

Pioneer Women's Museum

Ruby Bentley spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on October 1 about the Pioneer Women's Museum in Macedonia. She started a non-profit organization in 2000. They purchased their 20 foot by 70 foot building in downtown Macedonia in 2005.

When they purchased the building, there was no heat, no water or sewer, and the roof was leaking. Iowa West Foundation helped restore the roof and back wall of the building with a grant of \$5000. The total cost was \$12,250. The back wall was originally Macedonia brick, which was a soft brick made just outside of town.

The organization tore off layers of flooring to restore the original wood floor. When doing so they found termites, increasing the cost and repairs needed. They got additional flooring from a farmer who tore down the old Lone Rock one room schoolhouse near Shenandoah. They also received a donated furnace and new air conditioning.

The focus of the museum is Pioneer Women. It is open 9:00-noon Tuesday through Saturday. They only take donated items. The museum includes a replica of a handcart from the Mormon Trail and an old ox yoke. They have an old safe from the Macedonia school and found the combination written on the wall in the school.

The non-profit organization is working on a Macedonia Eagle Project, to be dedicated November 11, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. They are also working on putting rails along part of the sidewalk in town.