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,,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

Sept 5, 2026 Vol. 42, No.35

Grant Fischer – Agri Vision Internship



Grant Fischer, a 2026 Treynor High School graduate and son of Shawn and Laura Fischer, recently shared his unique experience and future career plans involving AgriVision Equipment Group in Macedonia.

Although Grant did not grow up on a farm, his interest in agriculture began at age 12 while visiting the farm of his classmate, Corey Eitmann. Seeing hay and cornstalk baling operations sparked a new passion especially after being given the opportunity to run a baler for a row.

By age 16, Grant knew he wanted to work in agriculture and remain in southwest Iowa. In 2024, Treynor High School Career Guidance Counselor Jenny Berens encouraged him to attend a career day at AgriVision in Macedonia. Grant said he was immediately fascinated by the large pieces of equipment being serviced and rebuilt. He later participated in a job shadowing experience, where he was able to assist technicians at AgriVision.

Last fall, AgriVision launched its own technician training program in partnership with PrairieLand Partners to provide an accelerated approach focused on traditional fundamentals and modern technology. Previously, technicians were sent to Milford, NE for training.

The hands-on training facility is located near CFI Tires in Council Bluffs, and classroom instruction is conducted through Iowa Western Community College. Each year, only 16 candidates are selected from a highly competitive applicant pool.

Participants work 36 hours per week and earn $19 per hour, even while attending classes. The program is tuition-free and includes housing and meals through IWCC. Students receive their own tools, share a toolbox during training, and are provided with a computer. Students must maintain at least an 80% grade in every course.

Upon graduation, participants receive ownership of their own toolbox and tools and are virtually guaranteed employment within the AgriVision organization, which operates stores throughout the Midwest. Students come from communities across several Midwestern states to participate. In return, graduates commit to a three-year employment agreement with AgriVision; otherwise, the cost of the tools and toolbox must be repaid.

Grant noted the remarkable results of the program, citing fellow Treynor graduate Jack Vorthmann, who was only 90 days out of the program and already helping tear down combines at an AgriVision store.

“It's cool to see kids 19-20 years old at AgriVision having the knowledge and know-how from going through the 10-month training of a 30-year-old who just had work training,” Grant said.

Grant believes his own success in being selected for the program was due in part to his one-and-a-half to two years of prior intern work experience with AgriVision, the relationships he built within the company, and his willingness to work hard and make a positive impression. The application process included both testing and interviews.

He emphasized that graduates may not know how to repair every problem immediately, but they learn how to locate information and troubleshoot effectively. Starting wages for graduates can reach $25.50 per hour, with additional incentive opportunities available. Continuing education is strongly encouraged.

Grant's story highlighted an opportunity available to young people which can lead to rewarding career paths close to home.

Next week's speaker:
Michael Holton, Treynor City Administrator

Positive Quote:
"In every life we have some trouble, but when you worry you make it double."

Bobby McFerrin

Meeting Minutes

President Dale Willenborg called the meeting to order at the Treynor Community Center. Seventeen members were present. Guests included Grant Fischer and Treynor Boy Scouts and leaders.

Prayer: Judy Guttau

Jokes: Keith Denton, Dale Willenborg, Judy Guttau

50/50: Kirk Vorthmann

Attendance: Glenrose Meier

Birthdays/Anniversaries: Sept. 5 is the anniversary of when John Klein met his wife Carol at Iowa State University.

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

- Dick Fox: His granddaughter is 18 today and they are going to drive to see her.
- Dick Fox: He has ornaental foot long green beans growing like crazy and even up the peach tree eight ft. in the air. He also stated six families came three weeks ago and cleaned the one tree of 4000 peaches.
- Judy Guttau: Her brother's grandson was named starting quarterback for Fresno State University. The game against #14 ranked USC was pretty ugly, but the family will continue to support Jayden and the Bulldogs.
- Judy Guttau: Today granddaughter Emmersen Fox is performing as a captain of the Color Guard with the 400+ member band in the first football game of the season at Kansas State. She is a junior.
- Glenrose Meier: She was asked to make a Crown Royal quilt for a fundraiser at a Catholic Elementary School in Danberry, where her husband Bob attended. 170 things were auctioned last Sunday. The quilt brought $1200. She also made a Crown Royal table runner that went for $500 and 16 coasters went for $300.
- Gary Guttau: He is healing well from having surgery to remove cancer spots on his temple and cheek. He expected two stitches but he was surprised when the bandage was removed Sunday that there were many more.
- Chad Guttau: His nephew Owen had surgery on his nose.
- Keith Denton: Lili Denton ran in a cross country meet and she was pleased to come in third for the Longhorns in Texas.

Business:

- Dale Willenborg circulated a newsletter from Optimist International. requesting names of members who served in the military.
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L.R.: Charlie Wilcox, Mason Wilson, Thomas Biederman, Jacoby Mullen, Dale Willenborg

A group of alalBoy Scouts received a check for their Can Kennel sorting of $1357.50. The money will be used for future campouts. This summer they camped in tents at Medicine Mountain Scout Ranch in South Dakota. There are 8 boys in their pack troop.

- Flags will be put up today Sat. Sept. 5 after the meeting and the Scouts are helping.
- Next week Sat., Sept. 12 at 9:15 AM the Music Boosters will have the can kennel. There is usually a large group, but volunteers are also needed.
  They will also do a sorting on Sat., Sept. 26.
- In addition, the Optimists will pick up the flags after the meeting next Sat., Sept. 12 at 9:15 AM. Dale mentioned he would ask if there are extra helpers from JOI Club.
- Our meeting next week will be in the large room at the Treynor Community Center.
- A thank you from Lilly Yochum was received for her Optimist scholarship.

Community:

- REV applications are due Thurs. Sept 10 for a pitch competition offering entrepreneurs and business owners the chance to win up to $19,500 and 'ignite their business.' Learn more or apply for this year's REV competition here.
  Share with any entrepreneurial friends and aspiring small business owners!
- Pat Hopes asked to announce: The American Red Cross Blood Drive is Thursday, Sept. 10 at the Treynor Community Center.

Community Events:

- **Thurs. Sept 10:** Blood Drive in Treynor by American Red Cross. 11:30-5:30 Community Center. Call1-800-733-2767 to make appointment.
- **Thurs. Sept. 10: REV** applications due (see Community news)
- **Fri. Sept. 25**: St. Paul Lutheran **free** tail gate before Underwood football game.
- **Sun**. **Sept. 27:** Treynor Fall Farmers Market 10-2
- **Sat**. **Oct. 3:** Treynor City-Wide Cleanup
- **Fri., Oct. 9:** Treynor City-Wide Cleanup
- **Fri., Oct. 9:** St. Paul Pre-school tail gate (**A fundraiser**) before Red Oak football game.

School Events in Treynor:

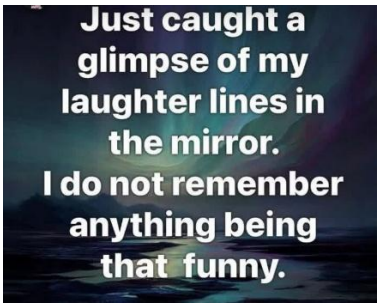
- **Mon. Sept. 7:** Labor Day – No School
- **Tues. Sept. 8:** 8th grade FB vs Red Oak 4:15 PM
  Tues. Sept. 8: 7th grade FB vs Red Oak 5:15 PM
  Tues. Sept. 8: V Girls & Boys, JH Cross Country
- **Wed. Sept. 9**: School out at 2 PM. Picture Day
- **Fri., Oct. 9:** Homecoming

AUCTION:

- Foot long green beans and cherry tomatoes donated by Dick Fox were bought by Ken Graham.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

HUMOR



OPTIMIST CALENDAR

Events:	
Sept. 12	Meeting 8-9 AM, Treynor Comm Center
Sept. 12	9:15 AM Can Kennel sorting Music Boosters
Sept. 12	9:15 AM Flag Pick up
Sept. 26	9:15 AM Can Kennel sorting Music Boosters
Birthdays:	
Sept 16	John Klein
Anniversaries:	
Sept. 24	Phil and Jan Waggoner
Sept. 26	Bill and Ann Vorthmann
Programs:	
September	Jim Clausen (1st, 2nd Sat)
	Bill Vorthmann (3rd, 4th Sat)
October	Judy Guttau
Speakers:	
Sept 12	Mike Holton, City Administrator
Sept 19	Dr. Richard Warner, Pott. Co. Historical Society
Sept 26	TBA
October	A series of talks this month by members to get to know them better:
Oct. 3	Ken Graham will be first!
Oct. 10	Steve Chambers
Oct. 17	Dennis White
Oct. 24	John Klein
Oct. 31	Judy Guttau

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