



March 25, 2017

Vol. 33 No. 12

Service Opportunities

Emily Shanks spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on March 25. Emily grew up in Council Bluffs, went to college at UNO, and then went to law school in Charlotte, North Carolina. She works for her father at Shanks Law Firm.



Chad Guttau and Emily Shanks

In 2012 she started practicing law. In 2013 she started volunteering at Teammates when it was started at Lewis Central high School. Teammates is a mentoring program started by Dr. Tom Osborne to mentor youth and help prepare them for college. It also provides \$1.6M for college scholarships.

Mentors are paired with a youth and meet about 24 times a year with the youth at school, about one hour a week. New mentors don't have to have any special education, but will receive about three hours training. They are not supposed to give gifts to the youth or be friends on social

media. The Teammates organization provides additional support for the mentor as needed.

Emily is now paired with a 10 year old at Lewis Central. They play board games and talk every week. They spend a lot of time talking about college.

Youth in the Teammates program get together several times each year. In February they went to a Creighton game. Every year in May they go to the Zoo.

A teacher or counselor at school can nominate a child for Teammates. The parents must approve the child being in the program.

Teammates is now in Lewis Central, Council Bluffs schools, and in Riverside, along with 140 other schools in Nebraska and Iowa. More information about Teammates can be found at Teammates.org.

Emily also recently joined CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) for children. CASA is a network of nearly 1,000 community-based programs that recruit, train and support citizen-volunteers to advocate for the best interests of abused and neglected children in courtrooms and communities. Anyone can also volunteer to be a CASA representative. They act as eyes and ears for the court.

The required commitment is 8-12 hours per month. Volunteers receive four days of training. They meet with the child and parents once or twice a month and investigate and monitor children's progress. They report to the court. Their primary are to gather information, review documents and records, interview the children, family members and professionals in their lives, and make sure everyone is working together in the best interests of the child.

To sign up for CASA, call Anne Christensen, 712-328-4811.

Meeting Minutes

President Kirk Vorthmann called the meeting of the Treynor Optimist Club to order at 8:00 a.m. at St. Paul Lutheran Church. Fourteen members and one guest were present.

Keith Denton won the 50/50 drawing and Chad Gutttau won the attendance prize. For bragging rights, Gary Gutttau contributed to the Youth Fund because he could be seen in a picture on the sports page of the newspaper. Gary Funkhouser contributed in recognition of Konnor Sudmann who was named SWI basketball athlete of the

year. Kirk Vorthmann recognized the spaghetti supper Sunday afternoon at St. Paul Lutheran. Dale Willenborg recognized the informative videos Keith Denton posted recently on facebook.

Youth Appreciation will be April 23 at 3:00 at Zion Church.

For community events, the tree pruning went well. Alumni basketball starts today at 9:00 a.m.

The meeting was adjourned with the Optimist Creed. .

Calendar

Apr 12 – Mulch Madness with the Master Gardeners at Elementary School

Apr 23: Youth Appreciation, 3:00 p.m.

Birthdays

Mar 2 – Ward Chambers

Mar 11 – Kenneth Graham

Mar 20 – Jon Jacobsen

Apr 20 – Steve Chambers

Apr 25 – Irvin Saar

Apr 28 - Gene Seran

Anniversaries

Mar 4 – Gene & Erika Seran

Mar 8 – Keith & Georgia Denton

Apr 7 – Jim & Diane Clausen

Speakers

Apr 1 – Janelle Keysor – Treynor food pantry

Apr 8 – Kelly Groskurth – Treynor City Manager

Apr 15 – Kali Christensen – Missionary experience

Apr 22 – Candace Gregory – Open Door Mission

Programs

April - Gary Funkhouser

May -

June - Jim Clausen

July - First two weeks open

 Last two – Jerry Hempel

August - First two weeks open

 Last weeks – Bob Mantell

September - Ken Graham

October - Gary Gutttau

November - Mick Gutttau

December –