,,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

May 16, 2026 Vol. 42, No.20

Matt Wyant, County Director



The Office of Planning and Development, which Matt Wyant leads, contains three divisions: Zoning and Land Use Division, Building Division, and Public Health Division. Responsibilities include zoning and subdivision ordinance, building code, flood plain management, onsite wastewater treatment and disposal (septic), private water well, uniform rural addressing, plugging abandoned wells, and working in partnership to protect all of Pott. Co. residents' health.

An election season topic is how the county plans to grow for both commercial and residential. Pott. Co. is business friendly. Residents hear what things don't go well, such as someone having the desire to open a bar on a gravel road or wanting to hold concerts in the middle of a residential area. One of the more positive land use projects is 26 acres that a developer is building for a small business industrial park in the Lewis Central area which would provide 300 jobs with national companies moving in. The property went from a $2 million valuation to $28 million.

The county is trying to recruit new housing developers to move into the area and help current developers to come up with new ideas. Our land value is high. Houses in the urban area of Pott Co. are at a $100K+ value mark and rural areas are at an $800K+ mark. Million-dollar homes are developing along Highway 92. The county is trying to lessen restrictions to gain attraction. Matt has seen the lowest levels of homes listed for sale in a long time.

The county encourages growth in communities. The Board of Supervisors work with communities to push projects for growth. Small towns have limited budgeting resources, but Treynor is an exception and sought grant fundings to build good housing in the community.

Pott. County is growing at a good rate but hasn't landed any large national corporations..yet. Our advantage is the river. Omaha is out of room to grow and out of power. OPPD can't keep up with growth and are using generators. Our side of the river has power capabilities. Midwest Energy is keeping up with growth, new power lines, and upgrading new transmission lines. The first question asked by new corporations is how much power we have.

Regarding Pott. Co. Public Health, Matt's assessment is that we are living in an interesting time. The Boomer Generation is the largest and death rates will be going up; however, birth rates are growing from the much younger generation, and that's keeping up with the death rate. People are not leaving our area. We are sitting in a good spot for population growth during the next 10–15 years. Local hospitals are making big investments in the improvement of maternity sections. The Board of Supervisors offered investment to both hospitals in Council Bluffs to have fantastic health care.

Other topics discussed: 1) Wind generators, 2) Second homes on a lot, 3) Google Data Center, 4) Road seal coats, 5) Reaching out to Costco, Fleet Farm, 6) Grand opening of new mental facility, 7) Expansion of lanes on Hwy 92, Hwy 6.

Every year, Matt has been able to come in with a budget **cut**. He doesn't want to affect the tax bill. In general, Matt stated we need to be more protective of our water resources; our downfall is the capability of sewer expansions.

Matt thanked Jeff Jorgensen for his guidance and leadership stating he has been fantastic and appreciates the budget time and is doing his best for the residents.

Thanks to Kathy Luedke for taking notes!

Next week's speaker:
To be announced

Optimistic Quote:

"Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

Warren Buffett

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Center. Thirteen members were present. Our guests were: Jeff Schnepel and Matt Wyant.

Prayer: Steve Irvin

Jokes: Dale Willenborg, Steve Chambers, John Klein, Steve Irvin

50/50: Kathy Luedke

Attendance: Gary Guttau

Auction: Big box of flavored popcorn packages donated by Jeff Jorgensen (estimated value $200), purchased by Dale Willenborg for $30.

Birthdays/Anniversaries: None

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

- Keith Denton: A grandchild graduated summa cum laude, a grandchild is a junior in high school who graduated from plumbing and now taking electrical; a grandchld is graduating and going to UNO, and granddaughter Lili is going to Univ of Texas on a full ride track scholarship.
- Glenrose Meier: The Treynor Legion held military honors at the cemetery for her husband Bob last Thursday.
- Steve Irvin: Granddaughter Hope played soccer with Sioux City North against AL this past week. She is a freshman and when introducted an AL gal trash talked her. That made her compete harder!
- Chad Guttau: His sister Lyse was home for Mother's Day and they visited their mother Dee's grave.
- John Klein: The Treynor boys and girls track teams won the district track meet. The girls have nine events and the boys eleven events qualified for state. The soccer teams did well also.
- Gary Guttau: Annual eye appointment showed mites in his eyelashes (which he's learned everyone has mites). The specialty eye drops through Walgreens cost $1000, but he is waiting to see if qualifies to pay nothing. Mites take the oil out of eyelashes and leaves eyelids dry.
- Gary Guttau: He had bladder surgery at the VA and stated the hospital was fantastic!
- Dale Willenborg: He attended Cedar Rapid's Marion School band event.
- Jeff Jorgensen: He attended the Omaha Catholic Business Group annual luncheon. He was presented with an award for his wife's past participation and getting people active in the group.

Community News:

- Jeff Schnepel, President of the Treynor Alumni Association, was present to encourage people to attend this year's banquet on Saturay, June 6 at the Treynor Community Center. The Alumni Association has existed over 100 years! The meal will be catered by Silos, and the cost is $30 per person and served at 6:30 PM. The annual meeting follows. The doors open at 5:30 PM. A cash bar is available. You can pay ahead or at the event, but please call ahead. See flyer below.

  Jeff asked for all to reach out to other alumni to attend. It's important to know the head count ahead of time. The Association is trying to get more people engaged in this event as well as community and school events. Jeff can be reached at 402-658-4867 or on Facebook. Other contacts are Jeri Schnepel: 402-677-6764, Brandon Green: 712-310-3764, Jake McKenzie: 712-326-4691. (P.S. Isn't it great that younger alumni have joined Jeri to plan this event?)
- Pat Hopes has asked to remind all that the Treynor Blood Drive will be at the Treynor Community Center on Thursday, June 11 from 11:30 AM – 5:30 PM. (See flyer at end)

- BRAND NEW INFORMATION: **Wednesday, May 20 from 2:35-2:40 PM, coming from the east through all of Treynor Hwy 92**, is when **The Wall That Heals** truck and motorcade will travel through our town. It would be great for local people and children to be along the streets waving (flags also if have) or you can stand near the Eagle Monument and Helicopter at the Treynor Community Center and park where there is plenty of parking.
  The Wall That Heals is traveling to Lewis Central's soccer field where it will be set up and on display 24 hours a day from Friday, May 22 to Monday, May 25 at 2 PM. It's FREE! It is a wonderful opportunity to visit this 75% replica of The Wall in Washington, DC. that honors the 58,000 veterans who died in the Vietnam War.

Business:

- Dale Willenborg stated flags were put up May 15 for Armed Forces Day and will stay up for Memorial Day weekend. Helpers were Dennis White, Dale Willenborg, Bill Vorthmann, Bret McVey, Dave and Linda Danker, and two high school students. It was helpful to have the markers in the footings in the yards as it speeded up the process. The date to take down flags is yet to be determined. Dale indicated he will order 150 more markers.
- On **Saturday May 23**, Optimists and friends who have signed up will **depart at 10:00 AM** by carpool or caravan from the Treynor Community Center to arrive at **The Wall That Heals at 10:30 AM** that will be at Lewis Central on their soccer field. Some have indicated they will meet us at Lewis Central. When turning from Hwy 92 onto Harry Langdon Blvd to go to Lewis Central, turn right at the first light and park as far west as you can.The soccer field is north across from the football field and is also west behind the school. We will meet our guide at the Visitor Center near or on the field. Contact Judy Guttau if you have questions at 402-670-4330.
- We will meet at TRA for our next meeting on May 23.

Community Events:

- **Wed. May 20:** The Wall That Heals travels from the east into Treynor enroute to Lewis Central for display. 2:35 PM to 2:40 PM
- **Sat. May 23:** Optimist + friends organized trip to tour The Wall That Heals display. Meet at 10. Tour at 10:30.
- **Tues. June 2:** Farmers Market begins
- **Fri., June 5:** First Food Friday
- **Sat. June 6:** Treynor Alumni & Friends Dinner/Program. 5:30 doors open, 6:30 dinner. Treynor Community Center. Jeff Schnepel is one contact to make your reservation: 402-658-4867.
- **Thurs. June 11:** Treynor Blood Drive. 11:30 AM – 5:30 PM. Treynor Community Center

School Events in Treynor & State Events

- **Mon. May 18:** JV Girls soccer vs.Tri-Center
- **Wed. May 20:** Senior Awards Night 6-7 PM
- **Wed. May 20:** Baccalaureate @ Zion 7:30-8:30 PM
- **Thurs. May 21-Sat. May 23**: State Track & Field
- **Fri. May 22**: JV/V Girls soccer vs Spencer
- **Sun**. **May 24**: Graduation 2-3 PM

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR

"Age is merely the number of year the world has been enjoying you."

Unknown

CALENDAR

Events:

May 23	Optimist Meeting 8:00-9:00 AM, Meet at TRA
May 23	10:30 AM Guided Tour of The Wall That Heals, Carpool or caravan at 10:00 AM or meet us there. Sign up with Judy Guttau

Birthdays:

May 21	Steve Irvin
May 27	Kirk Vorthmann

Anniversaries: None

Programs:

May	Jeff Jorgensen (3rd,4th Sat)
	John Klein (5th Sat.)
June	Steve Irvin (1st,2nd Sat)
	Judy Guttau (3rd.4th Sat)

July	July 4 – no meeting July 11 – Open for a Speaker Phil Waggoner (3rd, 4th Sat)

Speakers:

May 23	To be announced
May 30	Cody Abbott, Manager of Home Depot (to be honored)
June 6	Tracy Petersen: Treynor High School Teacher who teaches Sports Marketing, Entrepreneurship, Accounting, Careers/Finance, Work Based Learning
June 13	Steve Irvin, Secretary/Treasurer of the Southwest Iowa Educational Foundation
June 20	Kelsey Stupfell, Treynor Teacher Grants recipients and Treynor Tomorrows Update
June 27	4th Grade Invention Convention – State Participants
July 4	Holiday - No Meeting
July 11	Open for a Speaker

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



