



# The Serving Tray

Rotary Club of Kirksville -- Charter 371 -- District 6040

[www.kvrotary.org](http://www.kvrotary.org)



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**Early St. Patrick's Day** celebration at Dukum Inn! Several Rotarians attended this social committee event on Saturday. (Melissa took the photo.)

**Board Actions 3/14/24:** Approved: \$400 for Literacy Project - Books for RII Elementary Book Fair (Pete Detweiler donated another \$100 to read to his granddaughter); \$150 for Mentor Meet Up Event; \$398 for two dog waste stations in Rotary Park; \$178.76 for the Unhomed kits assembled at the March 14 Rotary meeting.

**Other Announcements:** See cover email for other announcements regarding FunVention, Rotary Leadership Institute, MO RYLA winners and additional readings at Mary Immaculate School on 4/4.



**Patrick Avila, Chief Executive Officer at Northeast Regional Medical Center.**

In her introduction Jennifer Chrisman said, although fellow member Patrick has only been in this position since September of last year, he brings more than 25 years of healthcare operations experience. Patrick has a master's degree in business administration from the University of Missouri-Kansas City and a master's degree in physical therapy from the University of Kansas Medical Center in Kansas City, Kansas. He earned a bachelor's degree in life sciences from Kansas State university in Manhattan, Kansas. Patrick spoke about his experience during the Covid pandemic when he was CEO at the Central City, Nebraska hospital where they didn't even

have one ventilator. The poorly rated hospital turned around in the next three years to be in the top 20%. (Patrick's family remains in Central City to allow their 16-year-old son Jack to graduate from high school this year. The couple also has a daughter.) Patrick showed photos of the various physicians on his staff and described their specialties. Melissa noted that she had taught many of them! This four-star rated hospital has been expanding its cardiology services and just completed its 100th robotics case, including orthopedic robotics. It is the only birthing friendly hospital within 60 miles. Chillicothe shuttered its labor and delivery program in June. Among other distinctions: NERMC is a Level 3 trauma center. Patrick said the hospital had 12,000 visits last year, 84,000 patient encounters, delivered over 400 babies and carried out 3,000 surgeries. They are 10% ahead of the previous year.

**50-50 Drawing:** Angie Sullivan did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to \$726.

**Guests:**

Unknown

**Food Drive Results:** Debi said 61 boxes of cereal were collected, along with other items.

**Upcoming Programs:**

**March 27:** Chanel Guidry/Morris Solar Farm Project

**April 3:** Ron Gaber, et al/RKDS Award

**April 10:** Ramey Weichelt/Community Proj./BDay Boxes

**April 17:** Lynn Buchen/Exchange Student from Germany

**April 24:** Carolyn Chrisman/Inspire Hope Campaign

**May 1:** Debbie Blessing/NEMO Area Agency on Aging

**May 8:** Ramey Wichelt/Community Project/Book bags