

Talented and Gifted



Lori McGoldrick and some of her 4th grade students were speakers at the Optimist Club on April 30. Lori has been teaching seven years in Treynor and has worked on the talented and gifted program for four years. Since she began she has learned that these students need challenges academically, but also have unique social and emotional needs.

Lori works with students in three ways, as a pullout, for enrichment activities, and as a consultant for teachers and students. One of her responsibilities is to find resources in the community for students with special talents whose needs are not met.

One of the programs Lori uses is called Invention Convention. This program was started in 1987 by Iowa State University and the University of Iowa. The program is open to all students, but Lori works with 4th graders in this program. Youth can earn a \$500 scholarship in the program.

Another program is the Modern Woodmen of the World speech contest. This year the contest involves an American invention. Students pick a topic and have to research the topic, compose a speech, and deliver the speech. The goals of the speech contest are to learn public speaking, enhance self esteem, and develop speaking and communication skills.

Luke Clausen, Zoe Gaupp, and Nik Johnson gave their speeches at the Optimist Club. Luke talked about elevators and the beginning of the Otis Elevator Company. Zoe talked about the Synchronous Multiplex Railway Telegraph, invented by Granville Woods, an African American inventor. Nik talked about the digital camera. The first digital camera was made from scraps and took 23 seconds to create a picture.



Lori develops a needs assessment for each student. She sends the assessments home to the student's parents. She also promotes summer camps for some

students. Most of her work at Treynor is one on one and small groups.