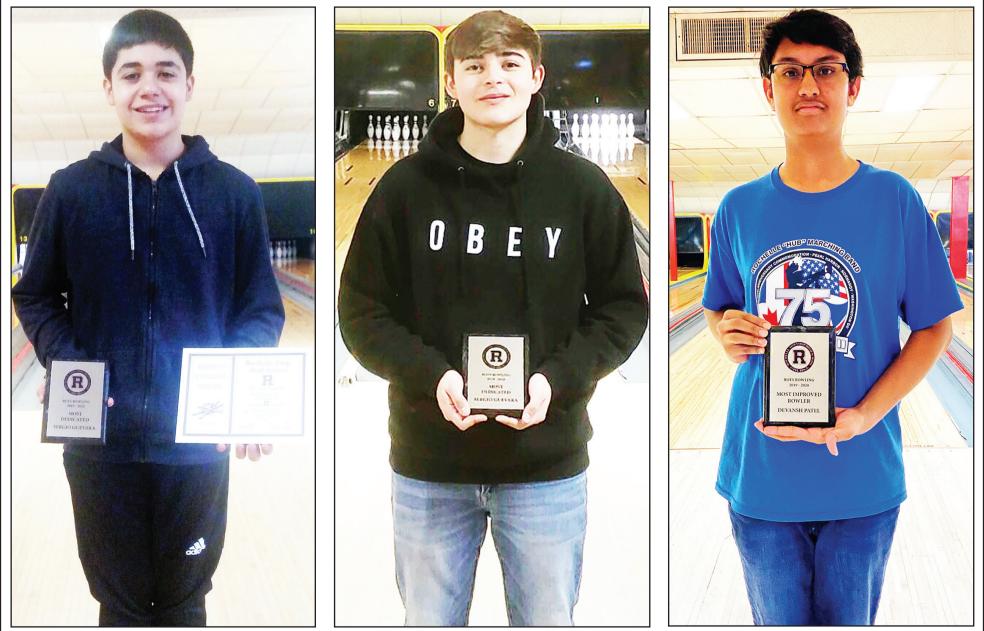


with their respective teams or participate in club sports. The statement can be found at https://www.ihsa.org/ News-Media/Announcements/march-17-covid-19-update-faqs.

"We are just waiting to hear what's going to happen to our season," head softball coach Lindsay Suess said. "I have been in contact with our kids about what we know and about our fundraiser. I social distancing and be safe."

"My reaction has mainly just been disbelief," head boys tennis coach Kristy Eckardt said. "It's so crazy and unbelievable that this has happened, but I know that it's necessary... I have been in contact with the kids and I've sent them some suggestions like running, hitting against their garages, watching YouTube tennis videos

RTHS Boys Bowling



(COURTESY PHOTO)

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(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Hubs recognized with awards during team banquet Wednesday

The Rochelle Township High School boys and girls bowling programs hosted their season-ending team awards banquet at T-Byrd Lanes this past Wednesday. Three Hubs received awards including sophomore Sergio Guevara

(Most Dedicated Bowler), senior Logan Ortega (Most Valuable Bowler) and sophomore Devansh Patel (Most Improved Bowler). The boys are pictured above from left to right.