



Freedom Rocks

LaDonna Applegate and Doris Bane spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on May 17. They are from Oakland, which has been accepted to receive one of the Freedom Rocks. The goal is to have one Freedom Rock in each county in Iowa.

LaDonna and Doris are two of the six members of the Oakland Friday Coffee Ladies. They get together each week for coffee and

to go places. On July 10 2010 they visited the first Freedom Rock in Greenfield, Iowa. It was created in 1997 by "Bubba" Sorensen as a thank you to our veterans. He repaints it every year. Approximately 14,000 people stop each year to enjoy this beautiful and educational dedication.

The coffee ladies convinced the city council of Oakland to submit an application in August 2013 and to put down a deposit for the rock. The first city to pay a \$1000 deposit in each county is the one to have the Freedom Rock reserved for their county.

The Ladies also found an appropriate rock at the Macedonia pit. One estimate was that the rock weighs about 30 ton, but most likely it is 50-60 ton.

Now the ladies are raising money for the project. They expect to need \$5000 to Sorenson to paint the rock and \$1000 in paint and other expenses for painting it. They hope to get it moved for \$1000, but that will be based on the actual weight of the rock, and is probably a very optimistic cost. They also want to set up an endowment fund to support the rock repainting in the future, which needs to be done every 8-10 years. Tax deductible contributions can be sent to: Freedom Rock Fund, 39503 Honeysuckle Road, Oakland, Iowa 51560-4207.

Information about the future Freedom Rock in Oakland is available at:

[facebook.com/thepottawattamiecountyfreedomrock](https://www.facebook.com/thepottawattamiecountyfreedomrock). More information and pictures are available at: thefreedomrock.com/. A map of Iowa counties that have applied to have a Freedom Rock painted is available at: thefreedomrock.com/freedom-rock-tour/