



# ROCHELLE News-Leader

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Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:



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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SUNDAY, MARCH 24, 2024

## Local voters take to the polls

### Unofficial results: Cox defeats Horner in coroner race

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**OGLE COUNTY** — Results from Tuesday's general primary election in Ogle County showed that Christie Cox of Polo (3,812 votes, 50.68 percent) defeated Chad Horner of Rochelle (3,709 votes, 49.32 percent) in the race for the Ogle County coroner's office. As of Thursday afternoon, 100 percent of Ogle County precincts had reported, but results will be unofficial for two weeks following the race, which is election protocol.

Both ran as republicans and there was no democrat candidate for coroner. Lou Finch has served as Ogle County coroner for 20 years and did not seek re-election. Cox brings experience as a deputy coroner and funeral director. She owns Polo Family Funeral Home and has run it for 20 years. She started working in the coroner's office in the early 2000s and returned to it over a year ago.

Cox said she feels confident in the eventual official outcome of the close race after seeing the



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**As of Thursday afternoon, 100 percent of Ogle County precincts had reported, but results will be unofficial for two weeks following the race, which is election protocol.**

numbers. She called the experience of working on her campaign through the election "surreal."

"I worked very hard and I've never run a campaign before, so it was all new to me," Cox said. "It was not without a lot of late nights, early mornings, hard work and dedication. I'm very excited to have it over and start this next chapter and journey. The only thing I'd like to say at this point is I can't wait

to get my team together and get their thoughts and concerns and address them if there are any. It's just rallying the team and hearing from them."

The Polo Family Funeral Home owner called the experience of a campaign "time-consuming, but very rewarding" and thanked her loved ones, the community and voters.

"I'm just a young lady from Polo, and to have people who don't even

know me support me in ways I could've never imagined was so humbling and overwhelming at times," Cox said. "I just want to say thank you to the voters. It doesn't matter who you voted for. It's just the fact that you got out and voted. Thank you for all of your support."

Horner fell short on election night in the closely-contested race.

See **ELECTION** pg 2



## Non-sanctuary county for immigration resolution passed

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**OREGON** — At its monthly meeting Wednesday, the Ogle County Board unanimously approved a resolution declaring Ogle County a non-sanctuary county for immigration.

The resolution passed Wednesday said the county is concerned with a lack of a federal or state comprehensive plan for asylum seekers.

Cities including Schaumburg, Elk Grove Village and Rosemont have passed ordinances prohibiting, restricting and taxing the use of hotels, motels, warehouses etc. for extended use by illegal immigrants.

See **COUNTY** page 8

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## FFA competes at district meet

Members of the RTHS FFA Chapter competed at the district event, with Megan Seebach advancing to state. **Page 5**

## WEATHER

SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
43 29	57 40
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
50 33	41 26

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:



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## OBITUARIES

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## Groundbreaking held for Creston-Dement Public Library

### Project has 12-18-month completion timeline: 'It's going to be a great thing'

BY JEFF HELFRICH  
MANAGING EDITOR

**CRESTON** — On Friday, March 15, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Creston-Dement Public Library project at the corner of Main and Cederholm Streets. Board members, library employees and members of the community took part in the event.

A referendum passed in June 2022 that allowed the Creston-Dement Public Library District to issue \$2.2 million in bonds to build a new library building on the land that was donated years ago for just that purpose. The main reason for the desire for a new building is the library outgrowing its current space at 107 S. Main St.

"This has been a seven-year project to get up to this point," Library Board President Doug Kroupa said. "We did community surveys and had experts come in to show us the difference between wants and real needs to create the building the way we need it to be. We'll see a lot of community involvement. The growth in the library



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**On Friday, March 15, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Creston-Dement Public Library project at the corner of Main and Cederholm Streets. Board members, library employees and members of the community took part in the event.**

and the people who are interested in this will help the town and community. It's going to be a great thing."

The library project recently underwent a redesign due to an unexpected \$800,000 funding gap due

to not receiving a state grant and higher-than-anticipated building costs.

The redesigned plans made the project about a third smaller. The redesign caused about a year-long delay.

"We shrank the building width-wise, but all the major things are still in the building," Kroupa said. "We twisted the activity room so it now fits in. As the building could grow in the future, expansion could

be easily incorporated into the design without a whole bunch of restructuring. We've been very conscious about how we're spending people's money."

See **LIBRARY** pg 3

# Holcomb Bank

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# LOCAL NEWS

## ELECTION: County schools facilities sales tax referendum fails

From page 1

He brought credentials of serving as an Ogle County deputy coroner for five years, and he is co-owner of Unger Horner Funeral Home in Rochelle.

### Sales tax

A county schools facilities sales tax referendum item failed in the election by a margin of 69.53 percent (6,228 votes). A total of 2,729 (30.46 percent) votes were cast in favor of the sales tax.

The measure would have raised sales tax in the county by one percent to benefit schools for expenses including facilities, security, mental health services and school resource officers. The measure also failed on the ballot in Ogle County back in 2013. There are 57 counties in Illinois that have the county schools facilities sales tax.

The additional sales tax would have applied to items that are already taxed, with the exception of vehicles and unprepared food. For example, based on the most recent

numbers, a county schools facility sales tax would have netted the Rochelle Elementary School district \$813,202 per year and \$443,491 per year for the Rochelle Township High School district.

Along with facilities, security, mental health services and school resource officers, the money could have been used to abate property taxes and make rates lower for property owners within the district. The county schools facilities sales tax measure had no sunset clause or end date for counties after being passed in by referendum. School districts in the county did not take a position for or against the sales tax.

### State senate

In the republican primary for state senator in the 37th legislative district, Li Arellano of Dixon won the district-wide race with 9,001 votes over Tim Yager (5,933) and Chris Bishop (2,864). There was no democrat candidate in the race. Sen. Win Stoller (R, Germantown Hills) currently holds the office and is not seeking



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**Voter turnout was low in the primary election Tuesday. A total of 28.5 percent of the county came out to vote in the election. 9,207 ballots were cast out of 32,328 potential voters in the county.**

re-election.

In Ogle County, Arellano received 1,328 votes (52.22 percent), while Yager received 776 votes (30.52 percent) and Bishop

received 439 votes (17.26 percent).

### Turnout

Voter turnout was low in the primary election

Tuesday. A total of 28.5 percent of the county came out to vote in the election. 9,207 ballots were cast out of 32,328 potential voters in the county. There were

7,407 ballots cast at polling places (80.4 percent), 869 early ballots cast (9.4 percent) and 931 vote-by-mail ballots cast (10.1 percent).

## Flagg Township Museum Chautauqua talks set for March 25-28

**ROCHELLE** — The Flagg Township Museum will host a series of informal talks — Chautauqua — on March 25 through March 28 from 7-8 p.m. at the museum and it's all about birthdays — birthday toys, the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday of a local organization, birthday cakes, and even ideas about how to save your birthday memories. Historically a Chautauqua was a cultural and social movement that

started in upstate New York in the 1870s and flourished until the mid 1920s. During this time, hundreds of touring chautauquas presented lectures, dance, music, drama, and other forms of "cultural enrichment". This year's schedule of Chautauqua speakers is focusing on birthdays in celebration of the museum's year-long theme, "It's My Birthday."

On Monday it's all about toys — birthday toys,

favorite toys, and toys made in Illinois presented by local history buff Steve O'Connor. Do you have a favorite birthday toy? Bring it along and tell us about it! We'll celebrate the 95<sup>th</sup> birthday of local organization, Moose Lodge 903, with Dave Schabacker on Tuesday. Let's eat cake on Wednesday after local artist Kimberly Ekess shows us how to decorate birthday cakes. Kara Schweitzer,

Illinois Extension family life educator, will share the importance of family memories and how your birthday is a great time to start the process of "Penning Your Past" on Thursday.

Our series has always been a way to promote

informal learning about historical and interesting topics. We hope you'll attend this year at the museum, Monday through Thursday, March 25 to March 28 at 7 p.m. each evening.

The mission of the Flagg

Township Historical Society and Museum is to stimulate interest in Flagg Township history through education, research, collection and preservation of information for the benefit of the public of today and in the future.

## Lincoln Manor



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# LOCAL NEWS

## LIBRARY: Groundbreaking ceremony held in Creston on March 15

From page 1

“We spend it as if it was our own money. We were frugal in the way we deployed the money and in the design we still have a kids area and adult area. We did lose the study rooms in the redesign, but we have the activity room that can be turned into study rooms as the need grows. We can cover almost everything we need right off the bat.”

Construction was scheduled to start during the week of March 17-23 and will take place weather permitting from there on out. Kroupa said the first steps will be leveling ground, soil boring, bringing in gravel and pouring a foundation. The board hopes for a fall 2025 opening.

Kroupa called community support for the project “amazing” and said the new library will allow his organization to better meet needs of the village’s residents.

“We’re here to make sure we meet the commu-

nity’s needs and gather information and share it quickly and easily to everyone,” Kroupa said. “Even though COVID-19, the library continued to provide entertainment and education. We had online viewings and continued to offer services. Now that we’ll have a facility that’s large enough and fully handicapped accessible, we’ll see growth of that type of education even more.”

Growth in services and community offerings and demand from district residents has been seen in recent years which further showed the need for a new library, Kroupa said. He cited the library’s Christmas in Creston event each year and said it has grown from 40-50 people at its start to almost 200 last year.

“Constantly, people are encouraging us to continue to grow,” Kroupa said. “This means a lot to the community. The library isn’t just about books and stuff like that. We bring



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

**A referendum passed in June 2022 that allowed the Creston-Dement Public Library District to issue \$2.2 million in bonds to build a new library building on the land that was donated years ago for just that purpose.**

people together in many different ways to share their knowledge and education. That community growth is spreading as we go. We bring everybody together to keep the community growing strong and it just keeps going and going.”

For board members and library staff, “hundreds and

hundreds of hours” of work have gone into the new library project up to this point, Kroupa said. The board has also navigated supply chain issues that have taken place in the construction industry since the COVID-19 pandemic.

“It’s going through research, finding experts,

talking to community members, and balancing the wants and the needs,” Kroupa said. “Making sure we focus on what we need to do is really the important thing. It will be a great relief when it’s finally done. When we were going through planning with the bonding people, we saw

wood triple in price and steel and wiring more than quadrupled. Some things went up almost 10 times what they were to begin with. To manage that so we could get this in a timely fashion and watch the prices come back down so it’s an affordable facility, that was the important thing.”

# 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.

**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)

**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.com/crestonumcil](https://facebook.com/crestonumcil) [facebook.com/stewardilumc](https://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@faithlchrochelle.org](mailto:Pastor@faithlchrochelle.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](mailto:fgbcrochelle@gmail.com). Website: [www.fgbcrochelle.org](http://www.fgbcrochelle.org). Facebook: [www.facebook.com/fgbcrochelle](https://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](https://www.facebook.com/placeforgrace)

**Grace Fellowship Church** — Pastor Jeff Ardisson, 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 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.. [f](#)

**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](https://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 NEWS

## OBITUARIES

## Lewis Blanford ‘Blan’ Pierce, Jr.

**CRESTON** — Lewis Blanford “Blan” Pierce, Jr., 85, passed away unexpectedly Tuesday, March 19, 2024 at Northwestern Medicine Kishwaukee Hospital in DeKalb, Illinois. Blan was born on June 8, 1938 to Lewis B. and Lucy (Norris) Pierce in DeKalb, IL.

Blan was the fourth generation of Woodlawn Farms L.B. Pierce and Sons. Friends in the Angus cattle business across multiple states and generations stayed in touch for “cow talk” and/or advice. He never met a stranger and he loved visiting with people. Blan continued the Angus cattle business at Woodlawn until its dispersal in May of 2005. He then established the Woodlawn Scholarship Endowment Fund at the American Angus Foundation, the first one so gifted from an Angus breeder, and it has grown through the years granting annual scholarships to youth in the industry.

The historic “Woodlawn Trophy”, a large three handled silver trophy, had been won by Blan’s great grandfather, B.R. Pierce, and grandfather, S.R. Pierce, in 1900 at the First International Livestock Show held in Chicago, IL. The family proudly displayed the trophy at all of their cattle sales. When Blan was inducted into the Angus Heritage Hall of Fame at the annual Angus meeting in Louisville, KY, following in his earlier three ancestors footsteps, he surprised all in attendance by gifting the trophy to the Angus Associ-

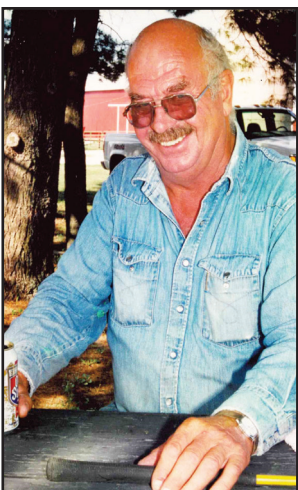
ation, where it is on display at their headquarters.

A second breed caught Blan’s eye about 18 years ago when he and Joan began to acquire Shorthorn cattle from his partner, Steve French’s herd in Michigan. It was coming full circle as Blan’s great grandfather had Shorthorns for ten years before he began a 136 year love of Angus.

Blan was very civic minded and was involved in many organizations throughout his lifetime. He was on the Rochelle Community Hospital Board, Creston School Board, Ogle County Extension Board and was a 4-H leader. He was a multi Township Tax Assessor, a member of the American Angus “Vision of Value” Foundation Committee and an active contributor to the foundation as were his three ancestors. Blan was a member of the American Angus Association and in 2007 was nominated and installed in the American Angus Heritage Foundation. In addition, he was a Northern Illinois Angus Association board member.

A second marriage for Blan and his wife, Joan, almost reached the 47 year anniversary this June; add to that the four years they dated.

Blan was the proud father to sons: Carl (Kris) of Reedsburg, WI and Jake (Edie) of Byron, IL; grandfather to Carl’s daughter, Carly (Nate) Vogeler and great grandfather to Henry, Theo and Ben Vogeler and grandfather to Jake and



Edie’s son, Wyatt. He was additionally a proud stepfather to Joan’s children: Tim (Suzi) Pleune of Batavia, IL, Beth (Jeff) Martin of Bonita Springs, FL and Laura (Mike Loptien) Sykes of Sycamore, IL; step grandfather to Jamie Pleune, Alyssa Pleune (Zach) Clark, Andy (Julie) Martin, Joe (Sarina) Martin; great granddaughter, Lilah Martin and soon to be great grandson Martin in April; Samantha Sykes and Jarrett Sykes.

In addition to his parents, L.B. and Lucy Pierce, Blan was preceded in death by his brother, Norris Pierce; sister, Susan Lesh; nephew, David Pierce and sister-in-law, Ann Pierce.

There will be a private family memorial graveside service at Woodlawn Cemetery, Creston, IL. At a later date, the family will have a celebration of Blan’s life. Memorials may be made in his memory to the American Angus Foundation for the Woodlawn Farms Scholarship Endowment Fund. Visit [www.ungerhorner.com](http://www.ungerhorner.com) to sign the online guest book.

## Fehr Graham hires Soltow

**ROCHELLE** — Fehr Graham, a leading Midwest engineering and environmental firm, is proud to announce the hiring of Braiden Soltow as a designer.

Soltow provides design services tailored commercial, residential and municipal engineering projects. He is skilled in AutoCAD Civil 3D to ensure designs are accurate and detailed. He works in the firm’s Rochelle office. Soltow earned a bachelor’s degree in Environmental Science, Studies and Systems from Illinois State University.

## ROCHELLE POLICE DEPARTMENT

**ROCHELLE** — On March 18 at 12:12 p.m. Justin M. Buchanan, 37, of Maple Park was cited for no seatbelt-driver, speeding 52 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone, and no insurance. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 7:19 a.m. Ryan M. Dillon, 35, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 7:43 a.m. Maggie A. Craft, 45, of Oregon was cited for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 10:22 a.m. Laschelle R. Poston, 57, of Rockford was cited for speeding 62 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. She signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 12:05 p.m. Jon Hunley, 40, of Rochelle was cited for failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. He signed a promise to com-

ply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 12:56 p.m. Chase R. Aase, 32, of Rockford was cited for speeding 60 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 1:21 p.m. Erislandy Barrientos, 46, of Rockford was cited for speeding 62 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 8:37 p.m. Eric M. Pondell, 42, of Rockford was arrested for driving while license suspended and cited for suspended registration and no insurance. He was released on a notice to appear with an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 20 at 7:39 a.m. Angel. D. Salas, 20, of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 21 at 11:43 a.m. Marquis D. Dunlap, 30, of Alsip was cited for operating a vehicle with expired registration. He

signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 21 at 1:24 p.m. Mark Correia, 34, of Chicago was cited for speeding 59 miles per hour in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 21 at 2:25 p.m. Reema Bonilla, 43, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 50 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone. She signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 21 at 4:21 p.m. Sairama A. Siripurapu, 25, of Aurora 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 26 Rochelle court date.

On March 21 at 5:25 p.m. Javier Herrera, 58, of Rockford was cited for speeding 50 miles per hour in a 30 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an April 26 Rochelle court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

## OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF’S DEPARTMENT

**OREGON** — On March 18 at around 6:53 p.m. deputies responded to Benny’s Corner Market in Davis Junction for the report of a retail theft of alcohol. On March 19 at 6:20 p.m. after an investigation, deputies placed Margot Jacobson, 26, of Davis Junction, and Gerald Tyszko, 46, of Davis Junction, under arrest for retail theft. Jacobson and Tyszko were taken to the Ogle County Jail and released with a notice to appear court date.

On March 19 at 2:01 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on North Junction Road just south of East Illinois Route 72. As a result, Javier Leyva Meraz, 25, of Elgin was arrested for driving while license suspended. Leyva Meraz was additionally issued citations for no

rear splash guards, and operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Leyva Meraz was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On March 19 at approximately 6:30 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on South Lowell Park Road at the intersection of Henry Road. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Timothy J. Gallagher, 48, of Dixon, for driving while license was revoked. Gallagher was additionally issued a citation for operating an uninsured motor vehicle. Gallagher was transported to the Ogle County Jail and released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

On March 21 at approximately 2:48 p.m. deputies responded to Rochelle Community Hospital in

reference to a domestic issue. After investigation, deputies arrested Matthew Bearrows, 43, of Rochelle for domestic battery. Bearrows was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he is being held pending a court appearance before a judge.

On March 21 at approximately 3:20 p.m. Ogle County deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 500 block of South 1st Avenue in Forreston. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Nickole M. Butler, 40, of Byron, for aggravated driving while license revoked. Butler was transported to the Ogle County Jail where she was processed and released with a return court date set.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

# D231 Board of Education to hold special meeting

**ROCHELLE** — The Rochelle Community Consolidated District #231 Board of Education will hold a Special Meeting on April 3 at 8:15 a.m. for the purpose of

hearing a student discipline issue.

This meeting will be held in the board room at Rochelle Township High School, 1401 Flagg Road, Rochelle.



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### GriefShare Support Group

Have you been looking for somewhere to go to better understand, share, and be with others who've also experienced loss?

GriefShare Support is a Christ-centered support group seminar for people who have lost a spouse, child, family member, or friend through death.

**Thursdays 6-8pm - Begins March 21st**  
Lasts 13 weeks - \$20 for study guide (scholarships are available)

**First General Baptist Church**  
500 S. 12th Street | Rochelle  
Questions? Contact Yolonda at [yolondita@gmail.com](mailto:yolondita@gmail.com) or Chrissy at [chrissy\\_w@comcast.net](mailto:chrissy_w@comcast.net)

03032024



## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY BRUNCH

8am to 1pm • Sunday, May 12th  
at the Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club

Indoor and covered outdoor seating surrounded by nature.

Pancakes, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, hash-browns and biscuits and gravy

**\$15 per person | kids 5 and under Free**  
**Need to RSVP to Bob Grace at 815-622-8940 by 5/9**

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## ROCHELLE News-Leader



**211 IL Route 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068**  
**(815) 562-4171**

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### Report policy

Any arrests listed in this paper are merely charges and the defendants are presumed innocent unless proven guilty in a court of law. Please note that all police reports received from the Rochelle Police, the Ogle County Sheriff's Department and the Illinois State Police, will be printed without exception. Requests to omit particular reports will not be considered or honored at any time.



# LOCAL NEWS

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



## Rochelle Township High School finishes second at Interstate 8 art competition

Rochelle Township High School finished in second place at the Interstate 8 art competition recently. The Best of Show (the best piece entered by any school) first place winner for Drawing Color went to RTHS student Denia Rincon. Wyatt Garrelts won first place for sculpture no clay. Bobbie Henning won first place for photo altered. Kyler Dickson won first place for photo unaltered. Anahi Cervantes won second place for hand-built ceramics. Alivia Henkel won third place for painting oil or acrylic. Daniel De La Torre won third place for photo unaltered.

## OLFPD's Boehle participating in training leading to state and national certification

ROCHELLE — Local firefighter Mackenzie Boehle from the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District is enrolled in the Illinois Fire Service Institute (IFSI) Basic Operations Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter I (BOF) Blended course. This 18-week training program is designed to give firefighters the training needed to operate safely and effectively on the fireground. Unlike a traditional resident fire training academy, the BOF program affords students a flexible training schedule with the use of instructor-supported online classrooms and regional training locations for hands-on practical training. Students complete nine hands-on practical weekends at regional sites across Illinois,

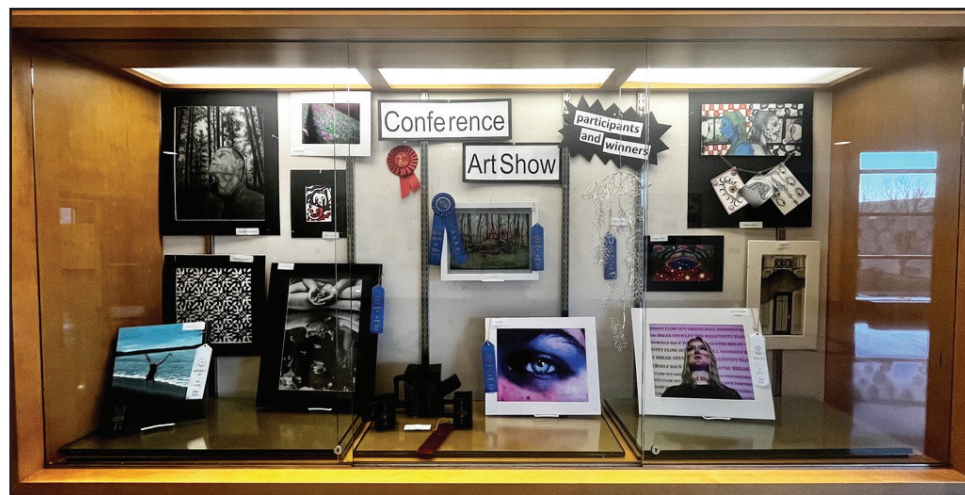
including Cherry Valley, Marion and Streator. Training sites rotate regularly throughout the state to allow for accessibility for all who want to train.

The BOF Program is offered at no cost to Illinois students and departments thanks to a grant offered through the Office of the Illinois State Fire Marshal (OSFM). Upon successful completion, the student will meet OSFM and national NFPA Firefighter I requirements for certification. All are distinguished achievements and a statement of success and an indisputable mark of performance belonging to individual fire service professionals. Rochelle should be proud to have such outstanding and well-trained

fire service personnel in its community.

IFSI Director Chief Jim Keiken, states, "The IFSI BOF program provides critical information and essential skills training to fire departments across Illinois and ensures that firefighters have the necessary information to safely perform the demanding duties of their jobs. Firefighters enrolling in this program are showing their true commitment to serving and protecting their communities and themselves."

For more information about the Illinois Fire Service Institute and the Basic Operations Firefighter/NFPA Firefighter I BLENDED course, contact Jill Kraft at [jillks@illinois.edu](mailto:jillks@illinois.edu) or 217-300-6036.



(COURTESY PHOTO)



## RTHS FFA competes at district, Seebach advances to state

Rochelle Township High School recently congratulated its FFA members who represented RTHS at district 1 proficiency interviews March 6. The school sent extra congratulations to Megan Seebach for placing first and advancing to state.

# EASTER CHURCH SERVICES



**Faith Lutheran Church**  
14206 E. Flagg Road • Rochelle, IL  
815-562-7575 • [www.faithlrochelle.org](http://www.faithlrochelle.org)  
Pastor Joy Alsop

*Come Worship With Us This Easter!*

**Sunday, March 24th**  
9am - Palm Sunday Service

**Thursday, March 28th**  
7pm - Maundy Thursday Service with Holy Communion

**Friday, March 29th**  
7pm - Good Friday Service

**Sunday, March 31st**  
9am - Easter Worship with Holy Communion

03172-24

## St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church and School

1415 Tenth Ave. Rochelle  **Church 815-562-2744**

March 28	Maundy Thursday Worship	7:00 p.m.
March 29	Good Friday Tenebrae Worship	7:00 p.m.
March 30	No Saturday Eve Worship	
March 31	Easter Sunrise Worship	6:30 a.m.
March 31	Easter Breakfast	7-9:00 a.m.
March 31	Easter Celebration Worship	9:00 a.m.

*Please join us for Holy Week and Resurrection Sunday*

**"Building Relationships in Christ, Now and Forever"**

03172024

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

# EASTER



Maundy Thursday: 6:30 p.m. Service

Good Friday: 12:00 Noon

Sunday: 6:30am Sunrise Service, 9:00 a.m., 10:30 a.m.

Easter Breakfast following the Sunrise Service


9:00 service will be streamed on our Facebook Page & YouTube Channel

Facebook: [facebook.com/placeforgace](https://facebook.com/placeforgace)  
YouTube: First Pres Rochelle

1100 Calvin Rd,  
Rochelle

## St. Patrick Catholic Church

Kelley Drive & Caron Rd.—Rochelle  
(815) 562-2370  
Rev. Jesus Dominguez – Pastor



<b>Palm Sunday March 24</b> Blessings of Palms & Solemn Entrance Saturday, March 23 Vigil Mass at 5:00 pm Vigil Mass at 7:00 pm in Spanish Sunday Masses March 24 at 7:30 am, 9:00 am, 11:00 am in Spanish	<b>Good Friday March 29 (No Daily Mass)</b> **Church Offices Closed** Liturgy of the Word, Communion and Veneration of the Cross at 2:00 pm 3:00 pm Divine Mercy Chaplet and live stations of the cross around our parking lot. 7:00 pm Spanish Rosario de Pésame.
<b>EASTER TRIDUUM SCHEDULE</b> <b>Holy Thursday March 28 (No Daily Mass)</b> **Church Offices Closed** Bilingual Mass of the Last Supper of the Lord at 7:00 pm Adoration in the Parish Center from 8:30 pm – 11:00 pm	<b>Holy Saturday March 30</b> Easter Vigil: 8:00 pm Bilingual
	<b>Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lord March 31, 2024</b> 9:00 am & 11:00 am in Spanish Easter Egg Hunting After Masses



# LOCAL VIEWS

## Six months without money bond in Illinois

ON Monday, March 18, we celebrated the six-month anniversary of the implementation of the Pretrial Fairness Act. There are few places where racial injustice was more apparent in Illinois' criminal legal system than in the use of monetary bail. The Pretrial Fairness Act was aimed at correcting some of those inequities and eliminated our two-tiered system of justice that routinely and systematically disadvantaged people of color, particularly Black people. Under the old money bond system, judges simply required people to pay money to be released from jail—a system that research shows did not make us safer. Bond amounts were often arbitrary, and not related to the safety of our communities or whether a person would appear in court if released. If the accused could pay that price, they

went home, but if they couldn't, they remained in jail. Unsurprisingly, most of the people forced to remain in jail because of unaffordable bonds were people of color.

Wealth-based detention served only to destabilize vulnerable individuals and communities and caused catastrophic results for Black Illinoisians. In 2019, in Illinois, Black people made up 51% of the jail population, almost quadruple the share of the state's population. Much of this disparity occurred because of racism that infected the execution of our monetary bail system. According to research, judges regularly require Black people to pay monetary bonds at levels that are significantly higher than white defendants charged with similar offenses, which means more Black people are held in jail. That result should be no surprise to anyone who has exam-

ined an American jail population.

The disparities in how judges set monetary bonds not only led to more Black people held in jail pretrial, but also had other ripple effects. People held pretrial on an unaffordable bond face an impossible choice: enter a guilty plea to get out of jail, even if they are innocent, or remain in custody awaiting a trial date that might happen months or years away. Or worse, sometimes pretrial detention has life-ending consequences. Between 2019 and 2022, 564 people in Illinois died while in custody. Almost half of those people were Black, and many of those people were held on unaffordable bail. All those people were loved ones—friends, family members, and neighbors—who will never return home. Those

who are trapped in jail awaiting trial also face the loss of jobs, housing, and even custody of a child, all losses burdened disproportionately by the Black community.

In 2021, we started to put a stop to this harmful system, inspired by the millions of Americans protesting the murders of George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, and many others. Instead of hiding from the call to action echoed in these marches, members of the Illinois Legislative Black Caucus, including Sen. Elgie Sims, Sen. Robert Peters, and Rep. Justin Slaughter, along with advocates from the Illinois Pretrial Justice Network, embraced it and fought to end a system of detention that prioritized wealth over public safety. The act abolished money bonds, created a



Patrice James

standard tied to safety for judges to determine whether to incarcerate or release a person pretrial, and ensured transparency and oversight in our pretrial system by requiring data collection. Low-income Illinoisians no longer must purchase their own freedom while still presumed innocent, or worse, plead guilty, simply to avoid long periods of unnecessary incarceration.

After just six months, we are starting to see evidence of the act's success and its ability to advance racial justice and create more equitable practices in our courts. The Pretrial Fairness Act, however, is not a stand-alone solution. We must follow it with legislation like the Pretrial Success Act, which builds on the progress made by ending money bond, by increasing access to health and human services for people awaiting trial in the

community. Protecting the Pretrial Fairness Act is just the beginning of our state's journey toward racial justice, but it is an essential first step. We can continue to honor our commitment to safe, equitable communities by protecting the Pretrial Fairness Act and expanding the supportive solutions that have already made it successful.

*Patrice James has spent her career in service of and with a deep love and respect for Black people and its communities. She serves as the founding director of the Illinois Black Advocacy Initiative. Prior to joining IBAI, she was director of community justice at the Shriver Center on Poverty Law, a founding attorney of Still She Rises, Tulsa, and a public defender at the Bronx Defenders Office. Patrice is also the co-founder and board member of the Black Public Defender Association.*

## Kurt Wolter: Invention of the wheel

TRANSPORTATION technology is human-built systems that move people or artifacts over and under the surface of the land, through our atmosphere, over and under water, and through space. It is one of the four main types of technology systems, including energy, production, & communication, that greatly impact all our lives. Transportation systems consist of vehicles which serve to enclose and protect operators and cargo as well as the vehicular navigation and control components, pathways which provide feasible travel routes, and support structures which are the buildings used to service and maintain the entire transport systems. Common examples include personal transportation systems like cars, trucks, gas stations, and residential garages; public systems like interstate and state highways, buses, trains, and commercial airports and airplanes; private systems such as private jets and commercial delivery services

like FedEx; government systems such as Navy ships or the U.S. Postal Service, and systems which combine more than one and can be thought of as "intermodal". As residents of the "Hub City", we are surrounded by complex transportation systems which run through and around Rochelle, and our city has been shaped by historical events and development these transportation systems created. Understanding transportation technology systems as well as their positive and negative impacts enables us to gain a better perspective of our own lives as well as for the collective good. After all, we all use and rely on our transportation systems!

In the previous transportation article, we discussed early land and water transportation technology history leading up to the invention of the wheel. And since one of the greatest benefits of the wheel is for transportation, this article will examine that technology. There are only a handful

of technological advancements which rise to the level of significance of the wheel. It sits right up there with fire, the printing press, sailing ships, the plow, and a few very significant others. If you take time to notice how many wheels are all around you, you'll be on your way to realizing how important they are.

The earliest use of "wheels", traced back to the later part of the Neolithic Age, was actually the use of round logs to move heavy stones such as those used at Stonehenge and for the great pyramids. The heavy object was pulled by teams of humans as it rolled over the top of a series of similar-diameter logs laid under, used for rolling support and movement, and then carried from the back up to the 'front of the line' to be used over and over as the cargo rolled along. Humans must have learned by observation that there was something special

about the round, rolling circular shape.

Similarly, animals were used to move heavy loads by pulling sledges which had long rails that reduced the friction with the ground or snow or ice below. Humans discovered that wooden planks formed into rudimentary circular shapes and laid under the sledge rails made it easier to slide and "roll" over rougher terrain.

But the most useful form of this invention happens when a wheel is combined with an axle. Pottery wheels qualify as the first bona fide use of this technology. Used to form aesthetically-pleasing symmetrical pottery from soft clay, humans first used them in Mesopotamia about 5,000 years ago. The use of a fixed axle is what causes the radius of the revolving wheel to remain constant, and that fixed radius is what provides the "mojo" in the system because nearly all the energy put into turning the



Kurt Wolter

wheel in one direction is transformed into energy in an infinite number of other directions. And, if that wasn't exciting enough, when the axle is allowed to move (instead of remaining in a fixed position), it can move in a linear direction while the wheel rotates. So simple, yet so astonishing!

It took several hundred years for the wheels and axles used for pottery to be used for transportation. As the log-and-sledge system was used over time, the combination of the rails riding on top of the round logs was transformed into more of a wheel-and-axle design. Wheels cut from solid chunks of tree trunks were attached to carts using round pieces of wood for axles. Depending on the cylindrical of the tree trunk, the wheels performed better or worse, and over time humans learned that more perfect circles performed better as wheels. The wood used was not very durable, and it was heavy compared to its size.

Slowly over time

wheels were fashioned to be lighter by removing portions of the wood inside the wheel, and stone and metals were used to create wheels that had better characteristics than those made from just wood. Metal used around the circumference of the wheel made it more durable, and metals used to smooth bearing surfaces substantially reduced the friction created between the wheel and its axle and improved the performance dramatically.

The development of wheeled vehicles advanced hand in hand with the development of roadways. We'll discuss that technology in the next transportation article, so stay tuned to learn more about pathways.

*Kurt Wolter has studied and taught technology - including production, transportation, energy, and communication - for over 30 years. He enjoys trying to better understand technology and its past, present, and future while also attempting journalism. He can be reached at technohistory100@gmail.com.*

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20515  
(202) 225-6201

IL Sen. Win Stoller  
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(217) 782-1942

IL Rep. Bradley Fritts  
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(217) 782-0535

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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

## Residential tire collection event is May 4

**OREGON** — The Ogle County Solid Waste Management Department (OCSWMD) will conduct a residential tire collection event, scheduled for Saturday, May 4, 2024, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m., at 909 Pines Road in Oregon. This event is for Ogle County residents only. This initiative aims to promote responsible tire disposal and decrease the potential for insect breeding areas.

In partnership with Liberty Tire from Montgomery, Illinois, the OCSWMD invites county residents

to participate in this vital endeavor. The event will accept a variety of tires, including those from cars, light trucks, lawnmowers, bikes, and UTV/ATV's. Whether with or without rims, these tires will be repurposed for mulch, road construction, fuel, playground surfaces, athletic fields, and other reuse opportunities.

Advance permits are required to participate in this collection event. Call 815-732-4020 to sign up for a time-specific permit. Permits will be allocat-

ed for specific half-hour increments, allowing for organized drop-off times. Limit of one permit per household, with provision for standby permits in case of unfilled time slots. The deadline to obtain a permit is Wednesday, May 1 at noon. Limit of 10 tires per permit.

There is a fee of \$2 per tire, with a maximum of ten tires per permit. Payments can be made in cash or check, payable to Ogle County Solid Waste. The remaining expense is subsidized by the OCSWMD. The total approximate cost

for hauling and recycling of each tire is \$4.

Participants will need to present their permits and IDs upon arrival, and to adhere to their designated time slot. Business, fleet, agricultural, and semi-truck tires are not accepted at this event.

For more information about this collection event call the OCSWMD at 815-732-4020, email at [solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov](mailto:solidwaste@oglecountyil.gov), visit [www.oglecountyil.gov](http://www.oglecountyil.gov), or on Facebook at Ogle County Solid Waste Management Dept.

## St. Paul Lutheran School releases third quarter honor roll

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

High honor roll: Naomi Bresson, Ashley Carmichael,

Jimmy Chadwick, Michael Cox, Leylani Farraj, Caden Hatfield, Noah Hayden, Riley Heal, Jack Olson, Katie Suneson, Ayla True, Charlie Frankenberry, Axel Alsop, Chase Atkinson, Joey Chadwick, Annaliese Cox, Esam

Farraj, Eli Good, Makenzie Johnson, Jillian Bruns, Cohen Haedt, Mia Heitkamp, and Tyler Johnson.

Honor roll: Kiya Larson, Freddie McBride, Madelyn McRoberts, Ivan Olsson, Owen Smardo, Gavin

Smith, Leni Haedt, Sophia Mueller, Reed Rowley, Taylor Thomas, Ty Vongsiri, Mackenzie Bybee, Braxton Bruns, Hailey Chapman, Owen Heitkamp, Om Shah, Kayl True, Tyson Carmichael, and Eli Schweitzer.

## Lee County Sheriff's deputies respond to crash

**AMBOY** — On March 15 at approximately 3:24 p.m., deputies from the Lee County Sheriff's Office responded to a two-vehicle crash at the intersection of US Route 30 and US Route 52, in rural Amboy.

Investigating depu-

ties learned that a 2015 Chrysler 200, driven by 48-year-old Cynthia M. James of Decatur, was traveling northbound on US Route 52. A 2010 Hyundai Elantra, driven by 43-year-old Brett A. Armstrong of Amboy, was turning south bound

onto US Route 52 from US Route 30. The 2015 Chrysler failed to stop at the intersection of US Route 30 and US Route 52, striking the 2015 Hyundai. Both drivers were transported to KSB Hospital with non-life-threatening injuries.

James was issued a citation for failing to yield right-of-way/intersection.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office was assisted at the scene by the Amboy Fire Department, Sublette Fire Department, Dixon Rural Fire Department, and Advance EMS.

### BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

March 24  
John Wooten  
Lanie McPhearson

March 25  
Chaz & Kathy Conant (anniversary)  
Shaun Rosenbach  
Liz Danekas  
Greg & Cindy Vant (anniversary)

March 26  
LeeAnn Komadina  
Kim Dougherty  
Bernie & Anna Sexton (anniversary)

March 28  
Pastor Woodruff

March 30  
Grace Olson

April 4  
Edward and Sandra Hickey (anniversary)

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



## Coffee Break

### MAGIC MAZE

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

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: EARTH'S HIGHEST MOUNTAIN

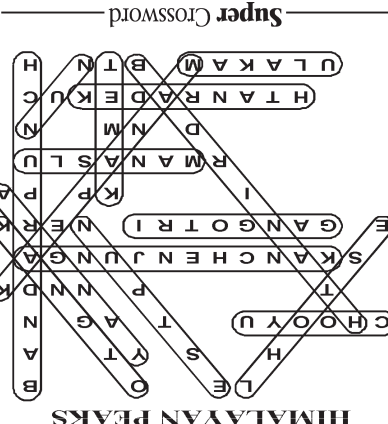
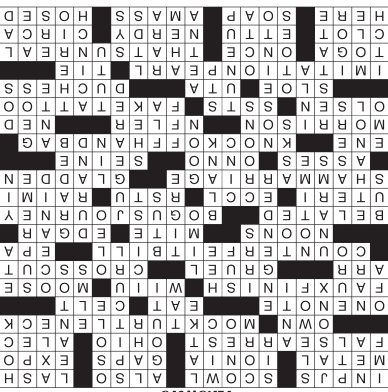
Badrinath  
Bandarpunch  
Cho Oyu  
Gangotri

Kamet  
Kanchenjunga  
Kangto  
Kedarnath

Lhotse  
Makalu  
Mana Peak  
Manaslu

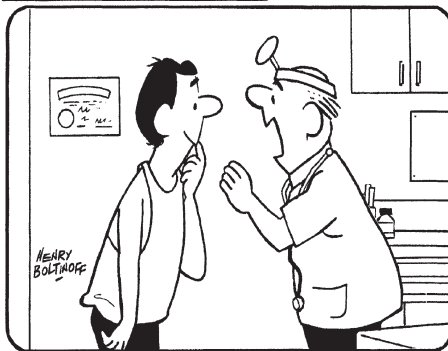
Nun  
Nuptse  
Yangra

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### HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Arm is moved. 2. Neck opening of undershirt is lower. 3. Pocket is different. 4. Cabinet door is wider. 5. Bottle on counter is moved. 6. Watch is added.

## Super Crossword

PHONY-BALONEY

### ACROSS

- 1 Wearing nightclothes, for short  
6 Meanie's look  
11 In addition  
15 Eyelid hair  
19 Steel, e.g.  
20 Ancient Greek region  
21 Empty spaces  
22 World's fair  
23 Illegal detention  
25 Columbus is its capital  
26 British actor Guinness  
27 "Mind your — business!"  
28 High, round collar not folding over on itself  
31 Without any variety  
35 Ingest  
36 Boston NBAer, for short  
37 Paint job made to look like marble, wood, etc.  
41 New Nintendo console of 2012  
43 Big antlered beast  
47 Opposite of dep., in an airport

### DOWN

- 48 Thin porridge  
50 Saw against the main grain, as wood  
52 Bit of money seized by a Secret Service agent  
58 Ecol. monitor  
59 Midways  
60 Tiny arachnid  
61 J. — Hoover  
64 Like overdue birthday wishes  
67 Bill & Ted went on one in a 1991 film  
70 Wombs  
71 Bible book after Prov.  
74 Q-V linkup  
75 "Spider-Man" director Sam  
76 Wedlock not based on love  
79 Cheer up  
81 Burros, e.g.  
82 — occasion (never)  
83 Paris' river  
84 Toronto-to-Montreal dir.  
85 Prada or Fendi replica, maybe  
91 "Beloved" novelist Toni  
94 Buc, Bronco or Niner  
95 Beatty of film

### ACROSS

- 97 Cindy Brady player Susan  
98 Former jets to the U.K.  
101 Bit of non-needed body art  
105 Sour plum  
107 Stage star Hagen  
109 Title for Kate Middleton  
110 Component of a coated glass-bead bracelet, perhaps  
117 Even score  
118 Forum attire  
119 In the past  
120 Apt cry of disbelief for this puzzle  
125 Coagulate  
126 Rebuke from Caesar  
127 Like a dweeb  
128 About, before a date  
129 At this place  
130 Lather (up)  
131 Gather up  
132 Hoodwinked

### DOWN

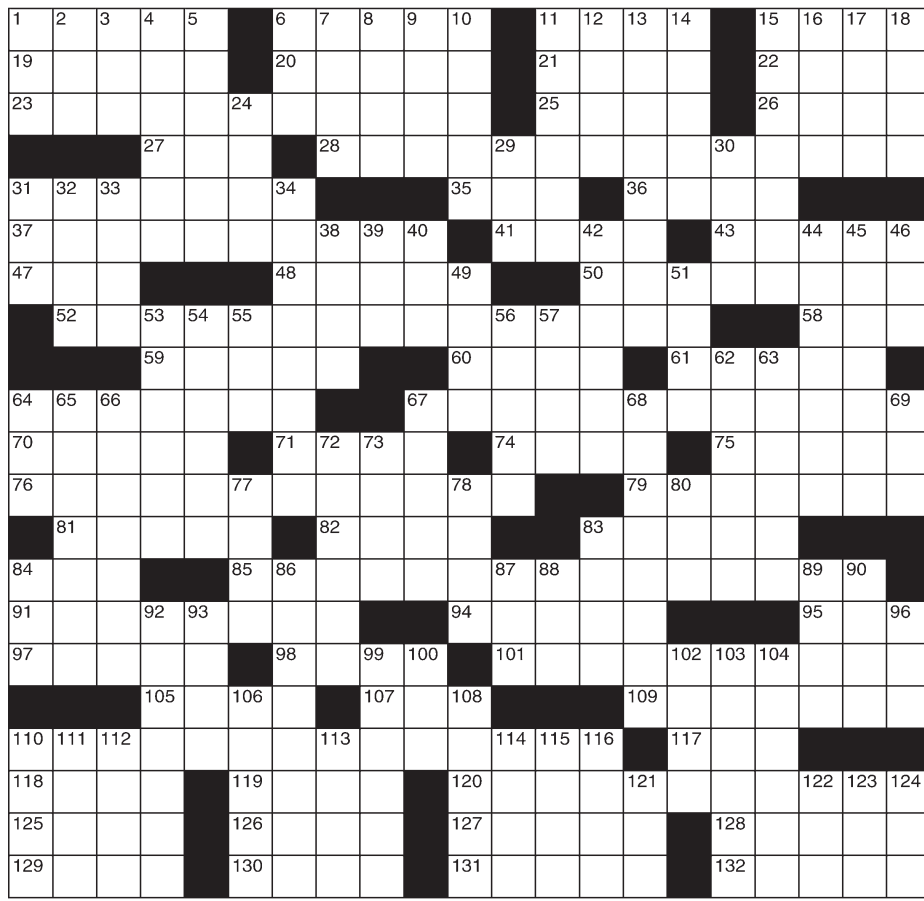
- 1 Global finance org.  
2 Teacher's union, in brief  
3 Old TV ministry inits.  
4 2002 "Friday the 13th" sequel  
5 Whole lotta  
6 Nightly title  
7 Bulblike base of a stem  
8 — cat (two-base game)  
9 Neighbor of Minn. and Ill.  
10 Jewish potato pancake  
11 Relative of a guinea pig  
12 Lion portrayer Bert  
13 Feature of Betty Boop's hair  
14 "— Mio"  
15 Crude sheds  
16 Car shaft  
17 Project detail, for short  
18 Sell at a pawnshop  
24 Opponent  
29 "I taut I — a pudgy tat!"  
30 Shade trees  
31 Flip — coin  
32 DEA worker  
33 Irish money  
34 Bring about  
38 Some flawed garments: Abbr.  
39 Add-on to the end of a wd.  
40 Bit of a bray  
42 Most polar  
44 Sea nymph  
45 Sovereign  
46 Letter two before iota

### ACROSS

- 49 VIP vehicle  
51 Margarine  
53 Deprives of weapons  
54 "Sorry, too busy"  
55 Bodily digit  
56 Big striped cat, in French  
57 A/C output qts.  
62 Landscape painter Asher Brown —  
63 Like low-quality eggs  
64 City transport  
65 Alcohol in liquor  
66 Landlords or landladies  
67 Empty  
68 Having protruding hearing organs  
69 Yang go-with  
72 Sings gently  
73 U.S. pres., militarily  
77 Inquires  
78 "Continue"  
80 Architect  
83 Chiang Kai —  
84 Broody rock genre  
86 Investigate pryingly  
87 Very loudly, in music

### ACROSS

- 88 Miami loc.  
89 Stud money  
90 Old Storms and Trackers  
92 Paraphrase  
93 On Sunset Blvd., e.g.  
96 Two, in Chile  
99 Maintenance job on a car  
100 Indy sponsor  
102 Ballet outfit  
103 Something very easy  
104 Vegas casino  
106 Some Siouan speakers  
108 MetLife rival  
110 Concern for a dermatologist  
111 Concern for a dermatologist  
112 Horror film lab assistant  
113 Twice tetra-  
114 "Psst" cousin  
115 — avis  
116 Some old Fords  
121 The "S" of GPS: Abbr.  
122 Hosp. zones  
123 Ideal serve  
124 Young fella





# LOCAL NEWS

## COUNTY: Board hears concerns regarding alleged animal abuse

From page 1

“Ogle County, by declaring itself a non-sanctuary county, pledges and re-dedicates its limited resources to its residents in need: Seniors, families living below the poverty level, veterans, homeless, and all those in need of social services already here in Ogle County, legally,” the resolution said. “We declare ourselves a non-sanctuary county for immigration, dedicating our limited resources to all those already in need here in Ogle County.”

Board Member Joseph Simms (R, District 3, Rochelle) led the proceedings on the resolution at the meeting and said the counties of Lee, LaSalle, DeKalb and Grundy have either enacted similar resolutions or are working on them.

### Rodeos

For the second time since July, the board heard concerns from members of the organization Showing Animals Respect and Kindness regarding alleged animal abuse taking place at Mexican-style rodeos in the county. Steve Hindi, president of Showing Animals Respect and Kindness, pleaded with the board to take action to end the alleged animal abuse, and said it involves an event called “steer tailing” where a steer is forced to run along a wall and a contestant runs up alongside them and grabs the steer’s tail and pulls them around.

“We’ve gone to the sheriff’s office with an overwhelming amount of video footage and we’ve spoken to the state’s attorney’s office, but unfortunately nothing has happened,” Hindi said. “These animals are receiving no veterinary

care. That is illegal according to Illinois state law. This is Illinois. We have some of the best humane laws in the country. But those humane laws are worthless without enforcement.”

After comments made by the same group at the county board’s July meeting, Ogle County Sheriff Brian VanVickle responded by saying his office was aware of the rodeos, and said they take place south of Rochelle, just outside the city limits. Mike Kobliska, another member of Showing Animals Respect and Kindness, spoke as well at Wednesday’s meeting and said the rodeo in question was granted a special-use permit by the Ogle County Board in 2012.

“Our understanding is they can continue in perpetuity, as long as they hold one rodeo every year,” Kobliska said. “I call it a rodeo, but it’s not a rodeo. It’s one event: Steer tailing. Will County, Boone County and McHenry County have all filed charges or are working on laws for things like this.”

County officials did not make a public response to the concerns raised by the Showing Animals Respect and Kindness organization members Wednesday.

### Vehicles

The board unanimously approved American Rescue Plan Act funding requests for the Ogle County Sheriff’s Office for the purchase and outfitting of squad vehicles. The amount of \$198,528 was approved for four half-ton Chevrolet trucks. Outfitting costs were also approved in the amount of \$68,187.

### OCFB

Board Chairman John Finfrock was presented with a plaque by Ogle County



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

For the second time since July, the board heard concerns from members of the organization Showing Animals Respect and Kindness regarding alleged animal abuse taking place at Mexican-style rodeos in the county.

Farm Bureau President Keith Poole and OCFB Director Ryan Reeverts following the board’s passing of a resolution supporting agriculture in Ogle County last month. Reeverts is also a county board member (R, District 6, Byron) and led the way on the agriculture support resolution. The county is home to 1,011 farms, which support 5,079 jobs (22 percent 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.

“I just want to say thanks again,” Reeverts said. “As a fifth-generation farmer right here in Ogle County, I want to thank you for your vote of confidence in agriculture all across Ogle County and what we do to feed, fuel and cloth the nation.”



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*Rochelle News-Leader, Rochelle ..... Elsie Johnson*

*Rochelle Community Hospital..... Ted Wilkinson*

*James E. Supancic Insurance ...Christa Seebach*

*Davis Family Health ..... Sally Sawicki*

**Congratulations To The Winners!!**







Check out our NEXT  
**American Hero**  
page March 27<sup>th</sup>!

ROCHELLE  
News-Leader

LET'S PLAY  
BALL!

Check out our special pullout  
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# SPORTS



**ALL-CONFERENCE HUB**  
RTHS freshman Brody Brunns earned All-Conference basketball honors this season.  
See page 2 for more details

RTHS Girls Soccer

## Mendota shuts out Rochelle

Ward records 22 saves as Lady Hubs fall to Trojans 2-0 on Tuesday evening

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**MENDOTA** — With the wind howling at its face throughout the first half, the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team fought admirably to keep the Mendota Trojans off the scoreboard Tuesday evening, when the purple and white took the field seeking its first victory of the season.

While the Trojans possessed the ball for most of the first half, Rochelle succeeded in fending off a barrage of Mendota attacks. Behind a strong effort from senior goalkeeper Danica Ward, who made several tough saves throughout the first half, the Lady Hubs remained in a scoreless tie with the Trojans at halftime. Mendota managed to break through in the second half, however, scoring twice while shutting down the Rochelle offense to secure a 2-0 win over the Lady Hubs.

"I think we're progress-

ing pretty well given that we have a really young squad this season," head coach Brad Male said. "We have some girls who are playing in some spots that they aren't used to playing in and they were able to keep the game scoreless in the first half, which I was really pleased with. We still have things we need to work on, but I think we're coming along."

Rochelle (0-3, 0-0 Interstate 8) was fighting not only the wind on Tuesday, but the injury bug as well, as the Lady Hubs played without three girls including junior midfielder Emma Kennay and sophomore defender Abby Bozinovich. Despite being short-handed, Rochelle fought valiantly to keep the Trojans off the scoreboard during the first half, where the senior goalkeeper Ward collected multiple clutch saves and overcame a brief injury of her own to stay in the match. Ward totaled 22 saves.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior Betty Flores looks to stop the ball during the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer match against Mendota on Tuesday evening. The Trojans defeated the Lady Hubs 2-0 as Rochelle fell to 0-3 on the season.

See **SOCCKER** page 4

RTHS Boys Basketball

(COURTESY PHOTOS)



**Hubs receive RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference awards**

The Rochelle Hub basketball team held its season-ending awards banquet this past Thursday, with several student-athletes earning RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference honors. Eli Luxton earned the Hackett MVP Award and a commemorative basketball for eclipsing 1,000 career points. Elijah Harley earned the Hall Free Throw Award, while Jack Tracey earned the Defensive Player of the Year Award (above from left to right). Brody Brunns earned the Hoffman Rebounding Award and Ryan Senne earned the McFadden Sportsmanship Award (below from left to right). Brody Brunns and Eli Luxton (Honorable Mention) received All-Conference honors, while Ryan Senne received Academic All-Conference honors. Six athletes including Jacob Ost, Eli Luxton, Brode Metzger, Carson Lewis, Elijah Harley and Van Gerber received Academic All-Conference Honorable Mentions.





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## HUB SPOTLIGHT



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Freshman Brody Bruns received All-Conference First Team honors in the Interstate 8 this season. Bruns was also the winner of Rochelle's Hoffman Rebounding Award.

## Bruns earns Interstate 8 First Team honors

BY RUSSELL HODGES  
SPORTS EDITOR

**ROCHELLE** — Freshman forward Brody Bruns saw his role become larger and larger as the Rochelle Hub varsity basketball team progressed through the 2023-24 season. Bruns worked his way off the bench and into the starting lineup, helping the Hubs win 11 games and reach the championship round of the IHSA 3A Regional at Rockford Boylan earlier this winter.

Bruns finished the season as Rochelle's leading rebounder, averaging 8.6 boards per game and taking home the Hub basketball program's Hoffman Award with 283 rebounds in 33 games. The 6-foot-5 forward added 10.6 points per game and was third on the team in scoring by the end of the season with 349 points. The freshman's efforts weren't unnoticed, as he was named a First-Team All-Conference honoree by the Interstate 8 coaches for the 2023-24 season.

"It's a great accomplishment and my coaches pushed me the whole year to be the best player I could be, so I owe it to them," Bruns said. "My parents pushed me as well so I owe it to them as well. Coach [Tim] Thompson told me that we would see how the beginning of the season went, but I was on the varsity team from day one and

my role on the team got bigger and bigger."

Bruns led the Rochelle team in blocks as well, totaling 33 for the season. The freshman added 40 assists and 32 steals for the Hubs, who finished 11-22 overall and will have several young players, including Bruns, eligible to return next winter. As Bruns prepares for his sophomore season next year, he said his goals are to make an even greater impact on both ends.

"I think my all-around game got better," Bruns said. "I thought my driving and finishing got better and parts of my defense got better. My hope is to be one of our leading scorers next year and to be a lockdown defender. Our goals are to win a regional championship and hopefully more. The older guys showed me what the culture on the team was like and they showed me what to do."

Bruns was one of two Rochelle players who received Interstate 8 recognition this season. Senior Eli Luxton was named an Honorable Mention after taking home First Team honors during his junior season. Luxton averaged 14.2 points, 6.6 rebounds and 3.4 assists on offense while adding a team-best 1.8 steals per game on defense. The senior guard finished his varsity career with 1,027 points and was also honored for eclipsing 1,000 points at the team's awards banquet.



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# SPORTS

## RTHS Cheerleading



(COURTESY PHOTOS)



## Rochelle Township High School cheerleaders earn RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference awards

The Rochelle Township High School cheerleading team held its awards banquet on Monday evening, with several student-athletes earning RTHS and Interstate 8 Conference honors. Six student-athletes including Cambrey Rodeghero, Abbey Jarvis, Zoe White, Ryelee Bogle, Madigan Williams and Ella Alfano received Academic All-Conference honors. Five student-athletes including Ashley Dickey, Naleia Fonfara, Trent Kreider, Kendall Sachs and Jasmynn Lipscomb received Academic All-Conference Honorable Mentions. Four student-athletes including Jasmynn Lipscomb, Abbey Jarvis, Kami Damask and Zoe White (Honorable Mention) took home All-Conference awards. Varsity award winners included Abbey Jarvis (Cheerleader of the Year), Trent Kreider (Most Improved Cheerleader), Jasmynn Lipscomb (Cheerleader of the Year) and Emily Montelongo (Spirit Award) (not pictured). JV award winners included Madigan Williams (Spirit Award) and Keirra Clark (Most Improved Cheerleader).

### 2024 NIU FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

	<b>WESTERN ILLINOIS</b> AUGUST 31 <sup>ST</sup>
	<b>@ NOTRE DAME</b> SEPTEMBER 7 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>BUFFALO</b> SEPTEMBER 21 <sup>ST</sup>
	<b>@ NC STATE</b> SEPTEMBER 28 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>UMASS</b> OCTOBER 5 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>@ BOWLING GREEN</b> OCTOBER 12 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>TOLEDO</b> OCTOBER 19 <sup>TH</sup> <small>HOMECOMING</small>
	<b>@ BALL STATE</b> OCTOBER 26 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>@ WESTERN MICHIGAN</b> NOVEMBER 6 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>AKRON</b> NOVEMBER 13 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>@ MIAMI (OH)</b> NOVEMBER 19 <sup>TH</sup>
	<b>CENTRAL MICHIGAN</b> NOVEMBER 30 <sup>TH</sup>

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## NIU Football

# Huskie seniors work out at NIU Pro Day

**DEKALB** – Six 2023 Northern Illinois University seniors worked out for scouts from approximately 13 National Football League teams during the Huskies’ annual Pro Day Thursday at the Chessick Practice Center.

Quarterback Rocky Lombardi, offensive tackle Nolan Potter, defensive line James Ester, cornerback Gabriel Amegatcher and linebackers Tyler Jackson and DaRon Gilbert went through a series of measurements, testing and drills for nearly three hours as the NIU coaching staff, family and friends, and members of the 2024 Huskie football team looked on.

The six Huskies, along with a handful of local products from schools throughout the region, began the day with weigh-ins and measurements, including height and weight, hand size and wingspan, before starting the “testing” portion of the day with the bench press and vertical leap in the Northwestern Medicine Sports Performance Center. Potter performed 25 reps of 225 pounds to lead all participants on the bench press while Ester put the weight up 23 times. Lombardi showed off an impressive vertical of 35 inches, followed closely by Gilbert at 34 inches and Amegatcher at 33.

The action then moved inside the Chessick Practice Center for the 40-yard dash, three-cone drill, shuttle run and broad

jump. Amegatcher recorded the best 40 time among the Huskie participants at 4.65, followed by Lombardi (4.70) and Gilbert (4.72); Gilbert posted a 7.22 in the three-cone drill with Lombardi at 7.25 while Amegatcher broad jumped 10-4 to lead the way.

The scouts put the players through position drills, with Lombardi throwing to former Huskies Cole Tucker and Clint Ratkovich, among others. The Clive, Iowa native, who led NIU to a MAC Championship in 2021 and to its first bowl win since 2011 during three seasons with the Huskies, said after the workout he was pleased with his performance.

“It was a good day overall, it was fun to see everybody working and showing off their skill sets,” Lombardi said. “We didn’t really have any [2023 senior receivers/tight ends], so I reached out to Clint and Cole and was really happy that they could make it back and then I recruited a couple other guys as well.”

With Pro Day complete, Ester said he was looking forward to the next step in the process leading into the NFL Draft, which will take place April 25-27, 2024.

“It felt really good out there today,” Ester said. “Obviously I have put in a lot of work, starting with the five years here. One thing that was big for me was showing my change of direction and I felt

like I really showed that today. Now I’m ready to not be training to be Usain Bolt. I’m 300 pounds, I’m ready to work on football and hitting someone instead of running around cones.”

The Huskies, who return 18 starters and will have a senior-laden roster, next turn their attention to 2024 NIU Football Spring Practices, which begin March 26 and continue through April 27 when NIU will hold the annual Spring Showcase.

The Huskies’ complete 2024 schedule was released Tuesday and includes six home games, five on Saturday, along with road games at Notre Dame (Sept. 7) and N.C. State (Sept. 28). Season ticket prices start at just \$105 or get reserved West Side seats starting at \$152.

Discounts are available and parking is included! Season ticket members also receive additional benefits like invitations to special events and access to away game tickets. Go to [NIUHuskies.com/tickets](https://NIUHuskies.com/tickets) or call 815-753-PACK to create your account, renew or purchase new season tickets!



# SPORTS



(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team faced Mendota on the road Tuesday evening, falling 2-0 in nonconference play. At left, sophomore Evileth Mendez battles for possession of the ball. At right, junior Makayla Lara avoids a Mendota midfielder. Below, junior Anahi Cervantes battles for the ball.

## SOCCKER: Rochelle falls in road matches at Stillman Valley, Harlem

**From page 1**

“I hope [Dani] can continue to move forward and play how she did today,” Male said. “She kept a lot of balls out of the net for us and I think our defenders can work better with her in order to keep all of them on the same page. If they can do that, I think we’ll work together a lot better.”

After numerous close calls around the Rochelle net, Mendota finally broke through with its first goal of the match during the 51st minute, where a right-footed shot from the Trojan front line floated above the outstretched hand of Ward and into the goal. Mendota capitalized on a through ball from the front line soon after, with the Trojans beating Rochelle on the back line and scoring in the 62nd minute to command a two-goal lead, which held for the rest of the game.

Although the Lady Hubs had the wind at their backs during the second half, Rochelle was unable to find a consistent attack, as the Mendota defense was quick to clear and steal balls away from a young Lady Hub offensive unit. Junior midfielder Makayla Lara put a pair of hard shots

on goal late in the second half, but the Trojans successfully stopped both attempts.

“We’re dealing with some injuries right now and we’re hoping to get everyone back healthy and find more continuity up top,” Male said. “We have a lot of freshmen on the team and they’re the future of our program, so we’re hoping they can continue progressing the way they have been.”

### Stillman Valley

The Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team dropped its second straight match to open the 2024 season on Monday, falling in a 5-0 shutout against Stillman Valley. Senior Danica Ward recorded 28 saves for the Lady Hubs (0-2, 0-0 Interstate 8), who will continue nonconference action with a road match against Mendota on Tuesday evening.

Junior Makayla Lara led the Rochelle offense with four shots and two shots on goal. Stillman Valley took control of the match early in the first half, scoring in the ninth and 28th minutes to command a 2-0 lead over the Lady Hubs. The Cardinals clinched their win with



three second-half goals. Sophomore Evileth Mendez chipped in one shot on goal for the Rochelle side in the loss.

### Harlem

The Rochelle Lady Hub

varsity soccer team kicked off the 2024 season with a road match against Harlem on Thursday, falling 8-1 to the Huskies in nonconference action. The Lady Hubs (0-1, 0-0 Interstate 8) trailed 6-1 at halftime.

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LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on February 26, 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:

Toledo Mowing Service

725 Lincoln Hwy

Rochelle, IL 61068

Dated February 26, 2024

Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk

No. 0305

(March 10, 17 and 24, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Notice is hereby given that on March 13, 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:

Reyes Improvements

101 N 7th St

Rochelle, IL 61068

Dated March 13, 2024

Laura J. Cook, Ogle County Clerk

No. 0320

(Mar. 17, 24, & 31, 2024)

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

SEALED BIDS will be received by the City of Rochelle, Illinois until 1:00 p.m., April 11, 2024, for the City of Rochelle's 2024 Sidewalk Capital Improvements Program, which will consist of the removal and replacement of approximately 37,750 square feet of sidewalk, 1550 square feet of accessibility ramps, 2420 linear feet of combination concrete curb and gutter as well as other associated work located at various locations throughout the City of Rochelle.

Specifications and/or plans may be obtained at the Office of the City Engineer, Engineering Department, located at 1030 S. 7th Street, Rochelle, Illinois. The office is open by appointment only by emailing [cward@rochelleil.us](mailto:cward@rochelleil.us). Bidders will be required to sign for the specifications and/or plans before they are released. There is no cost for specifications and/or plans picked up at the Engineering Office. A fee of \$100.00 will be required for any specifications and/or plans that are mailed to prospective Bidders. Bids will be mailed USPS First Class mail only. All bids are to be returned to the Office of the City Clerk, 420 N. 6th Street, Rochelle, IL 61068.

THE CITY OF ROCHELLE PREFERS THE SEALED BID BE HAND DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, CITY HALL, 420 NORTH SIXTH STREET, ROCHELLE, ILLINOIS BEFORE 1:00 P.M., APRIL 11, 2024; HOWEVER, BIDS MAY ALSO BE MAILED. ANY BID RECEIVED AFTER 1:00 P.M., APRIL 11, 2024, WILL BE RETURNED, UNOPENED.

ALL completed bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at a bid opening at 1:00 p.m., April 11, 2024, in the Council Chambers at City Hall in Rochelle, Illinois.

ANY OBJECTIONS, QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS on the City's specifications shall be submitted in writing on or before 1 p.m. April 8, 2024. If deemed necessary by the City, an

addendum will be distributed to all prospective bidders by facsimile transmission at least two (2) business days prior to the bid opening date. The decisions of the City shall be final.

THE CITY OF ROCHELLE is an equal opportunity employer. All Contracts for Construction of Public Works are subject to the Illinois Prevailing Wage Act (820 ILCS 130/1-12).

A CONTRACT may be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder whose bid is found to be in the best interest of the City of Rochelle. The City of Rochelle reserves the right to reject any and all bids and to waive any informalities or irregularities in the bidding. The City further reserves the right to review and study any and all bids and to make a contract award within forty-five (45) days after the bids have been opened.

A Hold Harmless Agreement and a Non-Collusion Affidavit of Compliance must be submitted with the bid. The City of Rochelle does not discriminate on the basis of handicapped status in the admission or access to, or treatment or employment in, its programs or activities.

Each BID must be accompanied by a BID BOND payable to the CITY OF ROCHELLE in the amount of Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$7,500.00). The City of Rochelle will decide within 45 days if it intends to proceed with the project and award the contract. Written Notice of Award and instructions for the execution of the Agreement will be issued to the Selected Bidder. The BID BOND of all BIDDERS will be retained until the agreement has been executed and approved, after which all BID BONDS will be returned. A certified cashier's check may be used in lieu of a BID BOND.

A Performance Surety will be required as specified in the contract documents and specifications.

No. 0323

(Mar. 20 and 24, 2024)

PUBLIC NOTICE LYNNVILLE TOWNSHIP

Notice is hereby given that the Annual Town Meeting for Lynnville Township in the County of Ogle, State of Illinois, will be held at 7 :30 P .M. on Tuesday April 9th, 2024 @ the Lynnville Township Building in Lindenwood, Illinois. The meeting agenda is listed as follows:

CALL MEETING TO ORDER BY TOWN CLERK AT 7:30 P.M.

ELECTION OF MODERATOR OATH OF MODERATOR MINUTES READ FROM 2023 ANNUAL MEETING READING OF FISCAL REPORTS FOR EACH FUND OTHER OLD OR NEW BUSINESS SET TIME AND DATE FOR 2025 ANNUAL MEETING ADJOURNMENT

Ali Harms

Town Clerk

No. 0324

(March 24, 2024)

NOTICE BIDDING & CONTRACT REQUIREMENTS

Document 00030 – Invitation to Bid

Rochelle C.C.S.D. 231 will receive sealed bids for Asbestos Abatement for 2024 Flooring Renovation Project at Tilton Elementary School, 1050 N. 9th Street in Rochelle, IL.

The work is to remove floor tile and associated mastic (approximate-

ly 4,980 square feet) from the kindergarten classroom, classroom 41 and the corridors utilizing gross removal methods and grinding for mastic removal.

The Date of Commencement is June 24, 2024. The Date of Substantial Completion is July 8, 2024.

The Mandatory Prebid Meeting is on Thursday, March 28, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. The Prebid Meeting will be held at Tilton Elementary School, 1050 N. 9th Street in Rochelle, IL 61068.

Please visit IDEAL Environmental Engineering's website at [www.idealenvironmental.com](http://www.idealenvironmental.com) to register, confirm pre-bid attendance and order the project manuals, project manual costs are listed on the website. Costs are non-refundable and must be ordered through the website. Manual may be viewed at Owner or Engineer offices.

The Bid Opening will be on Wednesday, April 3, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. at Rochelle C.C.S.D. 231 / 1401 Flagg Rd. in Rochelle, IL 61068.

No. 0330

(March 24, 2024)

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under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

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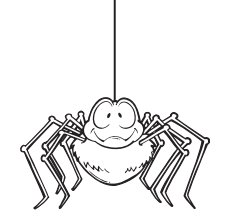
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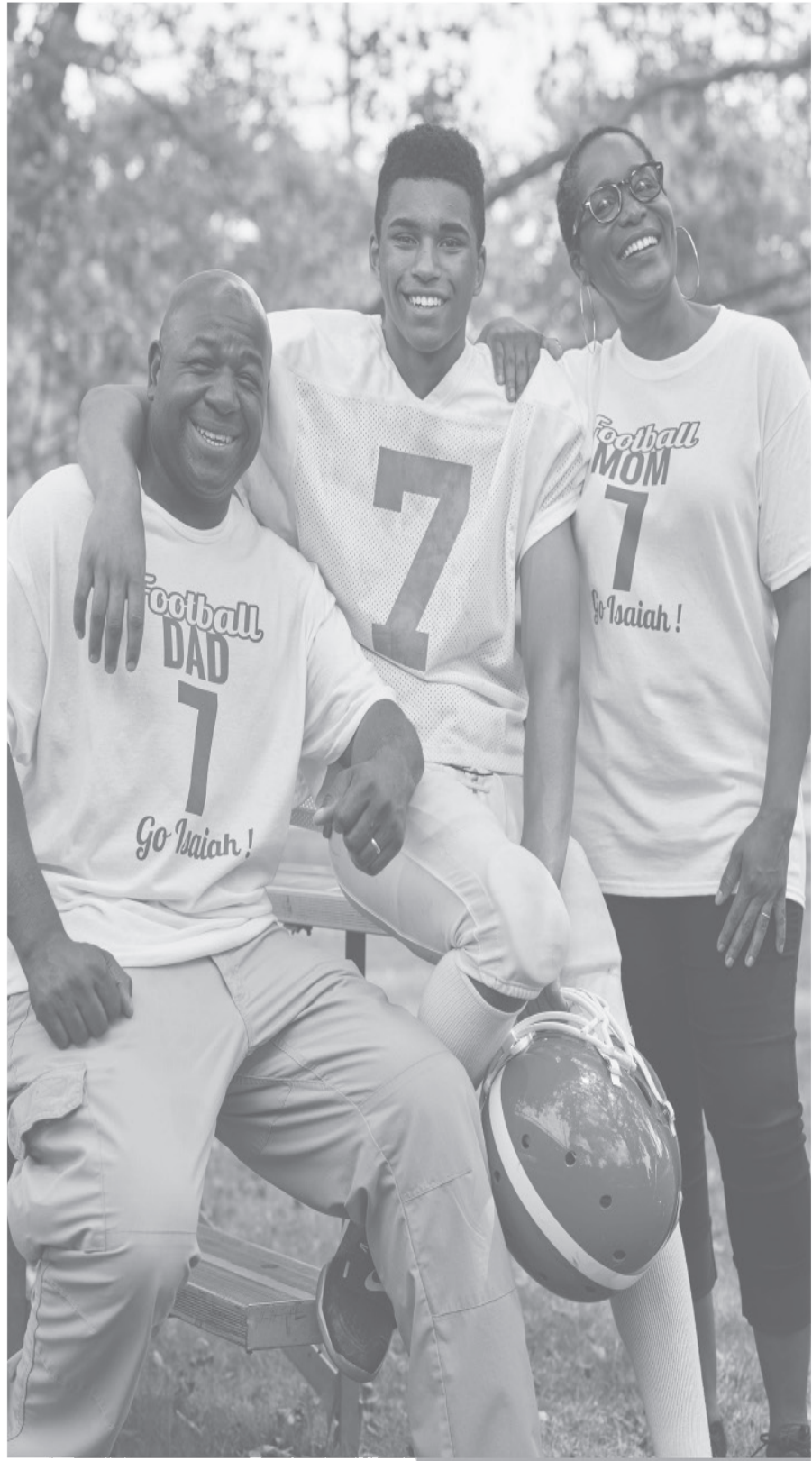
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# HELLO SPRING

## Tips to revitalize a garden this spring

**G**ARDENING is a rewarding hobby that pays a host of significant dividends. Many people love gardening because it allows them to spend time outdoors, and that simple pleasure is indeed a notable benefit of working in a garden. But the National Initiative for Consumer Horticulture notes that gardening provides a host of additional benefits, including helping people get sufficient levels of exercise, reduce stress and improve mood.

With so much to gain from gardening, it's no wonder people look forward to getting their hands dirty in the garden each spring. As the weather warms up, consider these tips to help bring a garden back to life.

- Discard the dead weight. Winter can take its toll on a garden, even in regions where the weather between December and early spring is not especially harsh. Discard dead plants that have lingered into spring and prune any perennials that need it. Branches that fell during winter storms also should be removed at this point if they have not previously been discarded.
- Test the soil. Soil testing kits can be purchased at local garden



centers and home improvement retailers. Such tests are inexpensive and can reveal if the soil needs to be amended to help plants thrive in the months to come.

- Mulch garden beds. Mulching benefits a garden by helping soil retain moisture and preventing the growth of weeds. Various garden experts

note that mulching in spring can prevent weed seeds from germinating over the course of spring and summer. That means plants won't have to fight with weeds for water when the temperature warms up. It also means gardeners won't have to spend time pulling weeds this summer.

- Inspect your irriga-

tion system. Homeowners with in-ground irrigation systems or above-ground systems that utilize a drip or soaker function can inspect the systems before plants begin to bloom. Damaged sprinkler heads or torn lines can deprive plants of water they will need to bloom and ultimately thrive once the weather warms up.

- Tune up your tools. Gardening tools have likely been sitting around gathering dust since fall. Serious gardeners know that tools can be expensive, so it pays to protect that investment by maintaining the tools. Sharpener pruners help make plants less vulnerable to infestation and infection. Well-maintained tools

like shovels and hoes also make more demanding gardening jobs a little bit easier, so don't forget to tune up your tools before the weather warms up.

It's almost gardening season, which means gardeners can start on the necessary prep work to ensure their gardens grow in strong and beautiful this spring.

## How to overcome seasonal allergies

**S**EASONAL allergies crop up at certain times each year, particularly in spring and fall. In 2021, approximately 81 million people in the United States were diagnosed with seasonal allergic rhinitis, according to the Asthma and Allergy Foundation of America. The Canadian Allergy, Asthma and Immunology Foundation says between 20 and 25 percent of Canadians suffer from allergic rhinitis.

Tree and grass pollen are notable contributors to allergies, as is mold. Verywell Health says allergies can be worse in certain areas. In the U.S., certain areas of the East Coast have high rates of allergies, while cities on the West Coast tend to be less harsh on those with allergies.

Since allergies can make life uncomfortable, people want to know all they can do to overcome seasonal allergies. These strategies can help.

- Know the pollen count. Information is key, and knowing when pollen or mold counts are particularly high can help people take certain steps to avoid allergic reactions.
- Close the windows. When pollen levels are high, closing windows to prevent breezes that can bring pollen inside a home can be an effective strategy. You also can utilize a HEPA filter on the home's air conditioning system.
- Remove clothes worn outdoors and shower to rinse pollen off of skin and hair.
- While it can reduce energy usage, hanging clothing to line dry during high pollen counts can cause pollen to stick to freshly laundered items.
- Avoid gardening or other outdoor activities



when pollen is high. If you must be outdoors, wear a mask.

- Try an antihistamine product that will reduce your body's reaction to the seasonal allergen. WebMD says butterbar as well as a plant-based Phleum pratense could be natural alternative antihistamine products.

- Use a nasal rinse to clean allergens out of your nose. This can help ease congestion and itching. Select sterile saline solutions or carefully follow directions for preparing rinses in neti pots.

- Corticosteroid nasal sprays can improve nasal symptoms. Speak with a doctor about how to use these products and how long to use them.

- Consider allergy shots, also known as al-

lergen immunotherapy. These shots can help desensitize the body to common allergies by us-

ing very small amounts of allergens over time. Eventually the immune system will produce a

reduced reaction to the allergen.

Allergies can be troublesome. However, vari-

ous strategies can help to diminish the often unpleasant effects of seasonal allergies.

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