May 7—Angelique will talk about Desert Arc

In addition to being our club's President-Elect, **Angelique Ontiveros** serves as Director of Business Services and Facilities for Desert Arc which includes a number of services for area businesses and individuals such as shredding, recycling, landscape maintenance, janitorial and fulfillment.



May 14 — Becoming a Certified Autism Destination



On May 14, we'll learn about the process of becoming a Certified Autism

Destination when we welcome Andrea

Staehle, City of Palm Desert human resources manager and Josh Heinz, community engagement manager for Visit Greater Palm Springs. Both the city and Visit Greater Palm Springs have become Certified Autism Destinations.



Families with autism are a growing segment of the travel market and spend an estimated \$262 billion annually on autism-related services. Certification as an autism destination increases understanding and awareness and also helps make the workplace more inclusive and welcoming for employees and family members on the autism spectrum. Other local organizations which have received certification include JW Marriott and The Living Desert. Andrea, who has a BS in Business Management and a Masters in Business Administration, has been with the city since 2021. Josh, who has spoken to our club before, has two children with profound autism so his commitment to support families living with autism is deeply personal. He is the founder and producer of the annual Concert for Autism which has raised over \$100,000 for autism services since its inception 17 years ago.

Upcoming Speakers & Meeting Schedules

- May 14 Palm Desert-Certified Autism Center, Andrea Staehle & Josh Heinz
- May 21 Sunnylands, Eric Ornelas, Communications & Public Affairs
- May 28 The Living Desert, Lin Conrad
- June 4 Mental Illness and Suicide, Hilary Spyers- Duran

Membership News

We are pleased to publish for the second time, the application for membership from **Lindi Biggi**.

Last Week...

Palm Desert Rotarians have been volunteering for the **Vision to Learn**





project which is being rolled out in Riverside Unified Schools. Spearheaded by Venice Beach Rotarian Nora MacLellan, this program tests early elementary school children for vision issues and if detected, provides them with glasses for free. A recent screen at the Nova Academy in Coachella was conducted on 229 students by Wendy O'Kane and Mark and Maria Meyer. 59% of the children failed the testing!

Another screening was held on April 23 at Benjamin Franklin Elementary in La Quinta staffed by the Meyers, Carol Winston, Priscilla Dewing and Maryalice Owings.

PD members Amy Laboda,
Maryalice Owings, Jennifer
Loretta and Ricardo Loretta
enjoyed great food, drink and
fellowship at Tour founder Tim
Esser's home where a robust
party was held to celebrate
a very successful Tour de Palm
Springs earlier this year. Amy
headed up our club team which
managed the Tour registration
and volunteer check-in earning
over \$8000 for our club!



Upcoming Club, District and Other Rotary Events

May 16 – Directing Change District 5330, Mark & Maria Meyer, and Palm Desert Rotary are partnering with the Riverside University Health System to honor the winners of the of the Directing Change Film competition. This event is part of Take Action for Mental Health: California's Mental Health Movement. The program offers young people the exciting opportunity to participate in the movement by creating 60second films about suicide prevention and mental health used to support awareness, education and advocacy efforts on these topics.



The iGNITE Festival is where we will all come together to commemorate the Rotary achievements and milestones of the past year and reflect on the impact we have made in our communities and beyond!

CLICK FOR THE **iGNITE FESTIVAL WEBSITE**



at the iGNITE FESTIVAL in Winchester, CA as we bring Rotarians and our community together to celebrate igniting passions and inspiring actions in our communities and around the world. The iGNITE FESTIVAL will feature Live Entertainment, BBQ Competition, Camping, Vendors, and fun for the whole family!



FEATURING

- ✓ Food Trucks
- ✓ Service Projects ✓ Live Entertainment
- ✓ Camping

- Beer/Wine
- ✓ Kids Activities
- ✓ BBQ Competition
- ✓ TONS OF FUN!



Adult Admission (16+): \$75.00 Youth Admission (6-15): \$45.00 Children (5 & Under): FREE





Wednesday JUNE 19th, 7PM Join Rotarians from across the valley for Rotary Night at the Palm Springs Power Baseball Game, June 19th. Gates open and at 6:00 pm. Only \$5:00 for seating in a Rotary reserved section behind home plate. Food and drinks available for purchase. Pay at the gate and arrive before 7 to see an Interact student throw out the first pitch and our own Doug Scott sing the National Anthem. (this is also Bark in the Park Night with special guest Mayor Max of Idyllwild (a golden retriever) so bring your dog!)

Angels of Service Schedule

- May 2 CSUSB
- May 16– Joslyn Center
- Week of May 27 Food Now & St. Margaret's
- June 20th Joslyn Center
- Week of June 24 Food Now & St. Margaret
- June 27 CSUSB
- June 18 Joslyn Center
 - * Contact Buffy Cavaness for dates for Food Now & St. Margaret's and if you would like to volunteer.

 310-410-0001 only.buff.2020@gmail.com

(You can also support the AOS with a Happy Dollars donation or the PayPal link below.)

Galilee Center

Volunteer Opportunities

Tuesdays 9:30 am - 11:00 am Fill food baskets

Thursdays 9:30 am - 11:00 am Fill produce bags

Thursdays 3:45 pm - 5 pm

Help load food boxes into the vehicles' trunks. Fast-Paced. Must be able to lift approx. 25lbs.

Monday - Saturday 9 am - 5 pm

Help in store, warehouse and food storage. Sweep, mop, organize, sort items & clothing, move furniture.

To volunteer or get more information on the Food Basket Distributions dates and times, call 760-396-9100 or email ltorres@galileecenter.org.

Meeting Information



Help the Club save money by buying a lunch ticket or paying with cash for lunch

Do you pay for your lunch with a credit card? Consider buying a 5 punch lunch ticket so we pay credit card fees on 1 transactions instead of 5. The more we save on administrative cost, the more club funds go to doing good!

Weekly Rotary Meeting Information

We meet in person at 11:45 am on Tuesdays at the Palm Valley Country Club, Palm Desert. We also offer a Zoom option for our out-of-town members. We ask all Rotarians and guests who are able to, to please attend in person.

- Please make a reservation by the Thursday before. You can RSVP by sending an email to <u>palmdesertrotary@gmail.com</u> or replying the reservation request e-mail. that goes out each week.
- Please arrive at 11:45 am register, socialize, and be seated so the meeting can start promptly at 12:00 pm.

Please Note: If you have reservation <u>and do not cancel</u>, you may be asked to pay for the lunch if we fall short of our reserved headcount.

NEW-Regular Zoom Meeting Link

The Zoom Room opens at 11:45am and the meeting begins at 12 Noon.

Join by **CLICKING HERE**

or Join Zoom Meeting via the Zoom web: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83770058317? pwd=OCtHdFBhM1BJbXgzcmYvTHliZzNTQT09

Dialing in? Find the number by your location at:

https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kvn6rknU6

Meeting ID: 837 7005 8317

Passcode: PD885



Pay Your Happy Dollars, lunch or other donations online by Clicking the PayPal logo above.

Select a category from the drop down or select *other* and add a note when you enter your payment information to indicate what your payment is for.

You don't need to have a PayPal account to use this link You can use any credit or debit account.

Your Rotary Board

Rotary Club of Palm Desert Board of Directors 2023-24

President – Leroy Johnson
Immediate Past President – Amy Laboda
Treasurer – Judy Lozano
Secretary & President Elect Designee – Priscilla Dewing
Community Service & President Elect – Angelique Ontiveros
RI Foundation & Executive Secretary – Jennifer Loretta
Club Service – John LaLonde
Membership – Priscilla Dewing
Special Events – Carol Winston
PR/Branding – Mark Stanley
Vocational Service – Andrea Durrett
Youth Service – Maryalice Alberg Owings
International Service & Club Foundation President – Ricardo Loretta

Palm Desert Rotary Club | PO Box 11574, Palm Desert, CA 92255

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