



January 28, 2017

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## Sheltering Cattle

Dr. Robert Bryant, a longtime veterinarian and cattleman near the rural northwest Iowa town of



Washta, spoke at the Treynor Optimist Club on January 28. His father farmed near Silver City and his mother taught school there.

Robert spoke about the Hoop Beef System that he designed and patented. His research facility, Grand

Meadow Feeders at Washta, Iowa has fed 2000 calves in five years. They have tours every Tuesday at 1:00 p.m.

The buildings are typically 320 feet long and house 4 pens of 80 head each. For calving, they house half as many cows. The pens have a clean scrape pad alley that is cleaned once a week. The manure is piled up in the summer and applied to corn ground in the winter when the ground is frozen. The total cost for the building is about \$500 per cow and \$1000 per cow/calf.

Robert said that it costs \$2.00 per head per day for pasturing gestating heifers and \$0.70 per head per day in the hoop buildings. There are no fans, so the building is cold in the winter, but the cows are sheltered from the sun in the summer. The canvas top is guaranteed for 15 years. They utilize concrete or wood feed bunks.

## Calendar

Mar 21 – Pruning Party at the Elementary School  
Apr 12 – Mulch Madness with the Master Gardeners

Robert said that the Jersey is the #1 breed for marbling. They typically breed them to an Angus bull.

The company has installed 20 miles of buildings throughout the United States and Canada, which will feed 12,000 cows and calves this year.

Additional information is available at [hoopbeef.com](http://hoopbeef.com).

## Meeting Minutes

President Kirk Vorthmann called the January 28, 2017 meeting of the Treynor Optimist Club to order at 8 a.m. in the Legion Room of the Treynor Community Center. Mick Gutttau gave the opening prayer. Kirk Vorthmann, Dee Gutttau, Mick Gutttau, Dale Willenborg, and Gary Gutttau provided jokes.

For bragging rights, Kevin Underwood contributed to the youth fund because his niece Bailey is doing well in basketball. Kirk Vorthmann contributed in recognition of modern doctors and medicine.

For community news, Anika Voss received a transplant this week. Also, Monday night is the Legion Fish Fry.

On February 3, KMA will honor Gail Hartigan for her 700<sup>th</sup> win in basketball.

The Silver Keg Feeders will provide breakfast on February 8

Gary Gutttau, Chad Gutttau, John Klein, Kirk Vorthmann, and Gary Funkhouser helped with can kennel sorting. They has 10 bags of cans, 7 of plastic, and 545 bottles.

Chad Gutttau won the 50/50 drawing. Steve Irvin was drawn for the attendance award, but he did not collect.

## Birthdays

Feb 12 – Richard Vorthmann  
Feb 13 – Gary Funkhouser

**Anniversaries**

Feb 6 – Jon & Debra Jacobsen

Feb 23 – Richard & LuEtta Vorthmann

**Speakers**

Feb 11 – Craig Korkow, Long Term Care

**Programs**

January - Keith Denton

February - Bill and Ann Vorthmann

March - Chad Guttau

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 Guttau

November - Mick Guttau

December –

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