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WEEKEND EDITION

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Enright named next clerk of courts

Dodge County judges appoint chief deputy clerk to replace Hron

TERRI PEDERSON
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JUNEAU — Kelly Enright will be sworn in as the next Dodge County Clerk of Circuit Courts following the upcoming retirement of Lynn Hron, who has held the position for 19 years.

The Dodge County Circuit Judges appointed Enright



Enright

to serve as the Dodge County Clerk of Court to replace current clerk Hron, who will retire May 3. Hron has served in the position for almost half of the 40 years she has worked in the Dodge County Circuit Court office.

Judge Brian Pfitzinger, along with fellow Dodge County Judges Joseph Sciascia, Kristine Snow and Martin De Vries, agreed that

Enright would be the right choice for the position.

"The choice to appoint Kelly was obvious," De Vries said in the press release.

"She has shown all of the judges that she is qualified to lead the office. Her work in the past has been exceptional and we have no reason to believe that she won't continue to provide that level of service in this new position."

Enright said that she has always had some thought about taking over the position after

Hron retired.

"This office means a lot to me, and I want to see it succeed," Enright said.

Enright has been in the Dodge County Clerk of Circuit Court's office for 13 years and is currently chief deputy clerk of court. Enright said she has had several roles over the years, including in small claims and family law.

Hron has been an excellent leader of the office over the years, Enright said. However they have had four retirements over the last ten months, so training will be

one of her first goals as well as cross training employees in different positions.

Enright, who has announced her candidacy for the position, will be sworn in on May 3. The term for the clerk of courts ends this year.

The election to fill the position is Nov. 8. Whoever wins in the fall election will take the office Jan. 3.

Follow Terri Pederson on Twitter @ tpederson or contact her at 920-356-6760.



TERRI PEDERSON, DAILY CITIZEN

Karin S. Luttinen, who is the biological mother of "Baby Theresa," appeared in a Dodge County Courtroom on Friday after being charged with a felony for concealing the death of a child after allegedly hiding her infant in the woods in 2009.

'Baby Theresa' suspect charged

Woman accused of concealing newborn daughter's death

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JUNEAU — A 45-year-old Milwaukee woman made her initial appearance in court Friday almost 13 years after she allegedly left her infant daughter's lifeless body in a garbage bag before abandoning the body in the woods in the town of Theresa.

Karin S. Luttinen is charged with a felony count of conceal-

ing the death of a child. She could face up to 1 1/2 years in prison and 2 years of an extended supervision if convicted of the offense.

She appeared before Dodge County Circuit Judge Martin De Vries for her initial appearance with her attorney Aneeq Ahmad. Dodge County District Attorney Kurt Klomberg appeared for the state.

Klomberg said the parties agreed on a \$2,500 cash bond with the condition that Luttinen does not leave the state.

Ahmad described Luttinen as a person who has worked in sales and marketing for the last

10 years and is in a stable relationship with no past brush-ins with the law.

According to the criminal complaint:

The baby — dubbed "Baby Theresa" by authorities — was found by a man cutting wood on a private property on April 29, 2009. Her body was discovered on Lone Road less than a mile from Highway 175 and less than 3 miles from Highway 41.

An autopsy on Baby Theresa determined she had died of "fetal demise," which indicates a child may have died prior to or shortly after birth.

Authorities found a maxi pad wrapper in the trash bag containing the infant. It was sent to the Wisconsin State Crime Lab and came back with a DNA profile of Baby Theresa's then-unidentified mother.

The case was initially charged using the name Jane Doe in 2014 to prevent the statute of limitations from expiring. However it wasn't until Jan. 29, 2021, that Luttinen was first approached about the case. A special agent for the Wisconsin Department of Justice went to speak to the

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Green energy proposals languish

Lawmakers head home with slate of bills still on the table

CHRIS HUBBUCH
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Wisconsin lawmakers went home last week leaving a slate of energy and environmental policy bills on the table, but some advocates see signs that clean energy may be gaining traction, even among Republicans who control both chambers.

The Legislature passed just one significant energy-related bill, an expansion of a clean energy financing tool, while a handful of GOP-sponsored bills almost made it to the finish line.

Meanwhile a package of nearly two dozen Democratic proposals aimed at curbing and adapting to climate change languished without so much as a committee hearing after Assembly Speaker Robin Vos dismissed them as "nothing more than pandering to the very liberal base."

Assembly Minority Leader Greta Neubauer, a vocal leader on clean energy and climate policy, gave the session a grade of "incomplete."

"There was some discussion, but very minimal action," she said.

But while Republican leadership stymied the Democrats' climate bills, Neubauer sees signs that some in the party are becoming more receptive to clean energy.

"The discussion has changed

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Biden presses Xi on Russia support

US threatens China with consequences for military, economic aid

AAMER MADHAN
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Face to face by video, President Joe Biden laid out to Chinese President Xi Jinping on Friday the stiff consequences the Chinese would face from the U.S. if they provide military or economic assistance for Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

There was no indication he got

any assurance in return.

In fact, Xi blamed the U.S. for the crisis and insisted with a Chinese proverb that the next move was up to Biden:

"He who tied the bell to the tiger must take it off," Xi said, according to a Chinese government readout.

More formally after the nearly two-hour conversation, China's Foreign Ministry deplored "conflict and confrontation" as "not in anyone's interest," but assigned no blame to Russia and said nothing of next steps.

At the White House, press

secretary Jen Psaki said, "China has to make a decision for themselves, about where they want to stand and how they want the history books to look at them and view their actions."

She declined to detail possible consequences Biden specified to the Chinese president if his country provides support for the Russian invasion.

But a senior administration official who briefed reporters following the leaders' call said that Biden pointed to the

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THE WHITE HOUSE

President Joe Biden meets virtually with China's Xi Jinping on Friday in the Situation Room at the White House in Washington.



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OBITUARIES

Kim Marie Quade

Oct. 28, 1960—March 17, 2022



BRANDON—Kim Marie Quade, 61, of Brandon, passed away peacefully on March 17, 2022 after a 4-1/2 year battle with cancer. She was surrounded by members of her loving family as she began her journey transitioning into Heaven.

“There are some who bring a light so great to the world that even after they have gone, the light remains.”

Kim was born on October 28, 1960, in Milwaukee, and Angelo Patrick and Judith (Booton) Fargo. Kim graduated from Pewaukee High School and after meeting her husband, Wayne, focused all of her attention and love on being the best wife and mother and chose to be a stay at home mom.

Kim’s passions included: life and making the most of each day, her husband, children and grandchildren, her two small businesses (one owned with her husband, one owned with her daughter), cooking, enjoying delicious food, her chickens and cats, gardening, canning, supporting small businesses and entrepreneurs, sewing, walking and hiking, going on adventures, learning something new every day, tracing her ancestry line, and meeting and befriending new people any chance she got. Her contagious smile, her energetic zest and joy for this life and her desire to make everyone feel a bit brighter will be terribly missed.

Kim is survived by her husband of 41 years, Wayne; her four children: Justina Quade, Dominie Quade, Nichole (Bill) Roach, Christopher (Kerry) Quade, six grandchildren: Madalyn, Andrew and Matthew Roach and Jules, Jemma and Gentry Quade.

Kim was preceded in death by many loved ones including her parents; brother, John Fargo; her grandparents; and so many other relatives.

In lieu of flowers please do an act of kindness and make someone’s day brighter or make a donation to cancer research or a place you are passionate about.

The family wishes to express gratitude to all of Kim’s incredible oncologists, doctors, nurses and care teams at the Cancer Center – at Froedtert West Bend Hospital, and Froedtert Hospital in Milwaukee. In addition, gratitude to Heartland Hospice. They all provided the most loving and compassionate care through Kim’s cancer treatments and end of life.

Visitation will be held Monday, March 21, 2022 at Werner-Harmsen Funeral Home in Waupun from 4:00–7:00 p.m. A private family burial will take place at Union Prairie Cemetery in the town of Metomen.

Werner-Harmsen Funeral Home of Waupun and staff are serving the family. Please visit our website at www.wernerharmsefuneralhome.com for further information and to send condolences.

‘Baby Theresa’ case could lead to concealing death of child change

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Dodge County District Attorney Kurt Klomberg is advocating for a change in state law to increase the penalty of the charge faced by Karin Luttinen, a Milwaukee woman identified as the biological mother of “Baby Theresa” who was formally charged Friday for concealing the death of the infant in 2009.

“The charge in this case is concealing the death of a child, specifically the issue of a woman,” Klomberg said at a press conference Friday. “The issue of the woman is a legal term that includes a child not born alive.”

“If convicted, that charge carries a possible prison sentence of up to 1 1/2 years followed by up to 2 years of an extended supervision.

“If sufficient evidence existed that the child was born alive, a charge of hiding a corpse would be

available,” Klomberg said about the case. “Based on the final review of the evidence that charge is not available.”

Klomberg reached out to state Rep. Mark Born, R-Beaver Dam, and state Sen. John Jagler, R-Waterloo, about the possibility of changing the penalty and they agreed to introduce a law.

“That is why we are introducing legislation that will bring the consequence for this crime in line with the seriousness of it,” the lawmakers said in a joint press release. “The bill we are introducing will increase the penalty for concealing or not reporting the death of a child to a Class F Felony, which is the same penalty as hiding a corpse.”

A Class F Felony carries a potential prison sentence of up to 7 1/2 years followed by up to 5 years of an extended supervision. “I hope this legislation

can be passed and become a law in Wisconsin,” Klomberg said. “It will be known as Baby Theresa’s Law.”

Dodge County Sheriff Dale Schmidt and Dodge County Medical Examiner P.J. Schoebel also spoke during the press conference.

“On Wednesday, April 29, 2009, the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office and the Dodge County Medical Examiner’s Office responded to Lone Road in the town of Theresa and confirmed the death of a newborn baby found abandoned in a garbage bag,” Schmidt said.

Investigators named her “Baby Theresa” to provide her with an identity, naming her after the community closest to where she was found, in the village of Theresa. A funeral and burial occurred in Lowell south after putting the baby to rest.

Schoebel said the autopsy did not show that the child was murdered, but the pathologist indicated the child died of fetal demise, indicating that the child could have died prior to or shortly after birth.

“For about 13 years the Dodge County Sheriff’s Office and Dodge County Medical Examiner’s Office continued to investigate and advances in forensic science allowed us to identify a suspect in this incident,” Schoebel said.

“For the community this will be mixed emotions,” Schmidt said. “Anytime you are dealing with an infant which we are, this case is very difficult. Children death cases are traumatic for the community but also our staff. It touches the heart of everyone involved.”

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Baby

From AI

father of the child and Luttinen following a potential match on the family tree DNA results.

According to the complaint, Luttinen initially denied ever being pregnant but submitted a DNA sample. DNA results showed on March 1, 2021, that Luttinen was a major component source for the maxi pad wrappings. DNA markers also showed that Luttinen was the biological mother of Baby Theresa.

DNA testing was done throughout the years, however it wasn’t until 2018 when Dodge County Detective Vickie Brugger started speaking to Dodge County Medical Examiner P.J. Schoebel about revisiting the investigation using forensic genealogy. Additional genetic analysis was completed and narrowed down the search to a specific

branch of the family.

Police spoke on the phone to the father of Baby Theresa on March 22, 2021, who is in a long-term relationship with Luttinen. The father was shocked and said that he had no idea how it could be. The father then asked Luttinen while he was on the phone with law enforcement, if she was the mother, and she said “OK.”

Luttinen was spoken to on the same day. According to the complaint, Luttinen said she was in denial at the time and did not know she was pregnant at first. Toward the end of her pregnancy, she knew for sure.

Luttinen said that she was in the bathroom when she had Baby Theresa and did not even know it was a girl. She said her water broke while she was on the toilet and she gave birth in a bathtub with water in it. According to the complaint, the baby came out head first and face down with the umbilical cord

wrapped around the baby’s neck. She did not hear the baby cry or see the baby move before she blacked out for 15 minutes. She said the water was out of the tub when she woke up. Luttinen allegedly said that she knows the baby didn’t breathe because the baby was born underwater. She said she did not intentionally turn on the water to prevent the baby from breathing and was only trying to get comfortable at the time.

Luttinen did not attempt to give the baby CPR after realizing that it was not breathing, the complaint said. The complaint said she told law enforcement that she panicked and grabbed a towel and put Baby Theresa in the towel before putting the baby in a garbage bag and then into her purse. She said she then got into her blue Sunfire and drove aimlessly. She said she was alone when she placed the

baby in the woods.

Luttinen said she did not hear on the news about the baby and did not seek medical help after the delivery. According to the complaint, no one else knew she was pregnant at the time. Luttinen did not recall the date of Baby Theresa’s birth but knew it was before her own birthday on April 13.

According to the complaint, Luttinen was asked by law enforcement why she didn’t throw the baby in a dumpster closer to her home rather than driving the baby to Theresa. She told law enforcement that the baby was not trash. She allegedly said she put the baby in the woods as a final resting place.

Luttinen waived her preliminary hearing and will have an arraignment scheduled at a later date.

Follow Terri Pederson on Twitter @tp53916 or contact her at 920-356-6760.

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Cambria teen dies in semi-versus-car crash

DAILY CITIZEN STAFF
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FALL RIVER — A Fall River police officer witnessed a fatal crash between a semi-truck and car in the intersection of Highway 16 and D on Thursday at 4:18 p.m.

According to a press release from the Fall River Police Department, 18-year-old Dominic Richter, from Cambria, was pronounced dead at the scene.

An investigation showed

the Toyota Camry pulled out from the stop sign on Highway D to enter Highway 16 and was struck by the semi. The driver of the Toyota Camry was Richter.

Fall River Police Department was assisted by Columbia County Sheriff’s Department, Rio Police, Wisconsin State Patrol, Columbus Police, Fall River Fire, Life Star EMS, Columbia County Highway Department, Columbia County Medical Examiner, and Blystone Towing.

License suspended for Arlington wholesale motor vehicle dealer

The state of Wisconsin suspended the motor vehicle dealer license for JM Worldwide Investments LLC, 101 Skyline Drive W9, Arlington, for failing to properly follow administrative requirements. The suspension is for 30 days beginning Tuesday, March 21.

The Wisconsin Department of Administration’s Division of Hearings and Appeals issued the order following an investigation by the Wisconsin Department of Transportation Division of Motor Vehicles Dealer and Agent Section.

The order determined JM Worldwide Investments violated state law when they sold motor vehicles directly to retail customers, altered the title assignment and odometer statement on a title, and failed to maintain required dealer records.

WisDOT’s Dealer and Agent Section licenses, regulates and resolves disputes about dealership sales and warranty repairs. It also investigates complaints about odometer tampering and title fraud involving dealerships and private sellers.

ANNIVERSARY



Les and Lynne Wilken

Wilkens celebrate 60 years

Les and Lynne Wilken of Columbus celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on March 17.

The couple met on a blind date while each attended college in Milwaukee. Les and Lynne were married at Friedens Lutheran Church in Kenosha on March 17, 1962.

They resided in Milwaukee and Kewaunee before moving to Columbus in

1996 and are members of Faith Lutheran Church. Les worked as a mechanical engineer and Lynne was a teacher.

They have three children and seven grandchildren: David (Sara) and children Izak, Rebekah, Abraham and Alice of Toronto, Ontario, Canada; Laura (Michael) Steinberg and children Meghan (Alex) Harris, Angela and Audrey of Appleton; and Timothy of Columbus.

Thank You!!!
 The Family of Merlin Hinkes would like to extend a special Thank You to the nursing staff at Hillside Manor for the care they gave Merl during his 8 month stay with them. To Merl’s many doctors, nurses and Hillside Hospice for their respect and kindness during his time there with them.
 - Tammy Strasser and Family

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