



## 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 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 group homes.