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Vol. 100 • No. 80

LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020

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## KNOW IT TODAY



### Recycling grants

Solid waste department  
opens grant application  
period. **See page 5**

### WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
31 24	31 19
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
32 23	30 21

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• JUAN ARRENDONDO  
• FREDERICK DUMMER  
• STANLEY SMITH  
• MARYLOU REESER

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## Gala milestone

From the Heart raises \$50,000 Saturday, hitting \$500,000 since inception

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN  
STAFF WRITER

**ROCHELLE** – The Rochelle Rotary Club hosted its 13th Annual From the Heart dinner-auction fundraiser over the weekend, and it exceeded all expectations.

The gala took place on Saturday, Feb. 1, inside the hangar at The Flight Deck Bar and Grill. The event includes hors d'oeuvres, dinner, games for prizes and both a silent and live auction. The goal of the event each year is to provide a fun night for the community while raising \$40,000 to be split between eight non-profit organizations.

The event raised over \$40,000 this year, and in doing so, From the Heart reached a landmark total of \$500,000 raised since its creation 13 years ago. "At the beginning of the night, I mentioned



(PHOTO BY MONETTA YOUNG)

**Attendees of Saturday night's From the Heart gala look over some of the silent auction items.**

that if we raised \$50,000, From the Heart would reach its \$500,000 mark in the 13 years since its creation," said David Eckhardt, founder and president of From the Heart. "And we did it, we raised the \$50,000. We don't have the final

numbers yet, but we know it's at least \$50,000."

All of the funds earned through the event will be split evenly between the Rochelle Area Community Foundation, HOPE of Ogle County, Rochelle Child Care Center, Hub City Senior Center, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Shining Star, CASA and FOCUS House.

As well as dinner, the event included many different games offering a variety of prizes. One example was a wine game with prizes of premium bottles of wine, such as one from Marilyn Monroe's collection. Other activities included a dice game and a punchboard game with prizes ranging from a one-week trip to Montana to a chainsaw or piece of jewelry.

This is the second time in the last 13 years that Flight Deck has hosted

the event, and attendees enjoyed everything about it.

"Everybody said that they felt more relaxed this year," said Eckhardt. "This was our second year at the Flight Deck and we made some changes from how we did it the previous year. We changed the way we arranged the room, and Ashley and her group at the Flight Deck did a really great job with the meal. Everyone had a great time."

From the Heart and Rochelle Rotary are very thankful for the support they get from the community, and they could not host the event without it. From the Heart and Rochelle Rotary would also like to thank Mayor John Bearrows for being the auctioneer at the event.

"We have had all this success, but it's in part to the great community that we live in," said Eckhardt. "We have a very generous and giving community that supports this event and these groups 100 percent. We are just so blessed to live in a community like we do, because it's not that way everywhere."

As planning begins for next year's event, From the Heart will meet this Friday to discuss what went well and what needs to be changed. The Rochelle Rotary and From the Heart fundraiser for 2021 will take place on the first Saturday in February.



Vazquez

## Suspect wanted

**ROCHELLE** — On Sunday afternoon, Ogle County Sheriff's deputies obtained an arrest warrant for Francisco Javier Vazquez, 26, of Rochelle, on charges related to a stabbing early Sunday morning. At approximately 4:30 a.m. on Sunday, Feb. 2, the Ogle County Sheriff's Office responded to the 10000 block of East Fisher Road in the Shangri Lamobile home park west of Rochelle for the report of a stabbing.

The 22-year-old male victim, of Rochelle, sustained serious injuries and was transported to a Rockford area hospital where he remains in stable condition.

Upon his arrest, Vazquez faces two counts of aggravated battery – both Class 3 felonies. His bond has subsequently been set at \$150,000.

Anyone with information on the whereabouts of Vazquez are urged to contact the Ogle County Sheriff's Office at 815-732-2136 or Ogle/Lee Crime Stoppers at 888-228-4488. Crime Stoppers will pay up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest in this case.

The sheriff's office were assisted on scene by the Rochelle Police Department.

Vazquez is presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.

## Residents urged to clean up

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN  
STAFF WRITER

**CRESTON** – Creston Village Board members are hoping to do some cleaning up around the village.

During Tuesday night's monthly board meeting, board members heard from village building inspector Casper Manheim about efforts to have several properties in the village cleaned up. Manheim has sent letters to several residents who have had vehicles parked for an extended period of time with flat tires, reminding them of village ordinances, that the vehicles need to be moved.

"We still have a few letters going out for cars



**Creston Village President Wayne Williams discusses the village's efforts to have disabled vehicles removed.**

sitting with flat tires, one of them I assume may still be running but I am not sure,"

said Manheim. "As well as a garage with a big blue tarp on it."

Village president Wayne Williams is giving the residents until the weather gets nicer to move the vehicles.

During the Village Engineer Kevin Bunge's report, there were a few topics that were brought to the boards attention.

Bunge discussed several topics at Tuesday night's meeting.

The first one was getting the four quotes for the water tower inspection in written form for next month's board meeting. The quotes range in price from \$3,315 to \$6,780. Some are noticeably more expensive because they would bring divers to go into the water tower.

"According to regulations, that tower is supposed

to be inspected every three to five years," Williams said. "And we are guessing that we had a visual inspection 11 years ago and that was it, so it is probably way past due."

Other topics Bunge discussed were acquiring bids for a new auto switch water main valve and creating a new truck route ordinance.

Trucks have been driving down side roads, past the school instead of using Illinois Route 38. The village will be ordering and posting nine "no truck" signs and then will begin talking about creating a new ordinance that would only allow trucks to use side streets for local deliveries.

**See CRESTON page 4**

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# LOCAL NEWS



The Community Support Group at 3M in DeKalb awarded Littmann Stethoscopes to eight first-year Kishwaukee College nursing students. Pictured with several Kish College nursing students, back row left to right, are Colleen Diehl, 3M representative; AJ Barton, Genoa; JoEllen Kile, DeKalb; and Jonathan Klaczek, 3M representative; and front row left to right, Lilian Ndiuc, Sycamore; Tamara Mason, DeKalb; Victoria Goluszka, West Brooklyn; and Mallory Thies, DeKalb.

## 3M awards stethoscopes to Kishwaukee College nursing students

**MALTA** — Eight nursing students at Kishwaukee College were the recipients of prestigious Littmann Stethoscopes from the Community Support Group at 3M. Jonathan Klaczek and Colleen Diehl from the 3M Community Support Group were on campus Jan. 21 to award the stethoscopes to the students.

The nursing students who received Littmann stethoscopes are: AJ Barton, Genoa; Rebecca Brucks, DeKalb; Victoria Goluszka, West Brooklyn; JoEllen Kile, DeKalb;

Tamara Mason, DeKalb; Lilian Ndiuc, Sycamore; Lindsey Robertson, DeKalb; and Mallory Thies, DeKalb.

The Community Support Group is the local arm of 3M that provides charitable assistance and support. Although the national 3M Corporation provides recognizable support in a variety of ways, including scholarships to Kishwaukee College and other educational institutions across the country, the Community Support Group is designed to be community-specific by volunteering, assisting

and donating in ways that are unique to the local community.

Since 2010, the 3M Community Support Group in DeKalb has been awarding Littman stethoscopes to deserving Kishwaukee College nursing students each semester. The Littmann Stethoscope is manufactured by 3M and is considered the "Cadillac" of stethoscopes.

For more information on the nursing program at Kish, visit [www.kish.edu/nursing](http://www.kish.edu/nursing). For information on the 3M Corporation, visit [www.3m.com](http://www.3m.com).

## Tri-County offering scholarships

**ROCK FALLS** — At least 12 scholarships will be awarded by Tri-County Opportunities Council to income eligible students residing in the agency's service area.

The scholarships are worth up to \$1,250 and have been made available by the Illinois Department

of Commerce and Economic Development through its Community Services Block Grant funds. All low-income students, racial or ethnic minorities and previous scholarship winners are encouraged to apply.

To be eligible for the scholarship competition:

The applicant must be a member of an income-eligible household.

The applicants must be attending an Illinois accredited post-secondary educational institution of higher learning during the fall of 2020.

Applicants must be a resident of Bureau,

Carroll, LaSalle, Lee, Marshall, Ogle, Putnam, Stark or Whiteside County in Illinois.

Students must be considered full-time (minimum of 12 semester hours) to qualify for the full \$1,250 scholarship. Part-time students will be considered in the competition, however, scholarship awards will be pro-rated if they are selected as a winner.

Application deadline is March 20, 2020.

Further information and application forms may be obtained by contacting the office at 800-323-5434 extension 15 or on the website at [www.tcohelps.org](http://www.tcohelps.org).

## Identifying personalities

### Free Enneagram program to show effects on daily life

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN  
STAFF WRITER

**ROCHELLE** — Wills Chiropractic of Rochelle is hosting a free personality identification event open to the public later this month.

The event will be held at the Flag-Rochelle Public Library from 6 to 7 p.m., on Feb. 10 and will focus on identifying different personality types and how they incorporate into daily life. This personality identification system is called an Enneagram, and it can affect many different areas of one's life.

The Enneagram personality system is broken into nine different personality types. The talk will focus on the different personality types and how people can use that information to better understand themselves.

"There are nine main personality types and each has its own unique personality traits," said Sadie Tomlinson, marketing and public relations for Wills Chiropractic. "A type eight, nine, or one person is all known to have different reactions to handling anger. For example, a type eight has no problem letting people know when he or she is angry while a type nine holds it all in and then explodes."

Wills Chiropractic has been serving the Rochelle community since it opened its doors in September of 2003. Dr. Bryan Wills, D.C. owner and practicing chiropractor at the office, will be guiding the presentation at the event.

The presentation is

open to the public, but is recommended for attendees who are young adults or older.

"Anybody who has a level of self-awareness is welcome to attend," said Tomlinson. "This is one of the most requested talks that Dr. Bryan offers and will definitely be something that people are going to want to come out and be a part of."

The event has seats for 37 people to attend and there are 21 seats left. So, for those who would like to attend, Wills Chiropractic is asking that people register ahead to save a seat at <https://bit.ly/35dl22N>.

If there is a good turnout for the presentations, Wills Chiropractic is hoping to make this a quarterly event that occurs four times a year.

Wills Chiropractic is a wellness center offering many options for treatment including chiropractic, massage therapy, acupuncture, physical therapy, and even personal training. One of the main reasons people start coming to a chiropractor is for pain relief such as neck and back pain, but treatment can help with much more than that.

The team at Wills Chiropractic works to address many issues such as back pain, neck pain, headaches, TMJ, infertility, asthma, bed wetting, carpal tunnel, ear infections, arthritis, disc problems, children's health and so much more. The team can be found at [www.willschiro.com](http://www.willschiro.com) to learn more.



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**Karen Ravnika**  
Laboratory Manager  
Years of Service: 1

**High Performer February 2020**

To read Karen's nomination, go to the RCH Facebook page or [rochellehospital.com](http://rochellehospital.com).

## WINE PAIRING DINNER

**SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15 - DOORS OPEN AT 5:30PM**

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Charcuterie Board paired with a Reisling

**2nd Course**  
Oyster Mignonette paired with a Pinot Grigio

**3rd Course**  
Bisque w/ roasted parmesan crackers paired with Chardonnay

**4th Course**  
Beef Wellington paired with Cabernet

**5th Course**  
Duck w/ plum sauce paired with Pinot Noir

**6th Course**  
Red velvet roll w/ sweet raspberry brandy sauce paired with Moscato

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# LOCAL NEWS

## You've got a friend in me

Students, faculty participate in Great Kindness Challenge at May School last week

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN  
STAFF WRITER

MAY Elementary School, as well as all other elementary schools within its district, have been participating in The Great Kindness Challenge this past week. The Great Kindness Challenge is an annual event that takes place all across the country and is presented by Kids For Peace, a global nonprofit organization. According to its website, in 2018, the Great Kindness Challenge impacted over 13 million students, in over 24,000 schools, in over 110 different countries with 650 million acts of kindness. For Kindness Week at May School, each day had a different dress up theme that goes along with its own special kindness activity. One theme the school did last week was a Mr. Rogers day, where students would dress up in sweaters or cardigans and write a kind note to a friend. On top of the dress up themes and kindness activities, each of the schools were also collecting donations of food and spare change



(PHOTO FROM MAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACEBOOK)  
**May School principal Becky Cox and a student dress up on Toy Story Day Monday, Jan. 27 to kick-off the Great Kindness Challenge week.**

that will be donated to different organizations. "This week we are collecting food for the food bank and the Rochelle Rescue Mission," said Becky Cox, May School principal. "We are also taking a collection for a coin drive that each of the buildings will donate the money to a different charity." No charities have been chosen yet, but

"The kids love it, they love the dress up days. We have had a ton of kids donating food and I have a jar full of coins sitting in my office as we speak. So, the kids have really enjoyed it and are taking an active role."

Becky Cox

there has been talk about sending the funds to St. Jude or Australia to help with the damage caused to the animals by the bush fires. The Great Kindness Challenge is an annual event that occurs during the last week in January, and the entire district usually participates in. Cox has been principal at May Elementary School for the last four years, and the school has taken part in the event every year. She says the kids enjoy it every year, and they especially look forward to the theme dress up days. "The kids love it, they love the dress up days," said Cox. "We have had a ton of kids donating food and I have a jar full of coins sitting in my office as we speak. So, the kids have really enjoyed it and are taking an active role." The main goal of the entire program is to get kids to understand that being kind is not just going above and beyond and making donations, but can be as simple as saying something nice or writing a kind note to someone.

- DAILY THEMES**
- Monday: Toy Story Day - You've got a friend in me
  - Tuesday: Zootopia Day - Change starts with you
  - Wednesday: Mr. Rogers Day - Kind words for one another
  - Thursday: Wonder Day - Choose kind
  - Friday: Trolls Day - True colors - positive talk; kind messages to ourselves

**EARLY VOTING NOTICE**

**FLAGG & DEMENT PRECINCTS ONLY**

**EARLY VOTING** will be conducted at the Flagg Township Office located at 303 W. Route 38 in Rochelle for Flagg & Dement Precincts only.

Wednesday, March 11 – Friday, March 13 - 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.  
Saturday, March 14 - 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

Dated this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2020  
Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk



(PHOTO FROM MAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACEBOOK)  
**Students celebrate Zootopia Day at May School last week.**



(PHOTO FROM MAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FACEBOOK)

ABCDEFGHIJKLMNOPQRSTUVWXYZ

**St. Paul Lutheran School**  
**2020-2021 School Year**  
**Preschool Registration**

<b>February 11th</b> Registration for members and existing family	<b>February 18th</b> Registration open to the public
--	---

**Kindergarten Registration**  
**Wednesday, February 5th - 6:30pm**  
Stop in to meet Mrs. Pascua and view the classroom. If unable to attend, please call the office for information.  
Call 815.562.6323 or email [office@stpaulrochelle.org](mailto:office@stpaulrochelle.org)

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# LOCAL NEWS

## CRESTON: Board discusses water fees

From page 1

### Old Business

During last month's meeting, board members discussed the current water and sewer rate and the need for an increase since there has not been any annual increase incorporated.

Board members discussed an increase of four-tenths of a cent per gallon of water used up from the previous rate, and then a three percent increase on the first of every year.

Board member Mike Kerns expressed concerns that there were already fees incorporated into the bill and wanted to make sure those fees were being put into the proper city accounts.

"There is already \$20 to \$25 in fees per water bill that is already built in, and it is pretty expensive right now," Kerns said. "I would like to have a spreadsheet so I know where everything is going."

The board instructed the village treasurer to make a spreadsheet before the next month's meeting, outlining exactly where the funds are going.

### New business

Board members made a recommendation for the village to purchase a backup generator for the city's water pumps. If the pump was stationary and permanent, the city would need a permit for it but if it was a moveable pump on wheels the city does not need a permit.

Board members will discuss options for a backup generator before making a decision at next month's meeting.

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### Obituaries

## Juan Jesus Arredondo

**ROCHELLE** — Juan Jesus Arredondo, 66, of Rochelle, passed away Saturday, Feb. 1, 2020 at his home surrounded by his family. Juan was born Aug. 27, 1953 in Mexico, the son of Elena Blancarte.

Juan owned and operated Elegant Seat Upholstery Shop in Rochelle for over 25 years. He also worked at Caterpillar, Caron International, and various railroad and construction jobs.

He loved to help people and was a family oriented man. He was

always there for his children and grandchildren.

Juan is survived by his wife, Celia Arredondo; three sons, Rafael (Meredith) Mancinas, "Johnny" Juan Jesus (Danielle) Arredondo Jr., and Gerardo (Adriana) Arredondo; 12 grandchildren, Amy L. Mancinas, Rafael Mancinas Jr., Luis G. Mancinas, Noah A. Mancinas, "J.J." Juan Jesus Arredondo III, Roman B. Arredondo, León

M. Arredondo, Josue Arredondo, Abel Arredondo, Naomi N. Arredondo,

Genesis L. Arredondo, and Ellena S. Arredondo; two great-grandchildren, Lucas Wayne Mancinas and Dylan Mancinas; and four siblings, Arturo Blancarte, Amada Blancarte, Julia Blancarte and Lupe Blancarte.

Juan is preceded in death by his mother, Elena Blancarte.

A funeral service was

held at 3 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 4 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th Street in Rochelle. Visitation was held on Tuesday from 2 p.m. until the time of the service at the funeral home. Cremation care will be provided after the services and burial will be held at a later date.

In lieu of flowers, contributions in Juan's memory may be made to Serenity Hospice and Home.

Please visit [www.ung-erhorner.com](http://www.ung-erhorner.com) to sign the online guest book.



## Frederick Wayne Dummer

**ROCHELLE** — Frederick Wayne Dummer, 87, passed away on Tuesday Feb. 4, 2020 at the Serenity Home in Oregon.

Services are pending at the Unger Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th Street, Rochelle. Visit [www.Unger-Horner.com](http://www.Unger-Horner.com).

## Stanley "JR" Smith

**ROCHELLE** — Stanley "JR" Smith, 68, of Rochelle, passed away Friday, Jan. 31, 2020 at the UW Health University Hospital in Madison, Wisconsin. Stan was born May 21, 1951 in Hazard, Kentucky, the son of Stanley and Eula Mae Smith. He married Terri Woolbright on Oct. 20, 2016 in Oregon.

Stan is survived by his wife, Terri, of Rochelle; a son, Brian (Skye) Smith, of DeKalb; grandchildren

Hayley, Johnathan, Harmony, Hunter, and Stella; a step-daughter, Randi (Jaime) Jarrett of Davis Junction; three brothers, Floyd (Sherry) Smith, Herman (Linda) Smith, and Ricky (Pam) Smith, all of Rochelle; six sisters, Geneva (Rich) Sisson, Helen (Sonny) Pena, Wilma (Jerry) Adamski, Laura (Joe) Williams,

all of Rochelle, Peggy (Doug) Waugh of Maquoketa, Iowa, and Connie (Ray) Humes of Rochelle; and numerous nieces and nephews.

Stan is preceded in death by his parents and a brother, Ronnie.

Cremation care has been provided. Memorial visitation will be from 3 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Feb. 7 at the Unger-Horner

Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St. in Rochelle. A memorial service will follow at 7 p.m. with Pastor Lowell Woolbright officiating. There will also be a Celebration of life lunch at the Rochelle VFW Feb. 23 at 12 p.m. Interment will be held at a later date in Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle. A memorial will be established.

Please visit [www.ung-erhorner.com](http://www.ung-erhorner.com) to sign the online guest book.




## Marylou Reeser

**ROCHELLE** — Marylou Reeser, 76, passed away on Wednesday Feb. 5, 2020 at the Serenity Home in Oregon.

Services are pending at the Unger Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th Street, Rochelle. Visit [www.UngerHorner.com](http://www.UngerHorner.com).

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## Support the RCH Auxiliary with a daffodil order

**ROCHELLE** — It's time to think Spring. The Rochelle Community Hospital Auxiliary is taking daffodil orders until Monday, March 9.

The daffodil stems are \$10 for a bunch of 10 flowers you can put in water and watch them open into beautiful flowers. One of these bunches would be a great gift for a friend, family member or co-worker to celebrate Spring — or keep them for yourself.

Orders can be placed at the RCH Gift Shoppe, where you can pay with credit card, cash or check, or call Janet Stewart at 815-561-3113 or e-mail [jstewart@rcha.net](mailto:jstewart@rcha.net).

Order forms are available at [www.rochellehospital.com](http://www.rochellehospital.com). The deadline for orders is Monday, March 9. Daffodils will be available for pick up on Wednesday, March 18 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the hospital.

All proceeds benefit Rochelle Community Hospital.

These bunches of sunshine are made possible in coordination with The Cypress House, 718 10th Avenue, Rochelle.

Please note these are fresh flowers, not bulbs.

## Volunteers needed for Chana station

**OREGON** — The Oregon Fire Protection District needs volunteer firefighters at its Chana Station.

Chana resident Dany Dwyer was the last area firefighter to retire which has left the station unattended. Other firefighters from the Chana area were Tim Mitchusson, John Jones, Ed Travis, Ed Mowery, Dave Dwyer and Virgil Toefer (unintentional if we missed others).

The station was built in 1992 from a donation and served well for the small community. Presently, with no area

firefighters, the station has been used for storage of older equipment. With the addition of Chana area firefighters and a certified First Attack truck we would be able to provide the First Response team for area Chana residents in case of an emergency.

Please review this request as a first step to giving our communities the best Fire Protection possible and send your applications to Chief Mike Knoup at [knoupm@oregonfpd.org](mailto:knoupm@oregonfpd.org) or phone the Fire Protection District if interested.

### HOW TO CONTACT US

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**Newsroom Staff**  
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Russ Hodges, Sports (815) 561-2152  
Andrew Heiserman, Staff Writer (815) 561-2118

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Waste reduction, recycling grants available

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department is announcing that limited funds are again available for waste reduction/recycling grants for the 2020 fiscal year. The grants of up to \$2,000 are available to Ogle County businesses, schools, churches and non-profit organizations wishing to establish or improve on waste reduction and recycling programs and services.

Applicants must provide a minimum 20 percent match of the total project cost.

Total grant funds available this year are limited to \$6,000, so grants will be awarded on a competitive basis in amounts from \$100 to \$2,000, in three rounds or until funds are depleted. The deadline for submittal of applications for the first round of grants is 4 p.m. on Wednesday, March 4.

The application for the grants is simple and flexible. Businesses could use grant funds to help purchase waste reduction and recycling materials and equipment such as collection bins, carts, balers and storage containers. Equipment needed

to switch from disposable packaging to reusable packaging for products and supplies could also be considered. Businesses are encouraged to consider projects to reduce food waste or implement food waste recycling programs.

Schools may seek funds for special projects that will further a student's understanding of how to reduce the amount of trash sent to the landfill. The requests may be for materials and equipment, such as recycling bins/carts, videos, books, worm (vermicomposting) bins, composters, or other waste reduction or recycling equipment.

Municipalities seeking to improve commercial, curbside, or multifamily recycling programs are encouraged to apply. Grant applications for equipment and materials needed to improve electronics recycling options in Ogle County are also encouraged since most electronics have been banned from landfills since January of 2012.

These examples are not all inclusive and applicants are encouraged to

find innovative ways to reduce waste and increase what is recycled. The grants may not be used to pay for ongoing expenses such as staffing, collection, and hauling costs. Priority will be given to new applicants.

All applications will be reviewed by the Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department and the Ogle County Board Solid Waste Committee. Grants will be evaluated based on the following criteria: management ability; project quality; project impact; realistic goals and expectations; accuracy of application; education potential; use of recycled content products when available; potential for waste stream diversion; and future continuity of project.

In 2018, Ogle County residents, businesses and other entities recycled approximately 31 percent of the municipal waste generated in the County. This recycling rate is due to the efforts of many individuals doing their part to reduce waste and recycle as much as possible at home, work and school. The OCSWMD urges businesses and other organizations to strive to find new ways to reduce waste and increase what gets recycled in the county. These grants can help make that possible.



### Rochelle Police

## Man cited for overweight axle

On Jan. 31 at 11:32 a.m., Rochelle police cited Steven C. Brown, 52, of Joliet, for overweight axle. He posted an I-bond. His court date is set for March 13.

On Jan. 31 at 1:24 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Darren Dumas, 48, of Chicago, for overweight axle. He posted an I-bond. His court date is set for March 13.

On Jan. 31 at 8:31 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Kelly ZM. McCoy, 35, of Rochelle, on an Ogle County and a Lee County warrant. She was transported to jail.

On Feb. 1 at 8:12 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Leonard L. Cook, 51, of Rochelle on an Ogle County warrant. He was transported to jail.

On Feb. 2 at 1:34 a.m., Rochelle police cited Chayce D. W. Smith, 19, of Rochelle, for speeding, 30 m.p.h. in a 20 m.p.h. zone. He issued a promise to comply. His court date

is set for March 13.

On Feb. 2 at 2:38 a.m., Rochelle police arrested Daniel Oronzco Ramos, 21, of Rochelle, for speeding, 83 m.p.h. in a 45 m.p.h. zone, illegal transportation of alcohol, no insurance and no valid driver's license. He posted \$250 bond. His court date is set for March 13.

On Feb. 2 at 9:04 p.m., Rochelle police arrested a 17-year-old juvenile, of Rochelle, for domestic battery. The juvenile was released to his parents.

On Feb. 3 at 7:57 a.m., Rochelle police cited a 17-year-old juvenile, of Rochelle, for failure to reduce speed. She issued a promise to comply. Her court date is set for March 13.

On Feb. 3 at 9 p.m., Rochelle police cited Ruben C. Burgess, 29, of Rochelle, for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. He issued a promise to comply. His court date is set for March 13.

### 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.

### Ogle County Sheriff

## Man arrested for DUI in Polo

On Feb. 2 at approximately 12:41 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff deputies

conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Division and Oregon Street in Polo for a moving violation. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Richelle Marks, 42, of Polo, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Marks was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 2, Ogle County Sheriff's deputies arrested Dennis Vineyard, 47, of Belvidere, for criminal trespass to residence and violation of bond conditions. Vineyard was held in lieu of bond at the Ogle County Jail.

### Feb. 3

On Feb. 3 at approximately 7:32 p.m., deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 19000 block of West Illinois

Route 72 for a speeding violation. After further investigation Austin Borota, 27, of Lanark, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Borota was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 3 at 5:26 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 19000 block of East Illinois Route 64 for a speeding violation. After an investigation, Michael T. Dumas, 36, of Elgin, was arrested for improper container of cannabis - driver, and issued citations for driving while license suspended (petty offense), and speeding. Dumas was transported to the Ogle County jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 3 at approximately 7:50 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop on Interstate

39 at mile marker 110 on a vehicle traveling northbound. After a short investigation, deputies arrested Brionna S. Bell, 18, of Montgomery, for driving while license suspended. Bell was also issued citations for no registration light and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Bell was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was released to correctional staff and held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 3 at 9:36 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 1000 block of South Illinois Route 2 for a traffic violation. After an investigation, Goldie L. Johnson-Kirsky, 26, of Rochelle, was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol, possession of controlled substance, and possession of drug paraphernalia. Johnson-Kirsky was transported to the Ogle County Jail and held in lieu of bond.



## Social Security launches campaign to fight scammers

**SPRINGFIELD** — The Social Security Administration launched a new Public Service Announcement campaign to continue warning people about the ongoing nationwide telephone impersonation scheme.

The PSAs feature a message from Social Security Commissioner Andrew Saul. Social Security and its Office of the Inspector General continue to receive reports about fraudulent phone calls from people falsely claiming to be Social Security employees. The scammers mislead victims into making cash or gift card payments for help with purported identity theft, or

to avoid arrest for bogus Social Security number problems.

"I want every American to know that if a suspicious caller states there is a problem with their Social Security number or account, they should hang up and never give the caller money or personal information. People should then go online to [oig.ssa.gov](http://oig.ssa.gov) to report the scam call to Social Security," Saul said.

People should also be on the lookout for a new version of this scam. Fraudsters are now emailing fake documents in attempts to get people to comply with their demands. Victims have received emails

with attached letters and reports that appear to be from Social Security or the OIG. The letters may use official letterhead and government jargon to convince victims they are legitimate; they may also contain misspellings and grammar mistakes.

The new PSA addressing the telephone impersonation scheme is available online at [www.youtube.com/socialsecurity](http://www.youtube.com/socialsecurity).

Social Security employees do occasionally contact people—generally those who have ongoing business with the agency—by telephone for business purposes. However,

Social Security employees will never threaten a person, or promise a Social Security benefit approval, or increase, in exchange for information or money. In those cases, the call is fraudulent and people should just hang up.

Generally, the agency mainly calls people who have recently applied for a Social Security benefit, someone who is already receiving payments and requires an update to their record, or a person who has requested a phone call from the agency. If a person is not in one of these situations, they normally would not receive a call from the agency.

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



Capone

Hi! I'm Capone and I'd like to steal your heart!! Words that describe me are "affectionate", "playful", "loving", "loyal" and "understanding". Oh, and "smart"! I'm house trained and know many commands. I'm great with people of all ages, though I'm probably a bit too big and energetic for the wee ones. I'm friendly to everyone I meet. Things I love are peanut butter and carrots. Gotta stay healthy! I also enjoy playing in the snow and I don't mind rain or thunderstorms, either. I'm a 3 yr. old shepherd mix. I would be happiest as an only pet. My people lost their home and couldn't keep me, as much as they wanted to. But I'm hopeful that, with your help, I'll find a new family that will love and appreciate what a fine young boy I am!

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## Did you know?

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# LOCAL VIEWS

## Guest column

### Is Lincoln the key to state's identity?

IT doesn't seem like a decade has passed since my then 4-year-old daughter, Grace, announced that her luck had run out — and something needed to be done.

"Daddy, I rubbed Mr. Lincoln's nose for good luck two weeks ago but now my luck is all gone. We need to go to Mr. Lincoln's tomb right away," she told me with more than a bit of desperation in her voice.

With Lincoln's birthday approaching, I got to thinking about that long-ago trip to Springfield's shrine to Illinois' martyred saint.

Going to the tomb and rubbing the nose of the Abraham Lincoln statue for luck is one of the more unusual of Illinois' customs.

Sightseers in the state capital notice that the nose of Lincoln is shiny from visitors' touches. In fact, it's touched so often that a metalsmith periodically is dispatched to fix the nose when a hole is rubbed through.

The statue was created by Gutzon Borglum, the sculptor who also shaped Mt. Rushmore.

When you are born in Illinois on Lincoln's Birthday, Feb. 12, as I was, you quickly become immersed in Lincoln lore.

When I was a kid, I read every Lincoln biography in the school library, had a picture of Honest Abe that I'd cut out of the Farm Journal thumb tacked to my bedroom bulletin board and could rattle off Lincoln trivia the way other boys can recite baseball statistics.

When I was 8, I wanted to go to Gettysburg — not Disney World.

Other states have nicknamed themselves after their crops, heritage or natural attributes.

Illinois, on the other hand, is the only one that has chosen a person as a

symbol of state identity — thanks to state Sen. Fred Hart of Streator, who in 1955 sponsored legislation designating the state as the "Land of Lincoln."

Illinois is a wonderful place to live but it lacks a strong sense of identity. Lincoln seems to be the stitch in the fabric that holds the state together. School children are taught at an early age to revere Lincoln. My second-grade teacher told my class how he walked five miles to return 6 cents to a friend, and that is how he came to be known as "Honest Abe."

Being a cynical journalist, I'm more than a bit skeptical of such tales. But there is no denying that myths are part of what unites a state.

When my daughter Grace asked to be taken to Lincoln's Tomb on a chilly Sunday a decade ago, I wasn't exactly thrilled. That tomb just plain creeps me out.

Maybe it's not an idol. But it's certainly a graven image many in the Prairie State revere.

Folks travel to the tomb to lay Lincoln pennies on the headstone of the original burial place of the Great Emancipator.

Despite my misgivings, my daughter continued to pester me to take her to see Mr. Lincoln's tomb.

So, we drove to Oak Ridge Cemetery, which is just a few minutes from our house. Grace scampered to that statue and said, "Lift me up, Daddy. Lift me."

After she gave Lincoln's nose a vigorous rub, she hit me up for three pennies.

She left one at the tomb — and kept two for herself.

Maybe the nose rubbers weren't the most gullible to visit the cemetery that day.

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



Scott Reeder

## Letters to the Editor

### Inspired by annual event

Dear Editor,

It was my privilege to again attend the From the Heart in Rochelle Saturday night. I have been attending this event regularly since its inception and every year I am inspired by the phenomenal job these volunteers, led by Dave Eckhardt, do in planning, organizing and executing this event.

Equally inspiring is the generosity of the attendees. The event raised approximately \$50,000 this year for Ogle County organizations including Hub City Senior Center, CASA, Focus House, Rochelle Child Care Center, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center and Hope of Ogle County. Having served on the boards of two of these entities over the years I am familiar with the real difference that these funds make to the hard-working

staff of these organizations and the people that they serve.

I am particularly able to see the significance of this in event in my role as Ogle County State's Attorney.

CASA, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center and Hope of Ogle County have a direct positive impact on the criminal and juvenile justice systems in Ogle County. Donations to these organizations not only help individuals, but also make our community a safer place to live.

I look forward to attending From the Heart again next year and would encourage everyone to consider lending their support to this worthy cause.

Very truly yours,

Eric Morrow  
Oregon



### Chili supper successful

Dear Editor,

The Rochelle Township High School Booster Club had another successful year with its chili-pie supper.

A huge thank you goes out to Headon's Fine Meats, the community for the overwhelming donations of pies and coach Kyle Kissack for his famous chili.

Thank you,

The Athletic Booster Club Board and  
Dave Waltrip (concessions)



## VOICE ON THE STREET

### Question:

What was your favorite commercial during the big game on Sunday? Why?



*"The one with the guy with the mustache. The Groundhog's Day one was good too. My sister lives in Woodstock and both the movie and commercial were filmed there."*

Don Mazzanti



*"The Bill Murray one was great and the Google one was very touching. They were both really good."*

Karry Pullin



*"The Shining Mountain Dew commercial, since Jack Nicholson and The Shining movie are such family favorites."*

Susan Tyler

## How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

## KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

\* Denotes Chairman/President

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Mike Misch	mmfam@live.com
Curt Ward	caward92@comcast.net

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## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR POLICY

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

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

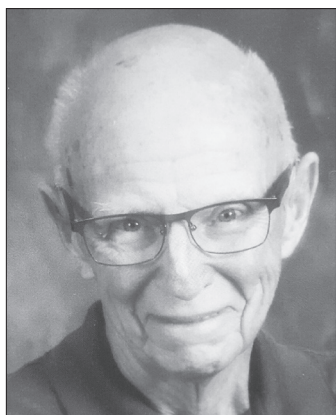
however letters from candidates endorsing themselves will not be printed. Letters may be dropped at the News-Leader office (211 IL Route 38 East), mailed to the News-Leader (P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068) or e-mailed (news@rochellenews-leader.com.) The News-Leader reserves the right to edit or reject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



# COMMUNITY

## Elliott turning 80

**ROCHELLE** — Robert “Bob” Elliott will be turning 80 years young on Feb. 6. His family will help him celebrate privately; however, well-wishes may be sent to him at 1072 Westview Drive, Rochelle, IL 61068.



## Wagner named to Dean's List

**ROCKFORD** — Reilly Wagner, a resident of Rochelle, has been named to the fall 2019 Dean's List at Rockford University. Students attending Rockford University who earn at least a 3.5 GPA with no grades below “C” and having completed all requirements for the semester are named to the Dean's List.

### Birthdays & Anniversaries

**Feb. 5**  
Hazel Nieves

**Feb. 7**  
Lydia Sherburne

**Feb. 10**  
Alex Bonilla

**Feb. 10**  
Gene & Judy Messer

**Feb. 11**  
Darrell Bolhous

**Feb. 12**  
Jennifer Curtis

**Feb. 13**  
Gabby Villalobos

**Feb. 16**  
Larry Baker

**Feb. 18**  
Sam & Jessica South

**Feb. 19**  
Juan Rubio

**Feb. 20**  
Christian Losoya

**Feb. 21**  
Kris Oleson

**Feb. 22**  
Jessica South

**Feb. 26**  
Lucy Hazlip

**Feb. 26**  
Natalie Powell

**Feb. 27**  
Beth Bolhous

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

### CALENDAR

**Wed., Feb. 5**  
1:30 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at St. Patrick's Learning Center, 903 N. Caron Road. (every Wednesday)

**Thu., Feb. 6**  
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. — Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu is Shepherds pie, peas, bread and butter. 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.

**Mon., Feb. 10**  
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 & Wellness Center Conference Room. Provides support with depression and bipolar disorder. Affiliated with the Rock River Mental Health Association. (every Monday)

**Tue., Feb. 11**  
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. — Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu is shrimp enchiladas, salad, rice and beans. 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.

**Wed., Feb. 12**  
1:30 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at St. Patrick's Learning Center, 903 N. Caron Road. (every Wednesday)

**Thu., Feb. 13**  
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. —

### FROM THE HEART DAILY CASH WINNERS

Jan. 22 - George Gould (at CHS-Rochelle), \$25

Jan. 23 - Jan Heal, Creston, \$25

Jan. 24 - From the Heart auction, \$25

Jan. 25 - Jodie Hart, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 26 - Kyle Aldridge, Rochelle, \$50

Jan. 27 - Jeff Hayenga, Kings, \$25

Jan. 28 - Lisa Chidley, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 29 - Denver Alexander, Plainfield, \$25

Jan. 30 - Andrew LeFevre (Johnson Tractor), Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 31 - Tonja Greenfield, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 1 - Tom Hall, Rochelle, \$250

Feb. 2 - Lori Gutierrez, Dixon, \$50

Feb. 3 - Tom Hall, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 4 - From the Heart Auction item, \$25

Feb. 5 - Debbie Vrana, Princeton, \$25

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

Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu is hamburger steaks with onion mushroom gravy, veggies, dinner rolls, mashed potatoes. 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., Feb. 15**  
4 to 7 p.m. — A spaghetti dinner fundraiser for R.O.C.K. will be held at the First Presbyterian Church, 1100 Calvin Road. Cost is \$10 for adults, \$5 for children aged 6 to 12

and free for children ages five and under. Tickets can be purchased at the door, online at [www.meetyouatthetop.org](http://www.meetyouatthetop.org), at Printing Etc. or by calling 845-825-2848.

### Meetings

**Mon., Feb. 10**  
6:30 p.m. — The Rochelle City Council will meet in regular session. The meeting will be held in council chambers at Rochelle City Hall.

**Tue., Feb. 11**  
7 p.m. — The Rochelle Elementary District 231 Board will meet in regular session. The meeting will be held in the media center at the Rochelle Middle School.

**Wed., Feb. 12**  
7 p.m. — The Hillcrest Village Board will meet in regular session. The meeting will be held at Hillcrest Village Hall.

**Mon., Feb. 17**  
6:30 p.m. — The Flagg-Rochelle Community Park Board will meet in regular session. The board will meet in council chambers at Rochelle City Hall.

**Tue., Feb. 18**  
5:30 p.m. — The Rochelle Township High School Board will meet in regular session. The meeting will be held in the board conference room at Rochelle Township High School. Please note that the meeting will be held on Tuesday instead of the normal Monday due to the President's Day holiday.

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



## Coffee Break

### King Crossword

#### ACROSS

- 1 Move like molasses  
5 High card  
8 Judicial garment  
12 Place for sports reporters  
14 Vivacity  
15 Aware  
16 Flex  
17 Do sums  
18 Kindle downloads  
20 Sew loosely  
23 Liveliness, in music  
24 Wheelbase terminus  
25 Obama's old title

1	2	3	4		5	6	7		8	9	10	11
12				13					14			
15									16			
			17				18	19				
20	21	22				23						
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				35				36				
37	38	39					40					
41					42	43			44	45	46	
47					48							
49					50				51			

- 28 — de Janeiro  
29 Hawaiian dances  
30 Deity  
32 Dakar's country  
34 Salver  
35 Bacchanalian blast  
36 Yonder  
37 Hallux, more commonly  
40 That girl  
41 "Superfood" berry  
42 Mexican miss  
47 Showroom

sample  
48 One of three rulers  
49 Paradise  
50 Tree fluid  
51 Harmonization

8 Start the PC up again  
9 Bread spread  
10 Savings institution  
11 Make — meet  
13 Faction  
19 Prejudice  
20 Tavern  
21 Line of symmetry  
22 — gin fizz  
23 Stop, at sea  
25 Hints at  
26 Shrek is one  
27 Bellow  
29 Medal earner

31 Coloring agent  
33 Idea  
34 Gas bill units  
36 Commandment starter  
37 Commanded  
38 On the rocks  
39 Chess or checkers  
40 Use scissors  
43 Historic time  
44 Wall climber  
45 Can metal  
46 Joan of —
- #### DOWN

1 Wife of Saturn  
2 Raw rock  
3 Buddhist sect  
4 Mansion and its surroundings  
5 Sleeping  
6 Opposed  
7 Outer

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## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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

**DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK:** ♦♦

♦ Moderate ♦♦ Challenging  
♦♦♦ HOO BOY!

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## CryptoQuip

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

Clue: Q equals F

VPYHEW RBCCXWX, VB WPEW-NB  
KBVHIGYHUGU IUKHYX GB WXX GB  
GNX QBBG BQ GNX RCIUU?

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Answer

Weekly SUDOKU

Answer

King Crossword

During college, do quip-ho  
podiatrists aspire to get to  
the foot of the class?

answer  
CryptoQuip



# STATE NEWS

## Policy change: Secretary of state won't forward 16-year-olds' info to voter registration system

No underage voters were registered, instead received letters telling them process was stopped

By JERRY NOWICKI  
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

**SPRINGFIELD** — While the information for approximately 4,700 16-year-olds was forwarded from the Illinois Secretary of State's Office to the Illinois State Board of Elections as part of an automatic voter registration program, no underage people were registered to vote, nor did they receive information about registering to vote, according to representatives of those two agencies.

"To be clear, no 16-year-olds were registered to vote," Henry Haupt, deputy press secretary for the secretary of state's office said in a phone call Thursday. "In fact, the election authorities throughout the state have long had a system in place preventing them from registering anyone under age to vote."

Automatic voter registration became law in 2017, providing that Illinois citizens are automatically registered to vote whenever they apply for or renew a driver's license unless they opt out. Under that system, the secretary of state's office shares a database with the state elections board.

The transmission of 16-year-olds' information through that system was an issue of policy and not related to a previous glitch in the voter registration system which allowed 545 self-identified non-citizens to register to vote, according to officials.

Haupt said even though the secretary of state shared the information of 16-year-olds, they did so knowing they would not be allowed to vote if they did not reach the necessary age by the date of the next election.

In Illinois, a person who is 17 years old is allowed to vote in primary elections as long as they will turn 18 by the date of the general election.

Haupt said after recent discussions with ISBE, the secretary of state will

**"To be clear, no 16-year-olds were registered to vote. In fact, the election authorities throughout the state have long had a system in place preventing them from registering anyone under age to vote."**

**Henry Haupt**

change its current policy.

"We went ahead and met with ISBE and we will no longer be sending 16-year-old registration information," Haupt said. "Now we're just not even going to send them that information. We're going to cut that out. We'll just start sending it when they're 17 years or older."

Matt Dietrich, the ISBE public information officer, said in a phone call the agency noticed a large number of applications for 16-year-olds coming through the automatic registration system even though they were clearly not of age to vote. But Dietrich said no 16-year-old got any further in the registration process than applying for a driver's license at the secretary of state's office.

"They were never registered to vote, they were never even forwarded to the local election authorities," he said.

Still, because the information was forwarded by the secretary of state, ISBE sent letters to all whose information was received, telling them their voter registration had been blocked.

"We had noticed that we were getting a lot of these applications coming through and we block those automatically," Dietrich said. "Those never went on to the local jurisdictions. No 16-year-old was ever registered to vote. And we were sending letters to the applicants that basically said ... 'you're too young, we recently received the

application. However, under Illinois law and so forth and so on."

He said the 4,700 number is approximate because, "this never became part of our record keeping, because we weren't even supposed to see them."

Dietrich said the issue came up at the ISBE meeting this week when board members said underage persons should not even be given the chance to start the AVR process when applying for a license.

He said while he initially believed the applications were being received as part of a glitch, the secretary of state's office clarified that

their sharing of the information was intentional.

"They are no longer going to send them to us and we are no longer going to have to send out letters," he said.

Haupt also noted the secretary of state's office was looking into why some legally eligible U.S. citizens who opted out of registration were registered to vote anyway through the program.

"Hopefully we'll have more information by the end of the day," he said.

In response to the existing non-citizen registration, news reports of the 16-year-olds being moved through the registration system and those that opted out of the system being registered, Senate Republican Leader Bill Brady called for a suspension of the automatic voter registration system Thursday.

"We are asking that you suspend this program until all 'glitches' known and unknown are fixed," Brady said in a letter to the secretary of state that was co-signed by the entire Senate Republican caucus.

### In the know



**Rochelle Township High School student Ruby Cervantes is registered to vote. Now, 17-year-olds can vote. If you are 17-years-old, but will turn 18 on or before the Election Day on Nov. 3, see Mrs. Snyder Chura at the high school to register. When the Primary Election arrives (March 17), guess what? You get to vote as a 17-year-old. The most recent voter law even allows you to leave school (briefly) to vote if your academic and extra-curricular schedules don't leave you time in the day. If you are 17 about to turn 18, bring your driver's license/state ID and last four digits of your Social Security number to Room E122 at the high school.**

## First month adult use cannabis sales totals announced

**CHICAGO** — The Illinois Department of Financial and Professional Regulation has announced that statewide adult-use cannabis sales in January totaled \$39,247,840.83.

Dispensaries across the state sold 972,045 items over the 31-day period. Sales to Illinois residents totaled \$30,611,632.22, while sales to out-of-state residents totaled \$8,636,208.61. A portion of every cannabis sale will be reinvested in communities harmed most by the failed war on drugs.

"The successful launch of the Illinois' legal cannabis industry represents new opportunities for entrepreneurs and the very communities that have historically been harmed by the failed war on drugs," said Toi Hutchinson, senior advisor for cannabis control to Gov. Pritzker. "The administration is dedicated to providing multiple points of entry into this new industry, from dispensary owners to transporters, to ensure legalization is equitable and accessible for all Illinoisans."

Last month, the Illinois Department of Agriculture (IDOA) released applications for cannabis infuser, craft grower and transporter licenses. The applications are available on the Department's website here. IDOA will begin accepting completed applications on Friday, Feb. 14 and all cannabis infuser, transporter and craft Grower applications must be submitted by 5 p.m. CST on Monday, March 16.

Social equity applicants will receive additional points on their application and are eligible to receive technical assistance, grants, low-interest loans and fee reductions and waivers. In the coming weeks, IDOA will be partnering with the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity to provide information workshops across the state to answer questions and assist interested applicants. Additional information about the timing and location of workshops will be available in the coming days.

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ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

# SPORTS



## HISTORIC MOMENT

Former RTHS bowler Katie Dummer signs with the Kishwaukee College program.

See page 2 for more details

## RTHS Dance

# Sixth in the state

### Chellettes complete stellar 2019-20 season at IHSA State Championships

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**BLOOMINGTON** — Hundreds of spectators looked on from their seats inside the Grossinger Motors Arena as the lights dimmed and the Rochelle dance team took the floor Friday afternoon for its preliminary performance at the IHSA State Championships.

Dancing to the song “Heart Cry” by EDM artist Drehz, the Chellettes nailed their nearly three-minute lyrical jazz routine, scoring more points (88.12) than they have during any competition this season. The pressure of performing at the state championships didn’t faze the girls, who qualified for the finals in fourth place out of 30 schools in Class 1A. It was Rochelle’s best state prelim score since 2013, when the Chellettes qualified in second and finished fifth overall.

“We were all really happy and I think most of us were amazed how well we performed,” junior Makaila Crump said. “We were really happy because of how much work we’ve put in this season. It was really shocking to find out how we did the first day... Overall, we felt like we

performed better than we did at sectionals, and that was a relief to us.”

The Rochelle dancers returned to the Grossinger Motors Arena for the 1A finals on Saturday, when the Chellettes scored 85.44 points to place sixth out of the 12 qualifying schools, landing only one place behind the best state finals finish in school history. The state championships capped off an impressive season for the Chellettes, who placed second in the 1A DeKalb Sectional and took fourth in the Interstate 8 Conference Championship.

“We didn’t think we were going to make it to the second day, so it was crazy when we found out we got fourth in the prelims,” junior Jessica Vagle said. “It was a really fun weekend. It was bittersweet because we knew that the first day could be our last time performing as a team, but we’re happy that we were able to make it as far as we did.”

Friday and Saturday marked the sixth time over the last eight seasons that Rochelle has performed at the IHSA State Championships. With only two seniors (Erin Decker and Sarah Dreska) graduating from RTHS this year, the Chellettes are optimistic



(COURTESY PHOTO)

**The Rochelle dance team finished sixth in the IHSA 1A State Championship meet at the Grossinger Motors Arena in Bloomington this past weekend. The team includes Macy Ramos, Miranda Dubek, Ava McGee, Kayden Kannheiser, Kelsey O’Brien, Taylor Ponto, Jasmine Sarabia, Makaila Crump, Jessica Vagle, Kayla Keilman, Erin Decker and Sarah Dreska. The girls are coached by Kass Smith.**

about the future of their dance program, and they’ll be aiming to perform even better next season.

“I think knowing it was our last time performing together really pushed us,” sophomore Jasmine

Sarabia said. “There’s a very good outlook for us next year because we start training again in April and we’ll train through this time next year. I think we’ll be really good next year.”

“I’m really proud of

how far the girls have come,” head coach Kass Smith added. “We worked really hard over the last two weeks to clean up the routine and really project our performance, and I think that’s what allowed

the girls to go so far. We weren’t expecting to move on to the finals, but when our name was called, we all screamed. It was such a great experience for us, and now we have our goals for next year.”

## RTHS Boys Basketball

# Sycamore surges late to take down Rochelle

### Spartans pull away in fourth quarter, beat Hubs 58-47

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle boys basketball team entered Saturday’s Interstate 8 Conference battle against Sycamore having fallen to the Spartans twice this season. The third time was nearly the charm for the purple and white, but the Hubs were unable to hold on for the win.

Rochelle and Sycamore entered the fourth quarter tied 36-36, and the Spartans slowly crept ahead as the quarter progressed. Behind senior guard Grant McConkey, who scored a team-high 18 points for the Spartans, Sycamore outscored Rochelle 22-11 in the final quarter to beat the Hubs 58-47. Rochelle fell to 12-11 overall and 4-5 in the conference.

“I thought the kids were ready to play,” head coach

“I thought the kids were ready to play. We pressed them early on and I thought we wore them down... We felt pretty good entering the fourth quarter and we felt that we could win a tight game, but a low-scoring game was going to be more difficult for us to handle. Both teams made runs in the fourth quarter, but they made some big plays late in the game.”

Tim Thompson

Tim Thompson said. “We pressed them early on and I thought we wore them down, but like the other two games, we didn’t shoot the ball well enough. We felt pretty good entering the fourth quarter and we felt that we could win a tight game, but a low-scoring game was going to be more difficult for us to handle. Both teams made runs in the fourth quarter, but they made some big plays late in the game.”

Senior Landan Martin led the Hubs with 18 points, while senior Seth Gould added 10 points. Sycamore forward Xavier Gagnepain continued to trouble Rochelle on the glass, totaling 14 rebounds and providing Sycamore with multiple second-chance scoring opportunities.

The Hubs will look to get back on track when they host Stillman Valley on Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Rochelle will then host Plano for a conference matchup on Friday at 7 p.m.

“I thought our effort was there and we guarded better than we have for most of the season,” Thompson said. “We can battle with some teams that are bigger and more physical than us. We stayed true to ourselves defensively, but we were beaten on the boards again.”



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

**Senior Landan Martin scored a team-high 18 points when Rochelle hosted Sycamore on Saturday.**





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## HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO COURTESY OF KISHWAUKEE COLLEGE)

Former Rochelle student-athlete Katie Dummer signed with the Kishwaukee College women's bowling program this past weekend, becoming the first player to sign with the new program.

## Dummer makes history with Kishwaukee signing

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**F**ORMER Rochelle student-athlete Katie Dummer will be more motivated than ever to complete her Kishwaukee College education after making history this past weekend, becoming the first player to sign with the school's women's bowling program debuting for the 2020-21 year.

Kishwaukee College announced the introduction of three new athletic programs this past fall including men's and women's bowling, men's and women's golf and eSports. Dummer, who currently studies criminal justice at the college, signed her National Letter of Intent with the Lady Kougars and head coach Ranzy Collins over the weekend. The Lady Hub bowling standout said she's excited to join the new program and meet her new teammates.

"I'm looking forward to a new adventure," Dummer said. "I'm looking forward to seeing who I'll be bowling with. I'm already there as a student, and this gives me more motivation to finish my degree... I'm looking into forensics and detective work, so I thought it made sense to study criminal justice and see where that path takes me."

Dummer enjoyed an excellent four-year bowling career with Rochelle, qualifying for sectionals three times and reaching the IHSA State Championship

her senior season. She currently coaches the Lady Hubs as an assistant alongside head coach Joey Johanning, who she bowls with during the Thursday Night Classic League at T-Byrd Lanes.

Dummer also works with local youth league bowlers in Rochelle, and she said the perspective she's gained from coaching has given her a new insight into the sport.

"Coaching has been great," Dummer said. "Joey's been a key person in my bowling career and he's a friend in life. We see each other when we bowl on Thursdays and we mess with each other a lot... He's made a very big impact on my life, both personally and in bowling, and it's been a great time coaching with him... Having a coach's mentality has shown me how the sport can be frustrating, but it's also helped my mental game a lot."

Dummer had originally committed to bowling at Highland Community College after high school, but a busy work and school schedule prompted her to leave the program and transfer to Kishwaukee College for academics. Armed with a second chance to compete collegiately, Dummer is aiming to make the most of her new opportunity with the Lady Kougars.

"I'm looking forward to a whole new atmosphere and having a whole different mindset," Dummer said. "I think bowling at Kishwaukee College will be good for me."



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# SPORTS

RTHS Girls Bowling

## Lady Hubs finish fifth at I-8 Championship meet

Mickley earns All-Conference Honorable Mention for season

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**DEKALB** — Sophomore Alyssa Mickley led the Rochelle girls bowling team to a fifth-place finish in the Interstate 8 Conference Championship at Mardi Gras Lanes on Tuesday. Mickley earned an All-Conference Honorable Mention for the season, and she totaled a team-high 1,054 series over six games in the tournament. The Lady Hubs knocked down 4,861 total pins.

“Alyssa has done a great job of building more consistency this season,” head coach Joey Johanning said. “She doesn’t let one bad game affect her and she stays even-keeled throughout every series she bowls... Her consistency and her mindset have been huge for her.”

The Rochelle bowlers grew stronger as their first series progressed, recording team scores of 761, 802 and 894 over the first three games. Mickley and sophomore teammate Alyssa Schwanert were neck-and-neck during the



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle girls bowling team finished fifth in the Interstate 8 Conference Championship at Mardi Gras Lanes on Tuesday. Above from left to right are Carly Summers, Cassie Moore, Anna Samo, Kiya Porter, Alyssa Mickley and Alyssa Schwanert.

first half of the tournament, with Schwanert notching a 525 series and Mickley following with a 524 series and a high game of 201.

“The girls bowled really well,” Johanning said. “We picked up a lot of our spares today. We always preach about picking up spares, and those went a long way for us today.”

The Lady Hubs worked through the second half of the tournament in a similar fashion to how they opened the afternoon, rolling team scores of 750, 777 and 877 to close out the meet. Mickley led Rochelle with a 530 series and a high score of 208, while Schwanert added a 477 series and a high score of 188. The Lady Hubs will begin their postseason run in the IHSA Dixon Regional at Plum Hollow Lanes on Saturday, Feb. 8 at 9 a.m.

“We’re definitely going to have a tough regional,” Johanning said. “But for us, it goes back to the fundamentals. We need to pick our spares up and every pin matters. The strikes will come for us, but converting those spares will be paramount.”

Rochelle Wrestling Club

## Junior Hubs claw through Lemont Bears Bash

Gensler, Tourdot bring home first-place finishes for Rochelle

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**LEMONT** — The Rochelle Wrestling Club crowned two champions during the Lemont Bears Bash on Sunday, Feb. 2. Senior Division grapplers

Grant Gensler and Tommy Tourdot both went undefeated to claim championships in their respective brackets.

Two Rochelle kids competed in the Tots Division including Nehemiah Andronic and Danny Johnson, who both finished fourth in their respective brackets. Brantley Koenig and Garrett Miller represented the Junior Hubs in the Bantam Division, with both wrestlers going 1-1 over two matches. Miller took second in his bracket, while Koenig finished third.

Zachary Johnson and Aidan Lopez fought in the Intermediate Division, with Johnson (2-1) notching a second-place finish and Lopez (2-1) earning a third-place finish. Four RWC kids battled in the Novice Division including Tony Milburn (2-1) and Roman Villalobos (2-1), who took third in their brackets. Brenden Voight (2-1) placed fifth and Boone Alderks (1-2) was sixth.

Gensler (3-0) and Tourdot (3-0) led the Junior Hubs in the Senior Division with first-place titles. Xavier Villalobos (2-1) and Kaiden Morris (2-1) each finished fifth in their respective brackets. Rochelle will next compete in the Batavia Classic on Sunday, Feb. 16.

St. Paul Lutheran School



(COURTESY PHOTO)

### Lady Crusader basketball team takes second at Zion Lutheran Tournament

The St. Paul Lutheran School girls basketball team competed at the Zion Lutheran Tournament in Marengo this past weekend, taking second place out of 12 programs. The Lady Crusaders advanced to the championship game, falling 23-22 against Rockford Lutheran in a close battle. The girls are coached by Tim Hayden and Sherry Murphy, and the team includes Abby Metzger, Emma Kennay, Erin Murphy, Alivia Henkel, Molly Boehm, Meredith Bruns and Taelynn Rodeghero.





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#### Hub City Senior Center

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815.562.5050  
hubcityseniorcenter.com

#### Rochelle Chamber Of Commerce

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815.562.4189  
therochellechamber.com

#### V.F.W Post 3878

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815.562.3878  
www.vfw.org

### DINING & ENTERTAINMENT

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815.562.3456  
aldospizzaandpubrochelle.restaurant

#### Alfano's Pizzeria & Italian Restaurant

1115 Turkington Terrace  
815.562.3312  
alfanospizza.com

#### Culver's of Rochelle

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815.561.9720  
culvers.com

#### Dog Hub

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815.561.0001  
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#### Kenny's Place

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#### Rabbit's Foot

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815.561.6541

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815.562.4822  
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#### Tecalitlan Restaurant

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815.562.2181  
rochellehospital.com

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#### Meyers Furniture

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815.562.8792  
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Melissa Inman, NP  
1118 Turkington Terrace  
815.227-9594

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815.561.8786  
midwest-physicaltherapy.com

#### Rochelle Chiropractic - Dr. Chad Piller

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815.562.8706  
rochellechiropractic.com

#### Rochelle Community Hospital

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815.562.2181  
rochellehospital.com

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pembertonplumbingheating.com

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shanehuber.com

#### State Farm Insurance - Terri Schaefer

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terrishaefer.com

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815.562.4171  
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#### RE/Max Hub City

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#### Weichert Realtors

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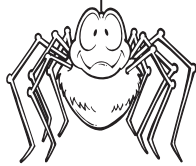
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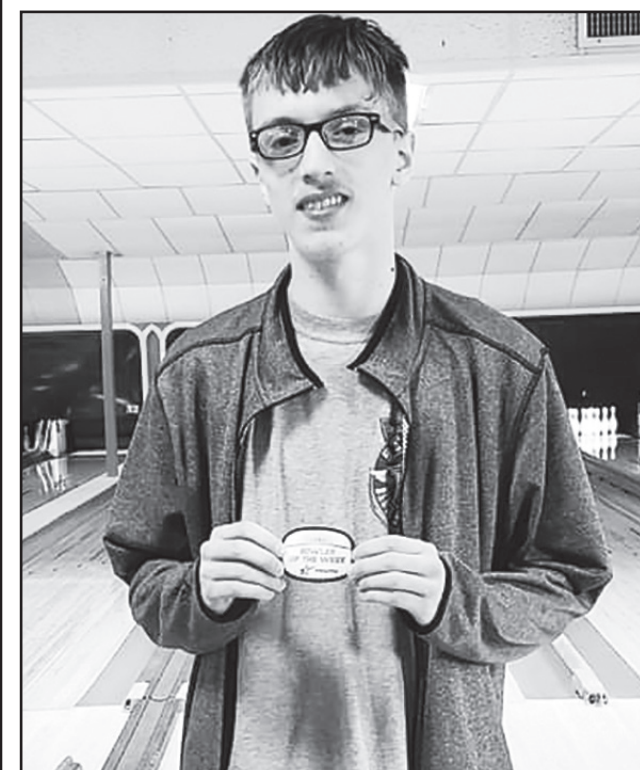
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# SPORTS

## T-Byrd Lanes



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

### Local high school, youth league bowlers earn USBC awards

T-Byrd Lanes awards six local bowlers with league awards recently. Nathan Vaupel (6), Matthew Wentz (7) and Faith Totzke (8) each received High School Bowler of the Week honors, while Drew Sanders was named December High

School Bowler of the Month. Kiera Hopp (November) and Cassidy Vincent (December) both took home Youth League Bowler of the Month awards. The winners are pictured above from top left to bottom right.

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# ON THE FARM

## Farm Legacy Seminars planned

Rochelle, Champaign and Marion locations for talks

**BLOOMINGTON** — Seventy percent of U.S. farmland will likely change hands during the next two decades. With estimates as high as half of American farmers operating without an estate plan, Illinois Farm Bureau (IFB) and COUNTRY Financial are set to provide valuable Farm Legacy Seminars to aid them as plans are made for the next generation.

The two organizations will host three farm legacy information meetings in February of 2020. The seminars will provide current and prospective IFB members and COUNTRY Financial clients with tools, protection and ongoing support essential to legacy planning, in order to allow them to keep their farm in the family amid today's financial challenges.

"Illinois farm families face a series of issues, including rising costs in agriculture and surviving financial stress year to year, that may pull their focus away from planning for the future of the farm," said IFB President Richard Guebert Jr. "This meeting series will realign that focus in sharing the resources and knowledge they need to have those conversations and preserve their farm legacy."

Each meeting will include a keynote presentation by Dr. Ron Hanson, Harlan agribusiness professor emeritus at the University of Nebraska-Lincoln and professional speaker on farm legacy planning.

"It is never too early for farm family members to begin a legacy planning process for their farm," said Dr. Hanson. "Most often, farm families make the mistake of waiting until it is too late or after something unexpected happens. That is never the best time to make good objective decisions. It's important to develop and implement a business succession plan now to continue a family farming legacy for future generations."

Hanson has been a recipient of 31 university and national awards throughout his 46-year agribusiness teaching and advising career. Following Dr. Hanson's talk, farm legacy planning support will be explained and offered by COUNTRY Financial Specialists and Planning Support Manager, Joe Buhrmann.

"Legal documents and adequate protection are a solid start to the conversation," stated Buhrmann. "Equally important, though is having the entire family

take part in the conversation. Having a plan will ensure that what you want to have happen will happen. At COUNTRY, our team of planning professionals have been helping farming families keep the farm in the family for over 50 years. What you've built with your hands, your head, and your heart is too important to leave to chance. We're excited to partner with professionals like Dr. Hanson and the Illinois Farm Bureau to help farm families collectively begin this important conversation and process."

Meetings are set to take place in northern, central and southern Illinois. The 2-hour seminars will each begin at 5 p.m. with dinner. Dates and locations are as follows:

Feb. 25: Hickory Grove Banquet and Conference Center, Rochelle

Feb. 26: I-Hotel and Conference Center, Champaign

Feb. 27: Kokopelli Golf Club, Marion

\*Dr. Hanson will be available before or after the event for media availability. Please contact [acasali@ilfb.org](mailto:acasali@ilfb.org) or [chris.coplan@countryfinancial.com](mailto:chris.coplan@countryfinancial.com) if interested in scheduling an interview.

Registration for the events is now open to current and prospective IFB members and COUNTRY Financial clients. To register, visit [www.ilfb.org/farmplanning](http://www.ilfb.org/farmplanning)

### About Illinois Farm Bureau

The Illinois Farm Bureau is a member of the American Farm Bureau Federation, a national organization of farmers and ranchers. Founded in 1916, IFB is a non-profit, membership organization directed by farmers who join through their county Farm Bureau. IFB has a total membership of more than 386,7291 and a voting membership of 79,159. IFB represents three out of four Illinois farmers.

### About COUNTRY Financial®

COUNTRY Financial is a marketing name for COUNTRY Life Insurance Company®, COUNTRY Mutual Insurance Company® and their respective subsidiaries, located in Bloomington, Ill. COUNTRY Financial serves about one million households and businesses throughout the United States and offers a wide range of insurance and financial products and services.

## Lilja honored with LCFB Distinguished Service Award

Recognized at Jan. 9 annual farm bureau meeting

**AMBOY** — The Lee County Farm Bureau is honored to recognize the late Christy Lilja, Washington, D.C., with the Distinguished Service Award in recognition for long-time service to the American Farm Bureau (AFBF) and the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

The Distinguished Service Award was established to honor and recognize an individual or couple who has shown exemplary leadership and service to Farm Bureau, agriculture and farmers in Lee County and beyond.

Lilja started at AFBF in accounting in 1985 when AFBF was located in Park Ridge. She relocated to Washington DC when AFBF moved there in 2003. She served as executive director of accounting and administration for a decade. In 2018, she took on a new role as the Executive Director of the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture.

Lilja was recognized at the Lee County Farm Bureau Annual Meeting on Jan. 9.



## A few things in spending bill will benefit agriculture

**T**HERE was lots of talk last month about a government shutdown and not passing a federal budget. All for not as both Republicans and Democrats came to agreement on a spending bill. Most likely the only thing they will come to agreement on. Seems like watching things in D.C. is like watching a bad boxing match.

A few things in the spending bill benefit agriculture.

Legislation to fund the U.S. government in 2020 included several tax provisions important to farmers and ranchers. At the top of the list is permanent repeal of the Health Insurance Tax, which was enacted as part of the Affordable Care Act.

The Health Insurance Tax has increased health insurance costs for farmers, ranchers and other small busi-

nesses by imposing a levy on the net premiums of health insurance companies, which is then passed on to consumers.

The spending bill (H.R. 1865) also retroactively reinstates and extends tax incentives for biodiesel and renewable biodiesel through Dec. 31, 2022, and tax credits for second-generation biofuels through 2020.

In many rural areas of the country, [biodiesel and other biofuel] production facilities are a driving force in local economies that provide employment opportunities and broaden the local tax base. In addition, all citizens, including farmers who are large fuel consumers, benefit when our nation reduces its

dependence on unpredictable international oil markets.

An extension through 2020 of the tax credit for alternative refueling property is also included in the bill.

In addition, the measure retroactively restores and extends through Dec. 31, 2022, the 50% tax credit for short line railroad maintenance. Short line railroads are first- and last-mile carriers that connect small towns, farms and factories to the national rail network, creating jobs and stimulating economic growth in thousands of local communities.

Farmers and ranchers need efficient and cost-effective rail transportation for the delivery of equipment, seed, fertilizer and other inputs and to move the food, fiber and fuel products they produce to market. An efficient rail system reduces the

prices farmers pay for supplies and greatly expands domestic market access and access to ports for export to foreign markets.

The spending bill also allows rural electric cooperatives to maintain their tax-exempt status when they receive grants for such things as expanding broadband or restoring power after storms and disasters; extends the Craft Beverage Modernization Act for one year, until Dec. 31, 2020; and extends the wind energy Production Tax Credit through December 2020 and raises the value of the PTC to 1.5 cents/kilowatt hour.

\*\*\*\*\*

If you are a livestock producer do not forget the upcoming certified livestock managers workshops fast approaching.

Workshops will be held on Feb. 19 at the DeKalb County Farm

Bureau, 1350 W. Prairie Drive in Sycamore and on Feb. 20 at the Stephenson County Farm Bureau, 210 W. Spring Street in Freeport.

To register for a workshop, call the University of Illinois Extension at 815-858-

2273 or go online to <https://extension.illinois.edu/jsw/certified-livestock-manager-training-workshops-2020>. The cost is \$35. If more than one employee from the same farm signs-up, each registration after the first will cost \$25.



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