,,The Optimist Club of Treynor, Treynor, IA
Iowa District, Zone 2 Club Number 40-109
Iowa District Governor: Jane Schmidt

Lt Governor: George Volz

NEWSLETTER

Treynor Optimist Club President:
Dale Willenborg

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The Wall That Heals

Kate Gerber, Public Relations Manager in Pott. Co. and Brad Powell, Veteran Volunteer, were present to share their excitement about the traveling exhibit, **"The Wall That Heals"** coming to Pottawattamie County, **Friday, May 22 to Monday May 25, 2026. It is FREE.**

The exhibit is a traveling replica (3/4 size) of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, DC. Standing at 375 feet long, it honors the more than 58,000 service members who made the ultimate sacrifice in Vietnam. This Wall is more accessible as it travels around the country. There are still lots of veterans and families that need closure. It's an opportunity to also connect generations through shared history and community remembrance.

This is the first time the display has come to Pott. Co. Only three communities in Iowa will host the display. The display will be located at the **Lewis Central Soccer Field** south of the Lewis Central Football Field. (3504 Harry Langdon Blvd, Council Bluffs). After the opening on Thursday evening, it will be open 24 hrs./day until it departs on Memorial Day, closing at 2 PM.

Volunteers are needed for all types of jobs – set-up on Thursday, May 21 and take-down on Monday, May 25, to answer questions, work in tent areas, assist the public with looking through the binders to seek a certain person's name. Volunteers will receive a shirt and be fed.

There will be a motorcade that starts in Avoca on May 20 to escort the wall to Lewis Central. Motorcycle riders are needed. A bugle/cornet player is also needed.

On Friday May 22, there will be a Welcome Home Ceremony. The Wall will be available rain or shine. There will be a Local Heroes exhibit which will provide the special paper and pencils needed to copy names on the wall.

Scan the QR code to volunteer and for more info. You may also call 712-328-5797 or stop by at 623 6th Ave., CB.

Kate also shared about the **Veterans Resource Festival** happening **Sat., April 25 from 10 AM to 3 PM** in the parking area at the **Veterans Service Office (VSO) at 623 6th Ave, Council Bluffs.** It's a day of food, games and information. Representatives from over 30 organizations will be on site with information on education, mental health, employment assistance, physical wellbeing, legal assistance, federal and state benefits, and more.

There will be coffee, tea, and donuts from J's food trailer. The Smash Bites food truck will be on site as well.

Come out and see the Hansen House Model T, the Spirit of Iowa Tribute Bell, an art demonstration by New Century Art Guild, therapy animals from Grace Gate Farm, and more.

There will be a raffle to benefit the VSO food pantry. Bring one pound of frozen meat to receive one raffle ticket for prizes.

Games will be hosted by the 712 Block Party trailer as well as baked goods, and local entertainers.

Kate also shared that Pott Co. Veterans Service Office has a **Mobile Office** route throughout Pott Co. and in 2026 during **April will be in Treynor on Thursdays and in November on Tuesdays.**

There is an article in the Nonpareil today (Sat.) about **Veterans Treatment Court**. Brad Powell shared more about that program and is working with a third veteran to graduate. The article stated there have now been eight veterans to graduate.

We would love to have YOU consider joining our local Optimist Club if you are not a member. Call Dale Willenborg or text 402-651-1634 for more information. www.treynoroptimist.org

Next week's speakers:
D.J. Walton & Dan Kinsella – Treynor boys and girls wrestling programs

Inspirational Quote:

"Keep your face always toward the sunshine, and shadows will fall behind you."

Walt Wiltman

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Center. Eleven members were present. We had 4 guests –Kate Gerber and daughter, Brad Powell, and Michael Holton.

Prayer: Judy Guttau

Jokes: Keith Denton, Ken Graham, John Klein

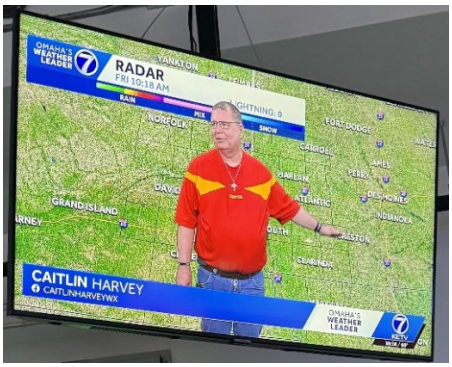
50/50: Glenrose Meier

Attendance: Josh Guttau, but he was not present.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Glenrose Meier paid to honor her daughter's birthday.

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

- Mike Holton: He's been in Treynor as the city's administrator for 6 years. Thank you!
- John Klein: The Pops Concert Thursday night was successful with talented children vocally and instrumentally performing. Instead of having the event in the gym with a dinner, it was held in the Theater and large cups of popcorn were served with various candies, etc. to mix in. It was well attended.
- Chad Guttau: He bought four raffle tickets at the Master Gardeners event last Saturday and won all four prizes!!
- Dick Fox:His youngest daughter lives near Gothenburg, NE and have had fire all week around their house and fences. Water has been put on the roof and the grass (which turned to ice). Last night the wild fires are 94% contained but is still burning around their house. Animals have all been saved.
- Dick Fox: His granddaughter is 6 ft. and plays basketball for Gothenburg. Both Boys/Girls went to the state tournament. Both teams placed third. His granddaughter played against a 6'4" girl. They lost by 4 points.
- Gary Guttau: Over 500 kids from Treynor went to Open Door Mission Friday to help in various ways – washing cars, cleaning around fences, escorting kids to the zoo. Channel 7 news featured the activity this morning (Sat.).
- Keith Denton and Dale Willenborg: For the newsletter that Judy writes.
- Judy Guttau, Kevin Underwood, Marsha Underwood: For the great tour Friday of the Burlington Railroad Building, home of KETV yesterday which was arranged by John Klein.



Chad Guttau got to play weatherman and several others tried it out as well.

Business:

- Can kennel sorting for JOI Club (Jr. Optimist International) and KKA (Keep Kids Alive) will be Wed. Apr. 8 after school at 2 PM.
- Mulch Madness is planned for Friday, May 8. Bret McVey is leading this project.
- John Klein stated the Swim Lessons at Lewis Central will be June 15-18 and June 22-25. The bus will leave at 11:30 AM and return at 1 PM. The lessons are for children K-5. Thirty children may sign up. The cost is $75/child. Mrs. Donham, Treynor Elementary Secretary, is happy to take registrations.
- Gary Guttau will check on the scholarship applications at the school on Monday. Volunteers to review are: Gary, Dale Willenborg, John Klein, and Bill Vorthmann.

Community Events:

- **Sun. Mar. 29:** Easter Egg Hunt- 2 PM @ Palace Event Center sponsored by JTW
- **Wed. Mar. 25**: WIDA quarterly business gathering at Palace Event Center for budding and young entrepreneurs. 4-6 PM
- **Wed. Mar.25:** Public invited to Underwood for evening meeting of officials of rural communities to learn more about each town.
- **Mon. Mar. 30:** Legion Fish Fry 5:30-7 PM
- **Sun. April 5**: Easter
- **Kelsey Stupfell** sent the following link to consider donating to the Treynor Teacher Fund:
  Celebrate our Lucky Ducks! (8.5 x 11 in)

Events this week in Treynor and some away if indicated:

- **Mon. Mar. 23:** WIC HS Instrument Fest/ J/H Honor Band @ Treynor 7 PM
- **Tues. Mar 24:** NHS Blood Drive 8AM-2 PM @ High School
  Tues. Mar 24: V G/B Track @ Simpson
- **Thur. Mar. 26:** 2nd grade Music Prog. 6:30
  3rd grade Music Prog. 7:30 PM
- **Fri. Mar 27**: Out at 2 PM, End of 3rd Qtr
  Fri. **Mar 27**: V G/B Soccer @ Lewis Central
- **Sat. Mar 28**: V G/B track @ SD State University

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

CALENDAR

Events:

Mar 28	Optimist Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM, Treynor Community Center
April 8	Can Kennel Sorting for JOI Club and KKA

Birthdays:

Anniversaries:

Programs:

March	John Klein
April	Chad Guttau
May	Ken Graham (1st,2nd Sat)
	Jeff Jorgensen (3rd,4th Sat)

Speakers:

Mar. 28	D.J. Walton & Dan Kinsella – Treynor boys and girls wrestling programs
Apr. 4	Wendy Andersen, Splash Pad update, etc.
Apr 11	TBA
Apr 18	MaryAnn Hanusa
Apr 25	TBA

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