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Vol. 105 • No. 27

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

Rochelle moving forward with RPD locker room improvement work

\$251,950 project to include hot showers, male and female changing facilities and updates

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its June 24 meeting, the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved a bid from Larson & Larson Builders for a \$251,950 Rochelle Police Department locker room improvement project.

The RPD locker room is located in the basement of City Hall and improvements will include hot showers, male and female changing facilities, locker room updates and work on the firing range. Renovation of the area has not been done since RPD moved into the facility. The facility's current state doesn't have hot water for showers or a dedicated area for female officers. There are currently 18 total smaller lockers. Upgrades will consist of larger wardrobe lockers. 10 will be in the female area and 30 will be in the male area.

"The project will be expensive, but this is our forever home," City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh said



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its June 24 meeting, the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved a bid from Larson & Larson Builders for a \$251,950 Rochelle Police Department locker room improvement project.

July 23. "It feels good to be moving forward with it. As we expand our police department and have more female officers, it's important that everybody has their own facilities and that we update restroom facilities and make sure everything

is ADA compliant. There's equipment down there from the 1970s. I think because we've invested so much in staffing in our police department, we also need to make sure they have facilities that work for them that they can be

proud of. They didn't have hot water in the showers down there. I feel an obligation to make sure our staff has access to good facilities and this project will improve that."

See RPD page 8



Ron Kern

Kern details recent rain's effect on crops

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OGLE COUNTY — Following above-average rainfall levels in Ogle County and mild temperatures this summer, Ogle County Farm Bureau Manager Ron Kern said July 25 that crops in the area are looking "exceptionally well."

Ogle County farmers have battled drought conditions and have been behind on rain in recent years. Kern said that is no longer the case and Ogle County is not on any drought monitoring map as it was at the beginning of the year.

"I can't remember every year dating way back like some farmers can, but I don't remember the last year like this," Kern said.

See FARM page 3

Ribbon cutting held for Clearly Exteriors on July 25

Business offers residential and commercial pressure washing

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — On Thursday, July 25, a ribbon cutting was held in the downtown Rochelle gazebo area to mark the new membership of Clearly Exteriors to the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce.

The business, owned by Michael and Liz Williams, will celebrate its seventh anniversary in August and offers residential and commercial pressure washing. Rochelle is the Williams' hometown and the family recently moved back to The Hub City after living north of town in Ogle County for about 10 years.

"Rochelle has always had a special place in my heart and it's been a positive place for our business," Michael Williams said. "We specialize in house soft washing and removing green algae on sides of houses properly."

"A lot of people think they can do it themselves, and they realize they can't get to everything and it takes a long time and they damage the siding. With our soft wash systems we can take care of an inclu-



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Thursday, July 25, a ribbon cutting was held in the downtown Rochelle gazebo area to mark the new membership of Clearly Exteriors to the Rochelle Chamber of Commerce.

sive entire house wash in about 90 minutes and the house stays clean 4-5 years. We offer a warranty and annual maintenance and everything in between. We do other work like commercial, sidewalks, concrete and parking lots.

If we can spray water on it, we can likely clean it."

The event was led by Rochelle Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Tricia Herrera, who welcomed Clearly Exteriors and the Williams family back to Rochelle.

"We met with Michael a few months ago and he told me his story and how he got here and that he and his wife have been business owners in other communities," Herrera said. "We're excited by that. They're already talking about ex-

panding into different businesses and things like that. We want to welcome you. We know you can choose any community, and we're very happy that you chose to be here in Rochelle."

See CEREMONY p. 8

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KNOW IT TODAY



Agreement announced

News Media Corporation has entered into a management agreement with Carpenter Media Group. **Page 5**

WEATHER

SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
80 66	84 67
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
88 71	91 67

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:

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OBITUARIES

- TERRY GALEN PETRY
- WILLIAM GORE NYE SR.

See page 4

INSERTS

- RUNNINGS
- MENARDS

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HUB NEWS 2024

August @ RTHS

DATES TO KNOW

To get the
latest Hub
News



Aug. 7	Freshman Orientation Session 9am-11am	Aug. 14	First Day of School
	Freshman Orientation Session 2 1pm-3pm	Aug. 19	RTHS Board Meeting 5:30pm
Aug. 8	Freshman Orientation Session 3 9am-11am	Aug. 20	Freshman Parent Meeting 6pm Open House 6:30pm
	Freshman Orientation Session 4 5pm-7pm	Aug. 23	Meet the Hubs 6pm

ATHLETICS

Welcome Back, Hubs!

Aug. 20	Golf-JV Boys – Triangular Golf with Dixon and Freeport 4pm (H) Golf-V Boys – Triangular Golf with Dixon and Freeport 4pm (H)	Aug. 29	Golf-JV Boys at Kaneland 4pm Golf-V Boys at Kaneland 4pm Soccer-JV Boys at Burlington Central 4:30pm Tennis-JV Girls at Belvidere 4:30pm Tennis-V Girls at Belvidere 4:30pm Volleyball-F Girls vs Dixon 5pm (H) Volleyball-SO Girls vs Dixon 5pm (H) Soccer-V Boys at Burlington Central 6pm Volleyball-V Girls vs Dixon 6pm (H)
Aug. 26	Soccer-JV Boys vs Genoa-Kingston 4:30pm (H) Soccer-V Boys vs Genoa-Kingston 4:30pm (H) Tennis-JV Girls vs Harlem 4:30pm (H) Tennis-V Girls vs Harlem 4:30pm (H) Volleyball-F Girls at Belvidere 5pm Volleyball-SO Girls at Belvidere 6pm Volleyball-V Girls at Belvidere 7pm	Aug. 30	Football-F/SO vs Woodstock 5pm (H) Football-V vs Woodstock 7pm (H)
Aug. 28	Golf-F/SO Boys – Triangular at Fairways Golf – Amboy and Mendota 4pm (H) Golf-V Boys – Triangular at Fairways Golf – Amboy and Mendota 4 pm (H)	Aug. 31	Tennis-JV Girls at Guilford TBD



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Please Note: All loans offered by ISL Education Lending are subject to credit approval. Before applying for a private loan, we encourage you to first complete the FAFSA, or Free Application for Federal Student Aid. You should also work with your college financial aid office to explore and exhaust all sources of student financial aid before seeking a private student loan.

*Northern Illinois Federal Credit Union is compensated by ISL Education Lending for the referral of student loan customers.

www.mynifcu.com

LOCAL NEWS

FARM: OCFB's Kern details impact of recent weather on crops

From page 1

“Four or five years ago we got a lot of rain in the spring and we couldn’t even plant some acres. We’re definitely above normal for rain for the year and for the months of June and July. The rain has been great. The corn is tasseling and starting to shoot ears. It needs moisture so the energy in the plant can go to the ear. Beans are probably starting to set pods. It was a great rain.”

Rain has come with storms and wind, but Kern said storm damage to crops in the area has been limited. “Surprisingly I’ve only heard of some pockets of storm damage here and there,” Kern said. “It’s nothing I’d call major. There may be somebody out there with 20-30 acres that was damaged, but everything else around it is fine. I haven’t had anyone tell me that there’s been widespread damage. And most of it would be corn and then it depends if it was broken or just blown over to where it could pop back up.”

“I know in the Rockford area there was some damage, but the corn didn’t snap

and it’s starting to straighten itself back out. I’d say we dodged a bullet.”

Despite crops coming along well this early in the year, Kern said doesn’t expect an early harvest and that it depends on when crops were planted and what Fall weather conditions are.

Outside of the fields, farmers are currently seeing “exceptionally low” commodity prices and a trade outlook that “isn’t necessarily good,” Kern said. The OCFB manager would like to see more efforts from the government on new trade agreements and allocating funds towards new research to develop new domestic crop uses such as sustainable aviation fuel, a recently talked-about new venture.

“We have the crop here,” Kern said. “We just need more help in being able to trade that crop and find new uses for that crop. A couple decades ago when we got the ethanol market developed it was a huge boon to agriculture. We need to get back to that line of thinking again.”

Work is currently ongoing on a new federal farm bill, which takes place every

five years. Kern hopes to see language in it that allocates funds towards new research projects. He guessed that the current farm bill will be extended a year with a new one coming next year. One-year extensions are typical, Kern said.

“And hopefully the winner of the presidential election in November will

seriously want to address expanding trade agreements with other countries to try to help up market our crop,” Kern said.

Input prices for farmers have remained high, and those impacts are being seen currently with farmers applying fungicide to fields. Kern said Ogle County farmers could save money

on inputs amid high prices during harvest this fall if they don’t have to spend money on gas to dry crops. Kern’s hope for the coming months is that recently-common August storms stay away and that come harvest, the crop turns out “really good”, as it looks now.

“I think this corn crop is set,” Kern said, “The beans

will probably need another shower or two in August to fill those pods out all the way. After that we get into September where the crop will start turning. We’ll need some nice, sunny, relatively-warm days with some nice breeze to dry the crop down to get out there and get it into the bin during harvest.”



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Despite crops coming along well this early in the year, OCFB Manager Ron Kern said doesn’t expect an early harvest and that it depends on when crops were planted and what Fall weather conditions are.

Jonny Lyons and the Pride to play Mt. Morris Aug. 2

MT. MORRIS — The Mt. Morris Jamboree is pleased to announce the return of Jonny Lyons and the Pride to the bandshell stage for a free concert on Friday, Aug. 2 from 7-9 p.m.

Jonny knows how to command an audience, whether he’s fronting his band Jonny Lyons & the Pride, taking the stage as The Man In Black or the King of Rock and Roll, standing alone with an acoustic guitar, or even laying down the drums for Lance Lipinsky in his band The Lovers. Whatever the occasion, you can be sure to expect an electrifying performance!

Jonny writes his own music flavored from his heroes such as Ray Charles, Elvis Presley,

Buddy Holly, Johnny Cash, Roy Orbison, Jerry Lee Lewis, Conway Twitty, Jerry Reed, The Everly Brothers, Willie Nelson, The Ventures, and many more.

Food and drink concessions for the evening will be provided by Chapter CU, P.E.O., who will be serving hotdogs, brats, chips, soda and water. Just For Fun Ice Cream as well as Bill’s Famous Lemonade stand will be there too, all starting at 6 p.m.

Ewe and Me Acres will have a fresh produce stand with a variety of fruits, vegetables, baked goods, jams, jellies and dog treats on the Campus along with other craft and plant vendors from 5-8 p.m.

On either side of the BandShell the Sandstone



(COURTESY PHOTO)

The Mt. Morris Jamboree is pleased to announce the return of Jonny Lyons and the Pride to the bandshell stage for a free concert on Friday, Aug. 2 from 7-9 p.m.

Encore Art Gallery will present the opening night of the Fine Art Show with the theme of “We live in the middle.”, and the new

location of the Mt. Morris Historical Museum in the newly renovated College Hall will both be open during the concert.

Please bring a blanket or chair, or enjoy the new benches and join the fun on our beautiful, historic campus in the center of

Mt. Morris, two blocks south of Illinois Route 64 on Wesley Avenue and enjoy the free rock & roll concert.

George completes Weichert® Fast Track Training program

ROCHELLE - Weichert, Realtors® - Signature Professionals, located in Rochelle, is proud to announce that Stephanie George successfully completed the Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. Fast Track training program. The training helps quickly bring new and existing Weichert® affiliated agents up to speed on the latest information, resources and technology available to real estate professionals

to help them effectively list, promote and sell properties and offer legendary service to their clients.

“Our Fast Track program covers everything a real estate professional needs to know to help them start out on the right track towards a successful career in real estate,” said Bill Scavone, president of Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. “This program is designed to offer a unique learning

experience to get our new associates productive as quickly as possible.”

Program participants learn best practices to get started in the real estate industry, find sellers, capture a buyer’s attention and list properties to sell quickly. Agents that complete the Weichert Fast Track training also gain the confidence and competitive edge to succeed in real estate.

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Signature Professionals is an independently owned and operated Weichert affiliate. For more information about Weichert, Realtors® - Signature Professionals, please contact Carrie Ottum at (815) 561-8595 or carrie@signaturerealestatepro.com.

About Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc.: Weichert Real Estate Affiliates, Inc. is a top real estate franchisor established in 2001 by Jim Weichert,

president, chairman and CEO of Weichert Companies, which has been in operation since 1969. The company provides a clearly defined business model for operating, managing, and marketing a real estate brokerage, along with industry-leading technology, marketing tools, and support. Its first affiliate opened in 2002, and the franchise network has since grown to over 350 offices, serving markets in

over 40 states. The company has been named one of the top traditional residential real estate franchises by Entrepreneur magazine for 20 straight years and identified by Franchise Business Review as a top franchise for owner satisfaction nine years in a row. For more information about Weichert, visit Weichert.com. For more information about franchise opportunities, visit WeichertFranchise.com.

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07262023

LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Terry Galen Petry

ROCHELLE — Terry Galen Petry, 80, passed away peacefully Wednesday, July 24, 2024 at his home in rural Rochelle, IL with family by his side. Terry was born on September 10, 1943, the son of Galen C. and Helen M. (Harms) Petry in Rochelle. In 1961, he graduated from Rochelle Township High School. On March 20, 1964, he married Cindy Louise Saunders in Rochelle.

Terry was a fourth generation farmer, farming his entire life. He enjoyed being outside gardening, mowing and fishing. Terry loved spending time with

his family and friends but he especially loved the time he spent with his five granddaughters.

Terry is survived by his wife of 60 years, Cindy of Rochelle; two children: Teresa Petry and Erik Petry both of Rochelle; brother, Larry (Linda) Petry of Belvidere and five granddaughters: Emily Jahnke, Molly, Nora, and Eliza Petry and Caroline (Austin) Petry-Tracey.

There will be a celebration of Terry's life from 1:00 - 3:00 P.M., Tuesday, July 30, 2024 at Acres Bistro, 407 Lincoln Hwy., Rochelle. There will be



a private family funeral. Burial is at Woodlawn Cemetery in Creston. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made in Terry's memory in honor of his wife, Cindy, to the Alzheimer's Association. Visit www.ungerhorner.com to sign the online guest book.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON — On July 20 at approximately 1:10 p.m. deputies responded to the 9,000 block of North Hedge Road in Byron for an unresponsive male in a vehicle. After a brief investigation, deputies arrested Curtis Palmer, 42, of Leaf River, for driving under the influence of alcohol. Palmer was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released on a notice to appear. Palmer was additionally cited for illegal transportation of alcohol.

On July 20 at approximately 5:47 p.m. deputies and Byron Fire responded to the 3,900 block of East Oak Grove Road for a reported ATV crash with suspected injuries. After a brief investigation, it was determined that a Polaris ATV, driven by Nicholas Liston, 43, of Byron, lost control in the south ditch after striking a culvert and came to rest in a field. Liston was transported to a local hospital by Byron EMS for suspected serious injuries. Liston was cited for reckless operation of an ATV, improper lane usage, and no insurance.

On July 20 at approximately 9 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the 8,000 block of north Mt. Vernon Road in rural Forreston. After an investigation Joel Wadsworth, 46, of Mount Carroll, was placed under arrest for an active warrant for failure to appear. Wadsworth was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was held in lieu of bond.

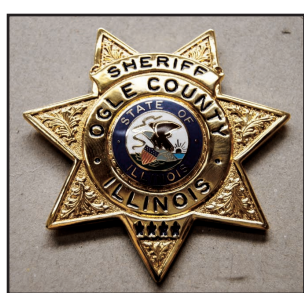
On July 20 at approximately 12:12 p.m. deputies responded to a single-vehicle accident in the 7,000 block of North Mt. Morris Road. After a brief investigation it was determined that the driver, Christopher D. Strite, 32, of Mt. Morris, was traveling northbound on North Mt. Morris Road when the vehicle entered the ditch before striking a guard rail and overturning. Strite was cited for failure to reduce speed,

operating an uninsured motor vehicle and improper lane usage. Strite was transported to Freeport Memorial Hospital for non-life-threatening injuries. Strite was provided a future court date.

On July 20 at approximately 8:46 p.m. deputies responded to the 10,000 block of North Illinois Route 2 for a three-vehicle head-on collision with injuries. Upon further investigation Anthony Anderson, 64 of Rockford, was driving his Nissan Sentra when he attempted to pass a vehicle in a no-passing zone traveling northbound, and struck a Toyota Rav4 driven by Sharon Schreiner as she was oncoming southbound. The Toyota then lost control and struck a Silver Honda Civic occupied by two juvenile females. Anderson was cited for passing in a no passing zone, improper lane usage, and failure to reduce speed to avoid an accident. Schreiner and the two juvenile females were transported to Swedish American Hospital for apparent minor injury. Ogle County was assisted by the Byron Fire Department. Anderson was provided with a future court date.

On July 21 at approximately 12:03 a.m. deputies responded to a residence in the 500 block of East Colden Street in Polo for a domestic problem. After an investigation, Kenneth M. Williams II, 57, of Polo, was placed under arrest for domestic battery. Williams was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was held pending an appearance before a judge.

On July 21 at approximately 12:41 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop in the parking lot of Dollar General in Davis Junction. After an investigation, deputies placed Taylor Young, 26, of Davis Junction under arrest and cited for driving while license suspended. Young's vehicle was towed from the scene and he was released from the scene on a notice to appear.



On July 22 at approximately 11:24 a.m. deputies responded to a report of a one-vehicle motorcycle accident at the intersections of Coffman Road and Rock City Road. After an investigation it was determined that a Black 2005 Suzuki SV1000 being operated by Jonathon E. Hartline, 18, of Pecatonica, failed to negotiate the curve in the roadway at that location and crashed into a bean field. Hartline was transported to Freeport Memorial Hospital by the German Valley Ambulance for injuries sustained in the accident.

On July 22 at approximately 8:35 p.m. deputies attempted to stop a vehicle traveling eastbound on Illinois Route 72 from Leaf River. The vehicle fled, before eventually coming to a stop in approximately the 6,000 block of West Montague Road. The driver of the vehicle, Ryan Kochsmier, 22, of Leaf River, was charged with aggravated fleeing to elude a peace officer. Kochsmier was also cited for speeding. Kochsmier was released on a notice to appear. Deputies were assisted by German Valley EMS.

On July 26 at 7:41 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on North Walnut Street and West 2nd Street in Byron. As a result, deputies arrested Francisco Esquivel-Cruz, 54, of Loves Park for driving while license revoked. Francisco-Cruz was additionally issued a citation for operation of a vehicle with registration suspended. Francisco-Cruz was transported to the Ogle County Jail, where he was released on a notice to appear with a future court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

William Gore Nye Sr.

PHOENIX, Ariz. — William (Bill, Billy, Mr. Nye, The Science Guy) Gore Nye Sr., beloved father, grandfather, friend and partner, passed away on July 11, 2024 at his home in Phoenix, Arizona, at the age of 82.

Bill was born on July 21, 1941, in Rockford, IL to Philip Sr. and Mary Kay Gore Nye. He was the proud younger brother to Philip Hastings Nye Jr. Bill graduated from Rochelle Township High School in 1959. He attended the University of Wyoming, graduating in 1963 with a BA in History and a Minor in Political Science. Bill then served actively in the US Navy as a Lieutenant Junior Grade from 1964 to 1967, completing two tours in Vietnam, and was honorably discharged in 1970.

During his time in service, Bill was stationed on the USS Enterprise and was awarded the Vietnam Service Medal with Stars, the Vietnam Campaign Medal with Device, and the National Defense Service Medal. After serving this country, Bill attended the University of Colorado School of Law, graduating with a JD degree in 1970. After passing the bar in Utah, he worked for Worsley, Snow, and Christensen in Salt Lake City. Bill continued his career working for the First National Bank of Chicago (with which he was transferred to Phoenix),

Continental Bank Trust Company, Valley National Bank of Arizona, and the Maricopa County Public Fiduciary. For over forty years, Bill was a faithful member of Valley Presbyterian Church where, over the years, he served as a deacon, taught Sunday School, and assisted other members with transportation to worship services and appointments.

Bill was married to Margaret Ann Wiese on April 11, 1974. He was a loving and dedicated husband; his support never wavered through their 29-year marriage. Bill was the proud father to four boys, Joseph, William Jr., Peter, and Scott, and grandfather to eight grandchildren. To those he loved, he passed along his passion for the Chicago Cubs, sharks, the great outdoors, aimless road trips, and dressing overly formal for all occasions. Bill's closest friend and the person he looked up to most was his brother, Phil.

They could sit for hours, recounting humorous memories and ribbing each other endlessly. Their stories were priceless and laughter contagious. Throughout his life, he loved conversing with family, friends, and random strangers on an array of topics including sports, history, and current affairs. Though not always attuned to sarcasm, Bill had a great sense of humor, and loved to laugh



and make fun of himself. He was the most genuine, honest, caring, and inquisitive person. In his honor, please pay these qualities forward.

Bill is survived by his brother, Philip Jr., sons: Joseph, William Jr., Peter, and Scott (Ashley), grandchildren: Mairead, Grace, Joseph Jr., Aoife, John, Brigid, Loyal, and Henry, and his loving partner, Neta Sue Melton. Bill is predeceased by his spouse, Margaret; mother, Mary Kay; father, Philip Sr.; and stepmother, Lenore.

Memorial services will be held at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 10th at Valley Presbyterian Church in Paradise Valley, AZ, and at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, October 5, 2024 at Riverview Cemetery in Oregon, IL. Bill's life was marked by his dedication to his family, his community, and his faith. He will be deeply missed by all who knew and loved him. In lieu of flowers, please make a donation in his honor to the Phoenix Rescue Mission.

Visit www.ungerhorn-er.com to sign the online guest book.

ROCHELLE POLICE REPORT

ROCHELLE — On July 22 at 6:39 p.m. Renee L. Rowe, 53, of Rockford was cited for smoking in a vehicle with a minor present. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 22 at 7:51 p.m. Elijah B. Oluduro, 24, of Rochelle was cited for speeding and no insurance. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 22 at 9:02 p.m.

Ghea N. Demps, 25, of DeKalb was cited for speeding. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 22 at 10:20 p.m. a 16-year-old juvenile of Lee was cited for no lights when required. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 22 at 4:33 p.m. Victoria R. Welker, 24, of DeKalb was cited for speeding. She signed a

promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 22 at 3:50 p.m. Jon C. Sheely, 42, of Oregon was cited for speeding. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 22 at 5:43 p.m. Marlyn Garcia-Carlos, 21, of Mendota was cited for speeding. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 23 at 5:01 a.m. Alejandro Ortega-Sanchez, 48, of Malta was cited for speeding. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 23 at 9:07 p.m. Brenda Diaz, 28, of Rockford was cited for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 23 at 7:22 p.m. a 17-year-old juvenile of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 24 at 2:11 p.m. Ricardo A. Hernandez, 24, of Chicago was cited for disobeying a traffic control

device. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 24 at 3:56 p.m. George A. Zhang, 22, of Ontario was cited for speeding 87 miles per hour in a 70 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 24 at 4:24 p.m. Jason V. Glover, 21, of Chicago was cited for speeding 90 miles per hour in a 70 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 24 at 5:14 p.m. George Levy, 34, of Florida was cited for speeding 90 miles per hour in a 70 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

On July 24 at 10:56 p.m. Trinity Dawson, 21, of Rockford was cited for disregarding a stop sign and improper child restraint. She signed a promise to comply and was given an Aug. 16 Rochelle court date.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty in the court of law.

ROCHELLE MOOSE

★ ★ LODGE ★ ★

Wednesdays starting Aug. 7
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ROCHELLE News-Leader

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

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LOCAL NEWS

News Media Corporation announces management agreement

ROCHELLE — Carpenter Media Group (CMG) and News Media Corporation (NMC) announced today plans for CMG to manage, and with an option to acquire, NMC.

Illinois publications — Rochelle News-Leader, Ogle County Life, Mendota Reporter and Amboy News are all owned by News Media Corporation, and are now part of the management agreement with Carpenter Media Group.

Longtime NMC leaders J.J. Tompkins and Billy McMacken will

assume leadership roles with CMG, and the transition will begin immediately.

News Media Corporation was founded in 1975 by John C. Tompkins. John began his career as a paperboy at The Hammond Times, where his father was the publisher. Eager to learn, he continued to work his way through every department at The Times with Howard Publications. At the age of twenty-one, Tompkins purchased his first newspaper, The Rochelle News-Leader, in rural Illinois.

Under John Tompkins' leadership, News Media grew to over seventy publications across ten states. NMC serves communities, of roughly 5,000-50,000 population, in isolated rural trade centers, focusing mainly on weekly newspapers. It has always been News Media's top priority to provide quality local journalism to the unique communities it serves. NMC currently has twenty-five publications located in Illinois, South Dakota, Wyoming, Nebraska, and Arizona.

"We have worked with

JJ and his father, John, over the years. We have a long friendship and deep respect for the company they built and its exceptional team of community media professionals," said CMG Chairman Todd Carpenter. "We look forward to building on the foundations put down by John and others as we develop the products, people and communities served."

"This is a unique opportunity to partner with Todd Carpenter and CMG," JJ Tompkins said. "The Tompkins family has always deeply

respected Todd and has a friendship spanning multiple generations and family companies. We have a unique history and friendship, which began with my father many years ago, and will continue into the future and for the next phase of News Media Corporation."

"We are thrilled about this partnership with Carpenter Media Group and its potential for the future success of our family's legacy and the communities we serve. As a company deeply rooted in people, we are confident that this partnership

will uphold our values and lead us to a bright future," Tompkins added.

CMG owns and manages over 200 community and metro media titles in the U.S. and Canada and is dedicated to preserving and building community journalism and marketing services to develop and improve each community served.

NMC and the Tompkins family was represented by John Cribb of Cribb, Cope & Potts. CCP is a leading merger and acquisition firm with offices in Montana, California and Arkansas.

4-H Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction is at Ogle County Fairgrounds Aug. 3

OREGON — The Annual 4-H Blue Ribbon Livestock Auction has been set for Saturday, Aug. 3! It will be held at the Ogle County Fair at the fairgrounds in Oregon. The 4-H Auction Committee invites the public to support 4-H

project work by bidding on a quality 4-H animal! The auction will start at 3 p.m. in the Beef Arena. It will feature 4-H market hogs, lambs, beef animals, goats, poultry, rabbits, and dairy baskets, as well as the champion and reserve champion

beef, swine, lamb, and goat carcasses. Live animals may be purchased and sent to a locker or bought and resold at a slaughterhouse. Transportation to processing plants will be provided. A floor price will be set according to the

current market trends on the auction day. A list of current market prices will be available. Champion and Reserve Champion market animals will be sold first. Pork and lamb carcasses will be sold whole. Beef carcasses will be sold in halves.

Auction order will be Beef Carcass, Live Beef, Sheep Carcass, Live Sheep, Poultry, Rabbits, Dairy Basket, Dairy & Meat Goat Wethers, Swine Carcass, Live Swine, Live Beef, Live Swine.

Auction flyers are

available in the Ogle County Extension Office and online at <http://web.extension.illinois.edu/bdo>. Bidding arrangements can be made for interested parties who are unable to attend. Call 815-732-2191 for more information.

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. 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

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.com/crestonumcil facebook.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. Marv Jacobs

Faith Lutheran Church — (14206 E. Flagg Rd.) — "Making Christ Known Through Lives of Faith." In-person worship is available each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. or online at "Faith Lutheran Social" on YouTube. Worship resources are also available on our Facebook page - 'Faith Lutheran Church ELCA.' You may also e-mail Pastor Joy Alsop at Pastor@faithlrochelle.org 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 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

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 Bunker - Missions and Children's Pastor. Sunday Worship Service- 10:00am. Nursery/Toddlers Ages 0-5 available during the service in the Splash building. Swim- Grades 1st-5th worship with the adults then break out for age appropriate teaching. Youth groups, Small groups, Life Groups and Workshops meet throughout the year for Bible teaching. 7C's Mission- serves the community physically & spiritually each month from 1135 Lincoln Hwy, providing lightly used clothing, Hygiene items, a light lunch and Elder Prayer open the second Saturday from 10am-2pm and the 4th Thursday from 4pm to 7:00pm and by appointment.. 

New Hope Fellowship (Church of God - Anderson, IN), 1501 10th Ave., Rochelle, IL 61068. Service: Sunday at 9 a.m. 10:30 a.m., (815)561-8400, www.NHFchurch.net 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. John's Lutheran Church, 126 E. South Street, Creston. Phone 815-384-3720, Email: StJohnsLutheran@aol.com, members of NALC/LCMC. Worship is led by **Pastor Terese Whitten** 231-878-4150. St. John's Lutheran Church is a part of God's Family, planting hope, nurturing faith, and harvesting love. Fellowship time begins at 10:00 followed by worship at 10:45. Sunday school is conducted during worship service except during the summer.

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

Ron Kern: A look at government farm programs

THOUGHT the last number I heard was the U.S. had a \$32 trillion debt. What's a trillion? Just a crooked number with 12 zeroes behind it. I'm sure we all have better ideas on how Uncle Sam can spend or save our money, and yes, I did say our money; seeing as the only source of income from the government is us.

Now I've heard grumbling at times from folks about government farm programs and subsidies. Lest we forget the government subsidizes all kinds of things including your mortgage. So, I guess we all get a little.

But let's look at government farm programs, particularly crop insurance, and understand where our money goes and why.

Given historically slim, and often negative, profit margins, farmers are often reliant on lines of credit borrowed from financial institutions at the cost of interest. When all or nearly all of a crop is lost, farmers, who don't have significant cash reserves to begin with, risk defaulting on their loans and losing their farm. Without some form of risk management protection in place, the liability of farming becomes impossible to maintain. Crop insurance is not merely a safety net but a lifeline for farm businesses and the rural communities they support.

The Federal Crop Insurance Program (FCIP) is authorized by the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 and the Federal Crop Insurance Act of 1980 and operates as a public-private partnership. Through farm bills and appropriations, Congress makes changes to the program, expands coverage and directs research. USDA, through the Risk Management

Agency (RMA) and the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), supports a portion of premiums needed for farmers to acquire insurance plans and compensates Approved Insurance Providers for the cost of administering and delivering those plans.

In February 2024, the Congressional Budget Office (CBO) projected that crop insurance expenses from 2024 to 2034 would total \$124 billion, accounting for approximately one-tenth of 1% of total projected federal spending. To put this in perspective, CBO projects spending on interest to service public debt at \$12.44 trillion during this same period, over 100 times larger than the cost of delivering and administering crop insurance. The entire farm bill, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), plus non-farm bill nutrition programs represent only 2.09% of the total federal budget. Just 2% of federal spending directly supports essential farm and nutrition programs crucial for food security, farm economic sustainability, conservation and natural resource preservation efforts.

At its core, crop insurance is the farm bill program that keeps farmers farming year-to-year, maintaining a supply of domestically grown agricultural products to feed and fuel consumers at home and abroad. So, how much would, or should, a taxpayer pay for this service?

By statute, crop insurance must be actuarially sound: over time, every dollar paid out in indemnities should match every dollar collected in premiums. Plus, premiums are adjusted as risk conditions change, similar to a driver's policy if they were in a car accident or accumulated

several speeding tickets. These requirements and conditions keep program costs in check.

Consider a home insurance example: If you live on the coastline in the hurricane-prone Southeast, you likely pay more for your homeowners' insurance than someone who lives in the less hurricane-prone Northeast. In this case, premiums, the cost of the policy, are set in terms of risk exposure. The business of growing crops is, comparatively, riskier than owning a home. Conditions like freezes and heavy rains rarely destroy homes and cars but can eliminate millions of acres of agricultural production, thus business revenue, in mere hours. Crop insurance offers protection for farm businesses from events completely out of their control. The cost of the premium is shared across the food system because the cost of the policy, due to the high-risk nature of farming, would be too high for farmers to make ends meet from year-to-year. This would make crop insurance products financially unattainable for farmers without government support. The premium support keeps the insurance costs from being too high for farmers to make ends meet even during good years. Premium discounts authorized by the farm bill exist to both protect the domestic food system and sustain farmer enrollment.

Premium discounts are set by Congress and are permanent until Congress changes them. Discount rates decrease as coverage levels increase and the corresponding deductible chosen by the farmer decreases. This deductible can be

anywhere from zero to a couple of thousand dollars. Even at the highest levels of crop insurance coverage, individual crop insurance plans pay a maximum of 85% of the expected value of the crop. This means 15% of the liability of a farmer's crop is lost as a deductible, which can equal tens of thousands of dollars even for the most expensive policy. Yet farmers still purchase at that level because it's so essential to their risk management.

For most farmers, selected coverage levels are closer to the 70% range, meaning farmers must experience a 30% decline in actual revenue before crop insurance comes into play. For example, an average corn farmer must face over \$204 in lost revenue per acre before crop insurance would trigger, a bit more than 31% of the total value of the crop. To put things in perspective, in 2023, the cost to grow and harvest an acre of corn in Illinois (excluding any cash rent) was at \$812. For a 350-acre farm this means the same farmer would have to face over \$70,000 in revenue losses before crop insurance is triggered, an area of land that easily could cost \$284,000 to farm.

There are quite a few reasons indemnities have increased. In recent years, market conditions have driven up the prices of many crops. When the program insures farmers' crops at these higher market-driven prices, it naturally results in higher payouts in the event of crop losses or a decline in revenue. Elevated commodity prices between 2011-2012 and 2021-2022 have led to higher insured liabilities and associated indemnity

payments compared to periods of lower prices in between.

Moreover, the FCIP has expanded its offerings significantly over the past two decades. From 2000 to 2023 the number of policies sold has increased from 1.94 million to 2.34 million, and insured acreage has correspondingly swelled from 206 million to 539 million acres. More coverage options for more crops incentivizes more enrollment, leading to higher overall insured liabilities and corresponding indemnities. Between 2000 and 2023, liabilities have increased from \$34 billion to \$181 billion. Of note, this time period also saw an increase in farmer-paid premiums from \$1.59 billion to \$6.78 billion. Broader participation from more farms in more locations that grow different crops and are of different sizes balances the overall risk pool and contributes significantly to the stability of the crop insurance program.

Importantly, the percentage of liabilities indemnified reveals whether losses are becoming increasingly larger. Between 2000 and 2023, an average of 8% of liabilities were indemnified under crop insurance with no upward trend in losses present. An indemnification rate of 8% was even common between 2000-2011 and 2012-2023, showing that as the program grew, payouts did not become proportionally higher. Indemnified liabilities peaked in 2012 at 15% during a massive drought. Rains in 2019 caused over 20 million acres of prevented planting, pushing indemnified liabilities up to 10%. In 2022 extreme drought pressured plans again with 11% of liabilities indemnified. Comparatively low losses in other years offsets years with

major weather disasters. As of May 2024, 2023 indemnified liabilities were nine percent. As crop insurance options continue to become more widely available, participation will increase, which also leads to a higher likelihood of more indemnities triggered when a severe event occurs.

Crop insurance, alongside Title I and standing disaster programs, stands as a cornerstone of agriculture's resilience, providing a vital safety net for nearly 370,000 farmers amid weather, pests and market fluctuations. Despite its critical value to farmers and ranchers, it faces significant criticism. The reality is that crop insurance is an actuarially sound government program that represents a small fraction of federal spending. It is a public-private partnership that works to secure the nation's food supply and support farmer sustainability in a way that is not entirely dependent on taxpayer funding, but instead spreads the risk of the program among farmers, private sector crop insurance companies and taxpayers. Crop insurance not only aids individual farmers in weathering the inherent risks of their profession but does so at a low per capita cost to each and every consumer.

As the U.S. navigates an increasingly uncertain future, improving and enhancing crop insurance through passage of a new five-year farm bill is essential for safeguarding the livelihoods of farmers, the stability of rural economies and the reliability of our food system.

"I am not a pig farmer. The pigs had a great time, but I didn't make any money." -Willie Nelson

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



Ron Kern

How to contact government officials

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

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

IL Rep. Bradley Fritts
Stratton Office Bldg
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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

(COURTESY PHOTO)



Lincoln Manor donates sleeping mats to RPD for homeless

Residents of Lincoln Manor recently made a donation of sleeping mats to the Rochelle Police Department for the homeless. In recent months, Lincoln Manor residents have been making the mats out of plastic bags and donating them to area organizations that assist the homeless. Those with plastic bags in the community can drop them off at Lincoln Manor to aid in the project.

Book signing event at Flagg Township Museum is Aug. 4

ROCHELLE — The Flagg Township Museum at 5184th Ave. in Rochelle will be hosting a book signing event Sunday, Aug. 4 from 1-2 p.m. with Tom McDermott, Museum historian and author of “STORIES: Glimpses into the history of the Rochelle area and its residents”.

The book, which went

on sale recently, contains 52 stories of Rochelle history. It is now available for purchase for \$20 at the museum. It can be purchased online and shipped for \$25 by visiting flaggtownship-museumrochelle.org/home and using the DONATE button on the home page. All proceeds from the book will go towards the

museum.

In 2021, McDermott began writing history-based stories for the Rochelle News-Leader’s opinion page. After his amount of stories completed and published began to number in the dozens, he began to consider publishing a collection of them in a book after the urging of Museum

Director Jan Devore.

Stories in the book range chronicle military heroes with connections to Rochelle, the first settlers of Rochelle, the history of employers like Del Monte and Caron Spinning, the evolution of Rochelle’s school system, and various stories on historic buildings in the city.

Rochelle Community Hospital donates back to community sports

ROCHELLE—Earlier in June, Rochelle Community Hospital held four separate sports physical clinics performed this season by Harrison Swalla, MPAS, PA-C; and Carter Gallick, PA-C, ATC of XCEL Orthopedics for student athletes ages high school and younger. In providing this

service to the community, RCH charged a small fee for each individual athlete; and in turn donated 100 percent of those proceeds back to the respective program of which each athlete was affiliated.

RCH shares the breakdown of what each program in the community received

in donations:

St. Paul Lutheran School - \$105. Rochelle Township High School - \$1,295. Amboy High School - \$35. Rochelle Middle School - \$35. Rochelle Junior Tackle - \$630. Rochelle Wrestling Club - \$70. Creston Grade School - \$35. Holy Cross Mendota - \$35. Oregon

High School - \$35. All totaling to \$2,275 in donations to adolescent sports programs in the area.

RCH may provide all other physicals with a scheduled appointment with your primary provider. For more information, visit our website www.RochelleHospital.com.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

July 30
Spencer Kulwicki

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



- July 2 - Marshall Basler, Rochelle, \$25
- July 3 - Max Etheridge, Rochelle, \$25
- July 4 - William Fawkes, Sterling, \$1,000
- July 5 - Griffin Gabriel, Rochelle, \$25
- July 6 - Charlie and Jennifer True, Rochelle, \$25
- July 7 - Jill Schwartz, Rochelle, \$50
- July 8 - Maplehurst Farms, Rochelle, \$25
- July 9 - Jim and Lori Nalley, Rochelle, \$25
- July 10 - Bill Saunders, Polo, \$25
- July 11 - Mack Llanas, Rochelle, \$25
- July 12 - From the Heart, \$25
- July 13 - James Stuckey, Rochelle, \$25
- July 14 - Focus House, \$50
- July 15 - Carter McMorris, Princeton, \$25
- July 16 - From the Heart, \$25
- July 17 - Ben Heck, Chana, \$25
- July 18 - From the Heart, \$25
- July 19 - HOPE of Ogle County, \$25
- July 20 - From the Heart, \$25
- July 21 - Yazmin Nambo, Rochelle, \$50
- July 22 - Robert Danekas, Rochelle, \$25
- July 23 - Michelle Knight, Rochelle, \$25
- July 24 - Lars Larsen, Rochelle, \$25
- July 25 - From the Heart, \$25
- July 26 - RACF, \$25
- July 27 - Steve Hall, Rochelle, \$25
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D B Z X G W A U T E R V D E N
Q O N L J N L G I I G E F U E
D C A Y T X E V O W V T S Q B

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

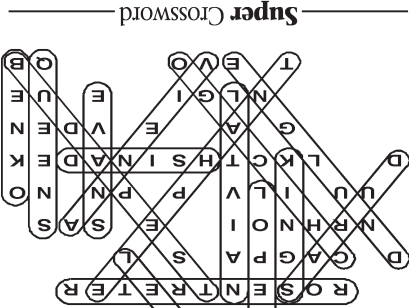
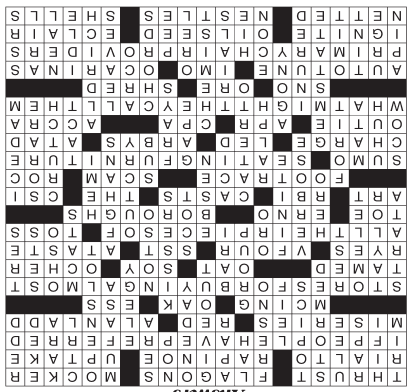
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HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTIKOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.



Differences: 1. Hand is moved. 2. Ear is thinner. 3. Man is thinner. 4. Awning is different. 5. Tree is moved. 6. Cap is larger.

Super Crossword

GREAT PARKING SPOTS

ACROSS

- 1 Fencing lunge
- 7 Large wine bottles
- 14 Derivative imitator
- 20 Theater area
- 21 U.S. soccer star Megan
- 22 Chimney flue, e.g.
- 23 Start of a riddle
- 26 Woes
- 27 Ketchup's color
- 28 "The Great Gatsby" star
- 29 Running the show, for short
- 31 Illinois' tree
- 33 Twisty letter
- 34 Riddle, part 2
- 44 Made gentle
- 45 Source of some milk
- 46 Source of some milk
- 47 Earthy color
- 48 Dark deli breads
- 49 Kind of internal-combustion engine
- 52 Bygone jet, for short

- 53 Just one sip
- 54 Riddle, part 3
- 58 Throw lightly
- 59 Shoe tip
- 60 Puzzle cube creator Rubik
- 61 Cousins of counties
- 63 Etchings, e.g.
- 64 Baseball hitter's stat
- 65 Shows' actors
- 67 With 83-Down, Idaho's nickname
- 68 TV drama of 2000-15
- 71 10K or marathon
- 73 Con job
- 74 Fabled bird
- 75 Japanese wrestling
- 78 Riddle, part 4
- 82 Ionize, e.g.
- 84 Pioneered
- 85 Alternative to Roy Rogers
- 86 Slightly
- 87 Protruding belly button
- 88 Tax mo.
- 89 Tax pro
- 90 Ghana's largest city
- 91 End of the riddle

- 97 — -Cat
- 98 Raw metal
- 99 Rip up
- 100 It fixes off-key singing
- 105 "I'd say," to texters
- 107 Simple wind instruments
- 112 Riddle's answer
- 115 Enkindle
- 116 Peanut, castor bean or canola
- 117 Long pastry
- 118 Earned after taxes
- 119 Cozies up
- 120 Taco exteriors

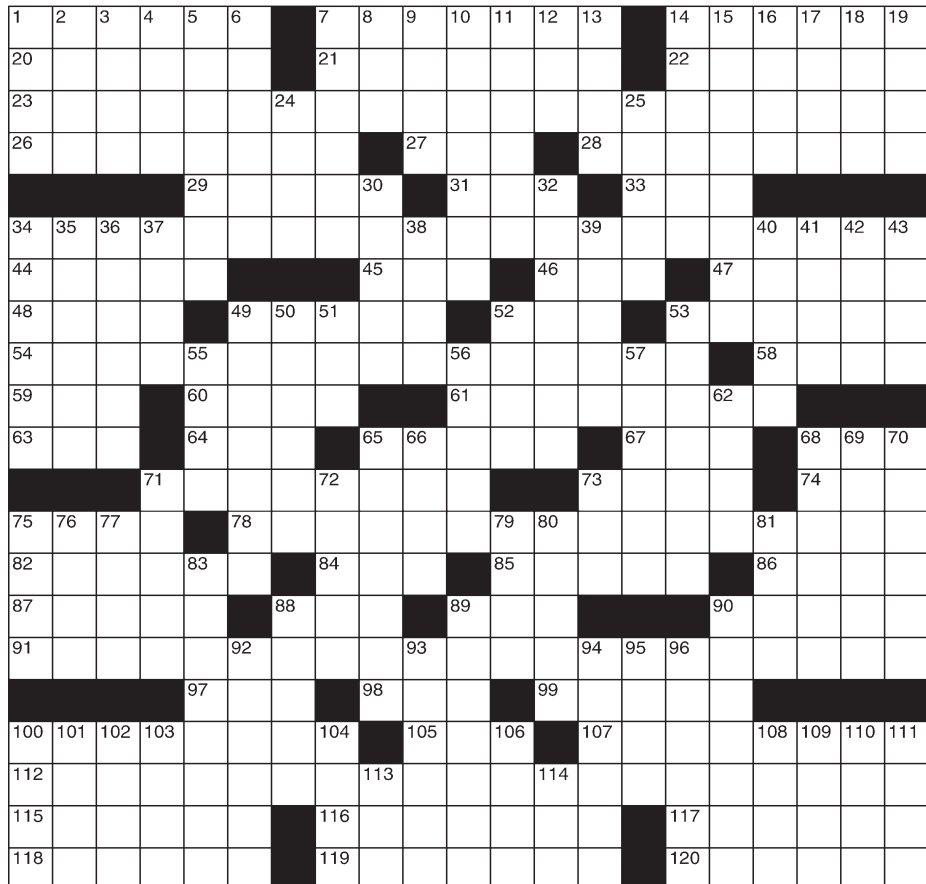
DOWN

- 1 Quick haircut
- 2 Old 45 player
- 3 Performs like Cardi B
- 4 Title bee-keeper of a 1997 film
- 5 Raged violently
- 6 Subjects of discussion
- 7 City in central California
- 8 "— -di-dah!"

- 9 On — with (much like)
- 10 Distribute
- 11 At a future point in time
- 12 Trio before Q
- 13 Blood fluids
- 14 Simba's father in "The Lion King"
- 15 Unfilled part of a schedule
- 16 PC key near Shift
- 17 2009-10 "American Idol" judge
- 18 Scaped (out)
- 19 Funny Foxx
- 24 Viking Ericson
- 25 Funeral poem
- 30 Assemblage
- 32 Mouths or faces, slangily
- 34 Tiers
- 35 Singer Swift
- 36 Egggy entree
- 37 Remainder
- 38 Seaport on Italy's "heel"
- 39 "That's a lie!"
- 40 Future docs' exams
- 41 Very, very
- 42 Match divisions
- 77 — Hari (spy)

- 43 Very, in Paris
- 49 Long-winded
- 50 Limited
- 51 Gold, in Gijon
- 52 Edinburgh inhabitant
- 53 Patterned wool blankets
- 55 Long deli sandwich
- 56 "Barnaby Jones" star
- 57 Major protest
- 62 Kind of internal-combustion engine
- 65 Mollycoddle
- 66 Battery liquid
- 68 Thing relied on for support
- 69 Like a day in June, per a Lowell poem
- 70 Roofing problem in cold weather
- 71 In favor of the idea
- 72 Activist Nader
- 73 Long deli sandwich
- 75 Garbage boat
- 76 "Nothin' doin' "

- 79 Stare stupidly
- 80 Unravels
- 81 Envoy's skill
- 83 See 67-Across
- 88 Woe
- 89 One who may study bonds
- 90 CIA spy Ames
- 92 Accustomed
- 93 Test runs
- 94 Triads, e.g.
- 95 Western U.S. gas brand
- 96 Things raked in autumn
- 100 Neat as —
- 101 Compulsion
- 102 Color slightly
- 103 Fail to include
- 104 Inflation subj.
- 106 Pitcher Hershiser
- 108 Inactive
- 109 Actress Patricia
- 110 Edible bit of a pomegranate or litchi
- 111 Estonia and Latvia, once: Abbr.
- 113 Go fast, quaintly
- 114 — Wee Reese



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LOCAL NEWS



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The business Clearly Exteriors, owned by Michael and Liz Williams, will celebrate its seventh anniversary in August and offers residential and commercial pressure washing. Rochelle is the Williams' hometown and the family recently moved back to The Hub City after living north of town in Ogle County for about 10 years.

CEREMONY: Ribbon cutting held for Clearly Exteriors on Thursday

From page 1

Rochelle Mayor John Bearrows spoke at the event as well and said he's excited to watch Clearly Exteriors grow in Rochelle.

"Normally we cut a ribbon in front of a building," Bearrows said. "This is your mobile building that you work from. We're very pleased that you became a part of the chamber. The chamber provides a lot of things. My hope as mayor is to welcome you to Rochelle as a place that you're going to do business. My second hope is that your business grows and expands here in town. Thank you for being here and being a part of Rochelle."

Michael Williams said he and his wife have plans for a separate motorcycle repair business in Rochelle in the near future after seeing an unserved market following the recent closure of the Harley-Davidson dealership in DeKalb and a lack of businesses like it in the area.

"People are having a very tough time repairing and keeping up with maintenance on their motorcycles," Williams said. "It's easy to find a place for a car, but it isn't for motorcycle owners. That's a market that needs to be addressed and we feel like we can get into that and do big things. We're hoping for sometime in 2025 and we're working on a location."

RPD: City to improve locker room facilities for police department

From page 1

Fiegenschuh said the project will be completed within the next six months. In recent years the city has evaluated building locations for each of its departments including Rochelle Municipal Utilities. The RPD locker room work represents a long-term investment in City Hall being the police department's home.

The city council has expressed a desire to have most of the city's services in the downtown area including City Hall, RPD, the Rochelle Fire Department and RMU utility billing, Fiegenschuh said.

"City Hall is an older building and we've made major improvements to our HVAC and boiler system here," Fiegenschuh said. "It will be home for RPD long term and for all of us here in City Hall. We may look at moving things around in City Hall to free up more space for RPD, which is the major reason people come here and it takes up most of the space. I want to make sure they have additional space if they need it. I think this location is important."

With a large number of recent retirements and new hires and a shortage of police officers in the hiring pool, Fiegenschuh stressed the importance of having up-to-date facilities and diversity in all city departments to aid in hiring and future work.

Rochelle Fire has also seen recent hiring efforts as it expanded its department in the past year. The fire station has also been the site of dorm improvements for more privacy in bunks and an expansion of shower facilities. Firefighters are another hiring pool that has gotten smaller in recent years.

"We want to diversify all of our departments," Fiegenschuh said. "Our public safety administration agrees with that. You have to start going to where people are to hire them and diversify your departments. You have to tailor your message to them. I think it's always important to diversify. We're seeing more female police officers and we'd like to have more female firefighters. It's a great profession in public service. We have amazing team members and we want to retain them. And as they move on, we want to replace them with talented people. Part of that is having a police department where the facilities are up to date and having a fire department with updated dorms."



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The RPD locker room is located in the basement of City Hall and improvements will include hot showers, male and female changing facilities, locker room updates and work on the firing range. Renovation of the area has not been done since RPD moved into the facility. The facility's current state doesn't have hot water for showers or a dedicated area for female officers.



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SPORTS

RTHS Baseball

(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)



Rochelle Township High School baseball team hosts annual youth summer camp from July 17-19

The Rochelle Township High School baseball program held its annual youth summer camp for sixth-graders through incoming freshmen from July 17-19 at the RTHS softball diamonds. Players working on fundamental skills including hitting, catching, throwing, fielding, pitching, baserunning and teamwork. Players who attended the camp working alongside current RTHS coaches and student-athletes. It's the first summer that Rochelle has offered its summer baseball camp.

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101

LEGAL NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

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Request of Sofia Christine Berg
Case Number 2024 MR 23

Filed June 13, 2024

There will be a court date on my Request to change my name from Sofia Christine Berg to the new name of Sofia Christine Capasso

The court date will be held on August 7, 2024 at 9:00 a.m. at 106 5th St., Oregon, Ogle County, in Courtroom #304.

No. 0713

(July 14, 21 and 28, 2024)

101

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105

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

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113

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Unit#77 John Douglas: Boxes, pool stuff, old TV,

Unit# 243 Nicholas James Cocanig: Floor material, bike, TV, tools

No. 0729

(July 28 and Aug. 5, 2024)

307

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Tracts 2 & 3 are located approx. 8.75 miles southeast of Freeport, IL south of Highway 20 along S Holland Church Rd. (hard surface) and is further described as being located in Section 9 & 10, T26N - R9E, Ridott Township, Stephenson County, IL.

Tract 4 is located approx. 8.6 miles east of Freeport, IL north of Highway 20 along S Holland Church Rd. (hard surface) and is further described as being located in Section 3, T26N - R9E, Ridott Township, Stephenson County, IL.

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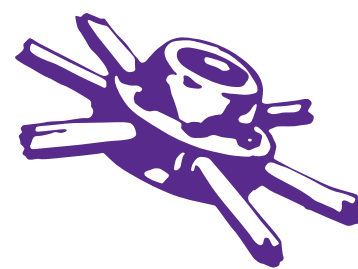
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HUB SPOTLIGHT

Hasz adapts to new role at Eastern Illinois University

BY RUSSELL HODGES
 SPORTS EDITOR

WHETHER she was in the back row, setting the ball or taking big swings on the front line, former Rochelle volleyball standout Sylvia Hasz was a versatile weapon throughout her three years with the Lady Hubs, all of which resulted in Interstate 8 All-Conference First Team recognition.

Hasz has carried her wide assortment of skills with her to Eastern Illinois University, where she took on a new role during her sophomore season with the Panthers. Recruited as a setter, Hasz was deployed sparingly as a freshman, making 21 appearances while finishing with 92 assists and 12 service aces. Hasz took on a much larger role as a sophomore, but rather than setting the tone on offense, Hasz commanded an important back-row role as a defensive specialist.

Rather than backing down from the challenge, Hasz successfully adjusted to her new position, compiling a career-best 119 digs and 34 service aces while adding 128 assists over 105 sets played. As a result of her growth on defense, Hasz appeared in 31 matches for the Panthers, who finished with a 28-5 overall record while winning the Ohio Valley Conference regular season and tournament championships in addition to qualifying for the NCAA Tournament.

“I wasn’t the starting setter, but I was able to come in and be the defensive specialist,” Hasz said. “It was different from what I had done before, but I was happy that I could go in and do whatever I could for the team. I played the back three rotations for the right side, so I focused on giving good energy and bringing confidence to the girls around me so they could be comfortable. My serve was what really helped me get things going for the team.”

Hasz enjoyed a pair of breakout performances during her sophomore season. The former Lady Hub standout seized an opportunity to set when the Panthers battled Western Illinois on Nov. 16, dishing out a career-high 69 assists, which ranks seventh-most for any Eastern Illinois player in program history, as the Panthers outlasted the Leathernecks for a 3-2 victory.

“Playing at Rochelle taught me how to be very versatile,” Hasz said. “I was a setter with my club team, but I did everything at Rochelle and I was able to find ways to add to the team. That’s something that’s helped me here because a lot of players stay at one position, but playing multiple positions is a really good opportunity to learn how to do everything else.”

Hasz, who also notched a career-high 10 digs when the Panthers faced Lindenwood on Oct. 13, will be one of a few key contributors returning for the 2024 season this coming fall. With several new players recruited or arriving through the transfer portal, Hasz is looking to take on a leadership role as she prepares for her first season with the program as an upperclassman.



(PHOTO COURTESY OF EIU ATHLETICS)

Former Rochelle student-athlete Sylvia Hasz set career-highs in digs, assists and service aces during her sophomore season at Eastern Illinois University.

“I felt that the presence I brought to the court was what helped our team as a whole,” Hasz said. “I held my own on defense and even though it’s not what I’m best at, I felt that I was able to add value to what we had out there... I’m an upperclassman now and we’re taking in a lot of new players since we lost seven or eight players to graduation or transferring out. It feels like we have a whole new team and we’re working on bonding and getting to know each other. We’re looking to win the conference again and make it back to the NCAA tournament.”

While her fall season was spent indoors, Hasz returned to the sand for her second year with the beach volleyball team during the spring. The RTHS alum played nearly all of her matches at the No. 1 court, which typically features the top two players from each team. Hasz played in all 18 beach volleyball matches during the 2024 season, recording three victories over that span.

Hasz, who’s currently majoring in marketing, started 14 matches and earned four wins during her freshman season in 2023, splitting time at the No. 2 and No. 3 courts for the Panthers.

“Beach volleyball improves our strategy and competitiveness,” Hasz said. “Our coaches can’t talk with us unless we’re in a timeout, so it’s up to my partner and I to talk through things and strategize. That’s important to us because we pride ourselves on being a player-led program and solving problems ourselves. Those things carry over to when we’re playing indoors.”

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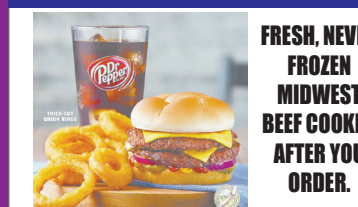


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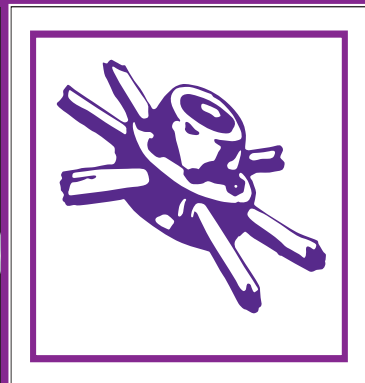
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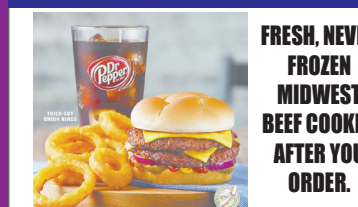


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SPORTS



CARVING OUT A ROLE

RTHS alum Sylvia Hasz adjusts to new back-row role with EIU volleyball team.

See page 11 for more details

Rochelle Little League

11U All-Stars battle at state

Rochelle team finishes 1-2 at Illinois Little League tournament in River Forest

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

RIVER FOREST — Rochelle Little League's 11U Baseball All-Stars headed to River Forest for the Illinois Little League State Championship tournament over the weekend. Rochelle played two games on Saturday and one game on Sunday, finishing 1-2 in the state tournament.

The team includes Bennett Law, Bentley Etes, Brantley Koenig, Brayson Boulard, Brycen Williams, Devin Hansen, Dominic Escatel, Grange Kissack, Jimmy Chadwick, Landon Johnson, Noah Hayden and Riley Heal. The team is coached by Tim Hayden, Scott Etes and Adam Heal.

Clear Ridge

Rochelle's state tournament run started with a 4-2 victory against Clear Ridge on Saturday. Bennett Law started on the mound, throwing shutout innings while striking out four batters. Noah Hayden and Grange Kissack each followed with two innings of relief while combining for two strikeouts. Bentley Etes went 1-for-2 with one single and one RBI to lead the offense.

Rochelle surged ahead in the top of the second inning, scoring four runs

to take a 4-0 lead over Clear Ridge. Brycen Williams reached on an error before crossing home plate on a passed ball during the next at-bat. Bentley Etes delivered an RBI single to center field, driving home Landon Johnson before Bennett Law scored to record Rochelle's fourth and final run of the frame.

Clear Ridge inched closer after slapping an RBI single in the bottom of the fourth inning and adding one run on an error in the bottom of the fifth inning. Clear Ridge opened the bottom of the sixth inning with two singles, but a double play and a popout to second ended the threat.

Naperville

Rochelle finished Saturday's action with a 6-3 loss against Naperville during the evening. Noah Hayden went 1-for-2 with two RBIs, while Dominic Escatel and Bentley Etes each struck out two batters. Escatel threw two and two-thirds innings and Etes tossed two and one-third innings.

Naperville commanded a 3-0 lead after scoring three runs on two singles, three walks and one fielder's choice grounder in the bottom of the first inning. Three walks and a sacrifice fly to center field allowed Naperville to take a 4-0



(COURTESY PHOTO)

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lead in the bottom of the second inning.

Rochelle rallied for three runs in the top of the fourth inning, scoring after Noah Hayden's two-run single to center field drove home Grange Kissack and Bentley Etes. After Hayden scored on a steal of home, Brayson Boulard singled to center to keep the inning alive. But a strikeout ended the scoring threat

for the 11U All-Stars, who conceded two runs to Naperville in the bottom of the fourth inning, where back-to-back singles gave Naperville a three-run lead.

Robinson

Rochelle's state tournament run concluded with a 3-2 loss against Robinson on Sunday afternoon. Brayson Boulard went 1-for-2 with an RBI and

started on the mound, throwing three innings with five strikeouts. Brantley Koenig tossed two innings and struck out two batters.

Rochelle took a 1-0 lead in the top of the first inning, where Brayson Boulard belted an RBI single to center field that drove home Bentley Etes. Robinson capitalized on two errors and three walks in the bot-

tom of the second inning, tallying two runs to jump ahead 2-1. An RBI single in the bottom of the third inning allowed Robinson to command a 3-1 lead over Rochelle.

The 11U All-Stars battled back in the top of the fourth inning, where Grange Kissack scored on a steal of home after drawing a lead-off walk earlier in the frame.

Rochelle Little League

10U Softball All-Stars bow out at state tournament

Rochelle plays three games at Illinois Little League event in Evergreen Park

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

EVERGREEN PARK — Rochelle Little League's 10U Softball All-Stars traveled to Evergreen Park for the Illinois Little League State Championship tournament over the weekend. Rochelle played two games on Saturday and one game on Sunday, finishing 0-3 in the state tournament.

The team includes Annalyce Harris, Brynn Stinnett, Chloe Streit, Gennelle Hernandez, Grace Olson, Isabel Jackson, Izabella King, Kate Keller, Lilyan Erickson, Madelynn McRoberts, Natalie Isley, Rose Elston, Rosalina Bugarin and Zoey Harris. The team is coached by James Jackson, Shannon Bybee, Rudy Nambo and Adam Erickson.

Elmhurst

Rochelle's state tournament began with a 14-0 loss against Elmhurst on Saturday. Madelynn McRoberts, Annalyce Harris and Isabel Jackson each threw one inning for the 10U All-Stars, with McRoberts and Harris each striking out one batter. Brynn Stinnett drew



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Rochelle Little League's 10U Softball All-Stars traveled to Evergreen Park for the Illinois Little League State Championship tournament over the weekend. The team includes Annalyce Harris, Brynn Stinnett, Chloe Streit, Gennelle Hernandez, Grace Olson, Isabel Jackson, Izabella King, Kate Keller, Lilyan Erickson, Madelynn McRoberts, Natalie Isley, Rose Elston, Rosalina Bugarin and Zoey Harris. The team is coached by James Jackson, Shannon Bybee, Rudy Nambo and Adam Erickson.

one walk.

Rushville

Rochelle concluded Saturday's action with a 10-0 loss against Rushville. Annalyce Harris went 1-for-2 with a single and two stolen bases, while Natalie Isley drew one walk and totaled two stolen bases. Isley

pitched all four innings, striking out 10 batters and allowing just three hits.

Peru

Rochelle bowed out of the state tournament with a 13-3 loss against Peru on Sunday. Natalie Isley went 1-for-2 with one triple, while Annalyce Harris

stole two bases and both Izabella King and Madelynn McRoberts stole one base. Isley struck out eight batters over six innings pitched.

Two walks and two singles enabled Peru to command a 2-0 lead in the top of the first inning. Rochelle answered in the

bottom of the first inning, tying the score after Annalyce Harris and Madelynn McRoberts each crossed home plate on wild pitches. Izabella King drew a lead-off walk before scoring on a wild pitch to put Rochelle ahead 3-2 in the bottom of the second inning.

Four singles ignited a

two-run rally for the Peru side in the top of the third inning. Peru extended its lead in the top of the fourth inning, scoring six runs on five singles and three walks. Leading 10-3, Peru clinched its win with three runs on two doubles and two singles in the top of the fifth inning.