



High five
Elkhorn's boys soccer team is a win away from state after beating conference rival Lake Geneva Badger 5-1 on Thursday. **Page 1B**

Moving online
Milton High School is going to all-virtual learning starting next week after positive coronavirus tests. **Page 8A**



Weekend Gazette

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Anthony Wahl/awahl@gazettextra.com
A 1972 election decanter set filled with Orveto white wine is on display with the Kowal family's political memorabilia at the Rock County Historical Society in Janesville.

Political nostalgia on display

Family provides decades worth of campaign memorabilia for historical society's exhibit

JANESVILLE
Ninety-two-year-old Virginia Kowal remembers a time when neighbors came over for good-natured discussions about politics.

When they went home, everyone still talked to each other, even if they had opposing views.

The Janesville woman and her late husband, George Kowal, thrived on politics their entire lives.

Virginia hosted many political functions, including a 1968 coffee for Muriel Humphrey, wife of presidential candidate Hubert Humphrey.

Today, daughters Diane Kowal and Grace Spoden have fond memories of going with their father door-to-door as he encouraged people to register to vote or campaigned for candidates in the 1960s and 1970s.

"They taught us the importance of understanding the political process," Grace said, "and how important it is."

Through the decades, Virginia and George kept political buttons, posters,

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ANNA MARIE LUX
BETWEEN THE LINES

Sheriff hits bodycam setback

Rock County misses out on grant money

By **Frank Schultz**

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JANESVILLE

Rock County sheriff's deputies won't be wearing body cameras in the near future,

but Sheriff Troy Knudson hopes to get the county board to provide funding eventually.

Knudson applied for a grant that would have provided body cams for 20 deputies plus storage equipment and training, but he found out this week



Knudson

the application was denied.

The sheriff's office has about 100 sworn officers.

The grant would have provided \$40,000 if the county would match that amount, for \$80,000

budget-planning process. The budget was scheduled to be presented to the board Thursday night, and a public budget hearing is set for Wednesday.

"It might be easiest to put this on the back burner until next year's budget process, and yet there's been a lot of interest in us having this

total. The county is well into its

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Anthony Wahl/awahl@gazettextra.com

Andy Sorg on Thursday walks past an opening torn into his family-owned meat market's processing room after a 70-foot concrete silo filled with corn toppled into the building Sunday. Sorg's also lost its freezer room filled with products for customers and area farmers.

A sudden market crash

Silo topples into Sorg's butcher shop, upending what had been a busy year

By **Neil Johnson**

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DARIEN

As Andy Sorg III surveyed the damage to his butcher shop off Highway 14, corn chaff blew on a light wind through the shop's shattered roof and east walls.

Above, visible through a yawning hole in the roof, was the sky and a flock of birds on the wing.

Daylight and wind should not be

pouring into the meat processing room at Sorg's Quality Meats and Sausages.

But that has been the scene since Sunday afternoon, when a 70-foot concrete silo filled with harvested feed corn collapsed and smashed through the back side of the family meat market.

Wiped out is a year's worth of feed for Sorg's cattle operation. The shop's main meat processing room is heavily damaged and still open to the elements. Sorg's butcher operations are halted while

insurance officials survey the wreckage. Thousands of pounds of bison meat, beef and pork in the shop's adjacent freezers also is likely ruined, covered in a mangled mess of building debris and spilled corn.

It comes at the tail end of a year that has brought the COVID-19 pandemic, then food hoarding, then fresh meat shortages and now unending demand that has strained small, rural meat

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OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 10A

- Dean Alderman
- Frank Cisewski
- Michael J. Coyle
- Christine Belle Hammon
- Melissa Ann Hill

- Galen J. Humphrey
- Bernard J. Kedrowski
- Robert E. Kline
- James E. Luedtke
- Merrill E. Moore

- Joyce Anne (Stone) Playter
- Anthony D. Scarpetta
- Mary A. Thomas
- Eileen I. (Nelison) Wolfe

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 45 | Low 31
Mostly sunny and chilly
More on 11A

Classified 3C, 7D
Comics 10B, 4D
Legals 12B

Lotteries 10A
Nation/World 11B-12B
Opinion 4A-5A

Puzzles 5D
State 2A
TV/Advice 9B, 3D, 6D

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