



Kiwaniis
CAREFREE

CLUB CONNECTION



KIWANIS CLUB OF CAREFREE NEWSLETTER
KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG

OCTOBER 2026

A Message from the New President Brent Bowles

Fellow Kiwanians, As the days grow shorter and people return from their summer vacations, activity is picking up. I want to begin by expressing my gratitude to our past president, Brian Kunkel, and every member who has contributed to our mission throughout the year.

October is always a season of renewal for Kiwanis International, and it's an opportune time to reflect on our purpose. Our motto, "Serving the Children of the World," is not merely a slogan; it's a commitment we make to this community every time we participate in activities such as pancake breakfasts, scholarship presentations, or volunteering at the Marketplace. In Carefree, this promise takes on a unique local flavor, characterized by our small-town roots, generous neighbors, and a genuine belief in our ability to make a difference.

This month, we are excited to introduce a new celebration, the Dusty Diamond Gala. This event serves as a token of appreciation to all the wonderful individuals who contribute to fulfilling our mission. It's an opportunity for members to dress up bit and enjoy music that won't spoil a good conversation. I encourage every member to sign up and, bring your partner or guest to join in the festivities.

As we transition into the busier fall and winter season in the Sonoran Desert, I kindly request that each of you consider where you can contribute. Whether it's through joining a committee, participating in a single event, or simply spreading awareness about our organization, Kiwanis thrives on participation. Carefree is a stronger community because of the involvement of its members.

I eagerly anticipate serving you as your President in the upcoming year. I assure you that we will prioritize having fun while we accomplish our remarkable work!

October MEETINGS Be There!

**October 7 - Brent Bowles,
New Club President**

**October 14 - Congressman
David Schweikert**

**October 21 - Raena
Kamakahi. Desert Foothills
Land Trust**

**October 24 - Dusty Diamond
Gala**

October 28 - Club Buisness



Welcome New Members!

**Phil Groetken
Kevin Kraft
Bill Pennock
Glenn Grossman**

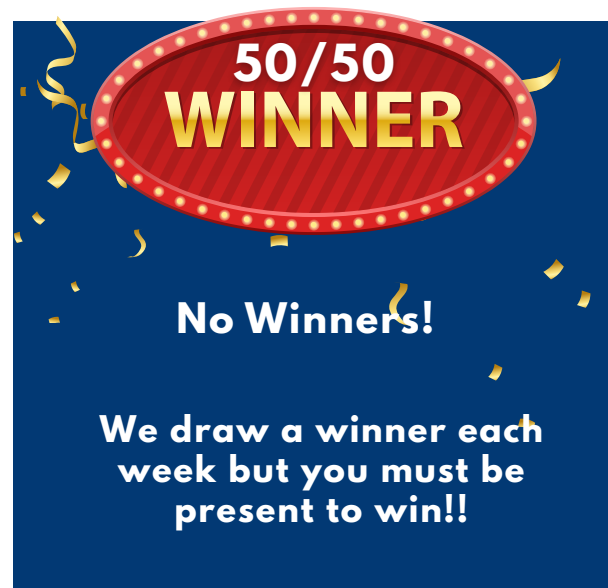
In Case you Missed



Sept 2
SANDI CARLL
Desert Foothills Theater



Sept 16
JACOB BETTIN
GCU Trades



Sept 23
JOANNA SHIPE
Where Hope Lives



INVITE A FRIEND TO KIWANIS!

Do you know someone who loves our community and is looking for a way to get more involved? Invite them to join you at an upcoming Kiwanis Club of Carefree luncheon! Sometimes all it takes is a personal invitation to introduce someone to the friendships, connections, and sense of purpose that come with being part of Kiwanis. Whether they're new to the area or have called the Desert Foothills home for years, there's always room at the table. Bring a friend, introduce them to the Club, and help us grow our Kiwanis family!

In Case you Missed



FREE LIBRARY CARDS

Desert Foothills Library joined us at our meeting to help celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month by handing out free library cards! If you didn't get yours yet, it's not too late! Stop by the Library during open hours and they'll be happy to help you sign up for your free library card and start exploring everything the Library has to offer!



Annual Recognition KIWANIS STAR AWARDS





Annual Recognition



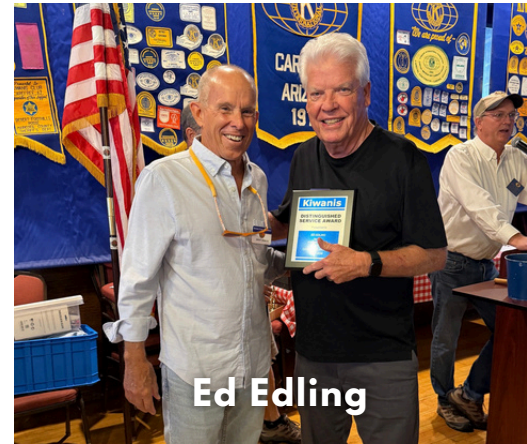
DISTINGUISHED SERVICE AWARDS



Barb Pearce



Geno Orrico



Ed Edling



COMMITTEE CHAIR AWARDS



Alan Tanngz



Larry Key



Cam Kuniej



Brent Bowles



Mark Weidhaas



Tom Pozarycki

Annual Recognition



LEGION OF HONOR

25 YEARS OF SERVICE



John Skarda



Steve Muhl



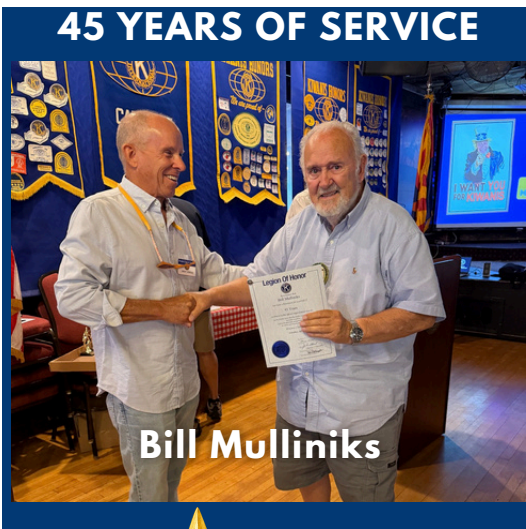
Brian Kunkel



Michael Moore



Kathy Haugner



45 YEARS OF SERVICE

Bill Mulliniks



LIFE MEMBERSHIP



STANDING OVATION FOR JOHN SKARDA & BILL MULLINIKS



Annual Recognition

ROOKIE OF THE YEAR

Mark Weidhaas



KIWANIAN OF THE YEAR

Larry Key



A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO BRIAN KUNKEL

President 25/26



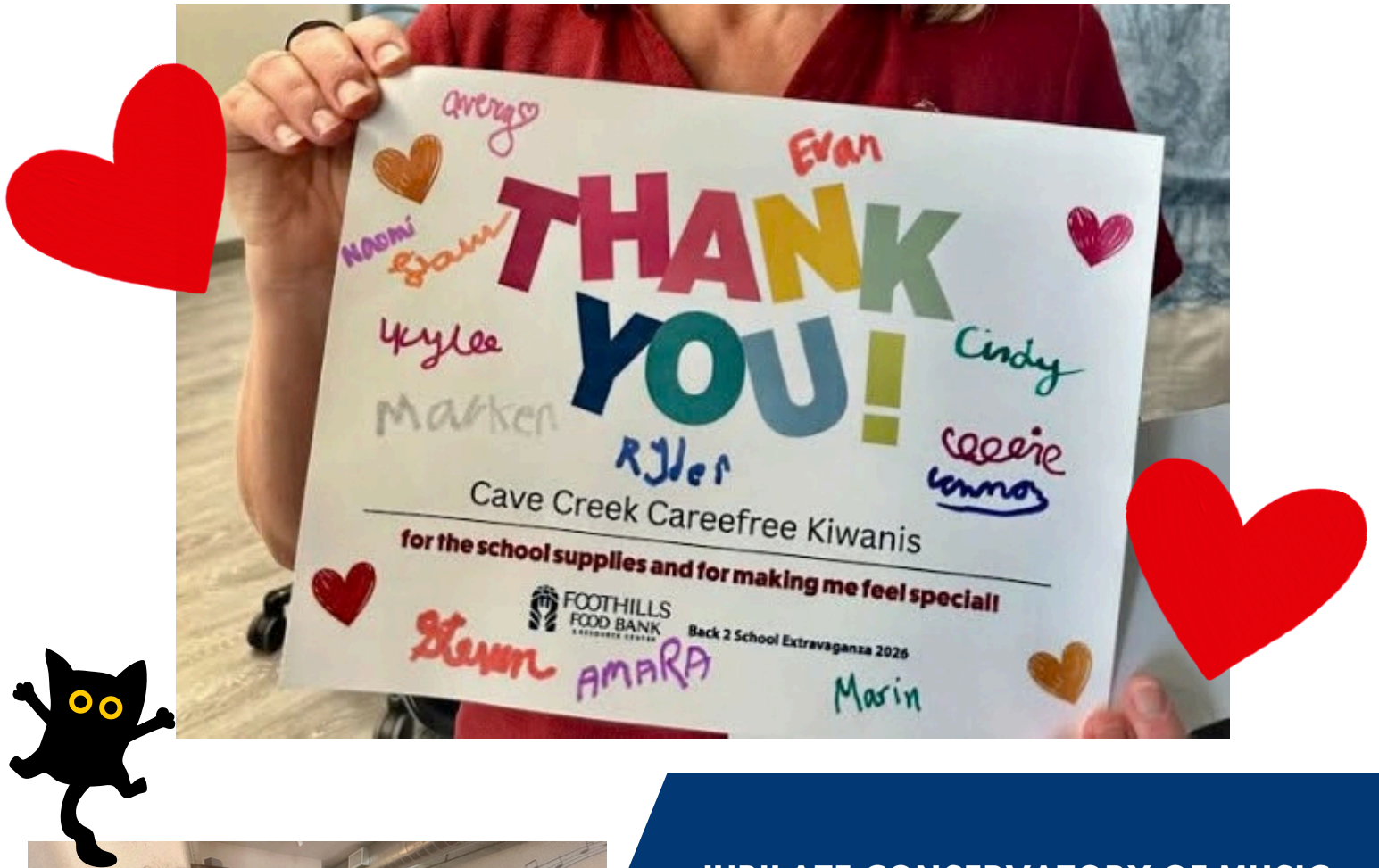
In Case you Missed

FOOTHILLS FOOD BANK



Tom Pozarycki presented a check from the Kiwanis Club of Carefree to Leigh Zydonik, Executive Director of Foothills Food Bank, to help support the Children's Weekend Meal Program for the entire school year.

And the best thank you of all came straight from the kids, with a special card created by a group of young students.



JUBILATE CONSERVATORY OF MUSIC

Tom Pozarycki presented a check to Laya Field, Director of Jubilate Conservatory of Music, and Heidi Knous, the school Registrar. Kiwanis support helps provide music lessons to students who might not otherwise have the opportunity, enriching both their education and their lives.



In Case you Missed



DESERT FOOTHILLS YMCA

We sponsor the camps and family events at the Desert Foothills YMCA, giving local kids opportunities to learn, play, make new friends, and just have FUN!

SPIRIT IN THE DESERT

Shelley Hutcheson recently presented a check to Spirit in the Desert Executive Director Rika Beckley in support of the upcoming Chanukah celebration in Carefree, December 4–11.

Supporting events that celebrate community, connection, and tradition is just one of the many ways Kiwanis gives back. We're honored to help make this meaningful celebration possible!



Calling All Committee Chairs



We need your help showing our community what Kiwanis is all about. Please send us photos of Kiwanis members in action: delivering checks, attending committee meetings, volunteering, participating in community events, or simply working together to make a difference. Your photos may be featured on our social media and in our monthly newsletters, helping us tell the story of the incredible work Kiwanis is doing throughout our community. Show us what your committee is up to!

SEND YOUR PICTURES TO COMMUNICATIONS@KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG

THE KIWANIS MARKETPLACE PRESENTS

THE
DUSTY
Diamond
GALA

*In gratitude for our Kiwanians Employees,
Volunteers and Club Members*

OCTOBER 24 • 5 PM - 8 PM

UNDER THE STARS

SANDERSON LINCOLN PAVILION

101 EASY STREET | CAREFREE

An Evening of Celebration with Glamour & Desert Magic

BEER • WINE • LITE APPETIZERS

• Cocktail Attire •

DRESSES & JACKETS REQUIRED

RSVP FOR YOU AND A GUEST AT

KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG

Kiwanis
MARKETPLACE
THRIFT STORE

 **Kiwanis**
CLUB OF CAREFREE

[CLICK TO RSVP](#)

Explore the museum from the renovated front porch entrance and Veterans Memory Garden to the new USO exhibit, mining campus and more! Discover local history, engage with live demonstrations and hands-on activities, connect with community partners.

Enjoy musical interludes and fill our "Memory Jar" with recollections of the "old gazebo." This original gazebo stood at Neary's Village Square at Cave Creek Rd and Hidden Valley Drive before being relocated to the museum property in 1991.



**Keep the
Traditions
Alive!
Gather
on
Oct. 17 1-4pm**

6140 E. Skyline Dr
Cave Creek, AZ 85377
Tel: 480-488-2764
cavecreekmuseum.org



Event Supported By
Kiwanis
CLUB OF CAREFREE



A Fun Event

A fun community event to raise money for the Kiwanis Marketplace and 9 of our local nonprofits. We hope you can attend!



3RD ANNUAL
COMMUNITY FIESTA
AT HAROLD'S CORRAL
TUESDAY OCT 27
5 PM - 8 PM

PRESENTED BY
DARRELL DOEPKE COMPASS

CELEBRATING COMMUNITY

WHERE NEIGHBORS, NONPROFITS, AND LOCAL BUSINESSES
COME TOGETHER FOR ONE MEMORABLE EVENING!

\$25 PER PERSON

TACOS TEQUILA
BAJARRIBA TEQUILA

LIVE MUSIC
MARK EDWARD

RAFFLES PRIZES

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THESE NONPROFITS

FOOTHILLS FOOD BANK RESOURCE CENTER
CAVE CREEK MUSEUM
THE HOLLAND CENTER
Desert Foothills LIBRARY
CaringCORPS
PURSE-IMPRESSIONS
SONORAN arts LEAGUE
DESERT FOOTHILLS LAND TRUST
Kiwani's MARKETPLACE THRIFT STORE
Scully Learning Center FOUNDATION

GET YOUR TICKETS AT
KIWANISMARKETPLACE.ORG

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Karsten's ACE Hardware
TECH 4 LIFE LLC
DESERT STATE ROOFING LLC.
Rebecca Niessink
CAREFREE SPIRITS
GRIND & GEAR
BLACK MOUNTAIN GUITAR CO.

Printed by:
The UPS Store
Carefree

**THIS IS ONE COMMUNITY CELEBRATION
YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS!**

[CLICK FOR TICKETS](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Kiwanis Christmas

For the kids

SATURDAY, NOV 28TH

10 AM - 3 PM

DOWNTOWN CAREFREE

- Games & Prizes
- Hay Rides
- Exotic Animals
- Camel & Baby Camel
- Visit with Santa & Mrs. Claus
- Hot Dogs & Cotton Candy
- Christmas Tree Giveaway*

**FREE
FAMILY EVENT!**



**RAFFLE DRAWING
FOR 50+ BIKES!***

** Must be present to win*



Kiwanis
CAREFREE

Scan to find out more or visit kiwaniscarefree.org



Happy Birthday!

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

2nd Chris Contino
5th Wesley Cooper
7th Shelley Hutcheson
7th Paula Scully
9th Thomas Dicke
9th Ted Dimon
9th Renea Kindred
9th Jennifer Rosvall
18th Tamsin Wolff

22nd Wade Keller
22nd MariaElena Rizzo
23rd Steven Dart
25th Justin Cooper
26th Scott Brown
30th Sheryl Bell
30th Darrell Doepke
30th Robert Swan



HAPPY Halloween

**GUEST SPEAKERS
★ WANTED ★**

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

ADMINISTRATION@KIWANISCAREFREE.ORG



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