



May 8, 2021

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Cara Cool-Trede, EdVantage, Speaker

Cara Cool-Trede was introduced by Steve Irvin as a friend who was located in a nearby office to his at Iowa Western Community College. Kara is a CB girl, graduating from St. Alberts, IWCC, and the University of Iowa. She is married to Brad Trede and they have a 7 year old son, Jack. She retained Cool in her name because she thinks it's cool!



Cara, who worked in Enrollment Services at IWCC, was given the opportunity two years ago to develop the new program, Career EdVantage, funded and initiated by Iowa West Foundation and the Charles E. Lakin Foundation.

L-R: Steve Irvin, Cara Cool-Trede

The mission of Career EdVantage is to provide educational and training opportunities for committed students through meaningful relationships and supportive coaching. It provides career exploration, development, internships, and full-time employment assistance for high school students of hope and need. It aspires to identify these students as sophomores and help them attain the skills necessary to move into a rewarding career while filling crucial employment needs in SW Iowa.

The program is backed by experiences and evidence from Avenue Scholars in Omaha, but Cool-Trede was charged with developing best practices, marketing, establishing mission and development for this new SWI program. The inaugural year had AHSTW, Tri-Center, Riverside, and Shenandoah schools as their first group. In the second year, Lewis Central, Treynor, Underwood, and Glenwood were added. The program focuses on students being in a career and technical education program and not planning on getting a 4 year degree. There are currently 8-9 Treynor students enrolled.

In total there have been 65 students involved and now an additional 70 have been added. The future goal is to serve 400 students – 200 in high school and 200 in post secondary.

Students apply with the support of the school counselor. FAFSA scores, GPA, and background all enter into the decision, but personal conversations weigh in heavily. Career EdVantage provides a coach for the schools to work with the students on a daily basis throughout the last two years of their high school, their college training, and the first 6 mos. of employment. Each coach works with approximately 25 students in total and teach employment readiness and must have a Masters' Degree and lots of energy. More coaches will be needed.

Career EdVantage, as a non-profit, also seeks to raise additional fund to help kids with the extra costs involved of career attire and tools and even transportation based on need. Scholarships and Pell grants received by students are applied first before Career EdVantage supports the remainder of the need.

Next week's speaker will be: Tony Chain, Business and Finance Professor at IWCC.

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, club President, called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Building. Present were 14 members and 1 guest, Cara Cool-Trede. Dale Willenborg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Jordan Campbell gave the opening prayer.

Gary Gutttau, Gary Funkhouser and Jordan Campbell provided humor. Dennis White won the 50/50 drawing. Keith Denton won the attendance drawing, but was not present to collect.

There were no birthdays or anniversaries to observe.

Bragging Rights: (\$ to fund youth activities)

Kevin & Marsha Underwood celebrated that Carter White was #2 Singles Champion in Tennis in the conference.

Mick Gutttau contributed to share about the beautiful new music theater and department at the Treynor high school. Judy Gutttau donated to state that three of their grandchildren participated in the outstanding Fine Arts music concert and that state contest is today.

Gary Gutttau paid to announce that the Master Gardeners' Plant Sale is today at WestFair.

John Klein donated to thank Dee and Gary Gutttau for helping the Klein family because of Carol's twisted

ankle to make it possible for her to have her things taken to the Plant Sale and to be able to attend this morning.

Jordan Campbell donated to share that Zion's Cinco de Mayo was a success and a train wreck. They ran out of meat early, etc. and learned from this first experience for the future.

Dale Willenborg contributed because his wife Diane was interviewed about the Iowa law ensuring landlords can turn away renters related to Section 8. Dale said he was also on camera for the tv interview.

Old/New Business: Can Kennel sorting will be Wed., May 12 at 6:00 p.m. with ZION Youth, followed by the group eating at Silo's.

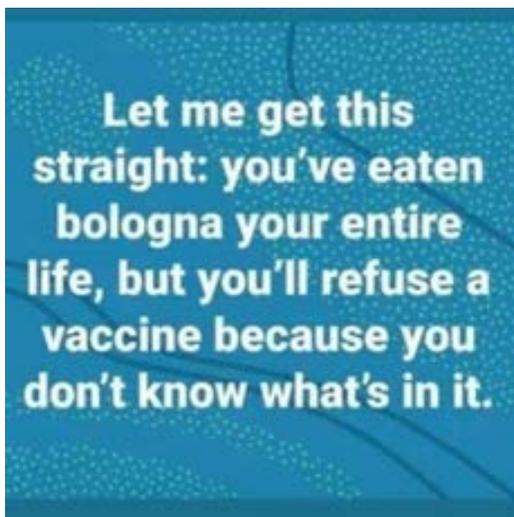
The Swimming Bus program sponsored by our club will not happen this summer, but we are hopeful for next year.

Bill Vorthmann will lead putting up flags for Memorial Day and asking the Boy Scouts to help. Dale Willenborg reported he has ordered 75 new flags which may not arrive in time for May, but the new poles he has ordered have arrived.

The Club received a badge for the banner for the newsletter award received for the 2019-20 year.

The meeting was closed with the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR



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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 51575

Quote:

"A mother is she who can take the place of all others, but whose place no one else can take."

Calendar

- May 8 Put out flyers for flags
- May 13 "Respect for Law" breakfast- 7 AM
- May 29 Flags will be put up for Memorial Day

Birthdays

- May 11 Keith Denton
- May 21 Steve Irvin
- May 22 Kirk Vorthmann

Anniversaries

Programs

- May Dale Willenborg & Judy Gutttau
- June Dale Willenborg & Judy Gutttau
- July Kirk Vorthmann (first two)
Doug Dillivan (last two)

Speakers

- May 15 Tony Chain, Business Professor, IWCC
- May 22 TBA
- May 29 Stan Latta, Chaplain Good News Jail & Prison Ministry
- June 5 Melanie Schuler –Spanish teacher
- June 12 Gary Spooner, Experiences in Romania
- June 19 Lori McGoldrick
- June 26 Aaron Terry, Ass't FB Coach IWCC

