

## Charges filed over stray bullets

Two Beloit men are accused of firing rounds that struck near a group of people fishing in a Rock County park. **Page 4A**

## State baseball aspirations dashed

Ethan Haefner, a senior on Milton's baseball team, hoped to lead the Red Hawks to their first state berth. **Page 1B**

## Permanent change?

Janesville's alcohol licensing committee tells the city council to permanently allow class B license holders to offer prepackaged liquor sales for takeout. **Page 2A**



# The Gazette

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Anthony Wahl/awahl@gazettextra.com

The Birds Eye vegetable processing facility in the town of Darien will get help from the Wisconsin National Guard as it begins testing employees and planning to restart production.

## National Guard to assist effort at Birds Eye

### Soldiers to help set up testing facilities for food processor

By Jonah Beleckis

jbeleckis@gazettextra.com

#### ELKHORN

The National Guard on Thursday and Friday will help with COVID-19 testing at the Birds Eye food processing plant in Darien, a Walworth County health official said this week.

Although Birds Eye spokesman Daniel Hare said last week that plant officials had planned to open Sunday, he said in an email Monday that, "We are finalizing plans and intend to resume operations later this week."

Carlo Nevicosi, deputy director for the county's

health department, said the emergency operations center asked for assistance from the National Guard in setting up on-site testing at the Darien facility.

He said the National Guard will test employees, family members and household members.

"Birdseye has worked closely with our Public Health Department, and we agree that this is the best way to get them safely reopened," he said in an email Monday.

Capt. Joe Trovato, spokesman for the Wisconsin National Guard, said a team of 20 to 30 soldiers expects to collect 1,400 swab samples Thursday and Friday. The Guard has had 11 such teams collecting samples at sites throughout Wisconsin in support of health departments, he said.

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## Evers' order draws ire

### Conservative justice invokes WWII-era Japanese internment

By Todd Richmond

Associated Press

#### MADISON

Conservative justices who control the Wisconsin Supreme Court raised doubts Tuesday about whether Gov. Tony Evers' stay-at-home order is legal, asserting that the Legislature never intended to give the executive branch so much

power.

Justice Rebecca Bradley suggested during oral arguments over the order that state Department of Health Services Secretary Andrea Palm's decision to extend the mandate without legislative input amounts to tyranny. She also questioned whether Palm might next herd people into social distancing camps akin to World War II Japanese internment camps.

"There is a constitutional problem with the Legislature giving away this much power to an unelected Cabinet secretary," Bradley said.

Evers issued an order in March requiring people to stay in their

homes and avoid nonessential travel to curb the spread of the coronavirus. The order also required schools and nonessential businesses to close and banned public gatherings. Palm, a member of Evers' Cabinet, unilaterally extended the order until May 26 at the governor's direction.

Republican legislators filed a lawsuit directly with the Supreme Court arguing Palm overstepped her authority. They contend the order is really an administrative rule and as such is subject to legislative approval. They've asked the court to issue an injunction

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## Downtown apartment project still on the rise



Angela Major/amajor@gazettextra.com

Construction for the River Flats, a 92-unit affordable housing apartment complex going up in downtown Janesville, continues Tuesday. It is one of three large-scale housing developments currently under construction in the city, including the Diamond Ridge project on Woodman Road and a 250-unit project near Interstate 90/39.

## Gazette eliminating weekend print editions starting next month

### Change key to paper staying viable in future, publisher says

By Neil Johnson

njohnson@gazettextra.com

#### JANESVILLE

The Gazette will end its Saturday and Sunday print editions, trimming print publication to five days a week as economic pressures on the news industry continue to mount amid the COVID-19 crisis.

The Gazette has delivered seven editions a week for 32 years. The change goes into effect June 1.

The decision comes as the paper faces a falloff in advertising and subscriber revenue that's worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic, but it's a measure the newspaper's ownership had been discussing "for some time," said Mary Jo Villa, Gazette publisher and Adams Publishing Group regional president.

"I absolutely believe it is the appropriate



Villa

and necessary step to ensure we remain viable and have the ability to publish quality local journalism for many years to come," Villa said in a statement. "The COVID crisis further put into perspective how important it is that we size our organization in a manner that ensures we can continue to provide the quality of journalism our communities deserve."

The Gazette will continue to deliver news and advertising on GazetteXtra.com,

the paper's website, seven days a week, Villa said.

The elimination of two print editions a week will result in a total of six employees being laid off—some in the newsroom and some in the circulation and distribution divisions. The layoffs are effective at the end of May.

As the newspaper industry grapples with changing realities in business, one common response is to decrease the frequency of print products or end publication on

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#### OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 4A

• Bonnie B. Ahlert  
• Leah Rae Corlett  
• William Henry Dyer  
• Karly L. Jensen  
• Edith A. Koerner

• Arlene A. Lorch  
• Elizabeth M. Oestreich  
• Barbara Titus  
• Diana D. "Dee" Ward  
• Sylvester W. "Bill" Wesley

#### TODAY'S WEATHER

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Times of clouds and sun  
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Classified .....6B Lotteries.....4A Puzzles.....6B  
Comics.....4B Nation/World.....5B State.....2A  
Legals.....5B Opinion.....6A TV/Advice.....3B

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