

# KEWAUNEE COUNTY Star-News™

KEWAUNEE COUNTY'S WEEKLY COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER

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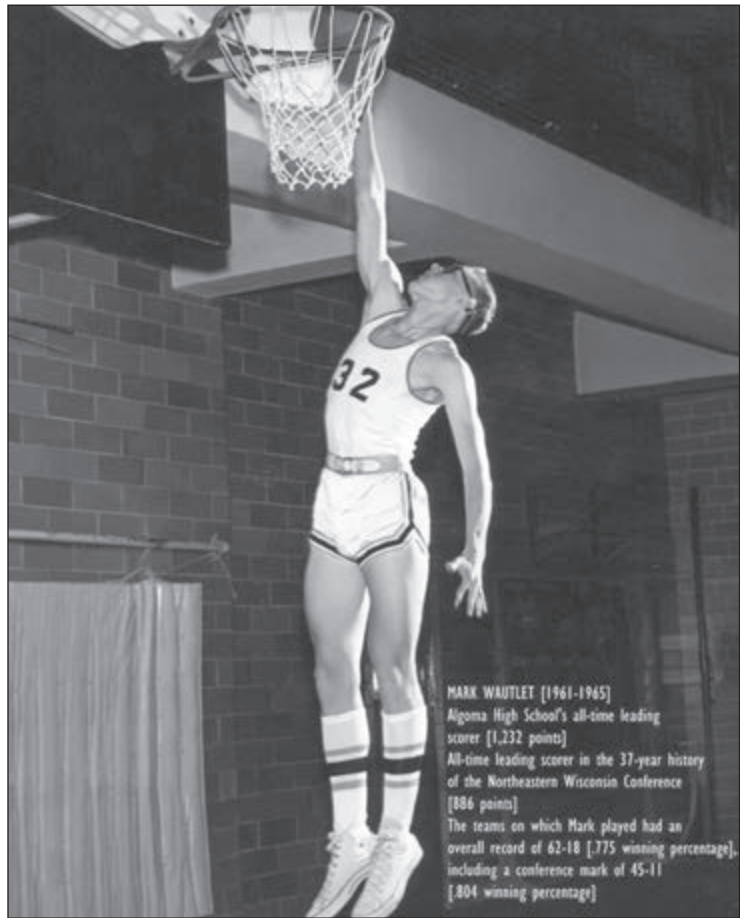
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## Algoma won back-to-back basketball championships

### Current season marks 60th anniversary

BY DENNIS SELL

The current 2024-25 basketball season represents the 60th anniversary of the Algoma High School boys' two consecutive conference championships. The 1963-64 squad posted a perfect 14-0 record while the 1964-65 team compiled a 13-1 mark for an outstanding two-season 27-1 record. Further, the former squad posted a perfect 18-0 regular season record. No Algoma basketball team, before or since, has duplicated this amazing accomplishment.

Algoma won these back-to-back titles competing with the smallest enrollment (392 in 1963-64 and 417 in 1964-65) against the following schools in the old Northeastern Wisconsin Conference: Preble (967 students), Pulaski (661), Seymour (617), De Pere (568), Sturgeon

(540), Oconto Falls (528), West De Pere (514), Kewaunee (498) and Oconto (481).

As Algoma's wins piled up, fans began flocking to games at the old gym on the corner of Sixth and Cleveland, with standing-room-only crowds approaching or exceeding 1,000 in the 765-seat gym becoming the norm.

With their near perfect record, Algoma became the most hated team in the conference. Following a one-point road win over De Pere in February 1964, De Pere fans stormed the Algoma team bus, necessitating a police escort out of the city. After a road victory over Pulaski a month earlier, some fans attempted to put sugar in the gas tank of the team bus. Fortunately, bus driver



Mark Wautlet, winner of the conference scoring title in 1963-64. Submitted photos

See **CHAMPION** page 4

## Kewaunee County to hold fourth annual Youth Art Month

BY KAT HALFMAN  
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

ALGOMA – Kewaunee County's annual Youth Art Month will kick off on Friday, March 7. Each year, March is designated Youth Art Month by the National Art Education Association (NAEA), when the creativity and talent of local youth is honored in schools and communities throughout the country. This March, ArtBeet Inc. will be collaborating with local artists, educators and venues to celebrate YAM25, Kewaunee County's fourth annual month-long celebration of the young creators and artists in the community. Workshops and classes will be offered to youth and their families throughout the entire month.

Starting off the month on March 7, creative works of students from Algoma, Kewaunee and Luxemburg-Casco high schools will be on display for First Friday Art in various Algoma galleries and businesses. A list of participating locations and a map can be found on ArtBeet's website, <https://www.artbeet.org/>. These works will be on display for the

entire month of March. Guest artists Jill and James Iverson and Raina St. John will judge the creative works, and prizes will be awarded in addition to a scholarship for one student artist per school, which will be presented this spring.

ArtBeet Kewaunee is a grassroots non-profit arts organization which was founded in 2005 by Susan Connor, owner of the Flying Pig, which strives to foster creativity and coordinate projects that weave art into the everyday of Kewaunee County's rural communities. One way they do so is with the ArtBeet scholarship, which is presented to one student selected from each of the three Kewaunee County high schools. To qualify, a student must be selected by their art teacher as hardworking and community-oriented, excel in their high school art program and exhibit work in the county-wide Youth Art Month Exhibit.

Judge Jill Iverson has been a practicing artist for over 50 years and works in many mediums including drawing, mosaic, printmaking, fiber arts, collage, assemblage and painting. She has a BFA



Students from YAM22 pose with their hand-carved stamps and the prints they created during a monotype printmaking workshop at Yonder Art. Submitted photos

in both Fine Arts (with a focus on drawing) and Liberal Arts. Jill is cofounder of the Lakeshore Artist Guild of Manitowoc, alongside her husband James. She continues to practice art in retirement by sketching for 15 minutes each day.

Judge James Iverson studied filmmaking at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago. He worked as

a professional designer of leather accessories for many upscale brands and later opened his own leather goods business. James also worked as a professional photographer in New Jersey, Key West and Milwaukee. In retirement, he has returned to analog photography in his home studio and darkroom.

Jill and James Iverson recently

published a book titled "Exploring America's Great Loop — Artfully Cruising the Rivers and Canals of North America," which features some of Jill's drawings and writing.

Judge Raina St. John is an emerging artist who enjoys experimenting with many different

See **ART** page 3

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## Students navigate real-world finances at Reality Store



# School Scoop

**BY SCOTT FRITZ**  
KEWAUNEE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
SUPERINTENDENT

KEWAUNEE – Last week, the auxiliary gymnasium of Kewaunee High School transformed into a bustling marketplace of financial responsibility as students from Kewaunee and Algoma High Schools participated in the Reality Store, a hands-on budgeting simulation sponsored by Northeast Wisconsin Youth Apprenticeship (CESA 7) and the Bank of Luxembourg.

The event, designed to give students a taste of the financial challenges faced by adults, saw participants from Kewaunee High School's personal finance classes and Algoma High School juniors navigate the complexities of managing a household budget. Equipped with realistic scenarios detailing their income, family

situation and existing debts, students were tasked with making crucial financial decisions.

The Reality Store featured various stations representing real-life expenses, including housing, utilities, childcare, transportation and taxes. Students were required to visit each station, making choices that directly

impacted their budget. The Chance Booth added an element of unpredictability, simulating unexpected expenses that can derail even the most carefully planned budgets.

The goal of the Reality Store is to provide students with a practical understanding of financial literacy. By experiencing the challenges of budgeting firsthand, students gain valuable insights into the importance of planning and responsible spending.

Community volunteers from a variety of local businesses and organizations played a vital role in guiding

students through the simulation, offering advice and answering questions. Their presence provided students with real-world perspectives on financial management.

The Reality Store at Kewaunee High School proved to be a successful and impactful event, providing students with a valuable lesson in financial responsibility. With the support of CESA 7, the Bank of Luxemburg and many community organizations and businesses, these students are now better prepared to navigate the financial challenges of adulthood.



Students from Kewaunee and Algoma High Schools experienced real-world financial situations while trying to maintain a household budget at Kewaunee High School's Reality Store.

Submitted photo

# Kewaunee School District to host referendum open houses

## District offers dates for community members to learn about the April 1 referendum

**FOR THE STAR-NEWS**

KEWAUNEE – The Kewaunee School District is hosting two referendum open houses in advance of the April 1 referendum. The District is presenting school district residents

with a \$24.5 million capital referendum question for a school building and facility improvement project.

Attendees are welcome to stop in at either of the two referendum open houses to ask questions regarding the proposed April 1 referendum plans; representatives from the district and their partners will be in attendance. The District

encourages all residents to visit the school buildings and tour the current spaces; for additional opportunities for building tours, please contact Superintendent Scott Fritz.

Referendum open houses will be held at the following dates and times; both open houses are informal, and attendees are welcome to stop in at any time during

the windows of time listed below. Tours will be given at varying increments throughout the evening. Both events will be held at Kewaunee School District, located at 915 Third Street, Kewaunee.

**Wednesday, March 12:**  
5:30-6:30 p.m.

**Tuesday, March 18:**  
5:30-7 p.m.

On April 1, the Kewaunee School District will ask residents permission to borrow up to \$24.5 million for a school building and facility improvement project. The proposed improvements include:

- Prioritized capital maintenance improvements
- Classroom renovations to accommodate space needs of 3K, 4K and Kindergarten

See **OPEN HOUSE**  
page 6

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# On the issue of immigration



## Sheriff's Corner

BY MATTHEW JOSKI  
KEWAUNEE COUNTY SHERIFF



With the many headlines we have seen over the past few weeks regarding the change in the enforcement of our nation's immigration policies, I felt it appropriate to reach out to our partners at the Immigrations and Customs Enforcement agency in an effort to gain clarity. Our point of contact was very gracious, and we were able to hold a teleconference with my command staff along with representatives of other local law enforcement agencies, staff members of the Kewaunee County Human Services Department and representatives of our local school districts. This multi-disciplinary approach to this subject was not accidental in any way, as any and all action moving forward is going to impact the lives of not just individuals, but families and children of our community.

I want to start by extending my complete support to the efforts being taken currently to address the presence of those here illegally that are perpetrating violent crimes against our communities. As a law enforcement officer with over 30 years' experience, I understand the impact these criminal elements can have in a community, and the need for firm and deliberate enforcement action. I would associate these actions to that of the hammer coming down, and I am grateful for the hammer. There is, however, an old saying that if the only tool in your tool belt is a hammer, everything you see becomes a nail. The issue of

immigration requires us to look at our approach with more than just a one-dimensional lens. There is a point where the rigid enforcement of the law, without the understanding and consideration of those that will be impacted, can do more harm than good. As I stated, I am a firm believer in the law. Many years ago, I raised my right hand and swore to uphold the Constitution. I committed to protecting my community by enforcement of laws. This I have and will continue to do for as long as I wear the badge, but when I see the potential for untold levels of human suffering due to the rigid application of our laws, I have to believe that we can do better.

I believe that we can walk and chew gum at the same time. I believe that we can continue our aggressive approach of rooting out those who prey upon our communities while, at the same time, creating an effective pathway for those who came to our country to pursue their dreams, better themselves and in the process, improved the communities they have settled in. I have to believe that we can do better than telling families they need to travel back to their country of origin, uprooting their children from the only reality they have ever known, to navigate the uncertainty and danger that awaits them.

There are those that would say that it was their choice to come here illegally, but you must understand that for many, their journey was out of desperate

necessity, navigated in an immigration environment which was, at best, ambiguous, and at worst, inaccessible. While there has been a great deal of attention given to the last few years of this dysfunction, the roots go much further back, and the responsibility for years of broken policy lies at the feet of many. This is not a time for the assignment of blame. This is not the time to remain locked in ideologies that perpetuate division. This is a time for leadership. This is a time for courage. This is a time to champion *what* is right, not *who* is right.

Over a decade ago, I voiced my support for legislation surrounding the creation of a driver's card program in the State of Wisconsin. This was not embarked upon as an entitlement or the granting of rights, but as a simple matter of public safety. It went nowhere. In fact, at the time, I had a legislator look me straight in the eyes and say, "Matt, if we were to enact this, we would have to recognize that they are here." This is the same short-sighted, narrow-minded leadership that I cautioned against a few sentences ago. We can and must do better.

This is not an issue that can be solved locally, or even at the state level. This matter rests squarely in the hands of our national legislative representatives. I call upon them to do not what is easy or popular, but to do what is right. To take an active role in our country's next chapter of immigration law. To see in the faces of the men and women yearning for a better life for themselves and their children, the same hope that we each have for our own families and children.

See SHERIFF page 4

## ART

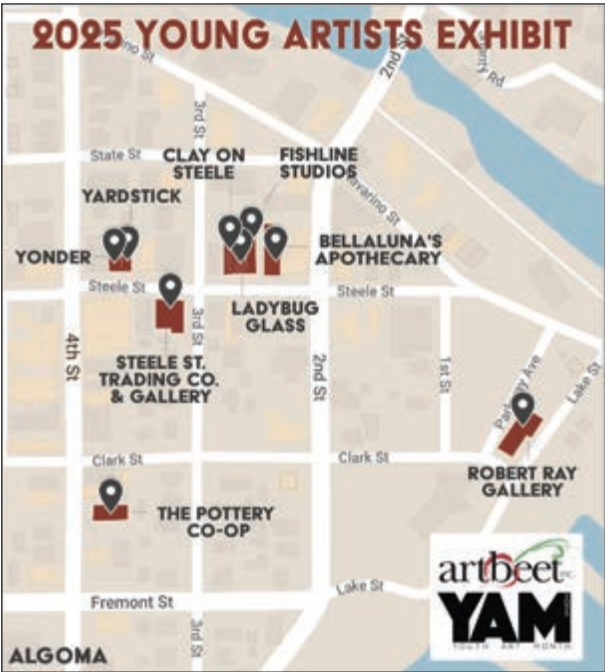
from page 1

types of media. She participated in YAM in years past as a student displaying her own work, and is excited to return this year as a judge. St. John said creativity allows her to view the world through different lenses.

"I believe every piece of art has a purpose and I am excited to see what the students have created," she said.

On Saturday, March 29, the Wildflower Supper Club will host the annual Art Beat Open Mic for students ages 8-18. Hosted by ArtBeet and the Wildflower Supper Club, this event welcomes musicians, vocalists, spoken word poets and other creative performers to share their work.

Galleries and artists across the county will be offering workshops such as a monotype printmaking workshop at Yonder Art Gallery, a small unicorn lidded jar clay project at Clay on Steele, a parent and child painting class hosted by Zara Studio & Co. at Vintage Brick, a book event with Laura Anne Bird at Yardstick Books and a mosaic workshop at Art Box Studio & Gallery. Registration is required for each of the workshops. Please visit ArtBeet's website to sign up for the workshops and



The locations where art by local youth will be displayed during the month of March. Submitted photo

classes. Spots are limited and are on a first come/first serve basis. For more information, visit ArtBeet's website at [www.artbeet.org](http://www.artbeet.org).

### Luxemburg Lions Bingo Dates for 2025

Sun., March 9<sup>th</sup>  
Sun., March 23<sup>rd</sup>

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<b>BAPTIST</b> <p><b>Lakeshare Baptist Church</b> 925 Marquette Dr, Kewaunee (920) 304-0614 Service: Sun 9:30 &amp; 10:30 am Wed 6:30 pm</p> <b>CATHOLIC</b> <p><b>Holy Rosary Church</b> 521 Juneau St, Kewaunee (920) 338-2285 Service: Sat 4:00 pm, Sun 10:00 am</p> <p><b>Holy Trinity</b> 510 Church Ave., Casco (920) 837-7531 Service: Sat 7:30 pm, Sun 9:00 am, Wed 8:00 am, Fri 12:15</p> <p><b>St. Peter &amp; St. Hubert Parish</b> (920) 837-2852 Service: Lincoln: Thurs 8:00 am, Sun 10:15 am Rosiere: Fri 8:00 am, Sat 4:00 pm</p> <p><b>St. Joseph</b> 5996 County Rd. K, Champion (920) 863-6113 Service: Sun 9:00 am</p> <p><b>St. Mary Parish</b> 118 Church St, Algoma (920) 487-5005 Service: Sun 8:15 am, Tues 5:15 pm, Thurs 8:15 am, Sat 4:00 pm</p> <p><b>St. Mary's Church</b> 1412 Main St., Luxemburg (920) 845-2056 Service: Sat 4:00 pm, Sun 7:30 am &amp; 10:30 am, Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 8:00 am</p> <p><b>St. Therese Parish</b> N2085 Co Rd AB, Denmark (920) 863-8747 Service: Wed 8:00 am, Sun 8:00</p>	<b>CONGREGATIONAL</b> <p><b>Community Congregational</b> 502 Center St., Kewaunee (920) 388-2719 Service: Sun 10:15 am</p> <b>EPISCOPAL</b> <p><b>St. Agnes Episcopal Church</b> 806 4th St., Algoma (920) 487-2015 Service: Sun 10:30 am</p> <b>INDEPENDENT BIBLE</b> <p><b>Country Bible Church</b> E2179 State Hwy 54, Casco (920) 837-2594 Service: Sun 9:00 am</p> <b>JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES</b> <p><b>Jehovah's Witnesses of Algoma</b> 7805 Evergreen Dr., Algoma (920) 487-5360 Service:</p> <b>LUTHERAN - AELC</b> <p><b>Grace Lutheran Church</b> N5789 State Hwy 42, Kewaunee (920) 388-4688 Service: Sun 9:00 am</p> <b>LUTHERAN - MISSOURI SYNOD</b> <p><b>Saint John Lutheran Church</b> E5221 Church Rd., Algoma (920) 487-2335 Service: Sat 4:00 pm, Sun 8:30 am</p> <p><b>Saint John Lutheran Church</b> 700 Heritage Rd., Luxemburg (920) 845-2095 Service: Mon 7:30 pm Sun 8:00 am &amp; 10:30 am</p>	<p><b>St. Paul Ev Lutheran</b> N4118 County Rd AB, Luxemburg (920) 845-2095 Service: Thurs 7:30 pm, Sun 9:30 am</p> <b>LUTHERAN - WISCONSIN EVANGELICAL SYNOD</b> <p><b>Immanuel Lutheran Church</b> 1012 Wisconsin Ave., Kewaunee (920) 388-2592 Service: Sun 9:00 am, Mon 6:30 pm</p> <p><b>St Paul Lutheran Church</b> 406 4th St., Algoma (920) 487-2263 Service: Sat 4:00 pm, Sun 9:00 am</p> <p><b>St. Peter Lutheran Church</b> N2441 St. Peters Rd., Kewaunee (920) 863-2090 Service: 9:30am</p> <b>METHODIST</b> <p><b>Algoma United Methodist</b> 804 Parker Ave., Algoma (920) 487-2727 Service: Sun 10:15 am</p> <p><b>West Kewaunee United Methodist</b> N3207 Church Road, Kewaunee (920) 388-3028 Service: Sun 8:30 am</p> <b>NON-DENOMINATIONAL</b> <p><b>Harvest Community Church</b> E1479 Rockledge Rd., Luxemburg (920) 845-1463 Service: Sun 9:30 am</p> <p><b>Lakeside Community Church</b> E6295 County Rd K, Algoma (920) 487-3906 Service: Sun 8:30 and 10:00 am</p> <p><b>Victorious Faith Ministries</b> 219 State St., Algoma (920) 487-5775 Service:</p>
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**Churches: If you have changes for next month's directory**  
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KEWAUNEE COUNTY

# Star-News

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**Publisher.....Patrick J. Wood**  
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**Story Idea:** If you have information you would like to share with our editorial staff, regarding a news or feature story, or you would like to submit a press release, please email [KewauneeNews@mmclocal.com](mailto:KewauneeNews@mmclocal.com) or call 920-499-1200.



OBITUARIES



**Thaddeus (Ted) Michalski** July 3, 1943 to February 17, 2025  
Thaddeus “Ted” Michalski, age 81, of Algoma, WI passed away on February 17, 2025 in Edina, MN with family by his side.  
Ted was born in Milwaukee, WI on July 3, 1943 and was named after the famous Polish Revolutionary War patriot, Thaddeus Kosciuszko. Ted valued his special memories with his childhood friends from the South Side of Milwaukee. He attended Notre

Dame High School and later received his Bachelor’s Degree in Political Science, with a minor in history from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire. He was also a proud Charter Member of AKL (Alpha Kappa Lambda) Fraternity. After 4 years at UW-Eau Claire, Ted was drafted and obtained his Military Occupational Specialty as a military police officer at Fort Gordon, Georgia. He then served at Fort Meyer, Virginia. Shortly thereafter, he volunteered to be attached to the Armed Forces Police at the Washington Navy Yard, located in Washington D.C. [1966-1968]. Ted returned to Eau Claire and received his Master’s Degree in School Psychology from UW-Eau Claire while also serving on the Eau Claire Police Department as a patrolman [1970-1973].

After graduate school, Ted worked as a school psychologist for Cooperative Educational Service Agency #9 serving Wittenberg, Birnamwood, Elcho and Elderon School Districts and in the Algoma-Kewaunee School District for many years. He also worked as a stock broker in Wausau for several years in the 1980s. Ted retired from the Algoma-Kewaunee School District in 2007.

Supplementing his work experience, he enjoyed 10 summers with the Bay Lakes Council, part of Scouting America. His leadership as the Program Director and Field Sports Director lasted from 1989-2000 at various Bay Lakes Council camps in north-eastern Wisconsin.

In his leisure time, Ted was an avid reader of history and political philosophy and enjoyed hunting, poker and casinos. He enjoyed many family times together each holiday and at Lake Kabetogama, MN along with annual reunions with his childhood friends and fraternity brothers with whom he held deep bonds.

Ted is preceded by his parents Benon Michalski and Sewerina “Sylvia” Konieczka-Michalski, his siblings Marion Hintz, Helen Kowal, George Michalski, Betty Penkalski, Jerome Michalski and niece, Barbara Pelzak.

Ted is survived by his children Jeanine Brattebo (Craig), Joel Michalski and Kathryn

Klaers (Michael Jahn); grandchildren Benon and Owen Brattebo, former spouse Carolyn Michalski, and nieces Karen (Mike) Hintz and Judy (Gary) Szedziewski, Sharon Kowal, Wendi Blake, nephew Randy (Leah) Penkalski, nephew-in-law, Bob Pelzek and other relatives and friends.

Special thanks to long-term friend Vicki Vlies, good friends Ken and Kris Vlies, and many other loving friends and close neighbors for their support and love.

A Celebration of Ted’s life will be held at Saint Adalbert Cemetery Chapel, 3901 S. 6th Street, Milwaukee, WI 53221 on Saturday March 1, 2025.

The visitation will be from 10:30 - 11:30 am. Remembrances and Committal Prayers will be from 11:30 - 12:15 pm followed by a luncheon at Meyers Restaurant.

In lieu of flowers, please consider a memorial gift to the Algoma Wellness Center c/o of the Algoma School District, 1715 Division Street, Algoma, WI 54201.

Cards of condolence can be sent to: The Michalski Family, 10202 Harmony Circle, Eden Prairie, MN 55347.



**Dorothy H. Daoust**, 94, New Franken, died Saturday, February 22, 2025, surrounded by family. She was born in Green Bay on December 27, 1930, to the late Bernard and Mary (Rentmeester) Sobiek. On September 6, 1948, she married Howard Daoust at St. John the Baptist Church, Duck Creek. Her enjoyments included cooking, needle point, boating, picnics and spending quality time with her family.

Survivors include three grandchildren, Lori Tauschek (special friend Mark), Lisa (Dan) Johnson, Jodi (Jeromy) Reinhard-Deprey, eleven great-grandchildren; one great-great granddaughter; one sister Jenny Everard; one sister-in-law Nancy Sobieck, many nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by her parents; her husband Howard; one daughter and one son-in law Barbara and Richard Tauschek; one grandson-in-law Mark Reinhard; two brothers, Robert Sobieck and Harold (Elaine) Sobiek; four brothers-in-law Richard Everard, Clarence (Marie) Daoust, Joe (Geneva) Daoust, Leo (Babe) Daoust; four sisters-in-law Josephine (Anthony) Will, Rita Daoust, Rose (Lambert) Vanden Langenberg, Claire (John) Van Schyndel.

Friends may call between 9:00 and 10:45 am on Friday, February 28, 2025, at St. Kilian Church, New Franken. Funeral 11:00 am Friday, at the church, with Rev. Msgr. James Dillenburger officiating. Entombment in Allouez Chapel Mausoleum.

McMahon Funeral Home, Luxemburg, is assisting the Daoust Family. [mcmahonfh.com](http://mcmahonfh.com)

A special thank you is extended to the staff of Unity Hospice and Anna’s House CBRF, for the amazing care given to our Granny Bird and her family.



It is with heavy hearts that we announce the passing of **Lynnnann M. (Sloan) Smith**, 76, of Chippewa Falls, formerly of Luxemburg, WI, who passed away at home on Monday, February 24, 2025.

A funeral service will be held at 11:00 a.m., Wednesday, March 5 at Pederson-Volker Funeral Chapel, Chippewa Falls. Visitation will begin at 10:00 a.m. at the funeral home. Interment will be at the Chapel of Hope Mausoleum, Chippewa Falls.

In lieu of flowers, memorials are preferred to the National Neutropenia Network <https://neutropenianet.org/donate/> Pederson-Volker Funeral Chapel & Cremation Services, Chippewa Falls is serving the family. Please share your memories or condolences online at [pedersonvolker.com](http://pedersonvolker.com)

Algoma Common Council holds brief meeting

BY AVERY BIEROWSKI  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

ALGOMA – Algoma’s Common Council held a special meeting on Feb. 17, which lasted about a minute before adjourning.

The meeting was scheduled to address employment matters concerning key city officials, including Administrator Matt Murphy, Clerk Erin Mueller and Treasurer Jamie Jackson, but no action was taken.

The agenda included a motion to move into a closed

session under Wisconsin Statute 19.85(1)(c), but the council did not proceed.

Statute 19.85(1)(c) allows government bodies to discuss employment-related issues such as hiring, promotions, compensation or performance evaluations behind closed doors, but because no action was taken, no private deliberations occurred.

The next regular Common Council meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 3, where further city matters will be addressed in a public session.

Kewaunee Common Council discusses cemetery maintenance

BY BAYLEE ALGER  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

KEWAUNEE – Office staff made a recommendation at the Feb. 10 Kewaunee Common Council Meeting to amend fee schedules involving cemetery maintenance.

The office staff brought this issue forward, citing surcharges which are unnecessary if the services are not performed, particularly those like ground thawing. Currently, the city is contracting work to Wiese Memorials & Burial Vault Co., LLC, which imposes a \$200 surcharge.

“Essentially, the cemetery is a condo service for the dead when you get right down to it, except you can’t bill the dead,” City Administrator Heath Eddy said. He continued by offering three options: Adjust the schedule to account for the city’s services only; adjust the schedule to reduce the surcharge or specify the city’s role in the process.

The council did not vote or make any motions. They took the recommendation to bring the matter to the finance committee and reconsider it before the council at a later date.

CHAMPION

from page 1

Ron Leist, the grandfather of current Algoma basketball players Carson and Braeden Leist, apprehended them before they completed their dastardly deed.

Stars of these championship teams included Jim Pavlick, the team’s playmaking guard; Mark Wautlet, who won the conference scoring title in 1963-64 while placing third the following season; John Fett, the second leading scorer in

the conference during the 1964-65 season and burly center Larry VanLanen. With 1,232 career points, Wautlet became Algoma’s all-time leading scorer and held this record for 57 years until Carter Zimmerman surpassed it in 2022.

Coach of the undefeated 1963-64 team was 26-year old Tom VanEgeren. His official title was “interim coach” as head coach LeRoy Sroda was given a one-year leave of absence to pursue his master’s degree

at the University of Michigan. Upon Sroda’s return for the 1964-65 season, VanEgeren’s reward for his undefeated season was a return to his assistant coaching position. Following Sroda’s departure a year later, Tom became the head basketball coach and held the position through the 1972-73 season. His 1966-67 team won the conference title.

SHERIFF

from page 3

While their journey may look different than that of our own immigrant ancestors, their dream is the same. I believe that we can, in fact, balance our need for accountability with our obligation to demonstrate love through that same accountability. We are no doubt a great nation, but we have been at our absolute best in those moments of history where we have demonstrated compassion when our nation needed it the most.



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PUBLISHER’S LETTER

The Gift of Life And  
The Inevitable Abyss

Dear Reader,

One of God’s greatest gifts is the gift of life. But that gift comes with an expiration date. In the grand scheme of eternity, our time on this earth is just a speck—here today, gone tomorrow. No matter who we are, where we come from, or what we accomplish, the end awaits us all. And when our time runs out, we disappear into the abyss of humanity, fading away into the vast ocean of those who have come before us.



We all leave our mark—some big, some small. Some build empires that echo through the ages, while others quietly tend to their families, neighborhoods, or communities. No matter the scale, each mark has value. But eventually, every empire crumbles, every accomplishment is forgotten, and every individual falls into the same great oblivion. It’s a humbling reality and a universal truth.

So, knowing this, the question remains: What do you want to do with your life?

Will you spend your days chasing material things that rust and decay, or will you invest in moments that last beyond your time here—moments of kindness, love, and connection that ripple through the lives of others? Will you lift up those around you, plant seeds of goodness, and be an instrument of peace, or will you let your days slip away, consumed by the trivial?

Life is fleeting, and none of us know how much time we have. But within this brief window, we all have a choice. What legacy will you leave? What will you do with your gift of life? Will you simply exist, or will you dare to make your mark?

Our moments are few, and our time is short. But even a small spark can light up the darkness. So let’s make it count. Before we vanish into the abyss, let us live with purpose, gratitude, and a commitment to make the world just a little bit better for those who will follow.

PATRICK J. WOOD  
Publisher

Author of “Reflections” a new book now available on Amazon.

Kewaunee County Farm Technology Days  
announces student scholarship application

FOR THE STAR-NEWS

KEWAUNEE COUNTY – The Kewaunee County Farm Technology Days Scholarship Committee is now accepting applications from students. This scholarship is open to any student who is beyond the first half of post-secondary education,

third or fourth year of college, the second year of a two-year program, the second half of a program or in a graduate program. The applicant must be enrolled in an accredited school. Student alumni from districts including Algoma, Kewaunee, Luxemburg-Casco, Denmark, Southern

Door and Mishicot in either four- or two-year colleges will be awarded at least \$1,000, giving out \$6,000 total each year.

This is the seventh year of the 10-year scholarship program, and \$60,000 will be awarded to students over those 10 years. The application and guidelines can be

found at <https://kewaunee.uwex.edu/kewaunee-county-farm-technology-days-2017/>. Applications will be accepted from Feb. 14 to April 15.

For any questions on the application process, please email [2017ftdgivesback@gmail.com](mailto:2017ftdgivesback@gmail.com).

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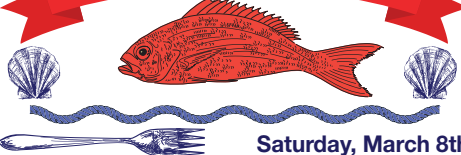
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OPEN HOUSE

from page 2

programs, including shifting eighth grade students to underutilized space at the high school

•Targeted general classroom updates

•Visual and Performing Arts classroom renovations

•New student/event entrance

•Renovations and expansion of locker rooms and support spaces

•Renovation and expansion of kitchen and cafeteria

•Expansion of the agricultural building and surrounding asphalt for additional transportation support space and outdoor bus parking

•Acquisition of furnishings, fixtures, and equipment

Over the past year, the Kewaunee Board of Education and Administration has been assessing and evaluating options to address facility needs that are too large to be covered by the District's

annual operating budget. The District began its long-term planning efforts by conducting a comprehensive facilities assessment to identify maintenance needs and evaluate educational adequacy across its facilities. During the planning process, the Kewaunee School District and Board of Education actively sought stakeholder input through a community-wide survey in fall 2024. The valuable feedback provided by district residents led the Board to the final referendum scope, adopted at the Jan. board meeting.

The proposed improvements will impact every student in the district and invest primarily in the district's existing facilities. Detailed information about the proposed referendum projects, including preliminary site plans, are available on the District's website. For any questions, please contact Superintendent Scott Fritz at (920) 388-3230 or via email at sfritz@kewaunee.k12.wi.us.

Referendum ballot question:

Shall the Kewaunee School District, Kewaunee and Manitowoc Counties, be authorized to issue, pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$24,500,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of district-wide renovations; capital maintenance; classroom and building infrastructure improvements; construction of additions and renovations to Kewaunee High School, including for expansion of the kitchen/cafeteria, a student and event entrance and physical education/athletic locker room support space and construction of an addition to the agricultural building for a transportation support building; acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment and other site improvements?

WinnSysSturgeonSpear.

Water levels dropping

Lake Michigan water levels have dropped two inches in the past month, 11 in the past year and 44 since the record high in 2020. As of Feb. 21, levels were eight inches below the 100-year average and 20 above the record monthly low, set in 1964.

system, with 617 on the big lake and 326 on the upriver lakes.

There were 63 sturgeon larger than 100 pounds speared, 55 of them on Winnebago and eight on the upriver lakes. Check out some of the photos and more information at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/fishing/sturgeon/>

OUTDOORS

from page 7

out where the native plant sales are in your area, at <https://www.sossaveoursongbirds.org/>.

Sturgeon update

A total of 943 lake sturgeon were registered during this year's spearing season on the Lake Winnebago

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Guns 7264

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Dogs 7272

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Polka Dance

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Luxemburg WNAXLP

Village of Luxemburg Liquor Licensing Application

The following application for a Class "B" Beer & Wine license has been submitted to the Luxemburg Village Clerk for the period beginning April 11, 2025, to October 31, 2025, for Tracy Neil Motorsports LLC, from Agent Tracy Thrun (W3965 Decora Road, Horicon, WI 53032) to be held at The Luxy Raceway at 625 Third Street, Luxemburg, WI. The Village will be taking action on the license application at the March 11, 2025, Board meeting. Submitted by: MiLissa Stipe, Village Clerk/Treasurer Publish 03.01.25 WNAXLP

Election Notices 7715

Kewaunee WNAXLP

EXHIBIT B NOTICE OF ELECTION KEWAUNEE SCHOOL DISTRICT APRIL 1, 2025

**Referendum Details**  
At an election in the Kewaunee School District on Tuesday, April 1, 2025, the following question will be submitted to a vote of the people:

"Shall the Kewaunee School District, Kewaunee and Manitowoc Counties, Wisconsin be authorized to issue pursuant to Chapter 67 of the Wisconsin Statutes, general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$24,500,000 for the public purpose of paying the cost of a school building and facility improvement project consisting of: district-wide renovations, capital maintenance, classroom and building infrastructure improvements; construction of additions and renovations to Kewaunee High School, including for expansion of the kitchen/cafeteria, a student and event entrance, and physical education/athletic locker room support space; and construction of an addition to the agricultural building for a transportation support building; acquisition of furnishings, fixtures and equipment; and other site improvements?"

A copy of the entire text of the resolution directing submission of the question set forth above to the electorate and information concerning District boundaries can be obtained from the District Clerk at the School District offices located at 915 Third Street, Kewaunee, Wisconsin. **Additional Information** Acceptable photo ID will be required to vote at this election. If you do not have a photo ID you may obtain a free ID for voting from the Division of Motor Vehicles. Persons with questions regarding the referendum election should contact Scott Fritz, District Administrator. Done in the Kewaunee School District on March 1, 2025 Dana Tupper District Clerk Publish 03.01.25 WNAXLP

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# Early thaw triggers spring fever



## In the Outdoors

BY KEVIN NAZE  
OUTDOORS COLUMNIST

There's still lots of winter left but you wouldn't have known it when temperatures climbed into the 40s and even hit 50 in some areas earlier this week, melting snow and making a sloppy slush on ice-covered lakes, bays and rivers.

Colder air is expected this weekend before another round of thawing temps, followed by another cooldown next weekend.

The rollercoaster weather isn't favored by skiers, snowshoers and snowmobilers, but a declining snowpack is just what shed antler hunters prefer this time of the year.

Meanwhile, it'll be weeks before spring brown trout trollers and steelhead anglers find enough open water to pursue their passions. Still, it's not so far off that there's a lot of time to delay getting gear ready, either.

The same goes for the walleye run on the Fox River

in DePere. Ice anglers were stationed just below open water earlier this week, but increasing currents may have put an end to that by now. Once some of the launches clear, boaters will be out in force.

No matter where you're fishing, March means extra caution is needed as the ice begins to deteriorate. If you haven't been out lately, check locally at a trusted bait and tackle shop for the latest advice, and areas to steer clear of.

### Contest winner

A Door County sunrise along the Lake Michigan shoreline in Whitefish Dunes State Park was named the Grand Prize winner in the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin's 11th annual photo contest. Brad Bellisle of Oregon, Wisc., said he used a fisheye lens to incorporate the surrounding rock as a natural frame for the early morning

shot over the lake.

The goal of the annual contest is to spread the word about conservation in Wisconsin, share our state's natural beauty and engage nature photographers in conservation efforts.

The Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin is a statewide 501c3 nonprofit, formed in 1986 as declining budgets compromised critical programs of Wisconsin's Department of Natural Resources. With the support of donors and members, the Foundation has boosted private sector investment and involvement for state lands, waters and wildlife to the tune of \$13 million. To date, those funds have supported more than 3,100 conservation projects and more than 4,000 field trips.

The group also hosts The Great Wisconsin Birdathon, the state's largest fundraiser for bird conservation. Learn more about field trips, grant programs and ongoing efforts at <https://www.wisconservation.org/>.

### Spring plantings

If you've been thinking about making improvements in wildlife habitat in your backyard or on your



Male cardinals could be heard singing their spring songs on milder days earlier this week. If you missed it, get outside next week when warmer air returns. **Kevin Naze photos**

back 40 this year, now's the time to be planning for success. Even if you live in an urban or suburban area, there are little things you can do to make a big impact on helping your property become bird- and butterfly-friendly.

Native plant sales take place each spring. Take a look at this growing list of Wisconsin native plant nurseries: <https://widnr.widenet/s/rfsbfc22w6/nh0698>.

The DNR is still taking orders for trees and shrubs. See what's available, and what the cost is, at <https://dnr.wisconsin.gov/topic/treplanting/order>.

There's an effort to restore blue and green spaces in urban areas, bringing back some land and water ecosystems to provide food, water and shelter for birds and other wildlife. Read all about it at <https://environmentamericas.org/>.

Learn more about how you can help birds, and find **See OUTDOORS** page 6



Big trees and shrubs planted for wildlife habitat start small. Now's the time to plan improvements for your property this spring.

### GEIER

from page 8

Her players often speak about the unique connection they share with their coach, noting her unwavering belief in them and her ability to push them to be their best.

"Coach Geier would never want to be recognized by stats but by her commitment to developing young women both on and off the court," said current player Lexie Hanrahan, a senior. Hanrahan also spoke of three characteristics that are ingrained in them: "character, resilience and dependability—qualities that will take us farther in life, way past just being on the court."

### A commitment to growth

Geier's dedication to basketball extends beyond the court. She has also been a strong advocate for supporting young female athletes, encouraging them to pursue their dreams and stay committed to their goals. Through her involvement with the WBCA, she has worked tirelessly to promote the growth of girls' sports, mentor new coaches and elevate the visibility of women's basketball. She thanked the youth that were in attendance for their continued quest to become talented basketball players.

### A bright future ahead

While the WBCA Coaches Hall of Fame induction is a crowning achievement in her career, Coach Geier's passion for coaching and teaching remains as strong as ever. Even as she receives this prestigious honor, Geier continues to coach, inspire, and mentor the next generation of athletes. Her commitment to making a positive impact on young

people's lives will continue to shape the future of high school basketball.

Coach Lynn Geier's induction into the WBCA Coaches Hall of Fame is a recognition of the profound impact she has had on the sport of basketball and the lives of the many players she has coached. Her legacy will continue to inspire future generations of athletes and coaches alike.

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# Wrestling standings

### FOR THE STAR-NEWS

On Saturday, Feb. 22 the Spartans traveled to Fond Du Lac for the Division 1 sectional wrestling tournament.

The top two wrestlers at each of fourteen weight classes qualified for the State Tourney in Madison on Feb. 27 and 28, and March 1 at the Kohl Center.

126 - pound - Carson Neubert won the championship and improved his record to 51-1 on the season.

Blakelee Bastien won the championship at 144 - pounds, improving his record to 43-3.

Luxemburg-Casco - six State Qualifiers

126- pounds - Carson Neubert - champion

144- pounds - Blakelee Bastien - champion

132- pounds - Joseph Jeanquart - second place

150- pounds - Mason Boulanger - second place

165- pounds - Logan Ellwanger - second place

285- pounds - Calvin Bohm - second place

Tuesday, Feb. 18, Sectional Dual Meet Scores

### Semi-Finals at Bayport

L-C - 46; Slinger - 32; Bayport - 46; Port Washington - 24

**FINALS:** Bayport - 44; L-C - 21

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# Geier inducted to Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association Hall of Fame

FOR THE STAR-NEWS

On Monday, Jan. 27, in a moment of well-deserved recognition, Coach Lynn Geier was honored for her induction into the Wisconsin Basketball Coaches Association (WBCA) Coaches Hall of Fame, honoring her

outstanding contributions to the sport and her decades of dedication to coaching high school athletes.

The announcement came at the WBCA's annual conference in Wisconsin Dells, where coaches, athletes, and basketball enthusiasts

celebrated Geier's impressive career. Over the years, she has built a reputation as one of the most respected and successful high school basketball coaches in the state, guiding her teams to two state titles (2012 and 2013, and helping countless

student-athletes reach their full potential on and off the court.

A legacy of excellence

Coach Geier began her coaching career in the early 1990s, and her impact has been felt in high school gyms across the state. Known for her ability to build strong teams and foster a winning mentality, Geier's leadership has helped develop not only exceptional players but also well-rounded young people prepared for success in all aspects of life. Under her guidance, her teams consistently performed at a high level, making deep playoff runs and earning recognition for their sportsmanship and teamwork.

At Kewaunee, where Geier has spent her career, her



Submitted photos

influence has been immeasurable. Geier's approach to coaching goes beyond basketball strategy—she instills values of accountability, selflessness, and respect that carry over into her players' personal lives. Many former players look back on their time with Coach Geier as one of the most formative periods of their lives.

Honoring a coach who cares

In her acceptance speech, Geier expressed

deep gratitude for the support she's received over the years. "This honor is not just for me, but for the incredible athletes I've had the privilege of coaching, the amazing coaches I've worked alongside, and the supportive communities I've been part of," she said. "Coaching is about building relationships and helping young people believe in themselves. That's what I've always tried to do."

See **GEIER** page 7

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PRESENTS

## Senior Spotlight

### Erin Cherovsky, LUXEMBURG-CASCO

**Sports:** Basketball, softball, cross-country  
**Parents' names:** My parents are Sarah and Mike

**Siblings:** I have one brother, Lance, who is a freshman at UW-La Crosse.

**Position or events:** In basketball, I play guard and I am a pitcher for softball.

**Instagram:** @erin.cherovsky

**Career Highlight:** I will never forget making a three point basket at the buzzer to beat Wrightstown in basketball and earning a unanimous First Team All-Conference selection as a pitcher.

**At what age did you start playing your main sport?** It is hard to say which is my favorite. It constantly changes depending which season I am in. I started playing both softball and basketball right around second grade.

**Who introduced you to the sport?** My parents always had my brother and me outside. We had bins of sports equipment in the garage and basement and it is just what we always did for fun.

**How has balancing academics and athletics been different for you from your freshman year to your senior year?** Being a three sport athlete throughout high school has taught me time management skills. During my freshman, sophomore and junior year, all of my classes were at school. Now, I take courses through

Bellin College as well as AP courses at LC High School. While my classes are more challenging this year, I find that the flexibility of not being in the high school for the entire day makes it a bit easier to balance academics and athletics.

**What is your favorite part about this sport? What about it has caused you to stick with it for this long?** I had great coaches in community-based youth sports as well as with the Luxemburg Casco Youth Softball Organization. They were always very encouraging and made being part of their teams a lot of fun. I also made long-lasting friendships with my teammates. My favorite part about sports is the team atmosphere. Whether it was piling into a car to go to youth tournaments or now riding on the LC bus to away games, making memories with my teammates is super fun.

**Is there a professional athlete you look up to? If so, why?** I look up to Cat Osterman, a left-handed pitcher from the University of Texas, who played collegiately and in the Olympics. She is not known for her blazing pitch speed, but rather for her craftiness on the mound with a mix of speed, ball movement and skill of hitting spots. Those are things I have always worked on consistently as a medium-sized, lefty pitcher.

**What would you say is your biggest asset as an athlete?** My biggest asset is my ability to stay cool and collected no matter what might be happening in the game. As a pitcher, the team is constantly looking to me, so avoiding frustration is super important. A family friend, who was also my pitching coach, drilled into me the idea that every pitch, every batter, is a new opportunity. If I stay calm in challenging moments, I know I can count on my teammates to do the same.

**What has been your most memorable experience in high school sports so far?** Winning softball conference two years in a row.

**How does it feel as a senior, to look back throughout high school and see your growth (as a person and athlete)?**

The past four years have flown by. Looking back, I am proud of both my growth as an athlete and as a person. Through the time I dedicated to sports and the relationships I formed, athletic involvement has helped shape me into the person I am today. My passion for sports has led me to support Special Olympics Wisconsin and athletes with exceptional needs in my community. Participation in sports and its benefits should not be for a select few.

**Do you have any pre-meet rituals/routines/superstitions?** I wear my hair the same for every game.

**Any memorable coaches or teammates you'd like to give a shout out to?** Kyle



Thayse was my youth softball coach for many years. I spent most of my childhood playing on the Sugarbush and LCUSO Youth Leagues under his coaching leadership. He had a way of getting everyone to be their best in every situation. My dad has also always been there to catch and pitch for me, and although I didn't always appreciate it at the moment, I will always appreciate the time he spent, even after a long day at work.

**Any hobbies outside of sports?** I enjoy swimming, going to cafes and hanging out with friends.

**Favorite song?** "Uptown Girl" by Billy Joel.

**Sports drinks like Gatorade and Powerade or water?** I take in a lot of water before games, but enjoy a can of Celsius on occasion.

**Future Plans? (college, major, career, etc.)** I plan to attend either UW-La Crosse or Marquette University and major in biology/biomedical science on the pre-dental track.

"Spotlights" are selected by the coaches and/or athletic directors from Algoma, Kewaunee and Luxemburg-Casco high schools, except in extremely special circumstances.

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