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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SUNDAY, FEB. 25, 2024

37TH DISTRICT

MARCH 19TH

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KNOW IT TODAY



Narcotics team makes arrest

The Rochelle Police Narcotics team executed a search warrant and arrest this week. Page 2

WEATHER



TUESDAY WEDNESDAY

HIGH LOW

35





400 N. 15th St. 815-562-1250

OBITUARIES

FLORENE HARROLLE

See page 4

INSERTS

NONE

INSIDE

Local News.....2, 3, 5, 8 Obituaries.....4 Opinion..... Community..... Pizza Tour.....10



scholarships honor Adams couple, Judge Lenz Applications now open for 2024 scholarship cycle **BY JEFF HELFRICH** Margaret Franklin Adams MANAGING EDITOR was also very dedicated

Longtime Foundation for Focus House

ROCHELLE—Foundation for Focus House has opened the application

for its 2024 scholarships,

Executive Director Jeni Hardin said.

News-

WEEKEND EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEV

The organization gives out two \$1,000 scholarships each year to Ogle County residents or past/ current Focus House residents pursuing post-secondary or vocational education that have made a positive change in themselves or their community.

The first Foundation for Focus House scholarship is supported by the La-Verne & Margaret Franklin Adams Scholarship Fund. It was established in May 2002 following Mr. Adams' death. A longtime resident of Ogle County, Mr. Adams sat on the Ogle County Board from 1972 until 2002. At the time Focus House was established in 1975, Mr. Adams was appointed and served as the chairperson of the county committee that oversaw the operation of the program. Mrs.

to the community and the youth at Focus House. Their family added to the scholarship in LaVerne's name when Margaret passed away in 2020, to honor her commitment to the youth of Ogle County and the Focus House program.

The second Foundation for Focus House scholarship is supported by the F. Lawrence Lenz Scholarship Fund, established in April 2003 by his family following his death. As an Ogle County Circuit Judge, Judge Lenz elected to be the juvenile court judge. In this capacity he was one of the instrumental supporters of the opening of Focus House in 1975. From the bench he believed in the value of having community-based programs and was an advocate of Focus House until his death.

Foundation for Focus House Board Vice President Russ Crull is the grandson of LaVerne & Margaret Franklin Adams and is the president of the



The first Foundation for Focus House scholarship is supported by the LaVerne & Margaret Franklin Adams Scholarship Fund. It was established in May 2002 following Mr. Adams' death.

Ogle County Bar Association. Two sides of his life have a lasting commitment and investment to students in Ogle County.

"It's great to see the

amount that has been given back to students over the years," Crull said.

See SCHOLARSHIPS page 3



Enterprise zone amendment approved

BY JEFF HELFRICH MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board unanimously approved a resolution of support for an amendment to the Lee-Ogle Enterprise Zone that would see it grow in size.

The board heard a presentation by LOEZ Administrator Andy Shaw at the meeting, and he said an application will be sent to the state to allow access for additional sites in the enterprise zone. About a year ago, a state act was made to give enterprise zones about 3,200 acres of additional space to utilize.

The enterprise zone provides incentives for development projects in Lee and Ogle counties, primarily for construction and real estate improvements for businesses.

See COUNTY page 2

RTHS Board: Hiring Expo set for March 7 Principal Lewis: Parent Communication Week held From Feb. 12-16

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—At its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the Rochelle School District 212 Board of Education received an update from Principal Chris Lewis about upcoming events at the high school as well as recent awards presented to Rochelle Township High School staff members.

Lewis said that Parent Communication Week was held from Feb. 12-16 this past week. Lewis said the goal of the week is for teachers to contact parents regarding students with either 'D' or 'F' grades and schedule potential conferences for those students. Lewis said the Parent Communication Week is designed to replace the school's old Parent Conference Model.

"We felt years ago that the old parent-teacher conference model was obsolete," Lewis said. "Nowadays, parents have instant access to grades and attendance. We've gone to a new model where I want to make sure that every student



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

At its monthly meeting on Tuesday, the Rochelle School District 212 Board of Education received an update from Principal Chris Lewis about upcoming events at the high school as well as recent awards presented to Rochelle Township High School staff members.

with a 'D' or a 'F' has been communicated to in person by the teacher. That's been our process and teachers have a few weeks to do this."

During his update to the board, Lewis said that

RTHS will once again be partnering with the City of Rochelle for its upcoming Hiring Expo, which will be held Thursday, March 7 from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. for junior and senior students. The event will

be open to the public from 12 to 2 p.m.

"This was developed with the city during the pandemic, when there were tons and tons of jobs that businesses were looking to fill," Lewis said.

"We've also been using this as an opportunity for our juniors and seniors to take advantage of going to this and potentially finding a career."

See RTHS page 5

815-562-8784



COUNTY: Ogle board votes to amend fee schedule for P&Z department

From page 1

Incentives include real estate tax abatement and building materials sales tax exemption for construction within the enterprise zone.

Amendments to the enterprise zone must be approved by governing bodies with property in it. The new areas in the enterprise zone would primarily be around Dixon and Rochelle, but smaller areas would also be added in all communities in the LOEZ.

"Some smaller places have been identified in some of the towns," Shaw said. "And with the assistance of the county assessors, we have identified and also added several commercial-scale apartments in all of the communities and we hope that incentive can drive some improvements to those types of properties as well."

The amendment will include 1,376 acres added around Rochelle, 707 acres around Dixon, 31 acres in Mt. Morris, 15 acres in Amboy, seven acres in Oregon,

Vendors

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Saturday, March 23, 2024

10 am - 3 pm

SPRING CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

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one acre in Franklin Grove and one acre in Ashton for a total of 2,140 acres added. Prior to the amendment, the LOEZ had 3,656 acres of unallocated space available to it. After the amendment, which Shaw anticipates will be approved by the state, the LOEZ will have 1,517 acres unallocated for future amendments that could happen.

Fees

The board voted 14-7 to amend the fee schedule of its planning & zoning department. Changes included raising the fees for a dwelling from \$200 to \$400, an addition to a dwelling from \$100 to \$200, and private residential swimming pools from \$75 to \$200. It also includes raising the fee for an addition to a commercial/ industrial building from \$150 to a \$1,000 flat fee up to \$1 million in value, or a \$2,000 flat fee up to \$2 million in value or .5 percent for values over \$2 million.

Multiple board members took issue with raising the fees at Tuesday's meeting, including Board Member Susie Corbitt (R. District 8, Polo)

"I think that some of these costs are extreme," Corbitt said. "I understand this hasn't been looked at in years. But that isn't the citizens' fault. To more than double some of these costs, the citizens right now are facing inflation and a potential sales tax increase for the schools if that passes at the election. To put this on top of all that, I can't vote for it.'

Board Member Dan Janes (R, District 5, Stillman Valley) rebutted Corbitt's comments and supported the change to the fee schedule.

"A lot of these fees have not been changed for up to 20 years," Janes said. "We're just trying to be proactive instead of reactive. We're trying to cover our

Agriculture

The board unanimously approved a resolution supporting agriculture in Ogle County. The county is home to 1,011 farms, which support 5,079 jobs (22 percent



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The board voted 14-7 to amend the fee schedule of its planning & zoning department. Changes included raising the fees for a dwelling from \$200 to \$400, an addition to a dwelling from \$100 to \$200, and private residential swimming pools from \$75 to \$200.

of total jobs). Agriculture and related industries generate a total sales or output in Ogle County estimated at \$665.8 million.

Approximately 354,587 acres in Ogle County are farmland, representing 73 percent of total county acres. Board Member Ryan Reeverts (R, District 6, Byron), a fifth-generation farmer, said Ogle County farmers are facing uncertainty with an upcoming federal farm bill, regulatory concerns, and America being statistically the furthest it's ever been generationally from the family farm in the history of the nation.

"I think now more than ever as a local government entity, we can show our support to the American farmer right here in Ogle County with this resolution,"Reeverts said. "Thope this can build a dialog with local government about the

issues that our farmers and ranchers are facing here and local government can have some sort of role to aid in some of the solutions we face."

March

Due to election day takingplace on Tuesday, March 19, the board's meeting next month will be moved from Tuesday, March 19 to Wednesday, March 20 at 5:30 p.m.

RPD arrested man on narcotics charges Wednesday following search warrant

ROCHELLE — On Wednesday Feb. 21, the Rochelle Police Narcotics Team, assisted by patrol and detectives, executed a search warrant in the 800 block of 5th Avenue. The search warrant was executed based on information the Narcotics team has been gathering for several months.

While conducting the search, Dennis H. Thompson, 71, was arrested on charges of possession of a controlled substance (class

four felony), possession with cannabis with intent to deliver (class three felony), and possession of a controlled substance with intent to deliver within 500 feet of a school (class one felony). The narcotics team also seized over \$1,000.

Thompson was booked at the Rochelle Police Department and transported to the Ogle County Jail. All defendants are innocent until proven guilty in a court of law.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

On Feb. 21, the Rochelle Police Narcotics Team, assisted by patrol and detectives, executed a search warrant in the 800 block of 5th Avenue.



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SCHOLARSHIPS: Applications for 2024 cycle now available

From page 1

"It's great to know that a little farmer from Holcomb like my grandfather can still be making a difference in the world. And I like to see that our judges and our Bar Association have always taken this seriously and made a lasting commitment to the kids here. We've had judges that have given back and been supportive of things like Focus House. You don't see that in other counties. Judge Lenz didn't have to do that."

LaVerne Adams grew up in Holcomb as one of 11 children. He made it to ninth grade, before his brothers went off to war and he had to start working, before ultimately buying a farm in Byron in the early 1960s.

"He served on the Ogle County Board and did great things for our community, but he never got to go to high school, and he was always embarrassed by that," Crull said. "His thought with Focus House was, 'These kids are in trouble and maybe had a tough upbringing. How do we get them to a place where they can at the very least finish high school?' To him, that was a really

big thing. My grandfather built the Focus House program with a lot of other people. His thought with the scholarship would be that those kids would get through the program and have some assistance moving forward."

The Foundation for Focus House scholarship program strives to see applications from current or former Focus House students and works to give preference to them, but those applications aren't common and sometimes those students are already having their future education supported by the foundation itself. The scholarships are open to students in the county that have not spent time at Focus House.

"We're blessed as a board to be able to have money to support our students," Crull said. "A lot of times if they're not applying for the scholarships, it's because we have the money to give them otherwise. This is a nice way for kids that maybe weren't in enough trouble to need to come live here, for them to have a chance. And sometimes it's just really good kids that need a little help financially to move forward. Every kid deserves



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The deadline for the application is March 22. If you have any questions about the application, please email Jeni Hardin at jhardin@oglecountyil.gov or call (815) 562-5881 ext 3433.

to go to college."

Crull never practiced law in front of Judge Lenz, but is well versed in his legacy of involvement in the juvenile justice system and bringing it to Ogle County. Focus House is juvenile justice system-based and caters to adolescents to divert them away from juvenile detention centers, which can be rougher environments than Focus House.

Crull has practiced law in 24 counties, and has not seen a program like Focus House in any others

besides Ogle County.

"With the Judge Lenz scholarship, just to have judges that actually care about it and want to do these things, we're tremendously blessed in this county," Crull said. "We currently have Judge Roe and Judge Peska. Judge Roe and his family have been advocates of Focus House and he works in the juvenile criminal aspect of it. We're so fortunate to have something like this. Focus House is so far ahead of its time, to think that we had something like this in the 1980s and 1990s."

Hardin said she enjoys going through the scholarship process each year and reviewing the applications with the board and presenting checks to the recipients and notifying colleges. Each year, it reminds Crull of his grandparents.

"Every year when we go through it, I like to think about my grandparents' legacy and being from here," Crull said. "My grandfather died 22 years ago, and he's still making a difference here where he's from."

The deadline for the application is March 22. If you have any questions about the application, please email Hardin at jhardin@oglecountyil. gov or call (815) 562-5881 ext 3433. The scholarship application can be found online at https://www. oglecountyil.gov/departments/focus house 2/ scholarship.php?fbclid=IwAR1PLZgN3cgjKKxrMyCOg33yF6S-MaxUOMf8mVpt3kcr7Oqi39D3IoVXXaGA

Agnitsch joins Stillman Bank as VP and commercial loan officer

ROCKFORD – Stillman Bank is pleased to welcome Chris Agnitsch as vice president and commercial loan officer, according to Thomas R. Hughes, president & CEO. With 15 years of experience in the banking industry, all in commercial banking, Chris will primarily be involved with new business development and commercial lending. He will work from the Rockford office at 8492 E. State St.

"We are excited to Stillman Bank commercial team," Hughes said. "His commercial banking background and com-

mitment to our communities makes him well positioned to continue to build relationships and grow our presence within our local markets."

Chris grew up on a family farm in Eastern Iowa and graduated from Northwestern University with a degree in communications and economics. Chris found his way to Rockford in the summer of 1996 as an intern for the Rockford Cubbies. He returned in 2000 to work for the Rockford Area After a 2.5-year stint

in Ohio as president of the Lancaster-Fairfield County Chamber of Commerce, Chris returned to Rockford in 2008 and began his commercial lending career.

A resident of Boone County, Chris currently serves as president of the EIGERlab Board of Directors and is vice president of the Scandinavian Cemetery Board. A long-time supporter of Women of Today's Manufacturing, Chris currently serves as a trustee of that organization.

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full-service banking offices in Byron,

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welcome Chris to the Chamber of Commerce, Jade Brown where he worked his Agnitsch can be Marilyn Oropeza reached directly at way up to vice president of government relations. 815.332.8842 or chri-



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OBITUARIES

Florene Harrolle

ISABELLA, M.O.—A viewing for Florene Harrolle, 86, of Isabella, MO was held February 19,2024, at Clinkingbeard Funeral Home in Gainesville, MO. Florene passed away February 15 at Mercy Hospital in Springfield, MO. Florene was born January 29, 1938, in Squires, MO, and was the youngest of 11 siblings. She married her husband of 71 years, Richard (Dick) Harrolle, on January 9, 1953. Along with her husband, she

is survived by two children: Marie Klass of Theodosia, MO and Rich Harrolle of Isabella; four grandchildren: Chad and wife Angie Harrolle, Tanya (Harrolle) Cox and husband Neil, Dustin Harrolle and wife Heather, and Chet Harrolle; and 11 great grandchildren. She is also survived by one sister, Frances Wilhite, of Boise, ID and many nieces and nephews. Florene was a homemaker most of her years in Rochelle but was ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

ROCHELLE — On Feb. 17 at 10:07 a.m. Shane A. Carey, 38, of Rochelle was arrested for no valid driver's license and cited for no valid registration and operating an uninsured vehicle. He was released on a notice to appear with a March 15 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 17 at 12:20 p.m. Regina T. Jacobs, 45, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 63 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 17 at 4:02 p.m. Jacob D. Warford. 89, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 64 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court

On Feb. 17 at 2:45 p.m. Michael J. Rimkus, 61, of Machesney Park was cited for disobeying a stop sign and no valid registration. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court

On Feb. 17 at 3:53 p.m. Christopher S. Clark, 34, of DeKalb was cited for speeding. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 17 at 2:12 p.m. Desiree L. Williams, 31, of Rockford was cited for speeding an operating an uninsured vehicle. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 17 at 12:19 p.m. Dinayja Ishmon, 22, of Rockford was cited for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 17 at 7:17 p.m. Gabrielle A. Carrell, 18, of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and transferred.

On Feb. 18 at 7:40 a.m. Gabriela E. Zepeda, 34, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 52 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone. She signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court

On Feb. 18 at 8:28 a.m. David L. Echelbarger, 33, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 63 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given a March 15 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 12:13 p.m. Wayne R. Cliffe, 49, of Sycamore was cited for speeding 63 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an



also employed at Rochelle Printing and later worked alongsideherhusband, Dick at Maple Lanes in Rochelle for several years. She will be greatly missed.

April 5 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 11:07 a.m. Seriana Carpenter, 26, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given an April 5 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 3:06 p.m. Roman Saldana Hernandez, 23, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 51 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 5 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 4:27 p.m. Manuel Arreguin, 44, of Rochelle was cited for no valid registration. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 5 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 18 at 3:50 p.m. Farmanullah Jangimir, 34, of Moline was cited for speeding 72 miles per hour in a 55 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 5 Rochelle court date.

On Feb. 19 at 11:45 a.m. a 14-year-old juvenile of Byron was arrested for retail theft.

On Feb. 19 at 2:15 p.m. Vidal R. Mancilla, 31, of Rochelle was arrested on an outstanding Ogle County warrant. He paid \$121 and was released.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

OREGON — On Feb. 15, the Special Operations Unit of the Ogle County Sheriff's Office conducted a search warrant at a residence located on 2940 S. Skare Road in rural Rochelle. The search warrant was executed based on information provided by federal partners about illegal activities taking place at the residence. During the search, Laurie A. Watson, the occupant of the residence, was arrested on charges related to drugs and firearms. Under the Pretrial Fairness Act, Ms. Watson was released on a future court date.

On Feb. 15 at approximately 6:24 p.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop near the intersection of Freeport Road and Illinois Route 64. After further investigation Nicholas Johnson, 30, of Freeport, was placed under arrest for an outstanding Stephenson County warrant. Johnson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 15 at approximately 3:15 p.m. Ogle County deputies conducted a traffic stop on a black Subaru at the intersection of West Illinois Route 72 and Pond Road. After an investigation the driver, Gaylen M. Zipse, 64, years of Leaf River was arrested for driving under the influence. Zipse was also cited for improper turn signal, no valid insurance, and illegal transportation of alcohol. After processing, Zipse was released with a notice to appear court date.

On Feb. 16 at approximately 10:19 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 10,000 block of West Illinois Route 72. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Savanna R. Sperling-Osterberg, 19, of Garden Prairie, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Sperling-Osterberg was additionally cited for improper lane usage and illegal transportation of alcohol. After processing, Sperling-Osterberg was released on a notice to appear.

On Feb. 18 at approximately 12:30 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at the intersection of Freeport Road and Brick Church Road. After investigation, Deputies placed Stalena Yates, 43, of Freeport, under arrest for a valid failure to appear Ogle County Traffic warrant for suspended registration. Yates was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was held pending a court appearance in front of a judge.

On Feb. 18 at approximately 2 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white Chevrolet Impala in the 2,000 block of West Illinois Route 72. After conducting an investigation, Clint Salveson, 45, of Watseka, Illinois was placed under arrest for an outstand-

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ing Ogle County warrant for contempt of court and an outstanding Whiteside County Warrant for failure to appear. Salveson was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he posted bond and was released. Salveson was provided a future court appearance. On Feb. 18 at approxi-

mately 8:59 a.m. deputies initiated a traffic stop at the intersection of East Illinois Route 72 and North Fair Oaks Drive. After further investigation, deputies arrested Charles Hicks, 56, of Chicago, for driving while license suspended. Hicks was additionally cited for operation of a vehicle with suspended registration. Hicks was released on a notice to appear with a future court date given.

On Feb. 18 at 2:08 a.m. deputies responded to the 11,000 block of East Lincoln Lane, Rochelle, for a verbal domestic. After investigation, deputies placedTrishaBooker,43,of Rochelle, under arrest for an active DeKalb County retail theft warrant. Booker was released on a recognizance bond at the scene and given a future court date per DeKalb County Sheriff's

On Feb. 18 at approximately 6:40 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 2,500 block of East Montague Road. After investigation, deputies placed Jarrell Williams, 37, of Rockford under arrest for an active Rockford PD probation violation warrant. Williams was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held in lieu of bond.

On Feb. 19 at approximately 12:34 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on Illinois Route 38 near East Wood Road. After an investigation, Crescenciano Santos, 46, of Silvis, was placed under arrest for driving while license revoked. Santos was also cited for speeding and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Santos was transported to the Ogle County Jail before being released on notice to appear.

On Feb. 19 at approximately 8:14 p.m. deputies investigated a disturbance in the 300 block of Chippewa Lane. After further investigation Albert Brooks, 40, of Dixon, was placed under arrest for outstanding Ogle and Lee County warrants. Brooks was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held pending an appearance before a judge.

On Feb. 19, deputies responded to the 3,000 block of North Brookville Road for the report of a physical domestic disturbance. After an investigation a 16-yearold female was arrested for domestic battery. The female was taken into limited custody and released back to parents.

On Feb. 20 at 6:38 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic

stop in the 7,000 block of North River Road. As a result, Bobby Jo Hamilton, 42, of Byron was arrested for driving on a revoked license, as well as a Stephenson County warrant. Hamilton was additionally issued citations for speeding 1-10 miles per hour, and operation of an uninsured motor vehicle. Hamilton was transported to the Ogle County Jail on the Stephenson County warrant, and was issued a notice to appear with a future court date on his other charges. Deputies were assisted by the Byron Police Depart-On Feb. 21 at approx-

imately 8:45 a.m. Yulisa Regalado-Lopez, 25, of Rochelle turned herself in to the Ogle County Jail for an outstanding Ogle County warrant for cancelled, revoked or suspended registration. She appeared in court on Feb. 21 at 1 p.m. and was released on a recognizance bond. Regalado-Lopez will return to court on April 8 at 9 a.m. On Feb. 21 at approxi-

mately 11:15 a.m. deputies arrested Antonio Martinez, 31, of Rochelle at the Ogle County Courthouse. Martinez was arrested on an outstanding warrant for violation of an order of protection. No bond was set on the warrant, and he appeared in court on Feb. 21 at 1 p.m. Martinez remains in custody on no bond and will appear in court again on Feb. 28 at 10 a.m.

On Feb. 21 at approximately 8:43 p.m. deputies were advised of a violation of an order of protection that had just occurred within the city limits of Rochelle and near the intersection of Flagg Road and Queens Road. After investigation, deputies located the offender and his vehicle involved and conducted a traffic stop on it near the intersection of Flagg Road and 20th Street at approximately 8:49 p.m. After investigation, deputies placed Jerry Nantz, 53, of Rochelle under arrest for violation of an order of protection. Nantz was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held pending a court appearance before a judge.

On Feb. 21 at approximately 1:49 p.m. Fabian J. Ruiz, 23, of Chicago Heights turned himself in on an outstanding Ogle County failure to appear warrant. Ruiz posted bond and was released with no return court date.

On Feb. 22 at approximately 12:30 p.m. deputies arrested Uredi Mulinga, 24, of Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the Ogle County Court-

He was arrested on an outstanding warrant for speeding. Mulinga appeared in court and was released on a recognizance bond, and will return to court on April 8 at 9 a.m.



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RTHS: SRO Jakymiw recognized for Critical Thinking Award

From page 1

Lewis said that planning for the 2024-25 school year will continue throughout this semester. Counselors and students met last month to begin signing up for classes. Counselors and students are meeting this month to review four-year plans and summer school signups will start in March. Lewis said the master schedule will be created in April and disseminated

in May.

Awards

Two RTHS staff members were recognized for their service during Tuesday's meeting. AP Calculus teacher Tim Hill was honored for his reception of the ISBE Those Who **ExcelAward of Meritorious** Service, while counselor Tasha Hacaga and school resource officer Jim Jakymiw were named RTHS Critical Thinking Award winners for the months of January and February.

Jakymiw was honored for his assistance during a medical incident involving senior student Alivia Henkel at RTHS earlier this month. Henkel and her family were in attendance during the board meeting, where Lewis thanked Jakymiw as well as Dean of Students Brett Zick and teacher Alison Vrana, who were also in attendance and assisted in the medical emergency.

"It was one of the scariest

days I've had here and it was truly a team effort," Lewis said. "It was truly a team effort and we have a lot of great people here. It feels really good to see you guys here and I want to express how appreciative I am of the team here."

Personnel

The board approved personnel changes including the resignations of Jeff Truckenbrod (assistant boys and girls tennis coach), Talina Nava (assistant softball coach), Haleigh Nelson (dance coach) and Nelson Baker (Interact Club advisor). Board members also approved the employment of Kyle Kissack (assistant girls track coach), Katie O'Rorke (assistant girls track coach), Kevin Hunt (assistant softball coach), John Michael Loggins (assistant boys tennis coach), Joseph Primrose (substitute bus driver), Mark Glosser (bass fishing coach), Ben Harvey (volunteer assistant wrestling coach) and

Landon Mosley (technology support specialist). Lastly, board members approved one transfer for Jennifer Howard (longterm substitute to substitute (full-time spring semes-

Agenda Items

The board approved its 2023 fiscal year audit report as well as a 10-year health life safety survey, paving bids, a request to sell old equipment and a push coin agreement.

TOPS weight-loss support group to host open house May 18

ROCHELLE – TOPS Club Inc.® (Take Off Pounds SensiblySM), the nonprofit weight-loss support organization, will hold an open house on Monday, May 18 at 5 p.m. at Hub City Senior Center, located at 401 Cherry Ave., Rochelle.

The open house is free and open to the public and lasts about an hour.

Founded more than 70 years ago, TOPS is the only nonprofit, noncommercial weight-loss organization of its kind. TOPS offers an individual approach to

weight loss and overall wellness, with thousands of chapters in the U.S. and Canada. Members learn about nutrition, portion control, meal planning, exercise and more at weekly meetings. Consistent group support, health education and recognition are all key components to successful weight management.

Visitors to a TOPS chapter are welcome to attend their first meeting free of charge. TOPS is open to men, women and children, ages seven and older. (No childcare is provided at meetings.) New TOPS members may choose one of three discounted packages. Annual renewal dues are \$37 in the U.S. Chapters charge nominal fees to cover operating costs usually \$5 per month or

less in the U.S.

For more details about the Open House, contact Cathy Scarbrough at 815-593-0054 or to find a local chapter in a neighboring community, visit www. tops.org or call (800) 932-8677.

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. org0. 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 Email: 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

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. 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 faccebook.com/stewardilumc

Elim Reformed Church, 140 S. Church Road, Kings, IL 61068. Phone: 815-562-6811. Email goelimchurch@gmail.com Website www.goelimchurch.org Sunday Morning Worship 10:00 Rev. Mary 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@faithlcrochelle.org for more information. All are welcome to join us!

First General Baptist Church, 500 S. 12th St, Rochelle. Phone: 815-562-5221. Email: fgbcrochelle@gmail.com.Website: www.fgbcrochelle.org. Facebook: 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. Sunday morning worship 9:00am and 10:30am. In person or streamed online. On our Website and Facebook Live. www.placeforgrace.com/ www.facebook.com/placeforgrace

Grace Fellowship Church — Pastor Jeff Ardissone, 2128 Il Route 38, Ashton, 815-453-7464. Sunday School 8:30 a.m. Sunday Worship Service 9:45 a.m. www.graceisforyou.com

Harvest Baptist Church 241 Scott Ave. (Hillcrest). Rev. Duane Boehm, pastor. Email 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, 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 Bunger - 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** 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. Our services are on the radio (93.5 FM) on Sunday mornings at 9:00 am. Our Facebook page is 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. 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

Email: 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

Kern: Safety and anhydrous ammonia lease Reporting (in Ogle bins from last year's harlaws and your responsibil-

er through the rest of winter, I know it will be only a few weeks into the distance that Spring planting season will be upon us. I'm sure in machine sheds across the corn belt that many farmers have already begun the process of getting equipment ready for the season. That means one thing for sure: Plenty of busted knuckles. Sometimes it pays to

take the time to locate the correct size wrench instead of reaching for the adjustable. This is called experience. Part of the season too

includes prepping the land

for seed placement. Tillage work and fertilizer application will be the norm. The unfortunate acci-

dent a few years ago that occurred with an acciden-

tal release of anhydrous ammonia in Lake County, Illinois has brought increased awareness to its safe transport and application. I want to be sure our Ogle County farmers are in the know when applying anhydrous.

Please understand your responsibility as a farmer while transporting anhydrous ammonia. If in the event of a release of 18 gallons or 100 pounds of Anhydrous Ammonia (NH3), you MUST make the following 4 phone calls within 15 minutes of the release:

911, Illinois Emergency Management Agency/ State Emergency Response Commission 1-800-782-7860, National Response Center 1-800-424-8802, and Local Emergency Planning Committee ReCounty that is Tom Richter at 815-687-2041). Also when transporting

anhydrous ammonia the following regulations must be followed. No liquid transfer hose

shall be joined between any nurse tank and any toolbar during transport

upon a public rightof-way. When nurse

tanks are pulled

in tandem a break-

away coupling de-

vice or other means of protection shall be installed at each point where the hose crosses a hitching point. Deployment of equipment designed to achieve this protection shall be installed and maintained in accordance

with the manufacturer's

The hose length from the towed implement mechanically secure point to the breakaway coupler on the towing implements shall have sufficient length to allow breakaway couplers to articulate freely but prevent the hose from contact with the nurse tank

tongue. This shall be achieved without securing the hose mechanically through the use of chains, elastomeric straps, wire ties or other means. Please adhere to

Kern all rules and regu-

lations to safely transport anhydrous ammonia.

It won't just be equipment and land preparation that will be happening. Many farmers will be cleaning out their grain

Traditional Spring rallies in the grain markets usually lead to farmers delivering on their grain contracts. Local road authorities will be posting roads for weight limits and you will start to see semi-trailer activity ramp

Many things in life are confusing and truck law would certainly fall into that category. When federal truck law dictates one set of rules and State law another it tends to lead to plenty of questions that need a definitive answer.

The Illinois Farm Bureau will be conducting On The Road seminars across the state the remainder of this month and into March. The seminars offer a comprehensive look at trucking

people. More's distaste

for the pre-Tudor era is

visible in his treatment

of the last Plantagenet

king, The History of King

Richard III (1513). The

play on the same subject

by William Shakespeare,

another Tudor apologist,

is derivative of More's

work. The warlike An-

chorians, in More's po-

lemic Utopia (1516) also

ities in operating vehicles.

A workshop is scheduled for 6 p.m. March 14 at the DeKalb County Farm Bureau Building, in Sycamore. Rodney Knittle, Illinois Farm Bureau Transportation Specialist will facilitate the program.

Pre-registration is required and can be made through the County Farm Bureau by calling 815-732-2231 or email cfb@ogle. comcastbiz.net

The seminar is free of charge.

That's a lot cheaper than a ticket from a state "Common sense is like

deodorant. Those who need it the most never use it." -Anonymous Ron Kern is the man-

ager of the Ogle County Farm Bureau.

Petrick: The More mystery of Land, all to the detriment from The Sadness of lasting peace was the only

Ron

AST summer, I was among the cadre of American attorneys who accompanied the Most Reverend Edward J. Burns, Roman Catholic bishop of Dallas, on a pilgrimage to England centered on the life of St. Thomas More. The onetime chancellor of England and patron saint of lawyers, politicians, and statesmen, More is remembered nearly 500 years after his death for his defense of ecclesiastical independence from royal intrusion. The events preceding his martyrdom at the behest of King Henry VIII are well known thanks to the movie A Man for All Seasons (1966). While tracing More's personal and professional trajectory through London, Oxford, Windsor, and Canterbury, including experiencing the inside of his cell in the Tower of London, I learned a great deal about

Millennium." But what I did not learn troubled me.

Walking in More's footsteps prompted thoughts of what I would have done had I been in More's shoes. That's easy. I would have resigned as chancellor and fled the country. Why More did the former but not the latter puzzled me. Such course of action would have cost More significant money and property, but nothing he was not going to lose anyway. Moreover, More was among Europe's top legal minds. Lucrative work at the court of some Continental Catholic monarch or even the pope awaited him. The potentate with the greatest potential in this regard was Holy Roman Emperor Charles V who also ruled Spain as Charles I. Spain was then the world's most powerful country. Serving the House of Hapsburg would have been a plum position for More, enabling him to rebuild the lifestyle he

enjoyed in England.

If concerns about exposing relatives left behind to retribution kept More from crossing the Channel, his fears were likely misplaced. The rest of More's family evaded the Henrician persecution by taking the public oaths More refused. Perhaps Henry would have welcomed More's de-

parture as it would have relieved him of having to kill a man he was fond Undoubtedly, More considered

leaving. Years earlier, More drew the ire of Henry's father, Henry VII, by leading the parliamentary opposition to a proposed tax increase. Henry VII retaliated by imprisoning More's father and the danger to More himself was such that he was preparing to flee his country when Henry VII's death obviated the need to do so.

Insight can be gleaned

Paul

Petrick

that plagued England during the preceding 400 years of Plantagenet rule, culminating in the Wars of the Roses. Life under the Plantagenets was characterized by bitter feuds among the nobility. To unite the nobles, kings embarked on prolonged invasions of France or futile crusades in the Holy

Christ (1535), which of the English people. More wrote while incar-Influenced by his cerated. When forced mentor Chancellor John to "suffer torment or Cardinal Morton, More hoped the Tudors would deny God," he reasoned, one may withdraw if it end the internecine vican be accomplished olence and foreign adwithout "disgracing the venturism, prioritizing cause." More cited the instead the interests of the

> Honorable is the one who "prudently avoids danger (provided he does not compromise himself).

many occasions where

St. Paul eluded harm.

More's cause was the "Tudor Project," ending the cycle of war and dysfunction

illustrate the Plantagenet But More became disillusioned when Henry VIII invaded France under the guidance of Chancellor Thomas Cardinal Wolsey, More's predecessor. More helped broker the peace treaty that ended the conflict and his hope that it would be a

sentence of his epitaph emphasized by indentation. However, More's cynicism is revealed in his words to his son-in-

law William Roper, "For if my head could win him [Henry VIII] a castle in France it should not fail to go." Why didn't More go

work for Charles V or someone else?

Because they were not any better. Charles also had designs on France. And France's king had designs on Italy. Even the pope, who then possessed great temporal power, "is a prince . . . in league with all other Christian princes." The society that best exemplified the humane Tudor Project was "No Place" (Utopia). At least no place on Earth.

More willingly left Earth to join the One King Who would not disappoint him.

Paul F. Petrick is an attorney in Cleveland,

How to contact government officials

the Law Society of Great

Britain's "Lawyer of the

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

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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

Kish College announces Celebration of Black History Month events

MALTA — Kishwaukee College will celebrate Black History Month throughout February by hosting several events and discussions for students and the public. Black History Month is observed annually to recognize and honor the accomplishments Black people have made in the United States and across

the world.

Step into a canvas of vibrant expressions as Kishwaukee College transforms its Student Center into a gallery of inspiration this Black History Month. Beginning Thursday, Feb. 1, Kish will proudly showcase Black artists whose brushstrokes tell stories of resilience, culture, and

triumph.

Thursday, Feb. 29 Black Cinema Night -2-5 p.m. in the Student Lounge, C1130 — Sponsored by the Black Student Union Club

Kishwaukee College is honored to celebrate Black History Month and aligns its programming based on the themes developed by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History. This year's theme is African Americans and the Arts. The College is committed to a culture of diversity, equity, inclusion and belonging, focused on respect and fairness in all aspects of the College experience.

To learn more, visit kish.edu/diversity.



Jan. 30 - Joe Williams, Rochelle, \$25

Jan. 31 - From the Heart, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 1 - Rochelle Area Community Foundation, \$25

Feb. 2 - Melody Worthington, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 3 - Sofie Meyers, Rochelle, \$250

Feb. 4 - Mercedes Barrientos, Rochelle, \$50

Feb. 5 - Allison Wagner-Huntley, Byron, \$25

Feb. 6 - From the Heart, \$25

Feb. 7 - Judith Koelzer, Friena, Texas, \$25

Feb. 8 - Nancy Meyers, Rochelle, \$25 Feb. 9 - Kaylee Fowler, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 10 - Justin Adolph, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 11 - First State Bank, Rochelle, \$50

Feb. 12 - John Gonzales, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 13 - Kathleen Lutz, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 14 - Ariana and Antonio Welle, Oregon, \$25

Feb. 15 - From the Heart, \$25

Feb. 16 - Shining Star, Dixon, \$25

Feb. 17 - Michelle Ocampo, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 18 - RACF, \$25

Feb. 19 - RACF, \$25

Feb. 20 - Crystal Crom, Cloquet, Minnesota, \$25

Feb. 21 - From the Heart, \$25

Feb. 22 - Crystal Hueramo, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 23 - Christa Seebach, Rochelle, \$25

Feb. 24 - Gus and Armande Vasilopolous, Rochelle, \$25

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Ogle County Agriculture in the Classroom taking orders for meal fundraiser Agriculture in the

OREGON — An Agriculture in the Classroom program fundraiser is underway. Have you been searching for a way to make dinner preparation simple? We have an excellent opportunity for you to take a night off from cooking. This is also a great gift idea as well.

Order 10 delicious meals that have been prepared and frozen for your convenience. Each meal serves 3-5 people. Meals include: hickory smoked pulled pork, hickory smoked pork loin, smoked sausage with pep-

pers and onions, chicken teriyaki, pork fritters with mixed vegetables, ham steak with mashed potatoes, sweet chili meatballs, mostaccioli with meat sauce, chicken cavatappi and pulled pork mac and cheese.

The cost for the ten meals is \$185 cash or check and \$190 with a credit card. Proceeds will benefit the Ogle-Carroll Ag in the Classroom Program. There are two ways to order:

1. Mail your name, phone number, number of meal sets (they come in a set of 10 meals), and payment to 811 S. Clay St., Mt. Carroll, IL 61053. Make checks payable to Ogle-Carroll Ag Partnership (OCAP).

2. You can order online at go.illinois.edu/oglecarrollfreezermeals

Place your order by Monday, March 11. Meal pick-up is March 22 from 3-5 p.m. at the University of Illinois Extension office, 421 W. Pines Road, Oregon. Don't hesitate to contact the office at 815-732-2191 or e-mail charbm@illinois.edu with any questions.

Bosco Sticks

KIDS MENU: Chicken Nuggets w/Fries OR Hot Dogs with Chips

**All menus are subject to change. If you would like to check before coming out, please call us at 815-561-9074

March 5

Briggs Bridgeman

March 6

Classroom (AITC) is a statewide educational program with lessons for kindergarten through 8thgrade students. Its goal is to help students, teachers, and the public gain greater awareness of the role of agriculture in the economy and society. Ag in the Classroom is offered through the University of Illinois Extension Ogle County in partnership with Ogle County Farm Bureau, Carroll County Farm Bureau, Ogle County Soil & Water, and Carroll County Soil & Water.

February 29 - (Thursday) - Spaghetti with Meat Sauce, Salad, www.KitchenTableRochelle.org

Feb. 25 Wanda Usury

7034 S. Klondike Road | Rochelle, IL 61068 | 815-561-9074

If you would like to volunteer with us, please email us at

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Feb. 28 Lucas Donoho

March 2

Nicole King

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S \mathbf{D} \mathbf{T} H R \mathbf{E} \mathbf{E} R \mathbf{R} \mathbf{E} Ι

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally Unlisted clue hint: AURORA BOREALIS

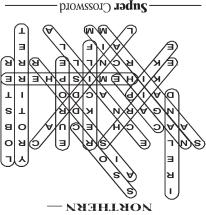
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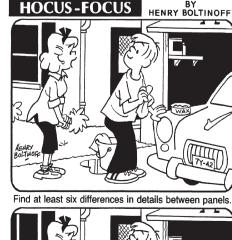
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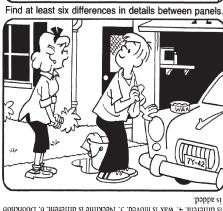
Lobster Marianas Michigan Rhodesia Shrike Territory

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is different. 4. Wax is moved. 5. Neckline is different. 6. Doorknob Differences: 1. Bumper is different. 2. Shelf is lower. 3. Window

Super Crossword 3 Court divider

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104 Prevarication

105 Spiral-shelled

107 Luxury writing

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106 Rep on the

113 Rhinoplasty

114 Nastase of

115 Halibut, sole

120 Beatified

121 Madams³

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103 Official order

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53 "If I Only Had

the Nerve'

59 "Ka-POW!"

63 On - with

64 One of the

65 Org. with

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21 Physiques for short 22 Suffix with

east 23 Door-bashing device 25 Working hard

26 Grazing field 27 Politician Cortez

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37 "Hoarders" channel

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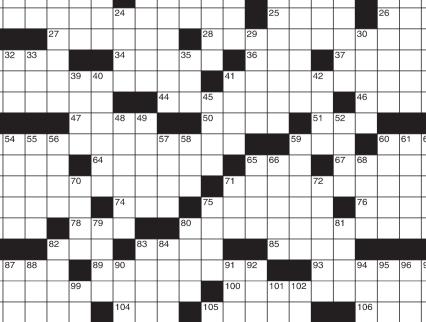
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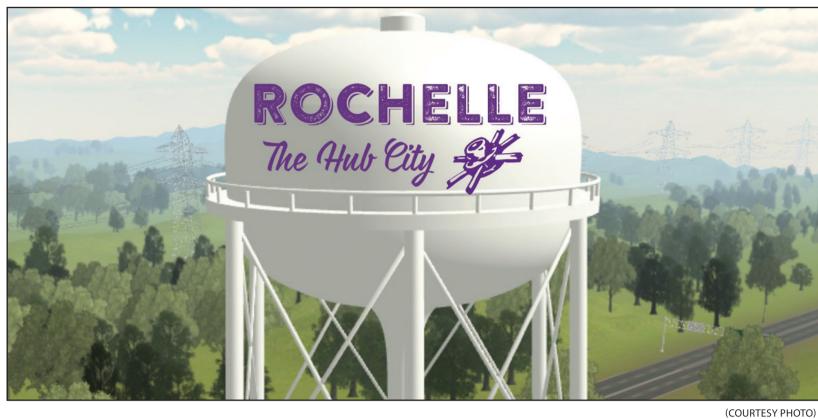
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New design chosen for city's water tower after social media vote

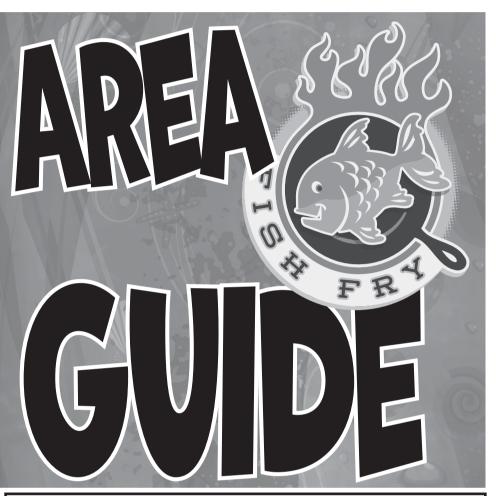
new design has been chosen for the City of Rochelle's water tower off the Illinois Route 251 overpass after a social media vote.

The new design received 81 percent of nearly 2,600 votes and mixes the city's new branding font with the current water tower design's color and depiction of the Rochelle Township High School Hub logo.

The city said in a Facebook post that the layout and spacing could change "a bit" for best visibility, but the color and "general look" will remain the same. The painting will take place later this year. The city will be repainting and performing maintenance on the water tower in a project that will exceed \$1 million in cost.



A new design has been chosen for the City of Rochelle's water tower off the Illinois Route 251 overpass after a social media vote. The new design received 81 percent of nearly 2,600 votes and mixes the city's new branding font with the current water tower design's color and depiction of the Rochelle Township High School Hub logo.



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PIZZA TOUR

Several tasty tidbits about pizza to eat up

HE calendar is dotted with various holidays that celebrate pizza. From National Pizza Pie Day in February to National Deep Dish Pizza Day in April to National Cheese Pizza Day in September, not to mention National Pizza Month in October, any time of year is the perfect opportunity to bite into a slice.

For most people, the best part of pizza is eating it, but that doesn't mean you can't still learn something about this all-time favorite food as well. The following are some tasty tidbits about pizza, courtesy of Fact City, Pizza Need and Facts Legend.

• Pizza is tied to Greece. Greeks are credited with creating the first pizza-like food. The Greeks used to bake flat, round large breads that were then topped with vegetables, potatoes, spices, and olive

oil. However, the first commercial pizza and pizzeria has been traced to the 19th century and the Italian city of Naples.

• Not all pizza is flat. While crispy, low-profile pies may be classic, other varieties of pizza have their fans. "Deep dish" pizza originated in 1943 in the Chicago eatery Pizzeria Uno. Sfincione, or focaccia pizza, a type of pizza made in a sheet pan with thicker slices, was created in the mid-19th century in Sicily. It is popularly called Sicilian pizza.

• Pizza is even more

• Pizza is even more popular on certain days of the year. Pizza can be enjoyed any day of the year, but Super Bowl Sunday, New Year's Eve, Halloween, Thanksgiving Eve, and New Year's Day are the top five days for pizza sales. In addition, pizza accounts for more than 10 percent of all food

service sales.

• Pizza is booming. In the United States, the pizza industry makes up 17 percent of all restaurants and grosses more than \$30 billion every year. The highest-grossing single-unit independent pizzeria in the United States is Moose's Tooth Pub and Pizzeria in Anchorage, Alaska. Its annual sales are approximately \$6 million.

• Pizza is popular everywhere. Around the world, about three billion pizzas are sold each year.

• Pizza is a weekend favorite. While Friday may be pizza night for many people, sales figures indicate that Saturday night is the most popular night to eat pizza.

• Pizza has a symbiotic relationship with certain foods. The pizza industry has helped propel both the cheese and pepperoni industry. Around 251 mil-



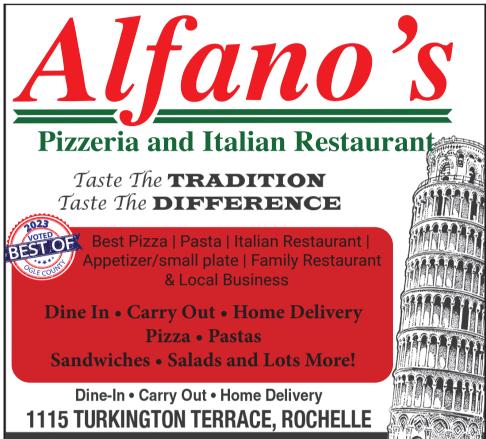
lion pounds of pepperoni are consumed each year in the United States.

 Hawaiian pizza is popular, though not accurately named. Ham and pineapple are popular pizza toppings on the West coast of the United States, and this pizza is dubbed the Hawaiian pizza. However, it doesn't have any

connection to Hawaii. This pizza actually was invented in Canada.

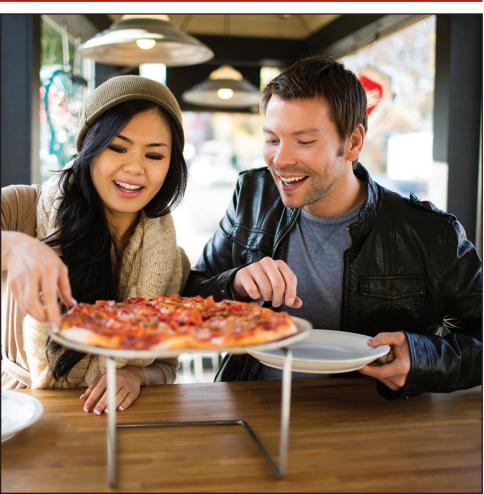
Pizza is a perennial favorite and one of the most popular foods of all time.













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SUNDAY, FEB. 25, 2024

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 2 • PAGE 1

SPORTS



KIDS SHINE IN CHAMPAIGN

The RWC traveled for the Champaign Grappler tournament on Sunday.

See page 6 for more details

RTHS Wrestling

Hubs seal team state bid

Villalobos scores decisive victory as Rochelle downs Yorkville Christian 39-30

BY RUSSELL HODGES SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE—Sophomore standout Roman Villalobos stepped into the circle against Yorkville Christian's Jackson Allen on Tuesday as the last man standing between the Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling team and its first ticket to the IHSA Dual State Championships since

2018.

Rochelle held a 36-30 lead over the Mustangs with only the 175-pound bout remaining. Tasked with delivering one final win for his team, Villalobos engaged in a back-andforth battle with Allen, who scored a pivotal takedown in the third period to even the score at 6-6. As the crowd grew louder in Rochelle's home gymnasium and the final seconds of the match wound down, Villalobos used his last ounce of strength to break free for perhaps his biggest reversal this year.

The successful maneuver at the end of the match resulted in an 8-6 decision for Villalobos, who sealed Rochelle's 39-30 win over the Mustangs as well as a berth in the IHSA Dual at the Grossinger Motors

Arena in Bloomington this coming weekend. The Hubs (24-6, 5-0 Interstate 8) will wrestle against Lombard Montini on Friday.

time with each other."

Rochelle took a 12-0 lead after senior Brock Metzger and junior Kaiden Morris recorded falls over Hayden Wheeler and Xander Oliver to win the 190-pound and 215-pound bouts. Yorkville Christian put itself on the scoreboard after Garrett Tunnell's first-period fall over senior Frank Decena in the 285-pound bout. The Hubs capitalized on a short-handed Yorkville Christian lineup, as sophomores Freddie Hernandez and Colten Manning took forfeits at 106 and 113.

"It's awesome that Team State Champion- we're going to the state ships, which will be held meet," head coach Alphonso Vruno said. "I'm

"I was pretty gassed going into the third period, but I kept thinking to myself that it was about the team and I kept improving my position," Villalobos said. "That led to me winning the match. It feels awesome to win and we're grateful to have another week of wrestling. We're excited to see where we're at as a team and we're looking forward to spending more

took a key match at the

120-pound weight class, where Eli Foster scored a 12-6 decision against sophomore Tony Milburn. Junior Xavier Villalobos answered for the Hubs, notching a first-period fall over Jackson Witt in the 126-pound bout. State champion Ty Edwards took the 132-pound bout for the Mustangs, securing a fall over sophomore Frank

138-pound bout, where a takedown from sophomore Deegan Schabacker led to an injury and medical forfeit from Yorkville Christian's Grason Johnson. The forfeit gave the Hubs a 36-15 lead, but the Mustangs refused to back down, scoring four straight wins to bring Rochelle within six points with one bout left.

Yorkville Christian's Ti-

freshman Josh Lassiter for an 8-3 decision in the 144-pound bout and John Isaac Gray outlasting sophomore Brenden Voight for a 7-5 decision in the 150-pound bout. After Yorkville Christian's Tyler Gleason pinned junior Matt Lynn in the 157-pound bout, Robby Nelson held off junior Grant Gensler for a 2-0 sudden victory in the 165-pound bout. Villalobos clinched the team win with his victory at 175.

(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Sophomore Roman Villalobos controls Yorkville Christian's Jackson Allen during the Rochelle Hub varsity wrestling match against the Mustangs on Tuesday.

so happy and I'm really proud of the kids. We had some toss-up matches that went Yorkville Christian's way and we had to tip our caps to them because they were ready to scrap. But we had some things fall in our favor. Our kids have made a lot of sacrifices and our kids continue to step up when they need to. We're trying to build that into the culture of our program.

Yorkville Christian

A fortunate break went

Rochelle's direction in the

The rally began with ras Lombardo edging

RTHS Boys Basketball

Defense fuels IHSA Regional Semifinal win over Woodstock Harley leads Hubs with 20 points as Rochelle silences the Blue Streaks 73-56

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

ROCKFORD — A

new mindset and a commitment to defense were what fueled the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team's IHSA3A Regional Semifinal win over Woodstock on Wednesday.

Rochelle didn't let its six-game losing streak get in the way of a stout defense performance, as the Hubs smothered the Blue Streaks with their full-court pressure during the first quarter. While Rochelle entered Wednesday's matchup as the No. 5 seed, the Hubs controlled the game from the opening minutes, riding their defense to a 73-56 upset over the No. 3 seed Woodstock. The Hubs (11-21, 3-7) Interstate 8) will face No. 2 seed Freeport in the regional finals on Friday night.

"We've been playing some pretty tough teams," junior Elijah Harley said. "We wanted to get after them from the start and we did a good job of keeping the pressure up. We're hoping to do that against Freeport. Our goal all season has been to win a regional championship and that's

"We wanted to get after them from the start and we did a good job of keeping the pressure up. We're hoping to do that against Freeport."

Elijah Harley

what we've been practicing for and what we've been working hard since the summer for."

Rochelle took the early lead in Wednesday's game, holding a 19-12 advantage after a stout defensive effort in the first quarter, where the Hubs forced a flurry of turnovers from the Blue Streaks (20-11, 11-3 Kishwaukee River) that led to easy layups. Senior guard Eli Luxton scored 10 of his 17 points in the first half to spark the Rochelle offense, while freshman forward Brody Bruns totaled eight of his 10 points in the first half, with six coming in the second quarter.

"Our coach told us that we needed to hustle and play as a team," Bruns said. "We knew that Woodstock could be a tough challenge, but I thought that we came out and took it to them. It's

been a fun experience

with the varsity team

and my coach expects more and more from me. It's fun to be challenged by my coach and it'd mean a lot for us to win a regional because we've had a tough schedule and we've faced a lot of teams that are probably going to win their regionals."

The Hubs held a double-digit lead until a buzzer-beating 3-pointer from Woodstock's Anthony Grzetic made the score 39-32 at halftime. Despite the last-second heroics from the thirdseeded Blue Streaks, the fifth-seeded Hubs continued to dictate the pace in the second half, where the team's success in defensive rebounding enabled Rochelle to close out defensive possessions.

by double figures. Ju-

Harley emerged during the fourth quarter, where the junior guard scored 10 of his team-leading 20 points and put home key shots around the basket "We've been working on our defense a lot and to keep the Hubs ahead



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Senior Eli Luxton races Woodstock's Keaton Perkins down the floor during the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball game against the Blue Streaks on Wednesday.

during practice," Harley

said. "It paid off during

the game like we wanted

it to. We did a good job

nior guard Carson Lewis added 11 points for the Hubs, who could claim their second regional championship in three seasons with a win over the second-seeded Freeport Pretzels on Friday.

it's been our main focus

of breaking their press down at the end of the game and we put their defense in bad positions to where we were able to get easy buckets. We also did a good job of keeping

happened."

our composure when that

Junior guard Cayden Moore chipped in six points on Wednesday, while senior guard Jack Tracey added five points and sophomore guard Van Gerber compiled four points in the win on Wednesday.

SPORTS

RMS Girls Basketball









RMS eighth-graders score home win over Belvidere South

The Rochelle Middle School eighth-grade girls basketball team scored a 31-21 win over Belvidere South in North Central Junior Conference action on Tuesday evening. Above, Gianna Olguin (left) takes a shot and Zoe Norberto (right) dribbles down the floor. Below, Carol Carpenter (left) and Audrina Rodriguez (right) go for shots under the basket.



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SPORTS







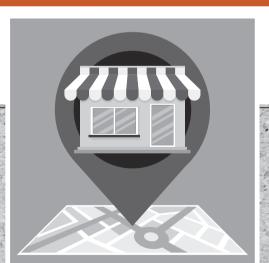
Rochelle Middle School seventh-graders secure home win over Belvidere Central in NCJC action

The Rochelle Middle School seventh-grade girls basketball team scored a 36-14 home win against Belvidere Central in North Central Junior Conference action this past week. Above, Delani McGee (left) dribbles down the floor, Ariana Hueramo (middle) shoots a free throw and Alivia Law (right) puts up a shot.

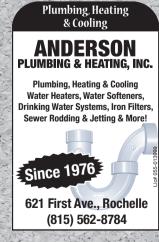


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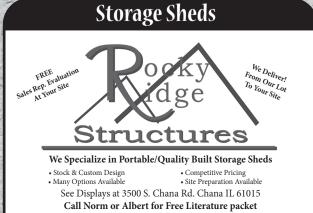
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PRIME TIME

How to understand your osteoporosis risk

ONE is living, growing tissue that changes as a person ages. Although healthy bone can naturally diminish as a person gets older, seniors in particular are at elevated risk of osteoporosis, a bone disease marked by rapid bone deterioration.

Osteoporosis occurs when bone mineral density and bone mass decrease, or when the strength and structure of bone changes, according to the National Institute of Arthritis and Musculoskeletal and Skin Diseases. Bone is constantly being broken down and replaced. When a person has osteoporosis, creation of new bone cannot keep up with the loss of old

Osteoporosis can make bones so brittle that even a seemingly innocuous movement, such as coughing, bumping into something or bending over, can cause bones to break, says the Mayo Clinic. These breaks commonly occur in the spine,

Osteoporosis affects people of all genders. ages and races. However, white and Asian women, especially those past menopause, are at the highest risk.

The Bone Health & Osteoporosis Foundation says that osteoporosis is known as a silent disease because bone weakening is undetectable. Subtle signs, such as a stooped posture, a curved back or if someone seems to be getting shorter, may indicate osteoporosis. Breaking a bone is often the first sign of the disease. There may be ways to

prevent osteoporosis or alleviate its symptoms. A nutritious diet and regular exercise are essential for keeping bones healthy throughout life. This includes getting enough calcium through foods and possibly supplementation. Individuals should work with their doctors to get the right amount of calcium, as too much from supplements may cause kidney stones. Vitamin D also works in



produce strong bones, and many people are deficient in vitamin D.

Exercise also is needed for strong bones. Strength training with weightbearing and balance exercises enjoyed regularly maintain healthy bones as one ages.

Additional lifestyle issues can increase risk for osteoporosis. These include long-term use of certain medications like glucocorticoids and adreto treat various conditions. Proton pump inhibitors, cancer medications and antiepileptic medicines also may increase risk for osteoporosis. Heavy alcohol consumption and smoking also can contrib-

Osteoporosis is not something to take lightly. Abone-density test can indicate if bones are weakening and if intervention is necessary. However, measures should be taken early in life to prevent



Seniors can boost energy with the right foods

NUTRITIOUS diet is a key component of a healthy lifestyle. And for seniors, the right diet can be a key part of treating any number of health issues. In fact, changing one's diet may be something seniors can consider if they are feeling sluggish.

Food can be a helpful ally for seniors dealing with fatigue and low energy. WebMD says eating a balanced diet is one of the ways to improve low energy levels, and that balanced diet should include certain foods that are natural energy boosters.

• Whole grains: Switching refined grains for whole grains is a good way to boost energy. These grains are full of complex carbohydrates that help boost metabolism and provide energy. They'll also work longer in the body than the more refined options. Swap out "white" products like breads and rices for whole wheat or

brown rice. • Lean protein sources: While protein does not give the same quick boost of energy as a high carbohydrate meal, it will help fuel the body and keep a person feeling full longer. According to Discovery Senior Living, protein helps increase concentration levels, produces stronger muscles and helps maintain optimal blood sugar levels. Chicken, tuna and legumes are some notable protein

• Nuts: Most nuts are a complete package that provide healthy fats, proteins and amino acids that are good for the body. The fiber and carbohydrates in nuts digest more slowly and help provide a steady supply of energy throughout the day. Replace croutons in salads with nuts, or sprinkle some nuts on oat-

Fearer. Nye & Chadwick

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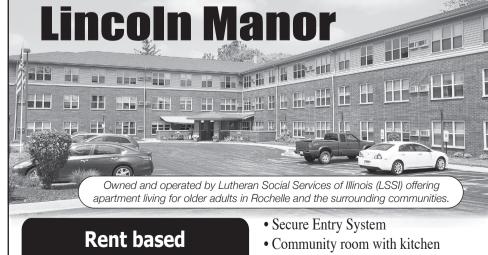
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meal at breakfast.

• Fruits and vegetables: Berries, sweet potatoes, dark, leafy greens, and other produce are lowcalorie, low-sugar options

for snacks and sides that boost health. They're full of fiber and antioxidants that can ward off illness, and they can provide an energy boost as well. Berries and vegetables can be added to smoothies or salads.

The right foods can help seniors restore energy levels and promote overall health.



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for assistance in free membership registration, downloading, and working with this digital project information. This project is funded partly by an Illinois DCEO Capital Grant and the selected contractor(s) must comply with the regulations of DCEO's Grant Programs, as indicated in the City of Rochelle's DCEO Capital Grant Agreement

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in its care. ect #21-203249 has an overall Business Program Enterprise (BEP) Goal of 1%. This combined MBE/WBE/ WMBE utilization goal is based on the availability of State-certified vendors to perform the anticipated direct subcontracting opportunities of the Utilization Plan (UP).

22-045 CITY OF RO-CHELLE

403

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HUB SPOTLIGHT



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Rochelle wrestler Nehemiah Andronic shows off his first-place award from the 2024 Champaign Grappler tournament on Sunday, Feb. 18 at Centennial High School.

Junior Hub wrestlers clash at Champaign Grappler event

BY RUSSELL HODGES

SPORTS EDITOR

CHAMPAIGN — The Rochelle Wrestling Club sent five athletes to the 2024 Champaign Grappler at Centennial High School on Sunday. One athlete brought home a first-place finish, while two others secured second-place finishes and one took home a third-place finish.

Nehemiah Andronic finished first in the Bantam 65-69 Division with a 3-0 record. Andronic scored a 5-1 decision over Built by Brunson's Lincoln Projansky and a 4-3 decision over SJO Spartan YWC's Benson Damler. Andronic clinched the division championship in the final round, securing an 11-2 major decision against Wilmington Wrestling Club's Lodi Morgan.

Wells Millard took second in the Bantam 50-54 Division with a 2-1 record, earning a 9-0 major decision over TJ Trained Wrestling's Zackary Vest and SJO Spartan YWC's Carson Gallo.

Elias Andronic took second in the Bantam 55-58 Division with a 2-1 record, notching a 15-0 technical fall over Mt. Zion Kids WC's Briggs Patrick and an 11-2 major decision over Olney's Jack Abell.

Teddy Millard placed third in the Novice 71-74 Division with a 2-2 record, securing a fall over Storm Youth WC's Drake Reed and a 15-2 major decision over Glenview Junior Titans Wrestling's Ryan Silver.

Landon Leigh took fifth in the Novice 97-99 Division.

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