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Vol. 105 • No. 29

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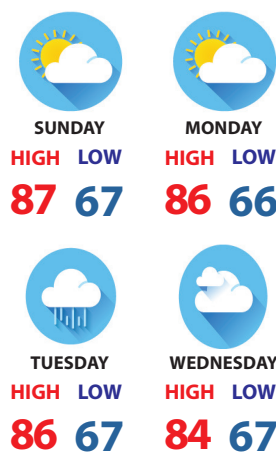
KNOW IT
TODAY



Wells family wins
Chamber LOTW

Dale and Megan Wells
were named the winners
of the Rochelle Chamber's
Lawn of the Week for July
26. **Page 7**

WEATHER



Today's RNL issue
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(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Rochelle Community Hospital recently added a new full-time nurse practitioner, Chenin Gongrave Rude, to its Convenient Care department, which treats patients of all ages for minor illnesses and injuries with no appointment necessary.

RCH Convenient Care adds nurse practitioner ‘Our need for convenient care has grown exponentially’

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Rochelle Community Hospital recently added a new full-time nurse practitioner, Chenin Gongrave Rude, to its Convenient Care department, which treats patients of all ages

for minor illnesses and injuries with no appointment necessary.

Gongrave Rude has been an NP for several years and will offer care along with other part-time NPs and RCH Convenient Care staff. The department is open Monday-Friday 11-7 p.m. and Saturdays

9-5 p.m. and closed Sundays and holidays.

“When she came to us we were very excited to have her,” RCH Manager of Outpatient Services Tracey Busby said. “She fit right in with our organization and works really well with the team. She’s been really well-received

by patients. We had a need here in convenient care that she filled. We’re always welcoming nurse practitioners but we wanted to try having one full-time NP so the community would have a familiar face when they came in.

See RCH page 2

City receives budget award for fifth time

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The City of Rochelle recently received notice of its receipt of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for the fifth year.

Winning the award “reflects a commitment to meeting the highest principles of governmental budgeting and compliance with nationally-recognized guidelines, including having a budget that serves effectively as a policy document, a financial plan, an operations guide, and a communications device.”

The GFOA established the Distinguished Budget Award in 1984 to encourage and assist state and local governments to prepare budget documents of the very highest quality that reflect both the guidelines established by the National Advisory Council on State and Local Budgeting and the GFOA’s best practices on budgeting and then to recognize individual governments that succeed in achieving that goal.

See CITY page 3

Steward’s Frye awarded rank of Eagle Scout Eagle Scout project saw memorial created at Steward Fire Station

STEWART — Family, friends, and members of Boy Scout Troop #64 gathered at the Steward United Methodist Church on July 14 for a National Court of Honor as Logan Frye was officially awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America. Historically, only two percent of boys in Boy Scouts will ever attain the Eagle Scout rank. Frye, a senior at Rochelle Township High School, is the 17th member of his family that has earned the rank of Eagle Scout.

Jason Johnson, scoutmaster, was master of ceremonies for the Court of Honor. Senior Patrol Leader Nolan Johnson recited the rededication to the Scout Oath and Law while Eagle Scouts Caleb Johnson, Alex Frye, Eric Holden, James Holden, and Philip Hayes lit the ceremonial candles and assisted as Johnson led the Eagle Scout Challenge.

After reciting the Eagle Scout Charge, Frye was then presented with his Eagle Scout certificate. His mother, Chris Cardott, pinned the award on her son. He, in turn, honored



Family, friends, and members of Boy Scout Troop #64 gathered at the Steward United Methodist Church on July 14 for a National Court of Honor as Logan Frye was officially awarded the rank of Eagle Scout, the highest rank attainable in the Boy Scouts of America.

her with the mother’s pin.

Frye’s Eagle Scout service project was one that honored his grandfather, Jack Connolly, who was one of the founders of the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District and volunteer firefighter at the Steward Fire Station. Frye created a memorial with bricks by the flagpole at the Steward Fire Station. The bricks are

engraved with firefighters’ names that served the department for 10 years or more. He thanked the Ogle-Lee Fire Protection District for chartering the troop, scout leaders throughout his years in scouting including Pat and Bob Arne, John Conley, Matt Hayes, and Jason Johnson, members of the Steward Fire Department Association,



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Dawn Ness for donating the bricks, and everyone that helped make his project a success.

During his Board of Review, he was asked what advice he would give a new scout. His response was, “to just enjoy those moments you have with those friends. Don’t just focus on merit badges and requirements. They are

important, but don’t just do scouts to do those and achieve a rank, find meaning in what you do while being a scout.”

Troop #64 meets on Mondays at 6:45 p.m. at the Steward United Methodist Church. For more information, please contact Scoutmaster Jason Johnson at 630-649-1151 or stop by any Monday night.



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LOCAL NEWS

RCH: Convenient Care team working to meet community's needs

From page 1

Chenin is here four days a week and that adds comfort to the community and people can come in and see the same person."

RCH has run into some issues in the past with hours Convenient Care was able to be open due to staffing, but is now in "a good place", Busby said, and conversations have been had about expanding hours during busier times like flu season.

The need for RCH's Convenient Care department has grown "exponentially" recently, Busby said, due to the community coming out of the pandemic, primary care physicians having less availability, and people not having primary care physicians.

RCH's Emergency Department has seen increased need as well, and Convenient Care has helped to ease that burden on the ED with being able to see patients that don't need the higher level of care.

"We're kind of in the middle," Busby said of Convenient Care. "We help family healthcare because they have a lot of patients that need to be seen by their primary care physicians and if they can't and it's just an illness-type thing, as well as taking the burden off the ED with easier patients that just want to be seen."

RCH Convenient Care sees a "pretty large" contingency of people that don't have a primary care doctor due to factors like insurance limitations, along with the City of Rochelle being a hub for truck drivers and contract construction workers that are too far away from their typical physicians.

Busby detailed the services that Convenient Care offers for the community.

"I'd like people to know that Convenient Care is for all those illnesses and injuries that are minor in nature," Busby said. "It's not primary care, but it is care for people

that just need to be seen or tested for illnesses or need X-rays for injuries. We're a minor illness and injury unit."

The News-Leader met with Gongrave Rude and members of the Convenient Care staff on July 30 including Medical Assistant Laura Delarosa, Receptionist Paulette Jurina and LPN Jim Miller and talked about what it's like to service the community.

Jurina said she's been thankful for RCH's new Convenient Care patient sign-up system where patients choose a time-frame to come in. That has helped to keep patients in order and feeling like their needs are being met. The new system has been received well by patients, Jurina said.

"And our patients enjoy having this service here in town," Jurina said. "They like that they don't have to drive to Dixon, Sycamore or Rockford. We hear that a lot."

Gongrave Rude said the Convenient Care



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The need for RCH's Convenient Care department has grown "exponentially" recently, Busby said, due to the community coming out of the pandemic, primary care physicians having less availability, and people not having primary care physicians.

department is in "a good place" to meet the community's needs. It offers all-at-once testing for COVID-19, flu and RSV which sets it apart from a standalone urgent care, she said. Patients only need to have their nose swabbed once and they can find out results right away.

Busby praised the Convenient Care staff for its work outside of seeing patients including cleaning rooms, stocking, transporting patients, ordering medication, making phone calls and referrals, and charting.

Miller described the Convenient Care service that works to fill in the

gaps for medical needs in the community.

"We're convenient for the patients," Miller said. "If you go to an ER in Chicago, you could be there for two days. You're going to wait for a while in the ER and not every doctor can see patients the same day they ask. But we're here."

Kish College to offer six Fast-Track training programs in Fall 2024

MALTA — Kishwaukee College will offer six Fast-Track training programs during the Fall 2024 semester. Kish Fast-Track programs provide students with the skills and training needed to meet local workforce demands. The programs range from 8-15 weeks, allowing students to immediately start a career or build upon skills with additional training.

Fall 2024 classes are available in online, in-person and hybrid formats. Participants will need access to a computer and the internet to participate in

programs with an online component. Some programs include an externship/clinical.

The Fast-Track training programs offered in Fall 2024 are:

Appliance Repair Technician: Aug. 26-Nov. 20 (in-person)

Appliance repair technicians are skilled professionals trained to assist clients with household appliance installation, troubleshooting and repairs. In-person instruction is from 5:30-9 p.m. on Mondays and Wednesdays at Kishwaukee College.

Dental Assistant: Aug. 26-Nov. 15 (online lecture/in-person practice)

Dental assistants are health care professionals who work closely with dentists and dental hygienists to provide quality preventive and corrective dental care and administrative support in dental offices. In-person practice will be conducted from 6-9 p.m. on four Tuesdays in a local dental office.

Pharmacy Technician: Aug. 26-Dec. 6 (online)

Pharmacy technicians assist pharmacists with dispensing prescription

medication while performing various other duties in a pharmacy setting. Online instruction is delivered in an asynchronous format. Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) funding is available to those who qualify.

Phlebotomy Technician: Aug. 26-Nov. 8 (in-person)

Phlebotomists are health care professionals trained to collect, transport, handle and process blood and other specimens for laboratory analysis using venipuncture and micro-collection techniques. Instruction and

in-person practice is from 5:30-7:30 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays and Thursdays at Kishwaukee College. A clinical experience will be offered in a local hospital from Oct. 21-Nov. 8.

Real Estate Broker Pre-License: Sept. 24-Nov. 14 (online)

Real estate brokers perform many duties in real estate transactions, including marketing homes, establishing escrow accounts, and working to ensure transactions are fair and legal. Online instruction is from 6-9 p.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

Sterile Processing Technician: Aug. 26-Nov. 29 (Online)

Sterile processing technicians support patient services in a health care facility. Technicians help decontaminate, clean, process, assemble, sterilize, store and distribute medical devices and supplies needed in patient care, especially during surgery. Online instruction is delivered in an asynchronous format.

Fall 2024 registration is open. To learn more or register for Kishwaukee College Fast-Track programs, visit kish.edu/fasttrack.

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LOCAL NEWS

CITY: Rochelle earns Distinguished Budget Award from GFOA

From page 1

"It's been five years and I feel like every year we've gotten more efficient," City Finance Director Chris Cardott said. "Now we learn different things and we include things that maybe would mean something to the public. We're just very pleased that we continue to receive it and we get top scores on all of the 27 criteria."

Documents submitted to the program are reviewed by selected members of the GFOA professional staff and by outside reviewers with experience in public-sector budgeting. The award is the highest form of recognition in governmental budgeting.

Only budgets rated proficient or above in all four key areas, and across 14 mandatory sub-categories, are eligible for the award. Roughly 1,700 governmental units (state, county, local governments) receive a GFOA Distinguished Budget Award. Out of the 1,297 municipalities in Illinois, 87 or 6.7% of them have been recognized with this award.

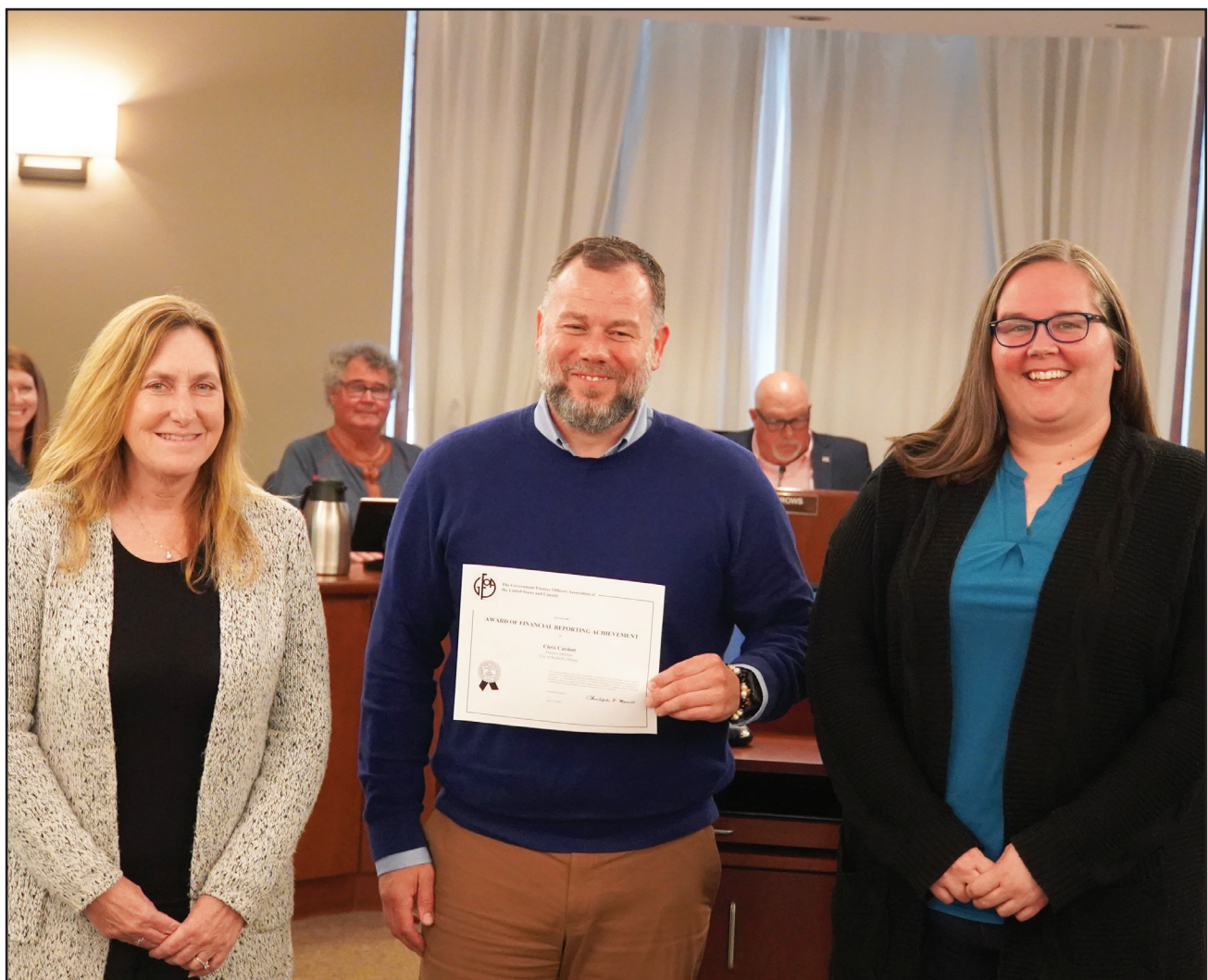
"The first year was very hard," Cardott said. "We were like a unicorn the way we got it our first year. Most first-year applicants don't. It's very informative and we put it on our website. It's

500+ pages. This budget also builds in the 20-year capital improvement plan. You can see what the city's improvement projects plans are years ahead. People can keep up with our projects and the costs and funding sources."

The 2024 City of Rochelle budget was nearly \$90 million. The document submitted for consideration for the award includes the budget and commentary, pictures, goals, and information about the community. It is due 90 days after the budget is approved by the city council.

Prior to city council approval, each city department head prepares their own budget by reviewing past years and projecting for the next year. City Manager Jeff Fiegenschuh and Cardott meet with each department in August and make any adjustments. Staff also works on the 20-year capital improvement plan at this time. When the draft budget and CIP are completed, they are presented at a committee of the whole meeting with the city council. The final budget must be approved by the end of the fiscal year, Dec. 31.

"It's a complete synopsis of the budget and the organization," Fiegenschuh said of the city's submission for the GFOA award. "It's a summary of



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The City of Rochelle recently received notice of its receipt of the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) Distinguished Budget Award for the fifth year.

everything. People can read it and have a pretty basic understanding of how the city operates. As part of this we had to incorporate performance measures and we updated them this year. A lot of cities don't track metrics like that. There's a lot that goes into it behind the scenes to make the document."

Fiegenschuh said his favorite part of the GFOA award process has been the performance measures aimed at making each city department more efficient. Each department was asked to come up with at least three performance measures to track.

The city manager said the budget document lends

itself to the city's efforts to be transparent. He feels that the more information the city gives people, the better they understand and feel more connected to their government.

"We're spending other people's money, so we have a responsibility to be as transparent as possible so people see where their

dollars are being spent," Fiegenschuh said. "If something happens with our budgeting and we need to pivot and move in a different direction, having a transparent organization helps people to know what's going on. I'm proud of Chris and her staff. There's a lot of work that goes into it."

100 Women Who Care donate to Habitat of Humanity of Ogle County

OGLE COUNTY — Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County was this quarter's donation recipient from 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County. It was the second time Habitat was awarded a donation. Sheri Anspaugh accepted the monetary gift of \$8,800 at the July 18 evening event. At the meeting Sheri shared how the last donation in 2022 helped a family in Rochelle acquire their home and how it changed their life giving them a chance to build equity and even helped a single mom get custody of a child because of the ability to provide a secure and stable home. Their next project will be located in Davis Junction. Habitat also offers other services such as the Brush with Kindness Project which provides basic home repair and services to those in need focusing on safety and quality of life. In addition, they have recently joined a veterans program as a Veterans Build Affiliate that specifically helps

our honored veterans in various ways providing much needed assistance and support. You can find more information by visiting habitatoglecounty.org.

The choice to give to Habitat was not an easy one as there were three other very worthy applicants. The choice is made by ballot at the time of the event. 100 Women Who Care only gives to local 501c organizations within Ogle County. Meetings are held on a quarterly basis where presentations are made by several not-for-profit organizations and are then voted on to receive \$100 from each member. No other fees are required. The group meets in various locations within Ogle County. The next meeting in October will be at Pine Crest in Mt. Morris. There are currently 89 members. The goal is to reach 100 this year. The more women who care the more support for our community.

If you are interested in becoming a member



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Habitat for Humanity of Ogle County was this quarter's donation recipient from 100 Women Who Care of Ogle County. It was the second time Habitat was awarded a donation. Sheri Anspaugh accepted the monetary gift of \$8,800 at the July 18 evening event.

or learning more about how the donation process

works for your organization contact Deanna

Forrest at forrestdede5@gmail.com or find them

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LOCAL NEWS

OBITUARIES

Leo Roop

TUCSON, Ariz.—Air Force veteran, successful financial manager, beloved brother and uncle, skilled tennis player and skier, avid hiker and world traveler. Leo Roop was all of these things and more. But one of Leo's most enduring legacies will be his generosity. Leo died peacefully at his Tucson, Arizona, home on July 17, 2024. He was 88.



Leo so valued education, both in the classroom and out, that he made significant contributions to the University of Arizona's Eller College of Management and the School of Behavioral Sciences, where he became a founding member of the Magellan Circle of donors in 2004.

Leo's gifts created the Leo Roop Summer Career Paths Internship and Research Training Scholarships in the Center for Latin American Studies. His contributions over 20 years funded scholarships and grants for more than 30 UA students, many who have gone on to extraordinary careers.

In addition, Leo funded the higher education of several family members and helped others with projects. Leo also served on the Pima Community College Foundation board of directors from 2007 to 2018.

Leo Allen Roop learned hard work as a youngster growing up near Milton, North Dakota, and in Northern Illinois, where his first job was delivering the local newspaper. He learned to drive at age 14 on the family's tractor. Born in 1936, Leo was the third of four children of LaRue and Ralph Roop. Before Leo started school, the Roops moved their

growing family to Illinois, where Leo graduated from Rochelle Township High School in 1954.

Having been active in Boy Scouts, Leo spent the next two years as a counselor at Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimmaron, N.M. His time there sparked a lifelong love of the American Southwest and Latin American history.

In 1958, Leo received his draft notice, joined the U.S. Air Force and qualified for navigator training. Serving in Texas, California, Nevada and Kansas, he became a navigator-bombardier on a B-47 nuclear bomber, a turbojet-powered aircraft that was capable of striking targets within the Soviet Union from Europe. During the 1962 Cuban Missile Crisis, Leo and his team were sent to Spain and placed on alert with a payload ready to target Soviet cities. To his relief, orders to attack never came. By November 1962, Leo had logged more than 1,100 hours as a navigator and was promoted to first lieutenant. He thoroughly enjoyed his time in the Air Force and had hoped to make it a lifelong career, but was medically discharged at age 27, a move he fought.

He relocated to Arizona to be near his oldest sister and enrolled in the University of Arizona on the GI Bill. He earned his degree in finance in 1967 and worked in banking in Tucson for more than 30 years at First Interstate, Wells Fargo and Mission Management & Trust Company.

Leo hiked extensively throughout the Southwest and traveled to more than 80 countries, often inviting a niece or nephew, providing treasured memories for his family. He also joined UA

Magellan Circle excursions to Italy, Mexico City, Oaxaca and Vietnam, among others organized through the university.

He enjoyed reuniting with buddies at several reunions of his 310 Strategic Aerospace Wing, including one he organized in Tucson. Leo also enjoyed a longtime membership at the Mountain Oyster Club, hosting gatherings for family and friends.

Leo was a lifelong bachelor and had no children, but his six nieces and nephews and their extended families admired him as a vibrant, stylish, kind, curious and generous mentor. He is survived by his sister, Beulah Carter, and brother, Dale Roop, of Tucson; nieces and nephews in Arizona and Wisconsin: Debra Bradley (Doug), Greg Woods (Barb), Sue Woods, Cindy Yenser (Tim), Doug Carter (Susan) and Lori Carter; and several great-nieces and -nephews in Wisconsin and Arizona. Leo was predeceased by his parents and sister, Erma Roop.

The family is immensely thankful for the care he received from his Bayada home health team Lisa, Elisha and Lori, as well as Casa de la Luz Hospice nurse Mike, chaplain Susan and aide Omar.

Along with Leo's family, these amazing people allowed Leo to spend the last months of his life as he wished: comfortably at home, eating tasty food and enjoying happy hour.

He requested no services. His family will hold an interment gathering at a later date at the Arizona Veterans' Memorial Cemetery in Marana, Ariz. Anyone wishing to commemorate Leo's full and charitable life may donate to the Roop Scholars fund at the UA at: <https://give.uafoundation.org/leoroop>



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Dr. Bill Nicklas was awarded the John C. Roberts Community Service Award on Saturday at Kishwaukee College's Spring 2024 Commencement Ceremony. Pictured (left to right) are Dr. Laurie Borowicz, president of Kishwaukee College; Nicklas; Frank Roberts, son of the late John Roberts; and Bob Johnson, Board chair.

Kish College honors Dr. Bill Nicklas with John C. Roberts Community Service Award

MALTA — Dr. Bill Nicklas has dedicated nearly 40 years of his professional career to improving the local community through work in municipal government and higher education. Kishwaukee College recognized Dr. Nicklas and his career with the John C. Roberts Community Service Award on Saturday at Kish's Spring 2024 Commencement Ceremony.

Established in 2009, the John C. Roberts Community Service Award recognizes the importance of community members in the success of Kishwaukee College. Dr. Nicklas currently serves as the city manager of DeKalb, one of many roles in a long career in public service. Kathleen Spears, Kishwaukee College Board of Trustees secretary, presented the award to Dr. Nicklas at the ceremony.

"With unwavering dedication to improving our region, Dr. Nicklas has provided long-term influence to create a better future for our community. His work em-

bodies the spirit John Roberts showed when establishing Kishwaukee College, making Dr. Nicklas a deserving recipient of the 2024 John C. Roberts Community Service Award," Spears said.

After earning master's and doctoral degrees from Northern Illinois University (NIU), Dr. Nicklas began working in local government in 1986. He was appointed DeKalb's city manager in 1992, where he worked until taking the role of Sycamore's city manager from 1998-2011. Dr. Nicklas later held various positions in public education, including vice president roles at NIU from 2011-2014 and as the special assistant to the president at Kishwaukee College from 2016-2018. In January 2019, he returned to the DeKalb city manager role, where he continues to serve today.

Dr. Nicklas's leadership has helped drive economic growth for the Kish district over the past four decades, including infrastructure improvements at NIU and

impactful economic developments for companies like Facebook, Kraft Heinz, Ferrara Candy and Amazon. At Kish, Dr. Nicklas was imperative in building relationships with local businesses and helping strengthen the College as a community resource.

As a volunteer, Dr. Nicklas served as the long-term recovery coordinator for the Fairdale community after it was devastated by a tornado in April 2015. He has served on many local organizations and foundations, including the Kishwaukee College Foundation. Through the Foundation, Dr. Nicklas created a scholarship honoring his late wife, Joyce A. Nicklas, which supports scholarships for Kish nursing students.

Dr. Nicklas's career-long dedication to improving the local community has had a profound impact on the Kishwaukee College district. To learn more about the John C. Roberts Community Service Award, visit kish.edu/johnroberts.

Kish earns achievement for excellence in financial reporting for 12th consecutive year

MALTA—Kishwaukee College was awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association of the United States and Canada (GFOA) for Kish's comprehensive financial report for the Fiscal Year 2023.

The achievement is the highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting, and its attainment represents a significant accomplishment by Kishwaukee College and its management, according to GFOA.

Jill Fletcher, Kishwaukee College's chief financial officer, and the Kishwaukee College Business Office were recognized for com-

piling the Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR). Each year, Kish submits its ACFR to GFOA for review and evaluation by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program, which includes demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to communicate the college's financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the report.

"It is an honor to be recognized by the GFOA for our team's hard work in financial reporting. The Annual Comprehensive Financial Report allows our community to see a complete picture of Kishwaukee College's economic condition and the public

finances entrusted to us," Fletcher said.

Kish has earned the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting every year since first submitting an ACFR in 2012.

"Receiving the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting is an exceptional accomplishment for Kishwaukee College and our Business Office," said Bob Johnson, Kishwaukee College Board chair. "We are very proud of the hard work and dedication that goes into making the college a fiscally responsible and transparent entity for our community."

To learn more about Kishwaukee College, visit kish.edu.

Jennifer M. Copeland

LOVES PARK — Jennifer M. Copeland of Loves Park, IL passed away on July 31, 2024.

Her services will be held Wednesday, August 7, 2024, at 11:00 a.m. at Fitzgerald Funeral Home & Crematory, Mulford Chapel.

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USPS (467-820) ISSN (1075-2811)
Published every Wednesday and Sunday by Rochelle Newspapers Inc. at 211 E. State Route 38, Rochelle, IL 61068.
Periodical postage paid at Rochelle, IL 61068. Postmaster send address changes to the Rochelle News-Leader, P.O. Box 46, Rochelle, IL 61068. Subscription rates are \$139.99 per year by mail in Ogle County. Outside county rate is \$149.99 per year. The circulation department is open Monday through Thursday from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Friday from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. For subscription information, contact Kelly White at 562-4171.

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Kelly White (815) 562-4171

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

Kish College students showcase career expertise in SkillsUSA competitions

ATLANTA — The Kishwaukee College SkillsUSA team finished the year with competitors earning first-place medals in the state and national championships.

SkillsUSA is a national organization helping prepare students for trade professions. SkillsUSA annually hosts competitions for career and technical education (CTE) students to showcase their hands-on training and abilities.

In April, Kish's SkillsUSA chapter had 15 students qualify for the SkillsUSA Illinois Championships in Peoria with medalists in the Heavy Equipment Operator, Power Equipment Technology and Diesel Equipment Technology categories.

Lily Goode finished in

first place to earn the state title in Power Equipment Technology, with teammates Chaz Finley earning second place and Tom Nowicki placing third. In Heavy Equipment Operator, Cole Wilke earned first place and a state title. Christian Thorne, competing at the high school level, placed first to earn a state title in Diesel Equipment Technology.

By winning their respective categories at the state level, Goode, Wilke and Thorne qualified to compete with more than 6,000 students in the SkillsUSA Championships during the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference this June in Atlanta, Georgia. Wilke earned the gold medal and national championship in the Heavy Equipment Op-

erator category. Thorne placed seventh in the high school Diesel Equipment Technology competition, and Goode placed eighth in the Power Equipment Technology category.

The Kish team is coached by Don Flink, assistant professor of Diesel Power Technology.

"Our students work hard all year to compete at the highest level and showcase the career skills they learn and build at Kishwaukee College," Flink said. "We are very proud of the results and all our dedicated SkillsUSA team members."

Kish's SkillsUSA team includes members from the various Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs the College offers. To learn more about CTE opportunities at Kish, visit kish.edu/cte.



(COURTESY PHOTO)

Members of the Kish SkillsUSA team competed in the SkillsUSA Championships at Mercedes-Benz Stadium in Atlanta, Georgia. Pictured (left to right) are Don Flink, assistant professor of Diesel Power Technology and coach of the Kish SkillsUSA team; Cole Wilke, first place finisher and national champion in Heavy Equipment Operator; Christian Thorne, seventh place finisher in Diesel Equipment Technology; and Lily Goode, eighth place finisher in Power Equipment Technology.

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@calvalrylighthouse.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.. [f](https://www.facebook.com/lwccr)

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: stpatrikrochelle.com Email: stpatrik-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

Chuck Roberts: Secret Service failures

THE Secret Service is the agency charged with protecting the president, former president, and others. So what the heck happened to security that resulted in the near assassination and the killing of an attendee at the July 13 Butler, Pennsylvania rally? It is difficult to sort out facts at this early stage, but here is what is out there. The potential assassin (shooter) was using an AR-15 rifle, which usually has an effective range of about 400 to 600 yards, depending on the ammunition used and rifle configuration. AR stands for ArmaLite Corporation, the original manufacturer, and does not stand for "assault rifle." The shooter was on a roof approximately 164 yards from the former president's podium, well within the range of a typical owner of such a rifle, as can be seen by the near-fatal headshot

grazing the former president's ear.

The Secret Service did not secure the roof from which the shooter fired. This location, which was so close to the former president and left unsecured, was a huge Secret Service failure. The first excuse for not securing this roof was that the roof was too steep. Several congressional members walked on the roof without difficulty. Since that did not work, the next excuse was that local law enforcement was supposed to secure the roof but failed to do so even though the Secret Service was responsible for the overall safety of the former president. After all the excuses had been exhausted, it was admitted that the fact that the shooter was not detected on the roof 164 yards from the former president was a colossal Secret Service mission failure.

The Wall Street Jour-

nal first reported that the shooter used a drone to scope out the rally area before the assassination attempt. There is some controversy whether the FAA had restricted drone flights in the rally area before the event. The only available details of the drone were that DJI, a Chinese company, manufactured it. If a drone is equipped with Standard Remote ID (SRID), which is now required on drones, the FAA can track the drone. It is uncertain why more details of the drone have not been released. DJI also keeps flight records of its drone flights. The federal government owns many drone systems for air-to-ground surveillance. The Secret Service did not avail itself of typical drone technology to observe the terrain around the rally area, which was

another security failure.

When an incident like this occurs, the Secret Service bodyguards are supposed to physically cover the protected person and then remove the person from the area after the threat has been reduced. The former president is a tall person, and at least one of the bodyguards was too short to cover the former president.

Videos taken by attendees of the rally show the shooter getting on the roof of the building, which was reported immediately to law enforcement. It is not clear why the Secret Service allowed the former president to enter the podium with this possible threat developing. Other reports state that the Trump staff requested additional Secret Service protection, but were denied.

The FBI director sug-

gested that the former president may have been hit by shrapnel and not a bullet. A New York Times reporter photographed the bullet passing by the former president's head. This was definitely a bullet and not shrapnel. Shrapnel is typically characterized by an irregular shape, usually resulting from an explosive or impact event and accompanied by other pieces of shrapnel. The FBI has backed off from this statement.

The discussions go on and on, illustrating problems with transparency amongst the affected government agencies. Gas-lighting (lying with a straight face) is endemic vis-a-vis "the roof was too steep." It is likely that much more information exists on the events related to the assassination attempt but is not being disclosed. Government agencies claim to be transparent but often block

information to cover their butts, an aversion to any accountability when they screw up.

There is some information relating to the Kennedy assassination in 1963 that has still not been disclosed. The FBI is investigating the Trump assassination attempt. FBI credibility has been diminished based on the Durham report showing an improper investigation of the now-debunked Russian collusion theory and comments suggesting that shrapnel caused the injury to the former president. A congressional investigation may be more independent, but subpoenas to federal agencies for more information often go unanswered. Full disclosure of the facts involved in this matter may not appear during our lifetime, and there is no guarantee that our descendants will learn about the truth either.



Chuck Roberts

Reed Harris: Consider this - Project 2025

AS I promised in my last article, I have copied these "high-level" statements from the "Project 2025" document at static.project2025.org/2025_MandateForLeadership_FULL.pdf which I will discuss with you today. Again, for you to fully understand this document, you should read it yourself. However, just reading the four broad fronts mentioned below, in the forward to this document, should give you a solid "look" at what could be coming.

"... This is an agenda prepared by and for conservatives who will be ready on Day One of the next Administration to save our country from the brink of disaster.

The Heritage Foundation is once again facilitating this work. But as upon dozens of partners and hundreds of authors will attest, this book is the work of the entire conservative movement. As such, the authors express consensus recommendations already forged, especially along four broad fronts that will decide America's future:

1. Restore the family as the centerpiece of American life and protect our

- children.
2. Dismantle the administrative state and return self-governance to the American people.
3. Defend our nation's sovereignty, borders, and bounty against global threats.
4. Secure our God-given individual rights to live freely—what our Constitution calls 'the Blessings of Liberty.'"

First, they have mentioned that they want to save us from the brink of disaster. What disaster are they talking about? The slow-moving decision making in Congress? Delays have happened from both sides in Congress, but haven't the substantial delays been caused primarily by the conservatives? Maybe they are talking about border issues. Yet the conservatives blocked their own bi-partisan bill for the border, which they touted as the most significant changes in modern history, because former President Trump wanted to introduce this himself if he won the election. If it benefited us, why would they do that? They work for us.

They might also be talking about family stability. The first "broad front" they mention above is "Restore the family as the cen-

terpiece of American life and protect our children." When hasn't the family been the centerpiece of American life? Didn't Roe V. Wade put the family at the center? Saving the lives of mothers who were having trouble with births? Saving babies from lives that would last only a few days, or from a lifetime of feeding tubes and machines? And does this government really protect our children? Don't they vote down bills to help feed, provide health protection or better educate our children? It's almost like we tell parents to bring all children to term, no matter the consequences, but after that, they are your problem not ours as a nation. But it does affect all of us.

The second "broad front" they mention is "Dismantle the administrative state and return self-governance to the American people." Federal, state and local governments are there to manage the day-to-day operations of education, roads and bridges, police and fire needs, and land usage so as not to encroach on others' rights. These and other ev-

eryday requirements, not to mention global protection needs, are necessities. They are provisions that every person doesn't have the time to complete on their own. By dismantling the administrative state, who does this work? By what means? Even in governments today, aren't we self-governing? We vote to set up the governing the way we want. We vote for those we want. We vote to make the changes we need. Sounds self-governing to me.

Thirdly, the "broad front" they mention is "Defend our nation's sovereignty, borders, and bounty against global threats." Whoa! Didn't they just mention that they don't want the administrative state? Government is an administrative state. So, who now defends our borders against these threats? How is this done? On this front I feel they are starting to show us that there will still be an administrative state. A point they will mention through the rest of the document. So, what do they mean by this? What kind of administrative state

do they want?

Lastly, the fourth broad front they mention is "Secure our God-given individual rights to live freely—what our Constitution calls 'the Blessings of Liberty.'" Does this mean that the original Roe V. Wade decision will be back on the books so that women have the liberty to control their own bodies? Will IVF and contraception and other family decisions be left to those making them? Will the infamous Electoral College be eliminated so that my vote counts? And then, will my vote still count no matter what some other small group says or "feels."

Will campaign finance law be reversed so that the money I want to give to a campaign is the money used and money I give corporations for goods and services, or in the form of investments, be eliminated from being used in that capacity? Even more, will that money I give mean something and not be overshadowed by an individual giving millions? How about us giving thousands in taxes while millionaires or billionaires give much smaller percentages of earnings or nothing at all? Are these losses of liberties

too, or just some restrictions with qualifications?

Before 2016 we were rather free. But those freedoms we want to keep also belong to those around us. So, there are times when we must all pay a bit to ensure this happens. We are all in this together and must protect each other. Now some of those freedoms are being whittled away, slowly but surely. What I'm most concerned with is that our Constitution will be replaced by the Project 2025 manuscript. This would mean that all our progress in the past 240 years or so will be lost.

The Bill of rights gone. The 13th Amendment on slavery gone. The 14th Amendment on Naturalized citizens gone. The 15th Amendment on the voting process being denied gone. The 10th Amendment allowing women to vote gone. The 22nd Amendment concerning the length of our Presidential term gone. The 24th Amendment about poll taxes or other taxes is gone. The 26th Amendment concerning the right to vote at the age 18 gone. The Amendments can be found at constitution.congress.gov/constitution/. Is this what you want?



Reed Harris

How to contact government officials

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

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

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

Have a letter you want to submit to us? Send it to news@rochelle-news-leader.com

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

** Denotes Chairman/President*

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Reid Elliot	
Jennifer Payton	

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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)

The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of July 25 to Dale and Megan Wells. They received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card, presented by Rochelle Ace Hardware Manager Jesse Lopez.

Dale and Megan Wells win July 25 Chamber Lawn of the week

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Chamber of Commerce recently presented its Lawn of the Week award for the week of July 25 to Dale and Megan Wells. They received a sign and a \$25 Rochelle ACE Hardware gift card,

presented by Rochelle Ace Hardware Manager Jesse Lopez. The chamber has partnered with Rochelle Ace Hardware to award gift cards to the winners. The 2024 Lawn of the Week program has begun

for the summer and will run through September. Nominate a neighbor/yard each week by submitting a name and address by emailing rochelle-chamber@gmail.com. “We are proud to recognize our residents that

display community pride in Rochelle,” Chamber Executive Director Tricia Herrera said. “We love that this program gives us the chance to showcase the hard work and dedication they put in to making our city look great.”

Bartlett joins Stillman Bank board of directors

STILLMAN VALLEY — The Board of Directors of Stillman BancCorp, N.A. is pleased to announce Micah R. Bartlett has joined its Board of Directors, according to Martin C. Larson, chairman of Stillman BancCorp N.A. Before his recent retirement, Micah served in the financial industry for over 33 years holding numerous positions including chairman, president, and CEO of a local bank in Springfield, Illinois. Micah graduated with a bachelor's degree in accounting from the Uni-

versity of Illinois Springfield, a master's degree in business administration from Northern Illinois University and has also received his Certified Public Accountant (CPA) certification. He is also a graduate of the Graduate School of Banking at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Micah has been deeply engaged in the financial industry and participated in various industry-based organizations. He most recently served as past chairman of the Illinois Bankers Association (IBA), vice chair

of the IBA Illinois Bankers Business Services Board of Directors, and member of their Fintech Committee. Micah is also a past member of the Community Bankers Council Administrative Committee and Government Relations Council of the American Bankers Association, an inaugural member of the Community Depository Institution Advisory Council of the Federal Reserve Bank of Chicago, and served a three-year term as the Graduate School of Banking Banker Advisory Board.

Outside of the financial industry, Micah served as a board member for the United Way of Central Illinois, United Way Campaign Chairman, and on the Campaign Planning Committee of the University of Illinois Springfield. He also served and chaired numerous local boards and committees, including education, economic development, chamber of commerce, and other community organizations. For more information about Stillman Bank, please contact (815) 645-2266 or visit www.stillmanbank.com.



- 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
- July 28 - Tracy and Nate Kessen, Sugar Grove, \$50
- July 29 - Betsy Jones, Amboy, \$25
- July 30 - Eva Chu, Rochelle, \$25
- July 31 - Lee Dusing, South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, \$25
- Aug. 1 - Lora McKee, Oregon, \$25
- Aug. 2 - Ben Sondergren-Baar, Rochelle, \$25
- Aug. 3 - Rochelle Rescue Mission, \$25
- Aug. 4 - Lee Dusing, South Milwaukee, Wisconsin, \$50

QUEEN FOR THE CAUSE

DRAWINGS THURSDAYS 7 P.M. @ LUNA
CURRENT WEEKLY PRIZE: \$250
CURRENT JACKPOT: \$7,785



Coffee Break

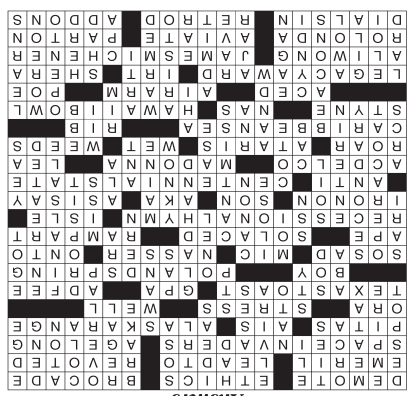
MAGIC MAZE • SONGS FROM THE 1970s

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

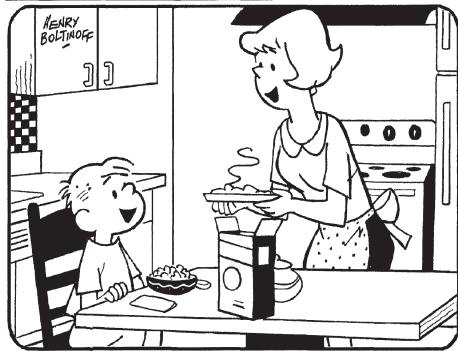
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: **Keep Fallin' On My Head**

- | | | | |
|---------------|------------|---------------|-----------|
| ABC | Landslide | Piano Man | The Joker |
| Cecilia | Last Dance | September | YMCA |
| I'll Be There | Lean On Me | Stayin' Alive | Your Song |
| Jamming | Let It Be | Superstition | |

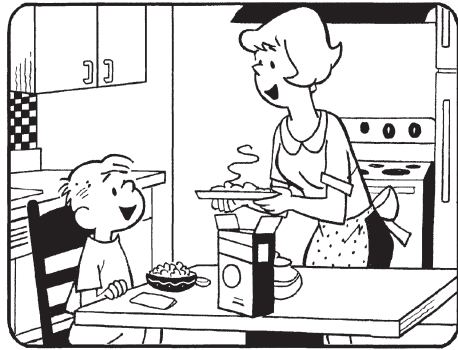
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HOCUS-FOCUS BY HENRY BOLTINOFF



Find at least six differences in details between panels.

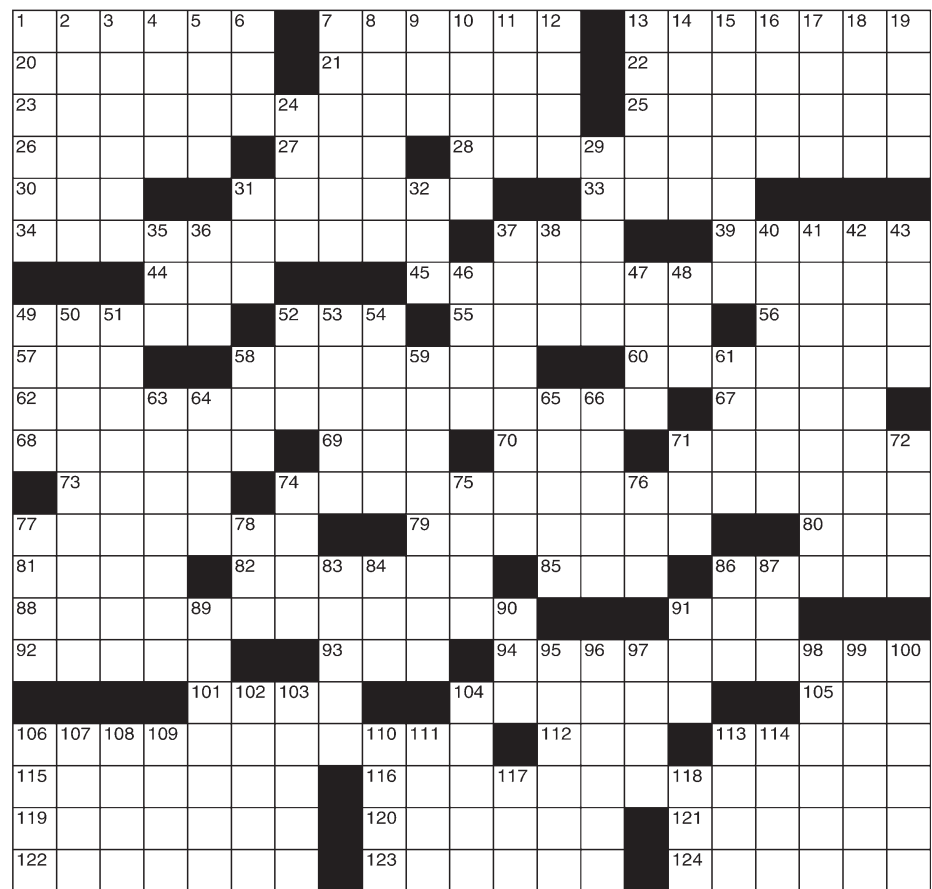


Differences: 1. The pattern is different. 2. Arm is not showing. 3. Cabinet is not as wide. 4. Table is not as long. 5. Cuff is added to sleeve. 6. Plate is longer.

Super Crossword

NOVEL INTRODUCTIONS

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| ACROSS | DOWN |
| 1 Downgrade | 1 Cruel ruler |
| 7 Morals | 2 Domain |
| 13 Rich fabric with a silky finish | 3 Butcher's tool |
| 20 "Barn" chef Lagasse | 4 Whale variety |
| 21 Result in | 5 Dead heats |
| 22 Went to the polls again | 6 Lilly of drugs |
| 23 1978 arcade classic | 7 TV's |
| 25 Immemorial | 8 Tantalizes |
| 26 Gyro breads | 9 Contained |
| 27 Sue Grafton's "— for Alibi" | 10 Brain gains |
| 28 Its highest mountain is Denali | 11 Key near Alt |
| 30 "... good witch — bad witch?" | 12 Sammy of the diamond |
| 31 Emphasize | 13 Car stopper |
| 33 Healthy | 14 Of monarchs |
| 34 Bread sliced doubly thick | 15 Coincide |
| 37 College transcript no. | 16 Coke, e.g. |
| 39 Charge to pitch a product | 17 Truckloads |
| 44 Many a hospital delivery | 18 China's — Xiaoping |
| 45 Bottled water brand | 19 Border |
| 49 " 'Tis a pity!" | 24 Mil. alliance since 1949 |
| 52 What a DJ talks into | 29 White birds |
| | 31 Pig's digs |
| | 32 Auto garage brand |
| | 35 Lawyers' gp. |
| | 36 Lay turf on |
| | 37 Enthusiastic greeting |
| | 38 Mas' mates |
| | 40 Stops harping on the subject |
| | 124 Peripherals |
- | | |
|--|-----------------------------|
| 41 "As is" transaction | 78 Hailed vehicle |
| 42 Beseeched | 83 Brand of root beer |
| 43 Acronym for four entertainment prizes | 84 Stranded cell stuff |
| 46 Scott Turow memoir | 86 Nintendo game console |
| 47 Actress Laura | 87 Fall away |
| 48 Sp. woman | 89 Lighthouse lights |
| 49 Dress of India | 90 Sushi tuna |
| 50 Opulent, floor-length cloak | 91 Border |
| 51 Of lesser importance | 95 Noble sort |
| 52 Parisian pronoun | 96 Thawed |
| 53 "You win" | 97 Beginning painting class |
| 54 Religious law | 98 Accepting of |
| 58 1040 ID | 99 Became tiresome to |
| 59 Must-see | 100 Gets wiser |
| 61 It's south of Tenn. | 102 Pop singer |
| 63 Become a participant | 103 City in southeast |
| 64 Pollute | 104 Fess up to |
| 65 "Get what I'm talkin' about?" | 106 Frying fat |
| 66 Home to Augusta | 107 "The Time Machine" race |
| 71 It's south of Tenn. | 108 — monster |
| 72 Senate affirmatives | 109 No-show GI |
| 74 Pigeon shed | 110 Not fully shut |
| 75 Allay | 111 Super review |
| 76 Home pest | 113 Food herring |
| 77 Curved paths | 114 Cattle group |
| | 117 Cochlea site |
| | 118 W-2 pro |



SPORTS

RTHS Golf

(PHOTOS BY RUSSELL HODGES)



Rochelle Township High School golf team holds two weeks of summer practice at Fairways Golf Course
The Rochelle Township High School golf team held two weeks of summer practice at Fairways Golf Course from July 15-25. Players took the course from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Thursday each week and worked alongside head coach Glen Mehrings. The golf team will begin the 2024 fall season on Monday, Aug. 12.



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(July 28 and Aug. 4, 2024)

NOTICE BUDGET HEARING

Notice is hereby given that a public hearing will be held on the Budget and Appropriation Ordinance for the Flagg-Rochelle Public Library District, Ogle County, Illinois, at 7:00pm on September 19, 2024 at the Library District building located at 619 Fourth Avenue, Rochelle, Illinois 61068. Notice is further given that a Tentative Budget and Appropriation Ordinance will be available for inspection at the Library, August 8, 2024 to the day of the public hearing, during normal library hours.

Dated this 18th day of July 2024

Susan Sevedge, Secretary-Treasurer No. 0803

(Aug. 4, 2024)

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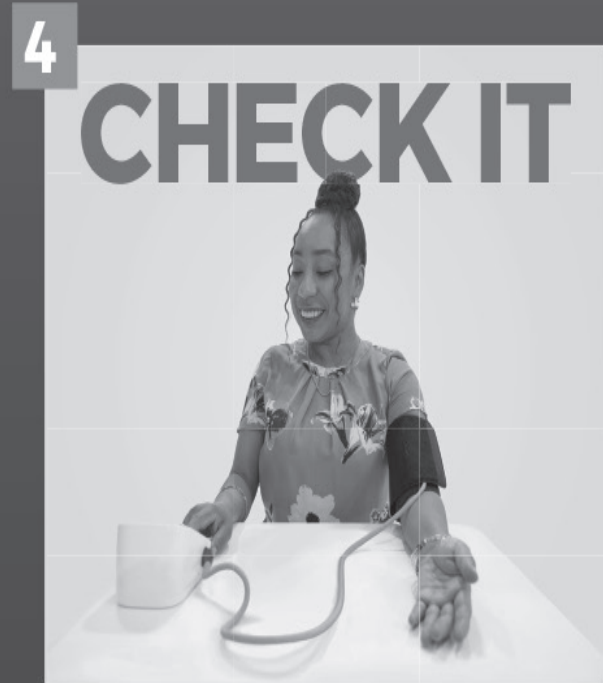
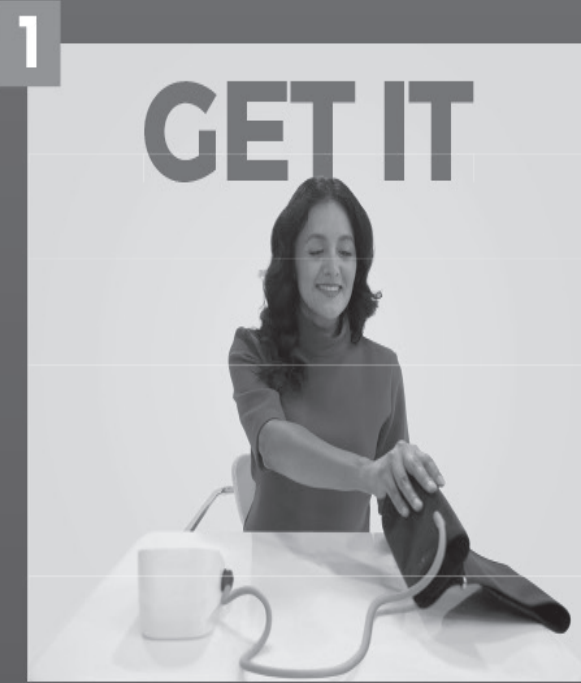
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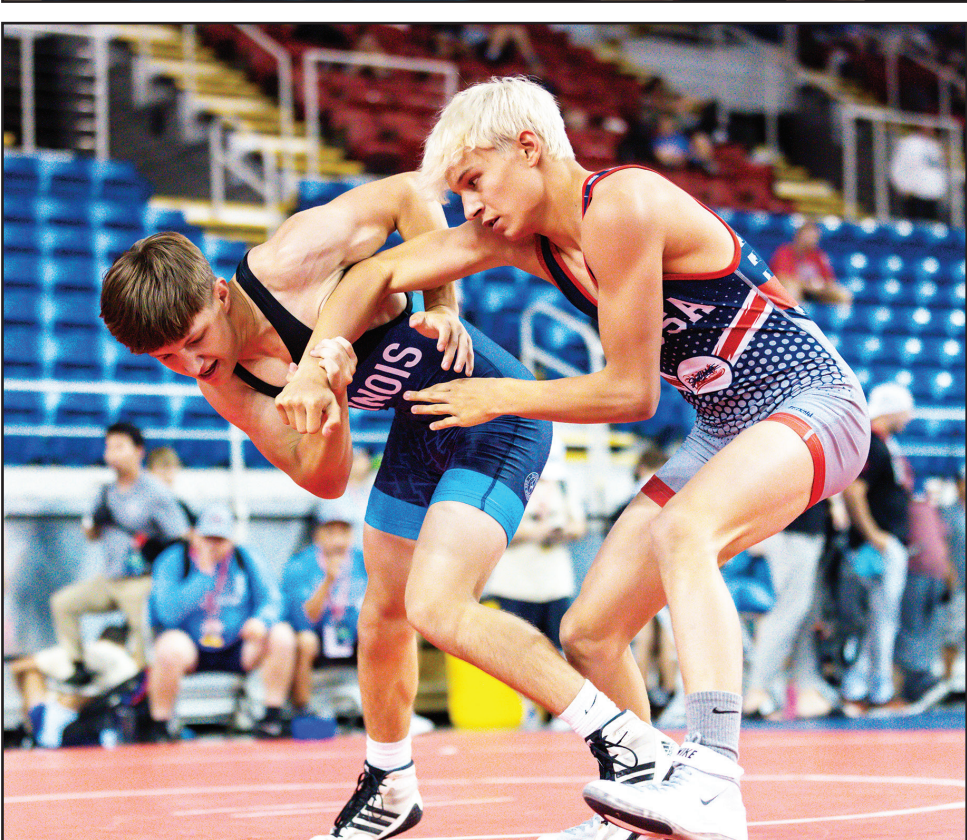
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SPORTS



(PHOTOS BY YESSENIA ANDRONIC)

Brenden Voight (top left), Dempsey Atkinson (top right), Joshua Lassiter (bottom left) and Keagan Albers (bottom right) were four of the six RTHS student-athletes who represented the Forge Wrestling Club and the State of Illinois during the 2024 U.S. Junior & 16U Nationals in Fargo, North Dakota this past month.

FARGO: Rochelle wrestlers compete at U.S Junior & 16U Nationals

From page 12

"I'm grateful for the chance to compete at the national level and it gives me an edge because most high school wrestlers don't do freestyle or greco."

In addition to Villalobos, three other wrestlers from Rochelle battled in the 16U Greco-Roman Men's Championship tournament. Junior Brenden Voight wrestled in the 157-pound weight division and finished 2-2 over four matches, collecting a 12-2 technical fall over California's Thomas De-

Boer and an 11-0 technical fall against Idaho's Kalab Hammer as the No. 32 seed.

"It was a great experience," Voight said. "I enjoyed being around great competitors and meeting new people who pushed me to excel. My favorite part was spending the week with my friends... I realized that having goals and achieving them opens up opportunities I wouldn't otherwise have. This experience makes me want to work hard and set the bar higher for next season."

Junior Keagan Albers wrestled in the 126-pound weight division, finishing 1-2 over three bouts with a 13-2 technical fall against South Dakota's Garett Huston. Sophomore Joshua Lassiter grappled in the 144-pound weight division and also went 1-2 over three bouts, scoring a 10-4 decision against New Jersey's Sullivan Hawkes.

"I had a great experience wrestling at Fargo," Albers said. "What I enjoyed the most was the coaching and the competition. Going to Fargo only made me a better wrestler and the big-

gest thing I learned from wrestling at Fargo was how much your hard work pays off and what you put in is what you get. My goals for this upcoming season are to make it down to state and hopefully win some matches. My coaches are great and I think they'll keep pushing me to be my best."

"It was a great experience and I got to wrestle the top guys in the nation," Lassiter said. "I had a good time with my friends and teammates. I learned where I'm at compared to other wrestlers and looking

back on how I performed makes me excited for getting better and continuing to work. My main goal for next season is to qualify for the state meet. It's going to be tough, but working during the offseason and staying focused will be what I need to do."

Rounding out the Rochelle athletes in Fargo was senior Dempsey Atkinson, who wrestled two matches in the Junior Women's Freestyle Championship tournament. Atkinson competed in the 145-pound weight division.

"I learned that I need to keep working hard so I can beat those girls from other states who are state placers and champions," Atkinson said. "This experience showed me that if I want to succeed at the national level, then I need to put more effort into getting better. My goal for the folkstyle season is to place higher than I did last season so I can show improvement. To achieve this goal, I need to put my all into practices and tournaments to get me prepared to go against the best in the state."

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HUB SPOTLIGHT

Harding to continue track career at North Central

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

FORMER Rochelle student-athlete Gabrielle Harding wasn't ready to let her track and field career end after what she felt was a challenging senior season at Concordia University Chicago. Harding graduated in the spring and received her bachelor's degree in pre-physical therapy. As she looked for schools to continue her education, Harding felt a strong desire to return to track and field for one more season. Her search led to a visit at North Central College, where she was offered an opportunity to pursue her doctorate in physical therapy and continue her throwing career. Now preparing for her fifth and final season, Harding is eager to prove herself.

“My intention was to get into a doctoral program for physical therapy,” Harding said. “I told myself that I wanted to do a fifth year because, as an athlete, I didn't feel that I was done... North Central checked so many boxes for me academically and that's when I started looking into doing a fifth year. I found out they're already working with an athlete on the track team who's also doing a fifth year and is in the doctoral program... I wasn't sure I'd be able to do this, but it was a blessing to hear that their program is willing to adhere to whatever goals I had.”

Harding spent four years with the women's track and field team at Concordia. She set a personal record of 49.93 meters (163 feet 10 inches) in the hammer throw during the 2023 NACC Outdoor Championships, where she finished first. The RTHS alum also concluded her four-year stint at Concordia with personal bests of 15.15 meters (49 feet 8 ½ inches) in the weight throw, 38.81 meters (127 feet 4 inches) in the discus throw and 12.20 meters (40 feet ½ inches) in the shot put. Harding currently specializes in the discus and hammer throw.

“Concordia was a small school and our track meets were small,” Harding said. “I knew everyone on my team and all of my teammates knew me. What I really loved was being together with my teammates after each meet and I loved that all of my teammates were there for me. There were times when I would be competing and then suddenly I'd have 10-to-15 teammates cheering one on. We had a connection and my teammates pushed me as much as I pushed them. The community we had was one of the best things that I experienced over the last four years.”

Although Harding didn't establish a new personal record during her senior season, she was once again named an All-NACC thrower, finishing third in the hammer throw at the 2024 NACC Outdoor Championships. The former Lady Hub standout was also one of only three Concordia student-athletes to be selected for the CSC Academic All-District team for the 2023-24 season. Harding described



(PHOTO COURTESY OF CUC ATHLETICS)

Former Rochelle track and field athlete Gabrielle Harding will be continuing her career at North Central College. Harding recently graduated from Concordia University Chicago.

her senior year as one of personal growth and overcoming challenges.

“My senior year was a learning curve,” Harding said. “I didn't feel that I was proving what I could do, but my coaches pushed me and showed me how much I've accomplished. I worked a lot on my technique in the hammer throw and I spent my whole senior year practicing with a four-turn throw instead of a three-turn throw... I feel more comfortable in the ring than I was as a junior and I feel that my technique has grown so much despite that not showing in the record books. I'm happy with where I'm at now and I'm excited for the upcoming season at North Central.”

Among Harding's strongest outings during her senior year were a second-place finish in weight throw at the 2024 Margaret Bradley Invitational in Chicago as well as second-place finishes in both the discus and hammer throw at the 2024 Green & White Invite in Milwaukee. Harding also recorded third-place finishes in hammer throw at the 2024 Warrior Invitational in Milwaukee and the 2024 ONU Tiger Open in Bourbonnais. As she moves on to North Central, Harding said her goal is to graduate in May 2027 with her doctorate and pursue a career as a physical therapist.

“I feel much more confident in both my sport and my academics,” Harding said. “I feel very set and ready to go for entering the physical therapy program and knocking it out of the park at North Central. I'm hoping that my confidence keeps growing as I enter my fifth year of track and field. Even though I'll only be with the team for one year, I want to help them in any way I can.”

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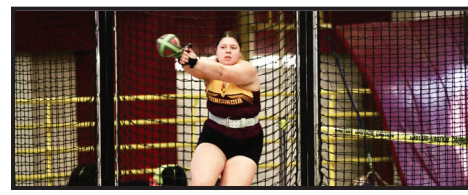
GO HUBS!



SUNDAY, AUG. 4, 2024

ROCHELLE NEWS-LEADER • SECTION 1 • PAGE 12

SPORTS



ONE MORE GO-AROUND

Gabrielle Harding will be continuing her track career at North Central College.

See page 11 for more details

USA Wrestling



Kaiden Morris (left) and Roman Villalobos (right) were two of the six RTHS student-athletes who represented the Forge Wrestling Club and the State of Illinois during the 2024 U.S. Junior & 16U Nationals in Fargo, North Dakota this past month.



(PHOTOS BY YESSENIA ANDRONIC)

Rochelle wrestlers battle at nationals

Six athletes compete at U.S. Junior & 16U National Championships in Fargo

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

FARGO, N.D. — Rochelle Township High School and the Forge Wrestling Club were well represented during the 2024 U.S. Marine Corps Junior and 16U National Championships at the FargoDome earlier this month. The annual freestyle and greco-roman wrestling tournaments bring together the most elite high school male and female wrestlers in the entire nation.

Six RTHS and Forge student-athletes competed

alongside Team Illinois during the national championships, which ran from July 12-20 in Fargo, North Dakota. Among those participating student-athletes was Rochelle senior Kaiden Morris, who entered the Junior Greco-Roman Men's Championship tournament in the 215-pound weight division. The No. 8 overall seed, Morris wrestled six total matches, finishing 4-2 with two victories coming via technical fall.

"It's the biggest tournament in the country and I prepared all summer for it," Morris said. "Even

though I didn't meet my goals, I have another year to get better and get ready for the folkstyle season. My confidence grew from my first year to my second year. I was really nervous my first year there and it was nerve racking to see kids from states that are halfway across the country. I came in this year and wrestled my match. Seeing this level of competition will help me a lot."

Morris opened the tournament with three consecutive victories to reach the Round of 16. The Hub senior held off Minnesota's

Hank Meyer for an 8-5 decision before scoring a 12-3 technical fall over Oklahoma's Kaden Stitt and a 9-2 decision against Illinois wrestler Asher Sheldon.

Morris conceded a 12-4 technical fall to California's Jayden Tadeo-Gosal in the Round of 16 to move into the consolation bracket. After notching a 12-0 technical fall against Alaska's Hayden Martin, Morris fell just short against Nevada's Melvin Whitehead, losing by tiebreaker 5-5. It was the second time competing at Fargo for Morris, who

went 3-2 over five matches in 2023.

Also wrestling from Rochelle was RTHS junior Roman Villalobos, who competed in the 16U Greco-Roman Men's Championship tournament and finished 3-2 over five matches. Villalobos reached the Round of 32 in the 190-pound weight division, edging Utah's Joaquin Ruiz with a 4-1 decision before conceding a tough loss by 7-6 decision against Iowa's Braylen Bieber.

The No. 15 seed in his division, Villalobos won two bouts in the conso-

lation bracket, securing a hard-fought win over Oklahoma's Aiden Bruce and cruising for a 10-0 technical fall against New York's Antonio Landon. Villalobos' tournament ended with a 9-4 loss to Wisconsin's Reed Falk.

"It was a really exciting time and it was a lot of fun to be with my friends," Villalobos said. "I thought I wrestled pretty well. There were some matches that didn't go my way and there were a couple of matches I could've won."

See FARGO page 10

RTHS Girls Soccer

Flores receives Interstate 8 First Team honors

Junior midfielder/forward Lara garners Honorable Mention for Lady Hubs

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Junior defender Betty Flores was named an Interstate 8 All-Conference First Team honoree for the second consecutive season. Flores returned for her third season with the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity soccer team this spring, scoring two goals and adding one assist while anchoring the defensive line. Flores was also named a team captain this season.

"I felt like I was able to show out and it feels great to be recognized," Flores said. "I felt that my confidence improved drastically from last year and I have more ambition year after year. One area where I want to improve for next year would be encouraging my teammates. We all have our trials and errors, but if we all stick together, we can persevere through those challenges."

Flores has started for the Lady Hubs since her freshman season, when she split time in the midfield and on defense before becoming a full-time starter at center back during her sophomore season, where she also earned Interstate 8 All-Conference First Team honors. Although injuries have plagued the

Lady Hubs over the last two seasons, Flores has been a consistent contributor on defense and aims to remain that way entering her senior season.

"For my senior year, I want to have some sort of impact on the younger girls," Flores said. "I feel like we get discouraged with the lack of female players and I want to see that change. I want to encourage the younger girls to go out and play some soccer... My three years have been a long journey. I've learned a lot about myself and how far I can push myself. I've come a long way since my freshman year and there's nothing I would change about my experience. I've grown into a stronger version of myself and I'm grateful for the opportunities I've been given."

Junior midfielder Makayla Lara also took home All-Conference recognition this spring, earning an Interstate 8 Honorable Mention for the second time in her career. Lara, who was named to the First Team as a sophomore, led Rochelle in goals (nine) and assists (eight). Lara totaled 22 goals and four assists as a sophomore after compiling 24 goals and six assists as a freshman.



(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)

Junior defender Betty Flores was named an Interstate 8 All-Conference First Team honoree for the second consecutive season.