

Lake Holcombe School Board

Move over Jimmie Johnson, there's a new driver in town

By Ginna Young

"I will be retiring," said Lake Holcombe School District administrator Kurt Lindau, at a school board meeting May 15. "I'm one and done."

Lindau referred, of course, to his one-time stint as a bus driver at Cedar Lake Speedway, in the annual school bus races May 13. The speedway gave a bus to the district, for the tech ed to strip and modify for racing, along with a new paint job.

Last year, tech ed teacher Andy Lorenzen drove the bus, but Lindau wanted to do it just once and while he ran out of fuel in the qualifying heat, he came back to be a contender. Lindau managed to stay out of the fray of mash-ups, as intense rivalries from previous years erupted, but he, as a newcomer, was largely ignored.

By the time there were three laps left in the race, Lindau and only two other buses remained, and Lake Holcombe brought home the win. Lindau said not only is it fun for the kids and spectators, but it took up a month of the tech ed department's time to retrofit the bus.

"Good experience for the kids, they have fun," he said. "It's a good project."

Lindau also reported the summer school ESSER III Grant Lake Holcombe received will free up local dollars for normal offerings, but the sessions will also have unique

offerings, such as African drumming sessions, guitar lessons, tennis camp and field trips. In addition, middle school special education teacher Shane Sanderson is working to get certified to instruct hunter, boater and ATV/UTV education classes.

Breakfast and lunch will also be served to anyone up to 18 years of age who lives in the district.

"Two years of free money, and then we'll be back to us funding summer school," said Lindau.

Board member Jamie Tester-Morfoot asked if kids have to be enrolled in the district to attend the summer school sessions.

"If they stay with grandparents or something like that...I've counted them," said district accountant Lisa Spletter.

Lindau also reported that there is an excess balance in the food service account, so the DPI requires districts to spend any excess over three months of operating expenses.

"We're looking at new cafeteria tables," said Lindau.

The current tables are a two-person lift, since the springs are shot. Lindau also is looking at replacing the commons tables for cafe tables to create a cafe court atmosphere, as well as adding charging stations and high chairs.

"Just kind of dress it up in there and make

it more inviting," said Lindau.

The good news ended there, however, as Lindau shared that Marshfield Clinic will no longer provide a free athletic trainer's services for sporting events. The services have been available to school districts for over a decade.

"They saw it as a way to make referrals into their healthcare system," said Lindau. "Well, I think Marshfield Clinic is going through a bit of restructuring and they probably looked at that, as that's not something we can afford anymore."

To continue with the services as a paid contract, Marshfield Clinic quoted the district \$80,000, but agreed to scale it back to \$40,000 and finally the lowest of \$26,000.

"I just said, we can't afford to have that,"

said Lindau.

During the meeting, board members agreed to the hire of co-middle school boys basketball coach Kyle Johnson, as well as the resignations of high school math teacher Heath Hill; paraprofessional Shawna Strzok; and assistant high school girls basketball coach J.D. Kirkman.

Members also accepted \$40.30, from Eastbay Lodge to the band and football programs; \$100, from Beverly Gygi in memory of Josephine Gygi, to the choir program; \$500, from Cedar Lake Speedway, to business ventures; \$266, from Chippewa County Mill Promotion, to FFA; and \$200, from Lake Holcombe Booster Club/Haunted Trail, to the after-school program, toward the end-of-the-year field trip expenses.



Submitted Photo

Lake Holcombe tech ed teacher Andy Lorenzen (left) and district administrator Kurt Lindau proudly displayed the trophy won at the Cedar Lake Speedway bus races May 13. Lindau strapped in behind the wheel for the race, bringing home the first place finish for the school.

Tales of our Beginnings

Cadott • Cornell • Lake Holcombe areas



Come Hell or High Water

Severe flooding seems to go in cycles, but for some, it can be more devastating than for others. So it went with Roderick Glenn, 25, when he was swept away while on the Barney Town Bridge, near the northern city limits of Holcombe.

Roderick's death was caused by the Fisher River backing up over its banks, when he and his brother, Douglas, were standing on the bridge watching the flood waters. Douglas was able to jump into water close enough to shore to grab at several small trees, thereby pulling himself to safety, but Roderick wasn't so lucky.

That wasn't the only occurrence, as the Omaha Railroad bridge went out in the early morning, several hundred feet below the Barny Town Bridge. A road bridge near Arnold, also washed out by the same river.

However, the village of Holcombe was cut off from the highway, when the water in the Fisher River raised and rushed down a dry creek bed, flooding the eastern side of town, near the Omaha depot.

The river also rushed over the concrete on the highway, east of Holcombe, washing out several hundred feet of shoulder, but traffic was able to pass through at all times. The farm homes of Lester Newberry, John Towns, Ernest Parsons and Ezra Parsons, were all surrounded by the swollen river, but withstood the force of the waters.

(Courtesy of the Holcombe Centennial 1905-2005)



Fisher River that overflowed onto State Hwy. 27

– Courier-Sentinel Lookback –

10 Years Ago – 2013

A memory walk is held in Cornell, in honor of Dylan Crabb, a local youth who tragically lost his battle with leukemia. As part of the festivities, a calf – a granddaughter of one of the herd Crabb raised – was given away in a drawing.

20 Years Ago – 2003

In a second phase approach, the Cadott Lions Club proposes installing electricity at the East River-view Park pavilion. The club has \$5,000 dedicated to the project, with roughly half earmarked for the materials.

30 Years Ago – 1993

After \$15,000 of repairs, the Chippewa County Highway Department reopens the Cobban Bridge over the

Chippewa River, for traffic to cut time off their route. The historic century-old structure was closed earlier this year, because of safety and liability issues.

40 Years Ago – 1983

On behalf of the village, Ray Weiland is authorized to purchase a 55-gallon drum from Shear Corp., to help eliminate dust on Cadott's gravel roads. It's anticipated the gesture will be much appreciated by residents and businesses.

50 Years Ago – 1973

Neil Goodall, president of Fireproof Products, Inc., announces that the name of the company will change to Cornell Corporation. The company manufactures petrical, which is an accousti-

cal roof deck material for schools.

60 Years Ago – 1963

The possibility of a new post office site is discussed by the Cadott Chamber of Commerce. While there is excitement over the thought of a new site, chamber member Dave Dugal reports that many are in favor of the postal office remaining on Main Street.

100 Years Ago – 1923

John Cox, manager of the Holcombe Saw Mill, says the runs are done for the time being, with the mill turning out more than 250,000 feet of lumber this season. The mill will remain idle until crews can salvage deadheads from the river and resume operations.