



**Iowa State Senate**



Tom Shipley, an Iowa State Senator, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on April 11. He was born and raised in Adams County. He graduated from Villisca High School, Iowa Western Community College and Iowa State University.

His bachelor's degree was in Agriculture Education. He has devoted much of his life to agriculture. He has a small farming operation and cow herd at Nodaway.

He is State Senator of District 11, which is the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest district by area in the state. He communicates to the public through a newsletter. His email is [tom.shipley@legis.iowa.gov](mailto:tom.shipley@legis.iowa.gov)

The budget is still not set because of the school budget not being settled. The House wants a 1.25 percent increase and the Senate wants a 4.0 percent increase. Asked if they would have an arbitrator assist, he said that if the rate is not set by July 1<sup>st</sup> the rate will not change from last year.

Tom talked of wanting to be responsible to not spend more than we have. Corn prices are still down which affects industry in Iowa in many ways others than just the farmer. He has been told Medicare will increase next year but is unsure why. He talked about the gas tax and how it will help with the roads and bridges we use every day. He felt

**Calendar**

- Apr 22 – Arbor Day tree planting, 10:00 a.m.
- Apr 29 –Can kennel sorting

**Birthdays**

- Apr 20 – Steve Chambers
- Apr 25 – Irvin Saar
- Apr 28 - Gene Seran

they did not have enough notice about the closing of the Mental Health Institute. It will close in 2016. Many hard to place residents will need to find a new place. The new train of thought is that they need to live in their home areas, not in large groups homes.

**Meeting Minutes**

The meeting was called to order by Dee Guttau with 14 members present. She then led the Pledge of Allegiance and gave the Prayer,

There were no visitors, birthdays, anniversaries, or bragging rights. Humor was provided by Keith Denton.

The 50/50 drawing was won by Dee Guttau and the attendance was unclaimed by Kirk Vorthmann.

Old business: Gary Guttau gave an update on the Can Kennel. There was a discussion about if we should haul our own cans and bottles to Red Oak or pay one cent to have them picked up. We agreed to pay to have them picked up on the day they choose.

Tree planting with 5<sup>th</sup> graders is set for April 22<sup>nd</sup> with assistance of several other organizations. We will dig holes on the 21<sup>st</sup>. We will assist in planting 15 trees with 66 fifth grade students,

Swimming lessons for this summer were discussed. There is a lot interest. We are willing to help pay around \$800.00 for transportation if the grant we applied for doesn't materialize. We think we want to partner with another origination in this project. Charging parents for lessons and include transportation costs is another option.

Laura Hempel got 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the State essay contest. The information was sent to get it in Nonpareil. We discussed if she might need transportation money.

Flag signup is to go out in the water bill. No flags will be put up unless payment is made first.

**Anniversaries**

- Apr 7 – Jim & Diane Clausen

**Speakers**

- Apr 18 – Mark Brandenburg
- Apr 25 – Matt Wilbur

**Prayers**

- Apr 25 – Dennis White

In 1952, Armon M. Sweat, Jr., a member of the Texas House of Representatives, was asked about his position on whiskey. What follows is his exact answer (taken from the Political Archives of Texas):

"If you mean whiskey, the devil's brew, the poison scourge, the bloody monster that defiles innocence, dethrones reason, destroys the home, creates misery and poverty, yea, literally takes the bread from the mouths of little children; if you mean that evil drink that topples Christian men and women from the pinnacles of righteous and gracious living into the bottomless pit of degradation, shame, despair, helplessness, and hopelessness, then, my friend, I am opposed to it with every fiber of my being.

"However, if by whiskey you mean the lubricant of conversation, the philosophic juice, the elixir of life, the liquid that is consumed when good fellows get together, that puts a song in their hearts and the warm glow of contentment in their eyes; if you mean Christmas cheer, the stimulating sip that puts a little spring in the step of an elderly gentleman on a frosty morning; if you mean that drink that enables man to magnify his joy, and to forget life's great tragedies and heartbreaks and sorrow; if you mean that drink the sale of which pours into Texas treasuries untold millions of dollars each year, that provides tender care for our little crippled children, our blind, our deaf, our dumb, our pitifully aged and infirm, to build the finest highways, hospitals, universities, and community colleges in this nation, then my friend, I am absolutely, unequivocally in favor of it.

"This is my position, and as always, I refuse to compromise on matters of principle."