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Pearl Harbor soldier  
comes home. **Page 6A**



The Bell Game  
Complete coverage  
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# Antigo Daily Journal

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MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 27, 2021

VOL. 117, NO. 4 • \$1.50



Kevin Passon

U.S. Navy personnel carry the remains of Kenneth Doernenburg to his final resting place Saturday. After nearly 80 years, Doernenburg's remains were identified, and he was buried in Antigo.

## Gagnon to be welcomed to School Board Tuesday

By Scott Walbeck  
swalbeck@antigojournal.com

The Antigo School Board will be welcoming Wayne Gagnon to the board during their monthly meeting Tuesday, at the Antigo High School, Volm Theater starting at 6 p.m.

The board will then discuss a few Covid-19 updates, considering to approve district participation in Covid related research program "ABC science collaborative" based at Duke University.

Also under consideration will be the approval

of Covid vaccination clinics in district schools through the Langlade County Public Health Department.

The board will also be reviewing the third Friday enrollment report, public access to the agenda items and the policy manual-5000/students.

In additional they'll consider to approve the revised food service wage schedule, the 2021-2022 NTC dual credit agreement and the spring 2022 start college now participating students.

Along with approving the art club overnight field trip to Madison in Milwaukee on Nov. 11-12, 2021.

## Family, residents pay final respects to Pearl Harbor victim

By Kevin Passon  
kpasson@antigojournal.com

Blue skies, bright sunshine and a wind that whipped and snapped the flags to attention were the order of the day Saturday as Kenneth Doernenburg was laid to rest at Elmwood Cemetery.

Sailors in dress white uniforms served as pallbearers for the Antigo man killed during the attack on the USS Oklahoma at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor, Hawaii, on Dec. 7, 1941. The ceremony was somber, as expected, with the procession from Bradley Funeral Home to the cemetery led by motorcyclists with the Wisconsin Chapters of the Patriot Guard Riders and Rolling Thunder. Pockets of residents lined the streets to pay their respects.

"It was just an honor to do this," said Joe Detzler, great-nephew to Doernenburg. "We heard of him our whole lives, and to be able to be a part of bringing him home was an honor really."

"It was closure," added Mark Doernenburg, another great-nephew. "It was pretty overwhelming actually."

The route inside the cemetery was lined with 80 U.S. flags, one for each year since the attack on Pearl

Harbor.

"The support from the community is just unbelievable," Detzler said. "We started this quest not knowing anyone in Antigo. And now there are so many people we know that jumped in and were so excited. It was just a wonderful experience."

The local Sparks-Doernenburg American Legion Post 3 is named in memory of the first local serviceman to die in World War I, Reese Sparks, and the first local man to die in WWII, Kenneth Doernenburg. Post members also participated in the funeral service.

"Post 3 was phenomenal, and everyone who was involved—the Bradley Funeral Home was over the top," Detzler said.

Funeral director Jessica Olson assisted the family and the Navy throughout the process.

"It's been very humbling to be part of this," she said. "It's incredibly important what the Navy did putting this all together and to get him back home to Antigo after 80 years. It's been an honor being part of working with them."

Doernenburg was assigned to the USS Oklahoma, which was moored at Ford Island, Pearl Harbor,



Kevin Passon

Taps is played as part of the full military honors bestowed on Kenneth Doernenburg, an Antigo man killed during the 1941 attack on Pearl Harbor. Doernenburg was buried at Elmwood Cemetery Saturday afternoon.

when the ship was attacked by Japanese aircraft. The USS Oklahoma sustained multiple torpedo hits, which caused it to quickly capsize. The attack on the ship resulted in the deaths

of 429 crewmen, including Doernenburg, who was 23 at the time.

In 2015, as part of the USS Oklahoma Project, See Final respects Page 6A

## WEATHER FORECAST

By Accuweather

Today...Mostly sunny. Highs in the upper 60s. Northeast wind 5 to 10 mph.

Tonight...Clear. Patchy fog after midnight. Lows in the lower 40s. Light and variable wind

Tuesday...Sunny. Highs in the lower 70s. Light and variable wind becoming south around 5 mph in the afternoon.

Tuesday night...Clear. Patchy fog after midnight. Lows in the upper 40s. Light and variable wind.

Wednesday...Sunny.



Highs in the upper 70s.

Wednesday night and Thursday...Mostly clear. Lows in the upper 40s. Highs in the middle 70s.

Thursday night through Saturday...Partly cloudy. Lows in the upper 40s. Highs in the upper 60s.

Saturday night...Mostly clear. Patchy fog.

## Sentences dealt for second OWI, domestic abuse, and meth

A busy Friday docket in Langlade County Court featured sentencings in three criminal cases.

Tierra R. West, 22, Elcho, entered a no contest plea to second offense operating while intoxicated. A charge of misdemeanor bail jumping was dismissed but read into the record, while a corollary charge of operating with a prohibited blood alcohol concentration was

dismissed on the prosecutor's motion.

West was ordered to 45 days in jail, but that term was stayed pending two years on probation, with conditions that include alcohol and drug treatment, maintaining absolute sobriety and full time employment, and paying court costs.

See Court Page 6A

## BEHIND THE SCENES

## Using his own experiences, Eric Schroeder touts the values of AAYHA



Contributed

AAYHA President Eric Schroeder, along with his son Parker after another hard fought hockey battle.

By Scott Walbeck  
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It's nearly that time of the year once again.

Cooler nights, fall colors and soon, hockey at the Langlade County Multi-Purpose Building.

The Antigo Area Youth Hockey Association (AAYHA) is gearing up for another season, registration is open and plans are full-steam ahead for a full winter of youth hockey.

Leading the charge is AAYHA President Eric Schroeder, who has served in nearly every capacity

available in Antigo hockey through the years. All the while keeping busy away from the ice at the very visible Schroeder Brothers Potato Farms.

From youth player to high school player, from high school assistant coach to youth coach, referee to board president, Eric has pretty much seen it all and there's no better source to learn about what youth hockey has to offer.

And AAYHA is not just about teaching hockey skills, but life skills as well,

See Schroeder Page 6A





Kevin Passon

Top, the niece of Kenneth Doernenburg, Elaine, accepts the flag that covered her uncle's coffin. Bottom, A bronze military marker is at the gravesite in Elmwood Cemetery where Kenneth Doernenburg was laid to rest Saturday.

## Final respects

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the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency, through a partnership with the Department of Veterans Affairs, exhumed all of the unknown remains from the USS Oklahoma, and began the lengthy identification process. Doernenburg's remains were identified in March 2021.

The identification process included a DNA sample donated by Mark Doernenburg.

"The first test that we got in the mail, I said to my wife, 'I don't know. Why is the United States trying to get hold of us?' I just kind of blew it off, and then the second paper came with another test, and she talked

me into doing it. I knew we had a family member that died in Pearl Harbor, but I really didn't know more than that."

Six months later, the identification was confirmed, and the next phase began.

"The Navy was involved the whole way," Detzler said. "They were wonderful. They asked what we wanted to do, where we wanted to have him buried. They would handle the transportation, the services, but we had to select where to bring him. At that point, most of the Doernenburgs that were left were in northern Michigan. We knew he was born in Dorchester. But, then we finally realized his home was Antigo."

Mark Doernenburg said

once they discovered the Legion Post was partly named in his honor, Antigo just made the most sense.

Flags across Wisconsin flew at half-staff Saturday, keeping in line with Gov. Tony Evers' executive order.

"As Navy Fireman First Class Kenneth E. Doernenburg is finally laid to rest in the place he once called home, we reflect on and remember his sacrifice in service to our country," Evers said. "We honor his memory and join in mourning his loss."

"We truly brought him home," Detzler said. "Many decisions in your life you can't say with this certainty that you made the right one, but this was definitely the right one."

## Court

Continued from Page 1A

West will serve seven days in jail as a condition of the plea, and must also pay a total fine of \$1,618, have her license revoked for 16 months, and install an ignition interlock device for 16 months.

According to the criminal complaint, on May 16, 2020 at 2:17 a.m. deputies on patrol near County Roads K and U in the town of Elcho stopped a vehicle for speeding. The driver, West, appeared to have slurred speech and "stumbled several times."

Upon field sobriety tests, clues of impairment were observed and a preliminary breath test returned a result of .186.

Alexander M. Troemner, 26, Janesville, entered a no contest plea to charges of domestic abuse battery and misdemeanor bail jumping,

both as a repeat offender. A count of domestic abuse disorderly conduct was dismissed but read into the record.

Troemner was given withheld sentences on both convictions, pending two years probation, with conditions to include completing both alcohol and drug treatment and a domestic violence assessment, having no contact with the victim, maintain full time employment, and pay court costs.

He will serve 45 days in jail as a condition of the plea, with the court allows may be served in Rock County.

The complaint states that shortly after midnight on July 10, 2020, a deputy responded to a town of Elcho residence where the victim stated that Troemner had struck her on the forehead during an argument.

Ashleigh P. Kinney, 35,

315 1/2 Virginia St., entered no contest pleas to possession of methamphetamine and drug paraphernalia. She was credited for time served on the paraphernalia conviction, but placed on three years probation for the meth, with conditions that she complete alcohol and drug treatment, maintain both absolute sobriety and full time employment, and pay court costs.

Court documents state that on the night of Aug. 19 officers responded to a city residence, where they found Kinney and a male individual outside. They were observed to be "pacing around the vehicle."

Multiple meth devices were discovered, including a digital scale, broken pipe, and gem bag all testing positive for meth.

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## Schroeder

Continued from Page 1A

both of which he is passing on in his other role, that of hockey dad.

What are the goals of the Antigo Area Youth Hockey Association?

Our first goal is to make sure everyone has fun. We're trying to provide an environment where kids can come enjoy their time at the rink, build lasting friendships and at the same time learn the game of hockey.

How long have you been the AAYHA president and what are your duties?

I believe I'm on year three (maybe four) of serving as the AAYHA President. The President has a wide range of duties. Anything from planning/running the monthly meetings to helping set up the rink, tearing down the rink and making sure our finances are in order.

Why did you decide to get involved with the AAYHA board?

I played hockey through youth and high school in Antigo and once I returned from college I started helping out coaching the high school team. Once I started my own family I knew I was going to be involved with the youth program as soon as possible. I felt obligated, in a good way, to continue to give back to the hockey community in any way I could.

Who else comprises the board and what are their roles?

We have eleven other members right now. Vice President-Dallas Martinson, Treasurer-Diana Brittenham, Secretary-Brenda

Mayr make up our officer positions. Dawn Walbeck and Jenny Carson share the role of Registrar. Rick Veriha, Jake Leiterman, Tom Schofield, Brett Zelazoski, and Angela Koca make up the rest of the directors.

Talk about your own experience as a youth hockey player?

I think I came through the youth program at a great time. We had excellent coaching at the high school level with Bill Thoreson and Todd Langseth and I believe that helped lead the way for all of the coaching I had coming through the youth program. At that time we had well over 100 skaters which was enough to have two teams at almost every level. We took a lot of tough losses as a smaller program competing against some larger areas, but I think our group that we came through with would do it all over again if possible.

Why should parents consider hockey for their child?

Hockey is a lot of fun for both the kids and the parents. Once you are a hockey family, you're always a hockey family and that's not just with the people that live in your house. Yes, it is a time commitment. Yes, there are some costs. But the fun you'll have and the lessons you'll learn will be worth it.

How do you respond to those who say it's too expensive or there's too much travel?

As I said earlier, there are some costs. However, our program is probably the cheapest in the state and surely one of the cheapest in any of our neighboring

states. We offer the first year of hockey free along with equipment. We also have scholarship opportunities to help reduce costs for those who need it.

Between carpooling, buying previously owned equipment, pre-packing meals, buying on clearance, etc. there is money to be saved. We also have a great community who donate used equipment back to the association.

How are things looking for the upcoming season and what are some of the things that go into getting everything ready to roll?

I'm excited, as always, for the upcoming season. We have solid numbers at the U12 level as well as a good number of skaters at the U10 and U8 levels. Unfortunately, we won't have a U14 team in Antigo this year, but all of our skaters at that level have joined other neighboring associations so they can continue to play.

Registration is currently open at [antigoohockey.com](http://antigoohockey.com). Our next order of business will be setting up the rink and making ice around the third week of October.

What is your favorite song?  
Any song by Sturgill Simpson.

What is a food you absolutely will not eat?

I'll try anything once. But if I have to choose, it's tomatoes. Tomatoes are sick.

Eric is always happy to talk hockey with any prospective hockey parents. Anyone who would like more information on AAYHA or how to register can contact him via email at [schroew@gmail.com](mailto:schroew@gmail.com) or 715-216-0186.

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By Kenosha News

KENOSHA, Wis. —A Kenosha pastor is fasting for climate change.

The Rev. Jonathan Barker, pastor of Grace Lutheran Church, stopped eating on Saturday and said he will continue the protest until Congress

passes a climate bill.

Democrats pushed a \$3.5 trillion, 10-year bill through the House Budget Committee that strengthens social safety net and climate programs. It's likely headed to full debate in the House.

The measure is a "once-in-species-moment," Barker said.

## Pastor fasting for climate bill