



Back to the garden
Photo essay looks at first day of new season for Janesville Farmers Market.
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At the Kentucky Derby —a disqualification
For the first time in 145 runnings of America's premier horse race, the first horse across the finish line was disqualified for interference. **Page 1B, 5B**



The Gazette

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Like a 'Star Wars' battleground?

Janesville-Evansville segment of Highway 14 tests motorists' patience

By Neil Johnson
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LEYDEN

Jim Reilly stood on a scissor lift as misty rain ran down the sheets of metal roofing he was hoisting onto a farm shed in the unincorporated community of Leyden.

About 100 feet to the north, a pickup truck rumbled west on Highway 14. The pickup was going about

70 mph, and its tires and ladder rack clattered as the truck jittered over shallow potholes.

Reilly's head jerked up at the staccato noise. A few seconds later, the pickup truck nailed another patch of potholes and alligator-skin cracks farther along Highway 14.

Reilly's head jerked up again. He looked out at the highway.

"What do I think about the condition of Highway 14?" Reilly said. "I think everybody can send our last governor, Scott Walker, a big thank-you card that says, 'Thanks for f--- up the road.'"

Whether the former governor's administration is responsible might be a subject of political debate, but

state engineering assessments show the 13-mile stretch of Highway 14 between Janesville and Evansville has been in a state of serious and deepening deficiency for years.

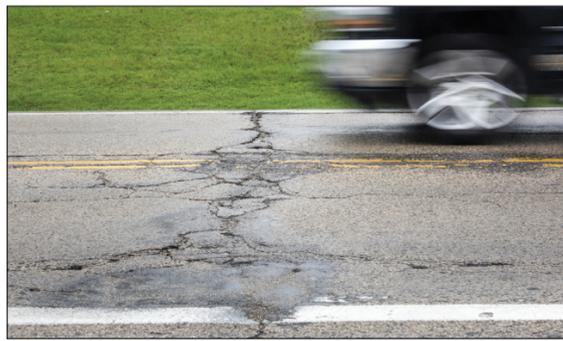
The stretch has been slated for \$7.5 million in resurfacing and reconfiguration since 2013, when design work for the project began.

But the project has been delayed years.

The state Department of Transportation delayed construction from 2017 to 2019 and then more recently from 2019 to 2021.

The DOT blames the delays on an independent consultant the agency

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Angela Major/amajor@gazettextra.com

A car rolls over cracks in Highway 14 west of Janesville. The state Department of Transportation says it plans in 2021 to replace the surface of the highway between Evansville and Janesville, but motorists and officials say they're growing weary of waiting.

Every car holds a story

Hundreds line up to collect bricks salvaged from GM site

By Jim Dayton
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JANESVILLE

The first cars slowed to a stop hours before the line started moving.

By the time it did, the cars stretched a mile from Blackhawk Community Credit Union on West Court Street.

The drivers and passengers all had a reason for spending a beautiful Saturday cooped inside their cars. All wanted bricks salvaged from the former General Motors plant.

People have clamored for GM bricks ever since plant demolition began more than a year ago. Saturday was their long-awaited chance to score two bricks per vehicle as Blackhawk hosted drive-up brick distribution.

Maybe those people spent their entire careers at the assembly plant. Maybe a parent or relative worked there. Maybe they just wanted a piece of Janesville history.

The first car in line was driven by a man who made concrete and milk deliveries to the plant years ago but never worked for the automaker.

Patrick Florick arrived at 9:30 a.m.—three and a half hours before distribution started—and passed time by reading The Gazette and completing a Sudoku puzzle. His time inside the plant was fleeting—one of his most vivid memories is the 1950s-themed cafeteria—but he wanted to get a local memento, he said.

During Florick's visits to the GM cafeteria, he might have spotted Beverly Strickert. She helmed the cafeteria's candy wagon and met her husband, Henry, at the plant, she said.

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Photos by Anthony Wahl/awahl@gazettextra.com

Bricks salvaged from the former General Motors assembly plant are bagged by volunteers to hand out during Blackhawk Community Credit Union's drive-through distribution at its building on Court Street in Janesville on Saturday. To see a photo gallery, go to gazettextra.com/multimedia



Dennis Hurt drives his 1970 Chevy Impala through the distribution Saturday. Hurt drove up from Pittsburg, Kansas, to collect a couple bricks and visit the town where his 1970 Chevy Impala was built.

Branch battle

It's executive vs. legislative as Trump team resists Dems' oversight

By Lisa Mascaro
Associated Press

WASHINGTON

They're talking at the Capitol about jailing people. Imposing steep fines. All sorts of extraordinary, if long-shot measures to force the White House to comply with Democratic lawmakers' request for information about President Donald Trump stemming from the special counsel's Russia investigation.

This is the remarkable state of affairs between the executive and legislative branches, unseen in recent times, as Democrats try to break through Trump's blockade of investigations and exert congressional oversight of the administration.

"One of the things that everybody in this country needs to think about is when the president denies the Congress documents and access to key witnesses, basically what they're doing is saying, Congress you don't count," said Rep. Elijah Cummings, chairman of the House Oversight and Reform Committee.

"We cannot—we simply cannot—have a presidency that is run as if it were a king or a dictator

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OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 8A

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- Wayne A. Plautz
- Carol Pregont
- Beverly Regelein
- Henry C. Schoeberle
- Michael E. Stefanik
- Hillary Lynn Tabbert
- Barbara D. Thompson

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 73 | Low 51
Some sun, a t-storm in the p.m.
More on 9A

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