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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

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Turner receives  
rugby chair grant

Rochelle's Nolan Turner  
received a rugby chair  
grant from the Kelly Brush  
Foundation.  
**Page 2**

WEATHER

**SUNDAY**  
HIGH LOW  
**21 -11**

**MONDAY**  
HIGH LOW  
**34 21**

**TUESDAY**  
HIGH LOW  
**35 31**

**WEDNESDAY**  
HIGH LOW  
**35 31**

304 East Illinois Route 38  
815-562-2200

OBITUARIES

• THOMAS CARPENTER  
WESTIN

See page 4

INSERTS

• MENARDS  
• BRIDAL GUIDE

INSIDE

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## Seed library kick off is Jan. 27 'It's a wonderful way to share gardening and growing...'

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — In an effort to educate the community about the rewards of gardening and seed saving, the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library has established a new seed library. The seed library was established in conjunction with the Ogle County Master Gardeners program of the University of Illinois Extension.

A seed library collects, stores and shares seeds with members of the community for free. To borrow seeds, area residents can visit the seed library next to the non-fiction section in the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library, choose 8-10 packets of seeds per fall and spring growing season, and write down choices in the seed check out list.

The plan is for the seed library to grow when participants donate back the seeds that they yield following planting and harvest. The library and the Ogle County Master Gardeners will offer seed saving workshops throughout the year.

You do not need a library card to check out seeds or to attend any gardening



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**In an effort to educate the community about the rewards of gardening and seed saving, the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library has established a new seed library. The seed library was established in conjunction with the Ogle County Master Gardeners program of the University of Illinois Extension.**

programs.

"It's a wonderful way to share gardening and growing with all age groups and I think it's exciting to see, when you can do educational programs and also share the seeds," Ogle County Master Gardener Sarah Chisamore said. "Seeds are so important. I saw it in a magazine and thought it'd be fun to do locally. Luckily the library was on board and so encouraging."

The library will host a seed library kick off event on Saturday, Jan. 27 from 2-4 p.m. that will include information on the seed library and how to use it, a seed swap, discussion on the dos and don'ts of winter sowing and planting winter greenhouses to take home, a seed bomb workshop, and germination tests of seeds.

The seed library is housed in a repurposed library card catalog and divided into four seed categories:

herbs, flowers, native plants and vegetables. Each seed packet is alphabetized by common name within their categories.

"We're super excited," Library Director Sarah Flanagan said. "We really want to get more involved with the community and this is a great way to educate kids and get everybody in the community involved."

See SEED page 8



ARPA funds  
for OCEDC  
approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**OREGON** — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard a presentation made by the Ogle County Economic Development Corporation and unanimously approved the commitment of \$100,000 in federal American Rescue Plan Act Funds to the newly-formed organization.

The OCEDC is a non-profit representing all of Ogle County, its communities, employers and citizens. The entity officially formed in August 2023 to bring a cohesive county-wide economic development effort. Since 2019, more than a dozen communities, utility companies, state and regional economic agencies have come together to make the OCEDC a reality.

See COUNTY page 8

## RTHS attendance numbers on the rise Principal Lewis updates district board during Tuesday meeting

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — RTHS Principal Dr. Chris Lewis provided an update to the Rochelle School District 212 Board of Education on December graduation statistics as well as school attendance and current deficiency rates during the board's monthly meeting on Tuesday evening.

Lewis said that eight students graduated from RTHS in December. Of the eight students, Lewis said that five were RTHS students, while one was a Chana student, one was a FLEX student and another was a fifth-year student. With the second semester underway, Lewis said that students will begin talking with counselors about preparing for the 2024-25 school year.

"In February, counselors will begin entering classrooms, making various presentations and working with students on their four-year plans," Lewis said. "We'll have summer school sign-ups in March and we'll finalize those numbers so that we can create our master schedule in April. We'll make any corrections we need to in May and then we'll disseminate those schedules."



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**RTHS Principal Dr. Chris Lewis provided an update to the Rochelle School District 212 Board of Education on December graduation statistics as well as school attendance and current deficiency rates during the board's monthly meeting on Tuesday evening.**

Lewis noted that attendance during the fall semester improved from the attendance rate during the 2022-23 school year. Lewis said the school's goal was to achieve a

92.9 percent attendance rate, halfway between the 2022-23 rate of 90 percent and the five-year high mark of 95.8 percent. Lewis also said the school aimed to lower its chronic

truancy rate to 19 percent, halfway between last year's rate of 24 percent and the five-year low mark of 14 percent.

See RTHS page 2

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## Rochelle's Turner receives grant from Kelly Brush Foundation for rugby chair

**ROCHELLE** – With goals for the new year top of mind this month, the Kelly Brush Foundation is excited to help Nolan Turner of Rochelle launch into 2024 with new adaptive sports equipment that will help

him achieve goals for an active lifestyle, despite his spinal cord injury.

Nolan loves to be active, and his new rugby chair will empower him to reconnect with a loved activity and a healthy lifestyle. It will also make

it easier to spend time with family and friends, and create a deeper connection with others in the community. he was awarded this grant as a part of the Kelly Brush Foundation's fall 2023 grant cycle, and is now

preparing to receive his new equipment now.

“It’s exciting to help Nolan kick off 2024 with his new rugby chair, helping him stay active and healthy,” Kelly Brush Foundation Executive Director Edie Perkins said.

“While Nolan and others with spinal cord injuries work hard at their recovery, the process can be tedious and prescriptive. Adaptive sports are a way to break free of the structure, physical therapy clinics, and doctors’ office-

es, helping people enjoy life in ways that we're all meant to – by moving our bodies and experiencing the full world around us. I can't wait to see how this new equipment helps Nolan enjoy life and make new connections."

## **RTHS:** Lewis updates district board on attendance numbers

***From page 1***

"If kids are here for 95 percent or more, then 97 percent of them will be on track to graduate," Lewis said. "If they're here for less than 90 percent, then that rate drops to about 87 percent. Being in school really matters. We had 540 kids in our sample size this semester who attended school more than 95 percent of the time. We had 431 last year, so we've added over 100 kids. We have more kids coming to school ev-

everyday and we have more kids on track to graduate."

Lastly, Lewis said that the number of kids who are deficient (D+ or lower) has decreased from the 2022 fall semester. Citing data presented during Tuesday's meeting, Lewis noted that the number of students with failing grades dropped from 235 to 139 from fall 2022 to fall 2023.

## Budget

Business Manager Kevin Dale presented a mid-year budget update during

the Tuesday board meeting. Dale said the district is on track with its current budget and the district has about 35 percent of revenues to collect, which will come when tax payments arrive at the end of June. Dale also said that about 27.5 percent of the original budget is left for future expenditures.

## Personnel

The board approved personnel changes including the resignations of Rebekah Nicolosi (bus driver), Heidi Rattansavahn (bus driver)

and Jose Villalobos (technology support specialist) as well as the employment of Monica Mesenbrink (long-term/full-time substitute).

## Instruction

Superintendent Jason Harper said Tuesday that RTHS Assistant Principal Dr. David Perrin has been working with the district's non-tenured teachers in an instructional coaching role. Harper said the role is due to many non-tenured teachers not having as much

student teaching time due to the COVID-19 pandemic. With Perrin set to retire, Harper said the district would like to hire someone to continue working in an instructional coaching role to foster student growth.

"Our goal is to continue these services into the future," Harper said. "That could become a part-time instructional coaching model or a full-time FTE position. I want the board and the public to know that a future recommendation will come up. Mr.

Dale and I along with Dr. Lewis and our administrative staff have worked through the budget and we feel comfortable with the personnel expense that will come... Our purpose is to prepare students for their tomorrow."

## Meeting

Due to the Presidents Day holiday, the Rochelle School District 212 Board of Education meeting will be held on Feb. 20 instead of Feb. 19. The meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m.

# ROCHELLE News-Leader

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# LOCAL NEWS



Stillman Bank recently held their annual Christmas Coloring Contest for kids up to 10 years old. This year's picture was of two reindeer with a Christmas tree and snowflakes. The winners received their very own gingerbread house kit. Congratulations to the winners!

## Stillman Bank announces winners of 2023 Christmas Coloring Contest

**ROCHELLE** – Stillman Bank recently held their annual Christmas Coloring Contest for kids up to 10 years old. This year's picture was of two reindeer with a Christmas tree and snowflakes. The winners received their very own gingerbread house kit. Congratulations to the winners!

For ages five and un-

der, the winners were: Avery Riffle (Byron office), Oliivianna M. (Oregon office), Camila Campos (Rockelle office), Amelia Snow (Rockford office), Leygion Schork (Roscoe office), and Amelia Padilla (Stillman Valley office).

For ages six through 10, the winners were: Payten Snider (Byron

office), Ridge Grover (Oregon office), Natalie Isley (Rockelle office), Clara Munson (Rockford office), Emmeline Thompson (Roscoe office), and Camila Bonne (Stillman Valley office).

Thank you to everyone who stopped by Stillman Bank to enter the coloring contest. 245 entries were received and each child



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

## Regional Transportation Committee Meeting is Jan. 26

**PERU** — The next Human Services Transportation Plan (HSTP) Regional Transportation Committee Meeting for Region 3 (Bureau, DeKalb, Grundy, Kendall, LaSalle, Lee, Ogle and Putnam Counties) will be held on Friday Jan. 26 at 10 a.m. at the LaSalle County Veterans Assistance Commission – 4231 Progress Blvd., Suite 3, Peru, IL 61354. Human service organizations with an inter-

est in public transportation are strongly encouraged to attend, as well as anyone interested in public transit. If you would like further information, please contact via email: [hstp@ncicg.org](mailto:hstp@ncicg.org) or call us at (815) 433-5830.

We will have reserved time slots available for public comment via Zoom for anyone not able to attend the meeting in person between 10:15-10:30 a.m. If you would like to partic-

ipate in public comment via Zoom during that time frame, please contact us at (815) 433-5830 to reserve your time slot.

HSTP identifies transportation needs and develops solutions to improve transportation services for the general public. For more information about NCICG, HSTP, or if special accommodations are needed, please contact Connor Schwinn at (815) 433-5830.

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# LOCAL NEWS

## OBITUARIES

## Thomas Carpenter Westin

**ROCHELLE** — Thomas Carpenter Westin, 84, passed away Tuesday, January 16, 2024 at the Rochelle Community Hospital in Rochelle, IL. Tom was born on October 3, 1939 to Roy and Mildred (Carpenter) Westin in Rochelle. After high school, he proudly served with the United States Marines. On November 14, 1969, he married the love of his life, Rita Oliver, in Arlington, Virginia. Tom was a test driver, boat builder and designer for Mercury Marine in Sarasota, Florida and an aircraft and instrument certified flight instructor at Embry-Riddle in Daytona Beach, Florida. He eventually took over the family farm in Flagg-Center where he farmed until retirement and proudly served as a volunteer fire fighter for the Flagg Center Fire Department for nearly

40 years. Tom enjoyed riding motorcycles, talking politics and had an incredible gift for mechanics. When he wasn't in the field, he could be found working on numerous projects around the farm. He enjoyed the various projects and never saw them as a chore. He was a member of the Church of Christ and is now reunited with Rita in Paradise. Tom is survived by his sons: Jay Westin of Holiday, FL, Beau (Amanda) Westin of Jacksonville, IL. He is also survived by his son, Oliver (Denise) Robiller of Wolfeboro, NH whom he had the pleasure of meeting later in his life. He is also survived by his three grandchildren: Nolan and Abigail Westin and Jordan Robiller. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his wife, Rita, on August 9, 1990 and his sister, Ann Hay.



The memorial visitation will be held from 4:00 - 6:00 P.M., Friday, January 26, 2024 at the Unger-Horner Funeral Home, 400 N. 6th St., Rochelle. The memorial service will follow at 6:00 P.M., Friday with Pastor Dominic Venuso officiating and military honors provided by the Eastern Lee-Ogle Honor Guard and the US Marines. Memorials may be made in Tom's memory to the Paralyzed Veterans of America. Burial will be at Lawnridge Cemetery in Rochelle at a later date. Visit [www.ungerhorner.com](http://www.ungerhorner.com) to sign the online guest book.

## ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**ROCHELLE** — On Jan. 13 at 4:11 p.m. Paulino Flores Barrera, 32, of Rochelle was cited for failure to yield right of way. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 15 at 1:33 a.m. Manuel Penaran, 40, of Rochelle was arrested on two outstanding Ogle County warrants and transferred. On Jan. 15 at 5:38 a.m. Karl S. Bradshaw, 24, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Whiteside County warrant. He paid \$300 and was released with a Feb. 20 court date. On Jan. 15 at 12:37 p.m. Alexis D. Pillion, 26, of Rochelle was cited for no insurance and no valid registration. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 6:42 a.m. Anthony R.G. Brass, 48, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 7:30 a.m. Juana Lopez-Gonzales, 43, of Rochelle was cit-

ed for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 8:14 a.m. Jose A. Montoya, 24, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 9:53 a.m. Alva E. Valle, 23, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 11:59 a.m. Justin A. Hines, 41, of DeKalb was cited for speeding 55 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 1:29 p.m. Bryan Garcia-Belmonte, 25, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 16 at 4:02 p.m. Josue Orozco, 20, of Rochelle was cited

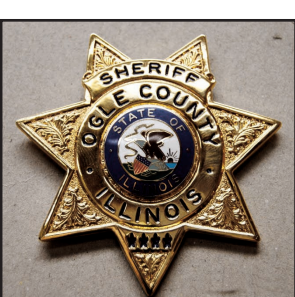


for speeding 61 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 17 at 9:38 a.m. Felix Vega Jr., 53, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. He paid \$245 and was released. On Jan. 17 at 12:08 p.m. Dealon J. Williams, 45, of Rochelle was arrested for no valid driver's license. He was released on a notice to appear with a Feb. 16 Rochelle court date. On Jan. 17 at 1:15 p.m. James T. Cassan III, 44, of Lake in the Hills was arrested for retail theft. He was released on a notice to appear with a Feb. 16 Ogle County court date. All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

## OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

**OREGON** — On Jan. 16 at approximately 2:10 p.m. Kristopher Lowery, 29, of Rochelle, was arrested for an outstanding no bond Ogle County warrant for suspended registration. Lowery was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he will be held pending an appearance before a judge. On Jan. 16 at approximately 2:14 p.m. Trei Sanders, 29, of Mt. Morris was arrested for an out-

standing no bond Ogle County warrant for aggravated driving under the influence. Sanders will appear in court on Jan. 17 at 1 p.m. On Jan. 17 at approximately 8:45 a.m. deputies arrested Christopher Palmer, 60, of Rockford at the Ogle County Courthouse. Palmer was arrested on an outstanding failure to appear warrant for aggravated driving under the influence. Palmer



was unable to post bond and appeared in Court on Jan. 17 at 1 p.m. All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.



**Mickley becomes new Kiwanis Golden K member**  
Kiwanis Golden K would like to welcome new member Don Mickley into our club. Without our members we wouldn't be able to help serve the children of this community! Pictured: President Will McLachlan, Mickley and Don Horner.

## Sinnissippi Centers offers scholarships

**DIXON** — Sinnissippi Centers is offering up to three \$1,000 college scholarships for individuals seeking a career in the human service field. Information has been shared now with high school counseling staff in Sinnissippi Centers' service area: Carroll, Lee, Ogle, Stephenson and Whiteside Counties. "Our College Scholarship Program is available exclusively to those who seek education in human services (social work, psychology, sociology or other human service specialties)," DeAnne White, Sinnissippi Centers' VP and chief administrative officer, said. "It recognizes and rewards high school seniors on the path to higher education with a \$1,000 scholarship to use towards a full-time or part-time course of study," adds White. Sinnissippi Centers will award up to

three \$1,000 scholarships in 2024. Scholarship applicants need to meet the following requirements: Be a 2024 graduating northwest Illinois area high school senior and plan to enroll, beginning the fall of 2024, in a full-time or part-time course of study at an accredited two or four-year university in Illinois with the declared major being one that falls within the human services field. Candidates will need to submit: Their completed application; a high school transcript – with a minimum cumulative GPA of 2.5 required; a written essay regarding "What A Career in Human Services Means to Me;" and a letter of recommendation from one school counselor, teacher, or other school official. Completed applications received on or before deadline will be consid-

ered by a panel comprised of Sinnissippi Centers employees and management. Applications will be assessed on academic achievement, letter of recommendation, and essay. Essay and letter of recommendation will be assessed on spirit, content, and quality. Course selection and GPA will be the basis for academic achievement consideration. A downloadable application is available on Sinnissippi's website at [www.sinnissippi.org/scholarships](http://www.sinnissippi.org/scholarships). Funding for this scholarship program is provided, in part, by donations to Sinnissippi Centers. For more information contact call Sinnissippi Centers at 815-284-6611 and ask for the Administration Department and mention the Human Services Scholarship Program.

## Locals graduated from NIU in fall 2023

**DEKALB** — Over 1,100 students received their degrees from Northern Illinois University in December. Included among the graduates were the following students from the local area: Rochelle: Lisa Antczak, Bachelor of Arts, Sociology. Yaritza Bueno, Bachelor of Science, Operations & Information Management. Stephanie Cardenas, Bachelor of

Science, Human Development & Family Sciences: Child Development. Alexis Crawford, Bachelor of Arts, World Lang & Cultures: French & Francophone Studies. Jacob Eul, Bachelor of Science, Computer Science - Software Development. Jacob Kaelin, Doctor of Philosophy, Chemistry. Louis Petrie, Bachelor of Science, Management - Entrepre-

neurship and Social Responsibility. Ashley Ramos, Bachelor of Science, Management - Leadership and Management. Audrey Sullivan, Bachelor of Science, Human Dev & Family Sci: Family Relations, Prevention and Wellness. Alva Valle, Bachelor of Science in Educ, Art and Design Education. Gabriela Zepeda, Master of Science, Digital Marketing.

## Chana's Gerber makes dean's list at Monmouth College

**MONMOUTH** — David Gerber, a physical education major from Chana, has made the dean's list at Monmouth College for the fall 2023 semester. Founded in 1853 and affiliated with the

Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Monmouth College provides a transformative educational experience within a caring community of learners. A residential liberal arts college that is the birthplace of the women's fraternity

movement, Monmouth College empowers students to realize their full potential, live meaningful lives, pursue successful careers, and shape their communities and the world through service and leadership.

ROCHELLE

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# LOCAL NEWS

## Local students named to fall 2023 dean's list at NIU

**DEKALB** — Northern Illinois University recently announced its fall 2023 dean's list students. To earn this distinction, students must meet a minimum semester grade point average of 3.5 on a 4.0 scale in the College of Engineering and Engineering Technology or a minimum of 3.75 on a 4.0 scale in the colleges of Business, Education, Health and Human Sciences, Liberal Arts and Sciences, and Visual and Performing Arts.

Students from the area who achieved this honor include:

Esmond: Aiden Roschi,

Biological Sciences - B.S., Eagle River High School.

Kings: Shelby Sanderson, Early Childhood Education, Rochelle Township High School. Rochelle: Lisa Antczak, Sociology - B.A., Lincoln High School. Brianna Baker, Psychology - B.A., Rochelle Township High School. Vanessa Belmonte, Middle Level Teaching & Learning, Rochelle Township High School. Garrett Berg, Pre-Computer Science, Rochelle Township High School. Ethan Burgholzer, Software Development, Rochelle Township High School. Nadia

Castillo, Psychology - B.A., Rochelle Township High School. Aaron Dennis, Electrical Engineering, Palmer High School. Jacob Eul, Software Development, Rochelle Township High School. Arlette Garcia, Health Sciences-General, Rochelle Township High School. Marisol Garcia, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Rochelle Township High School. Anna Harvey, Health Sciences-General, Rochelle Township High School. Caitlin Hensley, Statistics, Rochelle Township High School. Cole Hensley, Engineering Manage-

ment, Rochelle Township High School. Jasmin Hernandez, Business Administration - B.S., Rochelle Township High School. Benjamin Hickey, Engineering Management, Rochelle Township High School. Evan Horner, Entrepreneurship & Social Resp, Rochelle Township High School. Marlen Hueramo, Art and Design Education, Rochelle Township High School. Crue Larsen, Health Sciences-General, Rochelle Township High School. Ella McKinney, Communicative Disorders, Rochelle Township High School. Jasmine

Mondragon, ELED-Bilingual/ESL, Rochelle Township High School. Rachel Moran, ELED-Reading Teacher, Streator Township High School. Luis Nambo, Political Sci-Politics-B.A., Rochelle Township High School. Louis Petrie, Entrepreneurship & Social Resp, Geneva Community High School. Anthony Powell, Computational Software, Rochelle Township High School. Amy Price, Early Childhood Education, Rochelle Township High School. Ashley Ramos, Leadership and Management, Rochelle Township High School. Gisselle Ro-

bles, Health Sciences-General, Rochelle Township High School. Jonathan Saladino, Electrical Engineering, South Beloit High School. Juanita Saldana Hernandez, Middle Level Teaching & Learning, Rochelle Township High School. Audrey Sullivan, Family Rel, Prev & Wellness, Rochelle Township High School. Alexis Thompson, Rehabilitation & Disability Se, Rochelle Township High School. Alva Valle, Art and Design Education, Rochelle Township High School. Emily Ward, Art Studio, Rochelle Township High School.

### Rochelle Area

## CHURCH DIRECTORY

**Ashton Bible Church**, corner of Main and Paddock in Ashton. Pastor Farrel Stauffer, church phone is (815)453-2190, church website [www.ashtonbible.org](http://www.ashtonbible.org). Sunday School for all ages 9:00-10:00am, Morning Worship 10:15am, Wednesday Prayer Meeting/Bible Study 6:30-8:00pm.

**The Bridge Church**, Pastor Greg Duncan, 11038 E. IL Route 38, Rochelle, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-7750. Sunday School: 9:00 am; Sunday Service: 10:00 am; Nursery & Children's ministry during am service; Bible Study Tuesday 10:00 am and Wednesday 7:00 pm. Web: [thebridgechurchrochelle.com](http://thebridgechurchrochelle.com) Email: [thebridgechurchrochelle@gmail.com](mailto:thebridgechurchrochelle@gmail.com)

**Calvary Lighthouse Church, Assemblies of God**, Senior Pastor, Dr. James Horvath. 14409 Hemstock Rd., Rochelle. Sunday Morning: Sunday Worship & Children's Church 10:00 A.M., Wednesday Evening 7:00 P.M. - Adult Teaching, Missionettes & Royal Rangers Childrens Classes, Nursery available for all services. HE-Brews Cafe is open before and after services. For further information, please call the CLC office at 815-562-7701, or email us at [staff@calvarylighthouse.com](mailto:staff@calvarylighthouse.com)

**Calvary Lutheran Church, LCMC** - "To Know Christ and to Proclaim Christ in Word and Deed" -19 Perry Road, Lee, IL 60530 (the intersection of Perry Road and W. County Line Road). Rev. Martha Uecker Nelson, Pastor. Coffee Hour starts at 9:00 a.m., Sunday School, Confirmation, and Adult Bible Study are at 9:15 a.m. Worship is at 10:30 a.m. and is broadcast live on Facebook. Go to our website is at [www.Calvarychurchlee.org](http://www.Calvarychurchlee.org) and click on the link there. A Grief Support Group meets the third Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. Call or text (815) 824-2825 or email [CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com](mailto:CalvaryLeeIL@gmail.com) with questions or for more information. Also check us out at [www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church](http://www.facebook.com/Calvary-Lutheran-Church).

**Rochelle Church of Christ**, Keeping Christ at the center in the Hub City. We meet Sundays at 9:00am for Bible Study and 10:00am for worship. We also have a Wednesday Bible Study at 7:00pm. 206 Erickson Rd, Rochelle, IL 61068. You can call us at (815) 562-6572 or visit us on the web at [rochellechurch.com](http://rochellechurch.com). We also have a radio program Sundays just after 8am on WRHL 1060AM. Minister Dominic Venuso.

**Creston United Methodist Church and Steward United Methodist Church** - Rev. Ilhan You, Creston: 126 West South Street, P.O. Box 209, Creston, Illinois 60113. Sunday morning worship 9:00am. Coffee fellowship at 10:15am. Steward: 507 Main Street, P.O. Box 80, Steward, IL 60553. Adult Sunday School, 10:00am. Sunday morning worship and Children's Sunday School 11:00am. Contact the church office at 847-730-4370 for more information. [facebook.comcrestonumcil](http://facebook.comcrestonumcil) [facebook.com/stewardilumc](http://facebook.com/stewardilumc)

**Elim Reformed Church**, 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-6811. Email [goelimchurch@gmail.com](mailto:goelimchurch@gmail.com) Website [www.goelimchurch.org](http://www.goelimchurch.org) Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 Rev. Marv Jacobs

**Faith Lutheran Church** - (14206 E. Flagg Rd.) - "Making Christ Known Through Lives of Faith." In-person worship is available each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or online at "Faith Lutheran Social" on YouTube. Worship resources are also available on our Facebook page - 'Faith Lutheran Church ELCA.' You may also e-mail Pastor Joy Alsop at [Pastor@faithlrochelle.org](mailto:Pastor@faithlrochelle.org) for more information. All are welcome to join us!

**First Baptist Church of Rochelle, First Baptist Church of Rochelle** invites you to experience our practical Bible services which have nurseries provided in every service along with a wide range of children's and teen ministries. Sunday School is at 9:30 am with regular church services at 10:30 am and 1:00 pm. Wednesday Family Night starts at 6:30 pm with AWANA for the 5 yr. olds thru 6th grade. The Omega Teen Ministry also starts at 6:30 pm for 7th - 12th grades and the Adult Bible Study at 7:00 pm. First Baptist Church is located 6 blocks west of Hwy 251 at the corner of Woolf Ct. and 8th Ave. in Rochelle. Call 562-4168 for more information. Listen at 8:30 am Sunday mornings on WRHL 1060 AM for the Sunday morning "Bible Message." [www.firstbaptistrochelle.org](http://www.firstbaptistrochelle.org)


**First General Baptist Church**, 500 S. 12th St, Rochelle. Phone: 815-562-5221. Email: [fgbcrochelle@gmail.com](mailto:fgbcrochelle@gmail.com). Website: [www.fgbcrochelle.org](http://www.fgbcrochelle.org). Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fgbcrochelle](http://www.facebook.com/fgbcrochelle). Pastor: Rev. Angelo Bonacquisti. **Sunday worship services:** 8:30 am, 11:15 am and 6:00 pm. **Sunday school:** 10:00 am. We'd be honored to have you join us as we worship JESUS and continue to grow in truth and love for God and each other. A nursery, children's church, youth group and small groups are available. If you need a ride please contact our church bus driver, John, at (815) 262-4275 by 8:30 am on Sunday. "For if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved." Romans 10:9

**First Presbyterian Church** - An Amazing Place for Amazing Grace- Rev. Doug Forsberg, Senior Pastor. 1100 Calvin Road, Rochelle. Email: [info@placeforgrace.com](mailto:info@placeforgrace.com). Sunday morning worship 9:00am and 10:30am. In person or streamed online. On our Website and Facebook Live. [www.placeforgrace.com/](http://www.placeforgrace.com/) [www.facebook.com/placeforgrace](http://www.facebook.com/placeforgrace)

**Grace Fellowship Church** — Pastor Jeff Ardissonne, 2128 Il Route 38, Ashton, 815-453-7464. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 9:45 a.m. [www.graceisforyou.com](http://www.graceisforyou.com)

**Harvest Baptist Church** 241 Scott Ave. (Hillcrest). Rev. Duane Boehm, pastor. Email [duane712@hotmail.com](mailto:duane712@hotmail.com), cell 815-757-3427. Visit us on Facebook! Service times: Sunday morning worship with Children's Church at 10 am. Wednesday night worship at 7 pm.

**Immanuel Lutheran Church** Missouri Synod 16060 E. Lindenwood Road, Lindenwood, IL 61049. Rev. Dr. Matthew Rosebrock. Church Phone 393-4500. Church Worship 9:00 a.m. Sunday School Christian Education Hour at 10:30 a.m.

**Living Water Community Church** 405 N. Main St, Downtown Rochelle. Phone 815-561-6249, Website: [www.lwccr.com](http://www.lwccr.com), Like us on Facebook. We are Non-Denominational, Christ Centered, Casual dress, Christ Centered Live Band Worship. Mike Vogeler - Outreach and Seven C's Pastor, Chris Bender- Teaching Pastor and Doug Bunker - Missions and Children's Pastor. Sunday Worship Service- 10:00am. Nursery/Toddlers Ages 0-5 available during the service in the Splash building. Swim- Grades 1st-5th worship with the adults then break out for age appropriate teaching. Youth groups, Small groups, Life Groups and Workshops meet throughout the year for Bible teaching. 7C's Mission- serves the community physically & spiritually each month from 1135 Lincoln Hwy, providing lightly used clothing, Hygiene items, a light lunch and Elder Prayer open the second Saturday from 10am-2pm and the 4th Thursday from 4pm to 7:00pm and by appointment.. 

**New Hope Fellowship (Church of God - Anderson, IN)**, 1501 10th Ave., Rochelle, IL 61068. Service: Sunday at 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m., (815)561-8400, [www.NHFchurch.net](http://www.NHFchurch.net) Pastor: Dan Sergeant and Pastor Nick Tornabene. (Classes for children through age fifth grade during service.)

**Rochelle United Methodist Church welcomes everyone to their worship service, and practices openness for all activities including communion. Worship is at 9:00 am. Sunday school for children begins around 9:15, following the Children's Time in worship.** A fellowship time with food and space for conversation occurs in Hicks Hall every week following the worship service. We celebrate communion with an open table on the first Sunday of every month, and on other appropriate occasions. Youth group is on Sunday evenings from 5:30-7:30. Our youth program includes service projects, discussion topics, Bible Study, and lots of fun and fellowship together. Some of our activities include packing meals at Feed My Starving Children, helping at Rochelle Christian Food Pantry and 7C's, working with animals at Barn on Baseline, Mystery trips (Destination Unknown!), and Interactive experiences on Dating boundaries, refugees, and homelessness. Youth group is for grades 6-12 and friends are always welcome. Recorded services are available on our YouTube channel and our website at [www.rochelleumc.com](http://www.rochelleumc.com). Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Our Facebook page is [www.facebook.com/rochelleumc](http://www.facebook.com/rochelleumc). **Our pastor is the Rev. Dr. Katherine Thomas Paisley.** Our address is 709 Fourth Ave. (815) 562-2164. Email is [admin@rochelleumc.com](mailto:admin@rochelleumc.com). At Rochelle United Methodist Church, everyone is welcome and loved!

**St. Patrick Catholic Church** Rev. Jesus Dominguez; Deacon Fermin Garcia; Deacon George Schramm; 244 Kelley Dr. (Corner of Kelley & Caron Rd.), PO Box 329, Rochelle, IL 61068. **Office Hours:** 9:00 AM- 4PM Monday-Thursday, Phone: 815-562-2370. **Mass times:** 8:00 AM Monday-Thursday, Saturday Vigil Mass 5:00 PM English, 7PM Spanish, Sunday Mass 7:30 AM, 9:00 AM in English and 11:00 AM in Spanish. **Confessions:** Monday 8:30AM & 6:30PM, Tuesday 8:30AM, Saturday 8:30am & 4:00-4:45 PM Or by appointment. **Religious Education:** Deacon George Schramm, Director of Religious Education. 903 Caron Road, Rochelle, IL 61068, 815-561-0079; Website: [stpatricksrochelle.com](http://stpatricksrochelle.com) Email: [stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org](mailto:stpatrick-rochelle@rockforddiocese.org) Facebook.com/StPatrickRochelle

**St. Paul Lutheran Church** "Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever!" Steven Hall, Principal, Parish Nurse-Marcia Schnorr. 1415 Tenth Ave., Rochelle. Church Office-562-2744. Worship times: 6:00 p.m. Saturday, 9:00 a.m. Sunday. Our service is broadcast over WRHL 1060AM at 10:00 a.m. Sunday. Sunday School 10:15-11:15 a.m. Call 562-6323 for more information about the school.





# LOCAL VIEWS

## GUEST COLUMN

## Re-evaluate your drinking habits with a month of sobriety

Whether you began in January or are starting later in the month or February, it's never too late to give yourself a month of abstaining from alcohol. It's a great way to kick start the year and give yourself mental and physical clarity.

For many, holiday drinking is commonplace, and it can get out of hand. Even social and casual drinkers may find themselves drinking more than usual during the festive season. There are significant health benefits with a month of sobriety. There are also social

benefits, and it helps you re-evaluate your drinking habits.

Fortunately, there are practical tips that you can use to help you achieve success and reap the benefits of a month of sobriety.

Initially, the health benefits are significant. You will find yourself sleeping better, having more energy, lower blood pressure and cholesterol, and more money. You'll notice you may lose weight, have clearer skin, and feel less depressed, anxious, and stressed. Overall, your mental and physical well-being will significantly improve.

Moreover, it helps you re-evaluate your drinking habits if you feel it got out of hand over the holidays. Consider asking yourself if alcohol is used as a tool to cope with stressful situations. Do you find yourself feeling stressed without alcohol, or have your drinking habits impacted your relationships or your professional life? If the answer is yes, consider a month of not drinking alcohol.

Finally, and most importantly, removing any chance of driving while

impaired is a substantial social benefit. Abstaining from alcohol is the backbone of effective drunk driving prevention. In Illinois, most DUI arrests occur among 25 to 34-year-olds. In 2022, 292 people were killed in alcohol-related crashes, approximately 23% of the 1,268 crash fatalities and 86% of all drivers arrested for DUI are first offenders.

It can seem challenging to know where to start this process, but there are practical tips that can help

you along the way.

Create a supporting environment where you know you will succeed. Thoroughly purge all the booze around you; either dump it, hide it, or give it away. Moreover, find a suitable non-alcoholic drink for social situations.

Recruit a friend or family member to participate and help avoid temptations. Not only will you support one another, but you can also plan activities that do not involve alcohol, and you can speak about the successes and challenges of abstaining from alcohol.

Stay busy and active

and take this time to focus on your mental and physical well-being; take advantage of having more energy and sleeping better. Utilize Dry January or sobriety apps that will help you track your progress and find practical ways to hold yourself accountable.

*Nickolaus Hayes is a healthcare professional in the field of substance use and addiction recovery and is part of the editorial team at DRS. His primary focus is spreading awareness by educating individuals on the topics surrounding substance use.*



Nickolaus Hayes

## Farm Bureau's Kern: Farm succession planning

Mapping out a succession plan to keep a farm in the family and family members on the farm is important. Farm family members must adopt a vision for keeping their farm operation in the family to pass onto future generations.

Dr. Ron Hanson, the country's leading authority on farm succession planning, would like to convince you to do something now about farm succession planning. Hanson has counseled and worked with farm families for over four decades helping them resolve family conflicts and improve family relationships through better communication and planning.

Hanson notes, "Of all the challenges you face, passing the farm to the next generation will likely be the biggest. Most families understand the importance of succession planning, but very few have a plan in place."

Hanson has personally witnessed countless times where families have not prepared to transition the farm to the next generation ending in heartbreak for all involved. "Farm family members must adopt a vision for keeping

their farm in the family for the next generation. Without identified goals and deadlines farm succession usually fails and less than one-eighth of family farms make it to the third generation."

Most multi-generation family farming operations start out with the best of intentions for keeping their farm in the family and allowing their adult farming children to gain ownership that continues their farming legacy. But often that never happens. Mistakes in the planning process by families can cause these intended succession plans to fail and derail any hopes of passing on the family farm to the next generation. Often ending the dream of the adult farming children for taking over their family operation.

Avoiding difficult but necessary family conversations invites failure. Family members must be open and truthful with each other to achieve positive outcomes with their succession plans and intentions. Achieving transparent channels of communications that allows all family members voices to be heard and understood results

in a successful transition plan for farm ownership succession. This session provides family farming operations with planning ideas and solution strategies to implement that will help prevent a transition planning failure to ever happen and thus avoid a potential farm succession train wreck.

Passing on the eventual ownership of a farming operation along with management control to the next generation can be an overwhelming task for farm families. Succession planning is a journey with difficult questions and challenges demanding answers. Failing to find solutions can prevent a successful transition of farm ownership between generations.

Farming operations are notorious for procrastinating and avoiding any difficult succession conversations to side step family confrontations. Most family disputes never evolve from what was discussed; but from what was NOT DISCUSSED. Family members must communicate and work

effectively together to implement a successful ownership transition plan. Expectations must be identified and clarified to avoid potential misunderstanding. A step-by-step planning strategy with guidelines will be shared to accomplish transferring farm ownership to the next younger farming generation. Planning resources will be identified to empower farm families with the management tools for a successful farm succession plan.

The Young Leaders in Carroll, Ogle, Lee, Stephenson and Winnebago-Boone County Farm Bureaus are hosting Dr. Hanson for a farm succession workshop on Feb. 29 at the White Pines Lodge. The evening will begin at 6 p.m. followed by Dr. Hanson's presentation.

His program is titled "Avoiding the mistakes of a farm succession planning train wreck; and empowering families to succeed in farm succession." His six-step program will guide you through the emotional pitfalls families face when deciding how to structure

their succession plan for success.

Cost for the program is \$50 per person. This program is open to farm bureau member families only on Carroll, Stephenson, Ogle, Lee and Winnebago Counties. Seats will be reserved for the first 125 who register.

To make your reservation either call the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 815-732-2231; or email [cfb@ogle.comcastbiz.net](mailto:cfb@ogle.comcastbiz.net)

All reservations must be made no later than Feb. 15.

### Scholarships

The Ogle County Farm Bureau is pleased to announce that applications for their 2024 Scholarship Program will be available beginning Jan. 3 to graduating high school seniors, or those enrolled at an accredited university. Farm bureau members may pick up or have applications mailed. Applications can also be downloaded from the Ogle County Farm Bureau website at [www.oglefb.org](http://www.oglefb.org)

Eight scholarships totaling \$8,500 will be awarded. Eligible applicants must meet the following criteria: must be a high school graduate;

must be an Ogle County Farm Bureau member or dependent of a member; must be accepted at an accredited university or college and pursue an agricultural or agricultural-related field of study; must be a resident of Illinois; and must demonstrate a financial need.

Applicants can be graduating high school seniors or students currently enrolled in an accredited college or university.

Applicants successfully completed and submitted will be judged on criteria including: academic performance, demonstrated interest in agriculture, financial need and character/personality.

Those interested in receiving a scholarship application should contact the Ogle County Farm Bureau at 815-732-2231; or stop by their office at 421 W. Pines Road in Oregon. Applications can also be downloaded by visiting our website at [www.oglefb.org](http://www.oglefb.org)

All applications and accompanying materials must be received no later than April 1, 2024.

*Ron Kern is the manager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.*



Ron Kern

### How to contact government officials

U.S. Con. Darin LaHood  
1424 Longworth HOB  
Washington, D.C.  
20515  
(202) 225-6201

IL Sen. Win Stoller  
Stratton Office Bldg  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-1942

IL Rep. Bradley Fritts  
Stratton Office Bldg  
Springfield, IL 62706  
(217) 782-0535

Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to [news@rochellenews-leader.com](mailto:news@rochellenews-leader.com)

### KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

*\* Denotes Chairman/President*

#### Rochelle City Council

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#### Flagg-Rochelle Park Board

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#### Board of Trustees

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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](mailto: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

## St. Paul Lutheran School releases 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter honor roll for 2023-2024

**ROCHELLE** — St. Paul Lutheran School in Rochelle recently released its honor roll information for the second quarter of the 2023-2024 school year.

High honor roll: Naomi Bresson, Ashley Carmichael, Jimmy Chadwick, Michael Cox, Caden Hatfield, Noah Hayden, Riley Heal, Madelynn McRoberts, Jack Olson, Taylor Thomas, Ty Vongsiri (Jones), Charlie Frankenberry, Makenzie Johnson, Annaliese Cox, Axel Alsop, Joey Chadwick, Esam Farraj, Owen Heitkamp, Jillian Bruns, Cohen Haedt, Mia Heitkamp and Tyler Johnson.

Honor roll: Leylani Farraj, Freddie McBride, Ivan Olson, Ayla True, Leni Haedt, Reed Rowley, Sophia Mueller, Om Shah, Hailey Chapman, Paisley Albaugh, Chase Atkinson, Elijah Good, Vinny Tornabene, Mackenzie Bybee, Tyson Carmichael, DeLaney Heal, Eli Schweitzer and Maggie Suneson.

## Lager makes UW-Madison fall Dean's List

**MADISON, Wis.** — The University of Wisconsin-Madison has recognized students named to the dean's list for the fall semester of the 2023-2024 academic year, including Rochelle's Tanner Lager (school of education, dean's list).

Students who achieve at a high level academically are recognized by the dean at the close of each semester. To be eligible for the Dean's List, students must complete a minimum of 12 graded degree credits in that semester. Each university school or college sets its own GPA requirements for students to be eligible to receive the distinction.

To view an online listing, visit registrar.wisc.edu/deanslist. Use the data display dashboard to find students from your circulation area who have received this honor.

For questions or concerns about eligibility, please contact deanslist-registrar@em.wisc.edu

## McCormick graduates from Iowa State

**AMES, Iowa** — More than 1,700 graduates received degrees from Iowa State University this past fall, including Steward's Kayla McCormick (master of accounting, accounting). Graduate and undergraduate ceremonies were held Dec. 15-16 at Hilton Coliseum.

Of the 1,705 students who graduated this semester, a total of 1,742 degrees were awarded (1,431 undergraduate, 311 graduate) with some students earning multiple degrees.

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January 23 – (Tuesday) – CLOSED

January 25 - (Thursday) – Deli Meat (Donated by Headons) Sandwiches, Pasta Salad, Chips

www.KitchenTableRochelle.org

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### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Jan. 23  
Odessa Waters

Jan. 24  
Terry Dodillet  
Kelly Arnold

Jan. 25  
Nikki Greenfield  
Ashton Arwood

Jan. 28  
Peggy Futrell

Jan. 29  
Nayelia Ramirez

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



- Dec. 5 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25
- Dec. 6 - Rochelle Chamber of Commerce, \$25
- Dec. 7 - Heather Hensley, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 8 - Eric Van Hise, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 9 - Velimir Kuzmanovski, Rockford, \$25
- Dec. 10 - Emily Harness, DeKalb, \$50
- Dec. 11 - Tim Duval, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 12 - Sara Hall, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 13 - Clay and Becky Fraley, Kings, \$25
- Dec. 14 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- Dec. 15 - Liquor N Wine, \$25
- Dec. 16 - Marge Charboneau, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 17 - Scott and Alana Hill, Thomson, \$50
- Dec. 18 - Christian Neale, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 19 - Zekelman Employee, \$25
- Dec. 20 - Gabriela Ortiz, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 21 - From the Heart, \$25
- Dec. 22 - Vickie Eschenbaum, Spring Valley, \$25
- Dec. 23 - Sherry Morris, Amboy, \$25
- Dec. 24 - Rochelle Chamber, \$50
- Dec. 25 - Mark Bucey, Byron, \$1,000
- Dec. 26 - Joe Kearns, Ashton, \$25
- Dec. 27 - Steve Barron, Rochelle, \$25
- Dec. 28 - Kathy Wayman, Oregon, \$25
- Dec. 29 - NICE Center, Lee, \$25
- Dec. 30 - From the Heart, \$25
- Dec. 31 - Rochelle Chamber, \$50



### MAGIC MAZE

J P M T K I F D B Y W U S Q O  
T M K I E F T L D B Z X X W U  
S E Q O N L L E T E L K O O B  
T E L U O P O T L J H F B D R  
C E A T Y W E I H B V T R S A  
A Q L P N L N C V A O L E K C  
I N H W H U F I E A M G T C E  
B Z K P O Y A A W V R L T U L  
S R M L Q C I G R A H T E L E  
P A N M E L N W O D T E L T T  
P E C U T T E L P U T N I U Q

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: **Jewelry Worn Around the Wrist**

Anklet  
Booklet  
Gauntlet  
Goblet

Hamlet  
Letdown  
Lethargic  
Leticia

Letterbox  
Lettuce  
Owlet  
Pamphlet

Poulet  
Quintuplet  
Ultraviolet

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### "LET" WORDS

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. Broom handle is longer. 2. Cloth is wider. 3. Cap is different. 4. Cup is missing. 5. Cabinet is wider. 6. Flower picture is reversed.

## Super Crossword

### ACROSS

1 Grappler, backwoods-style  
8 Skylit courts  
13 Astronaut Wally  
20 "The Stranger Beside Me" true-crime writer  
21 Flowers in the iris family  
22 Some sweatshirts  
23 Swift warship for law enforcement?  
25 Finales  
26 Makes mother's milk  
27 Comic Radner  
29 "How about that!"  
30 Lugosi of "The Raven"  
33 Hefty books  
34 Defectively built flat-bottomed boat?  
36 Pumpkin's color  
38 Resident of Tehran  
40 Makes a choice  
41 Light, speedy boat transporting Oreos?  
45 Just barely

48 Indian state known for silk  
49 United  
50 In a smoothly elegant way  
53 Neon, e.g.  
56 French mime master  
59 High-sterned ship orbiting Earth?  
61 "Brooklyn Nine-Nine" star Andy  
65 Central Canadian tribe members  
67 Upscale hotel quarters  
68 Small combo  
69 Discovering a sharp-bowed rowboat?  
74 Safe, at sea  
75 Do a tally of  
77 "Get what I'm sayin', man?"  
78 Zealous  
80 Paint a passenger ship?  
83 Soapmaking solution  
86 Auditing org.  
87 Message on a tombstone  
89 Kabuki sash  
90 Enthusiasm  
95 Prison, in London

96 Very fast ship decorated with shrubbery?  
99 Coll. reunion attendee  
102 Father Sarducci of old 3-Down  
104 Quick-witted with lots of mollusks attached?  
109 Fill with joy  
113 Lyric verses  
114 Billiards stick  
115 They make up molecules  
116 Abstruse  
118 Reproductive organs  
120 Sub-sinking ship full of aquariums?  
125 Lay aside  
126 Bert's pal  
127 Introductions  
128 In clothes  
129 Actors O'Neal and Reynolds  
130 Says "OK"

DOWN

1 Jay-Z's music  
2 Year, in Portugal  
3 NBC skit show, in brief  
4 Indian Ocean island nation  
5 — Brasi (role in "The Godfather")  
6 One voted in  
7 Book page opposite a verso  
8 Severe  
9 Samples something  
10 Singer Diana  
11 With 13-Down, thick glacial mass along a polar shore  
12 BB shooter  
13 See 11-Down  
14 Magazine publisher  
15 Wannabe surfer  
16 Exiled Amin  
17 Key into a cash register  
18 Acting king  
19 Good traits  
24 He-sheep  
28 "— may be so bold ..."  
30 — Raton  
31 Lovers' deity  
32 Neighbor of Thailand  
34 Clayey fertilizer  
35 Herd of seals  
37 "— a break!"  
39 Gave a new interior design to  
42 Welsh canine  
43 Mom's bro (role in "The Godfather")  
44 Ball supporter  
45 Org. for cavity fillers  
46 Doc's warm treatment  
47 "For" votes  
51 Like thrift store goods  
52 — facto  
53 Sly deception  
54 Prices to play  
55 Variety of trapshooting  
57 Spot's noise  
58 Etching liquid  
60 Husband of Eva Peron  
61 Actress Keanan  
62 Enthusiasm  
63 Gold-fancying king  
64 Boxers' event  
66 Waffle brand  
70 No, to Nikita  
71 Torres with 12 Olympic swimming medals  
72 Antique item  
73 "Hooray!"  
76 "Guilty" or "not guilty"  
79 Onetime TV host Philbin  
81 Debut on Wall St.  
82 Zippo  
84 Wooling pet  
85 Actor Vigoda  
88 Olympic skier Mahre  
91 Meeting building regulations  
92 Tater  
93 Head, in Metz  
94 Mining strikes  
95 Big inits. in SUVs  
97 Certain deer leather  
98 Hamlet's duel opponent  
99 Peace treaty  
100 Shutter piece  
101 Fidgetiness  
102 Valuable rock  
103 Long, loose outerwear  
106 Nitpickers split them  
107 Olympic skier  
108 Sprayed, with "down"  
110 Mining strikes  
111 Downed  
112 Electric car producer  
116 Sicilian resort city  
117 Investments for later yrs.  
119 Home: Abbr.  
121 Suffix with budget  
122 — and yang  
123 Doc for head colds  
124 Blog feed format inits.

### Super Crossword

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

1. Broom handle is longer. 2. Cloth is wider. 3. Cap is different. 4. Cup is missing. 5. Cabinet is wider. 6. Flower picture is reversed.







# WINTER SURVIVAL

## Four factors to consider to maintain winter safety

**M**ANY changes are to be expected as fall gives way to winter. Temperatures drop for much of the country, and depending on where one lives, snow, wind and ice are to be expected. As beautiful as snow-covered landscapes can be, winter presents unique hazards, notably slippery roads and surfaces. Chilly temperatures also can put people at risk if they spend prolonged periods outdoors unprotected. According to the insurance company Carsurance, more than 156,000 crashes occur annually due to icy roads. Roughly 17 percent of all vehicle crashes happen in winter conditions. Winter hazards are not exclusive to driving, however. That means winter safety involves a consideration of

a host of factors. While slippery surfaces may contribute to some accidents, visibility can quickly change with winter weather. Blowing snow can contribute to whiteout conditions. In addition, fog can be hazardous to drivers, aviators and mariners and contributes to thousands of travel accidents every year, advises the National Weather Service. It's important to slow down, leave plenty of distance, use your low-beam headlights, and recognize when it may be safest to pull over, such as when visibility is significantly compromised. Shoveling snow or using a snowblower are common wintertime activities. Yet strenuous levels of activity in cold temperatures could put people at risk of heart attack, particularly if they are not acclimated to phys-

ical activity. Always warm up prior to shoveling snow to prepare the body for exercise. Go slowly and take frequent breaks. Avoid twisting and tossing snow over your shoulder, which can contribute to back injuries. Winter weather means turning up the heat or doing more indoor cooking. Carbon monoxide is produced through the burning of fuel in various forms, including stoves, engines, gas ranges, portable generators, and grills. The National Safety Council says carbon monoxide is an odorless, colorless gas that can go undetected as it builds up in enclosed spaces. Never warm up the car inside of a contained garage. Do not use portable flameless chemical heaters indoors, and have furnaces, water heaters and other fuel-burning appliances checked and

serviced by a qualified technician annually. Be sure that carbon monoxide alarms are on every floor of the home, and take it seriously if the alarm goes off. Black ice is a common winter foe. Black ice forms when temperatures rise above freezing during the day, melting any snow on the ground and causing surfaces to become wet. If the temperature drops once more while the ground is wet, a thin, transparent sheet of ice can form. Black ice also may occur if moisture in the air condenses and forms dew or fog, and then the temperature drops below freezing, says the National Weather Service. Black ice gets its name because it looks black on asphalt roads. However, it also can form on sidewalks and overpasses, or spots shaded by trees or other



objects. Slowing down and exercising extreme caution are essential. Winter is a beautiful season. But it can be just as hazardous as it is awe-inspiring. Taking steps to stay safe in unpredictable conditions is a necessity each winter.

## Why regular car washes are important

**T**AKING care of a vehicle involves more than just maintaining the equipment under the hood. There are a number of steps involved in keeping a car or truck in top form, and that includes regular car washes. Car washes keep a vehicle shiny and clean, which can help it look good while sitting in the driveway or cruising the highway. However, regular car washes are more than cosmetic. • Protection from the sun: A car that is routinely and properly washed and waxed is less vulnerable to damage from the sun's ultraviolet rays. • Extend the life of paint:

Dirt and debris can build up on the paint surface and eventually lead to scratches and other damage. Bird droppings and sap can be corrosive. Washing will help remove grime and protect the paint in the process. • Preserve the vehicle's value: Drivers who plan to sell or trade in their vehicles in the future should realize that a well-maintained car can bring in as much as 20 percent more for above-average condition, according to Kelley Blue Book. Maintaining a clean and shiny vehicle can protect its long-term value. • Remove salt: Drivers who live near the ocean or in areas where roads

are salted in the winter to melt snow may have cars with high salt corrosion rates. Unless it's washed off frequently, salt can take its toll, leading to damage. • Improve fuel efficiency: Drivers have felt pain in their wallets at the fuel pump in recent years. Dirty cars may be

less aerodynamic and less fuel-efficient as a result. Keeping a car clean may improve its fuel efficiency. • Maintain the interior: Car washes are not only about the exterior. Keeping a clean and tidy interior can help improve the air quality inside of the vehicle and prolong the life of up-

holstery, mats and interior components. Car washes should be a routine part of vehicle maintenance. Professional car washes tend to be more eco-friendly than washing a car at home, so drivers are urged to investigate their service plans and features.

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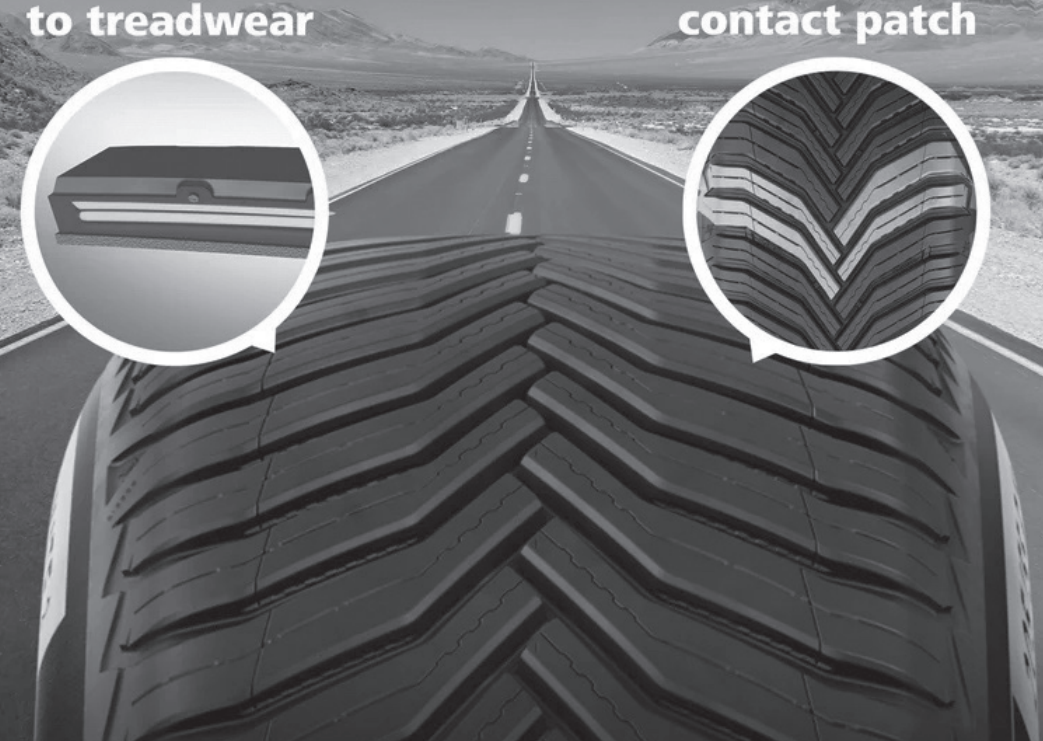
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# WINTER SURVIVAL

## How to prepare for winter storms

**W**INTER arrives with fanfare as Christmas, Chanukah and New Year's Eve all find place within days of the first day of the season. Parties and shopping may distract people from the weather around them, but after resolutions are made and the decorations are packed away, it's not long before it's time to confront winter's wrath.

Storms are commonplace in January and February in many parts of the world, and even March storms are not unheard of. Knowing how to prepare for storms can keep people safer and prevent home damage. If a storm is forecasted, follow these guidelines.

- Charge a mobile phone and other electronic devices to full battery in advance of the storm in case power goes out.
- Stock the home with extra batteries for flashlights and battery-powered devices, such as a portable radio.
- Invest in a car charger

to charge devices if the power is out for some time.

- Keep a supply of canned or boxed nonperishable items, as well as convenience foods that do not need to be cooked, like granola bars.

- Periodically check to ensure that the first aid kit is stocked with items that have not expired.

- Refill medications so that they are on hand in the event weather makes it challenging to get to the store.

- Keep emergency supplies of bottled water. If you forget this, fill the bathtub up with fresh water. Extra water will be needed for toilet flushing if yours is a septic system.

- Have warm blankets on hand and sleeping bags for each person in the home.

- Unplug all electronic devices if the power goes out to protect against a surge and damage when the power is restored.

- Exercise caution when burning candles, opting for flashlights and



lanterns instead.

- If it's very cold outside, move refrigerated and frozen items outdoors so they do not spoil in an unpowered refrigerator.

- Do not use gas stoves, charcoal grills or other

open-flame heat sources for warmth indoors. Carbon monoxide gas can build up inside and prove deadly.

- Follow the manufacturer's instructions when using a backup generator

for power.

- Stock up on gasoline for vehicles and to power gas-driven generators.

- Use power company websites and apps to report outages and stay apprised of restoration

status.

- Be cautious of downed power lines in the area when driving or walking.

Winter storms can be beautiful but dangerous without ample preparation.

## A homeowners' guide to ice dams

**C**OLD weather contributes to many different conditions that can affect homes. When winds are blowing fiercely, homeowners may soon discover deficits in insulation or in caulking around windows and doors. Icy conditions can cause walkways and stairs to become slick.

One winter condition can cause extensive headaches and damage and could be a mystery to many homeowners. Ice dams occur when warm air in the attic heats up the roof and melts accumulated snow. Water from this melt runs down the roof and refreezes when it reaches the colder roof edge. A mound of ice forms at the lower edge of the roofline as a result.

Ice dams may help

create a picturesque winter vista, with icicles hanging and glinting in the sunlight, but they can cause significant damage. According to experts, ice dams can weigh hundreds of pounds if they get large enough, potentially affecting the structural integrity of roof eaves. In addition, ice dams can cause melted runoff to back up under roof shingles. This water can eventually make its way inside, ruining ceilings and walls. The roof, gutters, insulation, interior drywall, and other home surfaces can be damaged if ice dams are left unchecked.

The following are some conditions that make a home vulnerable to ice dam formation:

1. The presence of snow on the roof.

2. An average outdoor temperature that is 32 F or lower.

3. A roof surface temperature above 32 F at its higher points and below 32 F at the lower end.

4. Indoor heat making its way to the underside of the roof.

Homeowners should take a few steps to address ice dams. The first is preventing future ice dams from forming. According to First American Roofing and Siding, LLC, improving insulation in the ceiling below the attic and addressing any inefficiencies in the home is necessary. A profes-

sional can do a blower door test, which works by depressurizing the home and using a thermal camera to find areas where insulation is poor. In addition, adequate ventilation under the roof deck is necessary so cold air can circulate and prevent the attic from getting so warm that it will melt the snow on the roof.

The next step is to remove excess snow from the roof with a roof rake and keeping gutters clear. If ice dams have already formed, hire a professional to remove them, as it can be dangerous to do it oneself.

Snow-covered roofs and landscapes can be beautiful, but also dan-

gerous if conditions that cause ice dams to form are not addressed.

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# Bridal Guide

Inside Today's Issue!





Check out our NEW

## American Hero

page Jan. 24<sup>th</sup>!

ROCHELLE  
News-Leader

RTHS Boys Bowling

# Powell advances to sectional

## Hub sophomore shoots 1,254 series to lead RTHS at IHSA Freeport Regional

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**FREEPORT**—Sophomore standout Andrew Powell found his rhythm early as the Rochelle Hub varsity bowling team battled in the IHSA Freeport Regional at Four Seasons on Wednesday afternoon.

Although the regional tournament was postponed twice due to weather conditions, Powell and the Hubs were ready to roll, with the sophomore right-hander firing a 238 in the opening game. Powell followed with consecutive scores of 186 and 248 to conclude the first half of the event with a 672 series, which ranked third among all active players in the 14-team regional field.

Powell carried his momentum into the second three-game series, where he bowled a 217 in the fourth game before a tough fifth game resulted in a 162. But a ball change enabled Powell to recapture his striking form, with the sophomore shooting a 203 in the sixth and final game. The change proved fruitful for Powell, whose final score of 1,254 resulted in not only a ninth-



(COURTESY PHOTO) The Rochelle Hub varsity bowling team finished seventh out of 14 schools in the IHSA Freeport Regional at Four Seasons Bowling Center on Wednesday. Above from left to right are Christian Thorne, Sam Tracey, Jon Alanis, Andrew Powell, Logan Frye and Levi Waddle.

place finish individually, but an at-large sectional qualifying bid for the second consecutive season.

“I haven’t bowled very

well over the last few weeks, but I was happy that I was able to bowl my average today and move on to sectionals,” Powell

said. “I wasn’t really pulling the ball too much and I was throwing the ball in the right spots. The ball did what I needed it to do and it

worked out for me... What I learned last year was to not get mad at myself after shots I knew I could’ve made better and to focus

on making my spares. I’m gonna go out there and do the best I can.”

See BOYS page 3

RTHS Girls Basketball

# Strong first half not enough against Sycamore

## Henkel leads RTHS with 23 points as Spartans rally for 68-54 win Wednesday

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball team gave Sycamore everything it could handle during the first half of Wednesday evening’s Interstate 8 Conference matchup.

Despite past struggles against the Spartans, Rochelle tipped off the game with tremendous energy and confidence, with the Lady Hubs holding a 21-13 lead after the first quarter. With sophomore Jaydin Dickey spearheading the charge on defense, Rochelle held Sycamore standout and Northern Illinois University recruit Lexi Carlsen scoreless in the opening quarter.

An offensive boost from senior Alivia Henkel, who scored a team-high 23 points in the game, allowed Rochelle to maintain a 35-32 halftime lead as the Spartans leaned on senior guard Monroe McGhee, who finished with 19 points to lead Sycamore. But the Lady Hubs couldn’t hold off the Spartans in the second half, where a 17-1 run ignited Sycamore’s third-quarter comeback and enabled the Spartans to take home a 68-54 conference victory over Rochelle.

“Our intensity and energy was there right off the bat and our focus was

there before the game,” head coach Jonathon Gehm said. “That was probably the most focused I’ve seen our girls in the locker room before a game and we showed that when we came out. Our execution was really good offensively and we took good shots against their man-to-man defense. We handled their full-court pressure early in the game and we were able to knock down shots from the outside.”

The Lady Hubs buried a trio of triples in the first quarter, as Dickey along with junior Kendyl Darby and senior Kara Martinez each converted 3-point shots to spark the Rochelle offense. Faced with an eight-point deficit entering the second quarter, Sycamore looked to its senior leaders McGhee and Carlsen, who combined for 16 points in the quarter to help the Spartans fight back into the game. McGhee drained two corner triples and hit three triples in the game.

Despite Sycamore’s resurgence on offense, Rochelle remained ahead at halftime due to a scoring burst from Henkel, who shredded the Spartan defense with her mid-range shooting and her offensive rebounding, which led to putbacks under the basket.

See GIRLS page 3



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES) Senior Loretta Atkinson brings the ball up the floor during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball game against Sycamore on Wednesday evening.



# SPORTS

## NIU Football

## Huskies welcome nine newcomers on first day of classes

### Six transfer athletes join three December signees on campus Tuesday morning

**DEKALB** — Northern Illinois University head coach Thomas Hammock announced the addition of six transfers to the Huskies' 2024 roster on Tuesday, the first day of spring semester classes at NIU. The six transfers joined three of the Huskies' December signees as newcomers to the roster for the spring.

"I'm very pleased with the guys we were able to add to our roster mid-year, including three December signees," Hammock said. "The big thing we look for with transfers is productive players with character and that's what you see with this group. We wanted to bring in the right fit from a competitive standpoint, an athletic standpoint, and a social standpoint and we got that in this group."

2024 Mid-Year Transfers

Jake Appleget TE 6-4 235 So.-R Lincoln, Neb. Southeast HS/Nebraska

Christian Fuhrman LB 6-1 235 Sr. Mesa, Ariz. Queen Creek HS/Garden City CC/SEMO

Kenji Lewis WR 6-1 200 Jr. Memphis, Tenn. Memphis East HS/UAPB

Jalen Macon QB 6-5 230 Jr.-R Nashville, Tenn. Hillsboro HS/UAPB

Andrew McElroy WR 6-3 192 Sr. Bolingbrook, Ill. Bolingbrook HS/St. Thomas

Marc Pretto LB 6-2 220 Jr. Montclair, N.J. St. Peter's Prep/Fordham

To date, the Huskies have added four offensive and two defensive players as transfers and will announce one additional player in the coming days. The group includes a pair of 2024 juniors from the University of Arkansas at Pine Bluff in quarterback Jalen Macon and Kenji Lewis. Macon threw for

634 yards and four touchdowns in six games while completing 66.3 percent of his passes in 2023 while Lewis led the Golden Lions in receiving with 33 catches for 429 yards and three touchdowns in 11 games in 2023.

The Huskies also added senior wide receiver Andrew McElroy from St. Thomas University and sophomore tight end Jake Appleget from Nebraska. McElroy, a Bolingbrook native, caught 98 passes for 1,432 yards and nine touchdowns over the past three seasons and also returned punts and kickoffs for the Tommies. Appleget, an all-state player out of Lincoln Southeast High School, played in six games for the Cornhuskers in 2023 as a redshirt freshman.

NIU recruited a pair of transfer linebackers for 2024 in senior Christian Fuhrman from Southeast Missouri and junior Marc Pretto from Fordham. Fuhrman was SEMO's third-leading tackler in 2023 with 65 stops, while Pretto made 75 tackles in 11 games for the Rams last season.

In addition to the transfer newcomers, three players signed by the Huskies in December — junior quarterback Kenny Lueth (Rocklin, Calif./American River College/Rocklin HS), freshman cornerback Dashaun Gibson (Manassas, Va./Mt. Zion Prep) and freshman offensive lineman Aiden Olsen (Clinton, Wis./Elkhorn Area HS) — began classes at NIU on Tuesday.

Hammock said having the players on campus this semester will benefit the players and add to the competitiveness of the Huskie roster this spring.

"The great advantage is that these guys will go through offseason workouts, will go through spring ball, and get acclimated to

our coaching staff, to our team and to the football side of things so they can give themselves every opportunity to play in the fall," Hammock said.

NIU defeated Arkansas State, 21-19, in the Camellia Bowl in Montgomery, Alabama to finish the 2023 season with a 7-6 record; the Huskies' 5-3 mark in the Mid-American Conference was good for second in the MAC West. NIU, the winningest team in Illinois since 2010, opens the 2024 season in Huskie Stadium on Saturday, August 31 versus Western Illinois and will play at Notre Dame and at N.C. State in 2024. The Huskies are currently accepting \$24 deposits toward new season tickets. Click here to make a deposit and become a Huskie season ticket member for 2024.

### Academics

Twenty-four members of the Camellia Bowl Champion Northern Illinois University football team were named to the Academic All Mid-American Conference for 2023 as the Huskies led all MAC teams in number of players honored.

The Huskies' 24 Academic All-MAC qualifiers tied the school record for most players to make the team and included 10 repeat selections along with 14 players to reach the GPA threshold of 3.20 with 50 percent of games played for the first time. First-year players, including transfers in their first season and true freshmen, are not eligible for the team.

NIU's contingent was led by a pair of players who made the Academic All-MAC list for the fourth time in offensive lineman J.J. Lippe (Milwaukee, Wis./Whitefish Bay HS) and tight end Tristen Tewes (Pleasant Plains, Ill./Pleasant Plains HS). Lippe is pursuing his MBA, while



Tewes is working on a second bachelor's degree in sociology/criminology.

Senior offensive lineman Nolan Potter (Cedar Rapids, Iowa/Washington HS), a two-time first team All-MAC selection, qualified for the Academic All-MAC team for the third time as did 2023 leading tackler Ray Thomas (Racine, Wis./Washington Park HS) and fellow defensive lineman Jacob Waskow (Canton, Ill./Canton HS). See all previous year honorees in parentheses below.

1. James Ester, Senior, Sport Management (Grad), 3.33 GPA

2. Tom Foley, Junior, Accountancy, 3.37 GPA (2022)

3. Skyler Gill-Howard, Sophomore, Marketing, 3.35 GPA

4. Cade Haberman, Junior, History, 3.27 GPA

5. Isaac Hatfield, Sophomore, Kinesiology, 3.48 GPA (2022)

6. Drew Hoth, Sophomore, Elementary Education - Special Education,

3.69 GPA

7. Jalen Johnson, Freshman (R), Journalism, 3.54 GPA

8. Brock Lampe, Junior, Health Sciences/Pre-Physical Therapy, 3.66 GPA (2022)

9. J.J. Lippe, Junior, Business Administration (MBA), 3.76 GPA (2020, 2021, 2022)

10. Rocky Lombardi, Senior, Sport & Exercise Psychology, 3.40 GPA

11. Evan Malcore, Freshman (R), Accountancy, 3.93 GPA

12. Cyrus McGarrell, Sophomore, Business Administration, 3.20 GPA (2022)

13. Pete Nygra, Sophomore, Kinesiology, 3.78 GPA (2022)

14. Dane Pardridge, Freshman (R), Human Resource Management, 3.83 GPA

15. Luke Pinnick, Sophomore, Environmental Studies, 3.38 GPA

16. Nolan Potter, Senior, Sport Management (Grad), 3.78 GPA (2021, 2022)

17. Joey Rattin, Junior, Business Administration, 3.54 GPA

18. Kacper Rutkiewicz, Senior, Sport Management, 3.69 GPA

19. Tristen Tewes, Senior; Sociology/Criminology, 3.92 GPA (2020, 2021, 2022)

20. Raishein Thomas, Junior, Kinesiology, 3.54 GPA (2021, 2022)

21. Seth Thompson, Senior, Sport Management, 3.32 GPA

22. Trey Urwiler, Sophomore, Sport Management, 3.74 GPA

23. Jacob Waskow, Senior, Kinesiology, 3.52 GPA (2021, 2022)

24. Kanon Woodill, Sophomore, Psychology, 3.72 GPA

Seven players on the 2023 Academic All-MAC team received Academic All-District honors from the College Sports Communicators (formerly CoSIDA) last week for achieving a GPA of at least 3.50 while playing in 90 percent of the team's games.

## RTHS Wrestling

## Hubs secure nonconference road win at Harvard

### Rochelle moves to 20-6 overall after 49-25 victory over Hornets on Wednesday

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

**HARVARD** — The Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling team had few issues during its nonconference dual match against Harvard on Wednesday. The Hubs secured their 20th dual win of the year, with nine individuals emerging victorious as Rochelle struck down the Hornets 49-25. The

Hubs (20-6, 4-0 Interstate 8) will host Kaneland on Thursday night with an Interstate 8 title on the line.

Junior Kaiden Morris scored the first points of the dual match, recording a 7-1 decision over Joel Ramirez to win the 285-pound bout. Sophomore Freddie Hernandez received a forfeit for the 106-pound bout to put the Hubs ahead 9-0 before Harvard's Reymundo

Romo secured a 7-2 decision against sophomore Keagan Albers in the 113-pound bout. Senior Tommy Tourdot's second-period fall over Owen Vail in the 120-pound bout gave Rochelle a 15-3 advantage.

Junior Xavier Villalobos notched a first-period takedown and fall over Brennan Peters in the 126-pound bout and sophomore Deegan Scha-

backer followed with a first-period takedown and fall over Mauricio Flores in the 132-pound bout. Freshman Josh Lassiter compiled three near falls and two takedowns during his 13-0 major decision over Wyatt Stott in the 138-pound bout.

Harvard claimed the next two matches, with Logan Nulle earning a second-period fall over freshman Angel Hernan-

dez in the 144-pound bout and Daniel Rosas scoring a 10-2 major decision over sophomore Brenden Voight in the 150-pound bout. Freshman Alex Pellicer took a forfeit for the 157-pound bout and junior Grant Gensler recorded a first-period fall against Charly Tolentino in the 165-pound bout, allowing Rochelle to take a 43-13 lead in the dual match.

Harvard's Blake Liv-

dahl took the 175-pound bout with a third-period fall over sophomore Roman Villalobos. Senior Brock Metzger earned Rochelle's final win of the dual match, securing a second-period fall over Edgar Hernandez in the 190-pound bout. Harvard's Bryan Hernandez concluded the dual with a first-period fall over senior Frank Decena in the 215-pound bout.

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# SPORTS



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball team hosted Sycamore in Interstate 8 play on Wednesday. At left, senior Alivia Henkel drives past Sycamore's Monroe McGhee. At right, senior Kennedy Adamski looks to make a pass out of the post.

## GIRLS: Rochelle scores win over Christian Life on Tuesday

From page 1

Henkel converted four field goals in the second quarter and added two free throws to finish with 14 first-half points.

"We talked before the game about getting to her spots and just rising up," Gehm said. "She's so athletic and she can jump out of the gym. When she can get to her spots and rise up, she can shoot over defenders and she can create space just by jumping. She's a special athlete and she's ultra aggressive which is really great because we can

sometimes get stagnant as a team."

The Lady Hubs preserved their lead early in the third quarter, where senior Sydney Tabor drilled a 3-pointer from the elbow and Henkel scored on a baseline jumper to put Rochelle up 40-36. Sycamore quickly turned the game around, however, switching to a zone defense that stymied the Lady Hub offense and generated several deflections that led to turnovers and transition points. Most of those points were scored by Carlsen, who finished with 19 points in

the game.

"Sycamore's a really good team and [Lexi] Carlsen is a really good player," Gehm said. "I thought Jaydin did a great job against her tonight, but she was still able to fill up the stat sheet and that's what a Division I talent can do. I didn't think we executed very well offensively and I thought we were very passive. We had driving lanes that we weren't taking and we had shots that we were passing up. Sycamore was very aggressive and they knocked down shots."

The 17-1 run in the third

quarter enabled Sycamore to take a 53-41 lead after a Rochelle timeout. The Lady Hubs were unable to recover, as the Spartans held them to eight points in the third quarter and commanded a 13-point lead entering the fourth quarter, where a triple from Carlsen and a 5-for-6 showing from the free-throw line helped Sycamore clinch the victory.

Dickey finished with 11 points and Martinez tallied six points for the Lady Hubs (10-13, 1-5 Interstate 8), who will travel for another conference matchup against the Morris Redskins on

Friday night.

### Christian Life

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity basketball team dominated the first quarter of its nonconference game against Rockford Christian Life on Tuesday evening. Rochelle held the Eagles to just five first-quarter points as the Lady Hubs cruised for a 58-41 victory.

Senior Alivia Henkel led a balanced Rochelle offense that saw nine different players enter the scoring column on Tuesday. Henkel scored a team-high 14 points for the Lady Hubs (10-12, 1-4

Interstate 8), while senior Megan Seebach added nine points with eight coming in the second quarter. Junior Kendyl Darby sparked the offense with eight points all in the first quarter.

Rochelle led 24-5 after the first quarter and 42-16 at halftime. Senior Kara Martinez and sophomore Jaydin Dickey each recorded six points in the game for the Lady Hubs. Juniors Abby Metzger and Emma Kenney each tallied four points, while senior Kennedy Adamski scored four points and senior Loretta Atkinson chipped in three points.

## BOYS: Rochelle finishes seventh at IHSA Freeport Regional

From page 1

Powell led Rochelle (10-7, 5-3 Interstate 8) to seventh out of 14 schools in the regional meet. The Hubs totaled a final series score of 5,640, falling roughly 100 pins short of earning one of the four sectional qualifying berths as

a team. Senior Sam Tracey finished in 24th place with a series score of 1,143, while junior Logan Frye took 29th place with an 1,115 series score.

"The kids came out and bowled as well as they bowled all year long," head coach Jim Lyles said. "We missed a few makeable

spares that probably cost us a chance at sectionals, but we were solid as a team and when one guy was down, another guy to two picked him up. I couldn't ask for more than that and I thought we fared better than we have over the last few years."

Senior Jon Alanis fin-

ished with a 1,068 series and sophomore Levi Waddle added a 1,060 for the Hubs, who will advance one individual (Powell) to the IHSA Jefferson Sectional at Cherry Bowl in Rockford on Saturday afternoon. Tracey's high score was 228, while Frye posted a high score of 203.

Alanis rolled a high score of 195 and Waddle notched a high score of 190.

"I thought the kids stayed pretty positive throughout the tournament," Lyles said. "Sometimes we'll miss a few spares or leave a split after a double and the kids will get down on themselves,

but for the most part, they stayed positive... The main takeaway for our kids coming back next year is that they need to make their spares. All of our kids can strike, but they need to make their spares and I thought each kid missed three or four spares today that were makeable."

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IN THE MATTER OF  
THE ESTATE OF ) )  
JOANNE CROWE, De-  
ceased. )  
NO. 2023PR81  
CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of JOANNE CROWE, of Lindenwood, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on December 28, 2023, to LAWRENCE E. CROWE, whose address is 5380 Coach Lite Trail, Loves Park, IL 61111, and whose attorneys are Fearer, Nye & Chadwick, 420 4th Avenue, PO Box 117, Rochelle, IL 61068. Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Courthouse, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, no later than July 8, 2024, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed. FEARER, NYE & CHADWICK, Attorneys for LAWRENCE E. CROWE, Executor of the Estate of JOANNE CROWE, deceased. No. 0111 (Jan. 7, 14 and 21, 2024)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Public Notice is hereby given that on January 3, 2024 a certificate was filed in the Ogle County Clerk's Office setting forth the names and post office address of all of the persons owning, conducting and transacting the business known as:  
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No. 0112 (Jan. 7, 14 and 21, 2024)

**PUBLIC NOTICE**  
Ogle County Housing Authority has developed paperwork related to its Annual Agency Plan process and Five-year Capital Fund Program budgets for Fiscal Year beginning July 1, 2024 in compliance with current HUD regulations. They are available for review at the Authority's Office located at 1001 Pines

Road, Suite A, Oregon, IL. The office is open Monday through Friday between 8:00AM and 4:30PM. A public hearing will be held on March 13, 2024 at 12:00 PM. No. 0119 (Jan. 21 and 28, 2024)

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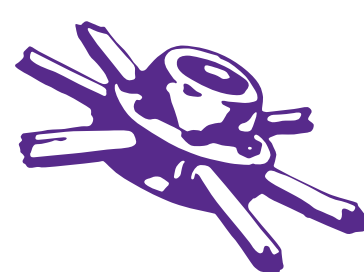
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## HUB SPOTLIGHT

### Confidence keys Vincent's career-best series in Sterling

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**STERLING** — Junior bowler Cassidy Vincent was calm and collected as she caught fire over the second half of the Sterling MLK Tournament at Paone's Blackhawk Lanes on Monday.

Vincent had no issues converting spares over the early portion of the tournament, shooting a 235 to close out the first half of the competition with a 601 series. But Vincent's strong third game only set the table for an outstanding second-half series, where the talented junior continued to pick up her spares while also stringing together multiple lengthy strings of strikes.

"I was super confident and my spares were good all day," Vincent said. "I had no idea about my series going into the final game and I had no clue I was going to shoot a 700 series... When we moved to a new pair for the third game, I felt like things figured themselves out early on and I was getting much better breaks. I was getting strings of strikes and my spares were fine over the first few games, but I wasn't striking. I thought that difference showed in the third game."

The result was a career-best and season-best 705 series for Vincent, who rolled consecutive scores of 214, 255 and 236 to win the individual competition and lead the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity bowling team to fourth out of six schools. Not only was Vincent's 1,306 six-game total the highest in the field, but her 705 series was the highest three-game total and her series-best 255 was the second-highest single-game score, trailing only Galesburg's Maddie Fowler (268).

"There was a different energy going into the afternoon," Vincent said. "Everything was more laid back and we were working together so much better as a team. The vibe was way different from what it was during the morning and I felt a lot more relaxed. My confidence skyrocketed again and bringing my confidence back up definitely helps a ton for the rest of the season. I was in a slump for a while and I was really worried, but this makes me feel more hopeful for regionals."

Vincent was one of several Lady Hub bowlers who recorded high scores during Monday's tournament. Sophomore Kylie



(COURTESY PHOTO)

**Senior Dalila Garcia (left) and junior Cassidy Vincent (right) each brought home medals from the Sterling MLK Tournament at Blackhawk Lanes.**

McCullough fired a high score of 186 in the sixth and final round, while senior Kenzie Liezert bowled a season-high 183 in the fourth round to start her second series of the tournament. Seniors Anahi Alanis and Faith Adams each stepped up for the Lady Hubs during the second round, with Alanis shooting a 198 and Adams following with a 176.

"It was a huge eye opener for everyone and I felt like that alley seemed to work for all of us," Vincent said. "Our mentality allowed us to bounce back and forth off of each other. When one person would drop, another person picked it up and that's when our numbers started to grow."

Rochelle (7-4, 5-3 Interstate 8) will have a few more weeks of regular-season action before the IHSA State Series begins in early February. The Lady Hubs will face Oregon on the road Friday before hosting DeKalb on Monday and LaSalle-Peru in Interstate 8 play on Wednesday.

"There was a different energy going into the afternoon. Everything was more laid back and we were working together so much better as a team. The vibe was way different from what it was during the morning and I felt a lot more relaxed. My confidence skyrocketed again and bringing my confidence back up definitely helps a ton for the rest of the season."

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