

# 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 15 club members and guests present. Lloyd Becker gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

**BIRTHDAYS:** Linda Lanning, January 5. She was not present. The birthday choir awaits next year's singing.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

**North Topeka news:** Dave Jackson reported via text message that Stumpy's Cheese is relocating to the former Florist shop, Heaven Scent building, next to the Pad on North Topeka Blvd.

Club needs someone to run the Concession Stand during the club's youth baseball league next Summer.

Next board meeting is January 13.

February 1, Club Pancake Feed during club's basketball league games.

February 28, 1:00 – 5:00 pm, Community Blood Bank Drive at Westridge Mall.

Community Christmas party sponsored by the club, December 20. Home Depot provided building projects. Hallmark Cards distributed greeting cards. Children in foster care served by KVC attended. Santa mingled with over 100 persons in attendance. An indoor snowball fight was a unique event.

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

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Mike Bates installed folding doors for the interior closet of the Event Center.

**Program:** Wade Gerstner, Owner and General Manager, MSC Radio Group (Many Signals Communications)

Wade grew up in Wakeeney and has worked in radio for 30 years at various locations in Kansas and Nebraska. He started play by play sports announcing while shooting baskets on his parent's driveway as a kid. He always loved sports and learned that radio was his preferred choice over TV. He learned that the more you know is how to thrive and remain marketable. He also learned that sales were required. Starting in 2006, he owned several radio stations in northeast Kansas. These stations covered high school athletic games for several different small towns. He hosted a sports talk radio show at a sports bar in Omaha. He has also broadcasted college games. He moved to Topeka in 2024 and is part owner of six-station radio group, including 96.9 FM Pulse Radio. His stations have earned radio station of the year for small markets and himself as broadcaster of the year.

**Upcoming Events:**

**January 7:** Jim McCollough, Doorstep

**January 14:** Larry Mah, Retired Shawnee County Treasurer.

**President's Quote:** "To the question whether I am a pessimist or an optimist, I answer that my knowledge is pessimistic but my willing and hoping are optimistic."

- Albert Schweister  
 (physician, philosopher)