



# The Serving Tray

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

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



June 17, 2026 - Volume #76



A **\$2000 club scholarship** from flag funds was presented to the **KHS International Thespian Society Chapter** which will compete at the International Thespian Festival to be held in Bloomington, Indiana. Elizabeth Anderson and Heather Darrah are co-sponsoring the trip. Three of four competitors were present today. Pictured from left are Sheamus Darrah, Delaney McVay, Ella Laughlin, Heather Darrah, Rotary President Elizabeth Gregory and Elizabeth Anderson.

A **\$2100 club scholarship** from flag funds was presented to **Kirksville Area Technical Center** representative Rich Chapman. He introduced two competitors: Mason White and Varsha Manikandan. Mason White, along with his partner, received a national gold medal in Additive Manufacturing (3D printing - high school level) at the 2026 Skills USA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Atlanta, GA. They competed with 34 other states. Varsha Manikandan competed in public speaking with 44 other states and finished in the top six. Pictured from left are Rich Chapman, Mason White and Varsha Manikandan.



## CLASSIFICATION TALKS - JACKIE JACKSON AND DAVID NICHOLS



**Jackie Jackson** was born Jaqlyne Underwood in 1988 to her dad, a carpenter, and mom, a CNA, in Leeton, MO (near Clinton). She started college at UCM in 2007. Worked in hotel operations. Moved to Texas at one point, working at Mc Murry University, then for Central Methodist University in Fayette, MO. Earned her Ed.D in 2023. After working at UCM Alumni Association, she came to Kirksville in 2026 and became TSU Vice President of University Advancement. Jackie met her husband, Aaron, around the same time that she joined Rotary, in 2011. They had a daughter, Ariel, born in 2013. See Jackie's great PowerPoint attached to the cover email with lots of great photos of family. Also, check out the books she has read. Some may appeal to you as well!

**DAVID NICHOLS - CONTINUED ON PAGE 2**

**50-50 Drawing:** Ralph Cupelli did not pull the ace of spades; pot now up to \$2,146.

### Guests:

**Ariel "AJ" Jackson** (guest of Jackie Jackson)

**Omar Sheriff** (guest of Dr. Uyi)

**Announcements:** See Page 2

### Upcoming Programs:

**June 24:** NO NOON MEETING/Officer Installation and Yearly Review 5:30 PM, Ray Klinginsmith Amphitheater

**July 1:** Mo. Veterans Cemetery, Jacksonville

**July 8:** President John Dungan/Plans for the Year

**David Nichols** was born into a musical family, the youngest of six and the only boy. He and his wife, Vonnie, came to Kirksville in 1966 to join the faculty at NMSTC, now Truman State University. In his 35 years as an active professor, and the subsequent years of serving on the advancement board, writing the history of Truman State, and designing exhibits for the Towne Museum, he served under or was associated with nine different presidents.

He was also deeply involved in the major curricular revisions and evolutions of NMSU/Truman. His proudest moment, however, occurred in 1968 when his daughter, Cynthia, was born.

David holds a PhD in historical musicology from Indiana University with minors in woodwind performance, music theory and conducting. During his years at Truman, he initially split his time between teaching private students in clarinet and saxophone and academic classes in musicology and conducting. In later years he also chaired the graduate program in music.

His wife of many years, Vonnie, held several administrative positions at NMSU/Truman. She unfortunately succumbed to cancer two years after their retirement.

David has since remarried and has found new joy and a renewed life for the past 22 years, thanks to his wife, Debbie, who has also had a musical career. He said he strongly believes that he is the most fortunate person alive.

David has been a Rotarian since 1975. We are happy he continues to serve!





**Rotary**

**UNITE FOR GOOD**

Rotary Club of Kirksville  
2025-2026

Dates to Remember!

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Announcements

- Flag Updates - Jeff Announcement
- Volunteers needed for RWB Pancake Breakfast - Bill Lovegreen sign up sheet!

Events!

- Companion Club announcement - John Dungan
- RYLA Volunteers Needed - contact Tracy Vincent
  - 2 Rotarian volunteers for Session 1 - **June 28-July 2.**
  - A couple more Rotarian volunteers **July 12 - July 15**
- Joint Installation - **June 24th** @ Ray K Amphitheater, 5:30 PM. No noon meeting that day! Rain date is June 25th.
- Zone 30 & 31 Leadership Seminar
  - July 11 - Springfield, IL. **Register online by June 26th**
- Birthdays & Anniversaries