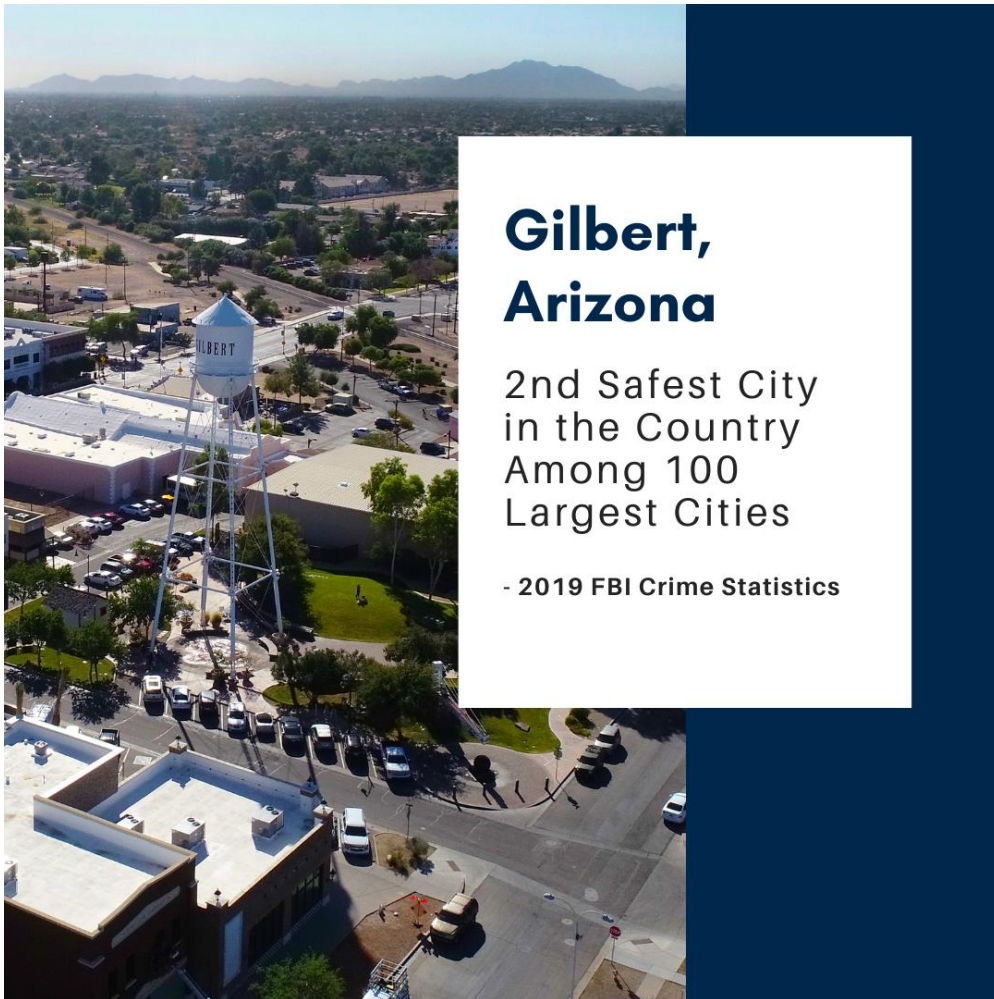


## Rotary Club of Gilbert, Arizona October 1 at 7 AM



## WELCOME TO GILBERT ROTARY

**Attendance:** Debe Mahoney, Donna Backhaus, Dave Hutchinson, Mike Flores, Bill Nuzbach, George Pettit, Cori Christenson-Barimo, Mark Grady, Chuck Holland, Curt Ward, Carla Rowe-Malcolm, Dr. Vince Pellegrino

**Guests:** Brigett Peterson, Toyin Atolagbe and Jean Hamilton

Mike introduced Toyin Atolagbe who reached out wanting to serve. Toyin is principal at Great Hearts Academy in Chandler, a school of 720 students. Welcome Toyin!



## ROTARY MOMENT

This week's Rotary Moment from President-Elect Mike was another excerpt from the Rotary International Convention in Hawaii. It came from General Session II e, Rotary International sponsored a mural by local artist Luke Dekneef of Honolulu, to celebrate Rotary's commitment to Peacebuilding. It resonated with him as a memory he was taught by his grandparents. He named the mural "Peacemakers" and it is another beautiful tribute to Rotary's commitment to peacebuilding.

Check it out here:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=B48IEPpfyhs&feature=youtu.be>

Watch within the session video at the 7:46 to 10:09 minutes.

**Luke DeKneef** is a self-taught artist born and raised on the island of Oahu in Hawaii, USA. Growing up surfing on the north shore, he developed a fascination with waves and the movement of water. Early in his career, DeKneef painted plumeria clusters growing in lush valleys, majestic Hawaiian mountains standing tall at sunrise, and turbulent blue waves cascading on the surface of the ocean. His early works sparked a curiosity for what lives under the surface, where he explored the movement of waves from the ocean floor and the refraction of light under water.

From small canvases to large-scale murals, DeKneef's art embodies the relationship between humans and the ocean. He uses acrylic and aerosol mediums to create his visions.

“World peace and the advancement of unity involve humble hands and the minds that guide them to action. This design is the result of hundreds of stories from amazing people that have addressed conflict through Rotary club projects. They create conditions that foster long lasting peace. The different colors of hands and flowers with distorted fragments display the vast diversity of ethnicities from all walks of life and represent the importance to promote peace and togetherness around the globe.”

- Luke DeKneef





### **Last Week's Speaker**

Brigette Peterson

Candidate for Mayor of Gilbert

Jim Schermetzler introduced Mayoral Candidate Brigette Peterson to the Club. Brigette is originally from Massachusetts where she was born and raised. She, her husband Mark and daughter Jenn decided to relocate and chose Gilbert, Arizona 25 years ago. She is also a doting dog-mom to two rescue animals (a dog and a cat) and also a Golden Retriever.

Brigette has been a tireless servant to Gilbert for many years. Her impressive resume includes:

- Gilbert Planning Commission -14 years
- Gilbert Town Council – January 2015 - January 2019
- Vice-Mayor - 2018
- Gilbert Town Council – January 2019 to March 2020 when she resigned her position on the council to run for Mayor.

As of March 2020, Brigette also served on many boards, committees and as council liaison to non-profit organizations. Her resume includes:

- Valley Metro Board of Directors
- League of Cities and Towns General Administration, Human Resources and elections committee (GAHRE).

She acted as Town Council liaison to:

- Gilbert Planning Commission
- Gilbert Sister Cities Board of Directors

- Gilbert Feeding Families
- Land Development Code Update Subcommittee
- Northwest Employment Corridor Committee

Brigette serves as a Republican Precinct Committeeman and State Committeeman for Legislative District 12. She is an alumni of Gilbert Leadership Class VII, former member and past chair of Gilbert Leadership Board of Directors - a part of the Gilbert Chamber of Commerce Foundation, zone committeeman and as served on many local steering committees and stakeholder groups.

<https://www.votebrigettepeterson.com/>

She is a regular participant in community events.

Brigette was proud that Gilbert was named the 2<sup>nd</sup> Safest City in the country, among the 100 largest cities. If elected, Peterson wishes to continue to making Gilbert the clean, safe and vibrant community we are. Her vision for the future includes wise growth always with the intent to keep Gilbert's small town feel.



She was kind enough to take some questions and the first involved the lack of relationship with the Town of Gilbert and pushback when dealing with event venues when working with local non-profits.

When there is a switch in the council, she said, attitudes might change. She wants Gilbert to work with non-profits .

The second question, dealt with Gilbert populaton. At over 260,000, would it be possible to have a council liaison or Town of Gilbert member in our group to help identify community needs as the club wishes to have a better relationship with the town administration. Peterson replied, that the town probably hasn't had a direct liaison since George annd Scott Anderson. She cannot promise this, but would consider it.

In response to cultural diversity, she hopes the Town Council will re-instate the Human Relations Board to again encourage the diverse and nice mix of Gilbert residents to come together and feel comfortable.

Curt asked about progress on the Regional park. Peterson annouced that Phase 1 B will open in the next couple of weeks.

When asked about buildout, she predicts a population of 330,000, perhaps by 2030.

It was a please to have Brigette visit this morning. She campaigns on the platform of "proven leadership" . Thank you.

Please remember to Vote November 3, 2020

### **Club Updates:**

#### **Barleen's Event**

**BARLEENS**  
DINNER ★ SHOW

Tickets remain. If interested contact George.

### Dictionary Project:

George reports still not having the numbers from the East Mesa schools, which are needed to order the correct amount of books.

### Community Service

Mark has set up a dinner prep and grab and go service to Paz de Cristo in November. He needs a staff of 7. The time commitments is 4 PM to 7 PM

### Boy's and Girl's Club

Debe, Curt and Cori made a visit to the Boys and Girl's club for a tour and discussion of how the club might be of service to them. They reported the tour as interesting. They have a big teen room. Some of the rooms are in need of some restoration. They are still interested to partner with the club on mentorship opportunities and career presentations.



A calendar for October 2020. The title "October 2020" is in white text on a dark blue background. Below the title is a header row with days of the week: Sun, Mon, Tue, Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat. The calendar grid shows dates from 1 to 31. The 1st is on a Thursday, the 10th is on a Saturday, and the 31st is on a Saturday.

October 2020						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

## **Opportunity to Zoom with Sun Lakes Rotary**

The Rotary Club of Sun Lakes contacted Curt to invite any interested Gilbert members to join them for their regular Zoom meeting Tuesday, November 17, 2020 at 7 AM when their speaker will be Interim Mayor Scott Anderson. For information, check their website.



### **Upcoming Meeting and Events**

October 8, 2020 – Regular Meeting – 7 AM on Zoom

October 9, 2020 – Boys and Girls Club Golf (Curt, Jim, Mike, Mark and Debe)

October 15, 2020 – Regular Meeting – Zoom – 7 AM

October 16, 2020 – Board Meeting – Gilbert House – 7 AM

October 22, 2020 – Club Assembly – Zoom – 7AM