



January 22, 2011

Vol. 27 No. 2

Council Bluffs City Council

Melissa Head, an attorney for the Army Corp of Engineers and a new member of the Council Bluffs City Council, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on January 22. She talked about new projects in Council Bluffs.

Council Bluffs will be installing new signage soon to designate directions to interest points in the city. The city is also working on Phase 1 of the riverfront park, a \$11.1M project. They are preparing for a capital campaign for the YMCA expansion. There are also ongoing projects with the West Broadway viaduct and renovation of the Chamber of Commerce.

The city is changing the bus routes so they are more cost effective. The city buses are not self sustaining, but there are 300-350 people in town who have no other means of transportation.

Melissa said that Madison Avenue will be widened in the near future. It will also have a sidewalk or combination sidewalk/bike path.

The Council Bluffs police department has a task force to remove meth addicts from the city. They also have a task force to keep gangs out. Both help minimize problems in the city.

Melissa's favorite projects are the riverfront development, especially as an attraction for young people. She would also like to see more green space on West Broadway and she wants to help keep the downtown area vibrant.

Meeting Minutes

Dennis White opened the meeting January 22 with the Pledge of Allegiance and Gary Guttau gave the opening prayer. Gary Funkhouser and Keith Denton provided jokes. There were 19 members and 3 guests at the meeting.

For bragging rights, Gary Funkhouser recognized four Treynor students who won \$2000 with an alternative fuels video. Kirk Vorthmann celebrated his father-in-law successfully having his heart valve replaced. Jeff Jorgensen recognized Kevin Abbot for great speakers in January.

The Jr. Optimist Club will be canvassing Treynor on January 30 for food for the Treynor food bank. The Optimist Club will hold their annual spaghetti dinner on February 4. Richard Vorthmann will celebrate his 90th birthday party February 6 from 2:00 – 4:00 p.m. at the Community Center.

Dennis White won the 50/50 drawing. Kirk Vorthmann won the attendance drawing.

CALENDAR

Jan 26 - Next Can Kennel sorting for the Post-Prom Committee is 4:00 pm. Wednesday, January 26.

Jan 30 – JOOI Club food canvassing

Feb 4 – Optimist spaghetti supper – 5:00-7:00 p.m.

Feb 6 – Richard Vorthmann 90th birthday party – 2:00-4:00

Birthdays

Jan 19 – Dennis White (recognized)

Jan 20 – Penny Nelson

Feb 1 – Dick Baber

Feb 12 – Richard Vorthmann

Feb 13 – Gary Funkhouser

Anniversaries

Feb 6 – Jon & Debra Jacobsen

Feb 23 – Richard & LuEtta Vorthmann

Speakers

Jan. 22 – Melissa Head

Jan. 29 – TBA

Programs

Jan – Kevin Abbott

Feb – Chad Guttau

Mar – Dale Willenborg

Apr – Gary Guttau

May – Keith Denton

June – Dick Baber

Dale Willenborg, Editor, 14186 230th Street, Council Bluffs, IA 51503 712-366-6815 dalewill1@juno.com

CLUB BULLETIN COPYING COURTESY OF TS BANK of TREYNOR

H₂O: Dangerous Chemical!

A student at Eagle Rock Junior High won first prize at the Greater Idaho Falls Science Fair, April 26. He was attempting to show how conditioned we have become to alarmists practicing junk science and spreading fear of everything in our environment. In his project he urged people to sign a petition demanding strict control or total elimination of the chemical "dihydrogen monoxide."

And for plenty of good reasons, since:

1. it can cause excessive sweating and vomiting
2. it is a major component in acid rain
3. it can cause severe burns in its gaseous state
4. accidental inhalation can kill you
5. it contributes to erosion
6. it decreases effectiveness of automobile brakes
7. it has been found in tumors of terminal cancer patients

He asked 50 people if they supported a ban of the chemical.

- Forty-three (43) said yes,
- six (6) were undecided,
- and only one (1) knew that the chemical was water.

The title of his prize winning project was, "How Gullible Are We?" He feels the conclusion is obvious.