



**INFORMATION:**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**TOWN OF CAREFREE OPENS NEW KIWANIS SPLASH PARK**

CAREFREE, Ariz., (February 24, 2016) – The Town of Carefree will officially open the Kiwanis Splash Park, located in the Carefree Desert Gardens, April 1, 2016 and it will remain open through October from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. everyday. Last fall, the local Carefree Club of Kiwanis generously donated the funds so that local families and their children could have a place to escape the heat while enjoying the surrounding views in Carefree.

In keeping with the Carefree Desert Garden theme, there is a Scorpion centered within the splash pad named "**KIWANI**" who is an exciting one-of-a-kind addition. SplashZone worked in concert with the Town to design the unique Scorpion feature that comes to life when guests least expect it, creating an all new level of interactivity and team play experience. It is an exciting focal point for Carefree's New Kiwanis Splash Park, and combined with the other ground spray jets, create a magical, nature-inspired play environment.

In late October 2015, the Grand Opening of the Kiwanis Splash Park took place at the splash pad during the Enchanted Pumpkin Garden Exhibit with many children and families present to see it fully functioning. The original concept of the splash pad in the Gardens came from Councilwoman Melissa Price who then got the help, along with Mayor Les Peterson, to approach the Kiwanis. Kiwanian, Toby Payne and Councilman and Kiwanian Gene Orrico were instrumental in introducing the idea to the Kiwanis to possibly help fund the project.

Kiwanis President Bob Swan and current President West Hunsaker proudly presented the oversized symbolic check for \$135,000 at the 2015 celebration. Hunsaker said, "Taking care of one child at a time is our mission." Gene Orrico also added, "The donation was made possible by all the folks from the Kiwanis Club and Foundation of Carefree." Overall the partnership once again shows how the Town and the Kiwanis work together year after year. Historically the Kiwanis have also generously donated funds to restore the Carefree Sundial.

For more information please check the town website, [www.VisitCarefree.com](http://www.VisitCarefree.com).

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**About the Carefree Kiwanis**

The Kiwanis focus is on helping children recognize and develop their potential. They offer post-secondary scholarships, summer art programs, community science fairs and mentoring, special needs support, youth service organizations and more. The vast majority of the funds raised are invested in the children of the community; and programs benefiting the community; a position is also donated to eradicate diseases in third world countries in conjunction with Kiwanis

International initiatives and to disaster relief around the world.

Today the Carefree Club has approximately 200 members, ranking the Club of Carefree within the top ten largest Kiwanis clubs in the world. They believe that investing even one fraction of one's time, talents, energies and experiences will make a world of difference tomorrow.



Carefree Town Council (L), Vice Mayor John Crane, Councilwoman Melissa Price, Mayor Les Peterson, Kiwanian President West Hunsacker, Kiwanian President Bob Swan, Councilman Bob Gearhart, Councilman Glenn Miller and Kiwanian and Councilman Gene Orrico.

