

## November 2024

### “Underway for Service”

*Go District 25 D!*

District 25 D is marching on to the sound of **SERVICE**. Can't be any prouder of our District then what we did last month of October. We have had so many exciting events happen and the more I hear and participate in the projects the *more* excited I get. So, the District has made its mark again and haven't even said anything about our membership drive that has shot through the roof. I'm as pleased as a District Governor can be with all the events that have occurred and really don't know what else we can do in November but I'm up for the Challenge.



First off, I want to say Thanks to the Lapel Lions Club for hosting our Tailgate Cabinet Meeting at their club. It was a great time as many who participated had a wonderful time and enjoyed the festive occasion. Lunch was wonderful and lots were accomplished in our quick get together and meeting minutes will reflect another outstanding cabinet meeting with energy that was catching. Zone Chair John Malott and his wife had an idea to start the emergency response for disasters and the hurricanes down South were a great way to lead us that day. Emergency supplies from all over the district showed up by the truck load and trailer load and with cars, filling their storage area. By the end of the day, supplies were ready for shipment down South where they are needed. Words can't explain how happy I was that this District came through in a BIG way.

Then it was off to Gas City the next Saturday for building of the Kirby Wheelchair Ramp. Van Buren Lions Club picked up the temporary ramp on Friday and the next morning at 8:00 AM, boots were on the ground to build this 32-foot ramp. Rik from SAWS, an organization who builds ramps for the families commenced the project with a design and a build plan. The Lions at the project soon had the door issue resolved and were making their way to the driveway and formed the long ramp for it could be used that night. After some 12 hours, the ramp was wheelchair accessible but the project lacked hand rails and touching up of areas that couldn't be done at 8:00 PM so we shut down until Tuesday. The Lions commenced and finished the ramp with true delight of the Kirby family. Rik, from SAWS, was busy that day but he left it to the Lions to wrap it up and it was completed at 2:00 PM. So, some 18 hours of work went into a very successful building of a needed ramp. The pictures say it all.

Student vision screening is well underway too. The Russiaville Lions and the Greentown Lions teamed up and did a wonderful Job this month on screening students at Eastern School Corp. in Greentown. There is many Lions doing lots of things in the month of October.

Now, that the last council meeting was completed on October 5, and I know we are not in competition with other Districts, but District 25 D leads the way with 21 new members. Mission 1.5 is alive and well as we start getting new members with new ideas and formulate the Lions Clubs for the future. I'm tickled about our enthusiasm of bringing new members to our Clubs.

## November 2024

The District 25 D Special Olympics campaign is off and to the races. Many clubs have been to volley ball games and football games and have canvased the stands to bring our donation to the Special Olympics front and center to make sure this program continues year after year. I have a commitment of providing all funds raised to our District Treasurer, Christine Woodward or our Special Olympics Chair, PDG Steve Holzleiter by the end of this calendar year. So please shoot for the fundraising to be turned in to either of these Lions by December 31, 2024 so we can see where the fund stands for the next calendar year to commence.

I want to thank all the Lions in District 25 D. As you can see, Lions are stepping up to do the work and to make things happen. Nothing is pleasing to this District Governor is to make things happen throughout the District.

The Motto is working; "We Serve"

Yours in Lionism,  
Rocky  
DGE



*Photo: DG Rocky Simpson sitting at the International President's desk*

## November 2024

### 25 D Cabinet Meeting

The 25D meeting was a success! We had a great tailgate lunch and heard updates about exciting things happening in our district. Thank you to Lapel Lions Club for hosting.



Photos: PDG Julia Kozicki & DG Rocky Simpson Photo: DG Rocky Simpson



Photo: State Comptroller Bob Yunker, wife, Lion Betty, and Global Services Chair, Anita Hines Photo: Lapel Club President, Seth Estep and Zone Chair, John Wollet



Photos (L-R): Tailgate lunch, group meeting, and Lion Jeff Kozicki



## November 2024

### Hello fellow Lions!

Well, November is fast approaching and that means the Thanksgiving Holiday will be upon us before we know it. It will be a great time to be with family and friends and also a great time to bring a new member into the Lions club and make a friend. I want to thank the Winchester Lions club for having me at their club, bringing in 2 new members, and a great meeting. It was an honor to induct those great gentlemen in to a great club.

I attended governor training at the Lions state building with other Indiana First Vice Governors. It was a very good training session and I learned a lot - with more to follow.

Saratoga Lions club is selling fruit if interested. Contact one of their members, Jeff Manning, or Anita Hines.

Union City Lions Club has their pancake breakfast on the first Saturday in November, all you can eat.

Remember during the holidays to think about the special Olympics, speech and hearing, and our leader dog program. Make a charitable donation to one of these organizations or suggest it as a great Christmas gift to help someone in need during the holidays.

I want to wish everyone a very Happy Thanksgiving and safe travels. Remember, don't eat alone; bring a friend to the table, spread the good word about what Lions do, and sign them up .

Sincerely Yours,

1VDG/ Jim Dubeansky



## Do You know Your X From Your BeReal, Insta, Or TikTok?

If you don't understand the title, you are not reaching the young adults that we need. 91.56% of Americans are on social media, but not all are on the same one. Twitter is now X, and Facebook is fine for most of us, but it is not reaching into the youth culture of America. BeReal, Instagram, Snapchat, YouTube, and TikTok are the platforms being used by most people twenty-nine and under. Thirty- to Forty-nine-year-olds use YouTube, Facebook, and TikTok the most, while those over Fifty are mostly limited to Facebook and YouTube.

The platforms that different age groups use differ drastically. Using the proper platform to target the right group is vital to get your message out to them. Not doing so is akin to using the wrong language. Trying to get retirees to sign up for your extreme snowboarding competition will probably work just as well as getting twenty-year-olds to your bingo and big band bonanza. Both are great events, as long as you don't mix up the participant sign-up sheets.

Now we come to the crucial part of understanding how to deliver the message to your target audience. The Platform Algorithm. The algorithm is what determines who will see what you post, how often they will see it, and how long they have to look for your post before they find it. Each platform has its own rules for what you have to do to get to the top of the feed. Being at the top of the feed means if the one you want to target is only online for just a few minutes, they will see your message. Facebook, for example, wants you to post daily with items that get likes, comments, and shares to move up in priority for viewers. The more interactions your post gets, the more important they will rank it.

If you have a Lions page that is not posting regularly, it is essentially a dead page. Keep your social media presence active and aimed at the public, not just your members. Many of us struggle with this because it has not been a regular part of our lives like it has for people who have always had it as their information source. If we want the legacy and service of the Lions to continue into the future, we need to be reaching the Lions of the future.

*Information compiled from Statista.com, Pew Research Center, Marketing 101, Sprocket Research, and Meta Statistics.*

District 25D Second Vice District Governor Lion Mike Careins  
SVDG 25D



**Lions of District 25-D: What makes a Lion a happy Lion?**

Greetings! Last month I was going to talk about what to do with the list of names you made. I did not forget about this, but I thought getting a better understanding of being a Lion was more important to help lay a groundwork of why we would bring in more members. There is another question I would like to cover. "What makes a happy and successful Lion?" It is critical to have an answer. What the number for LCI show is that Lions are great at recruiting new members, we just are not very good at KEEPING those members.

So, what makes the difference? I recently heard a person talk about these three key items:

1. They need a friend. This may be their mentor but they need someone, really lots of someone's, to connect with as we are not a social organization but a communal one.
2. They need a job. If someone joins, but is told, "don't worry, we've got everything covered," they aren't going to stay around long. Ask them to do things, even little things. More importantly, listen to their ideas on how to do new or different things. Then put them in charge of their ideas and find jobs you can do to support them.
3. They need a "why". This will take time, but the more of Lionism around the world you can expose them to and ask them what is important to them, the soon they can move from joining Lions to being a Lion.

I hope that you have all three of these! If you don't, talk with your Club President, or give me a call. I'm happy to talk with any person or club about this. We will talk about using the names list next month. Until then, thank you for being a friend to another Lion. Thank you for the jobs you undertake to better your community. And thank you for the why that you are pursuing.

Global Membership Team Chair Jeff Kozicki

**November 2024**

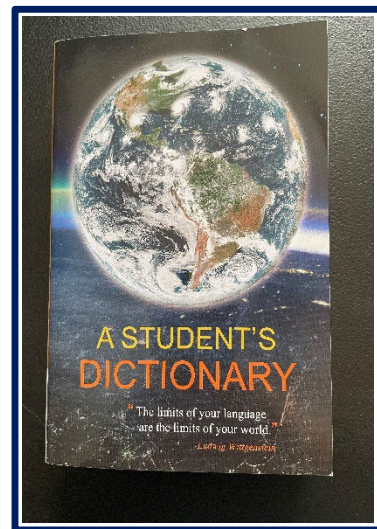
**Reading Action Program**

The Reading Action Program challenges Lions to focus on literacy and access to educational tools & resources. This LCI literacy program is a commitment to increasing reading and literacy rates. Some activities to support this could be: handing out free Scholastic readers, setting up at time of reading to students at school or at your “Club” house... get creative for there are endless possibilities.

Several years ago, Greentown Lion Tom Moor took up that challenge and asked our Club to join “The Dictionary Project.” These dictionaries are given to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students and they are not “just a dictionary.” The book that Greentown Lions purchases is called “A Student’s Dictionary.” It also includes: biographies of U.S. Presidents, the Declaration of Independence and U.S. Constitution, facts about countries, maps of the seven continents, information about the 50 states, facts about planets, weights & measures, sign language and much more! Students at Eastern Elementary, Millerview Amish School, and Bethany Fellowship School are always so excited when it is their “turn” to receive this educational book – and the teachers actually do use them as part of their classroom learning. It is a book that students keep for their very own and we have had students tell us they still have their dictionary using it in high school. Greentown Lions have purchased over 1,710 dictionaries for 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. Inside the cover of each book, we stamp Compliments of Greentown Lions Club.

DG David “Rocky” Simpson is encouraging Clubs in 25D to learn more about the “Dictionary Project” and consider purchasing these dictionaries for a school(s) in your area. Check the internet for more information – [www.DictionaryProject.org](http://www.DictionaryProject.org) - a very worthwhile project!

Lion Jean Ann Wise,  
Reading Action Program Chair  
765-210-6873  
[irjwise@aol.com](mailto:irjwise@aol.com)





August to  
October 2024  
District Count  
A 1162  
B 163  
C 1504  
D 453  
E 351  
F 1696  
G 1245  
Total: 6574

A big pat on the back to the Lions who have been out there in all the schools and day cares this fall screening those 18 month to 6 year olds. With most of the screenings entered for the month, the Lions of Indiana have screened over 6500 kids across the state from August to October using a fleet of KidSight and club

owned cameras. Now that most are finishing up schools and Head Starts, think about focusing on the small day cares, nurseries, and ministries in your area. Set up a monthly screening at the county library. The sooner we can screen kids, the better!

The current consent forms and cover sheet are available for download at: <https://www.visionfirst.org/operationkidsight>

I have also created a public Google Drive folder with documents related to KidSight. Email for a link if that's in your comfort zone.

If you need hard copies mailed to you, please call **317-213-3902** or email Karlene Roe at [kidsight@att.net](mailto:kidsight@att.net).

*Please remember the mailing address for submitting screenings has changed. The current cover sheets have the correct information.*

Reach out if you need supplies for your cameras/screenings.

**Lions of MD25, keep up the good work!**



## November 2024

### Gathering Supplies for Hurricane Recovery with Lapel Lions



*Photo: Lapel Lions – “Team Lapel”*

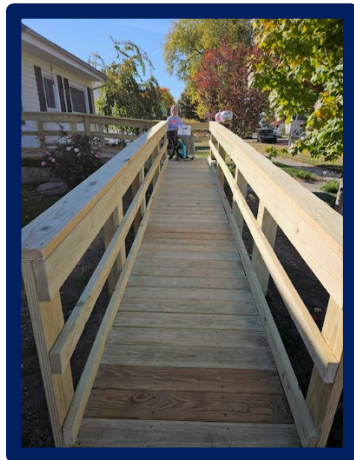


*Photos: Betty is unloading her car; truck from Greentown, PDG Mike Imbler & Lion Cathy*



**November 2024**

**Building a Wheelchair Ramp in Gas City, Indiana**

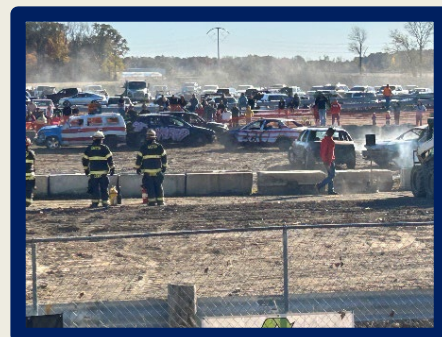




# November 2024

## Gaston Lions Club Derby

The Gaston Lions Club hosted a Demonstration Derby. The event included food, a costume contest, and even a kids' derby.



## November 2024

### Winchester Lions Club

We brought 2 new members in Winchester Lions club last night. Beside me, Jim Dubeansky First Vice Governor, is Craig McCoy. In the blue shirt is the Winchester Lions Club President, Chris Peacock. Not present is Phillip Stanley. We had a great turnout of members! The Winchester Lions club is doing remarkable things and going strong very proud of these gentleman from going through a Tornado to where they are today. it's amazing!



### Noblesville Lions Celebrate Halloween

On the Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Noblesville Club, they celebrated Halloween with 8 members showing up as favorite characters! Led by the club Tail Twister, Lion Josh Kozicki, the club was timed in completing a crossword puzzle in Halloween words. Winners won candy bars! Take a look at the photo and see how many Noblesville Lions you may know?!



*Photo: 8 great lookin' Noblesville Lions*



## November 2024

### Noblesville Lions Learn About Noblesville Preservation

On Wednesday, Oct 23<sup>rd</sup> the Noblesville Club learned about preservation activities in Noblesville. Kurt Meyer was the highlighted speaker, and is a realtor and also active in historic preservation. He detailed some activities in Noblesville over the years that were good, and some a loss, for saving historic buildings and property. The club had a few questions on current activities in the city and area.

*Photo: Lion Vp Hayden Parsons thanking Kurt Meyer*



### Noblesville Lions Serve and Say Hi to Youngsters at Fall Fest

On Friday, Oct 4<sup>th</sup> the Lions Club served their grilled cheese sandwiches to the crowd in downtown Noblesville from 4 to 8PM. Also on hand was Stanley the Lion to say “hello” to the kids.

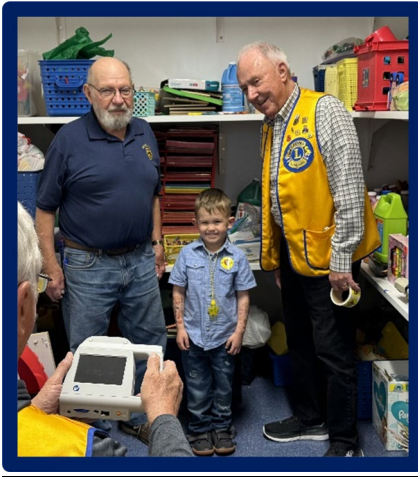


*Photo Dad and Child: Stanley trying to make friends*



*Photo 2 Youngsters: Stanley and two happy kids*

**Noblesville Lions ask Is Your Child's Eye Sight OK?**



It is very hard for a child to tell you if they are having problems seeing well, as they have always seen this way and may think it is normal. However, recent studies have shown that as many as 25% of all children have a vision problem significant enough to affect their performance in school. These issues can include near sightedness, far sightedness, and lazy eye. Students in Indiana have their vision screened in 3<sup>rd</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, and 8<sup>th</sup> grades.

The Noblesville Lions Club, which is committed to helping with all vision issues, performs many of these screenings each year. But vision issues can start much earlier.

In an effort to detect vision issues as early as possible, the Noblesville Lions will be holding a FREE Eye Screening at the Noblesville Branch of the Hamilton East Public Library (1 Library Plaza, Noblesville) on Saturday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30am to 12:30pm.

The Lions have a special camera that can be used on children as young as 18 months, with the results available on the spot. This screening is open to everyone. If you would like to bring a can of food to help with feeding others, that would be greatly appreciated.

**Noblesville, Carmel, and Westfield Lions Assist Gleaners in October**

On Tuesday, Oct 8<sup>th</sup> the Lions Clubs from Noblesville, Carmel, and Westfield, handed out food for Gleaners this past week. They distributed to 196 families, helping around 800 people.



*Photo: (L-R top row) Lions Carrie Larrison, Cathy Kahler, Jim Kahler, Bill Nesbitt, Mark Hallett, Linda Hallet, Norm Steele, John Einsfeld, Duke Miller, Rollin Cutter, Steve Shaw. Front row (L-R) Lions Paul Cardinal, Matt Best, Bob Yunker, Betty Yunker, Christal Steele, BJ worker, Carol Miller, Linda Williamson, Larry Jacobi, Marianne Jacobi, Ron Williamson. Not pictured, Jeff Kozicki, Joe Connerly, Vicki Neddenreip, Tiny Eich and her husband. What a great group of volunteers!*

**Westfield Lions Step Up for Displaced Homeless Vets**

***HVAF Facility in Indy Burns; Over 50 Homeless Vets Lose Housing***

On Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> the Helping Veterans and Families (HVAF) facility located in the 900 block of N. Pennsylvania Street in Indianapolis suffered catastrophic damage after a fire broke out in the building. At this location HVAF provides housing for more than 50 homeless veterans, as well as an operating a clothing and food pantry for veterans in need.

The Westfield Lions Club has been a strong and active supporter of HVAF for several years. This has included collecting food and clothing for veterans and their families along with donating more than \$10,000 to HVAF's operation.

Recognizing HVAF's urgent need for assistance after the fire, the Lions immediately stepped up to make a \$1500 donation to help with the costs of finding temporary housing, food, and clothing for the displaced vets.

The HVAF is committed to helping veterans suffering from homelessness, unemployment, and psychological issues. This tremendous organization, and the veterans it serves, needs the community's help. The Westfield Lions urge you to please visit [www.hvafofindiana.org](http://www.hvafofindiana.org) to find out how you can make a monetary donation, or donate food, clothing, and furniture.



**Westfield Lions and Elevance Health Work to Feed Hungry Students**

***Volunteers Fill Over 400 “Weekend Food Bags”***

Utilizing a \$1900 grant from Lions Clubs International (LCI), the Westfield Lions Club partnered with Elevance Health to fill over 400 bags of food for Westfield school students in need. This is the second year in a row that the Lions and Elevance have taken advantage of the opportunity to secure LCI funds to purchase food items for the Open Doors Food Pantry’s “Weekend Food Bag” program.

The motto of the Lions is “We Serve”, and working with organizations like Elevance Health that want to positively impact communities is a perfect way to reflect that. Fifteen Elevance employees worked side by side with several Lions to put together food bags that are delivered to all the Westfield elementary schools. Once the schools receive the food bags, the administrators at the schools distribute them each Friday to students who need them.

The Westfield Lions Club has been a significant supporter of the Open Doors Food Pantry over the years. They have donated thousands of dollars and volunteered countless hours to help sustain an integral part of the Westfield community.

To find out how you can become a Lion and help those in need, go to [www.westfieldlions.org](http://www.westfieldlions.org). They are looking for men and women that want to make a difference in our community.





**November 2024**

**Westfield Lions Celebrate 94 Years of Service**

***Hamilton County's Oldest Service Club Presents Annual Awards***

On October 17<sup>th</sup> the Westfield Lions Club celebrated its 94th anniversary with special awards for some well-deserving members and an amazing dinner prepared by the Westfield H.S. Foodies team.

Lion Jerry Kirby was awarded the Richard T. Miyamoto Fellowship Award for his tireless volunteer work at all the Club's events, as well as participating on several club committees. He is currently serving as the Club's 2<sup>nd</sup> vice president this year. The Miyamoto Fellowship is named after Dr. Richard Miyamoto and is awarded to Lions for exceptional dedication and service to others in accord with the mission of Indiana Lions Speech & Hearing, Incorporated.

The W.P. Woods Fellowship was awarded to Lion John Wardlow for the tremendous work he has done for the Club over the 10 years he has been a member. He's served as the Club's president, as well as being on the board of directors for four years. Lion Wardlow's efforts to secure ARPA funds during Covid resulted in the Westfield Lions Club being awarded a \$12,000 grant from Hamilton County. The W.P. Woods Fellowship was established to honor the first president of Lions International, W.P. Woods, who was an Indiana Lion from Evansville. The fellowship is a way that Indiana Lions may honor their dedicated Lions.

Lion Rodney Benson received Lions Clubs International's Melvin Jones Fellowship Award. Named in honor of LCI's founder, the fellowship award is the top award a Lion can receive. Lion Benson recently completed his second term as the Club's president and oversaw its substantial membership growth during that period of time. Also, during his tenure the Club began the remodeling of its new clubhouse at 1101 E. 169<sup>th</sup> Street.

The highlight of each year's awards night is the presentation of the Roy O. Hadley "Lion of the Year" award. Lion Hadley's leadership was instrumental in developing the culture of the Club so that it could become an ongoing major asset to the Westfield community. This year's Lion of the Year is Gary Smith. He has served in all the leadership positions of the Club, including president and on the board of directors. His extensive work with the Westfield Lions LLC has been critical to its success.



*Photo: Lions Rodney Benson (Melvin Jones Fellowship), Gary Smith (Lion of the Year), John Wardlow (W.P. Woods Fellowship), and club president Bill Nesbitt. Not pictured is Lion Jerry Kirby (Richard Miyamoto Fellowship).*

The Westfield Lions are looking for men and women who want to help make a difference in Westfield. If you would like more information on the Club, go to [www.westfieldlions.org](http://www.westfieldlions.org).

**November 2024**

**Westfield Lions Add Four More New Members**

At the Westfield Lions Club's October 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting four more members were initiated into the club. Norm and Christal Steele, along with Jim and Amy Grovogel, joined the club. Lions Jeff and Carrie Larrison sponsored the new members and Past District Governor Dan Wilcox lead the initiation ceremony. The meeting was held at the Open Doors Food Pantry, one of the many local organizations supported by the Westfield Lions Club.

For more information on the Westfield Lions Club and how to become a member, go to [www.westfieldlions.org](http://www.westfieldlions.org). They are looking for men and women that want to make a difference in Westfield.



*Photo (L to R): Jeff Larrison, Norm Steele, Christal Steele, Amy Grovogel, Tim Grovogel, Carrie Larrison, and Dan Wilcox*



## November 2024

### Westfield Lions Deliver Dictionaries to Third Graders



*Photo: Westfield Woods 3<sup>rd</sup> Graders*

The Westfield Lions Club recently completed their 10<sup>th</sup> year of participating in the “Dictionary Project” – a national program that works with service organizations to provide free dictionaries to 3<sup>rd</sup> grade students. The Westfield Lions joined the program in 2012, initially delivering 566 dictionaries Westfield 3<sup>rd</sup> graders. (The Club had to pause the program during the Covid years of 2020 and 2021.) This year’s count of 853 dictionaries sets another record for the Lions Club, beating last year’s record of 784. The total count for dictionaries delivered to Westfield 3<sup>rd</sup> graders now stands at 7185!

For more information on the Westfield Lions Club, how they serve the community, and how to become a member, go to

[www.westfieldlions.org](http://www.westfieldlions.org).

### Union City Lions Club

The Union City Lions Club met on Tuesday evening at the Union City Community Room. The Lions were treated to a wonderful meal of meatloaf, mashed potatoes, corn and cake provided by Diane Dubeansky. The program for the meeting was presented by Jeff Wendel, UC Head Baseball Coach. Jeff discussed his goal of building increased participation and developing baseball skills both physically and mentally. He has named the program the Indians Baseball 501 Club. (501 Maryland Street is the street address of Victory Field in Indianapolis where the team can end the season for the championship.) Jeff is also the owner of Carts and Parts in Union City; he was thanked for helping the Lions with door prizes for the Randolph County Fly-IN and providing golf carts for the State Line Heritage Days Parade.

*Photo (right): Scott Reagan, Program Chair, and Jeff Wendel*



## November 2024

### Russiaville Fall Fish Fry

The Russiaville Lions Club hosted its fall fish fry on October 12. Attached are two pictures of some of our Russiaville Lions fish fry cleanup activities. DG Rocky & Greentown Lions friends... thanks for attending and supporting our 2024 Russiaville Lions Fall Fish fry fundraiser. We Russiaville Lions are definitely... **"Underway for Service!"**



*Photos: Lions Peggy Faulkner, Erin Nemeth, and Frank Faulkner.*

### Russiaville Lions Highway Clean-up

Another exciting environmental project for the Russiaville Lions Club was the highway clean up. Part of Indiana's Adopt-a-highway-program, Lions in Russiaville adopted a 2-mile stretch of road on SR 26, just east of town. The program is designed to help reduce roadside trash beautify communities. Organizations that commit to annual clean ups can earn signage with their name and promote themselves in the community!





## November 2024

### Russiaville is Digging an Environmental Project

Fall is an excellent time to plan and Russiaville Lions had a great day to be outside to do just that in October. With the directions and guidance of Lion Rick Homkes and help from our Russiaville Lion President Darlene & Lion Ben Newlin, we planted trees near the girls' softball diamond #1. Lion tree plantings projects are fun because those who help get a very good sense of accomplishment. Lions are F.U.N. because we Lions are "Friendly, Upbeat & Nice" and "WE SERVE!"



*Photo (L-R): Lions Rick Homkes, Frank Faulkner, and Ben Newlin*



*Photo: Lion Frank Faulkner*



*Photo (L-R): Lion Rick Homkes and Ben Newlin*



*Photo (l-r): Lion Ben Newlin, President Darlene Homkes, and Lion Frank Faulkner*