

Two in a row
Milwaukee's Christian Yelich hit his first home run of the season late in Sunday's game against Cincinnati, solidifying a 9-4 victory. **Page 1B**

Rock County virus data

	New	Trend*	Total
Cases	0	-41	16,261
Deaths	0	0	175
Total			Change
Hosp.....	12 (May 20)	-3 (from May 13)	
Sunday's positivity rate: 0%			

*-The trend column shows how many more or fewer cases and deaths were reported the same day in the previous week.

Shooting deaths

Two men died Thursday night in an incident. Janesville police called a murder-suicide on the city's south side. **Page 6A**



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Carrying history

City-owned vehicle that was the last built on one local GM line now up for auction

By Neil Johnson
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JANESVILLE

The big, yellow GMC truck first operated as a snowplow on city of Janesville streets. Then, for years, it became an asphalt mule for city street maintenance.

Now, the 19-year-old city of Janesville public works truck, a diesel-powered, GMC C8500 dump truck, is phased out, retired and set to hit the auction block in June.

It's not just any truck. It's the last heavy GMC utility truck ever built in Janesville; the absolute, final big truck that ever rolled off the assembly floor before GM shut down its Janesville medium-duty line for good.

Scrawled in black grease pen on the underside of the GMC's hood are the names of workers on the Janesville Assembly line on June 26, 2002—the day the truck was completed. Those names are faded beneath years of operating grime, yet still visible.

Who knows? Maybe one of those workers will buy the truck. If they want to, they can try.

The city of Janesville is taking sealed bid offers for the truck now. City Operations Director Maggie Darr said the city normally holds a statewide auction for surplus

“ ”

The goal (of limiting auction bids for the truck) is to maybe limit the exposure a little bit more so potentially it ends up in the hands of somebody local who has some local connection to GM, maybe somebody who wants to feature it at local car shows or keep it as kind of a part of local history.

City of Janesville Operations Director Maggie Darr

or retired vehicles. But she said the city is initially soliciting bids for the GMC truck locally. That is, through June 6, the city is only accepting bids mailed or hand-delivered to the City Services Center.

That is to give area residents first crack at buying a piece of city history.

“The goal is to maybe limit the exposure a little bit more so potentially it ends up in the hands of somebody local who has some local connection to GM, maybe somebody who wants to feature it at local car shows or keep it as kind of a part of local history,” Darr said.

Travis Kelsey, shop crew

Turn to **TRUCK** on Page 7A



Photos by Neil Johnson/njohnson@gazettextra.com

Above: The city of Janesville is auctioning a 2002 GMC dump truck that was the last-ever big truck to roll off the Janesville General Motors assembly plant's medium-duty truck line. It has about 65,000 miles on it and ran about 6,500 hours, mostly as a blacktop truck used for street maintenance.

Below: A sticker inside the truck's door shows it was built in Janesville.



City repeals masking policy

Face coverings no longer required in city buildings starting later this week

By Neil Johnson
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JANESVILLE

The local unmasking continues. The next chapter: this coming week at Janesville's City Hall and other municipal buildings.

The city of Janesville announced that the city is lifting its COVID-19-era, mask-wearing policy in city buildings or facilities effective Wednesday.

The move affects most of the 518 employees at the city of Janesville, and it extends to residents who visit city buildings, city spokesman Nick Faust said.

In an announcement released Friday, city officials said “members of the public will no longer be required to wear face masks or face coverings while visiting or conducting business in city buildings or facilities.”

The announcement comes a week after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention shifted its guidance on public masking and after Rock County last week lifted its own public-masking mandate.

Exceptions to the city's repeal of the masking policy include the city's public transit vehicles and

Turn to **MASKING** on Page 7A

Rock County considers new deferred-prosecution program

Official hopes program can be operational later this summer

By Jonah Beleckis
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JANESVILLE

Rock County criminal justice officials are trying to create a pilot deferred-prosecution program to add to the county's arsenal of evidence-based programming

connecting defendants with services they need.

The new program will fall under the umbrella of evidence-based, decision-making initiatives the county is working on. It will sit alongside the diversion program under the category called “risk reduction interventions,” said Elizabeth

Pohlman McQuillen, Rock County Justice System manager.

Whereas the diversion program, which has been running for nearly two years, is meant for the lowest-risk defendants, she said the deferred-prosecution program will be for those assessed at low-medium risk levels.

Deferred prosecution is similar in some ways to expungement, which is wiping a charge from a defendant's criminal

history. Essentially, a conviction is not finalized—allowing defendants to complete requirements such as treatment.

If the defendant completes the requirements, a prosecutor can move to dismiss or reduce the charges. If defendants don't successfully complete the requirements, everyone can move forward to sentencing.

Pohlman McQuillen hopes the

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OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 6A

- Patricia L. Bjerk
- Herold A. Converse
- Joy A. (Burnam) Haugen
- Sharmian Jessie
- Julie Ann Schwellenbach

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 85 | Low 68
Warm with a stray
thunderstorm
More on 7A

- Classified.....7B-8B
- Comics.....8A
- Legals.....3A
- Lotteries.....6A
- Nation/World . 5B-6B
- Opinion.....5A
- Puzzles.....8B
- State.....2A
- Advice.....6B

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