

# 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 Tim McCoy called the meeting to order at 6:45 AM with 20 club members and a guest present. Don Pekrul gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Sunrise Optimists celebrating a birthday this week are : Dennis Richter & Lee Wallace, both on Sept 7<sup>th</sup>. Neither were in attendance, but Dennis Reedy, who missed last week's meeting was, and his birthday was August 29<sup>th</sup>. The birthday choir sang heartily but not in tune.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Installation of a new south entrance glass door to the Optimist Event Center is completed. All that is left is the drywall. Thanks to the crew headed up by Mike Bates.

**North Topeka News:** Dave Jackson reported that HME's concrete construction covers 10 acres.

Football games have started with some Sunday games. The league has increased to 628 players. There are teams from Rossville, Royal Valley and Silver Lake. Volleyball starts in two weeks with golf and basketball soon after.

**Officer Installation**

**Dinner:** See attached flyer for important information.  
RSVP Mike Bates,  
[bluesjazzman3@gmail.com](mailto:bluesjazzman3@gmail.com)

**Program:** Rich Tarwater,  
Tarwater Farm & Home  
Supply

Rich has worked in retail farm and home supply products for 45 years. He loved working retail, felt it was a privilege and an honor and believed in supporting local business. Several employees were Seaman graduates. Faith guided his work and family. Each business expansion began with prayer. He retired in December 2023 and his son and daughter now own the business.

His parents moved to Hoyt in 1972 and he graduated from Royal Vally in 1982. His dad bought the small gas station in 1978 at the current location of Tarwater's. Rich started out pumping gas, airing up tires, and washing car windows at age 14. His first customer chewed him out as was deserved.

When his dad retired in 1997, he got a loan from Silver Lake bank without collateral. Tarwater's also has a grain elevator in North Topeka which holds products purchased from area farmers who purchased seed from Tarwater's. By 2013, expansions included several buildings and a large parking lot covering the original gas station site. In 2019, Tarwater's purchased Holton Farm and Home.

**Upcoming Events:**

**September 10:** Optimist Club Bylaws

**September 17:** Recognition of the Students of the Month

**President's Quote:** "You can, you should and if you're brave enough to start, you will."

- Stephen King  
(author)



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



# Sunrise Optimist Installation Dinner

*Join us for dinner, presentation  
of awards, and installation of  
officers.*

*Lasagna meal provided by Olive  
Garden. Beverages are BYOB.*

03 October 2024 (Thursday)  
Sunrise Event Center

5:30pm Social hour  
6:30pm Dine  
7pm Program begins

RSVP to Mike Bates at  
[bluesjazzman3@gmail.com](mailto:bluesjazzman3@gmail.com)  
by 26 September

# WANTED:

**Original Handmade Craft Vendors**

**for the:**

*Annual*  
*“Made from the Heart”*  
*Holiday Craft Fair*



**Saturday, November 2, 2024**

**9:00 AM – 4:00 PM**

**Sunrise Optimist Event Center**

**720 NW 50<sup>th</sup> Street**

(North across NW 50<sup>th</sup> Street from Seaman High School)

**Booth space prices: \$45 & \$55**

