,,The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
**Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109**
**Iowa District Governor: Sue Wunsch**

**Lt Governor: Susan Enewold, CB**

**NEWSLETTER**

Treynor Optimist Club President:
**Dale Willenborg**

Sept. 6, 2025 Vol. 41, No.35

**Ryan Stumbo, Treynor teacher and coach**



Ryan Stumbo was introduced by Steve Irvin as one of Treynor's outstanding teachers saying we are fortunate to have good young teachers. It was announced yesterday that Treynor retained 95% of its teachers from last year.

Ryan and family bought a house on Countryside. Ryan grew up in Lorenz and his wife grew up on a farm outside Albert City. They both graduated from Simpson College, where he was on the basketball team, and have a son, 8, and a daughter, 2.

Ryan taught at Okoboji nine years prior to coming to Treynor, where he is starting his fourth year. Ryan's wife has been able to develop her photography business and creative marketing skills in the nearby metro area.

At Treynor, Ryan teaches world history to all sophomores plus elective semester classes: psychology, street law, US wars and conflicts, modern issues. The number of students keeps growing that are interested in these electives.

Okoboji School is similar to Treynor in many ways, Ryan stated, "But Treynor is a teacher's dream." He also shared his philosophy about teaching history. Stories, facts, dates only scratch the surface. He tries to motivate the students to see more depth, connecting people to humanity and society, their strengths, weaknesses, vulnerabilities and emotional connections so you see the relevance. He likes to connect important lessons to today, challenging them to think in deeper ways. He uses activities and technology to help them develop skills to see and navigate for themselves.

Many questions were asked which he discussed – one was about sharing the Army's 250th celebration on tv in edited version with students. He stated it is a blessing for us to reap so much from the sacrifices. The wars class leads to perfect discussions for this.

When asked how he manages political questions as a teacher, he said, "Very carefully." As an educator he tries to be as objective and neutral as he can be but straightforward with the kids and the issues. He feels it is not his job to teach the students what to think, but to teach the best approach of thinking about complicated, political situations. He works to be fair, giving examples on both sides of the spectrum. Kids can take those thoughts and make their own opinions.

Regarding AI, his opinion is that artificial intelligence is the next big tech thing. It can be a blessing, but scary. It's a huge, huge thing. Kids are "more techy" and have it figured out. Teachers using AI in the right balance can make them better teachers, but for the kids we don't want to allow AI to do everything for them. Will AI step up and start to take over teaching? He hopes not. He concluded by saying, "You can't replace the human interaction and emotional connections."

Other questions asked and discussed were: the name change of Dept of Defense, his wife's career, coaching Treynor's boys' basketball, managing time, living in these times, cell phone use at school, and using media center resources.

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**Next Week's Program**
**Byron Menke**

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**Famous Quote:**

**"Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can."**

**Arthur Ashe**

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## Meeting Minutes

Dale Willenborg, President, called the meeting to order at Zion Congregational Church. 16 members were present. Our guest was our speaker, Ryan Stumbo.

**Prayer:** Jordan Campbell

**Jokes**: Dale Willenborg, Keith Denton

**50/50:** Dee Guttau

**Attendance**: Kirk Vorthmann, but he was unable to claim.

**Football Pool:** Jim Clausen has set it up this week.

**Birthdays/Anniversaries:** Dick Fox stated his oldest daughter, Amy, is 57 today and they will celebrate tomorrow in Lincoln.

Ken Graham shared that his son, Kedryn Graham had a birthday, works for UNO, and got engaged.

**Bragging Rights**: (Dollars are contributed to benefit local youth programs.)

- Chad Guttau announced the Lincoln Reagan dinner will be on Oct. 23 at the Treynor Community Center.
- Steve Irvin said he's giving his weekly cross country report: His granddaughter finished 8th in a tougher competition in So. Dakota, but she had a better time. She was excited her team finished third, beating Sioux City East, a much larger school than hers which is Siouxland Christian. (Jordan Campbell reported he sees Keith Denton's granddaughter run through Treynor lots of mornings – very FAST.)
- Dick Fox stated his wife's second oblation was ten days ago to get her heart back in rhythm, and she was in and out in less than 2.5 hrs. She is doing great.
- Dick stated he had 8" of rain in August and 3" this month (which may have been August too.)
- Judy Guttau shared that she and Mick attended Brock Fox's first football game last weekend. Augustana won and he played well.
- Gary Guttau said their new garage floor was done by Hello Garage and looks fantastic.

**Community News:**

- Chuck Killion, our former Treynor Mayor, has passed at the age of 86. Cake/bars from the funeral luncheon were shared today.
- Gary Guttau stated the Class of 1955 will have a float in the parade (their 70th year). His class had the first homecoming. Miss Neunaber said it was the second year of football so she felt they needed homecoming.
- The Superintendent's Input Meeting at the high school is held usually the first Friday of the month from 7-8 AM. If interested in attending, reach out to Supt. Beyenhof. Dale Willenborg stated that Travis Castle shared this week at the meeting about the expected housing development in The T.
- Treynor Homecoming Theme: "Around the World" (Conquering the world one win at a time.)
    - 11-1 @ Zion- burgers, brats, hot dogs
    - 1:00 Pep Rally- Athletic Complex
    - 1:45 Parade
    - After parade – 4 PM – green space west of bank – Treynor's Tomorrow Community Engagement Committee sponsoring activities, refreshments
    - 3-4:30 – Cardinal Combine – at FB field
    - 5-7 – St. Paul Lutheran Preschool Tailgate Fundraiser – BBQ Pork, hotdog, chips, dessert, drink.

**BUSINESS:**

- Can Kennel sorting will be next week after the meeting (Sat., Sept. 13) to help the Cub Scouts. John Klein said this is a young, small group so many helpers will make the process of sorting two weeks of cans quicker. Reminder no Gator Ade bottles, and just redeemable cans and bottles make it easier.
- Flags will be taken down Saturday, Sept. 20, after the meeting. Volunteers needed.

**Events this week:**

- **Sat. Sept. 6** – Girls/Boys Cross Country - IWCC
- **Mon. Sept. 8 –** JV Football vs. IKM @ Treynor
- **Tues. Sept. 9 –** Girls/Boys Cross Country @ TRA
- **Wed. Sept. 10 –** 8-8:15 AM TeamMates Mtg
- **Thurs. Sept. 11 –** Blood Drive – 11:30-5:30 Comm. Center
- **Thurs. Sept. 11-**Girls VB vs Log-Mag @ L-M

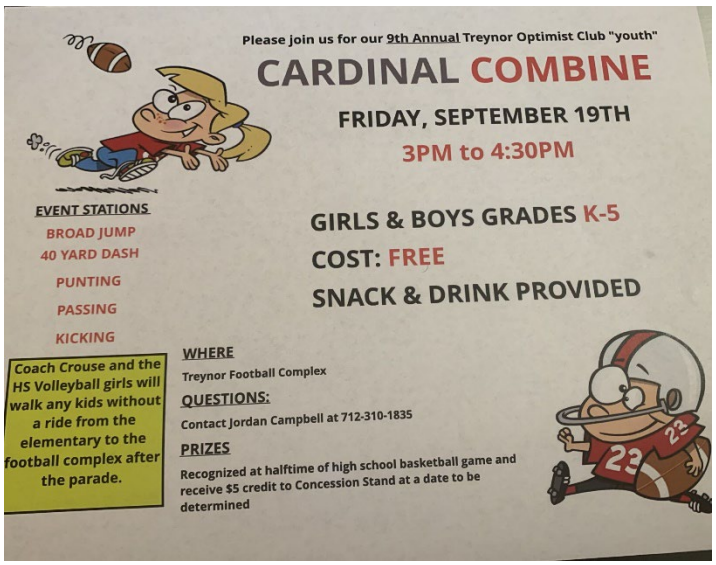
- **Thurs. Sept. 11**-7/8th Football vs AHSTW@ AHSTW
- **Fri. Sept. 12 –** FB vs Pella Christian @ Treynor
- **Sat. Sept. 13 –** Volleyball Tourn @ S. Central Calhoun.

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**Coming Events:**

- **Treynor Fall Farmers Market** – Tuesdays, Sept.16, 23, 30, Oct. 7, 14- 5:30-7:00 PM
- **Fri. Sept. 19 -** Treynor Homecoming vs Shenandoah Mustangs
- **Fri. Sept. 19** – Cardinal Combine -see flyer below.
- **Sat., Oct. 4 –** Treynor City Wide Garage Sale
- **Sun., Oct. 12 –** 8 AM – 12:30 PM. Legion Pancake Breakfast

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.




## HUMOR




## CALENDAR

**Events:**

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| Sept. 13 | Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM, Treynor Community Center |

**Birthdays:**

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| Sept 16 | John Klein |
| Sept 22 | Dee Guttau |

**Anniversaries:**

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| Sept 24 | Phil & Jan Waggoner |
| Sept 26 | Bill & Ann Vorthmann |

**Programs:**

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| September | Jim Clausen (1st/2nd Sat.) |
| | Bill Vorthmann (3rd/4th Sat.) |
| October | Jordan Campbell (1st/2nd Sat.) |
| | Dee Guttau (3rd/4th Sat.) |
| November | Jerry Hempel (1st/2nd Sat.) |
| | Linda Danker (3rd/4th Sat.) |
| | Judy Guttau (5th Sat.) |
| December | Mick and Judy Guttau |

**Speakers**

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| Sept. 13 | Byron Menke |
| Sept. 20 | Derrick Stevie, Treynor Math Teacher |
| Sept. 27 | SPY – St. Paul Youth about their Mission Trip to N. Carolina. Meet at St. Paul and breakfast will be served to the Optimists. |

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Dues/Donations/Flag Money: Mail to Optimist Club of Treynor, PO Box 354, Treynor, IA 5157