



kicks • Pianist strikes a Christmas chord



The Janesville Gazette

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Gazette at a Glance

TOP OF THE NEWS • 3A

Countries celebrate World AIDS Day

Countries across the globe commemorated World AIDS Day today, the 18th annual celebration of the event. Dozens of HIV-infected women urged government leaders in eastern India to acknowledge the disease's effect on the country. An estimated 5.1 million people are living with HIV in India—the most in any single country besides South Africa. Elsewhere, Chinese officials began an educational campaign targeting migrant workers, and in Australia, leaders said they will spend \$7.4 million over five years to help India fight the virus.



Teachers relieved about contract



Many teachers in the Janesville School District expressed relief Wednesday over the tentative agreement on a new contract reached between their union and the school board. The old contract expired July 1. Many teachers said they weren't clear on all the details, but reactions were positive. The new contract gives average raises of 3.1 percent and preserves health-care coverage and early-retirement benefits.

LOCAL/STATE • 1B

W-2 program enrollment drops drastically

Since the summer of 2004, the number of people receiving cash benefits from Wisconsin's welfare-to-work program has dropped by nearly 40 percent. Only about 8,000 people statewide are still getting aid from Wisconsin Works, known as W-2. State officials say the decrease is due to the improving economy, which has put thousands of former recipients in the work force. Critics say many needy people are still being denied benefits.

Snow makes conditions slick in Janesville

An inch of snow kept city, county and state workers hustling early this morning. Crews started responding to weather-related calls at about 5:30 this morning, and the city police and fire had responded to about 15 calls by 8:30 a.m. Outside the city, state troopers said a fatal crash on Interstate 90/39 near Edgerton also may have been weather-related. A 31-year-old Edgerton man died after he lost control of his pickup truck and collided with a semitrailer truck.

Hedberg library director steps down

Just three months after taking over as the director of the Hedberg Public Library, Dennis Wilson turned in his letter of resignation. Wilson notified library officials of his decision Friday. He said it was prompted by the recent death of his mother. Wilson's last day at the library is Friday, Dec. 9. He replaced Karen Krueger, who retired in late July after 18 years at Hedberg.

NATION • 4A-5A

Military unclear on Iraq newspaper scandal

The U.S. military offered a mixed message Wednesday about whether it embraced one of its own programs that reportedly paid Iraqi newspapers to plant favorable stories about the war and the rebuilding effort in the country. A military spokesman said the program is "an important part of countering misinformation in the news by insurgents." A spokesman for Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, however, called a report detailing the program troubling if true and said Rumsfeld was looking into the matter.

WORLD • 6A

Chinese officials shut off water to 26,000

Officials shut down running water to 26,000 residents along a poisoned river in northern China today, prompting citizens to line up for clean water dispensed by government trucks. On the Russian side of the Songhua River—known as the Amur in Russia—residents stocked up on bottled water as a stream of carcinogenic benzene approached. An explosion at a chemical plant in China on Nov. 13 dumped about 100 tons of benzene into the river.



Doctors perform first partial face transplant

French doctors announced they had performed the world's first partial face transplant Sunday, giving a 38-year-old woman a new nose, lips and chin. The woman had been disfigured by a dog bite. On Wednesday, doctors lauded the operation as a success, saying the patient was in "excellent" condition. The woman is recovering, and it's unclear when she'll be released from the hospital.

SPORTS • 1D

Packers now must play the role of spoiler

The Green Bay Packers aren't used to being in this sort of position. But with a 2-9 record, coach Mike Sherman said the team's only remaining role is that of spoiler. The Packers get their first chance to derail someone's playoff hopes when they play NFC North leader Chicago on Sunday. "It really turns in my gut to be up here and talk like that, but that's where we are today," Sherman said.

Up next: The Packers travel to Soldier Field to play the Bears at noon Sunday.



Wonder what it would be like to have

13 kids?

Patti Langer has the answer, and—not surprisingly—"it's not for everyone"

THE KIDS

David and Patti Langer certainly have a full house at their home in Fulton Township. With the birth of their son, Eli, the Langers now have 12 children:

Keith, 16
Rachel, 15



AJ Maclean/ajmaclean@gazetteextra.com

Patti Langer talks to her 3-year-old daughter, Natalie, in purple, at the Langers' Fulton Township home. Patti, 39, and her husband, David, 45, have raised 13 children. Their oldest child is 16-year-old Keith, and the youngest is Eli, who was born Oct. 26.

With addition of baby boy, Fulton Township's brood keeps growing

By Dan Hinkel

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FULTON TOWNSHIP

Patti Langer sounds surprised herself that she gave birth to 13 children.

"She wasn't keeping a tote board tally. She was just having kids and loving them, until one day she looked around and ...

"It just happened," Patti said. "I'm sure it would seem overwhelming. And it is."

On Oct. 26, Eli joined David and Patti Langer's 11 other children living at the family's well-worn two-story, one-bathroom home at County M and County H near Indianford.

Adam, who would be 21, died of cancer in 2001.

Eli marks the current end of a roll call that in-



D. Langer

cludes: Keith, Rachel, Molly, Lucas, Olivia, Nickolas, Cecelia, Annabelle, Maria, Natalie and Henry.

Patti—a short woman with smooth, close-cut black hair, a broad mouth and sympathetic brown eyes—cradled football-sized Eli as she watched her children lay waste to four frozen pizzas at dinner last week.

She managed calmly, negotiating with terrible-2-year-old Henry over

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Molly, 14
Lucas, 12
Olivia, 11
Nickolas, 9
Cecelia, 7
Annabelle, 6
Maria, 5
Natalie, 3
Henry, 2
Eli, 5 weeks

The Langers also had another son, Adam, who died of cancer in 2001. He would have been 21.

1 Number of bathrooms shared by the Langer family in their two-story home.

About 10 Approximate number of years that Patti Langer has spent pregnant.

8 Letters of the alphabet that don't appear in any of the Langer children's names—F, G, J, P, Q, W, X and Z

\$250-\$300 Weekly grocery bill for the 14 members of the Langer family, as estimated by Patti.

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Coming Attractions

FRIDAY

Getting in shape

When you hear Pilates, you probably think of young, fit athletes stretching and bending as part of the latest fitness trend.

But Pilates isn't just a recent fad, and it can be a great workout for those of us who aren't in tip-top shape.

Harmony Pilates & Massage Studio opened in August in downtown Janesville, and it's a popular option at health clubs throughout the area.

Gazette reporter Catherine W. Idzerda has the inside scoop on this entertaining exercise. **/Pulse**



SATURDAY

Duke star keeping busy in senior year

Mistie Williams has a lot on her mind.

Besides playing basketball for the top-ranked women's team in the country and writing two online diaries, the Parker grad is dealing with the possible deployment of her husband, an Air Force traffic controller, to Iraq in January.

Gazette sports reporter Tom Miller has the story of Williams' busy senior season.



SUNDAY

Adding cheer to your cubicle

When it comes to holiday decorations in the workplace, there's a fine line between harmlessly cheerful and annoyingly offensive.

True, sprucing up your cubicle can add a little life to the office, but some workers can find bells, whistles and garland distracting, so it's important to find a balance.

On Sunday, we'll have some tips and tricks you can use to make your office's holiday decorations a success. **/Marketplace**



DEATH NOTICES • 2B

- Gerald L. Breiby/Janesville
- Irene P. Butterfuss/Milton
- Armida Iarussi/Delavan
- Edith "Edy" McVicar/Janesville
- Mary C. Paterson/Lake Geneva
- Branda Purcell/Janesville
- Harjit Singh Sethi/Janesville
- Linda Gale Swisher/Beloit

OBITUARIES • 2B

- Robert William Gibbs/Janesville
- Edith "Edy" (Dineen) McVicar/Janesville
- Kathleen Marie Nomellini/Janesville
- Barbara J. Romanzak/Janesville
- Charlotte B. Wittnebert/Janesville

Thought for Today: "An educated man should know everything about something, and something about everything."

—Dame C.V. Wedgwood, English historian (1910-1997)

OUTSIDE • 8A



FRIDAY
26°/17°

Intervals of sun and clouds



SATURDAY
26°/19°

Mostly cloudy with flurries



SUNDAY
28°/16°

Times of sun and clouds

