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Jim Murray, Author



Jim Murray, Treynor, is a fun character who shared his humor but has written a book about a very serious subject close to his heart: [Emergency Management for Nursing Homes and Long Term Care Facilities.](#)

Jim is a retired police detective, corporate executive, and a decorated USAF veteran. He is an adjunct college professor, certified in security management by the American Society for Industrial Security international (ASIS), and is certified in Homeland Security. Jim is also certified in Gerontology and Hospital Emergency Management Planning and was a former decade-long member of the ASIS Crisis Management and Business Continuity Council. He has been involved in local civic activities and has a passion for veteran affairs.

Why did he write the book? "Despair is most often the product of ill-preparedness." (Donald E. Williams Jr.) The book was written because of the impact of COVID-19 on nursing homes, which claimed the lives of more than 28,000 nursing home residents and staff all over the U.S. Murray stated that nursing homes were unprepared even before COVID-19 and the crisis in nursing homes is not something new. Resources are lacking and the staff working in nursing homes are routinely underpaid and undertrained.

Murray discussed the results of the welfare policy since the 60's when Medicare and Medicaid created incomplete insurance plans for long-term care. Nursing homes that rely heavily on Medicaid for longer term resident care can have the most significant quality problems. There are cracks in the system but nursing homes must be saved. A combination of funding, regulation, new policies, strategies, and well-trained staff are needed.

Jim stated that during COVID-19 many pork plants in Iowa shut down causing immigrant workers to leave, thus their spouses also left, of which many were working in nursing homes.

Emergency management needs to have a game plan – analyze risk factors, figure out ways to limit or prevent casualties and damage. An emergency manager is needed and can be someone who wears multiple hats.

If you are placing a loved one in long-term care, ask what the plans are if there is a fire, a tornado, a disease outbreak, a blizzard, etc. In 2017, the Center of Medicare and Medicaid Standards (CMS) set a contingency plan for nursing homes to be included in the emergency management program. Many nursing homes in Iowa, Murray stated, are still not in compliance.

When asked if cameras should be allowed in nursing homes, Murray endorsed this except in areas where resident modesty is needed.

Murray stated that families expect safe environments for their loved ones, but abuse has been reported in nearly one out of every three nursing homes in the U.S. and it comes in different forms – emotional, sexual, physical, financial, and neglect. Lack of training, high staff turnover, and a need for more staff can worsen the situation.

The book is recommended for all. It is available on Amazon (Kindle, soft-cover, hard-cover.)

Thank you also, Jim, for your contribution today of \$40 for our flag program which provides scholarships to seniors.

Next week's speaker will be:

Joel Beyenhof, new Treynor School Superintendent

All are welcome!

Meetings are from 8-9 AM, Saturdays

Treynor Community Building

Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order. Present were 17 members plus Jim Murray.

Dale Willenborg led the Pledge of Allegiance and Dee Gutttau gave the opening prayer.

Jokes were shared by Ken Graham and Keith Denton, plus a few jokes were played off theirs!

50/50 was won by Jim Murray. Diane Willenborg won the attendance drawing but was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

Bragging Rights: (\$ are used for youth activities)

- Chad Gutttau announced that his grandparents' (Detlef & Ethel Gutttau) 88th wedding anniversary would have been this coming week.
- Dale Willenborg shared he will be going to Washington state on a vacation and will see his grandson who will be going on a one year mission trip.
- Dale Willenborg contributed also because there was such a good turnout to help with the Optimist Can Kennel. There were 17 including some grandchildren. Free pizza was eaten at Silos afterwards by the group who lingered longer to visit.

BUSINESS:

- Dale Willenborg stated that John Klein is doing some research about making some improvements to the Treynor sign between the post office and Andersen's station. He will report more at the next meeting.
- Can Kennel sorting will take place for the Optimists again on Wed., Aug. 17 at 4:00 PM and the group can again enjoy free pizza at Silos afterwards.

Garden produce was provided by Jim Clausen and Dale Willenborg, free for the taking.

The meeting was closed with reciting the Optimist Creed.

HUMOR

This is what 'I can wait' looks like...



Calendar

Events

- Aug 17 Can Kennel Sorting 4:00 PM
Optimist Club and pizza after at Silos
- Aug. 26-28 Iowa District Optimist Convention - Davenport

Birthdays

- Aug 11 Chad Gutttau
- Aug 23 Judy Gutttau

Anniversaries

- Aug 13 Jerry & Barb Hempel
- Aug 25 Gary & Julia Funkhouser

Programs

- Aug Bill Vorthmann (first two)
Jim Clausen (last two)
- Sept Jordan Campbell
- Oct Gary Gutttau

Speakers

- Aug 13 Joel Beyenhof, new Treynor Superintendent
- Aug 20 Nani from Metro Area Youth Foundation
- Aug 27 Denise Wilson, Youth Leader SPY

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