



NEWS GRAPHIC

OZAUKEE COUNTY'S NEWSPAPER SINCE 1883



Fast start

Homestead boys basketball team jumps out to 20-9 lead to beat Cedarburg 59-44.

▶ **Page B1**

Polar Express

Polar Express takes area children on a magical ride to the North Pole.

▶ **Page B8**



Herrick makes retirement official

Cedarburg school superintendent leaving after school year

By Lisa Curtis
News Graphic Staff

Cedarburg — Cedarburg Schools Superintendent Daryl Herrick officially announced his retirement at the end of this school year in an e-mail to staff and the school board last week.



Herrick

"My announcement at this time allows the school board ample time to hire a new superintendent," he wrote. "For the past 12 years it has been my privilege to serve as superintendent of the Cedarburg School District. Over this tenure a number of changes have occurred in substantive, strategic and meaningful ways that have hopefully benefited students and staff. I have truly enjoyed the relationships developed with the quality people working for the school district and with the unbelievable and supportive members of the Cedarburg community. I'm going to miss the people I work with every day, in every aspect of the Cedarburg School District. And, of course the students."

The news may not have come as a complete surprise to those in the district, given that Herrick told the school

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More photos

For more color photos from this week's Ozaukee County events, check out our Web site, www.gmtoday.com/slide_shows.asp



19,000 and counting



Photos by Mark Justesen

Rain fails to dampen Kids2Kids Christmas Toy Drive

Despite rainy weather, Saturday's Kids2Kids Christmas Toy Drive Event netted around 19,000 toys for southeastern Wisconsin children in need. That number is expected to rise as the donation count continues, said organizers from Kapco Inc. in Grafton. **Top photo:** Police and fire personnel, as well as area residents, bring toys to Kapco. **Left:** A huge stack of games is just one of many inside Kapco. **Above at left:** Even Darth Vader of 'Star Wars' fame got involved, spending time with children who were donating toys. **Above at right:** Kapco President Jim Kacmarcik addresses those on hand at Saturday's event, thanking them for their generosity. Donated toys will be distributed to children in need by the Salvation Army and other charities. The Kids2Kids Christmas Toy Drive is sponsored annually by Kapco in partnership with News Radio 620 WTMJ. **Inside:** A Cedarburg 7-year-old donates her birthday gifts to the toy drive, Page A2; and additional Kids2Kids photos, Page A6.

Town of Grafton taxes rising 11.54%

Fire department referendum cited as reason for hike

By Steve Schuster
News Graphic Staff

Grafton — Town of Grafton residents will be paying 11.54 percent more in taxes in 2013, according to the budget approved at the town's Dec. 13 meeting.

The town's tax levy is also increasing by 12.72 percent, which means a taxpayer owning a home valued at \$250,000 would pay an additional \$75 per year. The tax levy increased 30 cents, from \$2.59 to \$2.89 for \$1,000 of assessed valuation.

The approval of the nearly \$1.7 million budget did not require the town to dip into its reserve funds and reflects an increase in revenues of more than \$100,000.

The increased tax levy is due to the passage of the fire department referendum, which pays for a new full-time fire chief and other first responders.

The Dec. 13 budget meeting became heated when Town Chairman Lester Bartel threatened to throw former town clerk Darrel Mazzari out of the meeting while discussing the hiring and \$50,000 salary of town treasurer Bonnie Bartel, Lester Bartel's wife.

"In all the years I have done this, I have never, ever, had to have anyone removed from a meeting, but I will do it," Bartel said angrily.

Mazzari was responding to a comment made by Town Supervisor Karron Stockwell.

See **TOWN**, Page A7

DNR to consider using Prochnow for soccer field

Cedarburg site was a landfill

By Lisa Curtis
News Graphic Staff

Cedarburg — Town of Cedarburg officials will ask the Department of Natural Resources for permission to temporarily use a portion of the Prochnow Landfill for a practice soccer field and parking lot while the four stakeholders in the site come to an agreement on a cleanup plan.

It is the closest that the town and the other affected parties have come in 10 years to any kind of consensus on the 95-acre site, albeit an interim one. At a meeting of the Cedarburg Town Board last week, representatives of three of the four principally responsible parties were in attendance: the town and city of Cedarburg and Mercury

Marine. As has been the case in the past, representatives from Emerson Electric did not attend.

Also present was the special administrator for the site, Mequon attorney John DeStefanis.

Town officials would like to allow the North Shore United Soccer Club to use a portion of the property that was never land-filled for practice several times a week. During a presentation before the town board last month, club president Mark Koenig said use of the Prochnow property would help alleviate a severe shortage in playing fields. Town leaders have talked for several years about using the 95-acre site for a large, outdoor athletic facility that would accommodate different sports, a



Submitted photo

This aerial photo shows the 95-acre former Prochnow property west of Wauwatosa Road and Washington Avenue in the town of Cedarburg. The areas outlined in red show where debris was dumped as part of the former landfill. Those in yellow are where a proposed practice soccer field and parking lot would be located.

park and walking trails. But the parties are still several steps — and many years — away from any final resolution on the site. Two years ago, the PRPs

hired an environmental firm that would perform

See **LANDFILL**, Page A3

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