



# The Serving Tray

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

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



April 30, 2025 - Volume #75



**BIG CREEK CLEANUP 4/26/25:** In recognition of Earth Day, three Rotarians front from left Valena Fiscus, Ruth Bowers and Melissa Stuart, teamed up with members of the ATSU-KCOM Wilderness Medicine Club to clean up Big Creek at the FLATS/Rotary trailhead. Melissa reported it was a lovely sunny afternoon.

**TREES!** Danny reported they have planted 13 trees with seven to go. Rain dates: May 6 or 7.

**VALENA FISCUS IS PAUL HARRIS FELLOW Plus 1!** She is pictured with Foundation Chair Marie Murphree (center) and Club President Ruth Bowers (right)



**SHOES FOR ORPHAN SOULS:** Stacie Riley reported that, 471 pairs of socks and 171 pairs of shoes have been donated, along with around \$600. They will be turned in on Saturday, May 31, at the District Conference roll call.

**KAYDIN BATSON, ADAIR CO R-I  
(NOVINGER), IS RECIPIENT OF \$1,000  
2025 RAY KLINGINSMITH  
GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL  
STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP AWARD!**



Chair Melissa Stuart (left) described Kaydin's impressive background including being Class President (9-12th grades), High School Student Council (9-11 grades) and a member of the Honor Society (10-12th grades). She was also a cheerleader for one year. Kaydin wants to become a police officer and will be attending Columbia College in the fall. In right photo, Kaydin is pictured with President Ruth Bowers (left), her mother, Tashina Jones, as well as her grandmother, Lillian Jackson (right).



**SEE PAGE 2 FOR PROGRAM SPEAKER - RYAN BOWEN, MANAGER, LAKESIDE GRILL AND MARINA.**

**50-50 Drawing: Ron Winkler** did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to \$1,847.

## Guests:

**Kaydin Batson**, Scholarship Recipient  
**Tashina Jones** and **Lillian Jackson** (family of Kaydin)  
**Cody Weichelt** (Thousand Hills club)  
**Denver Weichelt** (daughter of Ramey & Cody W.)  
**Susan Knox** (proposed member; first announcement)

## Upcoming Programs:

**May 7:** Jeff Romine/Club's Flag Fundraiser  
**May 14:** Ruby Green-Frank Baldwin Free Enterprise Award  
**May 21:** Linda Treasure/Kirksville Arts Association  
**May 28:** **NO MEETING** District Conf. 5/30&31





**LAKESIDE GRILL, CABINS AND MARINA:** Manager Ryan Bowen, a long time Kirksville resident, spoke about improvements being made to its facilities at Thousand Hills State Park, one of 800 nationwide sites operated by ExporUS, owned by Peter Nolan. Ryan said they currently have 14 cabins with a ten-year plan to add several more nicer cabins. They have updated after hours sign in and are increasing security. In the restaurant, new flooring has been installed in the two private dining rooms. A new menu has been adopted (see photo below). Kitchen Manager Joshua has added new items including pulled pork possible with a new smoker. They have partnered with an art gallery where displayed pieces can be purchased. He said the showroom is constantly changing. Marina upgrades include \$30,000 ADA and kayak launch improvements. They currently have four pontoon boats to rent and 5-6 canoes as well as kayaks and

bikes. Family-friendly products have been added to the store and prices on various items have been cut to be more competitive. Bowen said the swimming area improvements will take longer than hoped since the State of Missouri has only one construction crew to work this part of the state. Improvements will include a bath house. The speaker is pictured above with Rotarian Marie Murphree who introduced him.

