See Rockford-area potential standouts in baseball

SPORTS, 1B

Rockford Register Star

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Rockford Roasting Co. plans second location

Barista Paige Griffin serves customers during the first night of several open houses at Rockford Roasting Company at Embassy Suites July 16, 2021, in Rockford. SCOTT P. YATES/ROCKFORD REGISTER STAR

Jeff Kolkey
Rockford Register Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

ROCKFORD — Rockford Roasting Co. LLC. has purchased the former Vintage@501 and former Taco Libre building at 501 E. State St. in downtown Rockford with plans to open a second location.

The $400,000 purchase from Steele's 126 LLC was recorded by the Winnebago County Clerk's Office March 19. The new location will allow Rockford Roasting Co. owner Benjamin Chauvin to consolidate his roasting and pastry operations while expanding the company's offerings, said John Phelps, executive director of the Rockford Local Development Corp., which financed the transaction.

"He currently roasts coffee offsite and makes his pastries offsite," Phelps said. "So all of that will be brought into 501 E. State and then he will expand the menu and the hours, run a coffee shop with some limited breakfast service and limited evening service."

Launched in 2014, Rockford Roasting Co. roasts its own coffee beans, offers a variety of teas, snacks, food items and ice cream and is a favorite coffee hangout for many in downtown Rockford.

It moved in 2020 to its current location on the first floor of the Embassy Suites by Hilton Rockford Riverfront, 416 S. Main St., from the 200 block of N. Main Street.

Chauvin did not return phone and email messages seeking comment

Jeff Kolkey writes about government, economic development and other issues for the Rockford Register Star. He can be reached at (815) 987-1374, via email at jkolkey@rrstar.com and on X @jeffkolkey.

Program aims to prevent flooding

Nida Tazeen
Rockford Register Star
USA TODAY NETWORK

The city of Rockford has launched a program to encourage residents to help prevent flooding and keep streets clean by adopting storm drains.

The Adopt-A-Drain program is a community effort to mitigate flooding and protect waterways, according to a community announcement.

There are 24,043 storm drains along 779 miles of roadway in Rockford.

How to participate

Residents can find a drain near their home or workplace and clean the grate once a month or before a storm, according to the announcement.

Debris should be disposed of properly.

Spring, summer and fall are key times to clean drains, as heavier rainfalls, grass clippings and leaves can clog them.

Safety guidelines include wearing a reflective safety vest, appropriate clothing and work gloves. Hazardous items such as chemicals and sharps should be avoided, and the grate should never be removed from the storm inlet.

If the inlet is clogged within the structure, residents should contact the city at 779-348-7175.

Proper tools such as shovels, rakes and garbage pickers should be used, and participants should be aware of their surroundings.

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21 things to do this weekend in the Rockford area

Kathi Edwards
Special to the Rockford Register Star

The weekend brings Cars & Coffee 2026, Bunny Bash and Killers of Tony, along with Easter egg hunts, fundraisers, live music and more to the Rockford area.

Coral Cove Annual Easter Egg Hunt

What: The Easter egg hunt is for children age 13 and younger. There will also be a bounce house, an egg cracking party and a craft workshop.

When: Noon April 3

Where: Coral Cove, 586 Progressive Lane, South Beloit

Cost: $12 per child; two for $22

Good Friday at the Coronado

What: The evening will consist of quiet moments of reflection as well as appropriately loud moments of singing our thanks to the One who gave His all for us. There will be a short sermon as well as singing together and Scripture reading. Seating is first-come, first-served. Event parking in the Pioneer Garage is free.

When: 6 p.m. April 3 (doors open at 5 p.m.)

Where: Coronado Performing Arts Center, 304 N. Main St., Rockford

Cost: Free

Cars & Coffee 2026

What: Cars & Coffee – Rockford is held the first Saturday of each month from April through October. A different car group will be featured each month. Anyone is welcome to register and participate. Enjoy coffee and food from Katie's Cup, conversations about cars and a sense of community.

When: 9 a.m. – noon April 4

Where: RPS205 Administrative Building parking lot and along Seventh

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* This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Leafguard or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Previous/future purchases are not eligible for a discount or sale price adjustment. Sales tax does not qualify for discount. This offer cannot be combined with any other sale, promotion, discount, code, coupon and/or offer. This promotion has no cash value. Leafguard reserves the right to end any promotion at any time without notice. Offer ends 4/30/26. ** Plan 2531. Subject to credit approval. Interest rates range from 17.99% – 24.99%. Loan amount and rate will vary based on your income and creditworthiness. 18-month promotional period ("Promo Period") during which interest is billed but will be waived if the amount financed is paid in full before Promo Period expires. Monthly payments are not required during the Promo Period. Any unpaid balance and amounts owed after Promo Period will be paid over 84 monthly payments. Offer expires 4/30/26. ***All participants who attend an estimated 60-90-minute in-home product consultation will receive a $50 Visa card. Retail value is $100. Offer sponsored by Leafguard Holdings Inc. Limit one per household. Company procures, sells, and installs seamless gutter protection. This offer is valid for homeowners over 18 years of age. If married or involved with a life partner, both cohabitating persons must attend and complete presentation together. Participants must have a photo ID and be legally able to enter into a contract. The following persons are not eligible for this offer: employees of Company or affiliated companies or entities, their immediate family members, previous participants in a Company in-home consultation within the past 12 months and all current and former Company customers. Card may not be extended, transferred, or substituted except that Company may substitute a gift of equal or greater value if it deems it necessary. Card will be mailed to the participant via first class United States Mail within 10 days of receipt of the promotion form. Not valid in conjunction with any other promotion or discount of any kind. Offer not sponsored and is subject to change without notice prior to reservation. Except in the states of MD, NY and DC, where the gift card offer is limited to $25. Offer not available in the states of CA, IN, PA and MI. Expires 4/30/26. License #'s: L201900981, 32777, BL020003-04-2020, 238170, Bz-7199, SBL20-000141, 25 00046051, 25 00046051, 29210, 4322, 25461, 168338, 9137087990, 2402511, 9633, 498485, 15500, 9635003681, 5501, 25951, 16203, 36936, 230003735, 16178,363035, 66513, 2023-836,202204245, NBA23-000324, 202314682, 26038, 6186, 227, 263556, 2023-1542, 101588, 32777, BL020003-04-2020, 238170, Bz-7199, SBL20-000141, 25 00046051, 25 00046051, 29210, 4322, 230005052, 6258, & 235FL-GC-0404, 4523, 32777, BL020003-04-2020, 238170, Bz-7199, SBL20-000141, 25 00046051, 25 00046051, 29210, 4322, WW055024, 005071, & 3466, 6258, & 235FL-GC-0404, 0663233, 191456, GC-48219, GEN22-36941, 5257, 19486, 1606, 1163, 00008036, 1000724543, 196498, 2705176457, RCE-47143, 101588, 3753, 2959, 19612, 00008036, 1000724543, 196498, 397440224, PBR-00011734, PBR-00011733, NBF-00000807, 6258, 235FL-GC-0404, DC-052200604, 2622450, HICN 0204113, PBR-00011734, PBR-00011733, NBF-00000807, 25461, 168338, 9137087990, 2402511, 9633, 498485, 15500, 9635003681, 5501, 25951, 16203, 36936, 230003735, 16178,363035, 66513, 2023-836,202204245, NBA23-000324, 202314682, 26038, 6186, 227, 263556, 2023-1542, 223377, BUS-1241-2021, LBPR223377, CCB 234836, LEAFGHI821RC, 500180361, 604339569, R7484, 101588, 2705176457, RCE-47143, L201900981, 25461, 168338, 9137087990, 2402511, 9633, 498485, 15500, 9635003681, 5501, 25951, 16203, 36936, 230003735, 16178,363035, 66513, 2023-836,202204245, NBA23-000324, 202314682, 26038, 6186, 227, 263556, 2023-1542, 223377, BUS-1241-2021, LBPR223377, CCB 234836, LEAFGHI821RC, 500180361, 604339569, 7484, RCE47143, 275054, IR796203, 19486, 1606, 1163, 126357, 13VH09010100, LC8336, 2015605717, 11650889-5501.

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