

# 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 Optimist Event Center. President Tim McCoy called the meeting to order at 6:45 AM with 19 club members present. Don Pekar gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Charles Nicolay, January 2; Linda Lanning, January 5; Jim Andrews, January 7. No one present for birthday song.

Charles Nicolay is 90 yrs old and birthday celebration at 2:00 pm, Sunday, January 10, at Pleasant Hill United Methodist church.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**New club member:** Seaman Supt. Brad Wilson is a former member of the Spring Hill Optimist club.

**Christmas Trees, "Trees for Tots":** 27 trees not sold were taken to Topeka Zoo. Don Pekar worked the lot many times. Lloyd Becker took down lights & t-posts before a crew arrived to clean up the lot.

**Basketball registration** has ended and 210 players signed up. Games begin January 13 for six weeks. Included are teams from Jeff West, Silver Lake, Royal Valley & Washburn Rural.

**Sports Complex News:** Purchase contract is scheduled for approval at the February 14 school board meeting.

**Optimist Essay Contest:** January 30

**Optimist Oratorical Contest:** February 6

**Optimist Club Board meeting:** 5:45 pm, January 2, 2024

**Program:** Irene Haws, Community Blood Donation Program, 785-249-1913, [www.topekalions.org](http://www.topekalions.org) 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm, Friday, February 2 at Fairlawn Plaza Mall

**Medical Eligibility Questions:** 1-800-688-0900

Irene scheduled this year's event after the successful event in 2023. In 2023, 39 donors participated. Persons, age 65 and older, are the primary blood donors.

In 2024, there are six community service groups participating: Civitan, Lions, Kiwanis, Optimist, Rotary and Sertoma.

### **Upcoming Events:**

**January 9:** Dan Hawkins, Speaker of the House, Kansas Representatives

**January 16:** Students of the Month

**President's Quote:** "One of the things I learned the hard way was that it doesn't pay to get discouraged. Keeping busy and making optimism a way of life can restore your faith in yourself."

- Lucille Ball

