



# The Serving Tray

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

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



Dec. 11, 2024- Volume #75



## SHEPHERD OLIVER FAJKUS ARRIVED 12/5/24!

He was 7 lbs. 14 oz., 20.5 inches long. The entire Nate Fajkus family (pictured right) is doing fine! Congratulations, Nate!



**BELL RINGING 12/14/24 (10 AM-7 PM):** Marty Jayne said there are still slots to be filled. Contact him at <mjayne@truman.edu>.



## MELISSA STUART IS PAUL HARRIS FELLOW PLUS 4!

Melissa (left), a five time recipient, is pictured with Foundation Chair Marie Murphree (center) and Club President Ruth Bowers (right).

**SOME SAD NEWS:** Ralph Cupelli reported that former member, Past President Michael McManis (pictured right), is not doing well and is under Hospice care.



## UPDATE ON TRUMAN STATE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT SUE THOMAS



We were pleased to have President Sue (left in photo with Ruth) as our speaker today. Marie Murphree said in her introduction that President Sue served as Acting President in 2016 before becoming University President in 2017. She is their 17th president. President Sue reported that TSU applications are up 50% over last year and acceptances are up 72% over the same period. She said some of TSU's challenges are that there will be fewer 18 year old individuals in 2025 and our rural location works against us. Students prefer large cities over smaller cities. Of the students who visit our campus, however, 50% enroll. Truman sponsors visits by paying costs. Truman has an almost 85% retention rate and a third of them go on to graduate school. About 60% graduate without debt from their undergraduate program. Interest in four-year degrees has declined, now dropped to the mid-40% range. President Sue said the Autism Center opened in September. A diagnostician has been brought on. There are about 30 children on a wait list for diagnosis. A new athletics director is sought with an offer going out this week. President Sue encouraged us to attend Truman events. She said if we are not receiving "Truman Today" every Monday during the school year and every other week during the summer, contact her at <[suethomas@truman.edu](mailto:suethomas@truman.edu)>.

**50-50 Drawing:** Ryan Huseman's card was not the ace of spades; pot now up to \$937. HB: \$27

### Guests:

**ELSIE GABER** (Thousand Hills club)

**Capt. Nathan Harms** of Salvation Army is proposed member (second announcement).

### Upcoming Programs:

**Dec. 18:** Christmas Party, 11:45 am

**Dec. 25:** NO MEETING

**Jan. 1:** NO MEETING

**Jan. 8:** OFF SITE MEETING AT

TRUMAN: Cindy Waller on Nursing Program