

**License OK'd**  
The Janesville City Council approved a liquor license for a Kwik Trip store to be built on Humes Road. **Page 7A**

**Questioning begins**  
Judge Amy Coney Barrett, President Donald Trump's latest Supreme Court nominee, fielded questions from senators Tuesday. **Page 8B**

**Pod power**  
The Janesville Jets said they will use pod seating to allow 220 season-ticket holders into home games for the upcoming NAHL season. **Page 1B**



# The Gazette

CELEBRATING 175 YEARS OF LOCAL JOURNALISM

Wednesday, October 14, 2020 • \$1.50

## 'Find the right use'

Foundation wants buyer that is best for building's future

By Neil Johnson

njohnson@gazettextra.com

### JANESVILLE

Some say they envision retail stores or restaurants.

Others picture multi-family apartments.

Those are just a few examples of tire-kicking that downtown revitalization boosters say they're seeing by developers interested in the former First National Bank property in downtown Janesville.

But leaders of Forward Janesville's charitable arm, the Forward Foundation, are seeking an independent consultant's market analysis before they sell the vacant building at 100 W. Milwaukee St. to any of several developers who apparently are interested.

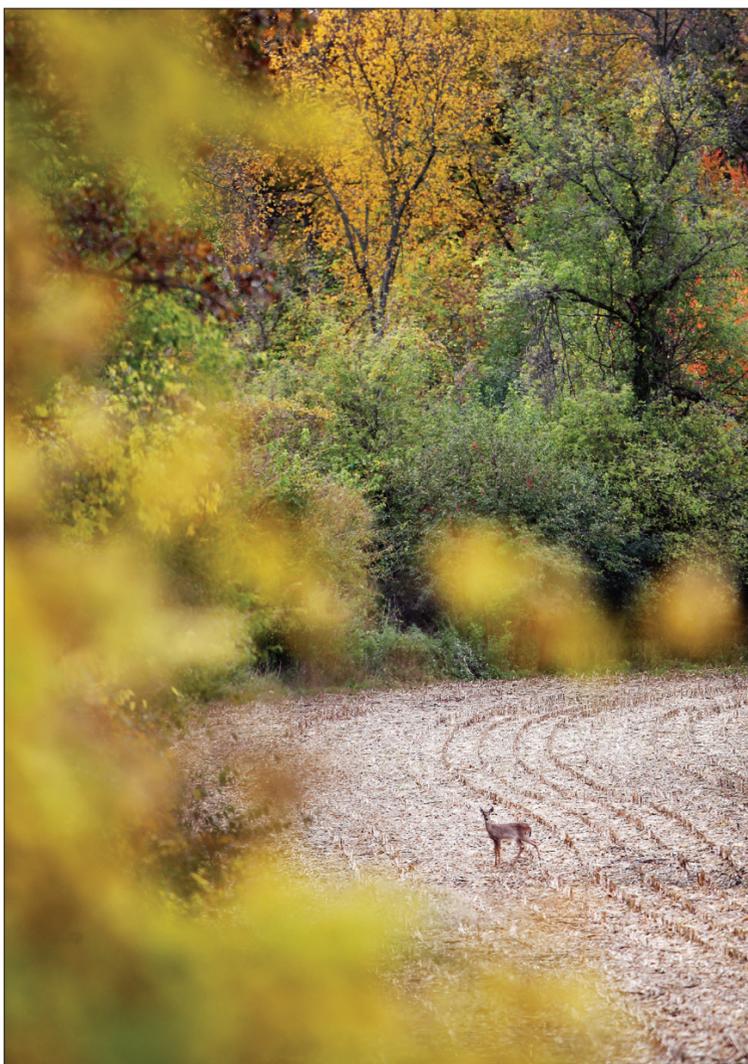
"Our goal is to find the right use first, not find a developer first. We want to know what's the best and highest use," Forward Janesville board President Tim Lindau said.

In Forward Janesville's first month of owning the historic, circa-1913 former bank property, "several" groups, including apartment developers and non-profit organizations, have been eyeing the property. This week, another interested developer is touring the former bank, the third group in the last few weeks to walk around the property, Lindau said during a Forward Janesville conference call Tuesday.

The question, Lindau said, is what the 23,000-square-foot property might be best suited for.

Turn to **USE** on Page 9A

## Grazing under golden leaves



Anthony Wahl/awahl@gazettextra.com

A deer looks up after nibbling on cut cornstalks in a field northwest of Edgerton on Tuesday morning. Travel Wisconsin's fall color report (travelwisconsin.com/fall-color-report) showed Tuesday that much of the southern half of the state is at or approaching peak fall color. With sunshine and temperatures in the low 70s forecasted, today could be a good day to take a look. **Weather on Page 9A.**

## Enrollment slips again

Janesville schools see sharpest drop in many years

By Benjamin Pierce

bpierce@gazettextra.com

### JANESVILLE

Enrollment in the Janesville School District has dropped by 434 students, or 4.4%, this year as the community prepares to vote on referendum questions next month.

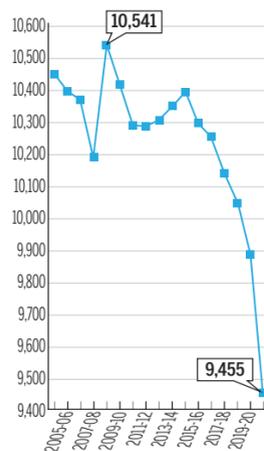
The decline continues recent enrollment patterns in the district.

The district Monday released its third Friday in September enrollment count, which is performed annually. Total enrollment in early-childhood programs through 12th grade is 9,455, down from 9,889 students last year.

"The School District of Janesville, like all districts in the state and nation, has been impacted by

### JANESVILLE School district enrollment

Enrollment in the Janesville School District has continued to decline.



SOURCE: Janesville School District

Donna Felland/donnaf@gazettextra.com

COVID-19 pandemic," Superintendent Steve Pophal said in the news

Turn to **DROP** on Page 9A

### RELATED

• **Raise for substitute teachers:** Subs will make \$140 per day after the Janesville School Board unanimously approved a rate increase Tuesday night. **/10A**

## More state pandemic data records fall Tuesday

Single-day cases, deaths, hospitalizations reach unprecedented numbers

By Scott Bauer

Associated Press

### MADISON

Wisconsin hit grim coronavirus milestones Tuesday, reporting record highs for positive cases, deaths and hospitalizations on the eve of an overflow field hospital opening near Milwaukee.

The state Department of Health Services reported 3,279 confirmed new cases, breaking a record of 3,132 set just five days earlier. There were 34 deaths reported,

also a new high, bringing the total number of people who have died to 1,508. To date, more than 155,000 people in Wisconsin have tested positive.

The seven-day rolling average of new cases was 2,727, more than double the 1,141 from a month ago.

The number of people in the hospital because of COVID-19 also hit an all-time high for a second day in a row, growing from 950 to 959, according to the Wisconsin Hospital Association. There were 243 patients in intensive care.

Wisconsin's death count as of Monday was the 30th highest in the country overall and the 42nd highest per capita at more than 25 deaths per 100,000 people. The 595 new cases per 100,000 people in Wisconsin over the past two

weeks ranks fourth most in the country. Gov. Tony Evers attributed the increase to the Wisconsin Supreme Court striking down his safer-at-home order in May at the request of his Republican opponents as well as fatigue over wearing masks and other recommendations to slow the spread.

"We let down our guard," he said on a conference call.



Evers

"The numbers are very, very concerning," Evers said. Evers urged people to stay at

Outbreaks have also been reported at three state prisons—the Racine Correctional Institution/Sturtevant Transitional Facility, the Kettle Moraine Correctional Institution and the Oshkosh Correctional Institution.

Turn to **RECORDS** on Page 9A

### OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 8A

- Steven J. Craig
- Doris V. Statton
- Lyle L. Phillips
- Joseph H. Viertel
- Merlin Romenesko
- Eric G. Waage
- Patricia Schmetter

### TODAY'S WEATHER

High 71 | Low 44  
Some sun with winds subsiding  
More on 9A

- Classified . . . . .9B-10B
- Lotteries . . . . .8A
- Puzzles . . . . .10B
- Comics . . . . .7B
- Nation/World . . . . .8B-9B
- State . . . . .2A
- Legals . . . . .2A
- Opinion . . . . .4A-5A
- TV/Advice . . . . .6B

©2020 Adams Publishing Group. All rights reserved.

GazetteXtra.com



## Planning Ahead Pays Off

Educators Investment Services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI), is staffed by a team of caring financial professionals.

Financial professionals are ready to help with:

- Navigating market volatility.
- Planning for retirement.
- Finding life insurance.
- Planning for long-term care.
- And more!



Educators INVESTMENT SERVICES

Contact the professionals today at 262.321.7949.

Educators Investment Services. Financial professionals are registered representatives of CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. Representatives do not sell, or recommend, securities sold, advisory services offered through CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. (CBSI). Member FDIC. CBSI is a registered broker/dealer and investment adviser, which is not an affiliate of the credit union. CBSI is under contract with the financial institution to make securities available to members. NOT A CUNA/BCU/FFBC. Issued. May 1, 2019. No Financial Institution Guarantee. Not a deposit of any financial institution. CUNA Brokerage Services, Inc. is a registered broker/dealer in all 50 states of the United States of America. CBN-2077949-1020-1022