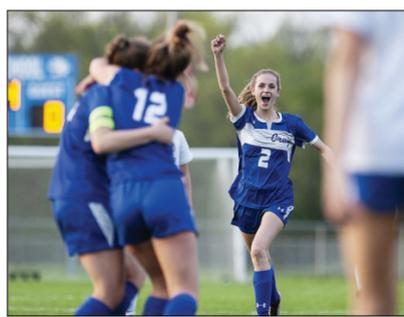


UW-Whitewater plans to reopen
Chancellor Dwight Watson said the university hopes to reopen both its campuses for classes this fall. **Page 3A**

Trump to cut financial support for WHO
Angry over how the group has portrayed his response to the coronavirus, President Donald Trump will end US support. **Page 5B**



Senior salute
The 15 seniors on the Craig girls soccer team hoped their years of experience together would culminate in a successful final season, but the pandemic intervened. **Page 1B**

The Gazette

WISCONSIN'S BEST NEWSPAPER

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Protests escalate

Officer charged with murder as anger over killings of African Americans spreads to other cities

By Amy Forliti and Tim Sullivan
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS

The white Minneapolis police officer who pressed his knee into George Floyd's neck was arrested Friday and charged with murder as authorities imposed overnight curfews to try to stem violent protests over police killings of African Americans that have spread from Minneapolis and other U.S. cities.

Protesters smashed windows at CNN headquarters in Atlanta, set a police car on fire and struck officers with bottles. Large protests in New York City, Houston and elsewhere were largely peaceful—even in Minneapolis, where thousands marched downtown as the city's 8 p.m. curfew ticked

past and encircled a police precinct station.

"Prosecute the police!" some chanted, and "Say his name: George Floyd!" There was no violence, but some protesters sprayed graffiti on nearby buildings. Elsewhere in the city, forces fired tear gas and rubber bullets to drive back crowds of protesters. It wasn't clear if—or how—authorities would enforce the curfew amid sharp questions about city and state leaders mishandling the crisis. The curfew came one night after protesters burned a police precinct station, and barriers were erected around at least two police precincts before nightfall.

Derek Chauvin, 44, was charged with third-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter. He also was accused of ignoring another officer who

expressed concerns about Floyd as he lay handcuffed on the ground, pleading that he could not breathe as Chauvin pressed his knee into his neck. Floyd, who was black, had been arrested on suspicion of using a counterfeit bill at a store.

Chauvin, who was fired along with three other officers who were at the scene, faces more than 12 years in prison if convicted of murder.

An attorney for Floyd's family welcomed the arrest but said he expected a more serious murder charge and wants the other officers arrested.

Prosecutor Mike Freeman said more charges were possible but that authorities "felt it appropriate to focus on the most dangerous perpetrator."

Turn to **PROTESTS** on Page 5A



Associated Press

A protestor carries a U.S. flag upside down, a sign of distress, next to a burning building Thursday in Minneapolis. Protests over the death of George Floyd, a black man who died in police custody Monday, broke out in Minneapolis for a third straight night.



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Fairgoers swing by as the sun sets behind the midway during the 2019 Rock County 4-H Fair.

'Heartbroken'

Health concerns cancel Rock County 4-H Fair

Gazette staff

JANESVILLE

The Rock County 4-H Fair has been canceled for 2020 because of community health concerns caused by the coronavirus pandemic, according to a news release posted on the fair's Facebook page Friday.

Space on the fairgrounds being used for a COVID-19 isolation center also contributed to the decision to

cancel what would have been its 91st fair, fair board President Ryan George said in the release.

The fair board met Thursday night, but George declined to comment after the meeting. The decision was announced Friday morning.

Rock County's health department approved plans for a "scaled-down" version of the fair, but those were "not possible

given new information about the COVID-19 Isolation Center footprint which extends beyond Craig Center to a majority of the fairgrounds," the release states.

George in the release said they understand the isolation center "takes precedence" in this scenario.

"A lot of the plans we had figured out have kind of fallen through because

Turn to **FAIR** on Page 5A

Janesville's 2020 gran prix canceled

By Neil Johnson

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JANESVILLE

The Janesville Town Square Gran Prix bicycle race won't return until June 2021 amid ongoing uncertainties of how to manage crowds in the COVID-19 era.

On Friday, the Tour of America's Dairyland, the criterium bicycle racing series that includes the Town Square Gran Prix as a stop, announced it was scrubbing its

whole 2020 series and migrating the tour's schedule to 2021.

In April, tour organizers tentatively pushed the 2020 races from June to August, but the announcement Friday made clear the Janesville races, along with the rest of the Dairyland Tour, won't happen this year.

The Tour of America's Dairyland series is tentatively reset for June 17 to 27, 2021.

Turn to **PRIX** on Page 5A

Man suspected of attempted homicide, arson in Thursday fire

Girl, 8, had to jump from balcony to avoid fire

Gazette staff

JANESVILLE

A Fort Atkinson man suspected of starting a Janesville house on fire early Thursday morning with a Molotov cocktail has been arrested on a charge of arson and five counts of attempted first-degree intentional homicide.

Jacob M. Piper, 30, was arrested Thursday evening, said Janesville police Lt. Charles Aagaard, head of detectives.

A man who lived in the home at 220 S. Franklin St. told The Gazette he

had met Piper the day before during a gathering at the home.



Piper

had met Piper the day before during a gathering at the home. Shortly before 6 a.m. Thursday, people in the house saw Piper throw a jar containing liquid and a burning wick against the east porch of the duplex, Aagaard said.

Piper used a "small container with a liquid accelerant" to start the fire. "Two people that we spoke with know him and witnessed him walking up to the house with this object," Aagaard said. The man who lived in the duplex told The Gazette the flames were at the front door, so he, his girlfriend and his girlfriend's 8-year-old daughter

had to jump from the second-floor balcony.

He jumped first and then called up for the 8-year-old.

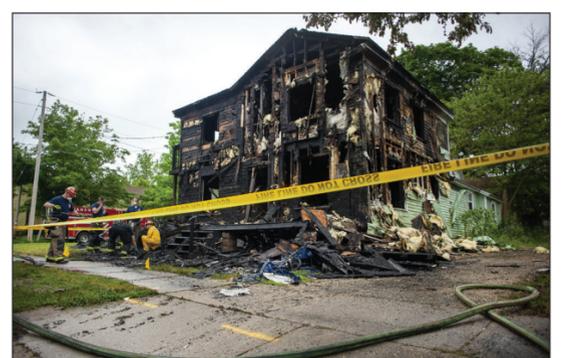
"I told her she had to come down because the house was on fire. I kept yelling the house was on fire. I told her mom she had to drop her. We got to work fast. She dropped her, and I caught her; we all was OK," the man said.

He spoke to The Gazette on the condition that his name not be published.

He said they lost everything in the fire and that the Red Cross gave them a voucher for a hotel room.

"We lost every single thing I own,"

Turn to **ARREST** on Page 5A



Angela Major/amajor@gazettextra.com

A duplex at 220 S. Franklin St. in Janesville is surrounded with caution tape Thursday after a fire there earlier that day. A Fort Atkinson man was arrested Thursday evening under suspicion of starting the fire with a Molotov cocktail.

OBITUARIES AND DEATH NOTICES, 4A

- Joseph Junior Appleman
- Lucille Elsie Gronke
- Ruth Eileen Ilo
- Dennis L. Jones
- Esther M. Jordan
- Michalene "Mickie" Lidbury

- S.C. "Bob" Messina
- Harold A. Meyer
- Lloyd Dwayne Swenson
- Walter Jared VanKraanen
- Charles R. Waite

TODAY'S WEATHER

High 70 | Low 44
Intervals of clouds and sunshine
More on 5A

Classified6B Nation/World5B State2A
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Lotteries4A Puzzles6B

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