



# Kiwaniis<sup>®</sup>

CAREFREE

## CLUB CONNECTION



## KIWANIS CLUB OF CAREFREE NEWSLETTER

KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG

MAY 2025

### *A Message from our Club President* *Cam Kuniej*

As we move into the third quarter of our fiscal year, I want to take a moment to recognize the momentum we've built—and the work still ahead.

Our Pancake Breakfast was an incredible success, raising over \$13,000. That happened because of our community—local sponsors, interclub partnerships, and the time and effort each of you put in. You helped create more than just a fundraiser—you created a moment of pride for this town.

Behind the scenes, our Bylaws Committee is actively collaborating with every committee chair and co-chair to bring our bylaws up to date. This isn't just about rules—it's about building the kind of support system that allows each of our committees to thrive. That's our priority moving forward: clear structure, smoother processes, and consistent support.

Looking ahead, we encourage all members to attend the Scholarship Awards Ceremony on May 5th. This is one of our most important traditions—honoring and investing in the kids who represent the future of our community. We'll be taking a group photo that evening, and your presence matters.

As we continue refining how we operate, our goal is to issue an official Strategic Plan in Q4. This plan will serve as a clear path forward—not only for where we're going, but how we'll get there together.

Stay engaged. Stay connected. Our focus is on smooth transitions, sustainable systems, and a future we're building—together.

### **May MEETINGS**

**Be There!**

**May 5 - A Night Of Excellence**

**May 7 - Gordon Minns, CLUB ELECTIONS**

**May 14 - Schools & Education Committee Updates**

**May 21 - Christian Youth Theater**

**May 28 - Club Business**



## **CLUB ELECTIONS!**

**May 7 at Harold's Corral from 9 am to 2 pm. Meeting begins at noon.**

Our Bylaws state that you must be present to vote and must be current on membership dues. Absentee voting is not allowed.

**Prime Rib, Salmon & Bloody Mary Bar!**

# Committee Highlights

## SCHOOLS & EDUCATION COMMITTEE

**CONSIDER JOINING THE SCHOOLS AND EDUCATION COMMITTEE TO SERVE THE COMMUNITY'S YOUNG PEOPLE**

The Schools and Education Committee administers and supports one-time and multi-year proposed educational projects of benefit to our surrounding Schools and Educational Organizations. (in and near the CCUSD area). It reports to the Club Foundation's Board of Directors. Members, with backgrounds in teaching, business and technology, are assigned as Site Representatives to the specific schools to understand, develop, and facilitate translating the school's needs into written grant proposals for consideration. These proposals' project definition, desired grant timing and requested funding amount, and expected impact on the children are evaluated at the Committee's once a month meeting. Currently, the Committee co-chairs are Tom Leard and Jim Ridel. Consider attending an upcoming meeting to learn more of their work in supporting the community's youth. Chat with either co-chair at a Club lunch meeting.

**CONTACT THE COMMITTEE CHAIR**



**[CLICK HERE](#)**



# Kiwanis®

## INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

**THERE IS STILL TIME TO REGISTER!**

This year's convention will be held in Pittsburgh, PA from June 25 - 28.



A featured speaker is Henry Winkler! Sandra Carrier & Gordon Minns will be attending. You can attend, too!

**FIND OUT MORE**



**[CLICK HERE](#)**



# YOU'RE INVITED

Monday, May 5, 2025 @ 6PM

OVER \$500,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS TO BE AWARDED

CACTUS  
SHADOWS  
FINE ARTS  
CENTER

33606 N 60TH ST  
SCOTTSDALE, AZ

**Free Admission**

WITH CATERED  
RECEPTION  
TO FOLLOW

KIWANIS SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS

# A NIGHT OF EXCELLENCE

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

*Ricky Watters*

- 5X Pro Bowler and 10 year veteran with the San Francisco 49'ers, Philadelphia Eagles and Seattle Seahawks
- XXIX Super Bowl Champion with the San Francisco 49'ers
- NCAA National Champion with the Notre Dame Fighting Irish
- Subject of NFL Films, *How Being Adopted Motivated Ricky Watters*
- Author of the children's book, *A Gift Called Shane*
- Color analyst, motivational speaker and champion for kids



**Kiwaniis**  
CLUB OF CAREFREE



# In case you missed



**BRENT B & BOB M**  
**MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE**  
**April 9**



**TENDER LITTLE HEARTS**  
**MINI TALES**  
**April 23**

**50/50  
WINNER**

**JEFFREY ZORN**  
**April 16**  
**\$128 Winner**

**We draw a winner each week but you must be present to win!!**



**CINCO  
de  
MAYO  
Fun**



## DESERT FOOTHILLS THEATER

Funds Request Committee Member Shelley H. had the pleasure of presenting a check to Sandi, Director of the Desert Foothills Theater, to assist during their Theater Summer Camp for kids! Supporting the creativity of the youth in this community.

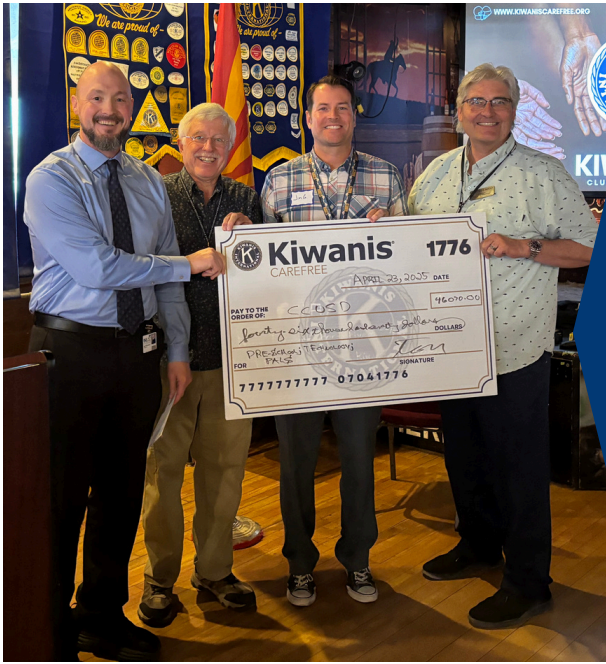
## CAVE CREEK RODEO DAYS PARADE

Mike P, Kiwanian and Cave Creek Rodeo Days President, presented a CCR buckle to our club for winning the Community Engagement award in the Cave Creek Rodeo Days Parade!! Sandra accepted the buckle and will proudly display it at the office!





# In Case you Missed



## CCUSD GRANT

Tom L, Schools and Education Committee Chair had the pleasure of presenting a check to:

- Matt Owsley, principal BMES, for Interactive Boards
- Jim Grosso, ECS Manager, Pre-school Grant
- Dave Boggs, Principal of STMS, for PAL Student Chromebooks

## CCUSD 5<sup>TH</sup> GRADERS

Thanks to Kiwanis Club of Carefree, AZ all CCUSD 5th graders get to take part in a field trip to JA Biztown! But it's more than just a field trip; students prepare in advance, learning about finance and applying for jobs before the big day. When they actually arrive at Biztown, they work their jobs and complete tasks, as well as elect the town mayor. It's a fun and educational way to get some real world experience!



## CLUB EVENING MIXER

We enjoyed one-on-one time with President Cam and Scholarship Committee Chair Janet B while we mixed and mingled.







# Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

## A flipping success!







# Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast

## THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS & VOLUNTEERS



*I'm grateful for the opportunity Kiwanis gave us to share some of our students' hard work. They were all so excited to play and had a great time. It really struck me as they were playing how none of those groups would have been possible without the instruments from Kiwanis. We are so appreciative of your support!*

**Heather Baldwin - Desert Hills School of Music**





# Many thanks

## ARIZONA FRIENDS OF FOSTER CHILDREN FOUNDATION

Thank you for your recent gift to Arizona Friends of Foster Children Foundation (AFFCF) on 3/13/2025. Because of your generosity, children and youth in foster care are able to participate in social and extracurricular activities that every youth should get to experience.

Activities like participating in sports, taking music lessons, going to music camp, or shopping for new clothes, these activities are critical in building youth self-confidence and self-esteem. Youth in foster care deserve access to these same opportunities and your donation helps make this a reality. Travis is one such child your gift helps:

*"Thank you for paying for my gymnastics! I really love it so much and I have a lot of fun learning new things. My instructors say I am making good progress. I even made some new friends! Thank you again for letting me go to gymnastics."*



For over 40 years, AFFCF has been a critical funding resource to children, youth, and young adults in foster care across Arizona. Together, with your partnership, we are creating brighter more hopeful futures to those we serve.

Sincerely,

Luis De La Cruz  
President and CEO





# Member Spotlight



**JENNIFER ROSVALL**

Jennifer Rosvall is a third-generation Arizona native from a large family with a rich history of contribution to the community, going back to her grandfather, who owned the first Phoenix Semi-Pro baseball team, the Thunderbirds. She has seen her fair share of baseball and understands the game, the competition, and the strategies, some of which she applies in her business life. When in high school and college, she worked in retail with a wide range of responsibilities, including merchandising and management as well as sales.

After graduating from University of San Diego with a degree in business, she began a career in events and planning and eventually landed in teaching, where she developed an early love of working with children. She then joined Make-A-Wish Arizona as a Wish Manager, where she was the interface between the children, volunteers and commercial vendors of services like airlines, hotels, and children's entertainment, who provided for the fulfillment of wishes.

The major element she learned and perfected was how to connect and work effectively with key individuals in the community and build meaningful relationships benefiting both. Wishes are powerful, most importantly for Wish Kids and their families, but also for everyone who touches a Wish. Making a difference in the lives of others can truly be life-changing.

Jennifer granted over 600 wishes during her time with Make-A-Wish Arizona and has brought that same philosophy to the Holland Center.

This principal element of building long-term relationships with business people, families, and community members is based on her ability to project a sincere, deep personal interest in the people she works with as to "how can we do this together?"

As Executive Director of the Holland Center, she has built the organization into a true "Center of Activity" in the community. In four short years, she has transformed this non-profit community facility into offering far more than just meeting rooms and bingo, but rather a "go to place" for the people of the community to gather for lifelong learning, entertainment, simple games with friends, and personal enrichment.

Jennifer has been a proud Kiwanis member for six years (following in her Dad's footsteps), bringing her retail background and business skills to the Marketplace Committee, where she's been an active contributor to strategic discussions and planning.

Her latest initiative is working with Cam on the Kiwanis Connection Quarterly meetings, hosted at The Holland Center. These gatherings offer an alternative to our traditional lunch meetings—ideal for working professionals. It's a welcoming space for networking, staying connected, and introducing prospective members to the spirit of Kiwanis and the impact on our community.



# In the Community

## DESERT FOOTHILLS YMCA HEALTHY KIDS DAY

April 26

Sandra and Gordon enjoyed a beautiful morning of popcorn and prizes.



## ROCK THE DISTRICT BENEFITTING CAVE CREEK UNIFIED EDUCATION FOUNDATION

April 26

Kiwanis Club of Carefree is proud to be the title sponsor for this rockin' event featuring the musically talented kids in the community.





# HAPPY BIRTHDAY

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

MAY BIRTHDAYS

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

2<sup>nd</sup> - Jeffrey Zorn  
3<sup>rd</sup> - Heidi Schuler  
4<sup>th</sup> - Karen Aker  
4<sup>th</sup> - Kathy Haugner  
5<sup>th</sup> - James Riedl  
13<sup>th</sup> - Howard Dicke  
13<sup>th</sup> - Jackie Perry-Brown  
15<sup>th</sup> - Tina Leazier

17<sup>th</sup> - Marla De La Cruz  
20<sup>th</sup> - Patty Jensen  
22<sup>nd</sup> - Lisa Savage-Black  
23<sup>rd</sup> - Michael Moore  
24<sup>th</sup> - Alexis Sterling - Popovich  
27<sup>th</sup> - Gary Newman  
29<sup>th</sup> - Craig Raby



SEND YOUR PICTURES TO  
[COMMUNICATIONS@KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG](mailto:COMMUNICATIONS@KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG)  
WE WOULD LOVE TO SHARE THEM!

GUEST SPEAKERS  
★ WANTED ★

If you know of someone who would  
be a great speaker at a luncheon  
email Darlene Carter!

[ADMINISTRATION@KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG](mailto:ADMINISTRATION@KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG)



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