

BE A PARTY STOPPER

County Supervisor and Council Bluffs Policeman Loren Knauss spoke to Club members about the current efforts to prevent underage drinking and the tragic results of traffic deaths. Loren discussed the Party Stoppers program in effect throughout the county. There is a hotline phone number (712-328-7867) to report parties where underage alcohol drinking is happening. Loren noted that 15 calls were received last year. There is a \$50 reward when law enforcement breaks up a party, but only one caller asked for it last year. Small parties often grow into large parties that grow into even larger parties as youth can communicate so easily by cell phones as to what is happening. Responsibility and common sense are checked at the door. Police scanners often warn youth of impending raids. Loren stated that the prime party times are near the end and beginning of the school year. Too many parents allow underage drinking and their homes become know as the party houses. Loren recalled that there were two traffic-related deaths in the county last year attributed to underage drinking. Two sets of parents lost a child due to irresponsible party drinking. We all can be party stoppers to prevent this tragedy of youth. Loren stated that funds are being solicited for radio and newspaper announcements to discourage youth drinking parties.