



# The Oklahoma Lion

Monthly publication of the  
Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation and the Lions of Oklahoma



[www.oklahomalions.org](http://www.oklahomalions.org)  
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May 2012

## District 3-A / LCIF Disaster Assistance for Woodward Area Tornado Victims

by District 3-A Governor Arlene Shore

In a response to the tornado that struck Woodward, Sunday, April 15, and the damage caused in its wake and the needs in the community, District 3-A applied for an Emergency Grant from Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) to respond. The district was approved by LCIF for a \$10,000 grant.

The tornado claimed the lives of 6 people and injured another 31. In Woodward County 73 homes were destroyed by the tornado and another 19 suffered major damage from the storm, while another 108 homes were affected in lesser ways. Eleven businesses were damaged.

Woodward County Emergency Management Director said that more than 1,500 meals were prepared for disaster victims and

emergency responders, as well as 5,500 snacks.



The grant received from LCIF designated that the funds could be used for such items as blankets, water, clothing, medical supplies, cleaning supplies, rakes, shovels, gloves, and paper towels. These

kinds of items were purchased from the Enid Dollar General store and were taken to Woodward on Sunday, April 23. One hundred sheet sets were purchased from the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation. District 3-A appreciates the manager of the Enid Dollar General store, Theresa Barber (pictured to the left of DG Arlene), for her assistance and help in purchasing, boxing and itemizing the merchandise, making it easy to obtain and transfer the disaster supplies. Six Lions from Garber, 2 from Pioneer-Pleasant Vale and Woodward Lions President Scott Hubbard helped in transporting, labeling and distributing the supplies.

People coming together is what makes you proud to be a Lion.

## Lions-Quest at the U.N.

by PDG Tony Dowell  
MD-3 Lions Quest Chairperson

At Lions Day at the United Nations headquarters in New York where more than 400 Lions from 23 countries were discussing global challenges and Lions service opportunities for others, *Lions-Quest* was featured as the best social-emotional learning school program available in the world today.

It gives me great pride to see what the *Lions-Quest* program is accomplishing. *Lions-Quest* has given over 12 million youth in 72 countries the social and emotional skills to make good decisions and have respect for others.

Through Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF), *Lions-Quest* continues to partner with well-regarded and recognized organizations, including the U. S. State Department and the NoVo Foundation. During Lions Day with the United Nations, *Lions-Quest* officially partnered with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. This new partnership provides an opportunity to reach even more students.

Supporting *Lions-Quest*, LCIF and Lions is supporting youth by teaching them good values and to be better citizens.

## Disaster Relief Team for Woodward, April 22, 2012



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# The Skinny from the Fat Man

by Lion Troy Jenkins, Executive Director, Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation

## ***There is no diplomacy like candor.***

Edward V. Lucas, English author

OK! Let's get it all out in the open. Over the last 2-1/2 months, I have heard a lot of different thoughts and impressions about the Service Foundation. As I promised transparency for the Foundation, I felt it best to address these head-on. After all, what better way to get us all moving in the same direction and make our foundation the best that it can be, which is to say a true fundraising partner for our state projects.

For starters, let's address the salary question, which appears to cause a lot of confusion. Contrary to popular belief, the Executive Director's salary is not paid through dues. Your state dues cover items such as this newspaper, state convention, and building fund, used to keep the state office up-to-date and in working condition. Another portion of state dues goes to operations fund, covering a small portion of the District Governors' cost to attend International Convention, and covers the part-time salary of the State Secretary, as well as half of the salary of the Administrative Secretary. The OLSF Exec. Director salary is, in fact, paid by the Service Foundation, as is half of the office Admin. Sec. salary.

Like most non-profit organizations, including our Boys Ranch and Eye Bank, administration consists of paid staff members, typically, professionals who could earn much more in the for-profit sector, but chose their roles because of a passion for the cause. A number of different organizations over the years have tried to run with strictly volunteers with typically poor results. It is simply too difficult to hold volunteers accountable for reaching goals, and equally difficult to force them to do the less "fun" jobs required to properly administer an organization. So with the necessity of paid staff, OLSF made efforts to introduce other lines of revenue (i.e., Lions Linens) that cover administrative costs, so donations (i.e., memorials and regular contributions to ***Building the Foundation***) can more effectively serve our projects.

Another item that comes up, often in conjunction with OLSF salary, is the comparison between OLSF and the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF). It is often remarked that any donations that go to LCIF directly support the programs of LCIF, and not the administrative costs. This is an absolutely true statement, and we as Lions should be very proud of that fact. LCIF is able to accomplish this because they have over \$240 million in

assets, including \$120 million in unrestricted assets (as reported on their 2009 tax return). Through years of support from Lions throughout the world, LCIF invested enough so that administrative costs could be paid by gains from investments. Be assured that this did not just happen. It took a lot of years and a lot of support to get to this point. We could achieve similar results with our foundation, but it would take a much greater level of support from our OK Lions to make this happen.

The OLSF was created in 1974 to serve as the fundraising branch of our state projects. According to Article V, Section 2 of the OLSF Constitution, ***The Foundation shall organize and manage all statewide fundraising projects for the general solicitation of funds from the Lions of Oklahoma, Multiple District 3, and the general public. The Board of Directors shall approve such statewide projects.*** While this part may have changed a bit over the years, OLSF still needs the support of OK Lions to support our state projects!

While on the subject of state projects, I heard after a recent meeting that the Mobile Health Screening Unit is not a state project. Again, this is absolutely true; it is not considered one of our state projects and is not technically funded by the Service Foundation. MHSU funding comes from grants and a money market account that was established primarily through past grants. All of this, along with scheduling, maintenance, and management of the drivers and supplies does run through the OLSF. While this is not technically a state project, funding wise, any project run by OK Lions and staffed primarily through their volunteerism to serve individual communities of the clubs, should be considered a state project. To say otherwise is just semantics.

Through Oklahoma Lions' efforts, thousands of Oklahomans each year are given free health screenings. Last year alone, over 3,000 Oklahomans failed one or more of the screenings offered and were directed to visit a physician, a very important service in a state that, according to the United Health Foundation, currently ranks 48<sup>th</sup> in the nation in overall health. This number is based on factors such as obesity (Okla. is currently ranked 40<sup>th</sup>), diabetes (43<sup>rd</sup>), and cardiovascular deaths (48<sup>th</sup>). Again, while technically not a state project, as Oklahoma Lions, we should be proud of the much-needed service that we offer to our communities.

While on the subject of state service, 3-H Governor Marvin Ainsworth and I recently visited with a few people from the Oklahoma Library for the Blind, and were presented with a tremendous opportunity for Oklahoma Lions to serve the visually impaired. One of the library's services is the recording of different newspaper articles from various papers throughout the state. The great thing is that this can be done from home through your phone. If you would like to learn more about this, please contact Special Projects Mgr. Kevin Treease at 405-522-0978 or [ktreese@okdrs.gov](mailto:ktreese@okdrs.gov). What a great opportunity for some of our Lions to get involved!

After all, getting involved is what the Oklahoma Lions do. There are so

many projects at the local and state levels that should cause every one of us to get excited. By the same token, we should all be supportive of our state projects and the fundraising branch that supports them. This has been mentioned before, but the Building the Foundation campaign is currently supported by less than 5% of the Lions in the State. We also do not have complete participation from all of the clubs for our White Cane or Cowboy Cadillac efforts. While it is incredibly important to support your local community, our state projects reach all of our communities and need all of our support as well. As Oklahoma Lions, this is a big part of what we mean when we say ***We Serve!***

## BUILDING THE FOUNDATION

All Oklahoma Lions serve the Lions Boys Ranch and Lions Eye Bank when you pledge through the Building the Foundation Bank Draft Program. Your pledge provides the Lions Foundation a way to meet the needs of our Lions State Projects. Say YES to supporting our Projects with a

\_\_\_ Monthly Contribution \_\_\_\_\_ Quarterly Contribution \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_ Semi-Annual Contribution \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Contribution \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Lions Club \_\_\_\_\_

OLSF Fellowships are awarded to individuals who make donation at two levels. \_\_\_ Louis B. Lackey Fellowship (\$250.00) \_\_\_ Dr. Robert D. McCullough Fellowship (\$500.00) Recipients receive Pins and certificates recognizing their contribution. Please make your check payable to and mail to: Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation, 4123 NW 10th Street, Oklahoma City, OK 73107-5801.

The Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation is a non-profit corporation that serves individuals through the Oklahoma Lions Eye Bank and Boys Ranch. Contribution are tax deductible under 501 (c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

### AUTHORIZATION AGREEMENT FOR PREAUTHORIZED PAYMENTS

I hereby authorize the Oklahoma Lions Service Foundation, hereinafter called the FOUNDATION, to initiate debit entries to my checking account indicated below at the depository named below, hereinafter called DEPOSITORY, to debit the same to such account.

DEPOSITORY Name Your Bank \_\_\_\_\_

Branch \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Routing# \_\_\_\_\_ Account# \_\_\_\_\_

This authorization is to remain in full force and effect until the FOUNDATION has received written notification from me of its termination in such time and in such manner as to afford the FOUNDATION and DEPOSITORY reasonable opportunity to act on it.

Name (Print) \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

## Update from World Services for the Blind

The mission of World Services for the Blind is to empower blind or visually impaired adults in the United States and around the world to achieve sustainable independence. The organization focuses its efforts in 3 main areas: life skills, career training and access.

**Life Skills:** Many people believe that blind or visually impaired people can't live on their own. People assume that they can't cook a meal, or iron a shirt, or read, or travel alone. But by learning basic life skills, blind and visually impaired people can do all of these things and more. At World Services for the Blind, each client's skills are assessed and they are taught skills appropriate to their ability level. This is essential to ensuring future vocational training placement.

Take 25-year-old James for instance. After graduating from the Arkansas School for the Blind he went back home to his family in rural Arkansas. Shortly after returning home his father died, and he was living with his step-mother. For 2 years James did nothing. He was finally paired with an informed state counselor who told him about World Services for the Blind. When James arrived he was very withdrawn and rarely interacted with others. He barely knew how to use a cane and was very hesitant to venture around. While he was at World Services for the Blind he gained mobility skills and learned how to navigate the campus and the outside world. He learned home management skills such as cooking, cleaning and doing laundry. James also gained pride and independence. He began confidently having conversations and enjoyed sharing with new people. He even touched the lives of a group of college girls that came to campus a couple times a month to teach dancing. He bravely got out there and participated in the dance program and charmed these girls. This was a huge change for him. In his exit interview, James shared how he is no longer afraid to venture outside his home, and the program opened a new world for him. He was recently offered a job with the Arkansas Lighthouse.

**Career Training:** For anyone who thought that working in today's high-tech society is out of reach for blind or visually impaired people, think again. World Services for the Blind teaches technology skills that empower graduates to thrive in the modern workplace. Only 20% of blind people have jobs, and World Services for the Blind is committed to changing that. A long-standing partnership with the IRS continues to be successful. If a client is accepted and graduates from one of our IRS classes, they are guaranteed a job. The other technology based programs, such as programming and assistive technology instructor, have an 83-percent placement rate, which is still on the rise. World Services for the Blind seeks to transform those who are dependent upon government aid into independent wage earners and taxpayers, like Darren.

Darren was referred to World Services for the Blind by the Braille Institute (s. Calif.). The institute knew of WSB's reputation and success of job placement from serving clients in all 50 states and 58 countries. After 11-1/2 months living on WSB's campus, separated from family and friends, Darren graduated. He says that WSB was more than an education in computer programming and independent living skills. Darren regained hope, self esteem and confidence. WSB gave him the pride, strength and courage to be successful. Now he shares an apartment in Los Angeles with his guide dog, Lambert, taking the train and bus to his job where he teaches computer skills to blind students. Darren and his brother have even founded a community service program where he maintains the website, a skill he mastered at WSB.

**Community Access:** At World Services for the Blind, access means opportunity. One way we're creating opportunity is through partnerships with entities like the Okla. Division of Services for the Blind, to provide funding for an Older Blind Program. The in-home program will help people 55 years and older who are beginning to lose their sight by teaching them new ways to approach everyday tasks. The partnership will provide the opportunity to touch every community around the state.

**Future Goals:** A low-vision clinic, a location for the Older Blind Program to be housed, a community education, research and development center, and a low-vision aids lending library and store, where blind and low-vision people can "test drive" products that will help them adapt to decreasing sight. It is also important that we are able to integrate the blind or visually impaired community we serve into the sighted community around us, and an education center will allow us to do just that.

An anonymous donor has agreed to match all donations we raise up to \$500,000. That means if we obtain the full match, we will have raised \$1,000,000. We are asking all Lions and Lions Clubs to help with this match.

Please contact World Services for the Blind for more information: [www.lwsb.org](http://www.lwsb.org), or call 1-800-248-0734.

# Oklahoma Lions Boys Ranch

YOU'RE INVITED TO THE  
 "1ST ANNUAL LADY LIONS TEA!"  
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 HAT  
 MAKING  
 FOOD  
 FUN



RSVP at [cfowler@olbr.org](mailto:cfowler@olbr.org) by May 4th  
 call (405)606-5621 for more information

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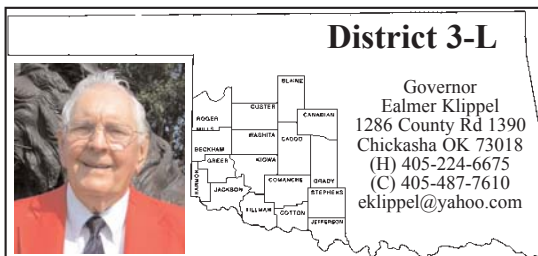


# My Thoughts

by Governor Ealmer Klippel

What a difference a year makes. Last year we were watering our gardens to get the plants up and keeping them alive. The farmers were looking at complete crop failures. Things were very dismal for all the folks. Yesterday I planted my last plants in the garden, no watering necessary. The folks you meet are happy, with things to do and are a joy to visit. Then we turn on the TV and look at pictures of folks who lost almost everything in the tornadoes. We realize that some folks still need help. We know these things happen and accept the fact that this is a part of living in Oklahoma. We, as Lions, have prepared to meet these folks and help in the recovery of the family unit. We pray that we meet that need as we serve in our communities.

On a lighter side, I recall that while we were in Seattle, Bill Gates Senior came on stage and, joking, accused the Oklahoma group of stealing their basketball team. I had nothing to do with the wheeling and dealing that went on in bringing the Thunder NBA team to Oklahoma City but I am sure excited about their play and accomplishments. My whole family talks Thunder. If we could only get folks to get that excited about the Lions Clubs in their communities! However, I do say that the Clubs in 3-L are working and all have projects that are challenging. That always creates excitement.



## District 3-L

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Most clubs have held their 2012-2013 officer elections. I received copies of some of the PU101s. Please make sure that all contact information is correct. Then send them to LCI and the OK Lions state office. This sure helps when the incoming leadership can contact the right folks as they do their jobs.

I have been reporting on what I call **Old Timers**. This month, pictured below, is the oldest one that I have found in District 3-L. It is a joy to talk with these Lions. To me they give our Lions Clubs strength.

My thought, *keep what you want and then throw the rest away.*

## 3-L Club Reports

**Altus:** Hosted 9 cubs of the week for lunch. Provided Life Line and newspapers to the hospital. Held sweet heart luncheon. Planning for Texas-T show.

**Anadarko:** Planted trees from Apache Tree Program.

**Binger:** Planning scholarship Program and golf tournament; elected 2012-2013 officers.

**Cache:** Presentation to Peace Poster winners, both District and State

**Canute:** Held Pancake breakfast and Easter egg hunt.

**Chickasha:** Planning golf tournament. Donated to Food for Kids program, OK Lions Eye Bank building fund, and to LCIF's Measles Prevention Program.

**Clinton:** Repairing ball fields for summer programs

**Cordell:** Planning and building city park with playgrounds.

**El Reno Canadian Valley:** Planning for their scholarship program and next year's Salvation Army programs.

**Hobart:** Donated to the school banquet fund and to the OK Lions Eye Bank building fund; bought eyeglasses for the needy; held Easter egg hunt; planning for Hobart Day Fly INN and Pancake Breakfast.

**Lawton Noon:** Planning annual fundraising carnival, and planning help to the Salvation Army Boys and

Girls Program. Provided eyeglasses to the needy. **Inducted new Lions Darrell Black and Mark Mahoney.**

**Lawton Northeast Branch On-Line:** Planted a northern red bud tree on Cameron University Campus for Earth Day.

**Marlow:** Honored Student of the week. Bought eyeglasses for needy. Planning for the annual Fourth of July Celebration.

**Mustang:** Supervised building and rentals. Donated to the OK Lions Eye Bank building fund

**Pocasset:** Picked up trash for area. Gave 4 scholarships. Held fundraiser (meal) for couple injured in a auto accident.

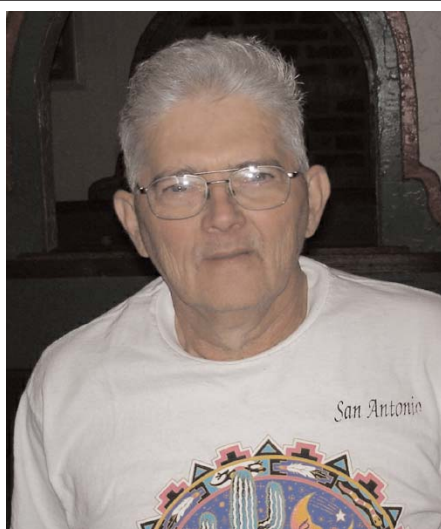
**Union City:** Planning Pancake and Sausage fundraiser. Honored Student of the Month. Donated to prize fund at the local live stock show. Planning next Flag Day.

**Velma-Alma:** Honored 2 high school students; donated to local Food Fund.

**Walters Noon:** Collects aluminum cans (fundraiser). Bought eyeglasses for the needy.

**Weatherford:** Held fundraiser Basketball Game and planning next flag day routes.

The Lawton NE On-Line Branch Lions Club as they plant a northeastern Red Bud tree on the Cameron University Campus. This is the fourth tree they have planted. In the picture are Lion Al Granger coordinator of the Branch Club, 3-L District Governor Elect John (Wes) Williams, DG Ealmer Klippel, members of the Branch Club and staff of Cameron University. This was done in celebration of Earth Day.



"Old Timer" James Bish with the Anadarko Indian Club. James had prior service before joining the Anadarko Indian Lions Club over 35 years ago.



# April: Environmental Month

By Governor Arlene Shore

## Dr. Briggs Scholarship Recipients for 3-A

Those selected to receive a \$500 scholarship from the Dr. Eugene S. Briggs Scholarship Foundation from District 3-A for 2012-2013 are: Amanda D. Grider (Ponca City), Samantha Villaseñor (Guymon), and Bridget Miller (Waukomis). The alternate is Kimberly Ward (Enid).

## District 3-A Club News

**Balko:** Worked to prepare for and hold large consignment auction in April.

**Beaver:** In process of building handicap ramps in conjunction with OEDA and the Club is helping with the cost.

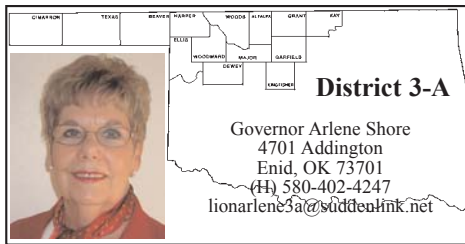
**Burlington:** Completed a successful drive for eyeglasses.

**Covington:** Sponsored a town-wide garage sale on April 21; the club held the sale at the town park.

**Enid Noon/Briggs:** Participated in the Spring Horn of Plenty drive on Sun., April 15. Donated \$300 to help Garfield County Lions buy a riding lawn mower for the OK Lions Boys Ranch. The Club members will sadly miss long-time Lion Beryl Bigger who was the pianist for our Club for over 50 years and was our first female member. March 29 Pancake Supper and Auction was successful and well attended.

**Fairview:** Donated an additional \$500 to keep "Friday Day Camp" (working with N.W. Family Services, Ministerial Alliance, Major County Extension Office and others for Friday Schools out Program). Club will give out 4 scholarships. Honored Student of the Week at every Club regular meeting. Will hold May 1 annual Track meet. On May 23 a representative of the OK Lions Service Foundation will be at the regular Club meeting.

**Garber:** President Dee Carson present-



ed the Lions Clubs International Retention Patch for last year to the Club. Club members planted 11 trees at the Care Center, bringing their total trees planted to 20. Donated \$300 toward buying a riding mower for the OK Lions Boys Ranch. Four members participated in Garfield County White Cane.

**Goodwell:** Held Pancake and Sausage Supper the first of March, serving 140 people. Boy Scouts helped and fifth graders helped sell tickets.

**Guymon:** Held Girl Scout night at a meeting in conjunction with their 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. Held White Cane donation day at Thompson Park with boats and trains. Pair of eyeglasses bought for a client at Panhandle Area Sheltered Workshop, and gave a donation to them for their Special Olympics Day.

**Guymon Panhandle:** Purchased 100 tee shirts for the Panhandle Area Sheltered Workshop Special Olympics. Worked at the Loaves and Fishes food bank. Selected 4 graduating seniors from Guymon High School as recipients of \$500 scholarships to OK Panhandle State University. Purchased eyeglasses for 2 children. Mowed the roadside park and picked up trash along the highway.

**Hooker:** Making preparations for the Lions Main street carnival that is coming soon.

**Laverne:** Membership Growth pin from Lions Clubs International was presented to Past President Marvin Garrison because he met the LCI President's net growth goal for the year ending June 30, 2011. Worked at the town wide Clean-Up April 22-28. Club members will be busy, working with the Pee Wee Basketball Tournament, the Main Street Calf and Fish Fry, the Murphy Breakfast at the Baptist Church, the gate at the Third and Fourth Grade Basketball Tournament, and Charlie Bowers Golf Tournament. Club voted to sponsor new Lions Club in Shattuck; Lions Barbara and Merle Swineford and Marvin Garrison will represent the Club when District 3-A team goes to Shattuck next month.

**North Enid:** Lion Troy Jenkins, Executive Director of the OK Lions Service

Foundation, presented a program at the Mar. 26 meeting. Participated in Garfield County Lions "White Cane Day" on Sat., April 21; co-chairpersons for this project are Lions Harold Cooper and Bill Hassler. Club's Pancake Supper/ Auction was well attended and successful. Purchased eyeglasses for 3 persons (\$420) and collected

167 pairs of used eyeglasses. Club donated \$300 towards a new riding lawn mower for the OK Lions Boys Ranch.

**Okarche:** Donated \$100 to Okarche Cub Scouts. Purchased equipment for 2 grade school students to play baseball (\$150).

**Northern Oklahoma e-Lions (NOEL):** Sponsored a night at Mad Dogs Laser Tag in Ponca City for Diabetic Kids Support Group with 13 attending, several for the first time. Also made a final supply run for Ponca City Schools to furnish snack/drink supplies for the kids to help them during school hours when they get out of balance.

**Okarche:** Donated \$50 to After Prom program.

**Pioneer Pleasant Vale:** Honored 3 Pleasant Vale elementary students for our cub program. Planning to sell hot dogs at Atwood's on May 19. Collected 300 pairs of used eyeglasses. Held a successful Pancake Supper and Auction March 31. Collected food items for Horn of Plenty April 15.

**Ponca City Noon:** Annual spring concert fundraiser completed.

Lions MHSU was utilized for a brief time at the Health Fair. Leos conducted one of Club's weekly meetings with 19 Leos as luncheon guests. Providing two \$750 scholarships to 2 outstanding Leos. Northern e-Lions are planning a September Walk to raise awareness and funds for the Kids Diabetes Support Group. Currently have 27 magnifiers in use currently (including 9 stand alone, 16 Madnicams, and 2 portable units). There are 6 units in inventory.

**Nash:** Sponsored a community family Easter egg hunt.



**Marshall:** Received the 100 trees Mon., April 16. Most were planted within a week. Lions shared most of the trees and about 40 of the trees were given to different people of Marshall. Club considered this one of their best community service projects in a while.



## Garfield County White Cane



