

# Rotary



## Club of Carmel GEARBOX Newsletter

### Club Meeting

Carmel  
Woodland Country Club  
Friday at 11:45 AM

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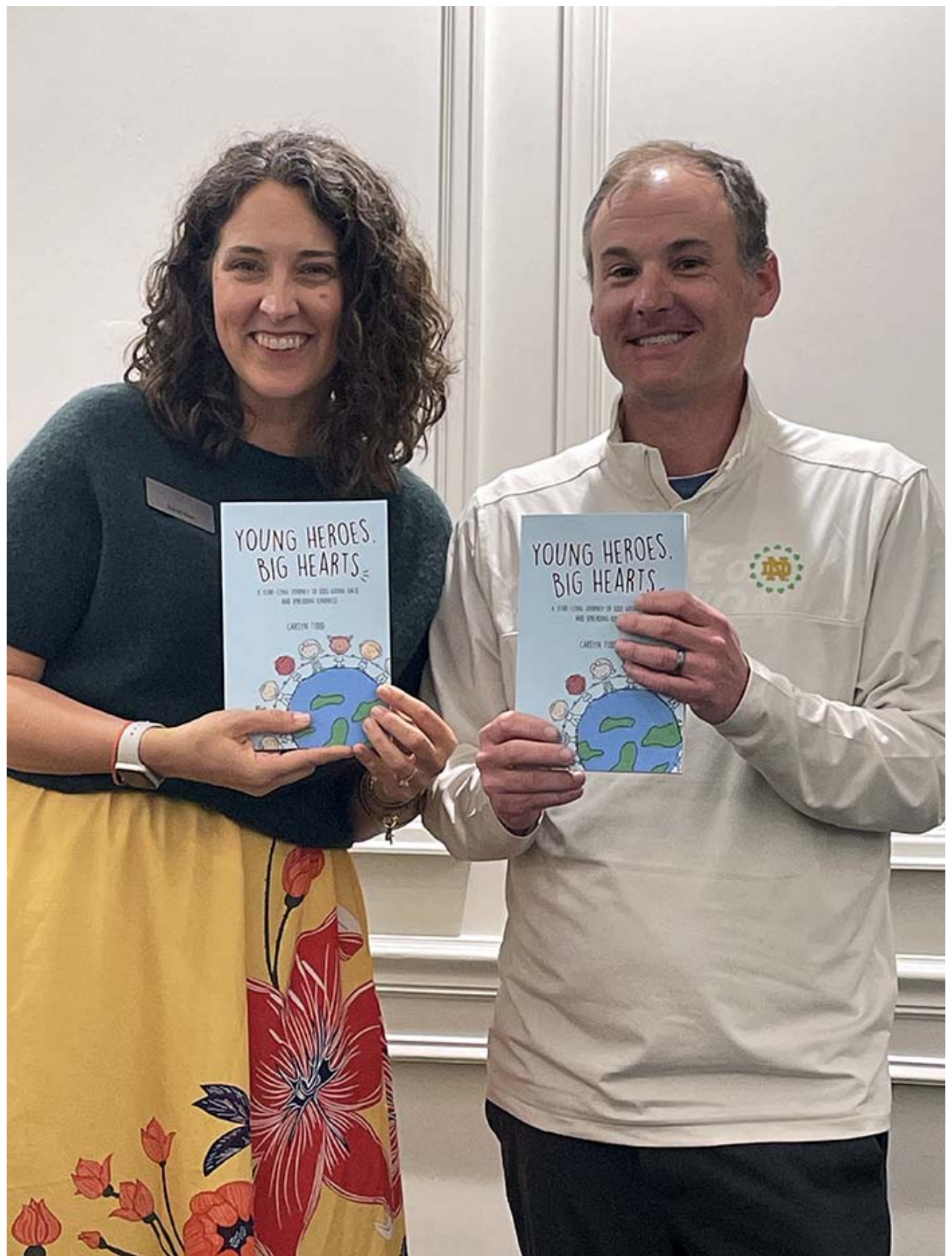
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### Events & Speakers

April 27th

Thank You Sarah Diaz!



[Cheftacular  
Community Impact  
Event -Reserve  
your seat by  
April 17](#)

[April 28th  
Merciful Help  
Center: Food Pantry](#)

[May 1st  
WEEKLY MEETING -  
Club Meeting  
w/service project](#)

[May 1st  
Rotary Club Ignite  
Night Suite  
Experience -  
Register by April 17](#)

## Off-Site Meeting 5/1/26

SPECIAL NOTICE: Off-Site Meeting



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# HARVEST MARKET

May 2nd  
[Children's TherAplay](#)  
**HORSEPOWER**

May 7th  
[Fields Market Garden Volunteer and Tour Event](#)

May 8th  
**WEEKLY MEETING - Mayor Sue Finkam**

May 15th  
**Weekly Meeting - Samantha Wodecki**

May 21st  
**Board Meeting**

May 22nd  
**NO WEEKLY MEETING - Memorial Day**

May 26th  
**Merciful Help Center: Food Pantry**

## Club Leaders



[Doug Willard](#)  
President



[Nancy S. Heck](#)  
President - Elect



[Dubbie Buckler](#)  
Secretary



[Tyler E. Smith](#)  
President - Nominee  
Vice President  
Club Vice President



[Greg Pilling](#)  
Treasurer



[Donna Gray](#)  
Club Comm. Officer  
Club Public Image Chair  
Webmaster



[Monica Frauhiger](#)  
Club Admin Chair



[David I. Hollander](#)  
Membership Chair



[Louise M. Jackson](#)  
Leadership Connection Chair

Robert

*Farmhouse Restaurant @ Harvest Market*  
2140 E 116th St  
Carmel, IN 46032

This week will be a special for our club. We'll kick off with our regular meeting, followed by a special presentation from Carolyn Shaw highlighting the great work we're doing and upcoming service opportunities. Then, it's your chance to be a person of action, right in the meeting, as we come together to assemble bagged lunches for a local food pantry. This hands-on project, inspired by Seeds of Caring, is a simple but powerful way to make an immediate impact in our community.

## Join Rotary at Japan Spring Fest on May 3rd

ATTENTION ROTARIANS - We are sponsoring this event on May 3rd 12-5 and would love to see you there! Volunteers are needed to help promote Rotary at our tent.

[SIGN UP HERE](#)  
JAPAN SPRINGFEST



Come celebrate the spring season and all things Japan at the Carmel Japan Spring Fest. Sample tasty Japanese foods, enjoy local Japanese cultural performances, take photos with Cosplayers, and experience Japan through various family-friendly activities.

You'll also get a first look at the updated Carmel Japanese Garden, plus learn all about our sister city in Kawachinagano, Japan!

**Free to attend.**

Visit the Facebook event [at this link](#) for up-to-date details.

[Sign up to volunteer](#)

## Rotary Family Event- Ignite Volleyball

<https://square.link/u/Oz5tsRtv>



Wright Swanay  
Sergeant-at-Arms



Sue M. Westermeier  
Rotary Foundation Chair



Stanley Lebron  
CarmelFest Chair



Natalie O'Hara  
Webmaster



Peter Primason  
Community Grants Chair



Katie L. Smardo  
CarmelFest Treasurer



Beth Sexton  
Community Service Chair



Carolyn M. Shaw  
Community Service Chair



Julie Standish  
Club Youth Services Chair



Arnold Elston  
Past President  
iPast President



Lyra Lee  
Club Social Chair



TANAKA Pasipamire  
Kaleso Club Social Chair

# Rotary



## Club of Carmel *Rotary Family Fun Night!*



**IGNITE VOLLEYBALL SUITE EXPERIENCE!!!**

**Fishers Event Center  
11000 Stock-Dale Street, Fishers, IN 46037**

**Friday May 1<sup>st</sup> @7pm**

**Cost: \$55.95 per person  
(Includes Ticket, Food & On Court Flag Experience)**

<https://square.link/u/Oz5tsRtv>

**Parking is available at Fishers Event Center for General \$10 & VIP \$20**



### Help us Reach Our Objective

On the heels of a great Leadership Connection Scholarship Presentation Program last Friday, please consider underwriting one, or more, students for our 2026 event this fall. For \$70, you can be a difference-maker in the life of a deserving Carmel, Fishers, or Indianapolis high school junior or senior to learn from and be inspired by the finest business, community, and non-profit leaders in central Indiana.

And remember, if you make a pledge with payment by close of business on May 1, to either Greg Pilling or Sharon Kibbe, your

name will be entered into a drawing on May 8 to be our guest for Lunch with a Leader on Thursday, November 5, at the Carmel-Clay Public Library.

Help us reach our objective of 50 Rotarians who underwrite Leadership Connection in 2026. Help us inspire tomorrow's leaders.









### **CarmelFest Parade Award Winners**

Below are the winners of the CarmelFest Parade award for the Indiana Association of Chinese Americans with Rotarians at Friday's meeting.



Left to right- Rotarian Kwan Hui, Rotarian and CarmelFest Parade Representative Susan Gath, Tina Magnusson, Lars Magnusson, and Rotary Club President Doug Willard.

## Volunteers for Fields Market Garden

Please join us at Fields Market Garden

*To help wrap up our District Grant, we are hosting a volunteer night and garden tour at Fields Market Garden*

*Thursday, May 7*

*from 5:30pm to 7:00pm*

Bring family and friends to volunteer or tour at the garden - tasks may include planting, weeding, mulch moving, and cutting flowers. Check out the spring veggies, early flower crop, new greenhouse, headhouse, and picnic area!

This is a great opportunity to see first hand the impact of our club's District Grant money that funded perennial plants and new garden pathways to help create a welcoming community space.



RSVP to Carolyn Shaw or Beth Sexton, your community service co-chairs.

*Let's pack the garden!*

## **April Volunteer Opportunity**

Use the link below for more information & to sign up to participate in this event through April 26, 2026.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/anywhere-book-drive-thru-42626-registration-1983991169997?aff=ebsoporgprofile>

# APR

## LITERACY AWARENESS

# Book Drive

*Find out how you're never too young to make a difference while collecting new and used children's books.*

### May 8th Meeting Off Site

SPECIAL NOTICE: Off-Site Meeting

*This week's meeting will be held at the [Fire Buffs Museum](#) at 210 1st Avenue SW in Carmel, Indiana*



Upcoming Speaker: We're honored to welcome Mayor Sue Finkam on May 8th, 2026.

As mayor, Sue brings a focus on fiscal responsibility, community growth, and enhancing quality of life, drawing on her background in business leadership and public service. She will share insights on Carmel's continued development, strategic vision, and the collaborative efforts shaping one Carmel into one of the best places to live and work in the country.

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## TherAplay Needs Volunteers

Come Join fellow Rotarians to help support Children's TherAplay at their annual Horsepower Event.

*Saturday, May 2, 2026 from 9am-2pm  
9919 Towne Road, Carmel, IN 46032*



Please email Ranj Puthran ([ranjitputhran@allstate.com](mailto:ranjitputhran@allstate.com)) to sign up to volunteer. More details to come as we get closer to the event!

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## Carmel Rotary Night - May 6, 2026

Tickets - only \$25 a person (50% off)  
For tickets, call - 317-843-3800

**SUNSET BOULEVARD**



# CARMEL ROTARY NIGHT! WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

Tickets only \$25! Use code **ROTARY25**  
online, in person and on the phone.



[atistage.org](http://atistage.org) | 317.843.3800



Book & Lyrics by Don Black & Christopher Hampton

Music by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Based on the 1950 Film "Sunset Boulevard" written by Charles Brackett, Billy Wilder & D.M. Marshman Jr.

Directed by Michael Blatt

**Synopsis:**

Sunset Boulevard revolves around the former star of the silent screen era, Norma Desmond. Aging and largely forgotten for years, she lives in her dilapidated mansion in Hollywood with her butler and chauffeur, Max. Lost in her memories, she is stirred into action when struggling screenwriter, Joe Gillis, suddenly enters her home and her life. Joe is down on his luck and struggling to escape debt collectors. Norma offers him a room and board if he agrees to edit her incomprehensible script of Salome, a movie she has written and in which she wants to star as the teenage seductress. Norma is convinced that she is still as beautiful and in demand as ever. This misguided belief is sustained by Max, who writes fake fan letters to her and shields her from the realities of the much changed, modern-day movie business. Buoyed by Joe's presence in her house, she lavishes him with gifts and soon declares her love for him. Her obsession with the young writer further reveals her increasing mental instability, leading to tragic consequences.

## May 15th, 2026 - Samantha Wodecki and Lori Steininger are Speaking

We're excited to welcome Lori Steininger and Samantha Wodecki of ICAN as our speakers on May 15th, 2026.

ICAN is an organization dedicated to unleashing abilities by providing expertly trained service dogs to individuals with disabilities. Lori, a former educator turned nonprofit leader, and Samantha, ICAN's Director of Philanthropy, will share how their work in community engagement, partnerships, and fundraising is expanding independence and opportunity for individuals and families across Indiana. Together, they bring a powerful perspective on how mission-driven collaboration can truly change lives.

*ICAN was a recipient of a Carmel Rotary Community grant this year.*



**Lori Steininger** serves on staff at ICAN, where she combines her passion for education, community engagement, and unleashing abilities through expertly trained service dogs. A graduate of Hanover College with a degree in Elementary Education, Lori taught elementary and middle school for many years before transitioning into the nonprofit world. She began her journey with ICAN as a volunteer in 2019, experiencing firsthand the life-changing impact of the mission. In 2023, she joined the ICAN team as a staff member, where she now works to expand awareness, strengthen partnerships, and grow support so more individuals and families can experience greater independence and opportunity.



**Samantha Wodecki** serves as Director of Philanthropy at ICAN, where she leads fundraising and community partnership efforts to expand access to expertly trained service dogs for individuals with disabilities. With a strong background in nonprofit development and relationship building, Samantha is passionate about connecting donors, partners, and community members to ICAN's mission of unleashing abilities and creating greater independence. She is proud to work alongside a dedicated team and volunteers who help change lives across Indiana every day.

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## Please Welcome Potential New Member Jared Shum

by David I. Hollander

Jared is the Head of Investor Relations at Focused Capital, a private real estate firm. He leads investor engagement, communications, and capital strategy. Jared has dual bachelor degrees in Economics and Political Science from Stanford University. He earned his Master degree in Public Administration in International Development from the Harvard Kennedy School. He is currently the Head Coach for the University High School Swimming and Diving Team. He also is an Assistant Coach for the Carmel Swim Club. He has served on multiple nonprofit boards and he has held leadership positions in student organizations during graduate school. Jared loves to mentor young people, build their confidence, and help them develop both as athletes and individuals. He is drawn to Rotary because of its commitment to service, leadership, and local impact. Some of his multiple hobbies include alpine skiing, golf, weight lifting, martial arts, pickleball, reading, travel, and musical theatre.



## Volunteer Opportunity!

### Rotary Tent Volunteer Sign up 5/3/2026 Sunday at Japan SpringFest by Kawachinagano Japanese Garden

Volunteer Sign up is needed for the Rotary Tent to pass out brochures and talk to people about Rotary Club and RYLA.  
When: On May 3, 2026 Sunday we will have a Rotary Tent at 2026 Carmel Japan SpringFest at City Hall Parking lot by Kawachinagano Japanese Garden  
9:30-11:30 Tent set up Tent, Table and chairs  
Pick up Rotary pop-up tent and set up at the designated location

11:30 - 1:30 (event)  
1:30-3:30 (event)  
3:30-5pm Event (event)  
5pm Tear down tent and return to the storage

Contact Tyler Smith  
[Tsmithrotary3398@gmail.com](mailto:Tsmithrotary3398@gmail.com)  
[Kaybrunson7@gmail.com](mailto:Kaybrunson7@gmail.com)

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## May 29th Speaker is Mickey Maurer



We're excited to welcome Mickey Maurer, attorney, entrepreneur, and one of Indiana's most influential business and civic leaders. As Chairman of IBJ Corporation and founder of The National Bank of Indianapolis, Mickey has helped shape Central Indiana's economic and philanthropic landscape, while his initiatives like "Mickey's Camp" have raised millions for local charities. His lifelong commitment to service, leadership, and community impact closely reflects Rotary's mission of "Service Above Self," making his perspective especially meaningful for our club.

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## Membership Challenge

Rotary 

**8 in 8**

# **MEMBERSHIP CHALLENGE**

**MARCH 1 – APRIL 30**

**The goal is simple: add eight  
new members in eight weeks.**

Any Rotary or club in Zones 30 and 31 that  
meets the goal qualifies—plain and  
simple.

**To add extra motivation, clubs that  
successfully add eight new members  
during the challenge period will be entered  
into a drawing for \$1,000 to host a member  
social event in May or June.**

*Event must include members bringing guests.*

# **GET INVOLVED!**

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**Check Request Form**

<https://forms.gle/WnHuUVemxDZGdiwe6>

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## Rotary Members - Are You New to DACdb?

DACdb is the database that houses details for Carmel Rotarians, the Carmel club, and District 6560. If you are new to DACdb or need a refresher, then go to the newly created link titled 'How to's on DACdb' on the website's left navigation bar, under Club Links.

From here you can learn how to:

- Login
- Change Your Password
- Update Your Contact Information
- Enter a Make Up

\*\*\*If you have previously logged into DACdb but don't remember your password, then contact Andrea Rice to have your password reset. You can directly email her by clicking on the 'Member Directory' link on the left navigation bar of the website. Once the page opens, scroll to Andrea's name and click on it. Fill out the requested information, including a note to reset your password. Click 'Send Mail'.

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### Important Links

[Carmel Rotary Website](#)

[District 6560 Website](#)

[Carmel Rotary Facebook Page](#)

[Rotary International Website](#)

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### Carmel Rotary Zoom Link

#### Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87091303825?pwd=ZjBGekNaYkczT0VZdnhDYjhidUtsQT09>

**Meeting ID: 870 9130 3825**

**Passcode: 4waytest**

**One tap mobile**

+16465588656,,87091303825#,,,,\*73005176# US (New York)

+13017158592,,87091303825#,,,,\*73005176# US (Washington DC)

**Dial USING YOUR ACTUAL PHONE by your location**

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

**Meeting ID: 870 9130 3825**

**Passcode: 73005176**

**Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kH5bJHKI5>**

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### Gearbox Sponsors



**Greg Pilling**

NMLS # 873570 317-495-8042  
greg@currentmortgage.ai



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NMLS # 2554422

## proud to protect Carmel



**Ranj Puthran**

**317-844-4683**

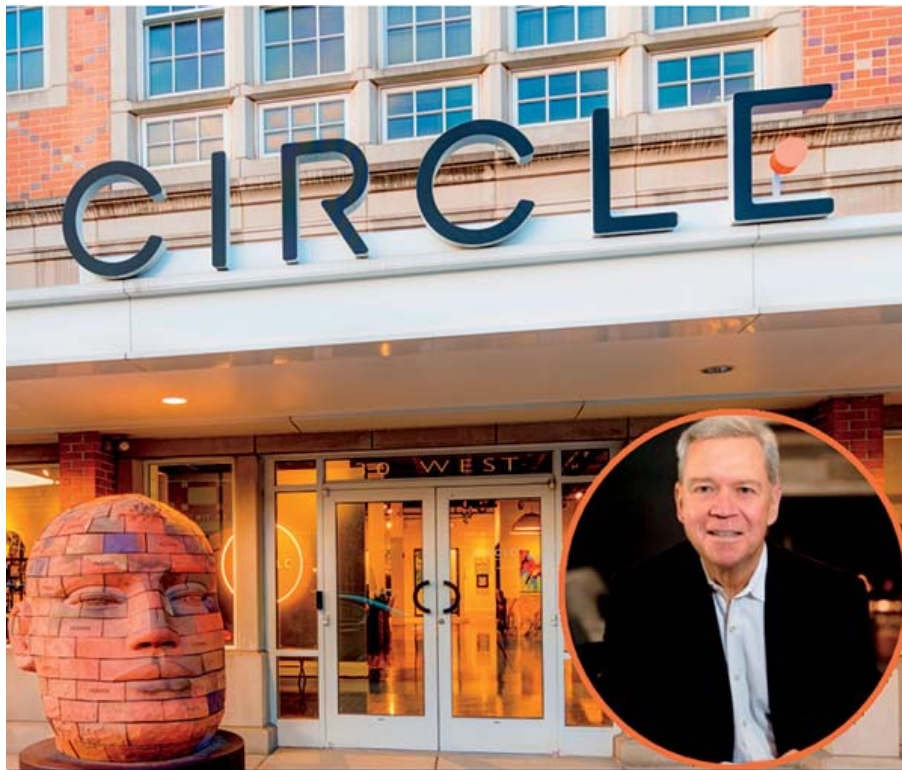
718 Adams St Ste B

Carmel

ranjitputhran@allstate.com



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**JAY O'NEIL**

jay@circle-re.com

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Your *Trusted* Realtor &  
Carmel Rotarian for *36* Years

## Club Member Anniversaries



[Kurt A. Rupenthal](#)  
37 Years



[Jerome Roberts](#)  
26 Years



[Katie L. Smardo](#)  
14 Years



[Peter Beering](#)  
13 Years



[Winston Long](#)  
11 Years



[Julie Standish](#)  
2 Years



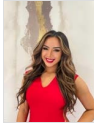
[Jennifer A Piatt](#)  
2 Years



[Sharon M. Kibbe](#)  
2 Years



[Louise M. Jackson](#)  
2 Years



[Mika L Takahashi](#)  
2 Years



[David A Ryan](#)  
1 Year

## Birthdays

[Kim Gaskill](#)  
May 1st

[Mark Westermeier](#)  
May 4th

[Brandon Weddle](#)  
May 5th

[Brian A Beck](#)  
May 7th

[Greg Pilling](#)  
May 7th

[Sharon M. Kibbe](#)  
May 8th

[Semiu Olanrewaju Bello](#)  
May 11th

[Michael Rothenberger](#)  
May 12th

[Stephen C. Possell](#)  
May 14th

[Sue Finkam](#)  
May 14th

[David I Hollander](#)  
May 16th

[Peter Primason](#)  
May 18th

## Wedding Anniversaries

[TANAKA Pasipamire Kaleso](#)  
April 29th

[Cristina Mazza Piccolo](#)  
May 8th

[Donna Gray](#)  
May 16th

[Robert Wright Swanay](#)  
May 18th

[Richard F. Taylor III](#)  
May 25th