

Kiwanis Community



Kiwanis®
CLUB OF MARTINEZ



November 2025 Newsletter

Kiwanis is a global organization of men and women dedicated to improving the world one child and one community at a time

Annual Food Drive is November 15



**FOOD
BANK**

of Contra Costa & Solano

‘Tis the See’s on’

Our biggest fundraiser of the season is about to begin. The 25th annual See’s Candies retail sales fundraiser starts on Black Friday, November 28, and once again we will sell at Les Schwab Tire, 3800 Alhambra Ave. The store will be staffed Mon-Sat 9:30am to 5:30pm (Sat to 5pm) by you and your fellow Kiwanians. That amounts to 69 shifts or 180 hours, so do all you can. You can sign up at the meeting.

Chair **Patty Winsor** will brief us on operations and what’s on offer at the November 13 meeting. In 2001 a one pound box of See’s Candies was \$12; what will it be this year?

Hunger is much in the news these days, and Kiwanis has several ways to help feed the hungry. One way is our annual participation in the Safeway Food Bank drive Saturday, November 15. Chair **David Gerson** reports that once again we will be staffing 3 Safeway stores, encouraging shoppers to contribute to the Food Bank by buying a bag of groceries assembled by Safeway.

Kiwanians will work two shifts, 10-12 and 12-2, at Safeway stores downtown and Virginia Hills and at Sun Valley Mall. David needs a few more volunteers at some stores; please sign up with David at a meeting or call him at 925 876-6377. The more hands the merrier!



Martinez Lions Club Annual Varsity Football Lunch

Support the team by attending Tuesday, November 18 at noon at Grace Episcopal Church. Cost is \$30. Contact Barbara Chambers 925 200-6855

Wine and Cheese Mixer Draws a Crowd



A crowd of Kiwanians and many guests attended a wine and cheese mixer at the clubhouse the evening of October 23. Displays explaining what Kiwanis does were exhibited, the tables were festive, and there was plenty of delicious food (see photo at right). President **Steve Francis** welcomed the crowd (photo at left). This may be the first of several similar events to introduce the club to the community. (Photo credit Dawn Manley)



City Presents Strategic Plan on Crazy Hat Day



What city "... aspires to be a vibrant, welcoming, and sustainable small town, honoring our past, embracing innovation, and building a thriving economy"? The answer is Martinez, according to the vision statement adopted recently by the City Council as part of a Four Year Strategic Plan. The plan was the topic of a program October 30 presented to the club by Mayor Brianne Zorn, assisted by City Manager Michael Chandler and Assistant City Manager Laurent Sugayan. The plan is available on the city website cityofmartinez.org. They are pictured above right to left Brianne, Laurent, Mike, Council Member and Kiwanian **Jay Howard**, and President **Steve**.

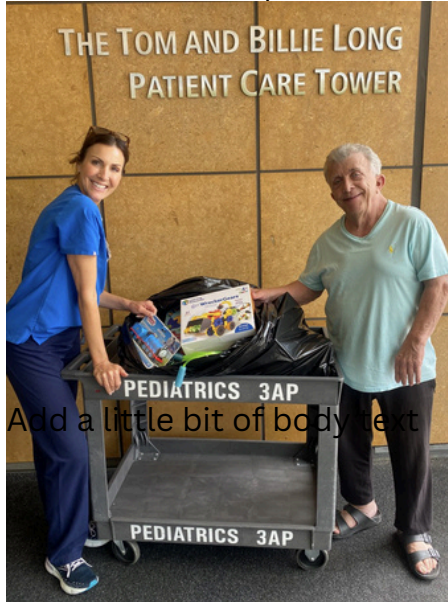
Their visit coincided with our Halloween crazy hat day, and Mayor Brianne and Steve got into the act, along with someone (pictured in left photo) who shall remain nameless.

Mike Chandler has furnished a link to the City's service request form. Use this to request service on city property or the public right of way: <https://www.cityofmartinez.org/departments/public-works/complaint-service-request>.

“Christmas in July” in November?

Better late than never to give recognition to all Kiwanians who donated toys to the Christmas in July collection. Special recognition goes to **Perry Picchi** who organized the collection and distributed the toys to the organizations below.

The pediatric unit of John
Muir Hospital



Tara Legaspi of Bay Area
Crisis Nursery



Pat Mori of Children’s
Interview Center



Igor Gets His Gavel

Immediate Past President **Igor Skaredoff** receives his mounted gavel from **Denis Smith**. Due to illness, Igor was unable to attend the September installation dinner, so he received the recognition at a recent club meeting. Igor served a second term as President 2024-25 (he also served 2010-11) and also started early due to the untimely death of his predecessor **Sandra Hall**.



Grayson Creek Cleanup

Denis Smith never saw a creek he didn't want to clean up. Here he is pictured with other like-minded workers on a portion of Grayson Creek, and a shot of work in progress.



Kiwanis Club of Martinez

750 Allen St., P.O. Box 1886, Martinez CA 94553, www.martinezkiwanis.org

[You can find this newsletter on the website](#)

Officers 2025-2026

President **Steve Francis**

President-Elect **Connie Chapman**

Treasurer **Patty Winsor**

Secretary **Bob Braun**

Immediate Past President **Igor Skaredoff**

Directors-Trustees 2024-2026

Migs Carter

Dawn Manley

Bob Barker

Marylee Taylor

Directors-Trustees 2025-2027

John Noon

Donald Pallotta

Perry Picchi

Bill Patt

Committee Chairs

Bocce Capo **Les Johnson**

City Liasion **Donald Pallotta**

Chamber of Commerce Liasion **Denis Smith**

Community Grants **Donald Pallotta**

Centennial Grants **David Gerson, Steve**

Francis

Dolly Parton Book Program **Frank Hall**

Safeway Food Bank Drive **David Gerson**

Loaves & Fishes **Maureen Cowger**

Meals on Wheels **Bill Patt**

Membership **Denis Smith**

See's Candies fundraiser **Patty Winsor,**

Maureen Cowger, Connie Chapman

Service Leadership Programs (SLPs):

Alhambra High Key Club **Kristin Connelly**

College Park High Key Club **Denis Smith**

Scholarships **Carol Walsh**

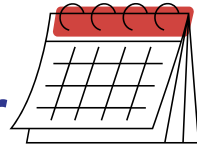
Social Media/Promotion **Dawn**

Manley/Connie Chapman

Newsletter Editor **Tom Watrous**

Staff Photographer **Denis Smith**

Kiwanis Kalendar



Here is a list of Kiwanis activities for the month:

Program Chair **David Gerson**

Thursday, Nov. 6: Noon meeting, David will show slides of travel to Switzerland and Rhine River cruise

INVOCATION BOB BRAUN

Thursday, Nov. 13: Noon Meeting, See's training to prepare for the big fundraiser of the year (see article on page 1), followed by the Board meeting at 1:30.

INVOCATION MIGS CARTER

Saturday, Nov. 15 Safeway Food Drive 10am-2pm (see article on page 1)

Thursday, Nov. 20 Noon meeting, speaker is CCC Supervisor Shanelle Scales-Preston

INVOCATION CONNIE CHAPMAN

Thursday, Nov. 27 THANKSGIVING DAY- no meeting

Kiwanians Celebrating...

Birthdays:

11/9 Roy Jeans

11/18 Bob Braun

11/24 Perry Picchi

11/25 Carol Walsh

Kiwanis Anniversaries:

11/21/1998 Thora Harshman

11/21/2006 Migs Carter

Wedding Anniversaries:

11/21/1987 PJ & John Noon



Meals on Wheels Drivers



Nov. 4 **Laurie Pittman**

Nov. 11 **Perry Picchi**

Nov. 18 **Mark Ross**

Nov. 25 **Bob Braun**