

Gathering Place plans new venue

The Gathering Place in Milton is planning an outdoor venue that will be built in four phases at a cost of \$1 million. **Page 2A**

Bucks beat Sixers

Milwaukee pulled out to an early lead again and rolled to a 119-98 win over the Philadelphia 76ers at the Fiserv Forum in Milwaukee on Saturday. **Page 1B**



Eight wrestlers earn spots at state meet

Devon Harbison of Beloit Turner was one of eight area wrestlers qualifying in WIAA Division 2 sectional action in Evansville to go to state. **Page 1B**

The Gazette

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Ultimate road trip

Book highlights 1948 journey on Pan-American Highway

JANESVILLE

Just before his 92nd birthday last year, Lester McNall self-published a book, "The Road Too Far," which leaves readers wanting to take a long road trip.

In April 1948, Lester's sister, Marie, and five other adventurous souls set out from Janesville to drive the Pan-American Highway to Santiago, Chile.

The Pan-American Highway stretched from Alaska to Chile, with less than 30% of all roads in Central America paved at the time.

Lester was not among the travelers, who, in addition to his sister, included Janesville native Pershing Pickens, Pershing's mother, Babe, Pershing's wife, Eileen, his younger sister, Marietta, also called Pic, and Pic's cousin, Janet or Jan McCartney.

Pershing, less than a year out of the U.S. Navy, was the only man on the trip. He singlehandedly sank a Japanese destroyer during the Battle of Leyte Gulf off the Philippines on Oct. 24, 1944.

Marie and Jan were both farm girls who had been classmates at Janesville High School and who graduated in 1941.

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Submitted photo

Marietta Pickens, Jan McCartney and Marie McNall are shown in 1947 before they travel on the Pan-American Highway from Janesville to Santiago, Chile.

Annual Maple Sugar Fest sweetens Saturday



Above: Program Director Aaron Wilson demonstrates the consistency of boiling sap as he pours it back into a wood burning condenser on a tour during the annual Maple Sugar Fest at the Welty Environmental Center in Beloit on Saturday.

Right: Bethany Walton, of Durand, Ill., watches as maple syrup is ladled onto her pancake Saturday.



Photos by Anthony Wahl/
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Sanders victorious in Nevada

But doubts linger about general election

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS

Bernie Sanders scored a commanding victory in Nevada's presidential caucuses Saturday, solidifying his status as the front-runner but escalating tensions over whether he's too liberal to defeat President Donald Trump.

As Sanders celebrated, Joe Biden was in second place with votes still being counted. Pete Buttigieg and Elizabeth Warren trailed further behind. They were all seeking any possible momentum heading into

Turn to **SANDERS** on Page **9A**

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• **Nation/World:** Takeaways from Sanders' win in Nevada. / **Page 9B**

'Doubly a problem'

Janesville School District working to get textbooks that students need

By Catherine W. Idzerda
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JANESVILLE

For years, some Janesville high school teachers had to make do with no textbooks or only enough for students to use in the classrooms, not take home.

Between the 2013-14 and 2017-18 school years, spending on textbooks dropped 76%, from \$762,685 to \$181,816.

When Superintendent Steve Pophal and his staff took an inventory in fall 2017, they discovered that with the exception of AP courses, 69% of 162 high school textbooks had

been adopted 10 or more years earlier, and 25% had been adopted 15 or more years earlier, Pophal said.

At that time, courses without textbooks or without enough textbooks for all students included math courses at all levels, robotics, engineering, programming, exploring computer science, music, literature, finance and investing, and social studies.

The district started buying new textbooks or their electronic counterparts in the 2018-19 school year, but the district still is working to catch up, school officials said.

'Doubly a problem'

Pophal, who became superintendent in July 2017, said the district previously followed a textbook adoption

cycle, which provided reliable funding for books every three years.

But in 2011, Act 10 became law and required teachers to pay significantly more toward their retirement and took away most of their ability to collectively bargain. At the same time, the Legislature cut back on school funding, telling school districts Act 10 gave them the tools they needed to make budget cuts.

At one point, the Janesville School District had to find nearly \$8 million to cut, and the textbook adoption cycle fell to the wayside, Pophal said.

In the past, when most textbooks were ink printed on paper, a best-case lifespan for textbooks was six to eight years, Pophal said. That's not just physical life

Turn to **BOOKS** on Page **10A**

Those who knew Roger Pulliam aim to continue his legacy of equity, inclusion

■ He worked almost 30 years as administrator at UW-Whitewater

By Jonah Beleckis

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WHITEWATER

For Kenny Yarbrough, who in May 2018 was just beginning as UW-Whitewater's chief equity, diversity and inclusion officer, stepping into Roger Pulliam's legacy was intimidating.

It was unforgettable when Pulliam drove Yarbrough back to the airport after his interview, stopped his truck and said, "Boy, I'm gonna tell the

chancellor you're my replacement."

It felt like watching a parent leave before the first day of kindergarten when Pulliam said, "All right, the university is in your hands," and just left.

But Pulliam was leaving Yarbrough to swim not sink when he offered a reassuring, "You got this." The two later had lunches or dinners every week for the next four or five months, Yarbrough said.

Even though he's relatively new to UW-W, Yarbrough seems to be one of what he calls the "Pulliamites"—the countless individuals touched by Pulliam's wisdom, generosity and love.

And they are now left to carry on

Pulliam's legacy, using the infrastructure he built to make first-generation, low-income and multicultural students welcome and successful in higher education.

Pulliam, the consensus builder, the trailblazer, the longtime champion of diversity, equity and inclusion at UW-Whitewater, died Feb. 12. He was 77.

Only four months earlier, the state Council on Affirmative Action gave Pulliam its first Lifetime of Service Award.

Pulliam was at UW-W from 1989 through 2018 in various roles, including

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UW-Whitewater photo/Craig Schreiner

Roger Pulliam, who held several leadership posts at UW-Whitewater, died Feb. 12 at age 77.

OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 8A

- Norman W. Bittner Sr.
- Josephine A. Bleick
- Christine M. Dunham
- Jeffrey D. Nottestad
- Dorothy Douyng
- Douglas "Doug" Symons
- Wayne E. Thornton

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 47 | Low 27
Mild with clouds and sun
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