

## Community News

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Section B

# Ozaukee PRIS



**INSIDE:** Saukville library republishes 1940s book of poems on small-town life as fundraiser.

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## All's fair for longtime auctioneers

■ Rathke family ready to again help 4-Hers sell their prize animals as Ozaukee event returns next week

By MARK JAEGER

Ozaukee Press staff

For most people, the week of the Ozaukee County Fair in Cedarburg means time for cream puffs, midway rides and demolition derbies.

But for nearly five decades, Town of Fredonia resident Rich Rathke has seen the fair as a chance to nudge bidding ever higher in the Ozaukee County Livestock Association animal auctions.

"I've been doing this since they started. I guess this is the 48th year and I am the last of the originals," Rathke said.

He is assisted by several other auctioneers at the fair. Among them is his daughter, Linda Boehlke.

"She has been doing auctions a long time, too, and she is better than me," Rathke said with pride.

Boehlke, an auctioneer since 1984, disputed that appraisal.

"That's just my dad being modest. He is a master," she said.

This year, the fair's large animal or "red meat" auction will start at 7 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 4, in the fairgrounds Show Arena. The small animal auction will start at 11 a.m. Sunday, Aug. 7, in the Rabbit/Poultry Building.

Rathke said an adept auctioneer has a way of cajoling competing bidders to keep raising their offers, which in the case of the county fair, means more money going to exhibitors of ribbon-winning 4-H animal projects.

"A good auctioneer has to know how to work his people. I can get my 'chant' going. It is a lot of fun," Rathke said.

He said he was initially drawn to the county fair auctions by his children's involvement in 4-H, although by that time Rathke had also been leading sales professionally on a part-time basis.

He was inspired to get into the auction business after seeing legendary auctioneer Leroy Van Dyke lead a sale. Rathke completed auctioneer school in Mason City, Iowa.

"I got a chance to meet Leroy Van Dyke and told him he was the reason I became an auctioneer. He said, 'That's not the first time I heard that,'" Rathke said.

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**VETERAN AUCTIONEERS** Rich Rathke and his daughter Linda Boehlke are gearing up to take bids during the livestock auction at next week's Ozaukee County Fair. They posed with Rathke's granddaughter, 4-H member Halle Van Horn. The youngster will not be selling her steer at the fair.

Photo by Sam Arendt

## County computer upgrade after hacking costs \$55,000

By MITCH MAERSCH

Ozaukee Press staff

The Ozaukee County Board this month approved spending \$10,000 to cover its liability insurance deductible after hackers stole personal employment information for nearly 200 county employees and elected officials in winter.

The county already paid \$55,000 for the higher level of security and expects to receive \$45,000 back from its insurance company, County Mutual. The insurance claim is still in process, a county official said.

About 20 employees who attempted to file tax returns were informed by the Internal Revenue Service that their forms had already been received, apparently filed by hackers

■ Board approves \$10,000 to cover insurance deductible for tighter security after theft of employees' information

intent on stealing the refunds. Among the victims was Director of Information Technology Jason Dzwiniel.

The county's vendor, Greenshades Software of Jacksonville, Fla., determined that beginning at 4:13 a.m. Feb. 14 and continuing through the afternoon of Feb. 15, hackers accessed the county information on its database, Dzwiniel said.

"It appears that someone exploited our Greenshades login and password format and began signing on Greenshades with employee credentials," Dzwiniel wrote in his letter to

employees. "They viewed W-2s and/or 1095s for 190 employees and elected officials."

Greenshades has since increased its security to prevent another incident.

"We have worked with the vendor to remove the W-2 and other personal information from the Greenshades system. Since the breach we have only used the time-keeping functionality," Dzwiniel said.

"The vendor has implemented two-factor authentication for employee login. This was not available at the time of the breach, but was made immediately available to all

## Long-awaited subdivision finally begins to take shape

■ Despite delays, developer hopes to begin construction on Cedar Vineyard this fall

By KRISTYN HALBIG ZIEHM

Ozaukee Press staff

People driving along Highway C on Port Washington's south side have been expecting to see shovels in the dirt as the proposed Cedar Vineyard subdivision takes shape.

Plans for the subdivision are proceeding, albeit slower than originally expected, developer Tom Swarthout said this week.

Swarthout, president of the Highview Group, said he plans to purchase the 227-acre property off Highway C in August and begin work on the subdivision this fall.

"Things have not gone as quickly as we had hoped," he said. "Land is a very unique transaction in today's world. It's just taking a little longer than we had projected, but we're close to completing the transaction."

"Everything is falling into place." Surveys and engineering for the property are completed, he said, and he hopes to announce a groundbreaking soon.

Negotiations with the City of Port Washington on a developer's agreement are progressing, he said, and the document could go before the Common Council for approval in the next month or two.

Swarthout said he plans to begin work on grading and utilities on the property this fall, as well as preparation work for streets within the complex.

In spring, the roads can be built and the property prepared for home construction, he said.

Spring is also when the City of Port will extend utilities and make road improvements to the property, City Administrator Mark Grams said.

"He can do his work on the property, and when we extend the utilities next year they can be connected," he said.

The land, which years ago was slated for an intensive subdivision by VK Development, is primarily on the east side of Highway C

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## costs \$55,000

employees once it was offered.

"We looked at what expenses were eligible under the policy. It turns out every expense we incurred was recoverable," he said.

Ninety to 95% of the \$55,000 went to purchase ID1911 identity protection service for county employees and spouses or dependents who had information viewed or whose information was in the Greenshades system. The 200 workers who had their W-2 tax forms viewed online received three years of coverage. The 600 other employees received one year, Dzwiniel said.

A decision to extend coverage beyond those time frames will be made in the future, he said.

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## League hosting forums for county,

### Congressional posts

The League of Women Voters of Ozaukee County will host two forums next week.

A candidate forum for Democratic hopefuls in the 6th Congressional District primary will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 1, at Grafton Town Hall.

Sarah Lloyd of Wisconsin Dells and Michael Slattery of Maribel will participate in the event.

The Congressional District includes Ozaukee, Sheboygan, Fond du Lac, Manitowoc, Columbia, Green Lake, Marquette and Waushara counties and parts of Dodge and Winnebago counties.

During the forum, written questions from audience members will be presented to the candidates by Mary Fran Lepeska, League of Women Voters moderator.

Lloyd and Slattery will appear on the ballot in the Tuesday, Aug. 9, primary election.

The winner will face incumbent Republican Glenn Grothman in the Nov. 8 election. Independent candidate Jeff Dahle of Mequon will also be on the ballot.

The Town Hall is at 1230 11th Ave. A forum for Republican candidates for Ozaukee County treasurer will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 2, at the Ozaukee County Administration Center, 121 W. Main St., Port Washington.

CarlAnne Mihalco and Joshua H. Morrison are running for the position that will be vacated by retiring Karen Makoutz at the end of the year.

The winner of the Aug. 9 partisan primary will advance to the Nov. 8 election.

The county treasurer receives all county moneys, pays county bills, collects taxes, records property assessments, tracks unclaimed funds and invests county funds.

Written questions from the audience will be presented to the candidates by

# Lionsfest promises fish, food and fun

Fish, food and fun — classic elements for a summer day on the lake — will be plentiful during the 42nd annual Port Washington Lionsfest and Fishing Derby, which runs Friday, July 29, through Sunday, July 31.

The free festival kicks off the event on Friday evening and runs throughout, while the derby is held on Saturday and Sunday.

Friday's headline musical act will be Shut the Front Door, which performs rock, pop, country and dance music. The band will take the stage from 7 to 11 p.m.

Rock will be the music of the day on Saturday, when The Grimm Bros. play a va-

## Auctioneers: Nudging bids takes skill

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The best part of being a fair auctioneer, he said, is seeing the ecstatic smiles on the faces of the young 4-H members as the bids climb.

"It can be exciting for the children.

They can get pretty good prices and use the money for things like going to school or starting a business," Rathke said.

Bidding in recent years has reached record levels, he said.

"The 4-H kids are very good at inviting people and local businesses to come and bid on their animals. They get premium prices that way," Rathke said.

He recalled one especially spirited fair auction about a decade ago when bidding topped \$20 a pound for a beef steer.

When he started working as the lead auctioneer at the fair, Rathke said he managed to avoid handling the sale of any animals his children were showing.

Not that he needs the practice, but

Rathke is also serving as an auctioneer this week at the Washington County Fair and will work the Sheboygan County Fair in September.

At the age of 78, Rathke, who has retired from the family sand and gravel

riety of styles in the genre from 1 to 5 p.m.

Classic rock will be the focus from 7 to 11 p.m. when Sonic Circus plays.

On Sunday, Jay Mattes will play from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. followed by Port Washington's own Vinyl Groove, which will perform hits from the '60s and '70s from 1:30 to 5:30 p.m.

A variety of foods will be sold at Lionsfest, including brats, hamburgers, hot dogs, fish and chips and ice cream. Beer, wine coolers, soda and bottled water will also be sold.

A video arcade will be featured, and a number of raffle drawings will be held.

auctioneers.

"When I started, it was very exciting. As I get older, each year it gets a little harder to ignore all the aches and pains," he said.

Boehle said she still enjoys being in the spotlight that comes with being a fair auctioneer.

"When you are calling, you can't afford to have your mind on anything else. You have to be aware of everything that is going on to keep the bids coming," she said.

"It is like being a performer."

For many 4-H families, the animal auctions are the highlight of the fair, according to Heidi Maciejewski, of the Ozaukee

The fish derby will be held Saturday and Sunday, with anglers vying for cash prizes including an estimated \$1,200 grand prize and four \$300 first-place prizes.

Advance derby tickets are \$25 and may be purchased at Fat Boys Bait & Tackle, the Bait Box, NewPort, Shore restaurant, Drew's True Value Hardware and Sanfilippo's Sentry Foods, all in Port Washington, or the Port marina.

The festival and fishing derby are sponsored by the Port Washington Lions Club.

For more information, call Dave Muelle at (262) 370-5343 or visit [www.portlions.org](http://www.portlions.org)

County Livestock Association.

"I have two children who have been involved in livestock auctions for swine for four or five years. We think it is the most exciting time of the fair," Maciejewski said.

"It is the culmination of a year of preparation and hard work and represents the best of our youth and the high level of the support the fair receives from the business community. It can be so exciting as the bids come in. It is a great experience."

According to the rules established by the association, each 4-H member participating in an animal project is allowed to sell one animal of each species during the auction.

## Habitat: Volunteers make difference

### FROM PAGE 3B

ing for families," Grams said. "We're glad to have them."

Limited by funding and skilled volunteer workers, Habitat tries to build one house annually in Ozaukee County, Urban said.

Next year, Habitat hopes to build a duplex on the same property as the house under construction now. The following year,

Habitat is branching out, too, through its "A Brush With Kindness" program, which helps families in need with home repairs and renovations, Urban said.

"We've been doing that all over the county," he said, noting the projects are relatively small but have a big impact on people's lives.

The group has done about a half-dozen