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MIDWEEK EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2019 \$1

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Funds for education

The Rochelle Township High School Education Foundation held a chili cook-off Saturday. See page 3

WEATHER

WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
56 36	47 31
FRIDAY	SATURDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
50 30	55 42

OBITUARIES

- MARY DILLING
- KAITLYN PALMER
- BLANCHE SCHENE
- JERRY SEEBACH

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- FARM & FLEET

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Flagg Rochelle Park District

Project update given

Recreation center cost lowered to roughly \$13.7 million

BY RUSSELL HODGES
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — The Flagg-Rochelle Community Park District Board of Commissioners continued to iron out financial numbers during its monthly board meeting at Rochelle City Hall on Monday.

Board President Tim Hayden discussed Phase II of the park district's Guaranteed Maximum Price from Ringland-Johnson Construction. Hayden said the GMP has moved to roughly \$13.7 million for the new community center at Helms South, about \$275,000 less of its initial value of around \$14 million. Portions of the construction project are still being bid

Executive director Jackee Ohlinger discussed eight bid proposals for exercise equipment in the community center fitness room. The bids ranged from \$160,000 to \$323,000, and companies offering bids include Matrix, Life Fitness, Direct Fitness Solutions and Midwest Commercial Fitness.



out including the turf. The scheduled completion date for the center remains Labor Day 2020.

"We have a target date we're trying to finish the project by, but this isn't

a school where we're angling to start by the first day of school," Hayden said. "We have to balance reasonable spending and getting to our completion date... We also wanted to

limit the number of allowances we have because we're trying to limit our exposure... We're down to figuring out the last few things, with one of those being the turf."

Executive director Jackee Ohlinger discussed eight bid proposals for exercise equipment in the community center fitness room. The bids ranged from \$160,000 to \$323,000, and companies offering bids include Matrix, Life Fitness, Direct Fitness Solutions and Midwest Commercial Fitness. Ohlinger said she will likely have a recommendation on fitness equipment ready for the board prior to its November meeting.

See PARK page 4

School enrollment down

BY JENNIFER SIMMONS
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Township High School Board members were given current and project enrollment numbers from Superintendent Jason Harper Monday night, getting a look at projections for next year's enrollment.

"Currently, we have 874 students enrolled in grades nine through 12," Harper said. "We expect to see upward of 920 next year based on projections from our school and the feeder schools."

This year's enrollment numbers have declined by approximately 30 at RTHS compared to a year ago. Based on projection numbers from the local elementary district

and the surrounding feeder schools, numbers could be as high as 940 students within the next two years.

"Increases and decreases from year to year are typical for school districts and are in line with our project trends. It is not uncommon for there to be differences between classes," Harper commented.

Staff

Board members accepted the resignations of assistant speech coach Terry Dickow and assistant wrestling coach Jason Fore as well as approving a family leave request for Lindsey Suess for the spring semester. Riley Lodico was also approved as a volunteer assistant basketball coach.

This is just a drill

BY JENNIFER SIMMONS
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Township High School was host to an array of emergency personnel Saturday for an active shooting drill training session.

Area police and fire departments participated in the event that included more than 320 students and adults that took personnel more than 20 months to put together.

During the hours-long training session, police officers were faced with a shooter in the building who had detonated a pipe bomb.

According to Rochelle Police Chief Eric Higby — during a mock



(PHOTO BY JENNIFER SIMMONS)

A multitude of agencies took part in an active shooter drill Saturday at Rochelle Township High School. The drill was 20-months in the making.

media news conference — the 17-year-old student had barricaded himself inside a classroom in the "C" wing of the building

along with approximately 20 students where he detonated the pipe bomb and began shooting a gun, critically injuring

eight students before being taken into custody by police.

See DRILL page 2



Hatfield

Murder charge filed

Former Rochelle man held in death of former Rochelle woman

BLOOMINGTON, Iowa — On Friday, Muscatine County Iowa Attorney Alan R. Ostergren announced that a charge of murder in the first degree was filed against David J.S. Hatfield, 23, of Muscatine, Iowa, in the death of a former Rochelle resident.

On Oct. 16, the Muscatine County Joint Communications Center received a 911 call from Hatfield stating that his girlfriend had shot herself at the Saulbury Recreation Area in rural Muscatine County.

The criminal complaint filed in Muscatine County Court alleges that in a subsequent interview, Hatfield admitted to having shot the victim and that he further admitted having fired a practice shot before doing so.

The victim, Kaitlyn Palmer, 18, of Muscatine, died at the University of Iowa Hospitals and Clinics on Oct. 17. The cause of death was a single gunshot wound to the head.

Hatfield was previously charged with attempt to commit murder in connection with the incident. His bond is currently set at \$1,000,000 cash only. He remains in custody in the Muscatine County Jail. His next court appearance will be a preliminary hearing on Oct. 28 at 9 a.m.

The incident was investigated by the Muscatine County Sheriff's Office, the Muscatine Police Department, and the Iowa Division of Criminal Investigation.

Palmer is a 2019 graduate of Rochelle Township High School. Hatfield was a 2015 graduate of RTHS.

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LOCAL NEWS

Educating on signs of suicide

Public program at Rochelle VFW aims to raise awareness, offer help

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — A speaker from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs will be giving a presentation on suicide prevention open to the public at the Rochelle VFW post 3878 Monday.

Suicide among veterans is rising problem and for that reason, Vicki Clark, suicide prevention coordinator for the Rockford VA primary care clinic, travels around southern Madison, Wisconsin, and northern Illinois educating people on the tell-tale signs of suicide and how to extend help to someone contemplating taking their own life.

Clark starts each one of her presentations with facts about suicide among veterans.

"Twenty veterans a day die by suicide and out of those 20, 14 of them are not attached to the VA

"Twenty veterans a day die by suicide and out of those 20, 14 of them are not attached to the VA [Veterans Affairs] and will never come across any of our signage or information."

Vicki Clark

[Veterans Affairs] and will never come across any of our signage or information," said Clark.

Some of the suicides could possibly have been prevented if the person had a support system or someone to talk too.

The program presented by Clark at different locations such as schools, churches, unions and VFWs is called SAVE. The SAVE program discusses the different facts and myths related to suicide, the different resources available for people who need help, and identifying people who are at risk.

The title of the presentation SAVE is an acronym,

so each letter stands for a different part of the process.

"S stands for the signs of suicidal thinking, A stands for ask the most important question of all, V stands for validating the veteran's experiences and E stands for encourage treatment and expedite care," explained Clark.

The goal of this presentation is to educate people on how to react if faced with the situation and to get people more comfortable with talking about suicide since it is a very difficult subject to talk about.

Clark has seen good response from her presentations so far with quite a few people who have previously seen or heard about the presentations reaching out afterward asking if she will present in their area.

Bill Bumgarner, commander of the Rochelle VFW post, recently saw one of Clark's presentations and afterward reached out for her to come and present at the Rochelle VFW.

"I went to the VFW post 9759 in Loves park for her presentation about a month ago and it seemed like she was very trained

in what she does," added Bumgarner.

The presentation will be held Monday, Oct. 28 at 6 p.m. at the Rochelle VFW post. It is free and open to anyone who would like to attend.

Bumgarner hopes that by opening the session to the public that maybe a friend or family member of a struggling veteran will come out even if the veteran themselves doesn't want to ask for help.

Many veterans need the help but will not go out of their way to seek it.

"I wanted to do that because sometimes veterans won't ask for help because they are pretty bull headed, and I thought a family member has more contact with them than we do," explained Bumgarner. "So, maybe they would have a better chance of talking them into getting help or getting the help for them."

The Rochelle VFW would like everyone to know that they don't have to be a veteran or family member of a veteran to attend the presentation. They encourage anyone who knows a veteran or just wants to learn more on preventing suicide to attend.

DRILL: Agencies unite

From page 1

"Planning for this drill began in February of 2018 and in that time we've engaged the stakeholders and responders in numerous conversations, training and smaller scaled walk throughs," emergency management coordinator for the City of Rochelle and Rochelle Police Department Detective Terry Inman said. "This drill was another step in the process and we exposed the responders to concepts and tactics that they've either never experienced - such as responding to an active shooter in a school - or have recently begun to train with - such as rescue task force operations. I am very confident that we took away many lessons learned from this drill."

Many agencies participated in one fashion or another Saturday, including the Federal Bureau of Investigations, Illinois State Police District 1 and 15, ILEAS, MABAS, Rochelle Police, DeKalb Police, Rockford Police, Rock Valley College Police, Ogle County Sheriff's Police and Emergency Management, Lee County Sheriff's Police and Emergency Management, Oregon Police Department, Genoa Police Department, Rochelle Fire Department, Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District, Oregon Fire Department, Rockford Fire Department, Cherry Valley Fire Department, Dixon Fire Department, City of Rochelle, Rochelle Street Department, Rochelle Water Department, City of Algonquin, Rochelle School District 212, Rochelle School District 231, Dixon public schools, Oregon public schools, Regional Board of Education, Focus House, Kishwaukee Education Consortium, Kishwaukee College, Western Illinois University, American Red Cross, Salvation Army, Sinnissippi Centers and AESI Counseling.

"Looking at initial observations and immediate reactions taken right after the drill, there were a lot of favorable comments from participants regarding their experience with the scenarios and lessons they learned. As well, there were a number of constructive comments about things that could've gone different or better, and these are common with any training evolution," Inman said. "We are in the process of assessing all of the participants' feedback and will have specific action points in the weeks and months ahead with the completion of the After Action Report & Improvement Plan."

Rochelle Township High School District 212 and Rochelle Elementary District 231 Superintendent Jason Harper said that in the aftermath of the session, staff will be looking at security protocol, some of the pro-active things that are already being done and the reactive things that happened during the training and discussing with Rochelle Police and the other agencies that participated Saturday.

"We continue to do our training that we are required to do and I think we have done some things that are proactive in trying to be ahead of these types of situations but there's a feeling we could always do more," Harper said.

Inman believes Saturday's drill was successful overall.

"Anytime you get individuals and entities together for a common goal such as improving the safety of our community and they all give 100 percent toward that end you can't help but be successful," he said.

EDUCATION STARTS WITH 'SAVE'

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A stands for ask the most important question of all

V stands for validating the veteran's experiences

E stands for encourage treatment and expedite care

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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY ANDREW HEISERMAN)

The Vodka Boys, a local band made up of RTHS graduates, performs from 8 to 11 p.m. at the RTHS Education Foundations annual fundraiser. This year it was a chili cook off.

A night of food, fun for education

Rochelle Township High School Education Foundation raises over \$5,000 for students, classrooms

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE – The Rochelle Township High School Education Foundation hosted its annual fundraiser at Salt 251 on Saturday night.

Each year the foundation hosts a fundraising event in order to continue providing grants and funds for equipment that the school would otherwise not be able to afford.

In the past, the foundation has been able to provide laptops, heart monitors for the PE classes and a pottery oven for the art classes.

“We raise money and award grants so that teachers can do things above and beyond in their classroom,” said RTHSEF board president Rhonda Crandall. “Stuff that maybe the high school can’t afford to buy, but we want it to make an enriched, engaged and extra special experience for the kids.”

Since the creation of the foundation in 1994 it has awarded more than \$160,000.

In previous years, the RTHS Education Foundation has held many different types of events for its annual fundraiser, including a 30 Men Who Cook event, dueling pianos, and even a retro prom.

This is the first time the foundation hosted a chili cook off.

“This is the first time we have done it, so it may become an annual event, at this point we are not sure,” added



(PHOTO BY ANDREW HEISERMAN)

Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows and his wife, Dina, accept the plaque for winning the 2019 RTHSEF chili cook off.

Crandall. “We wanted to bring parts of the community in, that is why we have our guest chefs. So people can get to know special people in our community and raise money for a great cause.”

This year’s event featured four different chili recipes for attendees to taste-test before voting on their favorite.

Each of the chilis at the event were cooked and represented by a different organization in the community, including Hormel/Rochelle Foods, Team Bearrows, The Rochelle Fire Department, and the RTHS Athletic Boosters.

Attendees at the event would go around the room trying each of the different chili recipes and then vote on their favorites by leaving a “tip” in the jar on the cook’s table. At the end of the voting, organizers counted the tips in each of the jars and the organization with the most money was awarded with a plaque with a soup ladle attached to it. All of the funds collected through the event went to the RTHS Education Foundation.

Each of the cooks in the competition had their own secret ingredients to make their chili stand out.

“We wanted to bring parts of the community in, that is why we have our guest chefs. So people can get to know special people in our community and raise money for a great cause.”

Rhonda Crandall

“The secret to our chili is lots of homegrown veggies and homemade V8 juice along with using ground bison to help bring out the flavor when it cooks,” explained Rochelle firefighters Curt Helgren and Johnathon Plaza.

Others did not want to reveal their secret since it was a recipe that has been in the family for years.

The attendees seemed to enjoy all of the chilis, but some had obvious favorites.

“Rochelle Foods’ tasted the best, but Team Bearrows has the best condiments,” said attendee Jesse Hoiness.

Once the voting was finished and the money in each of the chef’s tip jars had been counted, it was time to announce the winner and award

the plaque to the winning team. It was a very close competition, but in the end mayor Bearrows, with Team Bearrows, came out on top.

Along with the chili cook off contest there were also baskets full of prizes being raffled off, along with a 50/50 raffle and a performance from local band, The Vodka Boys, to finish off the night.



(PHOTO BY ANDREW HEISERMAN)

Rochelle firefighters Johnathan Plaza and Curt Helgren being asked by emcee Michael Koolidge what their secret ingredient is.

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LOCAL NEWS

October electronic recycling date set

OREGON — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department will be holding the second-to-last residential electronic recycling drop-off of the year on Oct. 25.

These events are held at the County Annex Building at 909 Pines Road from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. The events are for residential electronics from Ogle County and ID's are checked. There is a limit of seven large or bulky items per vehicle.

Accepted items include all residential televisions, computers, computer monitors, all computer accessories, hardware, and cables, UPS systems, printers, FAX machines, copiers, laptops, cell phones, tablets, video game equipment, phone systems, radios, stereo equipment, digital clocks, VCR/ DVD players, remotes, and cable/ satellite receivers, holiday light strands, rechargeable batteries, CFL bulbs, and printer ink cartridges. Microwave ovens are also accepted for a \$5 charge.

Items that are not accepted include smoke detectors, fans, lamps, vacuum cleaners, personal hygiene items, power tools, yard tools, toys, heaters, air conditioners, dehumidifiers, sump pumps, coffee makers, bread makers, toasters or ovens, or electric fryers. Electronics from businesses, schools, or other institutions are not accepted at these events. Please contact the OCSWMD for options regarding business or institutional electronic items.

Food drive

The OCSWMD will also be accepting non-perishable food items at the electronics drop-off. Items accepted include all non-expired and sealed canned foods, soup, cereal, pasta, rice, pancake mix, syrup, peanut butter, jelly, and items such as bar soap, toothpaste, and toothbrushes. Cash donations are also accepted. All donated items are distributed to various Ogle County food pantries.

The food pantries in Oregon and Byron have already received donations collected by the OCSWMD during the September drop-off events. Around 500 pounds of food items were collected during September from people dropping off their electronics.

If you have questions about the residential electronics recycling drop-off or about the food drive, please call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020, see us on Facebook, or visit www.oglecounty.org.



Obituaries

ROCHELLE — Mary June Dilling, 81, passed away Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center in Franklin Grove.

Mary June was born on June 23, 1938 at home in rural Rochelle to Harold and Harriett (Hayes) Alberts. She married Carl W. Dilling on Nov. 9, 1957 at Elim Reformed Church in rural Kings and would have celebrated 62 years in a few weeks.

Mary June enjoyed friends, traveling, sewing, reading, playing cards and games but especially enjoyed anything her family was involved in. She loved her children unconditionally and supported them as her life accomplishment. Her love of family extended out to the many children that she babysat throughout the years. Carl and Mary June's home was always open and welcome to anyone.

Mary June was an active member of St. Paul Lutheran Church and School family. She sang in the choir,

Mary Dilling

taught Sunday School, cooked the school hot lunches for many years and made hundreds of pies for the school's tournament. She served on numerous church boards and created individual baby baptism banners for over 30 years.

Mary June enjoyed shopping with and for her children and grandchildren along with making clothing for them. She actively supported Ogle County 4-H programs, Ogle County Pork Producers and hosted the Farm Visit Days for the local schools.

In addition to her loving husband, Carl, Mary June is survived by three children, Jeffrey (Debra Peterson) of Kings, Steven (Julie) of Rochelle, and Sheila (Erik) Thomack of Columbus, Indiana; four grandchildren, Stephanie (Bryan) Schmid of Rock Island, Jessica (Cedric) Elam of Chicago, Nathan and James Thomack of Columbus, Indiana; one great-grandchild, Marion Schmid; sister, Dorothy (Donald) Daigle of Dale, Indiana; brother, John (Linda)

Alberts of Sun Prairie, Wisconsin; sister-in-law, Lorraine Ransford of Indianapolis, Indiana; and numerous nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by a son, Nicholas in 1968; brothers, James and Harold, Jr. Alberts; and brother-in-law, George Ransford.

The visitation will be from 5 to 8 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. Sixth St., Rochelle. The funeral service will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 24 at St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church, 1415 Tenth Ave., Rochelle, with Pastor Greg Hoffmann officiating. Burial will follow the service at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle.

In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Mary June's memory to St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church.

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



Kaitlyn S. Palmer

ROCHELLE — Kaitlyn S. Palmer, 18, died in Iowa on Oct. 17, 2019.

A 2019 RTHS graduate, she was an avid reader, loved to cook and bake, enjoyed the outdoors and all animals. She will be forever remembered for her quirky sense of humor, uncanny ability to give unique names to everyday objects and especially her infectious smile and laughter.



She is survived by her mother, Jennifer Palmer of Rochelle; father, TJ Palmer of Tennessee; grandparents Sue and Bill Paulin of Rochelle; grandmother Rhonda Palmer of Tennessee; her uncles Brian (Jes) Paulin of Lovettsville, Virginia, Tim (Linda) Paulin of Downers Grove, and Matt (Kim) Paulin of Arvada, Colorado; and many great-aunts, great-uncles and cousins.

An open house and luncheon celebrating her life will be held Thursday, Oct. 24 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Hicks Hall of the Rochelle

United Methodist Church.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Jennifer Palmer to cover funeral expenses.

A GoFundMe account, Celebration of Kaitlyn Palmer's Life, has been established on Facebook.

The link to the GoFundMe page is here: https://www.gofundme.com/f/celebration-of-kaitlyn-palmer039s-life?pc=fb_co_campmgmt_m&rcid=r01-157151421817-b5fdd48f074048e2&utm_source=facebook&utm_medium=social&utm_campaign=fb_co_campmgmt_m.

Blanche O. Schene

FRANKLIN GROVE — Blanche O. Schene, 92, formerly of Rochelle, passed away Sunday, Oct. 20, 2019 at Franklin Grove Living and Rehabilitation Center.

Blanche was born on May 19, 1927 to John and Corrine (Deitch) Allen in Leland. On Aug. 25, 1945, she married Harold G. "Stump" Schene in Chana. He preceded her in death on June 20, 2000.



Blanche is survived by her son, Jeff Schene of Rochelle; daughter, Judy (Larry) Peters of Cherry Valley; brother, Donald (Mildred) Allen of Wausau, Wisconsin; three grandchildren, Mark Peters, Jacob Dougherty and Katherine (Ryan) Carlson and four great-grandchildren, Ben, Griffin, Nora and Emery.

In addition to her husband and parents, Blanche is predeceased by four sisters, Zelda Allen, Margaret Tuntland, Helen Ramsett and Harriet Cater and three brothers, John, Robert and Howard Allen.

The visitation will be from 4 to 7 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 25 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. Sixth St., Rochelle. The funeral will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, Oct. 26 at the Rochelle United Methodist Church, 709 Fourth Ave., Rochelle, with Pastors Dave Rogula and Rob Hamilton officiating. Burial will follow the service at Trinity Memory Gardens in Rochelle.

A memorial will be established. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

Jerry Seebach

ROCHELLE — Jerry Seebach, 78, passed away on Tuesday, Oct. 22, 2019 at his home with his family at his side.

Funeral services are pending at the Unger Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. Sixth St., Rochelle.

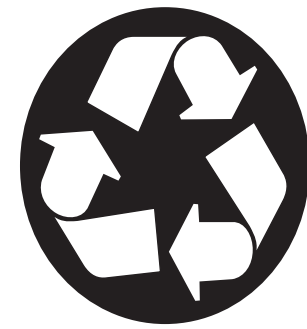
Visit www.ungerhorner.com for the obituary and online guestbook.

PARK: Skare Park tree project approved

From page 1

The board approved a bid of around \$39,000 from Grover's Tree Services for the Skare Park tree project, which will be conducted on the west side of the park. Ohlinger said the park district has discussed using the trees removed from the project by chipping them up and spreading the wood chips around the back area of the park where walking trails are located. Ohlinger said a controlled burn has been scheduled for Nov. 2 at Skare Park.

"Those trails get really wet, so when we have our runners out there, we'd be able to utilize some of those wood chips," Ohlinger said.



Read and Recycle

The family of Maurice Stunkel extends our gratitude and appreciation to all family and friends for the cards, calls, visits, food, floral arrangements and other acts of kindness. A special thank you goes out to all those who attended the wonderful service for Maurice. It is during difficult times like this that we truly realize how fortunate we are to live in such a caring community.

"Let not your hearts be troubled, believe in God, believe also in me" - John 14:1

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Kalah and Mac McCaskey & Family
Mike and Joan Pfeiffer & Family

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The family of
Connie Keimig
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Celebration of Life service on
Tuesday, Oct. 29
at the Rochelle Moose Lodge
at 1 p.m. in Rochelle
Please join us. Connie passed away in her
home in Washington, N.C.
on June 22, 2019

10232019

LOCAL NEWS

Driver cited for failure to yield to emergency vehicle

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — A Rochelle Police squad car was involved in an accident near Walgreens on Oct. 14.

At 8:40 a.m., a Rochelle squad car was responding to a call, traveling northbound on Seventh Street when he crossed the intersection against the light. The officer had his lights on when crossing, but the civilian traveling eastbound on Jones Road did not see the officer and they collided in the intersection.

No injuries resulted from the crash.

Illinois State Police were called to handle the scene because a Rochelle Police Department officer was involved in the crash. State police cited Paul Priester, 57, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin, for failure to yield to an emergency vehicle.

The Rochelle squad car received damage to the front driver's side quarter panel.

Woman arrested for driving under influence

On Oct. 18 at 10:59 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Margaret J. Thompson, 48, of Lindenwood, for driving under the influence. She posted \$100 bond. Her court date is set for Dec. 13.

On Oct. 18 at 5:25 p.m., Rochelle police cited a female juvenile, 16, of Rochelle, for failure to reduce speed. She issued a promise to comply. Her court date is set for Dec. 13.

On Oct. 20 at 5:49 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Gabriel Ujcic, 19, of Rochelle, on an Ogle County

warrant and domestic battery. He posted \$1,102 bond and was transported to jail.

On Oct. 10 at 2:08 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Bryce A. Thomasson, 21, of Rochelle, for failure to register as a sex offender, and resisting/obstruction of a police officer. He was transported to jail.

On Oct. 21 at 7:23 p.m., Rochelle police arrested Anmarie R. Kuntz, 28, of Sandwich, for violation of stalking/ no contact criminal trespass to a residence. She was transported to jail.

Man arrested for driving while license suspended

On Oct. 18 at approximately 8:47 p.m., deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 6000 block of North Freeport Road. After further investigation, Darrius Allison, 25, of Freeport, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Allison was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

Oct. 19

On Oct. 19 at 7:56 p.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 18000 block of East Illinois Route 64 for an equipment violation. After an investigation, Troy Berns, 25, of Rockford, was arrested for possession of a controlled substance. Berns was transported to the Ogle County jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Oct. 19, Ogle County deputies performed a traffic stop in the 500 block of South First Avenue in Forreton. After an investigation Dale J. Ulrich, 37, of Rockford, was arrested for no valid driver's license. Ulrich was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Ulrich was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

Oct. 20

On Oct. 20 at 2:33 a.m., Ogle County Sheriff's deputies responded to the 8000 block of North Illinois Route 251 for a vehicle in the ditch. After an investigation, it was

determined that Kyle Carhart, 22, of Janesville, Wisconsin, had driven his Trailblazer into the east ditch, and crashed into a field entrance. Carhart was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Carhart was transported to the Ogle County jail and held in lieu of bond.

On Oct. 20 at approximately 7:22 p.m., deputies initiated a traffic stop in the 5000 block of north River Road. After further investigation Jermaine Hollins, 31, of Rockford, was placed under arrest for driving while license suspended. Hollins was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

Oct. 21

On Oct. 21 Ogle County Sheriff's deputies arrested Paul Perez, 25, of Hillcrest, in Oregon. Perez was arrested when he turned himself in to the Ogle County Jail on an outstanding warrant for criminal damage to property. He posted \$3,000/10 percent bond and will appear in court on Nov. 15.

Oct. 22

On Oct. 22, Ogle County Sheriff's deputies initiated a traffic stop on Interstate 39 for speeding. After a short investigation David Paniauga, 19, of Rockford, was arrested for driving while license suspended. Paniauga was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

Scouts celebrate



(PHOTOS SUBMITTED)

Cub Scout Pack 553 met Monday at Lincoln School for its Halloween Carnival. Scouts received their advancements, dressed in costumes, played Halloween themed games made from the boys in the Bear Den and won candy and prizes.



BEWARE

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your house
might be haunted?

Furnace
Howling?

Drips That
Go Bump In
The Night?

Water Equipment
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It's Mummified?

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LOCAL VIEWS

Guest column

Science fair time

MIDDLE school parents, beware. Youngsters across Illinois are preparing for the annual science fair competition.

Why do I warn parents, but not their children? Well, sometimes it seems these competitions are more between adults than their kids.

This year, I sat with my 11-year-old at the kitchen table and we brainstormed potential experiments she could perform.

I suggested measuring how quickly different fabrics burn.

She said it has been done before.

I suggested seeing how detergent affects the germination of oats.

She said it sounded boring.

Then I suggested we devise an experiment on how to best clean up a murder scene. What chemicals will best hide blood evidence from police crime scene technicians? Ammonia? Bleach? Soap?

I explained how we could get the blood from a butcher shop and then use Luminol to see how to best conceal the evidence.

My daughter's blue eyes grew bigger, she cocked her head to one side and she said, "You want me to do an experiment on how to best get away with murder?"

"Sure, yours will be one of the most visited exhibits at the fair. It will be one that the judges will remember." I added we are doing this purely for the sake of science.

"Um, Daddy I don't think my teachers would want me to teach people how to get away with murder."

Eventually, I was told to back off and let our daughter come up with her own ideas for science fair experiments.

I was feeling a bit

down about it until I remembered the ultimate example of parental over-involvement in an experiment.

Back in about 1975, at the Galesburg Junior League's Science Fair, a junior high kid decided to perform open heart surgery. His father was a physician and his fingerprints seemed all over this project.

A living frog was pinned to a board, its chest cut open and its beating heart was lifted from the cavity with a fishing line. It continued to beat with the blood vessels attached.

Dozens of junior-high kids mobbed the grisly scene. Contest judges hurried over and immediately disqualified the project on grounds of animal cruelty.

At this point, the physician father hollered, "This is not cruel! The frog feels no pain!" The judges persisted and the father yelled louder and louder, "Not cruel! Frog feels no pain!"

One can't help but wonder what sort of doctor would consider a vivisection of a living animal an appropriate project for a junior high science fair?

We found that answer a decade later. In 1985, the physician, Dr. Antonio SantaMaria, better known as "The Butcher of Galesburg" killed his wife, hacked her into pieces and fed her body into a food processor.

He later returned the food processor to Sears for a refund, saying his wife didn't like it.

When I read of his conviction, six words echoed through my head: "Not cruel! Frog feels no pain!"

What might have been a more appropriate science fair project for the doctor to defend?

How to get away with murder? Oh wait, what kind of father would suggest that?

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



Scott Reeder



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Mike Shelton
Cartoons.com

VOICE ON THE STREET

Question:

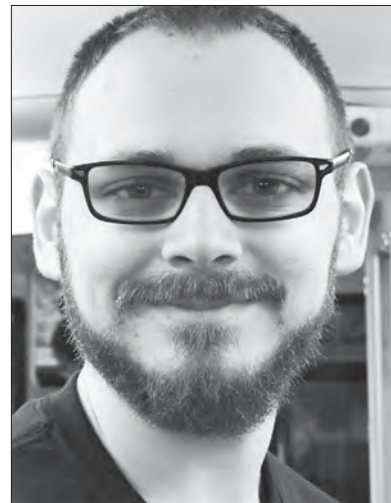
Blood donation is always a need in communities and the Rock River Valley Blood Center travels that area and holds mobile blood drives such as Tuesday's Vein Drain Blood Drive. Do you donate on a regular basis? How long have you been a blood donor?



"Yes, since 1980, so it has been about 40 years."
Suzie Anders-Ahlensdorf



"Yes, I donate regularly and have been doing so since 1971."
Paula Combs



"I do, and have been for about four months."
Nathan Jones

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

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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

Travel with Hobos on Saturday

Flagg museum teaming up with railroad park for presentation

BY ANDREW HEISERMAN
STAFF WRITER

ROCHELLE — The Flagg Township Museum and the Ken Wise Railroad park are teaming up for a night of campfire stories, s'mores and a history of the hobos that used to travel through Rochelle. The event, which has been named "Hobo Travels" in Rochelle will take place Saturday, Oct. 26, from 7 to 8 p.m. at the Ken Wise Rail Fan Park. The night will include a campfire in the fire pit, s'mores kits available for \$1, and stories of hobo's journeys and how they would use symbols to communicate with the next group passing through. "We will be telling stories about hobos and the many different signs they would use for communication by writing them in chalk or dirt on fence posts for the next hobos coming through the area," said Flagg Township Museum director Jan Devore. Rochelle used to be home to a large number

of hobos since it was such an easy point for them to hop on and off the trains. The event will also go over what life was like for many of the hobos and why many of them were hobos in the first place. While hobos a lot of times get a little bit of a negative persona, a lot of them did not have a choice. "During the depression, many of the hobos were people who had been laid off and were looking for work and for others is was simply the quickest and cheapest way to get around at the time," explained Devore. This event is free to anyone who would like to participate and attendees are encouraged to bring a flashlight. This event is meant to be both fun and informational, while also bringing awareness to community organizations. "The main goal for us is to do something in the community and bring awareness to the museum, while also partnering with the city and the rail park," explained Devore.

CALENDAR

Wed., Oct. 23
1:30 p.m. — Alcoholics Anonymous will meet at St. Patrick's Learning Center, 903 N. Caron Road. (every Wednesday)

7 p.m. — A public meeting will take place before the Village of Hillcrest Board of Trustees in the Hillcrest Village Hall, 204 Hillcrest Ave. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the fiscal year 2020 budget, engineering plans for Baxter Woodman, and to hear information from the Attorney for of the Village of Hillcrest. All interested persons are invited to attend.

Thu., Oct. 24
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. — Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu includes meatloaf, herb mashed potatoes, gravy, dinner rolls, salad and green beans. The kids' menu includes corn dog with chips, chicken nuggets or peanut butter and jelly.

7 p.m. — Your Next Car May be Driverless! Dr. JC Ryu of the NIU College of Engineering will present Robotics & Artificial Intelligence and how they impact our personal and work lives. The League of Women Voters invites you to attend this cutting edge session at the Ogle County Services building at 510 Lincoln Ave.

7 p.m. — The Rochelle Garden Club will be meeting at the Hub City Senior Center. Please note: this is our last business meeting of the year. We as members will be discussing the possibility of going forward with the club.

Thu., Oct. 31
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. — Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu includes chicken and slicks (dumplings), peas and carrots and salad. The kids' menu includes corn dog with chips, chicken nuggets or peanut butter and jelly.

Meetings
Thu., Oct. 24
7 p.m. — The Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club board will meet in Dugdale Lodge for its monthly meeting.
Mon., Oct. 28
6:30 p.m. — The Rochelle City Council will meet in council chambers at Rochelle City Hall.

(Submit items for the Community Calendar to jsimmons@rochelle-news-leader.com)

FROM THE HEART DAILY CASH WINNERS

Oct. 12 - David Eckhardt, Rochelle, \$25

Oct. 13 - Steve & Debby Scherer, Los Angeles, Calif., \$50

Oct. 14 - Nate Erwin, Portland, Oregon, \$250

Oct. 15 - Calvin Jacobs, Rochelle, \$25

Oct. 16 - Vivian Carlson, Rochelle, \$25

Oct. 17 - Jim & Connie McCaslin, Auburn, \$25

Oct. 18 - Jodi Ziegler, Oregon, \$25

Oct. 19 - Jennah Mariani, Milwaukee, Wisconsin, \$25

Oct. 20 - Samantha Kudelka, Rochelle, \$50

Oct. 21 - Jake Muntean, Dixon, \$25

Oct. 22 - Jill Gallagher, Kings, \$25

Oct. 23 - Jason O'Neal, Cortland, \$25

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

Mon., Oct. 28
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.

Tue., Oct. 29
4:30 to 7:30 p.m. — Dinner will be served at The Kitchen Table, 7034 E. Klondike Road. The menu includes creamy chicken and penne pasta, salad and garlic bread. The kids' menu includes corn dog with chips, chicken nuggets or peanut butter and jelly.

Health Association. (every Monday)



The Hub City Senior Center was closed all last week due to the sidewalk replacement project and was scheduled to reopen on Monday, Oct. 21. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the center will continue to be closed through Friday, Oct. 25; however, transportation will continue to run transportation. Call 815-562-5050.

Birthdays & Anniversaries

Oct. 24 Brittany Brown CJ Wyatt	Oct. 25 Bianca Herrera	Oct. 28 Stephanie Wiginton
Oct. 30 Jack Powell	Oct. 31 Angel Weyhrauch	

Coffee Break

King Crossword

ACROSS

1 Lily variety
5 Homer's out-cry
8 Wax-coated cheese
12 Bivouac
13 Individual
14 Field mouse
15 Memo acronym
16 Series of battles
17 Actor McGregor
18 Fame
20 Easter hat
22 Stitch
23 Beast of burden
24 Commanded
27 Human-like robots
32 In olden days
33 "No seats" sign
34 Pizzazz
35 Detective
38 Say it isn't so
39 Actor Beatty
40 Neither mate
42 Falling-blocks game
45 Wedding-related
49 Ms. Brockovich
50 Shock and —
52 — colada
53 Unspeakable

act?
Shell game
Support
Rind
Collection
Longings

DOWN
1 Cicatrix
2 Facility
3 Fed
4 Go up against
5 Earthward airstream
6 — budget
7 KFC additive
8 Nevertheless

9 Fire some folks
10 Wings
11 Common noun suffix
19 1927 Lindbergh book
21 Rowing need
24 "Humbug!"
25 Khan title
26 Period of inactivity
28 Gun lobby org.
29 Pessimistic
30 Noise
31 Agent
36 Bit of grain

37 Star Wars inits.
38 Raining somewhat
41 On the other hand
42 Office part-timer
43 Great Lake
44 1940 Laurel & Hardy film, " — at Sea"
46 Tragic
47 Unsigned (Abbr.)
48 NASCAR circuits
51 Teensy

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

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: **A** equals **E**

XKAS HKA INHIWTG SAARAR
ITHAVXAUV HI YAAW ZHGAJP
XUVD, Z VANYIS ZH
WTVNKUGAR U NIUH IP UVDG.

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Answer

King Crossword

Weekly SUDOKU

When the octopus needed outerwear to keep itself warm, I reckon it purchased a coat of arms.

answer

CryptoQuip

STATE NEWS

Report finds education funding overhaul effective, calls for increased state investment

As K-12 funding has grown, higher education funding has plummeted in Illinois, advocacy group finds

BY JERRY NOWICKI
CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

SPRINGFIELD—A new report from an independent policy and advocacy organization is calling for increased state investment in public education in Illinois, particularly in early childhood and higher education.

“Overall, our outcomes are improving despite insufficient state investment in programs and schools. We must build on the progress of K–12 funding reform and ensure our early childhood and postsecondary programs are fully and equitably funded so students and families have access to the resources they need to thrive,” Advance Illinois said in its 2019 “The State We’re In” report.

Advance Illinois was founded in 2008 by leaders from several civic, philanthropic, business and education organizations across the state. The group’s stated purpose is to work “toward a healthy public education system that prepares students to achieve success in college, career and civic life.”

Their annual report tracks roughly 80 metrics pertaining to student performance in three categories: early education, K–12 and postsecondary.

The report found that evidence-based funding formula, which was passed in 2017, has helped increase per-pupil state spending at the K–12 level. Illinois spent, on average, \$7,503 per pupil in 2017, ranking it 29th in the nation. That’s up from \$4,557 in 2007, when the state ranked 45th.

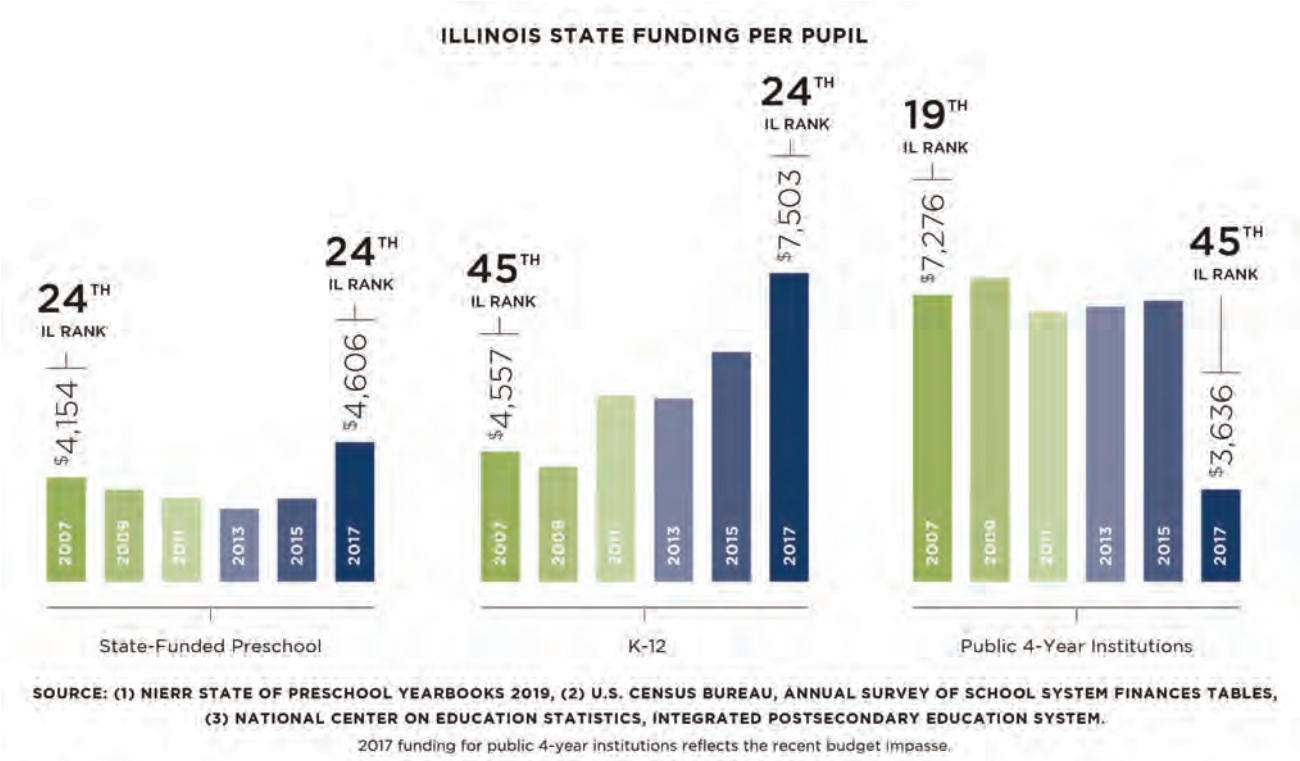
The evidence-based funding formula calls for an added \$350 million in K–12 education spending annually and directs that money to the schools furthest from adequate funding. This helped decrease the number of school districts funded at less than 60 percent of their adequacy targets from 168 in 2017 to roughly 34 in 2019, according to the report.

Still, nearly half of Illinois’ 852 school districts are working with “less than 70 percent of the funds they need to adequately meet their students’ needs,” the report said.

While K–12 education spending increased from 2007 to 2017, over that same span, per-pupil state spending at four-year higher education institutions was decimated. In 2007, Illinois spent \$7,276 per student at public four-year institutions, but that number fell to \$3,636 in 2017. That was a steep enough fall to move the state from the 19th to 45th highest in the nation.

The decreased state investment came as higher education costs continued to rise. In the last 15 years, annual inflation-adjusted tuition at public four-year universities has increased 62 percent from \$8,641 to \$13,970.10, the report said.

Because of this, a family earning the median household income of \$62,992 would have to pay 27 percent of its income to send one child to a state university, provided they receive no state or federal aid. That number jumps to 50 percent of annual income for those living at the federal poverty line.



The decreased spending coincided with an overall enrollment decline in Illinois institutions of higher education, which dropped from roughly 896,000 in 2009 to 747,000 in 2017.

“When looking at the most recent five years, black student enrollment at Illinois institutions declined almost 26 percent,” the report said. “While Latinx enrollment grew 6 percent, Latinx students represent fewer than 18 percent of total enrollment.”

The overall high school graduation rate has grown in recent years, and the rate for black (75 percent) and Latinx (81 percent) populations also inched closer to that of white populations (91 percent), the report said. Despite the gains, other attainment gaps by race are growing.

“While Illinois Latinx and black students’ growth is equal to or exceeds their white peers in both reading and mathematics, they are still performing below grade level in 8th grade,” the report stated. “Put differently, our current rate of growth, while significant, is neither far-reaching nor fast enough to make up for early gaps and prepare all students for college and careers.”

On top of that, Illinois offers inadequate birth-to-three services and support for low-income families, according to the report. Just 59,000 of roughly 300,000 eligible children aged birth through four receive assistance from the state’s Child Care Assistance Program, the report found.

“The need far outpaces the state’s investment for these families and is leaving a critical hole in services and supports for our children,” according to the report.

Approximately 84 percent of the state’s low-income

three- and four-year-olds have access to state or federally funded pre-school, which ranks high nationally, according to the report. However, most of those are half-day programs, and access is “uneven,” according to the report.

“There are early childhood ‘deserts’ with essentially no publicly supported programming for children in need from birth to 3 years, and communities with no public pre-kindergarten for 3- and 4-year-olds from low-income households,” the report stated.

The report also called attention to a statewide teacher shortage and a lack of diversity in the teaching profession – 83 percent of teachers are white, and 76 percent are women, while 6 percent of teachers are black despite 17 percent of schoolchildren being black.

A black student is seven times more likely to be suspended than a white student, per the report, and five times more likely to be suspended than a Latinx student, making those students more likely to fall behind.

Access to school counsellors also lags in Illinois, which has one counsellor for every 320 students, while the national average is of one for every 239.

The report also found that an increasing number of Illinois students are graduating high school, enrolling in higher education and obtaining degrees, and more students are enrolling in challenging high school coursework such as advanced placement courses.

“As a state, we have demonstrated our ability to make real progress for all students on challenging issues. There is more work to do and more children counting on us to tackle it,” the report concluded.

Illinois Department of Public Health shares tips to prevent lead poisoning

National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week is Oct. 20 through Oct. 26

SPRINGFIELD – Lead poisoning is one of the most prevalent and preventable environmental health hazards and is known to contribute to learning disabilities, developmental delays, and behavioral problems. During National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, Oct. 20 through Oct. 26, the Illinois Department of Public Health wants to raise awareness about the danger of lead exposure and educate parents on how to reduce exposure to lead in their environment, prevent its serious health effects, and understand the importance of testing children.

“There is no safe level of lead in the body. Children exposed to lead tend to suffer from life-long complications that affect their ability to think, learn, or behave,” said IDPH Director Dr. Ngozi Ezike. “During National Lead Poisoning Prevention Week, I encourage people to learn how to identify lead hazards in their homes and ways to reduce or eliminate them.”

The level of Illinois childhood lead poisoning remains one of the highest in the nation. In 2018, more than 12,000 children tested had blood lead levels

greater than 5 µg/dL, the intervention level recommended by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and required by the Illinois Lead Poisoning Prevention Act.

Illinois law requires that all children six years of age or younger be assessed for lead risk. Physicians must perform a blood lead test for children who live in high-risk areas or meet other risk criteria determined through a childhood risk questionnaire administered by a health care provider.

The most common source of exposure is from deteriorated lead-based paint, which was used in many homes built before 1978. Children can be exposed by swallowing or breathing in lead dust created by old paint that has peeled, cracked, or chipped, eating paint chips, or chewing on surfaces coated with lead-based paint, such as window sills. If you live in a house built before 1978, a certified inspector or risk assessor can be hired to check your home for lead-based paint or lead-based paint hazards.

Lead can also be found in drinking water. The most common sources of lead in drinking water are lead

pipes, faucets, and fixtures.

Lead exposure can be significantly reduced by taking simple precautions around the house. These include the following:

Cleaning up paint chips and peeling paint

Washing floors, counter tops, and window sills weekly with soap and water

Using proper safety measures when renovating or remodeling your house, like spraying down painted surfaces with water before scraping or sanding, and using plastic sheeting to

capture any debris generated

Assuring that children and pregnant women do not enter a work area until renovations are complete and the area has been thoroughly cleaned

Washing a child’s hands, mouth and face, and toys often

Having your water tested for lead. If lead is detected, allow the cold water to run for several minutes in the morning before using it for drinking, cooking, or mixing infant formula in

case lead pipes or solder is present. Only use cold water for cooking

Removing shoes when coming indoors so lead from dust or soil is not tracked inside

Eating a well-balanced, low-fat diet that is high in calcium and iron, which can help reduce lead absorption

The primary goals of the Illinois Lead Program include lead exposure prevention through community education and public awareness campaigns, identifying lead-exposed children, and providing prompt interventions to reduce blood lead levels to improve health and developmental outcomes.

Spooktacular Halloween Party

8 p.m. - 2 a.m.

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ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

A black and white photograph of four young women standing side-by-side, smiling. They are all wearing dark-colored sweatshirts with the word 'ROCHELLE' printed across the chest in large, light-colored letters. The woman on the far left is wearing glasses and has her hair pulled back. The woman next to her is wearing a dark beanie. The woman third from the left is also smiling broadly. The woman on the far right is wearing a dark jacket over her sweatshirt. They appear to be at an outdoor event, possibly a track and field competition, as a crowd of spectators is visible in the background.

The Rochelle cross country saw four runners honored this past weekend.

See page 2 for more details

A day to remember

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

"It's such an honor to represent Rochelle and RTHS," Thiravong said. "My score improving has mostly been from my parents pushing me through golf. I'm so happy that I

Having started on the more difficult back nine Friday, Thiravong teed off Saturday morning on the front nine, bogeying the first and fifth holes but birdying the third and sixth holes to remain even on the round. A bogey on the



Rochelle junior Megan Thiravong finished tied for 12th in the IHSA Class 1A State Championship this past weekend. Above from left to right are head coach Glen Mehrings, Thiravong and coach David Cartwright.

and I didn't even think a 74 was right. The key for me was to stay calm and focused while I played. If you miss a putt or make a bad shot in golf, you have to be able to brush it off and keep going."

Hubs having fun as finale against Ottawa nears

Rochelle (3-5) looking to finish strong on the road

Senior Keegan Davis-Carter goes for a tackle during Rochelle's win over Plano. The Hubs will face Ottawa on Friday.

consistency, and over the course of this season, that's been our Achilles' heel."

SPORTS

RTHS Boys Soccer

Kaneland ends Rochelle season at regional

Orozco, Torres net goals as Hubs drop semifinal match 5-2

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

WHEATON — The third time wasn't the charm for the Rochelle boys soccer team on Tuesday evening, when the Hubs attempted to avenge two regular-season losses against the Kaneland Knights during the IHSA Class 2A Regional Semifinals at Wheaton Academy. Despite possessing the ball for most of the first half, Rochelle struggled to stop the long through balls from Kaneland, and the fourth-seeded Knights capitalized on some misplays by the sixth-seeded Hubs to win 5-2 and advance to the regional championship against Wheaton Academy. Rochelle dropped to 13-8 overall with the loss.

"We came out and played the game we were hoping to come out and play," head coach Brad Male said. "They had a couple of good through balls and those cost us. I was very happy with how we came out and played. I don't think the score really reflected the game itself." A promising first few minutes quickly turned on the Hubs, as the Knights took advantage of a through ball down the right sideline to score in the third minute and take a 1-0 lead over Rochelle. The Hubs managed to find their equalizer, however, after sophomore forward Josue Orozco rolled a pass through the middle of the Kaneland box to his older brother Brayan Orozco, who booted a left-footed shot into the net during the 23rd minute. The Knights stole

momentum once again, though, scoring after an errant Hub pass in the 28th minute before earning a penalty kick after a foul inside the Rochelle box in the 38th minute. Kaneland took advantage of the freebie, scoring to take a 3-1 lead which stood at halftime. The Knights added a third unanswered goal in the 47th minute to take control of the match. "The bottom line is that I hope our kids learned that no matter who we're playing, we have to come out and play 100 percent," Male said. "We have to play with the same intensity at the start of the game that we have for the full 80 minutes." Rochelle found new life late in the second half after the Knights committed a hand-ball violation in their penalty



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)
Junior Damian Salinas races Kaneland's Tucker Jahns down the sideline during regional play Tuesday.

box during the 71st minute, resulting in a penalty-kick goal from senior forward Max Torres to make it a 4-2 game. The Hubs had a few more scoring chances soon after, but the Kaneland defense stood tall, and the Knights iced the regional semifinal victory with a goal in the 79th minute.

RTHS Cross Country

Baez medals in Interstate 8 Conference meet

Fresh-soph girls place second as three runners earn ribbons

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

MORRIS — The Rochelle cross country team brought home several awards from the Interstate 8 Conference Championships hosted by Morris High School on Saturday morning. Senior Britney Baez placed eighth with a personal-best time of 20:13.6 in the varsity girls race to earn an All-Conference medal. The fresh-soph girls finished second with 47 points behind ribbon winners Sara Johnson (second in 21:56), Yuelma Ortiz (10th in 23:35) and Morgan West (14th in 25:17). The varsity boys took sixth and the fresh-soph boys also finished sixth. "I was really proud because I also recorded another PR," Baez said. "It was a nice confidence boost to finish in the top 10 at the conference meet. What helped a lot was after

coach pushed us through our hard workouts... We had a rest week for our legs and we were able to get our bodies to where they need to be, and that helped me earn my PR." Senior Tucker Louis placed 26th with a time of 18:35 in the varsity boys race while junior Aiden Seldal finished 19th in 18:54 and freshman David Wanner took 31st in 19:05. Senior Seth Gould landed one spot behind Wanner, placing 32nd in 19:20. Rochelle will send both its boys and girls teams to the IHSA Class 2A Regional at Hoover Park in Sterling on Saturday, Oct. 26. "Finally, we were able to race under great weather conditions," head coach Mark Zilis said. "Overall, our team performed well with many of our athletes setting season's bests or new PRs. The boys team was hampered by missing two of our top runners. Yet, all who ran produced great efforts and many PRs."



(COURTESY PHOTO)
The Rochelle cross country team saw four girls earn awards for their performances in the Interstate 8 Conference Championships on Saturday. Above from left to right are Morgan West, Britney Baez, Sara Johnson and Yuelma Ortiz.



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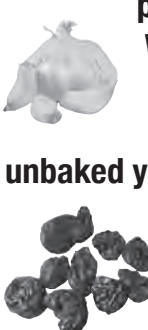
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SPORTS

RTHS Girls Tennis



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Lady Hubs compete in IHSA Class 1A Sectional at Boylan Catholic

The Rochelle varsity girls tennis team sent six players to battle in the IHSA Class 1A Sectional hosted by Boylan Catholic at the Indoor Tennis Center on Friday. The Lady Hubs finished 11th in the tournament to complete the 2019 season.

Rochelle finished 2-13 overall while taking sixth in the Interstate 8 Conference. Above from left to right are Caitlin McMurray, Ruth Gardner, Sawyer McGee, Emma Hicks, Jordyn Dickey and MeLisa Young.

NIU Football

Comeback falls short as Huskies lose to RedHawks

Childers throws for one score, runs for two more

OXFORD, Ohio—The Miami University Red-Hawks claimed their second consecutive Mallory Cup win with a defensive stand in the final minute to defeat the Northern Illinois University Huskies, 27-24, Saturday at Yager Stadium.

NIU's Marcus Childers, who took over for starter Ross Bowers late in the second quarter after Bowers went out with an injury, accounted for all three of the Huskies' touchdowns. He threw for 144 yards on 14-of-23 passing, including a 10-yard score to Cole Tucker in the fourth quarter, and ran for two touchdowns on runs of 1 and 3 yards. After the Huskies' third loss by seven points or less, NIU head coach Thomas Hammock said the Huskies' came up a few plays short against Miami.

"We have to play fundamentally sound football," Hammock said. "We don't have enough margin for error right now. We're going to keep trying to play cleaner. We cleaned up our penalties [one for 5 yards], we didn't have any turnovers, we've got to keep working. Today Miami made one more play than us."

Trailing 27-17 after the RedHawks' Sam Sloman made a pair of fourth-quarter field goals, NIU quarterback Childers connected with Tucker on a 10-yard touchdown pass to bring the Huskies within three, 27-24 with 2:44 to play.

The NIU defense forced a Miami punt, but the RedHawks defense responded with a sack on third-and-two. Childers' fourth-down pass fell incomplete and Miami was able to run out the clock. The RedHawks improved to 3-4 on the season, 2-1 in the MAC, while NIU fell to 2-5, 1-2.

NIU started freshman walk-on Nick Rattin, sophomore Vinny Labus and converted safety Marshé Terry at linebacker Saturday, as all three of the senior linebackers

that entered preseason camp as a strength of the Huskie defense are out due to injury. Rattin made eight tackles and broke up a pass to back up safety Mykelti Williams, who led NIU with 10 stops on the day. Labus had seven stops, a sack and a pass break-up, and Terry contributed four tackles. NIU held Miami to just 71 rushing yards on 36 carries in the game.

"We've been dealing with injuries but we're not going to use that as an excuse," Hammock said. "The defense is playing well with the guys they have. That was a freshman walk on starting at line-backer (Nick Rattin) and he did a good job. We didn't score enough to help our defense. We knew that touchdown before halftime was going to bite us."

NIU led 10-0 with 3:08 to play in the first half after Childers scored on a 1-yard run to complete a 13-play, 34-yard drive. Kicker John Richardson started the scoring for NIU with a 25-yard field goal at

"We have to play fundamentally sound football. We don't have enough margin for error right now. We're going to keep trying to play cleaner. We cleaned up our penalties [one for 5 yards], we didn't have any turnovers, we've got to keep working. Today Miami made one more play than us."

Thomas Hammock

the end of the first quarter. Meanwhile, the Huskie defense was bottling up the Miami offense before the RedHawks scored on a one-yard run by Jaylon Bester with 36 seconds to play in the first half after a 10-play, 75-yard drive. Prior to that drive, NIU had held Miami to just 21 total yards on 15 plays.

The RedHawks finished the half with 11 rushing yards on 14 carries and four first downs but found a formula for success on the final drive that they would carry into the second half.

The RedHawks took their first lead of the game on the first drive of the second half on a 45-yard pass from quarterback Brett Gabbert to James

Maye to complete an eight-play, 90-yard drive.

The Huskies re-took the lead on its next possession. Childers hit freshman Michael Love for a 38-yard completion to the 1-yard line and scored in from 3 yards out with 6:47 on the clock. Richardson's PAT made it 17-14 NIU.

Miami responded with a nine-play, 62-yard drive to take the lead for good. Quarterback Brett Gabbert hit Jalen Walker on a 40-yard pass play to the one and Bester scored from one yard out three plays later for a 21-17 margin.

Tucker, who totaled six catches for 82 yards to lead NIU, scored the first touchdown of his Huskie career, and freshman Michael Love had his best receiving day

with three catches for 60 yards. Harbison gained 83 yards on 26 carries to lead all NIU rushers. The Huskies finished with 350

yards of total offense on 78 plays, including 235 passing, and converted seven of their 16 third down attempts.



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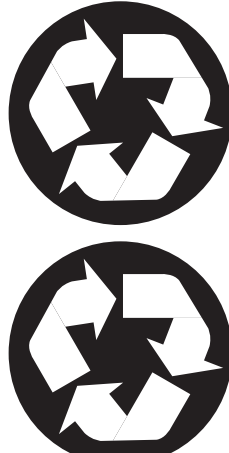
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SPORTS

T-Byrd Lanes



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Local bowlers receive league honors

T-Byrd Lanes honored several high school and youth league bowlers with awards recently. Addy Newlin and Jack Tracey (top) were named Youth Bowler of the Week (1) while Faith Adams and Kylie McCullough (middle) received Youth Bowler of the Week (2). Devansh Patel and Ava Loeffelholz took home High School Bowler of the Week (7) and Paige Roe (bottom) was named High School Bowler of the Week (8).

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A: My teammates and my coaches.

Q: What is your favorite school subject and why?

A: Math because I always end up having the best grade in that class.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My dad because he introduced me to all of the

sports I play.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To be a teacher because I love working with little kids.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Paris, France because it's outside of the United States and big things happen there.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a student-athlete at RTHS?

A: There are more opportunities to make myself a better player and person.

**Payton
Hale**

Year: Freshman

Sport: Volleyball



Q: How many years have you been playing this sport?

A: Five years.

Q: What do you enjoy most about this sport?

A: I enjoy the environment and I enjoy that I'm always learning from my coaches.

Q: Who is your favorite athlete and why?

A: Meg Wolowicz because she played the same position I do and she's strong at the net.

Q: Who is your biggest role model and why?

A: My mom because she's always telling me to do the right thing and she gives me opportunities to

play volleyball outside of school.

Q: What is your dream job and why?

A: To play volleyball overseas because I love the sport so much.

Q: Where would your dream vacation be and why?

A: Italy because I want to try all of the food and I want to visit all of the beautiful sites.

Q: What is your favorite thing about being a student-athlete at RTHS?

A: I enjoy that the teachers are so understanding that if we have to leave for a game, they give us our homework early or they don't count it as late the next day.



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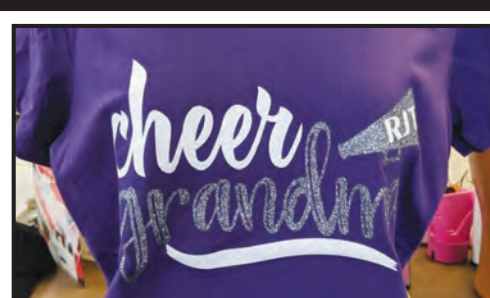
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