



# Community Connections

The City of Rochelle's Community Newsletter

Jan/Feb 2014 Volume 6, issue 1

## Hub Theater Renovation Proposal – by Alan Cooper, Guest Columnist

Earlier this year, at the suggestion of the City Manager, the Rochelle City Council commissioned an architectural study of the feasibility and cost of renovating the Hub Theater for use as a live performance venue.

In April, the council heard a presentation by the architect, who provided detailed reports describing the condition of the theater, and the estimated costs to renovate it. He concluded that the theater is in sound and stable structural condition, though in need of maintenance and repairs.

The estimated cost of repairs and renovation was \$1 million. The current asking price for the building is \$100,000.00.

The city council has made no decision concerning this project. Because of my strong belief in it, I volunteered (as a public citizen and not as city attorney) to spearhead a

campaign to promote the Hub Theater renovation project, and to convince the city council that there is sufficient community support to justify undertaking it.

Since then, the Hub Theater Renovation Committee has been gathering information and preparing a power point presentation, which is being presented to various civic



groups to provide information and answer questions. Anyone who wants to schedule a presentation should contact Michelle Pease at 561-2073 or Alan Cooper at 562-2677.

The Hub Theater, which was once a thriving entertainment center but has been vacant for several years, offers a wonderful opportunity for this community. Renovating it into a live performance venue, in my view, is the single most important civic project which Rochelle can undertake. It has the potential to transform the theater from a symbol of stagnation into a cultural and entertainment anchor for a revitalized downtown.

And it can be done quickly, with no fundraising and no tax increase. The reason is that the City has a landfill fund, consisting of income from the Rochelle landfill, with a balance of approximately \$3 million. This fund has been informally discussed as being appropriate for "quality of life" projects. No better project than this exists.

## Find us online!

Keep up with the latest happenings in Rochelle by following us on Facebook and Twitter!

The City of Rochelle posts community events and important information such as changes in the trash pickup schedule or snow ordinance notifications.

Social media is also a quick and easy way to ask a question to City Staff. Post on our wall or send us a private message and we will respond shortly.

Know of a community event that we haven't mentioned? Post it on our wall!



[facebook.com/cityofrochelle](https://facebook.com/cityofrochelle)



[twitter.com/cityofrochelle](https://twitter.com/cityofrochelle)

### Christmas Tree Festival Recap

*Thank you to all of our generous donors from the 2013 Christmas Tree Festival!*

*We raised \$2017 for the Rochelle Christian Food Pantry!*

## Recycle Rochelle

Winterize your vehicle by checking your air filter and fluid levels, checking tires for tread wear and proper inflation, and checking the condition of your windshield wipers. Ensuring your vehicle is ready for weather changes will reduce damage, which prevents waste from broken parts, and will keep you safe on the road



## Winter Parking Update

The City of Rochelle has adopted several snow ordinances to make plowing as quick and efficient as possible in a snow event. Your cooperation with these ordinances is most appreciated!

Once we have 3 inches of snowfall, all vehicles parked on the street must be moved to the even numbered side of the street on even-numbered days and then moved to the odd numbered side of the street on odd-numbered days. For example, on January 14, cars are to be parked

on the even numbered side of the street. Cars are to be moved to the appropriate side of the street by 7:00AM. Cars that are not moved can be ticketed or even towed by the Rochelle Police Department.



Please be careful when shoveling/snow-blowing not to put snow back into the street.

Thank you for your cooperation!

## Election 2014

### Ogle County General Primary Election

March 18, 2014

### Voter Registration Ends

February 18, 2014

To register to vote, visit the City Clerk's Office at City Hall located at 420 North 6th Street in Rochelle. Please bring two forms of identification—including one showing your current home address. For more information, call 562-6161.



## Christmas Tree Recycling

The City of Rochelle, Flagg-Rochelle Park District, and Ogle County Solid Waste are once again teaming up to offer Christmas Tree Recycling! This program is open to all Ogle County Residents.

Between January 1-14, trees may be dropped off at Atwood Park, located at the corner of 10th Avenue & 20th Street, or may be placed on the curb for pickup by the Street Division. Please remember to remove all

ornaments, tinsel, and décor before placing the tree at the curb for recycling.

Trees are chipped and free mulch is available at the Street Division Office, located at 251 East First Avenue, by calling Tim Isley at 562-2494 in advance.

Christmas Tree Recycling questions may be directed to the Ogle County Solid Waste Department at 815-732-4020 or to City Hall at 562-6161.



### JANUARY

### FEBRUARY

- 1 New Year's Day Observed  
*City Offices Closed*
- 7 Planning & Zoning Commission  
*7:00pm, Council Chambers*
- 8 Stormwater Advisory Commission  
*5:00pm, Council Chambers*
- 13 City Council Meeting  
*7:00pm, Council Chambers*
- 18 Appliance Pickup  
*Sign up at RMU or City Hall*
- 22 Utility Advisory Board  
*3:00pm, RMU Tech Center*
- 23 Railroad Advisory Board  
*12:00pm, Conference Center*
- 27 Airport Advisory Board  
*3:00pm, Council Chambers*
- City Council Meeting  
*7:00pm, Council Chambers*

- 3 Planning & Zoning Commission  
*7:00pm, Council Chambers*
- 10 City Council Meeting  
*7:00pm, Council Chambers*
- 15 Appliance Pickup  
*Sign up at RMU or City Hall*
- 24 City Council Meeting  
*7:00pm, Council Chambers*



## City of Rochelle

420 North Sixth Street  
Rochelle, IL 61068  
Phone: 815-562-6161  
Fax: 815-561-8648  
E-Mail: info@rochelleil.us

[www.cityofrochelle.net](http://www.cityofrochelle.net)

