

HIGHLIGHTS

Newsletter of the Sunrise Optimist Club

Celebrating over 50 years of service to Youth & North Topeka!

President Ernie Douglas rang the bell and called the meeting to order at 6:45 AM. Thurman Hiller gave the invocation. Then we recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

BIRTHDAYS: No birthdays this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Lloyd Becker reported that we sold over 200 trees and the lot will be shut down today. He thanked a number of people who worked many hours.

Toys for Tots Christmas Community Party, 6-8 pm, Dec 16, Optimist Activity Bldg: 70 kids from 42 low income families in Seaman schools enjoyed, Papa Murphy's pizza, photo booth, Santa with Combat Vets group.

Wedding Reception/Party for Dan Lill Casual attire. Ugly Christmas sweaters encouraged. December 22, 6 – 11 PM, Optimist Activity Bldg

PROGRAM, December 18: Pam Evans, Public Relations & Marketing Director, Family Service & Guidance Center, www.FSGCtopeka.com 785-232-5005

Children and adolescents and their families receive mental health services to address the impact of trauma, suicide, depression, anxiety and violence. Staff provide consultation to teachers and receive referrals from school programs.

Youth suicide prevention focuses on talking to students. Students will talk to their peers usually

rather than adults. Suicide: Talk about it. Save a life.

There is an open invitation for a monthly boxed lunch event for adults to learn about youth mental health issues. This is not a fundraising event.

In 2017, 11,021 children, adolescents and families were served with 4,833 engaged in direct clinical services. 68% of the families lived at, near or below the poverty level. There are 240 staff providing services. The main location is adjacent to Midland Hospice in the buildings of the former Menninger Children's clinic, 327 SW Frazier.

Private insurance generates 83.5% of the program income, 9.6% state funds & 3.2% county funds. State funding has been reduced every year since 2008. In 2017, the Kansas Legislature increased funding but not to 2008 level.

Valeo provides mental health services to adults.

Looking Ahead:

December 25 & January 1: No meetings!
January 8, 2019: Rachel Wilson, Whole House Primary Care Clinic in Meriden

Drawings this week:

Weekly: Ed Albert Progressive: #23
Steve Ebberts



President's Quote: "Only through experience of trial and suffering can the soul be strengthened, ambition inspired and success achieved."
-Helen Keller

Closed with the
OPTIMIST CREED



Sunrise Optimist Club's
Christmas Tree Lot

**Located at: 2818 SW 29th St.
Big Shunga Park, across from
Brookwood Shopping Center**

SOLD OUT!

Special Thank You to:

Lloyd Becker

**and to all others who volunteered their
time and efforts to make this possible!**

