

# LION PRIDE WE SERVE

A PUBLICATION OF THE LIONS OF LOWER MICHIGAN - MD11

## WINTER IS HERE AND THAT MEANS TIME TO **MAKE YOUR MARK** AT THE LIONS MICHIGAN FORUM 2025



We welcome Past International President Brian and Lion Lori Sheehan to the Forum this year. PIP Brian will give the keynote address at the luncheon, and you will not want to miss the breakout sessions led by Lion Lori and PIP Brian. Lions in Motion will get you moving with fitness guru, Lion Lori Sheehan. PIP Brian's session, Great Balls of Fire!, will do just that – get you fired up! Who knows

### FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1, 2025, AT THE DELTA MARRIOTT HOTEL KALAMAZOO MICHIGAN

what's up his sleeve when he takes the stage.

We're back in Kalamazoo at the Delta Marriott for an improved experience – spacious gathering area, plenty of coffee, a large, easily accessible exhibitor room and an expanded ballroom for the luncheon program and keynote address.

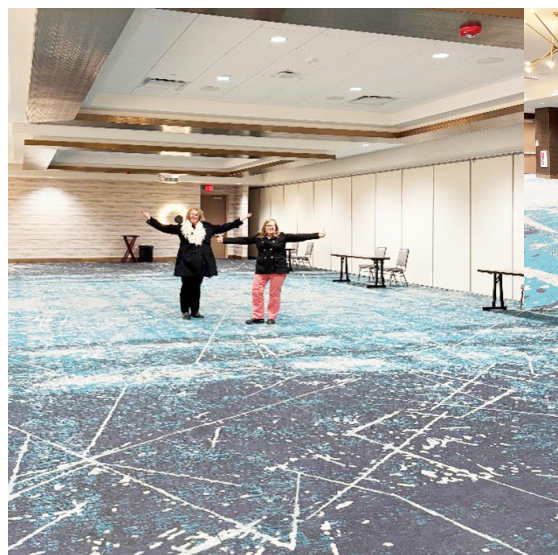
Join us February 28 for the large group service project **BEGINNING AT 7.00PM** to benefit Sacred Beginnings, an organization leading the revolution against human trafficking.

Together, we will donate and package up Blessing Bags for distribution in MD 11 and District 10.

The Lions Michigan Forum is well known for their track record of providing exceptional informational and educational breakout sessions to strengthen your club and your journey as a Lion.

We look forward to welcoming you February 28-March 1, 2025!

For mail returns see ID statement.



*Enjoy a spacious gathering area with plenty of coffee to keep you going!*

*The Exhibitor's area is a large room nestled in between the breakout rooms for ease of access.*



**Just a partial preview of what's on tap at LIFT, the hotel restaurant and bar.**  
Delta Marriott Hotel, 2747 11th St. S., Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
269-375-6000

**Additional rooms are reserved at the Best Western Plus, 2575 11th St. S., Kalamazoo. 269-350-5522**

#### Lions Michigan Forum Keynote Speaker, PIP Brian Sheehan.

Brian E. Sheehan, from Bird Island, Minnesota, USA, was elected to serve as international president of Lions Clubs International at the association's 104th International Convention, held in Montréal, Québec, Canada, from June 22 through June 28, 2022. He served as Chairperson for Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) from July 11, 2023 through June 25, 2024.

Past International President Sheehan is the founder and CEO of Rural Computer Consultants, a software development company.

A member of the Bird Island



**Lions Michigan Forum Keynote Speaker, PIP Brian Sheehan**

Lions Club since 1991, he has held many offices within the association, including council chairperson, long range planning chairperson, membership chairperson, retention chairperson, women's initiative chairperson, among just a few positions held.

A true friend of Michigan Lions, PIP Brian has been a sought-after speaker for many years, from his time as a PID up until last year as Chairperson for LCIF and honored guest at the Melvin Jones Celebration held in Port Sanilac.

## UPCOMING

### Events:

#### FEBRUARY

Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

#### FEBRUARY 1 2025

Lions Bear Lake Camp Ice Plunge!

#### February 28-March 1 2025

4th CoG Meeting/VDG Training  
Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo

#### February 28-March 1 2025

Lions Michigan Forum  
Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo

#### February 28-March 1 2025

Lions MI Service Project 7.00pm

#### March 1 2025

LIONS MI FORUM  
With PIP Brian Sheehan and Lion Lori Sheehan

#### April 2025

Family & Friends Month  
Environmental Awareness Month  
Leo Club Awareness Month}

#### May 2025

MAY 16, 2025 5th and Final Council of Governors Meeting Double Tree Hotel Bay City

#### 2025 INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

ORLANDO FLORIDA  
July 13-17 2025

Check our website for updates & additional information  
[www.lionsofmi.com](http://www.lionsofmi.com)





> EXEC DIRECTOR - NEWS



# EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS PRIDE

BY LION WENDY BURNS



It gave me great joy putting together the many pieces of this issue and the District Club section. It was a wonderful review of the very recent holiday season – Christmas Past, Lions Version. Reviewing each district newsletter for club events and scouring Face Book pages for additional photos and articles was reminiscent of going through a box of old photos filled with family and friends. Each picture tells a story, and for me every story told of caring, sharing, service, and joyful time spent together with community and Lions.

You caroled, rang bells, decorated nursing homes, hosted parades, hot chocolate parties and even Santa through the entire month of December while collecting socks, hats, coats, mittens, food and toys to distribute to so many. This is so heartwarming, but the best part is that it doesn't stop in December.

A fresh start to the year can energize and set a positive tone for the months ahead. Use social media to share your initiatives for the year and engage with the community. Jump start your year of service at the Lions Michigan Forum February 28-March 1 in Kalamazoo.

Participate in the Friday night group Service Project to benefit Sacred Beginnings, an organization focused on ending human trafficking. Saturday's breakout sessions are filled with innovative service ideas, educational topics designed to enhance your club, and opportunities to connect with fellow members from across the state.

LCI guests at the Forum this year are PIP Brian and Lion Lori Sheehan. PIP Brian always proves that laughter is the best medicine, and he puts the FUN in everything. Lion Lori brings a wellness challenge and will get us up and moving into the second half of our year.

Spend time at the exhibitor displays and please support our State and District Projects and various vendors who are an important addition to the Lions Michigan Forum.

If you've never attended the Forum, the Leadership Institute, a District or Multiple District Convention, resolve now to make this your year to just do it! Thank you, Lions, for all you do to make this state a better place.

Lion Wendy Burns, Executive Director



## COUNCIL CHAIR'S CORNER PDG TERRI HUFFMAN, MD 11 COUNCIL CHAIR



### DUSTIN DALE, A LEADERSHIP MENTOR I FOLLOW ON FACEBOOK...

and a former keynote speaker at the Lions Michigan Forum, recently shared an inspiring

article titled Happiness: The Secret to Great Leadership. It got me thinking about how happiness connects to what we do as Lions.

Dustin wrote: "What if happiness was your greatest leadership strength? Truly happy leaders don't just achieve success—they create it. They lead with clarity, resilience, and authenticity, building trust and inspiring teams to thrive.

Happiness fuels emotional intelligence, strengthens relationships, and drives positive, high-performing cultures. And here's the key: happiness isn't about avoiding challenges. It's about approaching them with gratitude, purpose, and self-awareness. When leaders prioritize their own wellbeing, success becomes a natural byproduct."

This resonates deeply with what we prioritize as Lions. Our leaders receive world-class training, empowering them to guide our members toward SUCCESS. For us, success is seen in the smiles and joy on the faces of those we serve.

Whether at a KidSight event, a homeless shelter, a food bank, or a diabetes health fair, the happiness we bring to others reflects our own joy. Happiness is truly our superpower.

When we attend meetings, it's not just about business—it's about being with friends who often feel like family. Our service events are incredibly rewarding, even if they leave us physically exhausted. The reason? They fill our hearts with a deep sense of purpose and joy.

We must share this superpower with others! Let's spread the word about the extraordinary rewards of serving. After all, who wouldn't want an extra dose of happiness in their life?

Just Ask.  
JOY TO THE WORLD, ALL THE BOYS AND GIRLS.  
Council Chair Terri Huffman

## DONATIONS NEEDED FOR VICTIMS OF CALIFORNIA FIRES FROM THE LIONS OF 4-C1 - CALIFORNIA

We are currently mobilizing to assist with the recovery issues due to the wildfires in Southern California.

Several of our members are on the board of the 'Command Center' to lend a hand in organizing and implementing our response to their needs.

We have received several calls and emails on how we can best be of service from here in the north state. What we are asking all clubs to do, if you want to send funds to help meet the needs of the Districts of 4-L2 and 4-L3, is to send those funds to PDG Sue Kerr and she will place them in our Disaster Relief Fund account and then pass ALL funds donated to the proper person in those districts.

The benefit of making cash available to them is that they will be able to purchase gas cards, or other merchants, in their areas for any of the other items needed. We found that gift cards are very much needed in this situation.

If you would like to receive an LCIF record of your donations you may do that as well. Please note on the donations sent to LCIF that the funds are for LA Wildfire Relief, selecting either District 4-L2 or 4-L3. Those funds will be sent directly to those districts. Gift cards can also be purchased with these donations.

Both Districts have applied and received Disaster Relief Funds from LCIF, but those funds cannot purchase gas cards or gift cards of any kind.

Multiple District Four has also received a Major Catastrophe Grant of \$100,000.00 for the areas affected by this disaster.

Your donations are very much needed. It seems as if they have received a great deal of funding, but it will not last long and their need is huge.

If you have any questions concerning club or personal donations, please contact PDG Sue Kerr at 530-605-9036, or PCC Karen Crook 707-321-7715.

Thank you for your continued support and your dedication to service.

Serving from the Heart,  
PCC Karen Crook  
707-321-7715  
Karencrook09@yahoo.com

## SPOTLIGHT DISTRICT GOVERNOR DG LA WONNA COLEMAN 11A1



### Change...

We humans are creatures of habit. We like consistency, doing things the same way, every day. It's comfortable! We like predictability, and when new things are introduced, we sometimes hesitate, complain and resist. And if we are of a certain age, we resist even more. Change is inevitable, and we need to be ready for it!

How many of us have made a plan only to have something happen and those plans get hijacked by something or someone? And when we're caught off guard, we don't like it!! Tides change, and we should never be so set in our ways that we can't change with the tide.

Think about your club. Is your club so set in its ways that it can't change! We all need new members, and if you're having trouble attracting new members, maybe it's time to change.



Whatever you need to do to change, do it. Because whether you're prepared or not, change will happen anyway.  
DG La Wanna



## GLOBAL SERVICE CHAIR IPDG STEVE MURCH



**We Serve.  
Kindness Matters.  
Have Fun.**

Those three lines above should be something we all do as Lions. We know them all, but how many of us actually try and implement them in how we carry ourselves as Lions in club functions and everyday life?

Having fun might be the one thing we don't remember or do often enough as Lions, but this year's Michigan Forum will give us that opportunity to practice what we believe. The Friday evening service project will be the perfect time to combine all three elements.

Past International President Brian Sheehan is our keynote speaker, and most of us know he is a great example of serving, being kind, and having fun while doing it. It's time we followed his lead and – Have Fun.

This year's service project on Friday evening is filling blessed bags for Sacred Beginnings. The districts and clubs have been working hard at collecting the items to fill the bags, and we will use those items to fill the bags. If we line up and fill the bags it will only take us about a half hour – tops. That's a pretty short time for all of us to gather; we need to make sure it takes a little longer.

Teams will be comprised to earn the right to fill bags and earn prizes. The team with the most points at the end of the evening will win the coveted title and bragging rights for the rest of the Forum. The key is to leave your inhibitions at the door and be ready to have fun and compete.

So, what will you be doing to win? Well, I can't tell you specific details but I will say you should sharpen your knowledge about all matters trivial. You also might want to brush up the rules of some participatory games played by people from ages 3-103. And maybe practice a dance move or two (that one might be designed to throw you off ... or maybe not).

It's our opportunity to show PIP Brian that the Lions who live in MD 11 and SD 10 love to serve, and we can have fun doing it.

I hope to see everyone there. I'll be the bald, well-dressed man on Friday night.

IPDG Steve Murch

## GLT MD11 PDG TRACI TRIBLEY TEAM COORDINATOR EMBRACING A NEW CHAPTER



It can be easy to slip into a routine and feel like new beginnings are beyond reach. But there is something powerful about making a choice to start fresh, especially when it comes to leadership. Whether you are stepping into a new role in Lions, taking on

greater responsibilities at work, or daring to move forward in your personal life, these moments hold both excitement and the promise of growth.

Leadership does not require you to have every answer from the start. It calls for showing up as your true self, being open to learning, and accepting help when challenges arise. In Lions, we see how individuals come together and bring hope to the communities we serve. When you trust those around you, share your aspirations, and keep going even when it feels tough, you create an environment where genuine growth happens, and your leadership inspires others.

In your personal life, new chapters can spark a whirlwind of emotions. You might feel unsure or anxious about what lies ahead. Those butterflies in your stomach are signs of stepping out of your comfort zone and into a place where you can discover strengths you never knew you had. Instead of pushing those feelings away, acknowledge them as reminders that you are on a path of growth.

If you ever find yourself hesitating before embracing a leadership opportunity, remember that a supportive community can make all the difference. Whether it is your Lions family, friends, or a mentor who believes in you, let them remind you of your abilities. Share your concerns, celebrate your forward steps, and lean on those who want to see you succeed.

Wherever you are right now, it is never too late to turn the page. Embrace each new start, knowing that leadership is not just about guiding others. It is also about learning and growing alongside them. Step into your next chapter with courage, surrounded by people who will cheer you on, and discover how far you can go when you lead with heart and vision.

Yours in Service, Lion Traci Tribley,  
PDG Multiple District 11 Global Leadership Team Coordinator

## GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP TEAM LCI RESOURCES



### GLOBAL MEMBERSHIP APPROACH RON RIEBSCHLEGER DDS

### LET'S GET FIRED UP - TO GROW!



Coincidentally, that is the name of an ongoing series of seminars put on by our fellow Lions of the USA! I am sure you are hearing about it. It takes place on Jan 16th, 30th and Feb 13th. So far, reviews are coming in with high marks!

Take a second NOW and go register at <https://bit.ly/AreaEGrow> or I am sure there is a QRcode to be found elsewhere in this month's Pride magazine. There is still time to catch the 2nd and 3rd zoom session!

From the MD 11 GMT's desk, our state (including SD 10) is doing better than usual with Membership. Compared to the last few years, we are doing fantastic. The end of the year's numbers had the usual drop in net gains of members, which is normal, but we are gearing up for a great January and an even better second half of the Lion's year.

Many of our clubs are in the positive numbers. We are also thinking about putting together a seminar for the Forum in K-zoo on How to do it (positive in numbers and attitude) for your club. It will be an audience participation event and designed to share what is working for other clubs and what is not. The new membership passports are out and are proving to be very popular. One thing we have proven so far... the more involved a club/district is, the better they are performing. As a bonus, it seems the more involved they are, the more fun they are having also. I am not sure if it is the chicken or the egg theory is which comes first, but members' satisfaction seems to be directly correlated with participation. The districts that have the highest satisfaction numbers, and higher growth numbers, are those that are communicating and participating more. Typically, these are the clubs with a Membership Coordinator person in place—who is getting their club fired up and active. Make sure your club has that "special" person in place.

On the larger national scene, the latest catch word is "gamification". I actually had to look it up to see if it was a real word. I'll be darned, it is! The easiest way to explain it is to incorporate a part of being a Lion into a game like situation. A game where people earn points or rewards like badges, titles or perks. It would be very similar to the games people play on a phone and move up through the various levels. I know this is not a totally correct description, but the full description would take much longer and will be the subject of a future discussion—maybe at the Forum!

Personally, I think it just another tool for our toolbox for Lions to enjoy being a Lion. Having fun and increasing satisfaction is the key! Notice a pattern here?

See you at the forum!  
**Ron Riebschleger DDS, GMT Chairperson**



## Dave's Corner! ID Dave Wineman

### THE AH-HA MOMENT!

Make a video of your Ah-Ha moment (of when you felt you really became a Lion) and send it to me at my email below!! It's gaining momentum - People love to hear about this moment! Its precious!

NB

Make your Ah-Ha moment in Lions postable and you might just win a Lions Prize!

Send your 1 minute video to:

[DW@Abadata.com](mailto:DW@Abadata.com)





> LBLC NEWS



**Lions Bear Lake Camp: Highlights, Upcoming Events, and a Look Ahead to Summer 2025 – Lion Chrissy Andre, LBLC State Chair...**

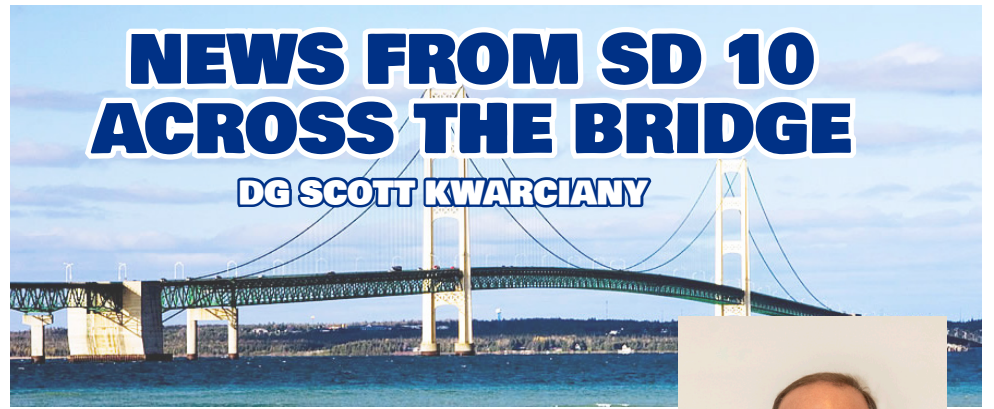
Lions Bear Lake Camp had an incredible year, welcoming 1,079 campers this past summer—a record-breaking season filled with adventure, connection, and personal growth. From climbing towers to kayaking and gathering around campfires, the memories made will last a lifetime. Retreat season carried this energy forward, with crafting groups, school team-building retreats, and more making use of our beautiful facilities.

As we step into 2025, we have an exciting lineup of events. February kicks off with our Ice Plunge, a thrilling fundraiser where participants brave icy waters to support the camp. In the spring, the Wild Game Dinner on April 12 will offer an evening of delicious food and fellowship, followed by the Annual Workbee on May 10, where volunteers can lend a hand in preparing the camp for summer. Summer fun starts early with the Golf Outing on June 9, a great day on the greens for all skill levels, and the excitement continues with our new Clay Shoot Fundraiser on September 6 at the Fenton Sportsmans Club.

Summer 2025 promises to be another unforgettable season. Our Leadership Development Program will return, allowing teens aged 15–17 to grow as mentors and role models while supporting younger campers. Specialized camps will include the Visually Impaired Youth Camp (July 13–19) and the Deaf & Hard of Hearing Youth Camp (July 20–26), offering enriching and empowering experiences for campers ages 6–16. These programs blend traditional camp activities like kayaking, archery, team-building, and campfires with skill-building opportunities that encourage confidence, independence, and connection.

None of this would be possible without the generous support of our Lions Clubs and donors. For only \$40, a camper’s family can send their child to camp, but the true cost to the camp is \$850 per camper. The difference is made up through donations and initiatives like the Sponsor a Camper program. Every sponsorship allows us to provide transformative experiences for children of all abilities at a significantly reduced cost to families, ensuring accessibility for everyone. Lions Clubs across Michigan play a crucial role in offsetting these costs, and their continued support is essential to our mission.

Visit [www.bearlakecamp.org](http://www.bearlakecamp.org) for more information and join us in making 2025 an unforgettable year!



District Governor Scott Kwarcianny visited with the Bark River-Harris Leo Club at the Parent Teacher Conference Bake Sale.

From left: Paige Erickson, Skylar Brayak, Alayna Johnson, DG Scott Kwarcianny, Teigan Martorelli, Arianna Loonsfoot, Boris DeGrave and DJ Kwarcianny

Wells Lions Club provides food for UPToberfest – Those that attended UPToberfest may have noticed a difference in the food. This year, the Wells Lions Club was approached by the event coordinators and were thrilled to participate. Shown are, from left to right, back row: Lions Doug Krusic, Bill Jensen, Scott



Kwarcianny, Kevin Gartland, and Roger Chenier. In the front row are John Gartland, Tom Schorn, Tom Skradski, and Troy Sebeck



Powers Spalding Lions donates \$4750 to the NCA Guarantee Scholarship Fund

**Reading Action Program (RAP)**



Education and literacy are key to overcoming poverty, disease and other social issues. Yet today, nearly one billion people worldwide are illiterate.

New access to digital information has the power to change lives and make communities stronger, but according to the Gates Foundation, nearly 5 billion people – almost 90% of the world’s population – do not have Internet access.

793 million people cannot read these words

(UNESCO)

1 in 6 people do not have access to the Internet

**“The more you read, the more things you’ll know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”**

Dr. Seuss, author of children’s books

**Take Action**

Join Lions from around the world to implement reading and education projects and help increase literacy rates. Whether it’s organizing a community spelling contest or donating books or computers to your local library or school, take part in a hands-on project and show the impact of Lions work.

**Project Ideas**

Whether you are an educator with a passion to help a child learn how to read, an entrepreneur ready to help develop a community-based literacy program, an information technology expert who can help introduce new technology to the visually impaired, or someone who simply enjoys reading to a child, no effort is too small to make a big difference. The following are a few project ideas that your club and district may consider taking on:

- Help an after school reading program
- Read to children at local libraries or schools
- Work with local literacy experts and agencies to promote reading
- Read or record books on tape for the blind and visually impaired
- Provide Internet connection for a school or library

**Sharing Success**

Encourage clubs to report their projects. Share your project with us online! Log on to MyLCI and tell us about your literacy project. You can submit your stories and images. Your story might be featured in any number of future Lions Clubs International materials – including our blog and our social media websites.

**Resources**

A number of RAP resources including a planning guide and project idea sheet are available. Artwork is also available on the LCI web site that clubs can download to create RAP-related materials.

For more information or resources go to [www.lionsclubs.org](http://www.lionsclubs.org) and keyword search “Reading Action Program” or contact the Service Activities Division at [programs@lionsclubs.org](mailto:programs@lionsclubs.org).

**SERVICE PROJECT PROMO!**



Sacred Beginnings is an organization with headquarters in MD 11 C1 Grand Rapids, and in District 10. They are in need of items for their clients and their winter closet. Items for their “blessed bag” program include hair care products, deodorant, hand sanitizer, toothpaste, toothbrush, mouthwash, lip balm, umbrellas and winter gear.

A list of items needed from your district will be provided, and your club is asked to bring your donation to the Lions Michigan Forum Service Project on Friday, **February 28**. This event will take place at the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo. **SERVICE PROJECT BEGINS AT 7.00PM**

Contact your District GST or State Chair, PDG Steve Murch for a complete list of supplies: [stevemurch49707@gmail.com](mailto:stevemurch49707@gmail.com)



# YOUTH CAMPS & EXCHANGE PROGRAM

## BY: LION ELVIE MARFIL, MD 11 STATE CHAIR



### Is Hosting Right for Me?

Are you interested in learning about other cultures and ways of life while sharing your own customs and experiences? Are open-mindedness, tolerance and cultural competence of high importance to you? Do you have a desire to contribute towards peace, international understanding and the creation of global citizenship in youth? If you answered yes to any of these questions, you may enjoy being a host family for the Lions Youth Camps and Exchange (YCE) Program!

### Benefits of Hosting

- Hosting an exchange youth is guaranteed to be a rewarding experience because:
- You experience the joy of sharing your culture and daily customs
- You learn about the exchange youth's customs and culture
- You open a new world of possibilities and thinking to the exchange youth
- You make a new friend - maybe a friend for life

### Expectations of a Host Family

#### Room and Board

You are expected to provide room and board for the youth. It is recommended that youth be roomed with youth of similar ages and similar genders. Meals should be balanced and healthy.

#### Transportation

Typically, you are responsible for all of the youth's transportation during the exchange. Travel may include but is not limited to, transfers to and from the airport or train station, transfers to other Host Families or International Camp, transportation to and from any planned activities by you and/or the Host Club.

#### Financial responsibilities

Payment for cultural activities is dependent on the agreement made between you, the youth and the Host Club. Some programs offer stipends or scholarships for participating Host Families.

### Selecting an Exchange Youth

The criteria for selecting youth differs from YCE program to YCE program. Hosting a youth is dependent upon desired age, gender, interests and nationality and upon the availability of the youth meeting those requirements. Your local YCE Chairperson will advise you of available youth or if arranged early enough, may seek a youth meeting your request.

You can learn more about the roles and expectations of a YCE Host Family by checking out the YCE Host Family Handbook!

### Host Family Eligibility

Potential Host Families must be screened by the Host Lions Club and YCE Chairperson. The Host Lions Club and local YCE Chairperson must approve all host families. Screening items include, but are not limited to:

- Age: Having experience with youth of similar age as the incoming youth.
- Character: Your family should be understanding, interested in other cultures, open-minded, tolerant and have ability to communicate and/or deal wisely with youth.
- Language ability: It would be helpful if one or more members of your family speaks the youth's language and/or English (most YCE programs require English as the preferred language), and could be necessary in some cases.
- Knowledge of the YCE program and policy: Your family should have some familiarity with the YCE program and/or hosting youth. If you are a non-Lion Host Family, you should be well informed on the scope and objectives of Lionism, and on the YCE program and policy by the local YCE Chairperson.
- Living conditions: Your family should be able to accommodate an additional person in the home without discomfort or financial burden.
- Family preferences: Your family are permitted preference regarding the youth's nationality, language, religion, gender or age.
- Availability: It is important that you make sure your family's schedule allows accommodation to spend enough quality time with the youth.

#### - How to Apply

Contact Lion Elvie Marfil: [epmarfil5@gmail.com](mailto:epmarfil5@gmail.com) or 818-800-1060.



### Youth Camps and Exchange Sponsor Lions Clubs

Submitted by: Lion Elvie Marfil, District Youth Camps & Exchange

The Sponsor Lions Clubs are the resource for exchange youth to have a close working relationship with their district or multiple district YCE Chairperson. If a Sponsor Club does not have a district or multiple district YCE Chairperson, a Club President will be required to sign for the Exchange Youth along with the district governor, and to work directly with the YCE Chairpersons in the host countries of interest to make all arrangements. The following are general responsibilities for the Sponsor:

- Ensuring that the YCE policy is followed;
- Ensuring compliance with local laws governing youth protection;
- Verifying the exchange youth have sufficient accident, life, personal property, health and liability insurance to cover all contingencies during travel to and from their host country;
- Recruiting, screening and selecting qualified exchange youth;
- Help Exchange Youth use the YCE Directory to find their desired programs;
- Conduct an orientation session for outgoing exchange youth;
- Assist exchange youth with travel arrangements;
- Potentially provide assistance with or full financing for exchange youth travel costs including air fares, insurance, airport service fees, customs duties and any layover or overnight costs in route;
- Maintaining communications between the exchange youth, host Lions club, host family and YCE Chairperson.

You can learn more about the roles and expectations of a YCE Sponsor Club by checking out the YCE Sponsor Club Handbook!

### How to Become a Sponsor Club!

- Write a press release about the YCE program requesting youth who are interested in the YCE program to contact your club; and
- Contact local schools and universities, especially the foreign language or international studies departments, with information about the YCE program to recruit young people.

#### How to Apply

Contact Lion Elvie Marfil at 818-800-1060 or email: [epmarfil5@gmail.com](mailto:epmarfil5@gmail.com)

Facebook page: Youth Camps & Exchange – Michigan, USA

## LION PRIDE MAGAZINE

The Lion Pride (USPS 978-200) is created and published monthly at the Lions State Office for the Lions members of Multiple District 11, Michigan, except for the combined issues of: January/February, April/May, July/Aug., and September/October, at Lions Clubs of Michigan, 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911.

Lions receive the publication for annual dues/subscription rate of \$4.50. Advertisements must reach the above address by the 15th of the month for publication in the following month's issue. All clubs must send their own news and pictures to their district editor, allowing ample time for the district editor to

forward the copy to meet the deadline stated above.  
Periodicals postage paid in Lansing, MI 48911.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Lions Clubs of Michigan, 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911. Wendy Burns, Editor.

#### FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Please notify your post office and club secretary immediately if you change your address so that your Lion Pride copy can be mailed to your correct address.

New labels are prepared by Lions International and usually require 2-3 months before taking effect.

For advertising rates, please contact Lion Pride Magazine, 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911.

For information on State Projects or the State Office, contact 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911, (517) 887-6640, fax (517) 887-6642.

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[www.lionsofmi.com](http://www.lionsofmi.com)

**LOOK FOR OUR EXHIBIT TABLE AT THE FORUM!**



> LIONS FORUM HISTORY

MAKE YOUR MARK!



2025 Lions Michigan Forum Session Topics

February 28 -March 1, 2025

Delta Marriott Conference Center

Friday Night: 7:00 pm Service Project to Benefit Sacred Beginnings

	Reaching Out to Help	Personal Growth	Lions Causes	Club Management
8:30	<b>Human Trafficking</b> Lion Stephanie Graef, Leslie King	<b>LCI/LCIF Available</b> Grants and how to apply successfully	<b>Childhood Cancer</b> Dream Team Amanda Rounds	<b>Localeyes</b> Lion Doug Klein Marketing Clubs Effectively
9:30	<b>Victims Advocacy Group</b> VanBuren County Victim Service Unit Tara Burg; Neva Carey	<b>A Ball for All</b> PID Gary Anderson PDG Roshni Patel	<b>Lions Passport</b> PDG Brent Beracy	<b>ABCs of Event Planning</b> Kayleigh Gratz, Pres., Michigan Jaycee's
10:30	<b>Elder Law</b> Attorney David Carrier	<b>Lions Club Resale Shops = Service Dollars</b> VDG Kim Hooper Lion Laurie Althaus	<b>Great Balls of Fire</b> PIP Brian Sheehan	<b>Incorporating Your Club</b> DG Jonathan VanTol
11:30	<b>Pillars of Service</b> CC Terri Huffman	<b>Chat GPT</b> PDG Amy Thackston	<b>Lions in Motion</b> Lion Lori Sheehan	<b>LCI Portal</b> PDG Don Spinks

February 28 – 7:00 Group Service Project, Delta Marriott Conference Center  
**REGISTRATION OPEN: FRIDAY, FEB. 28 @ 6:30 pm and Saturday March 1, 7:30 am**  
**1<sup>st</sup> Session begins at 8:30 am Saturday.**

**LUNCHEON AGENDA**

- 12:40 p.m. Seating for Luncheon and announcements
- 12:50 p.m. Lunch
- 1:20 p.m. Welcome – PDG Jim Leach, Chair
- 1:25 p.m. Introductions of White Cane Scholarship Recipients – PDG Lula Gardfrey
- 2:00 p.m. Keynote address by PIP Brian Sheehan
- 2:45 p.m. Raffle Drawings
- 3:00 p.m. Dismissal

# WHITE CANE HISTORY MOMENT

There was a time that many will still remember when a White Cane Queen was crowned. Below are just a few of the pageant winners from the late 70's and 80's.

**PATRICIA ANN WEBBER**



**ROXANNE CURTIS**



**KARLA SIMONS**



2017 - Forum attendees packaged up weekend back-packs with snacks and a variety of items for school children to take home on a Friday and return for a refill on Monday.

In 2011 the Saline Fiddlers entertained us at the Lions Michigan Forum in Lansing.



## FEBRUARY 28-MARCH 1, 2025, LIONS MICHIGAN FORUM, KALAMAZOO AT THE KALAMAZOO DELTA MARRIOTT HOTEL. MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM – MAKE YOUR MARK!

*MI LIONS ENJOYING THE FORUM*



*Busy Lions working on the Service Project 2024*



*Lions and Mother/Daughter Duo Amy and Tanda Stiffler*



*Lions of District 11 A1 team up at the Forum in 2024*



*2023-2024 District Governors and Council Chair John Daoud at the 2024 Forum in Kalamazoo.*



# LIONS! MICHIGAN FORUM FEBRUARY 28- MARCH 1 2025



## LIONS MICHIGAN FORUM SESSION HIGHLIGHT: ABC OF EVENT PLANNING WITH GUEST SPEAKER KAYLEIGH GRATZ, MICHIGAN JAYCEES

### MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM

MICHIGAN LIONS-MAKE YOUR MARK! Feb. 28-Mar. 1, 2025  
Featuring LCI Guests, PIP Brian & Lori Sheehan



**Delta Marriott Kalamazoo**  
2747 S 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49009  
**Room Reservations call 269-375-6000**  
**Cost: \$114.00 Cutoff date: 2/12/25**  
**Alternate Hotel:**  
**BEST WESTERN SUITES KALAMAZOO**  
**269-350-5522 Room Rate: \$114.00**

**Registration Cost: \$50.00/person**  
Please complete the registration form and send it along with a check to: Lions of Michigan  
5730 Executive Drive • Lansing, MI 48911  
Telephone 517-887-6640 or Fax 517-887-6642  
**OR Register online at [www.lionsofmi.com](http://www.lionsofmi.com)**

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
Club Name \_\_\_\_\_  
District \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_  
Email \_\_\_\_\_

Names of Registrants  
1. \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_

**Registration Deadline: February 14, 2025**  
# \_\_\_\_\_ Registrants at \$50.00/person\* = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
\*Registration includes lunch, Forum, and proceedings booklet. **On-site registration: \$60.00**  
**PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO:**  
**Lions of Michigan**  
**5730 Executive Dr., Lansing, MI 48911**

List food allergies or dietary requirements:  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### REGISTER EARLY

To help us plan, prepare materials and guarantee lunch!

**FRIDAY EVENTS: Registration open 6:30 pm**  
 7:00 pm Service Project to benefit Sacred Beginnings  
 Hospitality – Mingle at Lift inside the Hotel

**SATURDAY SESSIONS:**  
7:00 a.m. – Registration Delta Marriott Conference Center  
8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. Breakout Sessions - Lunch to follow

- Session 1 Breakout Session - 8:30 a.m. (Check One)**  
 The Fight to End Human Trafficking - Ms. Leslie King  
 LCI/LCIF Grants PIDs Justin Faber & Jenny Ware  
 Childhood Cancer – Amanda Rounds  
 Localesyes – Successful Marketing Strategies – Lion Doug Klein
- Session 2 Breakout Session - 9:30 a.m. (Check One)**  
 Victim's Advocacy Group – Tara Bugg, Neva Carey  
 A Ball for All – Soccer balls for hearing impaired players – PID Gary Anderson/PDG Roshni Patel  
 Lions Passport to Member Recruitment  
 Event Planning: A-Z Steps to Success
- Session 3 Breakout Session - 10:30 a.m. (Check One)**  
 Elder Law- You're Never Too Young to Learn!  
 Lions Resale Shop How-To's -VDG Kim Hooper  
 Great Balls of Fire – PIP Brian Sheehan  
 Incorporating your Club -DG Jonathan VanTol
- Session 4 Breakout Session - 11:30 a.m. (Check One)**  
 Lions Pillars of Service – Council Chair Terri Huffman  
 ChatGPT for Beginners – PDG Amy Thackston  
 Lions in Motion – Lion Lori Sheehan  
 LCI Portal Training 101 – PDG Don Spinks

**12:45 p.m. Luncheon Speaker PIP Brian Sheehan**  
Announcements, Lunch, Scholarships, Keynote  
**Speaker PIP Brian Sheehan, Raffle Drawing to follow keynote address.**

February 28-March 1, 2025

### Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo, Michigan 2025 LIONS OF MICHIGAN FORUM ADVERTISEMENT OPTIONS

Listed below are several options to sponsor a personal or business ad in the 2025 Lions of Michigan Forum Proceedings Book. Placing an ad shows fellow Lions you support the Michigan Forum!

#### ADVERTISING RATES AND SIZES

- 1/8 page ad business card size 3.6 x 2.3" ..... \$15.00
- 1/4 page ad 3.6 x 4.8" (vertical) or 7.5 x 2.3" (horizontal) ..... \$20.00
- 1/2 page ad 3.6 x 10" (vertical) or 7.5 x 4.8" (horizontal) ..... \$25.00
- 3/4 page ad 7.5 x 7.4" ..... \$40.00
- Full page ad 7.5 x 10" ..... \$50.00

#### EXHIBITOR'S SPECIAL!

Rent an exhibitor's table (includes one lunch ticket) and run a full-page ad in the Michigan Forum book for just \$85.00!  
**LIONS OF MICHIGAN FORUM ADVERTISING FORM**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
(City, State, Zip) \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

#### CHECK ONE OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Included is a print ready ad or message  
 Please design my personal or business ad to read: (use separate paper if needed)

Ad Size: 1/8 page 1/4 page 1/2 page 3/4 page full page TOTAL COST: \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you for supporting Lions of Michigan! Deadline to submit: 2-10-2025**  
**Please send completed form and checks to: Lions of Michigan**  
**5730 Executive Drive • Lansing, MI 48911**

### EXHIBITOR'S AGREEMENT

#### MICHIGAN LIONS FORUM 2025: February 28-March 1

Please reserve a display table for the undersigned at the 2025 Michigan Lions Forum, held at the **Delta Marriott Kalamazoo, 2747 S 11<sup>th</sup> St., Kalamazoo, Michigan. (Set up available on 2/28/25)** Enclosed is a check covering the exhibition fee of \$55.00 OR \$85, which includes an ad in the Forum proceedings booklet and one lunch ticket. The charge is fully refundable only if, for any reason, the Forum is canceled or moved to another city or in case of fire or other catastrophic occurrence to the property. All conditions stated in the letter of invitation shall be accepted and followed by all exhibitors and their representatives. **Exhibitor Hours: Friday, 7:00 – 9:00 pm; Saturday, 8:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.**

The undersigned releases the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11 and its agents from any and all liabilities that may arise or be asserted as a result of participation in this exhibition. The Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. will determine the eligibility of any company or product for exhibit. Acceptance of an exhibitor for the MD 11 Michigan Forum does not imply endorsement of the product or services, nor does rejection imply lack of approval of the product or manufacturer.

Exhibitors shall take precautions to provide security to safeguard their property during show hours. It is understood that neither the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. nor the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo (nor legal entities which own, lease and/or operate it), nor their members, officers, directors or employees shall be responsible for injury to any person or persons for loss or damage to property belonging to the exhibitor or any person or persons while in transit to or from the hotel or while in the hotel property or otherwise. The exhibitor assumes complete responsibility and liability for all injury to any and all persons or property in any way connected with exhibitor's display caused by the exhibitor, his agents, representatives or employees. The exhibitor indemnifies and agrees to hold harmless the Lions of Michigan Multiple District 11, Inc. and the Delta Marriott Kalamazoo (and legal entities which own, lease and/or operate it), their members, officers, directors and employees against any and all liability whatsoever arising from any or all damage to property or personal injury caused by exhibitor or his agents, representatives, employees or any other persons.

#### EXHIBITOR'S SPECIAL

**Exhibit Table; 1 Lunch Ticket and Full-page Ad in the Michigan Forum Proceedings Booklet for just \$85.00!**  
**EXHIBITOR TABLE ONLY: \$55.00**

**Registration Deadline to guarantee lunch and booklet: February 10, 2025**

**MAIL FORM AND CHECK TO: LIONS MICHIGAN FORUM**  
**5730 EXECUTIVE DR., LANSING, MI 48911**  
**PHONE: 517.887.6640 FAX: 517.887.6642 EMAIL: [wburns@lionsofmi.com](mailto:wburns@lionsofmi.com)**

Name: _____	
Business: _____	Club: _____
Billing Address: _____	
(City, state, zip) _____	
Home Phone: _____	Business Phone: _____
Email address: _____	Cell Phone: _____
DO YOU REQUIRE AN ELECTRICAL HOOK-UP? <input type="checkbox"/> yes <input type="checkbox"/> no	
<input type="checkbox"/> Enclosed is my check for \$ _____	

## FORUM GUEST SPEAKER KAYLEIGH GRATZ



Kayleigh Gratz, from Allegan MI, is serving as the 101st President of JCI Michigan (Michigan Jaycees), and is a member of the Board of Directors for JCI USA. Junior Chamber International (JCI/Jaycees) is a civic organization that focuses on personal and professional development, community impact, and social networking for individuals between the ages of 18-40. Kayleigh is a legacy member, with parents who were active in the Jaycees. Since joining the Allegan Jaycees in 2017, she has held

every position on her local chapter board and became a dual member with a neighboring chapter, JCI South Kent. She has previously served on the state board as District Director, Membership Vice President, and Programming Vice President. She has also chaired numerous Jaycee projects, many that received state and/or national recognition. The most notable being the ALegan Craft Beer Festival, a beer festival that features 15-18 breweries, food trucks, and 2 local bands. Outside of Jaycees, Kayleigh works at a biopharmaceutical research lab, in anatomical pathology. She has a bachelor's degree in animal science from MSU. She also has a small chinchilla ranch and is a member of the two national chinchilla breeder associations. Kayleigh also can be found volunteering with the Hopkins and Marshall FFA and FFA Alumni, Allegan Lions Club, Allegan Knights of Columbus, and Allegan Area Chamber of Commerce. She is also a member of the MSU Alumni Band. The ABC's of Event Planning will walk you through the Project Manager's Guide used by JCI and will create a template for you to use when planning club events and fundraisers. Not only will this be a helpful tool for current events, but it will also serve as a guideline for anyone in your club taking on the task of running an event.



> LMASB NEWS



**Join us!**

Join the Lions of Michigan All State Band for the 2025 Tour! The tour will include performances and sightseeing in Nashville, Tennessee and Orlando, Florida!

Auditions are open!



Please visit [lionsmiband.org](http://lionsmiband.org) for complete itinerary and tour costs!



Scan to apply!

**WHITE CANE ORDER FORM**

**WHITE CANE ORDER FORM**

Lions/Lioness Club Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 District \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



SHIPPING ADDRESS:

BILLING ADDRESS:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

UNITS	ITEM	UNIT	PRICE	TOTAL
	String Tags	1000/box	\$60.00	
	White Cane Stickers (roll)	1000/roll	\$32.00	
	Bib Apron	Each	\$14.00	
	Waist Apron	Each	\$8.00	
	White Cane Placemats	500/bundle	\$21.00	
	Eyeglass Collection Box (large)	Each	\$8.50	
	Eyeglass Collection Box (small)	Each	\$6.50	
	Extra Eyeglass Box Stickers (set of 3)	Each	\$3.00	
	White Cane Law Pamphlets	250/bundle	\$20.00	
	Certificate of Appreciation	Each	.60¢	
	White Cane Bookmarks	100/bundle	\$10.00	
	Leader Patch	Each	\$3.00	
	Leader Pin	Each	\$1.50	
**You will be billed for shipping and handling fees.	** Shipping and Handling			
			TOTAL:	

Order Form Online: [www.lionsofmi.com](http://www.lionsofmi.com)

Mail to: Lions of Michigan • 5730 Executive Drive, Lansing, MI 48911 • (517) 887-6640 ext. 10 • fax: (517) 887-6642

**LIONS OF MICHIGAN ALL STATE BAND**



Hello Lions-

The Lions of Michigan All State Band is a state project for youth. The student participants represent you and all Michigan Lions members at the International Convention and at service projects while on tour.

The LMASB is notably the largest Leo Club in Michigan.

While researching the All State Bands in other states like Mississippi and Pennsylvania I found this on their website dated 2024:

Pennsylvania All State Band participants and the families pay nothing out of pocket to participate. This applies to meals, lodging, and transportation while within the state. For example, performing at their state convention.

I am in contact with the Pennsylvania All State Band discussing cost for out of state travel and will include more on funding in next issue of Pride.

I believe that Michigan Lions Clubs are at least half as good and generous as Pennsylvania Lions Club Members-wouldn't you agree? Should youth project participants pay to be able to represent you and your club at a state convention?

The Lions of Michigan All State Band attend the Lions International Convention, whether in the U.S. or overseas. A teenager at a Lions International Convention can get a glimpse of just how big the world is and witness the vast array of people from around the world who are attending. Performing as a Leo member with the LMASB can be a life changing experience. Only a Lions All State Band can provide that for a teen.

Are we at least half as proud and supportive of our LMASB members as the Pennsylvania Clubs are for their band members? Please be generous in your parade of checks donations this Spring. Our young people are our country's future and our organization's future.

Checks should be written payable to LMASB and if you want the money to be for a specific student, write the name in the memo line.

"Give kids enough to do and they will not have time to get into trouble." John Agnello, VFW, St. Clair Shores, Mi.

Please contact me with any questions regarding the band at [Lionsband11d1@aol.com](mailto:Lionsband11d1@aol.com)

Lions Duane Comeford, LMASB State Chairperson

**CHILDHOOD CANCER**



**Service areas**

Get your club involved in one of these childhood cancer service areas and see how your service will help achieve the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.

**PATIENT AND FAMILY SUPPORT**

Ensure patients and their families are adequately supported, and address the most common barriers to obtaining necessary treatment.

**ORGANIZATION OR FACILITY SUPPORT**

Identify needs and opportunities to serve childhood cancer organizations or facilities to make a difference by expanding accessibility to treatment and services.

**CHILDHOOD CANCER AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY**

Raise awareness of the impact of childhood cancer, educate your community members and create positive change.



# GET READY TO MAKE YOUR MARK!



The International Convention happens once a year, and in 2025, we'll celebrate together in the theme park capital of the world. Get ready to be entertained, find inspiration and meet new friends. We'll see you in Orlando, where we will truly make unforgettable memories together!

Save the date of July 13-17, 2025 and register online by March 1 to receive the discounted fee of \$190.00.



## Registration and Housing Terms and Conditions

### CONVENTION REGISTRATION

#### May 1: Convention Registration Cancellation Deadline

All cancellations made after May 1, 2025, will be non-refundable. **No exceptions will be made.** Cancellations can be completed online through the registration website or by sending an email to [lci@mcievents.com](mailto:lci@mcievents.com).

- Approved registration cancellations will be subject to the standard cancellation processing fee of US\$25 per registration.
- Approved cancellation requests should include the desired method of refund (i.e., club credit, check refund, etc.). Failure to note the method of refund will result in a credit to the club account for future dues. Approved refunds may be issued after the convention. Refund requests must be relevant to the current convention year.
- Convention registration cannot be transferred to another Lion, Leo, guest or child, or a future convention.

#### Convention Registration Information

The registration fee provides admission to the convention. Registrants will receive an official name badge, souvenir medallion, official convention program and one entrance for the International Show. All changes (*name change, arrival/departure date revisions*) must be submitted in writing by May 1, 2025, to [lci@mcievents.com](mailto:lci@mcievents.com)

- All registrants will pick up their name badge onsite at Convention. Please bring your Lions International Official Registration Confirmation with you to scan and print your badge. A photo ID is also required. Lions International will not mail badges in advance.
- The Lions International official name badge must be worn to gain admittance to the convention exhibit hall, official events and to ride the shuttle buses.



### HOTEL RESERVATION

#### May 1: Hotel Reservation Deadline

- Deadline to make/change a hotel reservation (subject to availability)
- Cancellation deadline for hotel. **No exceptions will be made.**
- Hotel cancellations can be completed online through the housing website. Alternatively, requests for hotel reservation cancellations can be made **in writing** via email to [lci@mcievents.com](mailto:lci@mcievents.com)
- A processing fee of US\$15 will be withheld from each approved refund of a hotel reservation.

Catch a thrill and capture some memories



Learn about space, the stars and our skies



Enjoy the scenery and greenery



Discover a downtown that's pure magic



> LIONS WHITECANE SCHOLARSHIP



# LUV Days at the Detroit Auto Show

Lions of the United States Vision Screening Week kicked-off on January 11 at the Detroit International Auto Show. Thank you to all of the Michigan Lions who were able to help at the auto show: (10) PID Jenny Ware (11-A1) PDG Ron and DG LaWonna Coleman, VDG Kim and Maryanne Hooper and grandson Matthew Reynolds, PCC John Daoud, PDG Jim Williams, PDG Charlie Cone, Ted Robinson, Bob Williams, Clay Galarneau, Eric Thompson, Adam Karl and Jennifer, Sam Abbott-McQuin, Rachel Abbott-McQuin, Heba Hamood, Darby Naughton, Faiqa Shah, Bryan Winsten, David Felker, James Mabson, Grace Varen, Eddie and Jamie Jo Constineau (11-B1) CC Terri Huffman and Kim Creger (11-B2) PCC Ron Gibson (11-C1) PDG Dr. Bob Hohendorf, Ken Adamy, Sandra Graham and Becci Schumaker (11-C2) PDG Lloyd Kilbreath, Doug Klein and Chad and Mary McCann (11-D2) ID Dave and Lindy Wineman, PID Justin Faber and Dave and DG Judy Keller (LCI) Daniel Elkins and Billy Michels.





11 A1



**DG La Wanna Lofton-Coleman**  
**MONROE • WAYNE**  
[www.metrodetroitlions.org](http://www.metrodetroitlions.org)

**District A1 • District Editor: Andrew Whidby**  
[awhidby@gmail.com](mailto:awhidby@gmail.com)



Plymouth Lions Club - ID Dave Wineman presented PDG Charlie Cone with the Lions International Presidential Certificate of Appreciation during a recent meeting of the Plymouth Lions Club. Lion Charlie is a licensed aircraft pilot and has flown for 81 years. He served our country as a pilot in WW II, the Korean War and Vietnam and has enjoyed years of flying for and volunteering for Christmas missions, dropping gifts to those in need. Lion Charlie Cone is a passionate and dedicated Lion who has held many offices and positions of leadership in our state. He is a treasure that we are proud to call our own, and very deserving of this recognition.



IPDG Lula Gardfrey, and Lion Marcus Latimer, Detroit Westown Hartford Lions Club pick up glasses from Denise Johnson, Labor Relations Assistant, at CLEVELAND CLIFFS, INC. Lions Elizabeth and Vincent Freeman, Lion Stanley Szczotka, FVDG Kim Hooper and PDG Matt Collins.



Members of Detroit Westown Hartford Lions Club and New Member Orientation. Detroit Westown Hartford Lions club held their New Member Orientation presented by PDG and GMT Lion Ron Coleman where they inducted 13 new members. The New Member Pledge led by District Governor La Wanna Lofton-Coleman as well as the new member pinning which was done by each sponsoring Lion made the night one for the memory books. Lion Michelle Turner presented each of the new member in attendance their certificates and kits as well as three sponsors certificates. Lion Michelle discussed the sponsor's responsibilities of continuing to guide our new members along the path of Lionism.



The club also sponsored a child from Penrickton Center for Christmas and enjoyed showering him with gifts this holiday.



Detroit Mid-City Lions Club adopted a child and shared the Christmas spirit with her and her family. Shown above: Darianna of Penrickton Center Adopt-a-Child, in President Lion Emily Tipton and in the back Lion Fred Shorter, Lion Mary Woods, Lion Harriet Robinson, Lion Shirley Corley, and Lion Carolyn Dixon.



Greater Metro Detroit Lions Club, United Reach, DEAF CAN, Signing w/Khy, Just Jameen, and community partners at Bell Creek Community Church were able to sponsor a event and provide 15Deaf/HoH families with toys this year. Thank you everyone for your support, Brining Joy and Cheer this Holiday Season. Congratulations to Ms. Eboni Love-Peel, the recipient of the Continuing Education Scholarship. This award is a collaboration between The Association for the Advancement of Deaf/Hard ofHearing (AADHH) and Greater Metro Detroit Lions Club. Eboni is also a charter member of the Greater Metro Detroit Lions Club. Eboni will graduate in 2025 with a Bachelor's degree and is an amazing artist and wood worker, is a black belt in Taekwondo and was a national champion. She has also played rugby, basketball (was MVP), track and soccer and is an avid swimmer.



A sampling of Eboni's amazing art work, available for purchase through purchase at just jameen.com under silent art.



Wear it WEDNESDAY - IPDG Lula Gardfrey was sporting her Lions gear and spreading good cheer and information about Lions. Here are some of the spotted venues... Admiring the Christmas-toy display, AKA Select Seniors luncheon, stopping in at L George for breakfast - pancakes, obtaining assistance from a sales representative at Meijer Store, having fun with her dance partners at Hartford, and shopping for goodies to eat at Kroger/Costco Stores.



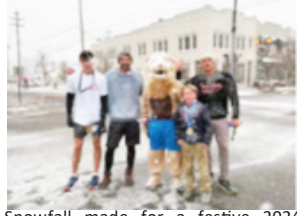
Detroit Westown Hartford Lions Club was honored to have as a guest speaker Gail Perry Mason CEO of the Money Matters Youth Camp. After her presentation the Detroit Westown Hartford club made a donation to support this wonderful organization that empowers our youth!



Livonia Lions Club sincerely appreciates being chosen as a beneficiary of Joe's Produce Sip and Stroll on December 5th. Lions Club members had a wonderful time participating in the Sip and Stroll and have enjoyed working with Joe's Produce Gourmet Market for many years.



Livonia Lions Club was well represented at the 85th Leader Dogs for the Blind Kick-off Dinner. This world-class organization was founded by members of the Uptown Lions Club of Detroit in 1939 and has been supported by local Lions and LCI ever since. Lion Daniel Rathbun's little Lion Cub also attended the Leader Dog event.



Snowfall made for a festive 2024 Grosse Pointe Lions Jingle Bell Family Fun Run.



Detroit Westown Hartford Lions get ready to bowl!



Detroit Westown Hartford Lions Club members held a successful holiday bowling fundraiser filled with members, guests and friends.

Congratulations to the Garden City Lions Club as they inducted 3 new members into the club!



Newly inducted Lions from the Detroit Westown Hartford Lions Club were on site at Lion Pastor Fredrick Belk's Church Mount Charity Missionary Baptist this holiday making sure everyone can celebrate with a little bit in their belly.

11 A2



**DG Rhonda Furby**  
**MACOMB • OAKLAND**  
[www.lionsdistrict11a2.org](http://www.lionsdistrict11a2.org)

**District A2 • District Editor: Lion Ryan Covert**  
[lionsnewsletter11a2@gmail.com](mailto:lionsnewsletter11a2@gmail.com)

Shelby Township Lions Club: Get ready to roll the dice for a good cause at the 2025 Charity Vegas Night presented by Shelby Township Lions International! Join us on February 21st at The Palazzo Grande for a night of excitement, entertainment, and giving back to our community. Don't miss out on your chance to win big while supporting a great cause. Get your tickets now and let's make a difference together!



New Baltimore Lions Club members were able to visit the 107th Assumption of Command ceremony on 1-11-2025. It was an honor and a privilege to be a witness to this event. The brave men and women of the 107th and Selfridge AND keep us safe!



New Baltimore Lions serving up smiles and hot meals at the Salvation Army. New Baltimore Lions Club -February 21-23, 2025 is the Annual Winter Fest sponsored by New Baltimore Lions Club. This event boasts of their famous Polar Plunge, Police vs Fire, War on the Shore, a corn-hole tournament and live entertainment. Free fun family events on Saturday! Below are the winter fest champions!



Ortonville Lions Club welcomed their newest member, Amanda Demitrich. Lion Amanda, sponsored by Lion Cheryl Van Heusen, was inducted by 1st Vice District Governor Mark Scicluna at our January 10th meeting. Welcome aboard and great things await us all!



Ortonville Lions Club for hosted a successful Free Vision Testing Program at the Brandon Township Public Library. The families greatly appreciated it. Lions Liz Rheume and Leslie Deremer you were the dynamic duo with Lion Stan Hughes manning the table! Another screening will be held in the spring.

Lake Orion Lions Club - This former mailbox has new life as a recycling spot for eyeglasses and hearing aids.



Richmond Lions Club: This year marks the 83rd year in which the Richmond Lions Club has earned money by producing a Goodfellow Newspaper through selling ads to local businesses, selling newspapers on the streets and in stores to fund the program. The ad sales begin in August and culminate in December making it possible to assist those in need with a Christmas delivery just in the nick of time. Additional assistance comes from Richmond Middle School bottle/can collection and local business toy drop locations.

While it's not an easy task and takes many volunteer hours, members that deliver baskets understand that it is well worth the effort. Recipients are very grateful and the children receiving toys will never forget the act of kindness by the community through the Richmond Goodfellow program.

Clawson Lions Club joined the Clawson Chamber of Commerce at the City Park on Saturday, September 21st, to help with its 18th Annual "Claws & Paws" fundraising event to raise money and awareness for local animal rescue organizations. The Club's "kitchen crew" was on hand selling hot dogs and other treats to famished participants in the Dog Jog and Fun Walk. Clawson Lions Club was recognized by the Clawson Parks, Recreation and Senior Center for their generous donation of eight Chromebook laptops to support the AARP OATS (Older Adults Technology Services) program/classes offered at Clawson Parks, Recreation & Senior Services. This incredible contribution helps us provide technology classes at no cost to older adults in our community.



Ortonville Lions Club welcomed their newest member, Amanda Demitrich. Lion Amanda, sponsored by Lion Cheryl Van Heusen, was inducted by 1st Vice District Governor Mark Scicluna at our January 10th meeting. Welcome aboard and great things await us all!

Ortonville Lions Club for hosted a successful Free Vision Testing Program at the Brandon Township Public Library. The families greatly appreciated it. Lions Liz Rheume and Leslie Deremer you were the dynamic duo with Lion Stan Hughes manning the table! Another screening will be held in the spring.



Richmond Middle School students held a bottle/can drive to assist with the Club's Christmas program. A recognition certificate was given to each student in Mrs. Buchanan's class. Baskets are lined up and filled with food and toys to be distributed.



Lake Orion Lions Club - This former mailbox has new life as a recycling spot for eyeglasses and hearing aids.



Romeo Lions Club Christmas Party Extravaganza!



Romeo Lions Club - After hosting the annual children's Christmas party it was time for club to wine down and celebrate together. The events continued into Sunday with our 4th Annual Pack-The-Bus benefiting Samaritan House. Thank you to everyone who dropped donations off at our partner merchant locations, brought donations to the bus, and bought tickets for the Detroit Lions jersey raffle. By 3:00pm, every seat on the bus was occupied with food, paper products and hygiene items for the Samaritan House pantry. Thank you to our club members who organized and helped with the event and a HUGE thank you to the Romeo High School National Honor Society and SERVE students who volunteered their time and donations.



Members of Milford Huron Valley Lions Club celebrate together



A classical evening with Milford Huron Valley Lions

**Lions Causes**

**Childhood Cancer**

**Dream Team Amanda Rounds**

**Lions Passport**

**PDG Brent Beracy**

**Great Balls of Fire**

**PIP Brian Sheehan**

**Lions in Motion**

**Lion Lori Sheehan**



> REGION NEWS

11 B1



**DG Louvenia Shack-Seals**  
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**District B1 • District Editor: Roger Yoder**  
[Rogeryoder@yahoo.com](mailto:Rogeryoder@yahoo.com)



KidSight Certification Training Held: PDG Kelly Lubbe, the KidSight district east side chair conducted training in November at Christoff's, 400 North Mechanic St., Jackson, Michigan. There were 24 Lions representing 12 clubs attended the four-hour certification training required every two years to be current.



Ann Arbor Evening Lions Club President Cathy Koning donated \$100 worth of socks and underwear to the Michigan Foster Care Closet on behalf of the club. This organization is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that operates on a 100% volunteer basis. They are dedicated to giving their time and talent so that local children in need have a source for quality supplies.

District 11-B1 Lions clubs collaborated for "An Evening with Santa" on Saturday, December 1. The free event open to the public was held at the Stubnitz Environmental Education Center, located in Adrian. The five groups of Lions working together included Adrian Breakfast Lions Club, Adrian Evening Lions Club, Blissfield Area Lions Club, Clinton Lions Club, and the Manchester Lions Club. "This year's event drew nearly 350 guests to the beautifully decorated venue" said Adrian Breakfast Lions Club Treasurer Larry Atkin. This was the 14th year they coordinated crafts, games, refreshments, and hayrides through the lights displayed at Heritage Park, with a visit by Santa with gifts. Every child received a book courtesy of the Lion Clubs International literacy campaign.



The WiHi Leos decorated the Christmas tree for the Ypsilanti Senior Center. The Ann Arbor Host Lions Club sponsors this Leo club. Multiple Leo club members volunteer regularly at the senior center. The Annual Holiday Party was held December 19 and included crafting, games, music, and a special holiday lunch. They enjoyed food, fun and laughter.



Lora Durham (AA Host) and speaker Donna Posont, Christina Lirones (AA Host) and AA Host VP ZC Richard Westbury

Ann Arbor Evening Lions Club, Ann Arbor Host Lions Club and Huron Valley Sunrise Lions Club. Guest speaker Donna Posont serves as the Birding by Ear and Beyond Coordinator at the Environmental Interpretive Center on the campus of the University of Michigan-Dearborn



12 Cereal City Lions gathered to cut and tie 45 blankets on Saturday, November 2 at the Congregational Church in Battle Creek. The blankets were then donated to Darleen Williams known as the Battle Creek Secret Santa. S.A.F.E. Place Project 5,000 Update Project 5,000 is our support for the domestic abuse shelter S.A.F.E. Place, 303 Capital Ave NE, Battle Creek, Michigan. This project upgrades one of the shower and bathroom facilities into a modern, private unit to preserve the safety, security, and dignity of the residents. The Ad Hoc Committee raised half of the construction cost, with \$17,000 deposited in our activities account. The LCIF grant board will consider our grant request to cover the additional costs during January 2025.



VDG Teresa Gest recently visited Drummond Island Lions Club and was warmly greeted by Lion Judy and PDG Duane Goltz.

Clear Lake Virtual Lions Club is proud to announce our involvement in two impactful projects that exemplify our commitment to both global outreach and local sustainability. These initiatives of collecting shoes for "Soles4Souls" and gathering plastic materials for a "NexTrex" bench are ambitious, but with your support, we're confident we can make a meaningful difference. Through these two projects, the Clear Lake Virtual Lions Club continues to embody the Lions motto: We Serve. In partnership with Soles4Souls, Inc., 319 Martingale Drive, Old Hickory, Tennessee, our goal is to collect 1,000 pairs of shoes to be donated or recycled. This project not only helps reduce waste in landfills but also provides shoes to individuals in third-world countries who lack this necessity. Donated shoes will be repurposed in two ways: wearable pairs will be distributed to people in need, while damaged shoes will be recycled into new products, supporting sustainable practices.



Jonesville Lions Club coordinate the "Lights of Love" service project at Carl Fast Park on U.S.-12 in Jonesville between City Hall and the Jonesville Middle School. The decorated Christmas trees are displayed each holiday season, with sponsorships in the honor of an individual or organization



North Adams Lions Club held a Thanksgiving Dinner to honor community service. Guests in attendance represented organizations from Adams Township, the North Adams Fire Department, North Adams Village Council, and North Adams-Jerome Public Schools Board of Education



Jackson Cascades Lions Club member ZC Roger Yoder has coordinated several projects with Addison Community Schools, 219 North Comstock St., Addison, Michigan, including the Lions Clubs International Peace Poster Contest and Essay Contest. Addison Senior Allison Morris and her cousin traveled to Melbourne, Australia for the 106th Lions International Convention as a member of the Lions of Michigan All State Band.



Jackson Eyeopeners Lions Club members Cyndi Gorton, Carole Briggs and Connie Neese were volunteer bell ringers for the Salvation Army Red Kettle Campaign held at the Jackson Crossing Mall. The club's annual Christmas party was held at Knight's in Jackson, where we exchanged white elephant gifts, and the evening was topped off with a dessert auction. The funds raised went into our admin account. We thank Lions Wendy Burns and Sam Browning for another fun evening for all.

Jackson Eyeopeners Lions Club has a tradition to adopt a family for Christmas through the Jackson Interfaith Shelter Adopt-A-Client Christmas Program. We worked with the Salvation Army, and Jackson Public Schools to adopt a family residing in the shelter. This year's recipients were a mother working two jobs with two sons 12 and 14 years old. Lions Shawn Lige and Connie Neese chaired this committee, with warm clothing and other items donated to this family right here in our local Jackson community.

11 B2



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Three Rivers Lions Club members packing up for deliveries. Lions Wesley Lorenz, Ed Smallcombe and Logan Ritchie gear up for the annual food box and toy delivery. Over 150 families were served by the Three Rivers Lions Club in their annual food and toy distribution event held last month. The line of vehicles in need of assistance stretched from the club's hall on Sixth Avenue nearly all the way to the bend of M60 near Hoffman Road. "We know the need's there, but to actually be able to see the need in progress and getting some of the need met makes you feel really good," PCC Jeff Mayuiers from the Three Rivers Lions Club said. "That was kind of special today to see all that is being provided."



Members of Portage Lions Club visited Fountain View of Portage and distributed bags of goodies, shoulder throws, fuzzy socks and much more.



Buchanan-Galien Lions Club Congratulations to Lion Jerry and his wife LeeAnn on their honored selection as grand marshals of Buchanan's holiday parade. Our community is grateful for your dedication to our town.

Lawton Lions Club-organized caroling at White Oaks Retirement Facility tomorrow! If you wish to join the fun, feel free to meet at The Old Winery at 6pm. You will then ride Buster's Hay Wagon to White Oaks for caroling. Ride back for refreshments after at the Old Winery

Sister Lakes Lions Club - June 14, 2025, will be here before we know it, and time for the Blues, Beer and Barbecue with music by The Undertakers Blues Band, hosted by Sister Lakes Lions Club!

MD 11 B2 District Convention March 28-28, 2025 will be held at the Delta Marriott, Kalamazoo. Become a sponsor, place an ad in the convention book, and register early!

Kal-Haven Trail Lions Club - We had a great time at our annual Kids' Christmas party today! Thank you to the Bloomingdale & Gobles community!



Buchanan-Galien Leos members spent part of their Sunday afternoon caroling for the residents of METEA Court and the Meadows here in Buchanan. Thank you, Leos, for spreading some holiday cheer.



Buchanan-Galien Leos - After making a delivery of handmade blankets to the Riley's Children's Hospital in South Bend, the Buchanan-Galien Leos attended the Hacienda Give Back Night on December 11. Thanks for all you do, Leos! We take pride in you.

Mattawan Lions Club - Fight off that winter chill at the Mattawan Lions Club Soup Supper February 8! The March Soup Supper will feature a Euchre Tournament, excellent food and as always, great service and fellowship. The club will host the 6th Annual Trivia Night on February 22 at the American Legion.

District B2 Members come together to hold KidSight screenings. District 11B2 will be doing PKS for five days at Edwardsburg Schools for LionsUSA Sight Vision screening to take place across the nation. During this week, 25 volunteers are participating in honor of our Founder Melvin Jones. What a great tribute to this man for creating Lions International. Watch for updates each day that we are screening students. This team has already screened 17,316 students and found 1,984 referrals. We are making a difference in our Edwardsburg Community!

Kal-Haven Trail Lions Club - We had a great time at our annual Kids' Christmas party today! Thank you to the Bloomingdale & Gobles community!

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**Humanitarian**  
 The humanitarian efforts of Lions have been notable and celebrated for more than 100 years. Working together, Lions identify the world's most crucial needs and LCIF supports them in their efforts to provide humanitarian aid where it's needed most. LCIF Awarded Grants From July 2024 to August 2024, LCIF has awarded 102 humanitarian-related grants totaling US\$3,500,428. View the grants empowering Lions to provide humanitarian aid where it's needed most. Humanitarian spirit is at the core of every Lion. Helping Lions take this spirit of kindness to their communities is Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), uniquely privileged to provide clubs and districts with grant funding to create a healthier, happier world. Since 1968, LCIF has funded service so Lions can deliver solutions.



**Vision Facts**

- 253 million people are blind or have moderate to severe distance vision impairment (MSVI)
- 1.1 billion have near-vision impairment simply because they don't have a pair of glasses
- >75% of all blindness and MSVI is avoidable
- 89% of people with visual impairment live in developing countries



**Where there's a need, there's a Leo**

"Leadership, Experience, Opportunity." That's what makes a Leo. Members of Leo clubs embody the best qualities of our incredible organization. They are devoted young people who realize the power of action. Together, Leos and Lions form a powerful partnership — one of mutual respect where Lions learn from the innovative insights of Leos, and where Leos gain access to the proven strategies of those who've successfully served the world for decades.



11 C1



**DG Cheryl Anderson**  
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Muskegon Northside Lions Club Annual Christmas Party Muskegon Northside Lions on the Nice List!



Muskegon Northside Lions deciding who is on the Naughty List this year



Naughty and Nice!

Grand Rapids Lions Club -Forty-eight smiling kids went home with large bags packed with wrapped gifts for their families. In addition, we had a total of 57 volunteers (which included Grand Rapids Lions members, spouses, friends, family members, neighbors, grandkids, and acquaintances). What an overwhelming turnout!



Not all service projects run smoothly, but Lions always accomplish their mission to serve! FVDG Earl Howell with Lyons Muir Club along with help from Lion Ken Adamy from the Alto Lions traveled to Fort Wayne, Indiana, to pick up 54 mattresses that were to be used for the Sleep in Heavenly Peace Project (SHP). On their travels home they ran into some rough roads causing one of the mattresses to become loose of its bindings and roll off the trailer. While driving along the edge of the highway to find the mattress, they unfortunately ran over a piece of metal. After speaking with a highway worker who stated he observed another driver stop, load the mattress on their truck and drove away with it. With 2 tires on their truck beginning to lose air, they were fortunately able to make it back to Michigan in one piece. The next day after the tires were repaired, they delivered the 53 remaining mattresses safely to their destination in Grand Rapids. Thank you FVDG Earl and Lion Ken for your Kindness & Service – "Making sure no kids sleep on the floor in our Town!"



Rockford Lions Club -Occasionally, it's even more fun to throw in a social gathering for no specific reason other than having fun with friends! Here's the perfect example of a group of Rockford Lions Road tripping to the neighboring Sparta Moose Lodge to visit some Lions friends and participate in a game of trivia. Yes, we happened to win with the help of some extraordinary brain power and a little bit of luck, but most importantly we had a great time with friends! RLC was our team's name, which was short for Rockford Lions Club. The club also had a very successful Harvest Fest which included a Scarecrow building event with 1,100 build-your-own scarecrows being sold! Assistance was provided by the Rockford football team, Rockford Honors Choir and Cub/Boy Scouts. Donations were made to North Kent Connects, the Rockford History Museum and their charitable contribution fund. They have been busy with White Cane, a roadside cleanup, and on October 22nd they held a can drive.



Wyoming and Alto Lions assisted with Read Between the Lions program.

Read Between the Lions" is a screening for the eye movements used by good readers. The target population for the screening would be those learning to read (grades 1-3) and any students struggling to read up to any grade level. Lion members (13) from Alto, Fruitport, Muskegon Northside, Wyoming (District 11-C1 and Portage Lions Clubs (District 11-B2) sponsored a Project KidSight Free Vision Screening and Read Between the Lions at Muskegon Christian School and Marquette Elementary Schools in Muskegon County. 515 students were screened and 56 showed one or more eye problems. Children who receive a "refer" should be examined by an ophthalmologist or optometrist as soon as possible. Lions of Michigan KidSight program is designed to identify treatable and preventable causes of vision loss in children. – Lion Sandra Graham

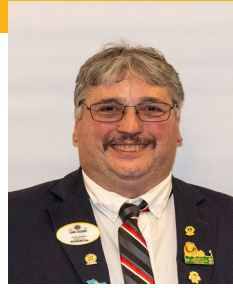


GRAND RAPIDS Lions Club provided a Tandem bike (side by side) that was needed by a client from Assoc. for the Blind and Visually Impaired organization. Since this is a custom bike, they would not make the bike unless it was fully paid for. The Grand Rapids Lions Club fronted the full \$14,000 for the bike to be made. On Saturday, Nov 16th there will be a fundraiser "ride" in Millenium Park. Riders and spectators are needed. If each club would be able to send Lions to help Lion Osman Koroma ride the 50 miles it would make the ride successful! Each alternate rider will ride 2 1/2 miles with Osman down the path. Donations and pledges to the November 16th ride will help to help reimburse the Grand Rapids Lions for the cost of the bike.

Ravenna Lions held their annual Fruit-Coop Steak Fry and Raffle. This event began in 1968 remains a successful fundraiser to this day. Ravenna Lions Club Chartered on September 15, 1954 and celebrated their 70th Anniversary with a party, recognizing the club's rich history and honoring those who have passed. Fundraising projects over the years have been selling brooms, light bulbs, trees, pancakes, picnic tables, coloring books, and mints. Pennies have been pitched, cement poured, fences built, trees cut, highway and park litter picked up, bridges built and walking trails constructed. They continue to be leaders in the community they serve.



11 C2



**DG Carl Cozart**  
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**INGHAM • LIVINGSTON • SHIAWASSEE**  
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Vermontville Lions Club Student of the Month for December was Cooper Joseph. Cooper is an 8th grader at Maple Valley Jr. Sr. High School. Cooper's favorite subject is algebra and likes to play basketball, football and baseball. Cooper's parents are Robert and Stephanie Joseph. Lion Jeff Fisher presented Cooper with his certificate along with a Gift Card.



Vermontville Lions Club Veteran of the Month for December was Richard Jimines. Richard served in the Air Force and attained the Rank of Sergeant before being honorably discharged. Richard received the Air Force Award, Good Conduct medal, Vietnam Service ribbon and others. He also volunteered at Ground Zero. Lion Brenda Hoard presented Richard with his Certificate along with a U.S. flag.



Laingsburg Lions club served 208 meals from 1 to 3 pm on Thanksgiving Day. This meal was a ZERO waste effort with all plates, utensils, cups and food waste all going to Hammond Farms to be turned into compost! Beth Lange and Linda Applebee from our Greater Laingsburg. Recyclers; Tammy Pirochta – Bath Meijer/Store Director; Lions Terry Fraidenburg and Nick Holtman; and Alex Hagerty - American Legion Clare Burt Post 248 Commander.



Bretton Woods Lions Club: New member inductions, sponsor awards & key long-standing Bretton Woods Lions Club Members (55, 40, 30 & 15 years) awards kept honored guest District Governor Carl Cozart very busy at the Club's last official meeting of the calendar year at the Delta Township Administration building.



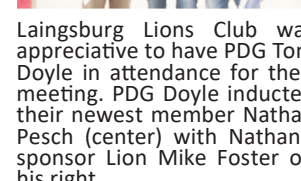
Holt Lions had their annual Christmas Party early in December. They all enjoyed the evening. The Delhi Cafe dressed up the place and they enjoyed the food, friendship and a great UGLY Christmas Sweater contest. Boy some of them were ugly! The vote was secret and there was a wide range of tastes involved. The first three winners even got medals.



St. Johns Lions Club had a great turnout of members and guests for their recent Christmas Party! Santa and his helper (aka Lions Dean Hartenburg and Gwyn Jansen) made an early delivery on December 16 to a family of four that the St. Johns Lions Club adopted for Christmas through Caring and Sharing Family Life Services. In addition to all the gifts on the family's wish list, they received Kroger and McDonalds gift cards. Thanks went to Lion Nancy Presocki who coordinated this project and to the many members who contributed gifts and money.



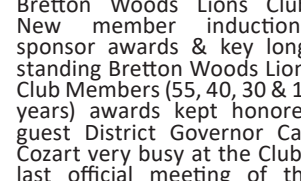
Mason Middle School Leo Club submitted a Peace Poster designed by Leo Ellie O'Brien. Pictured holding the poster are Mason Lions Club advisors for the MMS Leo Club Karen Routson and Jenni Jordan. The artwork was entered into the District 11-C2 competition and was selected to advance to the MD11 level. Mason Lions Club collected dozens of toys for children served by Mason Community Services, Inc. at the Lions' Christmas party on December 11, 2025. Lion Doug Klein made a merry delivery to MCS Executive Director Linda Hughson.



Laingsburg Lions Club was appreciative to have PDG Tom Doyle in attendance for their meeting. PDG Doyle inducted their newest member Nathan Pesch (center) with Nathan's sponsor Lion Mike Foster on his right.



DG Carl Cozart and VDG Aleta Cozart (pictured above right) represented District 11-C2 at the Lions of Michigan Council of Governors meeting on December 6 & 7 at Hilton Garden Inn in Lansing.



St. Johns Lions Club, in coordination with the Knights of Columbus, hosted a chili and baked potato fundraiser during the Santa Parade and Christmas tree lighting festivities in downtown St. Johns. It was a very cold evening and many people stopped by the UAW Hall to enjoy some hot food in a warm room. Thanks went to Lions Club members and other volunteers who helped make this fundraiser a success: Lions John and Sue Triantaflos, Marilyn Witter, LuAnn Cannell, and Nancy Presocki -- not pictured was Lion Duane Witter.

Bretton Woods Lions Club recently conducted a KidSight vision screening event at the Delta Township District Library. 11 children were screened, including 1 follow-up referral to the eye doctor. Their crew consisted of Lions David A Grimes, Sue Chinault, Mark Holcomb and Curtis Sonnenberg.



Mason Middle School Leo Club submitted a Peace Poster designed by Leo Ellie O'Brien. Pictured holding the poster are Mason Lions Club advisors for the MMS Leo Club Karen Routson and Jenni Jordan. The artwork was entered into the District 11-C2 competition and was selected to advance to the MD11 level. Mason Lions Club collected dozens of toys for children served by Mason Community Services, Inc. at the Lions' Christmas party on December 11, 2025. Lion Doug Klein made a merry delivery to MCS Executive Director Linda Hughson.



Bath Lions Club is small in numbers but are made up of hardworking Lions who have served their community for over 50 years in a variety of ways. At their Christmas party and instead of exchanging gifts they decided to support the yellow pantry by donating food and personal hygiene items.

Owosso Lions Club served a hearty hot breakfast on a frigid morning for their guests at St John's Church in Owosso.

Baby it's cold outside! Owosso Lions dropped off 12 pair of socks, two pair of gloves, and 20 hats to Angel's Hands Community Outreach. There are many in their community in need of cold wear gear. Whether brand new or previously loved, it is a much needed gift as winter is bearing down.

Hartland Lions Club This holiday season, the Hartland Lions Club found time in their busy schedule to participate in bell ringing for the Salvation Army.



Lions Club of Wacousta members and guests Christmas party 2024 was also our Volunteer Appreciation Night. We are a small club, so it takes a lot of volunteers to help us with our activities throughout the year. All are greatly appreciated, thank you! Olivet Lions Club-Saint Nicholas showed up for Candy Cane sales. Olivet Lions Club member, Reverend Garry Fisher, appeared in costume as the original Santa Claus during the recent white cane event.



> REGION NEWS

11 D1



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Montrose Lions Club - PDG Bob Sturgis presented Montrose Lions Club with a Campaign 100 Model Club plaque. VDG Jerry Whitney and President Orville Carter received the recognition on behalf of the club.



Fenton Lions Club -We had the honor of hosting our December Christmas party/meeting with the Swartz Creek Lions. We all met at Beale Street Smokehouse in Fenton. We had our meeting, dinner, and a few fun Christmas giveaways for some of the attendees.

Flushing Lions Club were very active in December. The Flushing Lions Puppy Raisers held a fund raiser with the Frankenmuth Club and helped raise over \$300 for the activity. At the annual Candle Walk the Gift Card Raffle was held with the chance to win \$1,200 worth of gifts. Net income was approximately \$4,000 while the concession trailer worked in the cold with a net of over \$1,000. New Lion Jared Oginsky, sponsored by Lion Randy Leininger was inducted by PDG Larry Porn in December.

Flushing Lions Club Christmas Party had 20 members and guests in attendance. The dinner was compliments of the owner of the Liberty Restaurant where we hold our meetings. A white elephant gift exchange was held with some unusual gifts and a lot of fun.



It was a great turnout for the Bay City Lions Caroling Event! Bay City Lions Club, this holiday season, along with the Handy Middle School and Christa McAuliffe Middle School Leos, and the Cub Scout Pack, has been hard at work bringing joy and support to our community!

The club held their annual Christmas party, volunteered for bell ringing with the Salvation Army, went caroling at the local nursing homes and baked up a storm for the Annual Cookie Walk! In addition to all these events they assisted Leo Clubs with the Tinsel Tree Challenge, raising money for Kids Kicking Cancer. Providing 50 meals to Blessing Families with Christmas ensured those in need would not go without.



Buena Vista Lions Club Sweet Shop Sale! Buena Vista Lions Club would like to thank all who participated and supported the annual Sickle Cell shopping spree as well as the ISD shopping spree for disadvantaged students. A big shout out to Top Ladies of Distinction for their sponsorship of families and Women of Color for their public service announcements, promoting awareness. Our club would also like to thank those who were able to donate at blood drives held this year and challenge all clubs to host at least one a year. A special thanks to Frankenmuth Lions and Governor Jonathan VanTol and family for their generous support since day one.



Frankenmuth Lions Club - Continuing a 25 year tradition, Frankenmuth Lions and Leos manned the Salvation Army red kettle at the Frankenmuth Rogrer for 3 weekends.



Frankenmuth Lions Club Christmas Party. Music hosted by old friends



Frankenmuth Lions Club - "Old Friends" Jonathan Webb and Scott Kostus provided holiday tunes at the December 4, 2024 Christmas Party at Bavarian Inn. The annual secret gift raffle raised \$500.00 for I Support the 1%. A free will donation was also collected for Maya's Angels.

**FEATURED FORUM BREAKOUT SESSIONS:**

<b>Club Management</b>
<u>Localeyes</u>
Lion Doug Klein Marketing Clubs Effectively
<b>ABCs of Event Planning</b>
Kayleigh Gratz, Pres., Michigan Jaycee's
<b>Incorporating Your Club</b>
DG Jonathan VanTol
<b>LCI Portal</b>
PDG Don Spinks
<b>Personal Growth</b>
<b>LCI/LCIF Available Grants and how to apply successfully</b>
<b>A Ball for All</b> PID Gary Anderson PDG Roshni Patel
<b>Lions Club Resale Shops = Service Dollars</b> VDG Kim Hooper Lion Laurie Althaus
<b>Chat GPT</b> PDG Amy Thackston

11 D2



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Algonac Lions Club sponsored the 27th Annual Charity Bowl. Friendly Faces checking in bowlers at the Algonac Charity Bowl.



Algonac Members Lion Tom at it again with Lion Ron out in Novi at the Ultimate Fishing Show with Leader Dogs for the Blind who are out and about with their trainers. Leader Dogs, Leland and Bud, helping the Lions boost ticket sales of the 87th Annual Algonac Lions Pickerel Tournament raffle tickets. Those puppies sure do the trick, who can resist. They help us, we help them! We serve together! Thank you also Lion Dan and Lion Mary Ann for your time this morning.



Port Huron Host Lions are volunteering at Mid-City Nutrition on the first Saturday of the month. They're prepping and serving meals to about 200 folks in need. And Mid-City does this EVERY DAY! Port Huron Lions Club busy prepping meals for Mid-City Nutrition

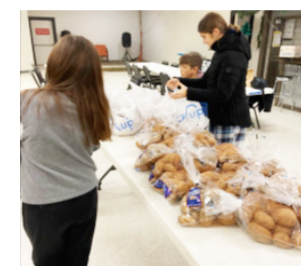


Memphis Lions Club hosted a senior dinner with the Memphis Leo Club working the dinner. Fifty-three seniors and ten Leos members of the Memphis choir and director sang a selection of Christmas songs to start the day, followed by a dinner and bingo. Christmas cheer was in the air! This was a very successful event. Seniors had a great time and the Leos were relating.



Algonac Lions Club packaging food baskets for local community members.

Memphis Lions Club enlisted help from the local Boy Scout Troop and the Memphis Leo Club to collect and package Thanksgiving meals for community members in need.



UBLY LIONS CLUB partnered with the Knights of Columbus of Ubyly-Sheridan to adopt a family of six. We bought and wrapped clothes and toys for the their four children, and the Knights added a generous amount of groceries for this family. It is a warm feeling to be able to help those in need.

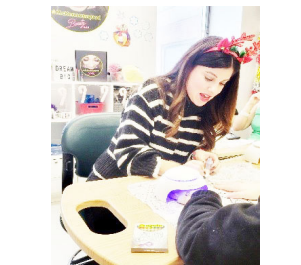
Minden City Lions Club Annual Firearm Raffle -Ticket sales begin for our 2024-25 52/52 firearm raffle. The tickets are \$50, which gives the buyer 52 chances to win. The winning numbers are based on the Monday evening daily 3 Michigan lottery drawings. The first winning number will be drawn on January 6, 2025, and will continue each week until the final draw on December 29, 2025. See any Minden City Lion for your ticket(s). Tickets are also available at Randy's Hunting Center

<https://www.facebook.com/Randyshunting>  
 nting-486149834836041

in Bad Axe, The Minden Market on Main Street Minden City, and Natures Finest Taxidermy

<https://www.facebook.com/profile?hp?id=100086415387976>

on Main Street Minden City. This is a highly popular raffle! Get your tickets now!



Thank you all that donated to the Lions District 11D2 Pediatric Oncology project ... McKenna's Beauty Bar at Children's Hospital of Michigan was busy giving these little beauties manicures yesterday. All the beauty products that were donated including nail polish are certainly bringing BIG smiles to these kids. Thank you, thank you, THANK YOU!

Happy New Year! May 2025 bring you good health, love and plenty of laughs with family & friends. May your clubs find new projects, renew past projects to serve your communities and gain new members. - DG Judy and Lion Dave Keller

District 11 D2 proudly reports 100% service for all clubs in the district. This is a great achievement to give a hand up and help people with their struggles. It is the motto of Lions Clubs International, (WE SERVE) District 11 D-2 is a trend setter in serving. Thanks to a great deal of work and persistence from PDG Donald Spinks. Lion Don is not only the cabinet secretary, leadership chair, reading action program chair for the state. He is always helping the clubs with service projects and the district editor with district news.



USA Lions Club Sebewaing - announce their Annual Super Cheese and Wine Evening coming up soon on February 15th at 65pm at the American Legion in Sebewaing. Tickets are \$25 each or \$45 for 2 and include wine sampling - up to 12 different wines, Live Auction, Raffle, 50/50, crafts people tons of food, hors d'oeuvres, hot snacks, and cash bar - all proceeds go to community. Need a ticket call Lion Lindy at 989 450 3644 (leave a message if necessary)! Hurry get your ticket now - they are going fast! or Email: [lindy@abadata.com](mailto:lindy@abadata.com)



11 E1



**DG Tom McNaughton**  
**BENZIE • CLARE • GRAND TRAVERSE • ISABELLA • LAKE •**  
**LEELANAU • MANISTEE • MASON • MECOSTA MIDLAND •**  
**MISSAUKEE • MONTCALM • NEWAYGO • OCEANA**  
**• OSCEOLA • WEXFORD**  
[www.millions11e1.org](http://www.millions11e1.org)  
**District E1 • District Editor: Lion Paula Rigling**  
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Move over Sock Monkey! Lions have a brand new design! Don't throw away those old socks! They might be needed to make dog and cat toys at our District Convention in April. Cotton socks are best. Colorful socks are very welcome! Don't worry, socks with holes can be used for stuffing! I have contacted a few animal shelters in our district and have gotten a green light for homemade pet toys. Start collecting old socks. Save the date and plan to attend our awesome District Convention on April 25-6, 2025, in Clare.



Coleman Lions Club recently had two interesting speakers at their meetings. Julia Weglowska is an exchange student living with Lion Billie Jo Parker. She showed us all about Poland with slides and video clips and even got us up dancing a traditional (easy) step! Julia also gave us a taste of her homemade pierogi! We also learned about Lions of Michigan All State Band from Amelia Ward who traveled to Melbourne Australia last July to march in the Lions Clubs International convention parade. Amelia also showed slides of her trip and told us about some of the awesome experiences she had performing for children at a hospital and a school. Amelia, who is a senior, plans to attend this year's convention in Orlando, Florida in July 2025. Pictured from left to right are Lion Billie Jo Parker, Julia Weglowska, & Amelia Ward.

Central Montcalm Lions are having a busy December. We were happy to donate to the Central Montcalm High School band program. We recently filled two more eyeglass requests for local students. We volunteered to help an elderly gentleman move into his new home here in our area. We are also in the process of putting together 50 gift bags that will be delivered to folks in the area that may be alone or may have lost a loved one this past year. We look forward to hosting DG Tom at our December meeting later this month. Happy Holidays to all!



Congratulations to our newest members to the Coleman Lions Club. Matt and Kathryn (Katie) Huber were inducted into Lions during our regular club meeting on Monday by District Governor Tom Mac Naughton. Each received a certificate of membership, Lions pin, and ball cap. In addition, their sponsor, Lion Billie Jo Parker received a certificate of sponsorship and a Lion sponsor pin. Pictured from left to right: President PDG Al Roeseler, Lion Billie Jo Parker, Katie Huber, Matt Huber, and DG Tom Mac Naughton.

Congratulations to our Lions for their length of service Chevrons. Lions Pam Render and Wendy Gross each received their 10-year chevron and Lion Chuck Dinsmore received his 20-year chevron from District Governor Tom Mac Naughton.



Fremont Lions Club is in the midst of one of their biggest fundraisers selling Koeze Nuts now through December 30, 2024. 100% of the proceeds support the many ways the Lions give back to the community. These fine Koeze Nuts and Chocolates are available from any Fremont Lions member

Fremont Lions Club gathered at the Shack Retreat and Conference Center in White Cloud for their annual Christmas Party on Tues Dec. 3rd. Twenty-eight members and guests enjoyed a wonderful buffet dinner and a festive time Christmas caroling led by none other than PDG Jim Patterson. All in attendance brought unwrapped toys for our local Toys for Tots collection at True North. Club members enjoying a holiday celebration!



Greenville Lions Club recognized Mary Ane Krum for her 10 years of Lions Club Service and Kyle Madole & Mike Kreitner for 35 years of Lions Club Service each! Club Members compiled food baskets and donated frozen turkeys for 40 families for our Thanksgiving Food Project.



Hart Lions Club inducted four new members at their December meeting. L-R: Sponsor Lion Craig, New Lion Mike, New Lion Jamie, New Lion Gladis, Sponsor Lions Paula, New Lion Dan, Sponsor Lion Bruce.



Hart Lions Club celebrated their 45th Anniversary at their December meeting. Lake Ann Lions Club: Honor Flight of Michigan gave a presentation as we honored several of our members who served in the military. Our only remaining charter member, Jame K. Morse Sr., a Korean War era Veteran and Honor Flight participant gave a firsthand account of his experiences in Germany from 1950-1952 and going on the Honor Flight in 2022.

Five members of the L.A. Lions help direct traffic and keep pedestrians safe as the Village of Lake Ann welcomed Santa Claus on November 30th. Lake Ann Lions were honored to help Santa with the Great Cookie Challenge! We Serve!

Midland Lions Club: In 2011, the club started their Coats for Kids coat drive and since then, they have donated over 600 coats, including donating 60 coats in this year's drive. Throughout October and November, their chapter conducted six Kidsight Screening events where they screened 370 children.

Stanwood Lions Club is sponsoring a new extracurricular monthly Art Club at Morley Stanwood Elementary. There are 27 students so far involved who are provided a snack and art project led by Lions members. The club sponsored a Peace Poster Contest with Morley Stanwood Middle School. Here the kids are enjoying their hot chocolate bar as a reward for participating and the winner with her certificate.

11 E2



**DG Dennis Gocha**  
**ALCONA • ALPENA • ANTRIM • ARENAC • CHARLEVOIX**  
**CHEBOYGAN • CRAWFORD EMMET • GLADWIN • IOSCO**  
**KALKASKA • MONTMORENCY • OGEMAW • OSCODA**  
**OTSEGO • PRESQUE ISLE • ROSCOMMON**  
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Boyer Valley Lions Club: 'Tis the season for the Boyer Valley Lions Club to ring the bell for the Salvation Army. This year our day was December 14th from 10 am - 6 pm. A shift is only 2 hours, and we are doing a lot of good for the Community. The Lions were ringing the bell for the Salvation Army on Saturday (Dec. 14) at Family Fare. Pictured here, Lions Kecia Freed, Mike Cain, Michelle & James Mitchell, and Judy Smith.



Pediatric Cancer Chair Rebecca James presented the check for \$1400 to the Cowell Family Cancer Center to help provide Christmas for 11 families whose children are receiving treatment. We are so glad to help put smiles on their faces!



**Diabetes Programs**

Get your club involved in a handful of ongoing diabetes service programs and see how your service will help achieve the U.N. Sustainable Development Goals.

**STRIDES FOR DIABETES**  
 Strides events involve fun physical activity to help promote diabetes awareness and management.

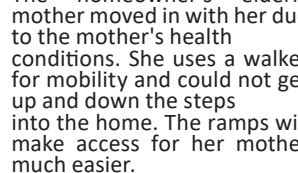
**TYPE 2 DIABETES SCREENING**  
 Type 2 diabetes screening events are an important way to help your community understand their diabetes risk and take steps toward prevention.

**DIABETES PEER SUPPORT GROUPS**  
 Diabetes peer support groups encourage the exchange of support of all types among community members living with diabetes.

**DIABETES CAMPS**  
 Diabetes camps are designed to help enhance the quality of life for young people living with diabetes by providing diabetes management skills.



Oscoda Lions Club ramp crew was out in the cold and wind today (12/08/2024) to build another ramp. Tony Priebe, John Novak, Scott Busich, Bob Drogosch, and Chuck Andrina worked on today's project. The crew delayed their start time until 9:00 due to the overnight snow continuing into the early morning hours. They still managed to complete their work just before lunchtime. This project consisted of a 16' ramp for access up onto the deck and a smaller 2' ramp to get off the deck into the house. The homeowner's elderly mother moved in with her due to the mother's health conditions. She uses a walker for mobility and could not get up and down the steps into the home. The ramps will make access for her mother much easier.



District 11 E2 Convention – Join us April 25-26 at beautiful TreeTops Resort in Gaylord. We are pleased to announce our LCI Guest Speaker will be Past International President Ron Keller and Lion Kitty Keller. The theme will be TEAMWORK and you are encouraged to wear your favorite team's sports gear on Friday night for the group service event where we will package hygiene bags for the Woman's Resource Center in Gaylord. This year's convention committee hosts: East Jordan Lions Club.

**Hunger Service areas**

Get your club involved in one of these hunger service areas and see how your service will help achieve the Sustainable Development Goals.

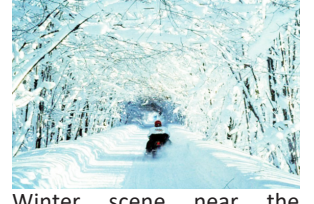
**FOOD COLLECTION, PREPARATION AND DISTRIBUTION**  
 Enhance access to food for community members by creating avenues for food collection, preparation and distribution.

**COMMUNITY FEEDING EVENT**  
 Promote wellness and nutrition by providing meals and community engagement for local families.

**AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SUPPORT**  
 Provide sustainable access to food through the development and support of community agricultural systems.

**HUNGER INITIATIVES FOR WOMEN AND CHILDREN**  
 Advance food equity by empowering women and children through hunger-related service.

**HUNGER AND NUTRITION AWARENESS, EDUCATION AND ADVOCACY**  
 Promote hunger and nutrition awareness around the world through education and advocacy.



Winter scene near the famous Tunnel of Trees.

Alpena Lions Club: A donation to the Northeast Michigan Community Foundation, earmarked for the Alpena Lions Club Memorial Fund was presented to Patrick Heraghty by Alan Guest. Alan presented the check on behalf of Rodney and Maryanne Guest who made the donation. The monies will be used to help fund programs of the Alpena Lions Club. Some of the major programs include sight preservation, hearing aids, juvenile diabetes, pediatric cancer, hunger and McRae Park adoption.



Pictured is DG Dennis Gocha with Food Pantry Director Lori Argetsinger and treasurer Dave Rudd. East Jordan Lions Club: District Governor Dennis Gocha presented a check for \$1000 to the Care and Share Food Pantry in East Jordan as the result of the East Jordan Lions annual wrapped Christmas gift auction. Auctioneers were Sharon and Greg McGeorge. Sharing the title of Most Festive Lions: Jennifer Creamer and Bill Thompson

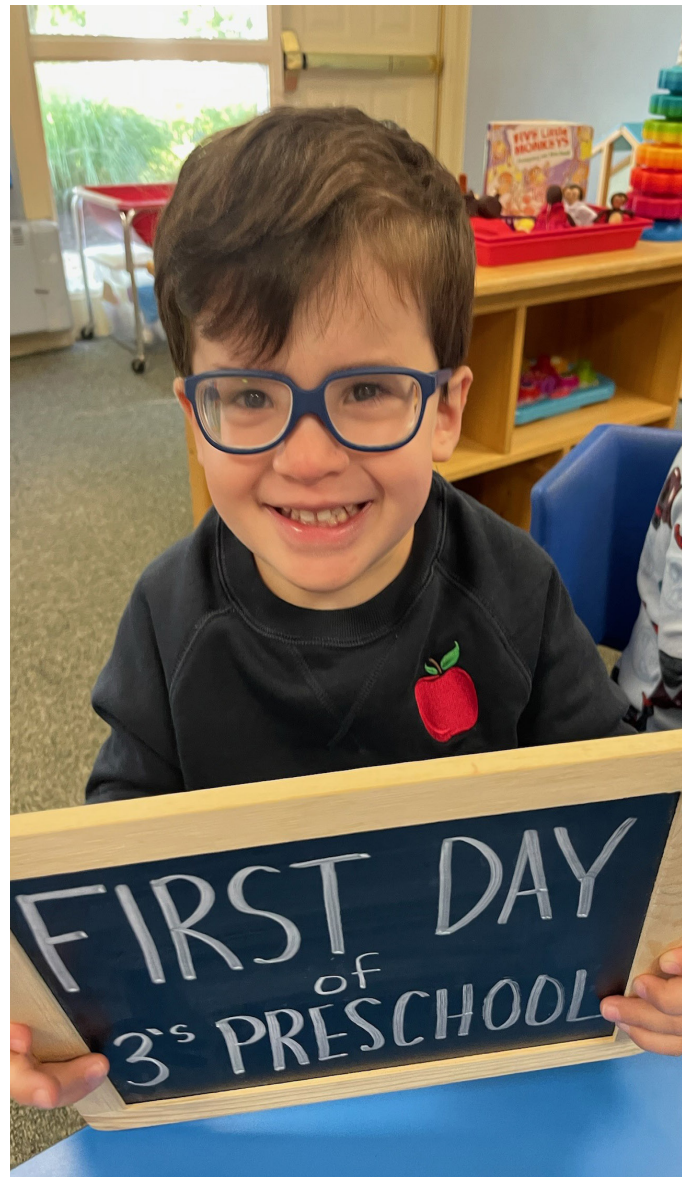


# Lions, thank you for life-changing support!

*“As an infant, sunlight or bright lights would always seem to cause Bob distress, and his eyes were a constant source of irritation,” recalls Carolyn, Bob’s mother.*

Bob was born with a severe case of Posterior Polymorphous Corneal Dystrophy, which left him in constant discomfort and unclear vision. At just 18 months old, everything changed—thanks to two selfless cornea donors and supporters like you.

Today, at three years old, Bob is thriving—exploring the library, playing with his sister and starting each preschool day with bright, clear eyes full of wonder!



You can learn more about Bob’s inspiring story and discover other stories from our Sustainers for Sight community at:  
[eversight.ws/lions\\_sustainers](https://eversight.ws/lions_sustainers)



@EversightVision | [eversightvision.org](https://eversightvision.org) | [philanthropy@eversightvision.org](mailto:philanthropy@eversightvision.org)