

# HIGHLIGHTS

## Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

**Celebrating over 60 years of service to Youth & North Topeka!**

The Tuesday morning meeting of the Sunrise Optimist Club was at the Sunrise Optimist Event Center. President Kyle McNorton called the meeting to order at 6:45 AM with 24 club members attending. Don Pekrul gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BIRTHDAYS:** No birthdays!

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**North Topeka News:** David Jackson reported the former Meier's Market property on Lower Silver Lake Road is for sale. There are 5 building permits for houses.

President Kyle was fishing last week but presented no evidence of success.

Board meeting is rescheduled for June 20th.

Baseball games require many hours for field preparation due to frequent rains. The concession stand needs volunteers: June 16, 22 & 23 and last week of June. Show up at 5:30 pm weeknights. Great opportunity for volunteer hours for youth. Lloyd Becker has filled in many times.

July 28, 37<sup>th</sup> Annual Bob Cutter Golf Classic at Great Life - Lake Perry.

Volunteers are needed:  
Friday make sandwiches; calling former tee box ad donors; set-up & tear down. No skill required for teams. That makes for a fun event!

**Program:** Bill Persinger, Executive Director of Valeo Mental Health Center. He was born in Bermuda as his father was in the military and later as Highway Patrol officer. Bill has worked a total of 50 years at 4 mental health centers. After WWII and Rx drugs, we replaced state hospitals with community outpatient services. Valeo has 350 employees and \$27 million budget (city property tax, liquor tax, state grants, and insurance) to provide 24/7 availability. Stormont Vail provides short term inpatient care. Valeo's main office parking lot is empty because workers are in the community. In collaboration with other city & county services, a Mobile Access Program (MAP) has served 1,300 persons. A shower trailer has 2 bathrooms. In addition, the Rescue Mission brings a truck to serve hot meals and clothing. MAP is available twice/week and also provides veterinary, medical and mental health services.

**Upcoming Events:**

**June 20:** Brian Boutz, Capital City Barbershop Quartet

**June 27:** Viking Grille meeting, Stumpy's Meat & Cheese by Quint & Stacy Cook

**President Quote:**

"The difference between a successful person and others is not a lack of strength or knowledge but rather lack of will."

- Vince Lombardi



**NORTH TOPEKA**  
Meetings: Every  
Tuesday 6:45 AM  
720 NW 50<sup>th</sup> St, Topeka