



ROCHELLE News-Leader

WEEKEND EDITION | WWW.ROCHELLENEWS-LEADER.COM



Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:

Liberty Village of Rochelle

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815-562-9800

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LOCAL NEWS... LOCAL VIEWS

SUNDAY, OCT. 20, 2024

Utility design work for future Illinois Route 251 improvements approved

Purchases for RMU approved Tuesday

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — At its meeting Tuesday, the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved two design contracts for utility work related to the state's future reconstruction and widening of Illinois Route 251 on the north side of town that's planned for the coming years.

The first was the approval of an \$80,000 contract with Peralte-Clark LLC for water main improvements. As part of the state's Illinois Route 251 project, the city will be replacing a section of the water main from Illinois Route 38 to north of Flagg Road.

The state of Illinois has signed a contract with Peralte-Clark LLC for engineering services. Peralte-Clark LLC has subcontracted with Willett, Hofmann & Associates, a firm "expertly familiar" with the city's water system.

Willett, Hofmann & Associates will design water main replacement for approximately 2,800 feet of 12-inch water main on Illinois Route 251 from Illinois Route 38 to Flagg Road and approximately 1,000 feet of six-inch water main on Illinois Route 38 from Illinois Route 251 to Lincoln Highway, at Carrie Avenue and Fairview Drive. There will also be new water service



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

On Tuesday, the Rochelle City Council unanimously approved two design contracts for utility work related to the state's future reconstruction and widening of Illinois Route 251 on the north side of town that's planned for the coming years.

lines constructed for 25 customers.

The council also unanimously approved a \$59,759 agreement with Singh and Associates for lighting design on Illinois Route 251. Singh and Associates is the engineering firm the state is using on the project for lighting.

The design will allow for new fixtures to be placed on both sides of the roadway from Walgreens to Flagg Road. By using the same firm as IDOT the city will avoid any conflicts with the drainage and other utility installations being performed with the new construction. TIF funds will be utilized for the design and construction of the lighting. The city intends on using the same style of lighting fixtures placed near Walmart and 20th Street.

"It's nice after 20 years to hear that some of the 251 stuff is finally being able to be done after 20 years of IDOT saying it was moving to the top of the list," Mayor John Barrows said. "At least it's getting closer. It's a very intricate intersection and that's probably a reason it's taken a while."

RMU

purchases

The council unanimously approved purchases for Rochelle Municipal Utilities during the meeting. The council authorized the purchase of line construction materials from Anixter, WESCO Distribution, and Raukman/Prysmian for a total of \$1,132,065.21.

See CITY page 8



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

Kiwanis Golden K's 2024 Cash Raffle Fundraiser is officially underway and tickets are now on sale.

Kiwanis Golden K 2024 Cash Raffle Fundraiser underway

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Kiwanis Golden K's 2024 Cash Raffle Fundraiser is officially underway and tickets are now on sale.

The cost is \$20 per ticket and a maximum of 1,500 tickets will be sold. The tickets include over \$200 in coupons to local businesses, and cash prizes include \$2,500 for first prize, \$1,000 for second and third prize, and \$500 for fourth, fifth and sixth prize. The drawing will take place Thursday, Dec. 19 at the First Presbyterian Church in Rochelle at 8 a.m. Winners do not need to be present to win.

Kiwanis Golden K held a night meeting at Rosati's on Wednesday to kick off the raffle. Rosati's Owner Phil Lascola is a member of the club and raffle tickets will be available

for purchase at the Rosati's. Kiwanis Golden K members will be selling tickets at Ace Hardware on Oct. 25 and 26, and at Cypress House on Oct. 26. People can also reach out to Kiwanis Golden K members to buy tickets.

Kiwanis Golden K's 2024 Cash Raffle Fundraiser is cochaired by Club President Will McLachlan and Club Member Don Horner.

"This is one of our major fundraisers," McLachlan and Horner said. "We're hoping to make around \$20,000. Last year we made \$16,000 and gave away \$8,000 in cash prizes. We use the proceeds to support all of the organizations we help in the community. This is a great club for supporting Rochelle's activities. It's just wonderful."

See KIWANIS page 5

Ashton 17-year-old charged boy with murder of 16-year-old girl

Sosa charged with four counts of first-degree murder in Ashton homicide case

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

ASHTON — A 17-year-old Ashton boy has been charged with murder stemming from a 16-year-old girl that was found dead in an apartment in Ashton on Tuesday, a Lee County Sheriff's Office press release said Wednesday.

The Lee County Sheriff's Office is still investigating the homicide that occurred at 702 Richardson Ave., Apartment A in Ashton on Tuesday. An autopsy was conducted the morning of Wednesday at the Peoria County Coroner's Office on the 16-year-old female victim. The preliminary cause of death has been ruled as strangulation. Per the wishes of the mother, the 16-year-old victim has been identified as Jaedyn A. Hill.

The Lee County State's

Attorney's Office has filed charges alleging four counts of first-degree murder in the case against 17-year-old David J. Sosa of Ashton. The charges against Sosa are being filed as an adult and they carry a sentencing range of 20 to 60 years in the Department of Corrections. A detention hearing was held the morning of Wednesday in Lee County Case Number 24 CF 252. Sosa was remanded to the Kane County Juvenile Detention Center since he is currently a minor.

The investigation began on Tuesday at approximately 7:04 a.m. when the Lee County Sheriff's Office received a call from the Rochelle Police Department regarding a subject that walked into their lobby. The subject was identified as Sosa, who indicated to RPD officers that he was involved in a murder. RPD took the

information and provided the apartment address in Ashton for Lee County deputies to conduct a welfare check. Hill's body was located inside the apartment. Sosa and Hill resided at the apartment, and they were in a dating relationship, the press release said.

The Lee County State's Attorney's Office, the Lee County Juvenile Probation Department, RPD, the Illinois State Police – Crime Scene Services, the Lee County Coroner's Office, and the Peoria County Coroner's Office have all assisted with the investigation.

If anyone has information about this investigation, please call the Lee County Sheriff's Office at (815) 284-6631 or Crimestoppers at 1-888-CAUGHT-U. Callers can remain anonymous and receive rewards of up to \$1,000 if their



(COURTESY PHOTO)

A 17-year-old Ashton boy, David J. Sosa, has been charged with murder stemming from a 16-year-old girl that was found dead in an apartment in Ashton on Tuesday, a Lee County Sheriff's Office press release said Wednesday.

information leads to an arrest.

All charges are merely

an allegation, and the defendant is presumed innocent until proven guilty.

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KNOW IT TODAY



RTHS students earn honors

Rochelle seniors Emma Kennay and Colton Czekala recently received Rochelle DAR/SAR honors. Page 3

WEATHER

SUNDAY	MONDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
77 45	79 48
TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY
HIGH LOW	HIGH LOW
70 50	62 40

Today's RNL issue sponsored by Community Unity member:



615 Lincoln Highway
815-562-1404

OBITUARIES

• JOHN HENRY LOUIS COMBS
• ALICE F. MCNEAL

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INSERTS

• FARM & FLEET
• MENARDS
• FALL HARVEST

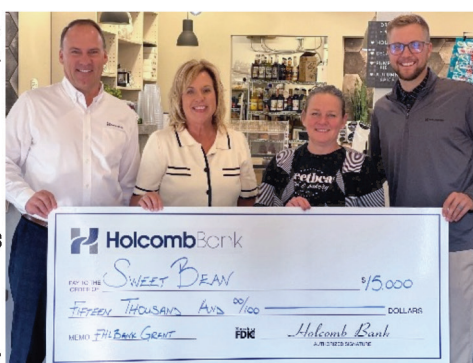
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LOCAL NEWS

Presentation made on potential community solar involvement Engineering agreements approved during Ogle County Board meeting Tuesday evening

BY JEFF HELFRICH
MANAGING EDITOR

OREGON — At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard a presentation from Mike Mudge of Rock River Energy Services regarding the county's potential future involvement in community solar with US Solar.

Mudge said he's been working with the county on a potential 20-year agreement at a 15 percent discount to its power bill that would see no investment required by the county. A community solar project, farm or garden is a solar power installation that accepts capital from and provides output credit and tax benefits to multiple customers, including individuals, businesses, nonprofits, and other investors.

Getting into community solar would result in a \$12,415 annual savings for the county, Mudge said. Community solar helps the state to meet its clean energy goals and

utilizes state incentive programs.

Ogle County would be involved with five local community solar gardens in the region, including one each in Whiteside County, Ogle County and Manville and two in Fulton. Each of them is planned to come online in 2025. Those five gardens have enough capacity to take care of all five Ogle County power accounts. The power from the solar gardens will go onto ComEd's system.

Ogle County would be the first county in ComEd's western territory to get involved in community solar.

Engineering

The board unanimously approved engineering agreements for two projects during the meeting.

The first was for the engineering services for the replacement or extension of 21 road culverts on North German Church Road with Willett, Hofmann & Associates for \$176,891.



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

At its monthly meeting Tuesday, the Ogle County Board heard a presentation from Mike Mudge of Rock River Energy Services regarding the county's potential future involvement in community solar with US Solar.

The second was for phase two of work on a Mill Road bridge rehabilitation with Willett, Hofmann & Associates for \$32,920.

ARPA

The board unanimously approved the use of \$5,288 in federal American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds on a Carrier Inter-

face with ADP and Blue-Cross/BlueShield. Board Chairman John Finfrock (R, District 7, Mt. Morris) said the new interface will make the exchange of

information easier with employees, such as the addition of children to health insurance plans, and will save the county on data error and time.



The Village of Progress held its Annual Awards Banquet on Oct. 9 at St. Mary's Leaning Center, Oregon. It celebrates the accomplishments of those who attend the Village and the many volunteers who donate their time and talent.

Village of Progress held annual awards banquet Oct. 9

OREGON — The Village of Progress held its Annual Awards Banquet on Oct. 9 at St. Mary's Leaning Center, Oregon. It celebrates the accomplishments of those who attend the Village and the many volunteers who donate their time and talent. The following 2024 awards were presented:

Robert Stouffer Special Recognition — Byron Public Library.

Rick Hahn Business of the Year — Rockford IceHogs.

John Herrmann Distinguished Improvement — Richard "JR" Dunseth.

Robert Moehle Personal

Achievement — Kim Weber.

Fred Smith Competitive Employment — Chris Martinez.

Jane Etnyre Volunteer of the Year — Dave Gesin.

Robert Stahl Friendship Award — Deanna Gregory.

Carly Heller Special Olympian of the Year — Sylvia King.

Coach Cookie Warren Memorial Award — Austin Henry.

It was a great evening that spotlighted our Ogle County men and women with developmental disabilities. Thank you to everyone that attended. Your support is valued and appreciated.



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TURKEY SHOOT



**Gun Raffles
Meat Raffles
Blind Shoot
50/50**

**8:00 a.m. November 3rd at the
Rochelle Wildlife Conservation Club**

Camping available!

Call or text Nick with questions

815-677-8981

**Open to
the public**

**We are raffling off two freezers each
containing a 1/2 a beef!**

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LOCAL NEWS

First mosquito pool of West Nile Virus confirmed in Ogle County

OREGON – The Ogle County Health Department (OCHD) has confirmed the first mosquito pool of West Nile virus reported in Ogle County for 2024. This follows the bird that tested positive for West Nile Virus last month.

A mosquito pool in Rochelle tested positive for West Nile Virus (WNV). Mosquitoes with WNV should be assumed to present throughout the county. Mosquitoes will be present through the fall, so it is important to take precautions to prevent West Nile Virus in humans. Monitoring for West Nile virus in Illinois includes laboratory tests for mosquito batches, dead crows, blue jays, robins and other perching birds, as well as testing humans with West Nile virus-like symptoms.

People who observe a sick or dying crow, blue jay, robin or other perching bird should contact their local health department, which will determine if the bird will be picked up for testing. West Nile virus is transmitted through the bite of a Culex pipi-

ens mosquito, commonly called a house mosquito, which has picked up the virus by feeding on an infected bird. Common symptoms include fever, nausea, headache and muscle aches.

Symptoms may last from a few days to a few weeks. However, four out of five people infected with West Nile virus will not show any symptoms. In rare cases, severe illness including meningitis or encephalitis, or even death, can occur. People older than 50 and individuals with weakened immune systems are at higher risk for severe illness from West Nile virus.

Precautions include practicing the three “R’s” – reduce, repel, and report.

REDUCE - make sure doors and windows have tight-fitting screens. Repair or replace screens that have tears or other openings. Try to keep doors and windows shut. Eliminate, or refresh each week, all sources of standing water where mosquitoes can breed, including water in bird baths, ponds, flow-

erpots, wading pools, old tires, and any other containers.

REPEL - when outdoors, wear shoes and socks, long pants and a long-sleeved shirt, and apply insect repellent that contains DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or IR 3535 according to label instructions. Consult a physician before using repellents on infants.

REPORT – report locations where you see water sitting stagnant for more than a week such as roadside ditches, flooded yards, and similar locations that may produce mosquitoes. The local health department or city government may be able to add larvicide to the water, which will kill any mosquito eggs.

To learn more about WNV and other mosquito-borne diseases and prevention methods you can consult the Illinois Department of Public Health website or contact the IDPH WNV hotline at 866-369-9710, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.



Czekala, Kennay earn SAR and DAR awards

Rochelle Township High School recently congratulated Colton Czekala and Emma Kennay on receiving the SAR Award (Sons of the American Revolution) and DAR Award (Daughters of the American Revolution), respectively. These prestigious awards are presented to seniors who possess good citizenship qualities in their homes, schools and communities. Colton and Emma exemplify the characteristics of leadership, service, character and patriotism. Winners are selected by their teachers and peers because they demonstrate these qualities to an outstanding degree. Colton and Emma will be recognized with certificates at the RTHS Honors Night in May. (Courtesy photo)

Constellation Foundation launches \$1 million environmental initiative

BALTIMORE — Constellation (Nasdaq: CEG), the nation’s largest producer of emissions-free energy and a leading supplier of energy products and services, announced today \$1 million in grant funding through the Constellation Foundation to support 35 conservation projects as part of the company’s commitment to creating cleaner, healthier environments in the communities it serves.

The annual Constellation Leading Environmental Accelerators Network (CLEAN) Awards

directly fund efforts to combat the climate crisis, protect ecosystems and advance sustainability across the company’s clean energy center communities in Illinois, Maryland, New York, Pennsylvania and Texas.

A total of 25 nonprofits received grants ranging from \$5,000 to \$125,000. The Foundation, in partnership with Constellation’s environmental and sustainability teams, selected the projects, examples of which include installing living shorelines, restoring na-

tive habitats, advancing environmental education, and supporting an aquatic recovery center for reptiles and amphibians.

“Running the nation’s largest fleet of zero-emissions clean energy centers comes with the responsibility of preserving natural resources, protecting wildlife and strengthening biodiversity in our communities,” said Bryan Hanson, executive vice president and chief generation officer, Constellation. “The CLEAN Awards uplift our nuclear plant communities

by supporting local and regional environmental stewardship organizations that share our commitment to creating a cleaner, healthier future.”

Local Recipient – Hoo Haven (Durand) - \$55,000.

Project Title: Herptile Recovery & Education Center: Aquatic Recovery Center for Reptiles and Amphibians

Description: Hoo Haven Wildlife Rehabilitation & Education Center will build a new “Herptile Recovery & Education Center” -- a dedicated

area for reptiles and amphibian species. This area will specifically provide a more natural environment for recovering frogs, turtles, tortoises, snakes, and lizards. The primary objective for this project is to create a recovery center that is specifically designed for the needs of reptiles and amphibians. Another objective is to create a space where the community can be educated about reptiles and amphibians, with examples of quality environment, diet, care, and enrichment.

Hoo Haven will begin work on the project in Spring 2025 and a Media Advisory will be issued when the project is complete.

The Constellation Foundation has awarded \$2.3 million in 2024 to support community organizations focused on workforce development, environmental stewardship and clean energy education. To learn more about the CLEAN Awards and other philanthropic programs at Constellation, visit constellationenergy.com.

Castro joins NIU’s Rebuilding Democracy Lecture Series on Oct. 29

DEKALB — The NIU College of Liberal Arts and Sciences will welcome former presidential candidate and public servant Julián Castro as the next guest in their Rebuilding Democracy Lecture Series at 4 p.m. CT Oct. 29.

This event, conducted on Zoom, will feature a discussion between Castro and Dean Robert Brinkmann on a variety of topics such as the current state of democracy, the race for the White House, leveraging Latinx political power, the American dream and building an equitable society. A moderated question and answer session will

follow.

The program is free and open to the public, but advanced registration is required. Go to <http://go.niu.edu/Rebuilding-Democracy-RSVP> to request a link to the event prior to Oct. 29. Event links will be sent from the clas-communication@niu.edu mailbox one day prior to the event.

Castro has distinguished himself as a strong leader and successful public servant for nearly two decades. A former Democratic candidate for President in 2020, Castro served as the 16th Secretary of Housing and Urban Development

under President Barack Obama from 2014 to 2017, and as mayor of San Antonio from 2009 to 2014. He also co-chaired the United States delegation to the United Nations Habitat III conference, spearheaded efforts to reduce homelessness, and created Connect Home, a public-private partnership to deliver broadband to public housing residents.

As mayor of America’s seventh largest city, Castro brought a strong focus to expanding educational achievement and making San Antonio a leader in the 21st century global economy. During his tenure, San Antonio ranked first on

the Milken Institute’s Best Performing Cities List, received an A+ grade for doing business by Forbes, and was the only Top 10 city at the time to achieve a Triple A bond rating with each of the three major ratings agencies.

Castro began his public service career in 2001, becoming, at the age of 26, San Antonio’s youngest city councilman in history at the time. Castro made history again in 2012, when he delivered the keynote address at the Democratic National Convention, the first Latino to do so.

Following his service in the Obama adminis-

tration, Castro served as the Dean’s Distinguished Fellow and Fellow of the Davila Chair in International Trade Policy at the Lyndon B. Johnson School of Public Affairs at the University of Texas at Austin. Castro’s memoir, *An Unlikely Journey: Waking Up From My American Dream* was published by Little Brown in 2018.

Castro currently serves on the board of directors of the LBJ Foundation and is a political analyst for NBC News and MSNBC. Castro serves as CEO of the Latino Community Foundation, the nation’s largest Latino-serving

foundation.

The Rebuilding Democracy Lecture Series showcases how the liberal arts and sciences is at the center of a healthy democracy. The Series addresses various aspects of building a stronger democracy and bringing together a fractured society – everything from restoring civility, exploring branches of government, rebuilding our diplomatic and intelligence offices, as well as topical issues such as education, healthcare, media, public health, budget and finance, sustainability/environmental issues, and social justice/human rights.

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OBITUARIES

ROCHELLE POLICE REPORT

ROCHELLE — On Oct. 14 at 10:41 p.m. David M. Thick, 21, of Mt. Morris was cited for disobeying a traffic control device. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Nov. 15 Rochelle court date.

On Oct. 15 at 3:59 a.m. Kendra J. Smith, 40, of DeKalb was cited for disobeying a stop sign. She signed a promise to comply and was given a Nov. 15 Rochelle court date.

On Oct. 10 at 9:07 p.m. Quintrayell A. Hill, 45, of Rockford was cited for driving around a railroad signal. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Nov. 1 Rochelle court date.

On Oct. 14 at 10:57 p.m. Brandon L. Goodwin, 35, of DeKalb was cited for expired registration and no insurance. He signed a promise to comply and

was given a Nov. 15 Rochelle court date.

On Oct. 15 at 8:39 a.m. Priscilla A. Withrow, 32, of Rochelle was arrested on two Ogle County warrants and transferred.

On Oct. 15 at 9:29 p.m. Paul L. Martinez, 37, of Creston was arrested for aggravated battery and driving under the influence. He was released on a notice to appear with a Nov. 15 Ogle County court date.

On Oct. 15 at 8:38 p.m. Nedal Abdallah, 43, of Rochelle was cited for speeding 61 in a 40 miles per hour zone. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Nov. 15 Rochelle court date.

On Oct. 16 at 2:59 p.m. Jack Mowery, 70, of Dixon was arrested on a Lee County warrant and transferred.

On Oct. 16 at 1:36 p.m. Eduardo Villalobos, 60,

of Rochelle was cited for disobeying a stop sign. He signed a promise to comply and was given a Nov. 15 Rochelle court date.

On Oct. 16 at 7:07 p.m. Cory A. Tweed, 53, of Plano was arrested for driving while license revoked, fleeing/attempting to elude an officer, and a Kendall County failure to appear warrant. He was also cited for operating an uninsured motor vehicle, improper lane usage, failure to yield from a private drive, improper turn and unlawful use of cannabis. Tweed was transferred and given an Oct. 30 Ogle County court date.

On Oct. 17 at 3:57 p.m. Ivan Price, 20, of Rochelle was arrested for domestic battery and violation of an order of protection and transferred.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

Alice F. McNeal

BELVIDERE — Alice F. McNeal, age 84, passed away on October 11, 2024 surrounded by her loving family, including her husband of 62 years, Norman McNeal.

Alice (nee Pobstman) was born on November 16, 1939 in Rochelle, IL to Harold and Frances (nee Reed) Pobstman. She attended Catholic parochial schools in Rochelle and graduated from Rochelle Township High School in 1957. She was a very proud registered nurse who graduated from St. Anthony's School of Nursing in 1960. She married the love of her life, Norman D. McNeal, on May 19, 1962 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church in Rochelle, IL.

Alice was a passionate, caring registered nurse working in hospitals in Dekalb, Freeport and Belvidere for 36 years. She retired from St. Joseph's Hospital in Belvidere in 1996. She and Norman moved to Belvidere in 1974 where they raised their four daughters and were members of St. James Catholic Church. Alice's passion was always her family including not only

her husband and daughters but also, sisters, brothers, in-laws, nieces, nephews, cousins and beyond. She and her husband Norman welcomed many friends into their lives. Aunt Alice will be missed by many.

Alice was pre-deceased by her parents, Harold and Frances Pobstman, brothers Mahlon Meling and Charles Pobstman and sisters Mary Louise Dall'Osto and Elizabeth Pobstman.

She is survived by her husband of 62 years, Norman D. McNeal of Belvidere; her sister Barbara Herrmann of Madisonville, KY; her daughters and sons-in-law Catherine (Eric) Jacobson of Brookfield, WI, Patricia (Brian) Fuller of Belvidere, IL, Carol McNeal of Machesney Park, IL and Diane (Robert) Zimmerman of Belvidere, IL; her grandchildren Robert (Lexi) Zimmerman of Belvidere, IL, Alison (Adam) Wolf of Belvidere, IL, Haley (Chace) Cameneti of North Point, FL, Bradley Fuller of Rockford, IL, Megan Fuller of Belvidere, IL, Claire Jacobson of Chicago, IL, Emily Jacobson of Chicago, IL,



go, IL, Kevin Jacobson of Madison, WI and Megan Nielson of Tampa, FL, nine great grandchildren and her special friend Mary Collins.

A visitation will be held at Anderson Funeral and Cremation Services, 218 W. Hurlbut Avenue, Belvidere, IL on October 22 from 5-7 pm. A funeral mass will be held at St. James Catholic Church, 402 Church Street, Belvidere, IL on October 23 at 11am. A luncheon will be held immediately following the mass.

In lieu of flowers, the family requests memorial gifts be made to support the Alice F. Nursing Scholarship Fund at the Froedtert Hospital Foundation, Attn: Office of Institutional Advancement, P.O. Box 26509, Milwaukee, WI 53226. Gifts can also be made to a charity of your choice in her name.

Museum's 'Getting down to business in Rochelle' reception is Oct. 27

ROCHELLE — We're still "Getting down to business in Rochelle."

As part of our ongoing project at the museum to present information about the business history of Rochelle — "Getting down to business in Rochelle" a reception for the new chapters — Chapter 2: 1869-1875 and Chapter 3: 1876-1880 — will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 1 p.m. Information about the project and highlights from the current segments will be presented by Museum Director Jan Devore.

This project has been supported with grants from the Rochelle Area Community Foundation to fund the professional work of OC Creative in DeKalb to add the audio component to the videos.

Fast forward to 2024 and the museum in partnership with the Downtown Rochelle Association is taking a "snapshot" of who is "Getting down to business in Rochelle" in 2024. The information and photos will become



(COURTESY PHOTO)

As part of our ongoing project at the museum to present information about the business history of Rochelle — "Getting down to business in Rochelle" a reception for the new chapters — Chapter 2: 1869-1875 and Chapter 3: 1876-1880 — will be held on Sunday, Oct. 27 at 1 p.m.

the next chapter in our business saga in Rochelle — Getting down to business in Rochelle in 2024. Areas on Illinois Routes 38 and 251 have not been canvassed at this time but there are plans to cover as much as possible before the end of the year.

A "Snapshot" form that outlines the information the museum is collecting can be downloaded from

the home page of the museum's website, www.flagtownshipmuseumrochelle.org.

Any business owner who would like the information emailed can send a request to hubhistory@gmail.com. It is the goal of the Downtown Rochelle Association and the Flag Township Museum to document the local business scene that is thriving today before it changes or is lost.

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

John Henry Louis Combs

ROCHELLE — John Henry Louis Combs, age 24, while out of state working on a storm restoration project, passed away unexpectedly on Friday, October 4, 2024 in Montgomery Alabama. He was born on January 20, 2000 in Rockford, IL, the son of Christopher and Cheryl (Bowlen) Combs. John was a dedicated Local 196 Journeyman Lineman and owner and operator of Combs Complete Insulation, who was a joy to be around. He had an infectious kindness, spending many years at the Diamond G Ranch, where he rode horses and participated in rodeos.

John liked to build and ride motorcycles, raise cattle and listen to music. He will be greatly missed.

He is preceded in death by his grandparents, John and Carol Bowlen and uncles: Ron and William Bowlen.

John is survived by his father, Christopher Combs; brother, Patrick Combs; mother, Cheryl Combs; grandfather, Don Combs; grandmother, Kathy (Robert) Skattum; uncle, Scott (Megan) Combs; special cousins: Leon Combs and Chris Bowlen; many special friends and "his" dog, Toby.

There will be a Celebration of Life gathering at the Rochelle Diamond G Ranch, 4564 S. Knoll Rd., Rochelle on October 26, 2024, serving lunch at 1:00 P.M.



Cremation care has been provided by the Unger-Horner Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Rochelle, IL.

Visit www.UngerHorner.com to sign the online guest book.

OGLE COUNTY SHERIFF'S REPORT

OREGON — On Oct. 15 at approximately 7:44 a.m. deputies responded to the 100 block of Harvest Glenn Drive, Davis Junction, in reference to a physical domestic. After an investigation, a juvenile (age 16) was arrested for domestic battery and transported to Kane County Juvenile Detention Center for future court dates.

On Oct. 15 at approximately 12:50 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on a white Chevrolet sedan in the 6,000 block of West Lowell Park Road. After a brief investigation deputies arrested Nancy L. Scudder, 34, of Rock Falls, for driving while license revoked. Scudder was also cited for improper turn signal. Deputies also arrested Seth E. Wetter, 51, of Dixon, for possession of methamphetamine. Both Scudder and Wetter were transported to the Ogle County Jail and issued notice to appear at a future court date.

On Oct. 15 at approximately 10:26 p.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop on a grey Chevy sedan near the intersection of Mud Creek Road and North Leaf River Road. After a brief investigation deputies arrested Megan A. Fuentes, 45, of Mt. Morris, for improper cannabis container. Fuentes was also cited for speeding.

Fuentes was issued a notice to appear at a future court date.

On Oct. 17 at approximately 8:04 a.m. deputies conducted a traffic stop at Illinois Route 26 and Freeport Road. After an investigation, deputies arrested Horacio Gonzalez-Camacho, 42, of Freeport for no valid license and speeding. Gonzalez-Camacho was transported to the Ogle County Jail where he was processed and released on his citations with a notice to appear.

On Oct. 17 at approximately 10:37 a.m. deputies arrested David C. Choice, 29, of Rockford, at the Ogle County Courthouse. Choice was arrested on an outstanding no bond warrant for driving while license suspended. He appeared in court at 1 p.m., was issued a recognizance bond, and was released. Choice will appear in court again on Nov. 12 at 9 a.m.

All individuals are considered innocent until proven guilty.

CRAFT & VENDOR SHOW

Sip -n- Shop

Saturday, November 9th

10am - 3pm

Mendota Civic Center

1901 Tom Merwin Drive, Mendota

Free admission • Free parking

Raspberries & Elderberries

• Pesticide Free

• Irrigated Plants

• Order or self-pick

• Late August through first frost!

Stillman Valley Nursery

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Stillman Valley, IL

815-645-8113

ROCHELLE News-Leader

211 IL Route 38 East, Rochelle, IL 61068

(815) 562-4171

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HOW TO CONTACT US

News-Leader Main Switchboard (815) 562-4171

General Manager (815) 561-2124

Newsroom Staff

Jeff Helfrich, Managing Editor (815) 561-2151

Russ Hodges, Sports rhodges@rochellenews-leader.com

To Place a Display Ad

Chris Ackland (815) 561-2153

To Place a Legal Ad

Mike Feltes mfeltes@oglecountylife.com

To Place a Classified Ad

Chris Ackland (815) 561-2153

Subscriptions and Delivery

Kelly White (815) 562-4171

kwhite@rochellenews-leader.com

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

KIWANIS: ‘This is a great club for supporting Rochelle’s activities’

From page 1

The organizations Kiwanis Golden K supports include Focus House, Rochelle FFA, AYSO Soccer, Village of Progress, Camp Cedar Illinois, Creston Builders Club, Eswood Builders Club, Kings Builders Club, Rochelle Builders Club, Steward Builders Club, Rochelle Little League, Rochelle Junior League, Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Rescue Mission, Rochelle Wrestling Club, Boy Scout Troops 64 and 553, Girl Scout Troops 409 and 1870, David Crawford Foundation, Rochelle Township High School Key Club, Shining Star Children’s Advocacy Center, Community Action Network (CAN) and 4-H Clubs Hub Hickory Nuts and Steward Soaring Eagles.

Horner thanked members that sell and buy tickets and members of



(PHOTO BY JEFF HELFRICH)

The cost is \$20 per ticket and a maximum of 1,500 tickets will be sold. The tickets include over \$200 in coupons to local businesses, and cash prizes include \$2,500 for first prize, \$1,000 for second and third prize, and \$500 for fourth, fifth and sixth prize.

the community that support the raffle. “We like having everybody involved and helping out,” Horner said. “There’s a chance for the people that buy them to win some money. And it goes to a great cause. The community’s support of this raffle fundraiser helps us support all of our organizations we help. We gave away eight \$2,000 scholarships at the high school last year. That’s \$16,000. The raffle tickets go a long way to cover that expense.”

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@faithlchrochelle.org for more information. All are welcome to join us!

First General Baptist Church, 500 S. 12th St, Rochelle. Phone: 815-562-5221. Email: fgbcrochelle@gmail.com.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 Bunger - Missions and Children’s Pastor. Sunday Worship Service- 10:00am. Nursery/Toddlers Ages 0-5 available during the service in the Splash building. Swim- Grades 1st-5th worship with the adults then break out for age appropriate teaching. Youth groups, Small groups, Life Groups and Workshops meet throughout the year for Bible teaching. 7C’s Mission- serves the community physically & spiritually each month from 1135 Lincoln Hwy, providing lightly used clothing, Hygiene items, a light lunch and Elder Prayer open the second Saturday from 10am-2pm and the 4th Thursday from 4pm to 7:00pm and by appointment.. [f](http://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. Worship time begins at 9 a.m. followed by fellowship at 10 a.m. 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: stpatrickrochelle.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

'Believe you can and you're halfway there'

AS we move into the beautiful fall time of year, there is once again a lot going on in the city. Most recently, the city council unanimously approved a five-year plan for a new home tax rebate incentive. The program will be a rebate of the city portion of their tax bill at 100% for five years. This program begins the first year the homeowner resides in a new construction on Jan. 1. Currently, the city attorney is working on an inter-governmental agreement, which will be proposed to other taxing bodies as well for their participation in the program. This

incentive directly benefits the owner/occupied new construction to promote growth within the City of Rochelle. Other talks are ongoing regarding how to incentivize the developer to encourage more growth in the number of buildable lots within the city as well. Currently, there are a small number of lots, and the new home incentive is the first step of many to facilitate growth. On Oct. 2, I attended the meeting of the R1 Planning Council to hear from Congressman Darin LaHood, who gave an update on the current happenings in Washington and what changes have happened, and what may

becoming. It was a highly informative meeting. I was then asked to take a seat on the planning council, representing Rochelle. This council is made up of nine members in the Northern Illinois area and was truly an honor that I accepted. Plans are moving forward for our downtown grant with bids being received for phase one, which will be the demolition of the former Savings & Loan drive-up facility. This location will improve the appearance and create more parking spaces for the downtown

shoppers. Other parking lot additions and improvements are also on the horizon with this downtown grant. Construction on the band shell and rest rooms on the north end of the current 400 block parking lot (directly south of the fire station) will begin hopefully in early spring, with the intention of being completed by the fall of 2025. This will be a significant improvement and draw for the downtown area. Mark your calendars for Saturday, Nov. 9th for the celebration of Veterans Day. We will again



John Bearrows

be having a veterans breakfast from 7:30 a.m. to approximately 9:30 a.m. (provided by the Flight Deck) at the CSC Hangar at the Rochelle Airport. Free breakfast for all veterans and their significant other, with a free will offering for others. Speakers will begin at approx. 9 a.m. followed by music provided by "Burn-N-Bush" from 10 a.m. to noon. A huge thank you to our presenting sponsor Zekelman Industries, and Chicagoland Skydiving Center for providing the hangar. Come out and enjoy the day and celebrate all veterans for the sacrifices they made for

our freedom. I would be remiss if I did not also say thank you to our city manager and our supportive city council, because without their continued guidance and support, many projects talked about in this article would never get off the ground. Lastly, I am very anxious to see what further great news and projects will bless our community this year and into 2025. I will finish today's article with a great quote from Theodore Roosevelt: "Believe you can and you're halfway there." -Theodore Roosevelt *John Bearrows is the mayor of the City of Rochelle.*

Politics, morals, and the junkyard pit bull

POLITICAL issues always come down to moral ones. That's never been more obvious than in this presidential election. NPR reporter Charlie Neibergall, in a Jan. 21 story, brought this to light when he pressed evangelical Christians to explain their support for Donald Trump. He was trying to make sense of their loyalty to the former president, "given his divorces, allegations of both extramarital affairs and sexual assault, and his insults toward women, immigrants and others." The answer came down to the age-old justification that the end justifies the means. Mr. Neibergall reported that, "Many, like Brad Sherman, who's both a state representative and an evangelical pastor, see Trump's harsh style as an asset even though the former president sometimes 'says things I wouldn't say. Yeah, he's brash, a

fighter. That's who we need right now in the political arena, in the environment that exists. You gotta be tough." Statements like this from supporters, both devout and non-religious, of the former president reflect a belief that American society is in an extreme state of crisis; that the ground is shifting beneath our feet; that long-held beliefs and ways of life are giving way under relentless attacks. Desperate times call for desperate measures. Civil debate, mutual respect, and moral uprightness are likely to take second place when everything seems to be on the line. Donald Trump came on the scene in 2016 and offered himself as the answer to that crisis — a junkyard pit bull who gets things done no matter what. The American National Election Study regarding the 2020 presidential election revealed the problem,

both then and now, with that line of reasoning. Joe Biden, on one hand, attracted strong backing from a wide range of liberal participants — over 90% said they were behind him. Mr. Trump, on the other hand, enjoyed that level of support only from "conservatives" and "extreme conservatives." Just two thirds of "slightly conservative" participants backed him. And two thirds of "moderates," — people in the middle ground between conservatives and liberals — said they favored Joe Biden instead of Mr. Trump. It seems reasonable to conclude that the former president lost the 2020 election because moderates and some conservatives were then, as they are now, offended, instead of convinced, by the bel-

ligerent tactics that many of Mr. Trump's supporters admire. These voters, many of whom might otherwise support his policies, are critical to success in any election. He's been, instead of the tough guy who gets results, his own worst enemy, and the biggest obstacle to public support for the causes he claims to represent. This problem runs deeper than just campaign tactics. A survey of historians by C-SPAN in 2021 illustrates the moral question that lies beneath it. 142 historians rated each of the presidents who had served since George Washington on 10 qualities, which were then combined to produce overall rankings from best to worst. Mr. Trump's overall ranking placed him near the bottom — 41 out of 44. His best scores — in



Lowell Harp

the 30s — were in "public persuasion," "economic management," and "vision/setting an agenda." His worst by far was in "moral authority," where he placed dead last. Moral authority is an essential quality in an effective president. The five presidents who received the highest ratings overall in the C-SPAN survey also ranked highest in that category. The four lowest overall, including Mr. Trump, sat at the bottom of the scale in moral authority. It's too early for a final verdict on Mr. Trump's presidency, but the public is aware of his past and present moral shortcomings. It was in large part the reason behind his failure to win the popular vote in two presidential elections, in spite of the wide appeal of many of his policies. It also contributed to the Republican party's underperformance in Congressional elections

during his time in office. Moral authority pervades every aspect of a presidency. With it, we get great presidents like Washington and Lincoln. Without it, we get the Big Lie about the 2020 election, the attempt to cancel the Electoral College count, and the Jan. 6 riot at the United States Capitol. Those three events alone disqualify Donald Trump from the office of president of the United States. Supporters of Mr. Trump's policies deserve a better leader. Their concerns about immigration, the economy, and other issues are worthy of a respectful hearing. They won't get it with Donald Trump as their candidate. *Lowell Harp is a retired school psychologist who served school districts in Ogle County. His column runs monthly in The Ogle County Life. For previous articles, you can follow him on Facebook at <http://fb.me/lowellharp>.*

New political letter policy for Rochelle News-Leader

THE Rochelle News-Leader is implementing a new political letter policy. We will now be accepting election letters endorsing or advocating for or against a ballot measure, party or candidate as paid advertising announcement. The fee is \$25 minimum for a 200-word letter and

10 cents a word for additional words over 250. Like other letters to the editor, the writer's name, address and phone number are required. Phone numbers and exact addresses are not published. We have the right to reject letters which don't meet publishing standards and will determine if the letter qualifies as a paid

endorsement. Paid letters will be identified with a label and may or may not appear on the opinion/letters page. Most newspapers that have adopted this approach cite one main reason: Political campaigns for years have used newspaper opinion pages for what amounts to free advertising. As these

letter-writing campaigns become more widespread and sophisticated - some campaigns even pay people to write letters to the editor - newspapers are flooded with requests to publish them, especially in the run-up to elections. Will we still publish letters complaining about the county board or school

board? Yes. But if you want others to vote for or against a candidate, or for or against an issue on the ballot, you will need to pay a fee. Not a large fee - \$25 for up to 200 words. Some key dates to keep in mind for political endorsement letters: The primary election is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2024.

The last batch of letters that endorse candidates for this election will be printed in the Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2024 issue of The Rochelle News-Leader. Letters must be received by noon on Monday, Oct. 28, 2024. To submit a letter, email Managing Editor Jeff Helfrich at jhelfrich@rochellenews-leader.com.

How to contact government officials

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

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

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

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

KEEPING YOU IN TOUCH WITH YOUR LOCAL LEADERS

** Denotes Chairman/President*

Rochelle City Council
*John Bearrows jbearrows@rochelleil.us
Kathryn Shaw-Dickey ksshaw-dickey@rochelleil.us
Bil Hayes bhayes@rochelleil.us
Rosaelia Arteaga rarteaga@rochelleil.us
Dan McDermott dmcdermott@rochelleil.us
Tom McDermott tmcdermott@rochelleil.us
Benjamin Valdivieso bvaldivieso@rochelleil.us

Rochelle Elementary School Board
*Trisha Vaughn tvaughn@d231.rochelle.net
Dave Casey dcasey@d231.rochelle.net
Steve Builta [sbuilt@d231.rochelle.net](mailto:sbuilta@d231.rochelle.net)
Ashley Jackson ajackson@d231.rochelle.net
Stephanie White swhite@d231.rochelle.net
Javier Zepeda jzepeda@d231.rochelle.net
Jennifer Thompson jthompson@d231.rochelle.net

Rochelle Township High School Board
*Tom Huddleston tom.huddleston@rthsd212.org
Bill Ravnaas bill.ravnaas@rthsd212.org
Jeff Tilton jeff.tilton@rthsd212.org
Bobby Chadwick bobby.chadwick@rthsd212.org
Brent Ohlinger brent.ohlinger@rthsd212.org
Laurie Pillen laurie.pillen@rthsd212.org
Joel Thompson joel.thompson@rthsd212.org

Flagg-Rochelle Park Board
Brent Carmichael bcarmichael@rochelleparkdistrict.org
John Dobbs jdobbs@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Dale Wells dwells@rochelleparkdistrict.org
*Tim Hayden thayden@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Jodie Hart jhart@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Joe Lenkaitis jlenkaitis@rochelleparkdistrict.org
Kristi Gonzales kgonzales@rochelleparkdistrict.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 3
Austin Gillis agillis@oglecounty.org
Dan Miller dmiller@oglecounty.org
Joseph Simms jsimms@oglecounty.org

Ogle County Board Dist. 4
Jackie Ramsey jramsey@oglecounty.org
Skip Kenney skenney@oglecounty.org
David Williams dwilliams@oglecounty.org

Creston Village Board
*Tom Byro tommyb_47@yahoo.com
Greg Hopkins ghopkins522@comcast.net
Steve Katzman skatzman@essex1.com
Mike Kerns ac.kerns@comcast.net
Curt Ward caward92@comcast.net
Mark Hibshman
Reid Elliot
Jennifer Payton

Hillcrest Village Board
*Richard Rhoads rrhoads@hillcrestil.us
Pam Pittman ppittman@hillcrestil.us
Dan Potter dpotter@hillcrestil.us
Tim Ball tbball@hillcrestil.us
Jose Huerta jhuerta@hillcrestil.us
Eileen Braski ebraski@hillcrestil.us

Flagg Township
Sue Messer flaggtwp@rochelle.net
Joanna Patrick flaggtwpcerk@rochelle.net
Susan Rothenberger assessor@rochelle.net
Scott Seebach scottseebach@gmail.com

Board of Trustees
Lance Noggle noggle62@gmail.com
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Flagg-Rochelle Library
Jaqueline Dickow dickow@comcast.net
*Teresa Haggstad haggstads@comcast.net
Kelly Johnson kellyjohnson0927@yahoo.com
Lanning Nicoloff nicoloff118@comcast.net
Sheri Klindera alwayslefty2@gmail.com
Susan Sevedge nit1prl22@yahoo.com
Darci Waltrip doobs12@comcast.net

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



Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS seen above Ogle County
Comet Tsuchinshan-ATLAS was in the western sky above Ogle County on Tuesday night. Shown is the comet in a picture taken by Oregon's John Dickson while looking west down Oregon Trail Road. (Courtesy photo)

3-week grief class in November at Serenity

OREGON — “You’re Not Crazy— You’re Grieving”, this three-week grief class led by Pastor Dana Cox will be held on Wednesdays, Nov. 6, 13, & 20 from 4-5:30 p.m. at Serenity Hospice & Home, located in Oregon at 1658 S. Illinois Route 2. Please call 815-732-4111 to register.

Following a significant loss, it’s normal to feel overwhelmed and disoriented due to the sudden absence of a loved one. The initial one to two years of grieving can be incredibly painful and bewildering. During this time:

- Shock may persist for weeks or months, causing a distorted sense of time.
- Feelings of powerlessness, confusion, and ineffectiveness may arise.
- Difficulty concentrating and accomplishing tasks may be experienced.

Mood swings and erratic behavior might occur. Crying and clinging to the belongings of the deceased person may happen. Vivid dreams and perceived communications from the departed person may be encountered. Doubts about the future and the ability to move forward may arise. Despite these challenges, it’s crucial to recognize that these reactions are part of the grieving process. While the early stages of a significant loss can be daunting, this class can provide support. Based on the book of the same name by renowned grief counselor, Dr. Alan Wolfelt, we will learn six essential steps that can help make our days during deep grief a bit more manageable. Please call 815-732-4111 to register.

Planned burning to take place at Skare Park

ROCHELLE — Upcoming training is planned for Nov. 1-3 for a basic wild land firefighting course to be hosted at Skare Park in Rochelle. The plans are to burn the north side of the park along Fowler Road.

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Oct. 20 Veda Lopez Bo Bridgeman	Oct. 22 Allie Dolister	Oct. 30 Jack Powell
	Oct. 28 Bryce Weems	Oct. 31 Angel Weyhrauch McKinley Moser

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



- Sept. 24 - John Schinzer, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 25 - RACF, \$25
- Sept. 26 - Michele Hardcastle, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 27 - RACF, \$25
- Sept. 28 - Teagan Meyers, Rochelle, \$25
- Sept. 29 - Timothy Hill, Rochelle, \$50
- Sept. 30 - Chief Dave Sawlsville, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 1 - Jan Heal, Creston, \$25
- Oct. 2 - From the Heart, \$25
- Oct. 3 - Marie McNames, Byron, \$25
- Oct. 4 - Kevin Louis, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 5 - Chris Berndt, Roscoe, \$25
- Oct. 6 - Monafae Menerey, Peru, \$50
- Oct. 7 - Helen Page, Oregon, \$25
- Oct. 8 - Judy Gibson, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 9 - Linda Cooper, Oregon, \$25
- Oct. 10 - Karry Pullin, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 11 - Kaya Fulgencio, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 12 - From the Heart, \$25
- Oct. 13 - Lynsey Wittenberg, Rochelle, \$50
- Oct. 14 - Jennifer Kissack, Rochelle, \$250
- Oct. 15 - Tobie Anders, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 16 - Kishwaukee College Foundation, \$25
- Oct. 17 - Cody Bakker, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 18 - Julie Richolson, Rochelle, \$25
- Oct. 19 - RACF, \$25
- Oct. 20 - Brad Schabacker, Rochelle, \$50

QUEEN FOR THE CAUSE

DRAWINGS THURSDAYS 7 P.M. @ LUNA
CURRENT WEEKLY PRIZE: \$250
CURRENT JACKPOT: \$13,518

Coffee Break

MAGIC MAZE

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Unlisted clue hint: WHAT SAT DOWN BESIDE HER

Bee Lick	Co-Operative	Eighty Eight	Oddville
Big Bone	Dingus	Flippin	Plum Lick
Bluehole	Dizney	Greasy Creek	Tacky Town
Clayhole	Dwarf	Mousie	

INTERESTING PLACE NAMES IN KENTUCKY

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

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Super Crossword

END-OF-OCTOBER OPTIONS

ACROSS

- 1 Messiah of Christianity, in Italy
- 5 Broody music genre
- 8 Club welders' org.
- 11 Fire hydrant attachment
- 15 Beast of burden
- 18 Tolkien monsters
- 19 Flight routes
- 21 Pizzazz
- 22 Simian beast
- 23 Search for hidden objects
- 25 Owing no money
- 27 Old Greek region
- 28 In the past
- 29 Firearm safety feature
- 31 Sam Spade's cover-up
- 34 Spot in la mer
- 35 See
- 36 Pottery oven
- 37 Some milk dispensers
- 40 Stork relative
- 43 Blue-eyed cat
- 47 Rolled the dice at a casino, say
- 50 Loafing sorts
- 51 Sean of films
- 52 Dressed in
- 53 Singer Lana Del —
- 54 French composer Edouard
- 55 Purview
- 57 1860s White House nickname
- 60 Oprah of TV
- 62 Statement that might follow "Come on in"
- 66 1920s White House nickname
- 67 Part of SST
- 68 Qatari capital
- 69 Qatari, e.g.
- 71 Spanish appetizers
- 75 Cpl., e.g.
- 77 2022 Tom Cruise sequel
- 80 Poseidon and Neptune
- 84 Stew sphere
- 85 Architect
- 86 Italian money
- 87 Young lady
- 88 T. — Price
- 90 Young lady
- 92 Messes (up)
- 94 Procedure to evaluate heart health
- 98 Roughly shaped
- 99 K.P. veggie
- 100 La Forge of "Star Trek: The Next Generation"
- 101 Clock datum
- 102 Be rife (with)
- 105 Pro bono TV ad, for short
- 106 Nauseous from motion, to Brits
- 112 Look at yet again to make sure
- 116 Barley brew
- 117 Steve of country rock
- 118 "Clever found"
- 119 What is found divided at the starts and ends of nine answers in this puzzle
- 122 Former Fox competitor
- 123 Pop diva
- 124 Copying a pig
- 125 Regarding
- 126 Lean — (crude sheds)
- 127 Part of SSE
- 128 String after Q
- 129 la. neighbor
- 130 Plug tightly

DOWN

- 1 "Oh, I see"
- 2 Boo-boo
- 3 Act division
- 4 Sprinter Bolt
- 5 Water, in Lille
- 6 Wonderwork
- 7 It's north of Nevada
- 8 Basketball player Gasol
- 9 "Peer —" (Ibsen play)
- 10 Situated on both sides of
- 11 Borderline of bushes
- 12 Couturier
- 13 Duel sword
- 14 Admission
- 15 Dueler with Alexander Hamilton
- 16 Project detail
- 17 Search out
- 20 "Easy there!"
- 24 One looting
- 26 Thrash about
- 30 Cole Porter's "Where Is the Life That Late —?"
- 32 Warn like a snake or cat
- 33 Go left, e.g.
- 38 Libyan cash
- 39 Skiing stuff
- 41 Frozen drink brand
- 42 Vodka brand
- 43 Sediments
- 44 It's north of Nevada
- 45 — wrench
- 46 Copying a cat
- 47 Small British cafe
- 48 Actor Close
- 49 Capitol body
- 51 Politico Ross
- 56 Scarlet, say
- 58 Lover shelf
- 59 Heartfelt
- 61 Suddenly worsen
- 63 Harmonious union
- 64 Look awed
- 65 Makes docile
- 70 Drinking site
- 72 Second-century pope
- 73 Lot divisions
- 74 Teensy bit
- 76 Former Laker Lamar
- 78 Played
- 79 Loudness
- 80 Cpls.' bosses
- 81 Frontier sheriff Wyatt
- 82 Attu's islands
- 83 Big drink
- 89 Tusked beast
- 91 "That so?"
- 93 Brunch staple
- 95 Proficient
- 96 Fail to win
- 97 Farm vehicle
- 98 Easily deceived sort
- 101 "That's what I'm — about!"
- 103 Skip over, as a syllable
- 104 Newspapers, TV, etc.
- 107 Oven shelf
- 108 Indian wraps
- 109 With 35-Across, player of Granny on "The Beverly Hillbillies"
- 110 Actress Bow
- 111 — One (vodka brand)
- 112 Certain bolt holder
- 113 Many a seized auto
- 114 Co. honchos
- 115 Reality TV's Jenner
- 120 Acct. accrual
- 121 Abbr. of primary colors

HOCUS-FOCUS

BY HENRY BOLTINOFF

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

Differences: 1. Man is moved. 2. Tie is different. 3. Menu sign is different. 4. Hair is smaller. 5. Hair is different. 6. Sign is different.

Super Crossword

INTERESTING PLACE NAMES IN KENTUCKY

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

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17		
18				19			20			21				22				
23				24						25			26					
27						28			29	30								
31					32			33	34			35						
				36				37	38			39		40	41	42		
43	44	45	46				47					48	49					
50						51				52					53			
54					55	56			57	58	59		60		61			
62				63				64			65		66					
67						68				69		70		71	72	73	74	
			75		76		77		78			79						
80	81	82				83		84		85				86				
87				88			89		90	91			92	93				
94			95					96	97				98					
99												101						
		102		103	104		105			106	107				108	109	110	111
112	113					114			115		116			117				
118									119	120				121				
122					123										125			
126					127				128				129			130		

LOCAL NEWS

CITY: Council approves Eastern Gateway TIF ordinance Tuesday night

From page 1

The materials are for a future substation line project. Most material should arrive by the end of the year. The city collected a total of six quotes for the materials.

The council also unanimously approved the \$64,035 purchase of a Ford F350 heavy-duty truck from Prescott Ford for its water department for small construction jobs

throughout the city.

Caron Ridge

The council unanimously approved an ordinance to create a new Eastern Gateway TIF (tax increment financing) district, which includes the Caron Ridge Shopping Center, the former site of Sullivan's Foods, and farmland east of the shopping center to Dement Road. The Eastern Gateway TIF consists of

approximately 82 acres and 10 parcels.

In creating the Eastern Gateway TIF, the city hopes to encourage development at the Caron Ridge Shopping Center and address property blight and vacancy and aging infrastructure and assist with overall redevelopment of the district.

"I think it's a great step forward to getting that area developed," Bearrows said. "Getting it on the tax

rolls with an increased assessment would be great."

RFD

The council unanimously approved an ordinance establishing the rank of captain in the Rochelle Fire Department.

The new rank comes in response to a recent expansion to RFD's department that will see six total new firefighters hired. The new RFD model will see it utilize one captain, one lieutenant and four firefighters per shift that will be overseen by Chief Dave Sawlsville.

RFD's expansion, which will be funded by a \$919,368 grant it recently received, came due to high call numbers in recent years and the new captain model seeks to have more

safety during fire incidents and more specific professional development among RFD personnel.

The 2025 cost of promotion of three current lieutenants to the rank of captain and the promotion of three firefighters to lieutenant is estimated at \$139,018.30.

"It's a huge step forward for the safety of our firefighters," Sawlsville said. "I lost track of how many hours of research, preparation and discussion went into this before we brought it to the council."

Credits

The council unanimously approved the sale of renewable energy credits (RECs) during the meeting. RMU accu-

mulates RECs from solar arrays at its wastewater treatment plant, in the Village of Hillcrest, and atop the Kennay Farms Distilling rickhouse.

RECs can generate revenue by being sold to companies seeking to lower their emissions footprint. City staff met with Allstate Insurance to formalize an agreement to sell the RECs generated from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2027 at a rate of \$34 per solar REC. The city's contract with its current buyer has expired. The new contract is estimated to generate nearly three times the revenue of the city's expired contract. In previous years, the revenues have been utilized to fund RMU's income assistance program.



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Adkins speaks at American Legion Post 403's October meeting
On Wednesday, Oct. 9, American Legion Post 403 held its October meeting at the Iron Skillet Restaurant at the Petro Truck Stop. Dwain Adkins presented on his service as a crew chief on a helicopter in Vietnam. From left to right: Chuck Roberts (commander), Paul Bearrows (chaplain), Adkins, Steve Korth (adjutant) and Gary Tarvestad (sargent at arms). (Courtesy photo)

Remember Your Veteran

Veteran's Day, Nov. 11 is a special day to honor America's Veterans, living and deceased. Honor your veteran with a photo to be published on Sunday, November 10th, 2024.












We Salute Those Who Have Served Our Country
(Members of Armed Forces Past or Present)



A Tribute to
John Smith
US Army/WW II
From His Wife
Mary Smith

Cost: \$10.00
Deadline Wed., Nov. 6th at noon

Veterans Day
November 11
Honoring Our Brave Veterans

 A Tribute To Grant "Fuzz" Riggs <i>US Army WW II, European</i> 1943-1945 Wounded Aug. 23 in Germany, Deceased James William	 A Tribute To Charles Snyder <i>US Navy</i> WW II & Korea We Love You! -The Schnorr Family	 A Tribute To Spec. 4 Jim Grygiel <i>US Army, Berlin German</i> 279th STA, Hospital Jim, Jenny, Alex & Cian Grygiel	 A Tribute To Ronnie O'Sullivan <i>US Army-Vietnam</i> The O'Sullivan Family With Love
 A Tribute To Henry E. Ehmen <i>Air Force/WWII</i> Your Loving Family	 A Tribute To John V. Ehmen Sr. <i>US Army/WWII</i> Your Loving Family	 A Tribute To Robert E. Personette <i>US Marine Corps/Korean War</i> His Wife, Kathy Personette Love You, Bob	 A Tribute To Joseph E. Dvorak <i>US Air Force/WWII</i> His Daughter, Kathy Personette
 A Tribute To Wayne E. Suter <i>US Navy 1-51 to 11-54</i> DD787-BT Your Wife of 60+ Years, Rudy & Family	 A Tribute To Gary Hassler <i>US Army/1971-1973</i> His Wife Judy and Sons, Mat and Andy and Their Families	 A Tribute To Jimmy Broderick <i>US Army/Vietnam/Agent Orange</i> Widow, Jan Broderick	 A Tribute To Clinton E. Strouse <i>US Army</i> Your Love Family

To remember your veteran fill out the form below, enclose your picture and check for \$10.00 and mail or drop off at:

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News-Leader

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Branch of Service/War: _____

From: _____

Person Placing Ad (Name, Address & Phone): _____

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Baldwin earns Hall of Fame honor

Longtime Rochelle resident inducted to USA Softball of Illinois Hall of Fame

DECATUR — Longtime Rochelle resident Glenn Baldwin saw his fastpitch softball achievements immortalized on Oct. 5, when Baldwin was inducted into the USA Softball of Illinois Hall of Fame as a member of the 2024 class. Baldwin, who received a plaque for his honor, was among the inductees recognized during a banquet at the Decatur Area Convention & Visitors Center.

Below is a narrative written by Glenn's son, Rocky Baldwin, based on the fastpitch softball career of his father.

--

In 1962, Glenn was approached by Lyle Drexler, the Rochelle Pfisters fastpitch team's manager, to start playing shortstop for the 1962 Pfisters. Glenn just arrived back to Rochelle in early 1962 from Swedesboro, New Jersey, where he played one year of semi-pro baseball. Before moving to Swedesboro, Glenn had participated in the Rochelle Fastpitch City League and earned the reputation of the best defensive shortstop in the league between the years 1958-60.

The Pfisters were competitive in the area and took over the sponsorship from State Farm in 1958, averaging about 40 games per year. There were four original members on this team from the 1967 Hall of Fame team: Lyle Smith, Roger Gustafson, Harry Berg and Lee Clegg, to include their longtime manager, Lyle Drexler.

In 1965, a local businessman took over the sponsorship of the old Pfisters and they became the Rochelle Frankies. Now with a sponsor who would finance the team into a larger and better schedule, the team played in the strong Garden Prairie City League, which had the top team in northern Illinois, Rockford Meadow Mart.

Also, Rochelle finally was financially able to compete in the ASA Chicago Metro and came within one game of winning their first metro title, but got beat by Bobby Moore and the Rockford Meadow Mart in 1965. As a member of Frankies team, Glenn became the leading hitter, averaging well over .300 and stealing double digit bases along the way.

Rochelle was best known for the double-play combo of Glenn at shortstop and John Dejarnette at second base. When John came to Rochelle, he had spent three years playing alongside the Alou brothers in the Giants' minor league system. Both Glenn and John made the all-star team from the Garden Prairie City League in 1967 and played against the Aurora Sealmasters for the first-time, facing John Spring in that game.

Rochelle progressed into one of the top teams in northern Illinois in 1966, as Rockford Meadow Mart lost their sponsorship and lost the services of Bobby Moore due to budget restraints. The top pitcher for Rockford now would be Ray Keller and Rochelle was able to not only win the Garden Prairie League over Rockford in 1966, but the players were now very optimistic about winning the 1966 metro. But those hopes were derailed by who would be a teammate in later years, Ernie Blackburn.

In the first game of the metro, Rochelle played Downers Grove and faced Ernie for the first time. Ernie, who would become a part-time pitcher with Rochelle after the 1967 Metro, would blank Rochelle in a 17-inning marathon, winning 1-0. They were knocked out of the tournament by Waukegan in the losers bracket later in the tournament. That team played more games than any other Rochelle team ever played by going 45-18, with a league championship record of 17-4.

In 1967, there was the addition of Roger Gustafson, a power hitting third baseman who played previously for Rochelle when they were the Pfisters. His brother Clark was becoming an outstanding No. 2 pitcher behind Lyle Smith, Rochelle's No. 1 pitcher. The 1967 Rochelle Frankies team was voted into the Illinois Softball Hall of Fame in 2022 and was inducted in 2023.

Everything came together in 1967, when everybody on the team was a resident local to Rochelle. Because Rochelle's team was considered one of the top teams in northern Illinois behind Rockford, the Aurora Sealmasters came to Rochelle on a Tuesday night early in the season to play a doubleheader. These were Rochelle's third and fourth games of the year and they faced Joe Lynch and Charlie Richard. In two games, Rochelle only got one hit.

They would face Lynch and the Sealmasters three more times during the season, beating Lynch in nine innings a week after the Sealmasters won the West Central Regional tournament. The 1967 season would be the greatest season in Rochelle's history, as the team posted a record of 49-11 with four losses to the Sealmasters. They changed city leagues by joining the Rock-Love



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Longtime Rochelle resident Glenn Baldwin was inducted into the USA Softball of Illinois Hall of Fame as a member of the 2024 class.

City League in 1967 and all-star team. won that championship, with Glenn making the

See BALDWIN pg 2

RTHS Girls Tennis

Namaste-Rose leads Rochelle at Interstate 8 tournament

Junior netter medaled in third place at No. 2 singles as Lady Hubs finish fifth

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — Junior Merit Namaste-Rose medaled in third place at No. 2 singles to lead the Rochelle Lady Hub varsity tennis team during Saturday's Interstate 8 Conference tournament.

Namaste-Rose went 2-1 over three matches to receive an All-Conference Honorable Mention this season. Namaste-Rose opened the tournament with a three-set victory against Ottawa's Yaquelin Hernandez-Solis, outlasting the Pirate netter for a 5-7, 7-5, 6-4 win in the first round. After falling 0-6, 0-6 against Morris' Meghan Bzdill in the semifinals, Namaste-Rose bounced back with a dominant 6-0, 6-0 sweep against Kaneland's Lauren Babka to clinch third place.

Seniors Erin Murphy and Catherine Williams took fourth at No. 1 doubles for the Lady Hubs, who finished fifth out of six schools with 12 points in the tournament. Murphy and Williams opened the tournament with a victory, knocking off the No. 4 seeded Ottawa duo of Rylee Harsted and Brooklyn Byone 6-4, 6-1. The Rochelle netters faced Morris' Julia Borgstrom and Skyler Salens in the semifinals, conceding a 3-6, 1-6 defeat before bowing out of the tournament with a 3-6, 2-6 loss to LaSalle-Peru's duo of Elena Leone and Cali Mickley.

Seniors Lauren Dyer and Abby Metzger placed fourth at No. 2 doubles. Dyer and Metzger started the tournament with a win, cruising for a 6-2, 6-1 victory against Kaneland's Jade Lee and Hannah Gianetto in the first round. The Lady Hubs fell to LaSalle-Peru's Izzy Pecchio and Kylee Halm 4-6, 0-6 in the semifinals before coming up just short in the third-place match, where the girls fell 5-7, 4-6 against Sycamore's Taylor Zemanek and Peyton Wright.

Seniors Sydney Carmichael and Natalie Wagner took fifth at No. 3 doubles. The Rochelle duo began the tournament with an opening-round loss against Ottawa's Perla Gutierrez and Laurel Fisher. Carmichael and Wagner recovered with a victory in the fifth-place match, where the Lady Hub combo united for a 6-3, 6-1 win against Kaneland netters Ella Bischoff and Joee Goc.

Senior Yaretzi Villalobos placed sixth at No. 1 singles, falling 0-6, 0-6 against Ottawa's Zulee Moreland before conceding a 1-6, 1-6 loss against Sycamore's Regan O'Sullivan. The Lady Hubs will return to action for the IHSA 1A Rochelle Sectional this coming Friday and Saturday.



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Above from left to right are Merit Namaste-Rose, Lauren Dyer, Natalie Wagner, Sydney Carmichael, Abby Metzger, Erin Murphy, Yaretzi Villalobos and Catherine Williams.



(COURTESY PHOTO)
Junior Merit Namaste-Rose medaled in third place at No. 2 singles to earn an All-Conference Honorable Mention at the Interstate 8 tournament Saturday.

SPORTS



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

Glenn Baldwin of Rochelle was recently inducted into the USA Softball of Illinois Hall of Fame as a member of the 2024 class. At left is a photo of Baldwin sliding back to first base during a Rochelle Frankies game against the Aurora Sealmasters in 1967. At right is a team photo of the 1967 Rochelle Frankies Hall of Fame team.

BALDWIN: Longtime Rochelle resident named to USA Softball of Illinois Hall of Fame

From page 1

They went on to beat Rockford in the ASA District tournament, thus making it to the ASA Chicago Metro for the second time and winning it by beating the Aurora Sacos 7-1 in the championship game, where Glenn homered against Don Proctor to start a three-run rally in the third inning. Rochelle started the 1967 West Central Regional by beating Milwaukee 11-0 and then, having to face Richard and the Aurora Sealmasters, lost 3-1, with Glenn hitting a triple off Richard.

Against the Decatur Rileys in their next contest, Rochelle was able to get ahead of Bobby Moore, with Glenn hitting a go-ahead home run in the sixth. But in the bottom of the sixth, the Rileys rallied for four runs and eliminated the Frankies from the tournament. Glenn made the all-tournament team and Aurora Beacon News stated, "Baldwin the nifty fielding shortstop for Frankies of Rochelle, made the all-star team with his bat as well as his fielding. Baldwin hit an even .500 with 6 hits in 12 at-bats. He had one home run and a triple in three contests."

It would be hard to duplicate the 1967 season going into the 1968 season, especially after losing Clark Gustafson, their No. 2 pitcher, to the military draft. Because the Sealmasters won the national title (and would bypass the regionals) and the district tournament was eliminated, a new for-

mat was introduced where divisional winners would play for the crown with a best two-out-of-three play-off format.

The two divisions would be in Aurora, where Rochelle was scheduled, and Cherry Valley, where Rockford was scheduled. Both Rockford and Rochelle were the winners of their divisions and would play for the Metro championship at Hinckley Big Rock. During Rochelle's third game of the Aurora Division Tournament, Lyle Smith, Rochelle's No. 1 pitcher, took a line drive off his pitching hand, breaking his fingers and missing the remainder of the season.

In came Ernie Blackburn, who pitched for Rochelle in the 1967 Regionals and was a backup pitcher in 1968 due to the loss of Clark Gustafson. Ernie came in the game with one out in the second inning and finally got the win in the 13th inning, 4-2, against the Aurora Sacos. During the semifinals and the finals of this divisional tournament, Rochelle beat Freeport twice. The first was the finals of the winner's bracket and then Freeport came back and won the losers bracket and needed to beat Rochelle twice for the title.

The championship game was a blowout for Rochelle, winning 13-2 and giving Rochelle the divisional championship with a 5-0 record while improving the season record to 32-9. This set up a matchup with

Rockford for the Metro championship. Rochelle would lose the first game in a heartbreaker by giving up an unearned run in the bottom of the seventh to tie the game and Rockford won in the bottom of the eighth to take the first game 2-1.

Rochelle was able to come back and win the next two games to win the 1968 Chicago Metro Championship, but became ineligible to play in the regionals at Mishawaka, Indiana due to residency restrictions for Blackburn, who was a resident of Hammond, Indiana. Before this decision came down, Rochelle played the Sealmasters at Rochelle and lost both games to end their 1968 season with a record of 34-12. It would not be until 1978 that Rochelle would win another Metro and go to the Midwest Regionals in Bloomington.

The 1969 Rochelle franchise was going through a transition with not only a new sponsor, but the loss of Roger Gustafson, their hard-hitting third baseman who led the team in homeruns the last two years. They did pick up an up-and-coming young pitcher from the area, Steve Sanders, who would take over as the No. 1 pitcher early in the season, as Lyle Smith trying to recover from his broken fingers on his pitching hand hurt his arm in June. The team record for the year ended up at 34-15 and a 2-1 record in the Chicago Metro Tournament.

The Rochelle team deteriorated quickly after the 1968 season with the devas-

tating disqualification from the regional tournament and a reduced budget not to expand out of the northern Illinois area. The team did play a doubleheader against the Sealmasters for the last time, as they were going to transition after 1969 due to losing their sponsorship. During the offseason between 1969 and 1970, Harvey Sterkel contacted Glenn about playing for the Aurora Blue Seals, as Harvey was putting together a city owned team.

The Blue Seals lasted only one year, as another big, budgeted team had taken over the area while recruiting Sealmasters players. The Anixter Bombers would win back-to-back West Central Regionals in 1970 and 1971. After Rochelle lost in the Chicago Metro in 1971, Dave Timok came into the Rochelle dugout and personally asked Glenn to join the Bombers in the upcoming regional, where Glenn was able to play in his first National tournament located in Springfield, Missouri. The Bombers would place third in the nationals and disband going into the 1972 season, as Aurora found a sponsor locally owned and committed to winning for the community at the national level.

Soon after, Glenn was invited to play for Home Savings. Glenn played four full years for Home Savings from 1972-75 with a batting average of .296 during that time. In 1972, Glenn was second to Bill Pfeifer as the team's leading hitter with

batting average of .331. In 1973, Glenn made the Pikes Peak All-tournament team at third base. Glenn's season was cut short while playing against St. Paul, Minnesota in early August, when he chipped a bone in his right ankle. Even though he tried a few comebacks, he was done for the year, missing the Chicago Metro, the Midwest Regional and Home Savings' first National Tournament.

Glenn considers 1974 as his greatest defensive year in his playing career, as he took over the starting shortstop position and went the full regular season error free. It was ironic that Glenn's first error of the year was not a ground ball, as he lost a fly ball in the lights. This was a devastating error as it happened during the Midwest Regional finals against Eau Claire, Wisconsin. The next batter hit what looked like a game winning home run, but Bill Pfeifer made the clutch catch and robbed the home run to preserve the win as regional champions and to compete in the national tournament at Clearwater, Florida. Home Savings made it to the finals of the 1974 national tournament, where they were defeated by Santa Rosa, California.

1975 was a transitional year for Glenn, as he gave up the starting shortstop position to Terry Muck and Glenn was promoted by his employer Del Monte and would be working from Texas during the week while flying back on the weekends

to play third base. Glenn had a respectable year in 1975, hitting .289. The team came up short again in the national tournament, as they were beaten by Ty Stofflet and the Reading, Pennsylvania team. Glenn started out the 1976 year with Home Savings, but got hurt early in the year with a muscle tear. At 39 years old, he decided to retire from fastpitch softball, as the traveling for work and softball was taking a toll on his body and it was not recovering.

Glenn closed out his fastpitch career by playing shortstop for the Rochelle team, where he began his career. He made a comeback in late 1976, as he was fully healed, and played in the Chicago Metro. Glenn had an outstanding Metro, but his team was defeated by Woodstock in the finals. In 1978, he was able to play alongside his son Rocky, winning the Chicago Metro for the second time in Rochelle's history. Then, in 1979, Glenn's last year, Rochelle won the prestigious Aurora City League title, but the team was defeated early in the Chicago Metro.

After this loss, Dale Lagow, Home Savings' manager, approached Glenn about coming back to Home Savings to play in the 1979 West Central Regional Tournament in Bloomington. Home Savings won the regional and Glenn got to play in his last ASA National Tournament.

It was a great ending for a great career.

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SPORTS

Rochelle Junior Tackle

(PHOTO BY RUSSELL HODGES)



Chargers defeats Raiders to win 2024 Rochelle Flag Football Championship at Helms Park

Rochelle Flag Football held its championship game for the third and fourth-graders at Helms Park earlier this month. The Chargers defeated the Raiders to win this year's championship. The Chargers include Xander Gonzales, Quade Dickey, Rowen Villalobos, Grace Olson, Arthur Etes, Ben Burgess, Gavin Owen and Christopher Gonzalez. The Raiders include Colton Hibshman, Paul Martinez Jr., Brecken Bruns, Lilia Maciel, Jonah Scarbrough, Jordan Schneider, Lukas Blusiewicz, Xavier Hueramo and Levi Huston. The championship game concluded another successful season for Rochelle Flag Football, which saw increased numbers this fall.

Meridian Conference

(COURTESY PHOTO)



Steward Eagles win 2024 Meridian Conference Volleyball Championship

Steward Elementary School hosted the 2024 Meridian Conference Volleyball Championship tournament from Oct. 8-10. The No. 1 seed Steward defeated the No. 2 seed Eswood 25-17, 25-20 on Thursday, Oct. 10 to take home this year's championship. The tournament tipped off on Tuesday evening, when No. 4 seed Kings defeated No. 5 seed ACS Sycamore 25-17, 25-19. Action continued with the semifinals on Wednesday evening, when Steward took down Kings 25-20, 25-11 and Eswood beat No. 3 seed Creston 25-22, 12-25, 25-12. The Steward Eagles, who went 7-1 over eight matches in the regular season, are coached by Matt Hayes and Rebekah Hayes. The team includes Ben Hayes, Molly Kedzie, Evi O'Rourke, Jasper Macklin, Barbara Palmer, Jamie Riddell, Mayson Smardo, Lizzie Hayes, Levi Kedzie, Porter Macklin, Ellie Maertz and McKenzie Smith.

RTHS Football



(PHOTOS BY ROBIN RETHWILL)

The Rochelle Hub JV football team took down Kaneland 36-7 on the road Monday evening. Above, junior Martiese Pogue avoids a pair of defenders. Below, sophomore Brody Bruns launches forward to make a tackle.

JV Hubs score win at Kaneland

Rochelle runs for five touchdowns in victory

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

MAPLE PARK—The Rochelle Hub JV football team returned to its winning ways on Monday evening, rushing for five touchdowns and defeating

Kaneland 36-7 in Interstate 8 action. Sophomore Tyler Gensler ran for three touchdowns of 1, 5 and 6 yards to lead the Hubs (3-1, 2-1 Interstate 8) in the victory. Junior Reece Harris rushed for two touch-

downs of 1 and 4 yards while adding an interception on defense. Juniors Martiese Pogue and Mark Green each snagged interceptions as well, while junior Wyatt Worthington recorded two tackles for loss.

The 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendars are NOW AVAILABLE!!

The proceeds of the sale of the calendars benefit our From The Heart recipients:
Pegasus Special Riders, Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, HOPE, Focus House, Shining Star Children's Advocacy Center, CASA, Rochelle Area Community Foundation, Community Action Network, Hub City Senior Center & Rochelle Rotary.



For Just \$20 you have a chance to be one of
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PLUS Each Calendar Has VALUABLE LOCAL COUPONS

Here are 3 Ways to Purchase Your 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!

- **ONLINE:** Go to <http://fromtheheartrochelle.org> and click on **PURCHASE CASH CALENDAR.**
- **IN PERSON:** You can pick up a 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar **TODAY** at the following locations:
In Rochelle at: First State Bank, Stillman Bank, HOPE Chest and Hub City Senior Center
In Oregon at: Merlin's
In Dixon at: Shining Star
- **BY MAIL:** Fill out the form below and send it in to us and we will mail your cash calendar to you!

YES! Send me my 2025 From The Heart Cash Calendar!
(Please Print)

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PHONE: _____

NUMBER OF CALENDARS: _____

Clip and mail this form along with \$23
(\$20 per calendar plus \$3 per calendar postage) to:
Rotary Calendar, PO BOX 372, Rochelle, IL 61068

SPORTS

Rochelle Junior Tackle



(COURTESY PHOTOS)

The Rochelle Junior Tackle teams concluded the 2024 season with their consolation and championship games this past weekend. The sixth-graders (left) and fifth-graders (right) each took fifth in the Big 14 Conference this season, while the seventh-graders (below) placed seventh.

Junior Hub football teams win Big 14 consolation games

Fifth, sixth and seventh-grade squads earn victories to conclude 2024 season

BY RUSSELL HODGES
SPORTS EDITOR

ROCHELLE — The Rochelle Junior Tackle football season came to a close this past weekend, when the fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth-graders competed in their Big 14 Conference championship and consolation games. All four games were victorious during the weekend.

7th Grade

The Rochelle Junior Tackle seventh-graders scored a 14-12 win over LaSalle-Peru in Princeton on Sunday to place seventh in the Big 14 Conference this season. Rochelle finished with a 3-3 overall record.

Korbin Milos and Elijah Underwood each rushed for over 100 yards to lead the Rochelle offense. Garrett Miller snagged an interception and Austin Gomez totaled four tackles to spearhead the charge on defense.

The team includes Bentley Sveta, Spencer Carpenter, Maddex Jackson, Ryland Vannoy, Ty Vongsiri, Korbin Milos,

Jaycob Hammer, Kamden Kessen, Addison Virto, Kayden Smith, Vaughn Manning, Quentin Ansteth, Roger Navarro, Elijah Underwood, Julian Perez, Gunner Thuestad, Sean Hudzik, Garrett Miller, Zachary Waddle, Aiden White, Reed Dougherty, Liam Halfacre, Austin Gomez and Mason Picurro.

The team is coached by Cristian Perez, Mike Belmonte, Jeff Dickey and Shannon Dickey.

6th Grade

The Rochelle Junior Tackle sixth-graders defeated Stillman Valley 12-8 in Sterling on Saturday afternoon to finish fifth in the Big 14 Conference and conclude the 2024 season with a 5-3-1 overall record.

Dominic Escatel and Charlie Chadwick led the Junior Hub defense in tackles, while Matthew Johnson Jr. recovered two fumbles and Escatel returned an interception for a touchdown. Escatel, Landon Johnson and Gavin Smith were the leading rushers for the



Rochelle offense.

The team includes Dominic Escatel, Owen McLaughlin, Noah Hayden, Grange Kissack, Devin Hansen, Brycen Williams, Brantley Koenig, Eli Thompson, Landon Johnson, Gavin Smith, Aiden Blomberg, Riley Heal, Jimmy Chadwick, Brayson Bouland, Charlie Chadwick, Bentley Etes, Quaid Heitz, Freddie McBride, Maxwell Boyd, Ronnie Belmonte, Matthew Johnson Jr., Blake Rollin, Jackson McGee, Royce Scott, Tanner Wil-

liams, Jack Olson, Ivan Olson, Xavier Garcia, Jackson Olszewski and Jameson Nance.

The team is coached by Bobby Chadwick, Bob Chadwick, Mike Chadwick, Tyler Carls and Kenny Dougherty.

5th Grade

The Rochelle Junior Tackle fifth-graders scored three touchdowns during the fourth quarter to beat Rockton 26-6 in Sterling on Saturday and take fifth in the Big 14 Conference this season. The Junior

Hubs finished with a 6-3 overall record.

Michael Vaughn scored a first-quarter touchdown and Griffin Rutledge added the 2-point conversion to get the Junior Hubs on the board. In an action-filled fourth quarter, Vaughn took a reverse for a 78-yard touchdown, while both Ayden Harris and David Sawlsville record 35-yard interception returns for touchdowns.

The team includes Emmitt Putzstuck, Griffin Rutledge, Gage White, David Sawlsville, Ayden

Harris, Braxton Ellison, Gwen Good, Michael Vaughn, Camden Coleman, Johnathan Lilly, Jonathan Hernandez, Felix Belmonte, Greyson Dettman, Garrett Davis, Matthew DeClerck, Tanner Dixon, Mateo Cortes, Paul Olszewski, Cody Cox, Brycen Thornton, Max Harley, Cole Somers, Luke Rasmussen, Jaxon Gomez and Mason Fitzpatrick.

The team is coached by Tim Hayden, James Jackson, Dan Escatel, Robin Olszewski, Roger Bruns and Kyle Putzstuck.

Stranger Danger

School has started, and with all of activities going on, there is no better time to discuss the danger of strangers with your kids. Telling them not to talk to strangers is not enough. You want to make sure they know what a stranger is and how to deal with them.

Here are some safety tips to include in your discussion.



- Do not mistake a friendly face for someone you know. Anyone you do not know is a stranger, regardless how nice they seem or what they have to offer. Just because the person has a cute dog or tons of candy does not mean you can trust them. Ask for identification from anyone in uniform.
- Do not walk to school or play outside alone, if you can help it. Strangers are less likely to approach groups of kids.
- Do not go places where strangers could be lurking, such as empty playgrounds or abandoned buildings. Stay in busy areas.
- Do not let your guard down. Always be on the lookout for strangers.
- Do not make contact with strangers. Be quiet and take their questions and pleas for help to an adult you know and trust.
- Do not panic should a stranger approach. Run to a reliable adult and let them know what is going on, whether a teacher in the parking lot, a clerk in a store or a neighbor down the street. If possible, take down the stranger's license plate number. Should the stranger grab you, do whatever it takes to get away from them and attract the attention of any reliable adults that may be around.
- Do not keep any incidents with strangers to yourself. Let your parents know as soon as possible so they can contact the police.

Tailor your discussion to your kids' ages and use role-playing to help them understand the gravity of the situation. Their safety is at stake!

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101
LEGAL NOTICE

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT, OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS (ESTATE OF))
) Terry G. Petry)
)
) Deceased)
Case No. 2024 PR 47

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of Terry G. Petry, of Rochelle, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on September 25, 2024, to Erik Petry, whose address is 3212 S. Mulford Road, Rochelle, Illinois, 61068, and Teresa Petry whose address is 18730 E. Gillis Road, Rochelle, Illinois, 61068, and whose attorney is Charles P. Cole, Jr., 1021 5th Avenue, Rochelle, Illinois, 61068.

Claims against the estate may be filed on or before April 15, 2025, that date being not less than six (6) months from the date of first publication. Any claim not filed by the requisite date stated above shall be barred.

Claims against the estate may be filed in the Office of the Ogle County Circuit Clerk, at the Ogle County Judicial Center, Oregon, Illinois, 61061, or with an estate representative, or both.

Copies of claims filed with the Circuit Clerk's Office must be mailed or delivered to an estate representative and their attorney within ten days after it has been filed.

DATE: October 7, 2024.
/s/ Erik Petry
Teresa Petry
Independent Representatives
No. 1012
(Oct. 13, 20 and 27, 2024)

IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF THE FIFTEENTH JUDICIAL CIRCUIT OGLE COUNTY, ILLINOIS IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF))
GERALD L. GRIFFIN, Deceased.)
NO. 2024PR51

CLAIM NOTICE

Notice is given of the death of GERALD L. GRIFFIN, of Rochelle, Illinois. Letters of Office were issued on October 3, 2024, to DANIEL S. GRIFFIN, whose address is 2854 S. Chana Rd., Chana, IL 61015, and whose attorneys are Fearer Nye & Chadwick, LLC, 420 4th Avenue, PO Box 117, Rochelle, IL 61068.

Claims against the Estate may be filed in the office of the Circuit Clerk of the Court at Ogle County Courthouse, Oregon, IL 61061, or with the representative, or both, no later than April 14, 2025, and any claim not filed within that period is barred. Copies of a claim filed with the Clerk must be mailed or delivered to the representative and to the attorney within 10 days after it has been filed.

FEARER NYE & CHADWICK, LLC, Attorneys for DANIEL S. GRIFFIN, Independent Administrator of the Estate of GERALD L. GRIFFIN, deceased

No. 1013
(Oct. 13, 20 and 27, 2024)

101
LEGAL NOTICE

This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance.

105
BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

113
FINANCIAL

NOTICE Advance Fee Loans or Credit Offers Companies that do business by phone can't ask you to pay for credit before you get it. For more information, call toll-free 1-877-FTC-HELP. A public service message from your hometown newspaper and the Federal Trade Commission.

119
ANNOUNCEMENTS

"This publication does not knowingly accept fraudulent or deceptive advertising. Readers are cautioned to thoroughly investigate all ads, especially those asking for money in advance."

201
DOMESTIC/CHILD CARE

NO INDIVIDUAL, unless licensed or holding a permit as a childcare facility, may cause to be published any advertisement soliciting a child care service. A childcare facility that is licensed or operating under a permit issued by the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services may publish advertisements of the services for which it is specifically licensed or issued a permit. Your Hometown Newspaper strongly urges any parent or guardian to verify the validity of the license of any facility before placing a child in its care.

203
HELP WANTED

ROCHELLE - Hiring All Positions. Apply In Person Only. Aldo's Pizzeria, 418 Lincoln Hwy, Downtown Rochelle. (MR10232024)

301
ANTIQUES

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305
GARAGE SALE

FRANKLIN GROVE - Presbyterian Church Basement, 106 S. Walnut Street. Fri 11/1 8AM - 4PM, Sat 11/2 8AM - 1PM or Later. Fall & Winter Sale. Clothing, Boots, Coats, Christmas items, Boys clothing sizes 12M to 5T, small appliances, books, 32" TV, Avon collectibles, etc. Even more variety and items than our previous large sales. (RNL,MS,AM,MR 10302024)

307
MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

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405
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305
GARAGE/ESTATE SALES

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MAC & Snap On tool boxes, old carwash vacuum, door tree, truck box dolly
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American Lung Association. ad COUNCIL

Illustration of a person being screened for lung cancer.

