Kiwanis Community

Kiwanis
CLUB OF MARTINEZ

November 2026 Newsletter

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

A Kiwanis Holiday Tradition Starts Early: See's Candies Sales Start November 18





The 26th annual See's Candies fundraiser of the Kiwanis Club of Martinez starts on Wednesday, November 18, a week before Thanksgiving. Retail sales will take place again at Les Schwab Tire Center, 3800 Alhambra Ave. This is an earlier start from previous years to accomodate customers who want to shop before Thanksgiving.

A flyer announcing the sale suitable for copying and distributing to prospective customers appears on page 2. The store will be open Monday through Saturday 9:30am to 5:30pm, closing at 5pm Saturday and closed Sunday.

Event chair **Patty Winsor s**ays that online sales will not be available this year as the response last year was not successful. She confirms that a one pound box is $34, the same price as in See's stores, and we seldom have a line!

Patty also announced that setup of the store will be on Monday, November 16, and candy delivery and shelf stocking November 17. Signup sheets for these work days will be available at the Thursday meetings. Members are encouraged to sign up for sales shifts at meetings or online at the link to be provided.

Kiwanis is also selling See's Candies at two special locations. One is the Harvest Craft Fair at the Martinez Senior Center, 818 Green Street. The Fair is held November 21 from 9 to 3. The other is at Carlton Senior Living, 2770 Pleasant Hill Road, on December 6 from 11 to 3. Kiwanians **Denis and Barbara Smith** have staffed this store for several years with good response from the residents.

Kiwanis

Club of Martinez

See's Candy Holiday Sale



November 18-December 24
9:30 am - 5:30* pm
Monday-Saturday
closed at 5:00 pm Saturdays
closed Sundays

Les Schwab Tire Center
3800 Alhambra Avenue, Martinez

Sales support our annual grant program, providing vital resources for the youth of our community!

kiwanismartinez@gmail.com | martinezkiwanis@gmail.com

Loaves & Fishes Needs Turkeys and Help

Loaves & Fishes needs lots of turkeys for their Holiday Meal. If you have or can purchase a turkey you can donate them directly to the Martinez dining room. Go to the back door (and they will accept cash).

They need them now as the deadline is November 13 but will accept them later. Your donation will be acknowledged. For more information contact Kai Barnes at kai@loavesfishescc.org or 925 528 6997.

Loaves & Fishes is also looking for volunteers for the Thanksgiving Day Turkey Trot 5K Run Walk. Volunteers are needed to assist with the race, which benefits L&F this year. There is a fee for runner/walkers but volunteers are free. For more information contact Operations Manager Kai Barnes.

Dolly Parton and Kiwanis Promote Literacy



Whether or not **Susan France** draws the clear marble, she is a winner. As our Dolly Parton Imagination Library coordinator, she receives and processes requests for age appropriate books for children ages infancy to 5 years. We are the only partner with DPIL in the area, and Susan reports we are currently providing books for 234 children.

CPHS Key Club Supports PTP





A very active College Park High School Key Club served meals, waited tables and auctioned off desserts at a Halloween dinner fundraiser to raise funds for the Pediatric Trauma Program (PTP) of the Cal Nev Ha Children's Fund. Club Advisors **Andrea Hand** and **Denis Smith** model their hats and Key Clubber **Annessa Brown** entices bids for a dessert.

Recent Programs (Without a Chair)

October's programs came together with only one weekly meeting without a program, thanks to volunteers who stepped forward. President elect **Dawn Manley** would like to avoid this void in the future; please step up to take on the job for the few months open in the coming year. She can help with program ideas. Here's what fell togeher:



Kevin Murray and Sean Sharkey of Feet First Foundation told us about their on campus emotional support program that operates in over 40 schools statewide. Their program supports at-risk youth through non contact cardio boxing, empowering students to regain their footing. Their program was the 2024 California nonprofit of the year



Tom Watrous presented some history and traditions of the Martinez club, including building the Kiwanis Youth Center and the background of why we are known as the "singing club".



Jennifer Chaves, executive director of the CalNevHa Children's Fund, spoke to the club about the Fund's scholarship, grants, and Pediatric Trauma Prevention (PTP) programs.

CAL-NEV-HA
Children's Fund

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 2026-2027

President **Connie Chapman**
President-Elect **Dawn Manley**
Treasurer **Patty Winsor**
Co-Secretaries **Bob Braun and Jane White Rose**
Immediate Past President **Steve Francis**

Directors-Trustees 2025-2027

John Noon
Donald Pallotta
Perry Picchi
Bill Patt

Directors-Trustees 2026-2028

Phil Harrington
Jay Howard
Jane White Rose
Marylee Taylor

Committee Chairs

Bocce Capo **Les Johnson**
City Liasion **Donald Pallotta**
Chamber of Commerce Liason **Phil & Michelle Harrington**
Community Grants **Donald Pallotta**
Centennial Grants **David Gerson, Steve Francis**
Dolly Parton Book Program **Susan France**
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** and **Andrea Hand**
Scholarships **Carol Walsh**
Social Media/Promotion **Dawn Manley/Connie Chapman**
Newsletter Editor **Tom Watrous**
Staff Photographer **Denis Smith**



Kiwanis Kalendar

Monthly Program Chair (a team effort TBA)
Th Nov 5 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Roy Jeans**; Program:TBA
Th Nov 12 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Les Johnson**; Program: See's sales training, **Patty Winsor** and team
Th Nov 12 1:30pm Board Meeting
Mon. Nov. 16 10am, work party to set up Sees store at Les Schwab
Tues. Nov. 17 time TBA, work party to stock shelves at Les Schwab
Wed. Nov. 18 6pm Division Council meeting (DCM) at the clubhouse
Th Nov 19 noon; club meeting: Invocation **Dawn Manley**; Program: TBA
Sat, Nov. 21 9am-3pm See's fundraiser at Senior Center

Th Nov 26 Happy Thanksgiving, no meeting



Meals on Wheels Drivers



Nov. 3 **Laurie Pittman**
Nov. 10 **Mark Ross**
Nov. 17 **Carol Walsh**
Nov. 24 **Perry Picchi**

Kiwanians Celebrating...

Birthdays
11/3. **Belma Mirvic** (a double celebration--see below)
11/9 **Roy Jeans**
11/18 **Bob Braun**
11/24 **Perry Picchi**
11/26 **Carol Walsh**

Wedding Anniversaries
11/3/13 Asghar and **Belma Mirvic**
11/13/20 **Michelle** and **Phil Harrington**
11/21/87 PJ and **John Noon**
Kiwanis Anniversaries
11/2/98 **Thora Harshman** 28 years
11/21/06 **Migs Carter** 20 years