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2024

Community
Guide &
Business
Directory

ROCHELLE
News-Leader



2024 Community Unity Magazine

HIGHLIGHTED in this magazine are nearly 100 Rochelle-area businesses spearheaded by leaders who help drive the local economy and volunteer in the community throughout the year. These businesses are part of the Rochelle News-Leader's 2024 Community Unity promotion that showcases the benefits of shopping locally and investing money in the Hub City. The following pages are filled with advertisements from local businesses that provide a wide range of quality products and services in the Rochelle-area.

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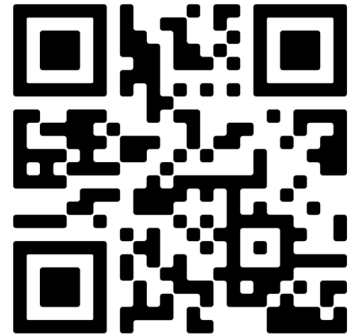
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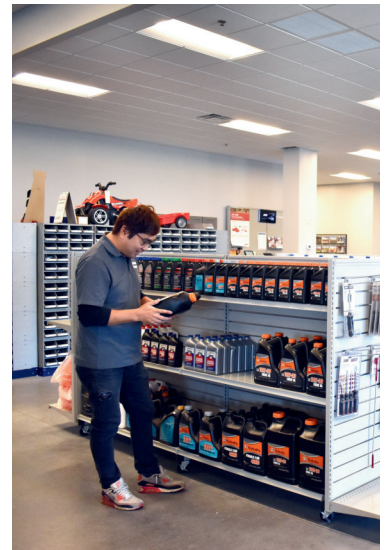
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Rochelle Foods



SINCE Rochelle Foods (Hormel Foods) began operating in Rochelle in 1993, the company has been a generous supporter of the Rochelle community in many ways. “We try to do our part as a business in the community,” area controller Jen Dewey said.

Dewey said the company and its employees continue to support the community which they live and work in a variety of ways. They continue to make feeding the hungry in the community a top priority, which is why they value their relationships with the local food pantries and the Northern Illinois Food Bank very highly.

“These partnerships allow us to provide thousands of protein servings annually to those in need,” Dewey said, “We like to give back as much as possible.”

She added that the company donates between 500 and 1,000 pounds of food per week to the food bank, which located in St. Charles, and distributes food throughout northern Illinois from Beloit all the way to southern Chicago, except for the city itself.

Among the many other local events Rochelle Foods donates to, perhaps the biggest is Rochelle’s annual Hot Dog Day, which is held in mid-July each year. The company donates 8,000 hot dogs every year to the much-anticipated event. All the hot dogs are handed out free.

“It’s a fun thing for the community,” Dewey said, adding that participating businesses also benefit since many who stop for hot dogs will drift into their stores to pick up whatever items they may need.

In addition to all that, Rochelle Foods employees dig into their own pockets to fund the annual Holidays Toy Campaign. Last year, the employees were proud to deliver holiday gifts to more than 200 area children.

“Rochelle Foods has been a trusted partner in the community for over 30 years. Our philanthropic efforts include a continued effort to the United Way, Annual support of the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry, Northern Illinois Food Bank, Focus House, and many other support initiatives for the people of Rochelle”, said Tracy Brown-Rochelle Foods Plant Manager.

Brown also added that, “Rochelle has been recognized by numerous organizations throughout the community for our dedication to making Rochelle a great community to live and work. As the largest employee in Rochelle, our nearly 900 team members come to work every day knowing they can make a difference at Rochelle Foods, and in the Rochelle community. We look forward to many more years of supporting the Rochelle area.”

Throughout the years the leadership at Rochelle Foods has encouraged the advancement of numerous employees, including production and office employees, into management positions and advancing their careers with Hormel Foods. Rochelle Foods welcome interns every summer, providing valuable learning opportunities and a chance to contribute to our team and community. Rochelle Foods is always seeking to add new talent to their team – check out their website for open opportunities!



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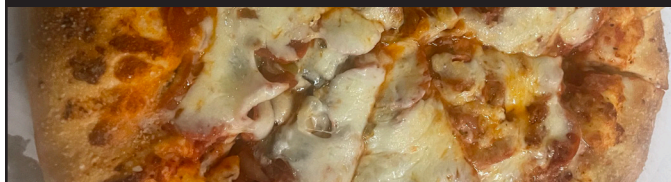
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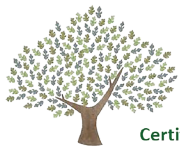
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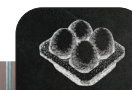
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Allstate facility built with environment in mind

BEFORE Allstate Insurance Co. opened its data center in Rochelle in 2009 it took on a life of its own. Not just because of the high-tech equipment, but because of the commitment the company made to constructing a facility that was state-of-the-art. And the result was a nice side effect.

The facility is green. Really green.

The building is designed from the ground up to maximize computing capacity and minimize environmental impact.

The company even received the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council and verified by the Green Building Certification Institute.

The Allstate facility opened in May of 2009 and is one of the few mission-critical data centers in America to receive the Gold designation from USGBC. It's a key component of a larger strategy to reduce the number of Allstate data centers to two by the end of 2010 and to increase power efficiency and computing capacity.

LEED Gold Certification

Allstate's data center achieved LEED Gold certification for incorporating a variety of sustainable technology, design and construction strategies that positively impact the project itself and the broader community, including:

- Leading edge hardware and more efficient virtualization software that cut the space and power computers use in half;
- An environmental system that blends heat from computers, outside air and mechanical equipment to keep office areas comfortable and equipment rooms cool;
- A white roof to reflect rather than absorb heat;
- Glass outside office walls to take advantage of natural light;
- Concrete made from recycled materials;
- Native landscaping requiring no irrigation and minimal maintenance.

By using less energy and water, LEED certified buildings save money for families, businesses and taxpayers; reduce greenhouse gas emissions; and contribute to a healthier environment for residents, workers and the community at large.

The data center is Allstate's core information center for serving its customers.

The 65,000-square-foot facility is a secure, world-class hosting center to support Allstate's information technology needs – enhancing the customer experience. There are and

racks of computer equipment to run service and operations. In addition, the facility serves to prepare and protect the company from uncertainties, keeping customer and company information confidential and safe.

The building has enough data storage to hold 15 Libraries of Congress – which is considerable, since the Library of Congress holds more than 30 million books.

Allstate chose Rochelle for its data center because of the infrastructure and incentives available. Rochelle's

Technology Park has direct access to the Northern Illinois Technology Triangle, a looped broadband fiber network secured along three major interstate highways. The NITT ensures instant transmission of large volumes of data, with superior redundancy capabilities. This regional multi-gigabit fiber optic-based system provides high speed data transmission, connecting businesses to world-wide opportunities. Rochelle is among a handful of cities across the nation who own and operate a local fiber-optics network.



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