



# LION EYES

DISTRICT 14-P

"We Serve"

DISTRICT GOVERNOR ART PECHT

[WWW.EDISTRICT.ORG/SITES/14P](http://WWW.EDISTRICT.ORG/SITES/14P)

DS LINDA LONG

DT PDG RICHARD TAYLOR

JANUARY 2021

## Calendar of Events

2021 events  
coming soon!

## Parkesburg collects 160 boxes for PA troops

*"My heart is bursting with pride for our community, my family and friends, the Parkesburg Lions Club and all who helped make this years' Parkesburg Lions Adopt A Soldier Program an unbelievable success. I'm so incredibly blown away by the generosity, compassion, and giving spirit that helped us ship 160 BOXES overseas.*

*Last year we did 93 boxes and I was so hoping to beat that by even one box. Well, you almost doubled last years total!. 160 BOXES! INCREDIBLE!*

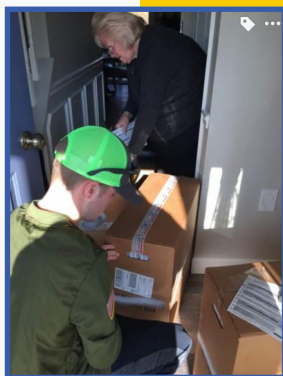
*Just thinking about those PA soldiers overseas in an extremely hostile area with no access to anything, getting a box filled with love from Parkesburg brings tears to my eyes. You all outdid yourselves!! The fabulous items you packed and your creativity was fantastic!!*

*There is one that I'd like to share with you that was beyond anything I'd ever expected. I was going through the box so I could document the items for the customs form and I moved the Christmas card to see beneath it, when I felt there was something lumpy inside the envelope. I opened it to make sure it wasn't something on the prohibited list. It was a beautiful cross in a little plastic bag with a poem attached. On the card it said*

*that she had given this actual cross to her husband when he had left for Vietnam many, many years ago and he had returned safely Home. Her husband had recently passed away so she wanted to pass on his cross to so it would help them come home safely as well. The poem was "A Cross in My Pocket"! I was crying my eyes out when I finished reading that. Such caring and compassion for a total stranger!! Amazing!!*

*Thank you just doesn't seem sufficient, but I truly mean it from the bottom of my heart. Also, a special mention of thanks to Danielle Gauthier Salada, Lions Robin McKenna and Michele Orner, the 2nd and 3rd graders who drew handmade cards to the soldiers (one was put in every box); my husband Dave who not only helped me seal and stack the boxes but also put up with me until the last box was shipped; to Kaden Salada (our Parkesburg Lions Community Service Scholarship recipient this year), and Mike Camburn. To everyone who participated by dropping off 1, 2, or more boxes. We couldn't have done this without all of your help!!! YOU are phenomenal THANK YOU!!"*

*-PDG Nancy Gauthier*



# A Message from District Governor Art Pecht



Well, here we are about to end the year 2020. I am very anxious for this year to end. I am 72 years old I can honestly say that this year has been a terrible year for many things. I try to focus on the positive in my life. When I think back, I have had to adjust like everyone else. I often feel we as people do not like change and it is hard for a segment of our population to adjust when we have change. Please look into your own life and make that change, and find things that were positive for you.

I am looking forward to the last six months of my leadership in our district. We need to start being Lions and ROARING again. Please roll up your sleeves and start working right after you have gotten your shot to stop the spread of covid-19.

I wish all a HAPPY & HEALTHY NEW YEAR.



**Kindness Matters**

*Art Pecht DG*

484-680-4315

[artpecht413@gmail.com](mailto:artpecht413@gmail.com)



## *Proposed District Governor's Schedule*

**January 1st: Happy  
New Year**

**January 18th: CB&L  
Meeting, State  
Office Harrisburg**

## *Visitation*

**Jan 5th: Spring Twp**

**Jan 6th: Reading  
Pagoda**

**Jan 21:  
Shoemakersville**

**Feb 18th:  
Rehrersberg**

**March 4th:  
Shillington**

## A Message From 1st VDG Gary Hilbert



*In 1973, Kris Kristofferson had a hit song called "Why Me Lord" This was kind of a reverse prayer telling God why you do so much for me, versus our usual what can God do for me. When I look back at 2020 I think about all I've been blessed with. A loving wife, 2 good kids, 3 beautiful grandchildren. Healthy parents and a long list of friends. A roof over my head and food on my table. There is nothing I've done to deserve any of these blessings.*

*I'm overwhelmed by your continued service reporting through MyLion, social media and other news outlets. One day I turned on WFMZ 69 to see a service project hosted by the Exeter Lions Club. Great Job. Another highlight was a decorating contest sponsored by Parkesburg Lions on Facebook. Fantastic. Your generosity means so much to the organizations you support. My New Year's wish for you is to take each day and find ways to serve. In your neighborhood and around the world.*

*In January, LCI will be highlighting our founder Melvin Jones birthday (January 13) with opportunities to serve and support LCIF. Please contact me and I will send you the Resource Guide. Also, I will be attending our MD14 VDG retreat in Harrisburg on January 8-10. Looking forward to reuniting with my fellow 2021-2022 Council members.*

*Blessings in Lionism*

**1st VDG Gary**

**glh40@comcast.net**

**610-468-4788**



In Kindness & Diversity  
District 14p Chester &  
Berks County



Chester County  
Department of Aging Services



CURRAN ESTATE LAW  
CURRAN ESTATE & ELDER LAW, PLLC

### ELDER ABUSE SYMPOSIUM

**'SILENT NO LONGER'**

<https://youtu.be/yYXqtX0QUnQ>

(Enter into your web browser)

#### OUR PARTNERS

Chester County  
Department of Aging  
Toll-Free: 1-800-564-7000  
Local(610) 344-6350

Domestic Violence Center  
of Chester County  
Toll-Free: 1-888-711-6270  
Local(610) 431-1430

U.S. Senator Bob Casey  
Local (215) 405-9660  
Toll-Free: 1-866-461-9159  
Toll-Free: 1-855-303-9470

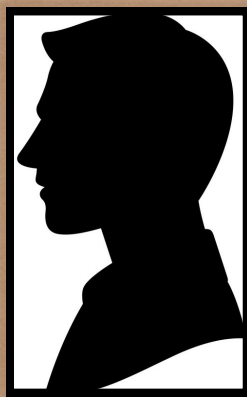
District Attorney of  
Berks County  
Local(610) 478-6000  
Toll-Free 1-800-490-8505

Curran Estate & Elder Law  
Local (610) 406-5377  
Reading, PA



# WANTED

ENERGETIC LION TO STEP FORWARD TO BE DISTRICT 14P  
FIRST & SECOND VICE DISTRICT GOVERNOR!



- ◆ MAKE NEW FRIENDS LOCALLY, STATE-WIDE, AND INTERNATIONALLY
- ◆ MAKE AN IMPACT ON THE FUTURE OF THE STATE (MD14) OPERATES
- ◆ VISIT LEADER DOG SCHOOL IN ROCHESTER, MICHIGAN
- ◆ VISIT PA LIONS BEACON LODGE CAMP
- ◆ FREE TRIP TO NEW DELHI, INDIA JULY 1-5, 2022

UPCOMING INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS:

JULY 1-5, 2022: NEW DELHI, INDIA

JULY 7-11, 2023: BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS

JUNE 21-25, 2024: MELBOURNE, AUSTRALIA

JULY 4-8, 2025: MEXICO CITY, MEXICO

JULY 3-7, 2026: ATLANTA, GEORGIA



CONTACT

DG ART PECHT

IF INTERESTED!



## Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION



*Happy New Year to all of you. I hope that we can get back to normalcy this year.*

*LCIF has a "Foundation Friday" webinar on the first Friday of every month. The December webinar featured two of the many organizations with which LCIF partners in order to serve people around the world. The two featured partners were Special Olympics and Johnson and Johnson Sight for Kids. There were over twenty other organizations listed as being partners with LCIF.*

*LCIF has partnered with Special Olympics since 2001. We celebrate 20 years this year. Special Olympics serves individuals with disabilities through athletic competitions.*

*Over 445,000 athletes have been served through the Special Olympics "opening eyes" program. Over 225,000 athletes have received prescription eyeglasses that are suited for their individual sport. Over 22,000 Lions and Leos have volunteered to help with Special Olympics. There are 15 specialty Lions Clubs around the world that are called Lion Champion Clubs. These clubs work specifically with Special Olympics. Some of these Lion Champion Clubs are in Los Angeles, the Garden State Lions Champion Club in New Jersey, and in Washington D.C. where Special Olympics is based.*

*One thing that may not be well known is that individuals with intellectual disabilities have a 5 times greater incidence of diabetes. Lions new global cause of diabetes prevention is helping Special Olympics.*

*A newer focus of Special Olympics is what they call the "unified sports model" in which athletes with disabilities compete on the same team with other athletes. Again, many Leo Club members are participating with this unified sports model.*

*Upcoming events include the 2022 winter games in Kurgan Russia, the 2023 summer games in Berlin Germany, and the USA national games in 2022 to be held in Orlando FL.*

*Johnson and Johnson's J&J Vision program has partnered with LCIF since 2002 for vision screening through schools. Over three million children are served each year and over 36 million children have been helped in these years. Over 500,000 children have received free eyeglasses.*

*PIP Wing Kun Tam told a story of a boy who was a very fast runner but always came in second place in a race. It was found that he could not see clearly and needed to follow another athlete. When he was helped by Lions and J&J Vision, he started to win.*

*Our contributions to LCIF and our partnerships are helping people around the world.*

*Thank you for your financial support of LCIF.*

*PDG David Hunsberger*



CAMPAIGN | 100  
LCIF • EMPOWERING SERVICE<sup>SM</sup>





## Pledge Form

for all Campaign 100 donations

Thank you for supporting Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) and Campaign 100!

For assistance and for information on recognition, please contact [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org) or call +1.630.203.3836.

## Thank You for Your Support

In addition to receiving Campaign 100 recognition, your contributions throughout Campaign 100 qualify for additional Melvin Jones Fellow recognition. Commitments of every size make a big impact over time. Here's how:



Campaign 100 Recognition Level	Pledge Amount (US\$)	Annual Contribution (US\$)	Monthly Contribution (US\$)
<b>LEAD &amp; MAJOR GIFTS</b>	\$25,000+	\$5,000	\$417
<b>LION OF EMPOWERMENT</b>	\$15,000	\$5,000	\$417
<b>LION OF COMMITMENT</b>	\$5,000	\$1,667	\$139
<b>LION OF DEDICATION</b>	\$2,500	\$833	\$69
<b>LION OF ACTION</b>	\$1,000	\$333	\$28
<b>LION OF KINDNESS</b>	\$600	\$200	\$17
<b>LION OF SERVICE</b>	\$300	\$100	\$8



## How to Donate

Several methods are available to support LCIF and Campaign 100.

### Credit Card or PayPal

Donate securely at [lionsclubs.org/change](https://lionsclubs.org/change).

### Check

Send US\$ checks, **payable to LCIF**, to:  
Lions Clubs International Foundation  
Department 4547  
Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA

### Wire Transfer

To transfer funds to LCIF, present the information below to your bank, along with local currency funds covering the amount of your donation and applicable bank charges.

JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. ABA Routing Number: 021000021  
10 S. Dearborn St. Account Name: Lions Clubs International Foundation  
Chicago, IL 60603 USA Account Number: 754487312  
Swift International Banking Number: CHASUS33

Email a copy of your receipt or wire transfer form – along with your name, member ID, club name, and district name – to [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org). If requesting recognition, please include the recipient's name, member ID, club name, and district name.

### Local Bank Deposit

Lions Clubs International has accounts at local banks in several countries. Find a list of banks at which donations may be made at [lionsclubs.org/paymentbycountry](https://lionsclubs.org/paymentbycountry). Email a copy of your deposit receipt – along with your name, member ID, club name, and district name – to [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org). If requesting recognition for someone else, please include the recipient's name, member ID, club name, and district name.

### Transfer of Stock

To transfer stock or other securities, use the instructions and form found at [lionsclubs.org/waystogive](https://lionsclubs.org/waystogive).

## Complete Your Pledge Form Today!

Your pledge form is at right. Please return your completed form by either:

- **Email:** Scan and send to [donorassistance@lionsclubs.org](mailto:donorassistance@lionsclubs.org)
- **Postal Service:** Lions Clubs International Foundation | Department 4547  
Carol Stream, IL 60122-4547 USA

If including your initial payment with the form, please follow instructions above.

## Campaign 100 Pledge Form

All donations toward fulfilling Campaign 100 pledges receive Melvin Jones Fellow credit!

### PLEDGE INFORMATION

I pledge a **total contribution** of US\$\_\_\_\_\_ to LCIF.

My first payment, US\$\_\_\_\_\_, will be made by \_\_\_\_\_  
Month/Day/Year

Pledges of US\$25,000+ are payable over five years; pledges of US\$1,000+ are payable over three years. If no payment frequency is selected, LCIF assumes equal annual installments based on pledge amount.

### PAYMENT FREQUENCY *(choose one)*

- ☐ **All at Once** ☐ **Monthly** ☐ **Annually**  
My monthly payment is to be US\$\_\_\_\_\_ My preferred annual payment is US\$\_\_\_\_\_

### PAYMENT METHOD *(choose one)*

- ☐ **Check** ☐ **Wire Transfer** ☐ **Credit Card\*/PayPal**

\* Donate securely at [lionsclubs.org/change](https://lionsclubs.org/change) or provide:

- ☐ VISA ☐ MC ☐ AMEX ☐ Discover

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date (mm/yy) \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card \_\_\_\_\_ Security Code \_\_\_\_\_

### DONOR INFORMATION

For pledge recognition and recording purposes, please provide the following information:

Name (print clearly) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State/Province \_\_\_\_\_

ZIP/Postal Code \_\_\_\_\_ Country \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Member ID \_\_\_\_\_

Club Name \_\_\_\_\_ District Name \_\_\_\_\_

- ☐ Please keep my personal and donation information anonymous. I understand my club/district (if any) may receive recognition for my donation.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Month/Day/Year \_\_\_\_\_



*Welcome New Members!*

*Julianne Bowers, Sponsored by Karen Fronefield to Parkesburg*

*Michelle Cooper, Sponsored by Nancy Gauthier to Parkesburg*

*Bruce Leibig, Sponsored by Helen Leibig to Parkesburg*

*Michael Rice, Sponsored by Nancy Gauthier to Parkesburg*

*Sara-Jane Rice, Sponsored by Jane Rice to Parkesburg*

*Ruth Taylor, Sponsored by Nancy Gauthier to Parkesburg*



**BE A PART OF THE BIGGEST SERVICE COMMUNITY- JOIN LIONS CLUB**







We serve ...  
through diversity



## Avon Grove



*The Avon Grove High School Leos helped clean out and put up Christmas decorations at the Penn Township Book Nook. Leo's also decorated with candles and candy canes after cleaning out the books and chalk boards.*

*Leos participating were, Sofia Trone, Angelina McGrath, Emily Rineer, Connor Crymes, Jack Perlman, Nikole Laws, Meghan Obetz and Eileen Obetz.*

## Honey Brook

*The Honey Brook Lions helped local mother Amanda Heaps during the Christmas season by giving her a \$400 gift card to Walmart to buy gifts for her four children. They also provided her with a turkey for Christmas dinner. Pictured is Lion George Risbon of the Honey Brook Lions with Amanda*



## Central Berks

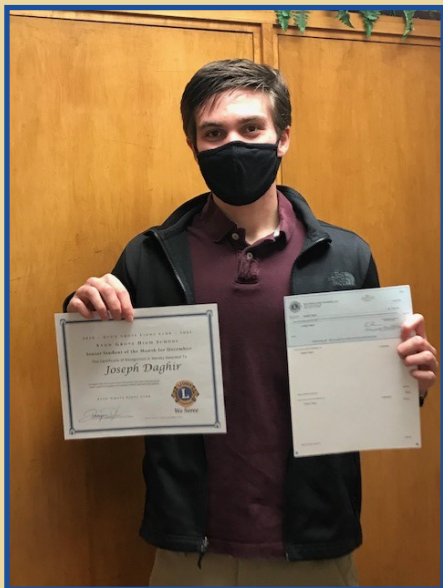
*The Central Berks Lions Club presented a check for \$1,000 from its White Cane collection to Miss Aubree Hoster, a student at Schuylkill Valley High School, who is legally blind. The check will be used to purchase a new iPad Pro and/or rollator walker. Lion President Anne Ostrowski brought the check to Aubree's home.*



We serve ...  
through diversity



## Avon Grove



*Joseph Dagher has been named the Lions Club Student of the Month for December from the Avon Grove High School. He is the son of John and Laura Dagher of Landenberg. Joseph's list of school activities includes Vice President of National Honor Society, Co-President of FBLA, on the leadership council of AMC Math Club, Social-Emotional Learning Program, Robotics, and the Freshman Mentoring Program. Joseph has been involved with his community by volunteering with Boy Scouts of America - Troop 18 and being an Avon Grove Education Foundation board member. Joseph's honors include Eagle Scout, AP Scholar with Distinction, College Board Rural and Small Town Scholar, Top 10 of 2021 Class, FBLA State Qualifier for Economics and Intro to Business Math, AP Economics Award, AP Chemistry Award, Health Award, Intro to Business Award, Honors Biology Award and academically he has achieved Distinguished Honors throughout High School. Joseph plans to study engineering and enter a career that explores product development and computer-aided design. Teachers he has most been influenced by are Ms. Cahill, Mr. Habbart, Mrs. Penn and Mrs. Shrake*

*Grace Blevins is a senior at Avon Grove Charter School and the Avon Grove Lions Club Senior Student of the Month for December. Helping others has always been one of Grace's biggest passions. She loves to assist neighbors in her community. Some of the ways Grace has done this is by volunteering at Vacation Bible School, helping Lincoln University students move into their dorms, assisting a teacher at a local preschool, and most recently, partnering with the Lighthouse Youth Center to pack and deliver Thanksgiving meals to families in the community. After graduation, Grace plans to attend a four-year college and explore her interests in exercise science, business, and music therapy.*

*Pictured: Grace Blevins and 11 & 12 grade Counselor, Adrienne Basilio*







We serve ...  
through diversity

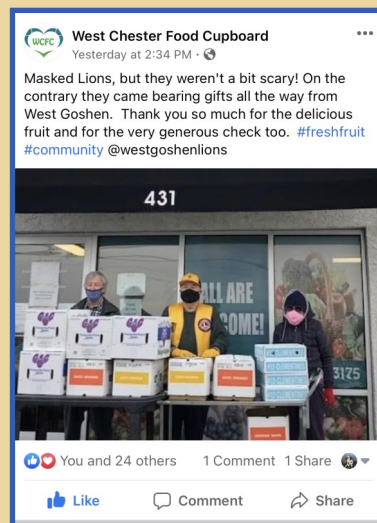


## West Goshen



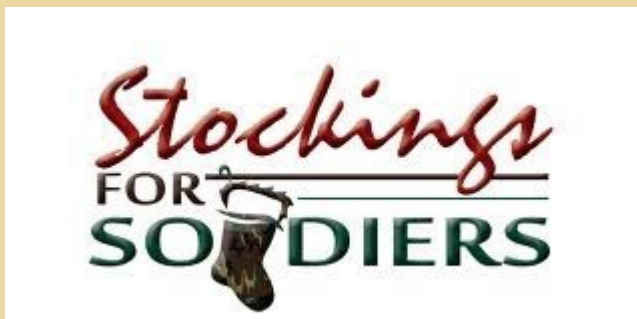
*West Goshen Lions Club met a challenge to match \$25 pledged by Lion Toby P Gelman to raise \$400 to buy fruit plus \$1000 to be donated to the West Chester Food Cupboard. Attached are pictures of the fruit donated & the check.*

*The Club decided to apply for a LOPF \$1400 matching grant which they were award. The club is waiting for the check and will present the club money to the West Chester Food Cupboard.*



## Avon Grove

*The Avon Grove Lions Donated \$775 to the American Diabetes Association. The money came from Memorial donations in honor of Lion Linda Sampson's Mother.*



*The Avon Grove Lions donated 2,000 books to be sent to troops through the Stockings for Soldiers Program. This is an ongoing project of the Lions.*



We serve ...  
through diversity



## Exeter Twp



### *Exeter Township Toy Give – Covid Style.*

*The fifth annual toy give sponsored by Schwarzwald Lutheran Church and hosted by Reformation Lutheran Church took place on Friday, Dec. 11th. This year shoe boxes were filled by various organizations and together with toys were placed in a trash bag. The bags were then put into trucks and back seats of cars on Friday. The families were those who are preregistered their children were clients of the Exeter Township Food Pantry. There were over 340 children received toys this year up about 25% from last year.*

*The Filled Shoeboxes were filled per specification for either boys or girls at various age levels. Organizations that participated included Schwarzwald Lutheran Church, Reformation Lutheran Church, Faith Lutheran Church, Bethany Lutheran, Pennside Presbyterian Church, NorthStar United Methodist, Community United Church of Christ, Schwarzwald United Church of Christ, Saint Catharine of Sienna, Kainos Church, Exeter Women's Club, Exeter Lions Club Exeter Township Senior High School students and many community members. Financial contribution were received from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans and from Hack Away at Hunger and many individual donors. Also donations were received from Toys for Tots.*

*Several members of the Exeter Township Lions Club helped fill shoeboxes, bag the shoeboxes and toys, transport the bags to the church and help distribute them on Friday.*

*Our Financial Secretary Lion Doris Jaeger chaired this event.*

***Please submit your Club News, Event Information, Photos, and Service Projects  
by the 26th of each month to be featured in next month's Lion Eyes!***

***Email to: [sgerlott@comcast.net](mailto:sgerlott@comcast.net)***

***Lion Eyes Editor Stephanie Gerlott***





## **Pittsburgh Professional Sports Teams Raffle**

### **Contents:**

**Mark Recchi – Pittsburgh Penguins Autographed Jersey**

**Joe Mullen – Pittsburgh Penguins Autographed Jersey**

**Evgeni Malkin – Pittsburgh Penguins Autographed Puck**

**Paul Coffey – Pittsburgh Penguins Autographed Puck**

**Jarvis Jones – Pittsburgh Steelers Autographed Mini Helmet**

**Kris Benson – Pittsburgh Pirates Autographed Baseball**

**Pittsburgh Pirates Mini Louisville Slugger Bat**

**Pittsburgh Penguins Sweater Tumbler**

**Blanket / 6 Pack Cooler / 2 Custom Masks / Steelers Keystrap**

**(Approx Value: \$1,250)**

**All items donated by Lions Jason & Trisha Radmann**

**Drawing at the 2021 PA Lions State Convention – May 16, 2021**

**Donation: \$5.00 – (Not deductible as a charitable donation)**

**ALL PROCEEDS GO TO LCIF Campaign 100 - ONLY 200 TICKETS!!!!**

**CONTACT Jason or Trisha Radmann for Tickets**

**Email – [jasonrad13@gmail.com](mailto:jasonrad13@gmail.com) or call 814-330-4740**

*Start a movement in your community and help our troops! Get Leos involved as well!*

*If your individual club would like to participate, you can use this flyer to promote your donation drive ( Just update with your Club's info, contact person, and drop off location)*

*Each club must designate their own contact person and drop off location for their community*

**There is still time!**



## PENNSYLVANIA LIONS ADOPT A SOLDIER PROJECT



The Pennsylvania Lions are hosting collections for soldiers. The boxes will go to service men and women currently deployed overseas. Each box is medium flat rate box from the post office that cost \$15.05 per box to ship.

Listed below are some of the items we are specifically requesting:

### Food/Snacks

Hard Candy (no chocolate)  
Gum such as Eclipse or Chiclets  
Tic Tacs/Mints  
Beef Jerky  
Slim Jims  
Peanuts, Cashews, etc (travel size)  
Trail Mix  
Sunflower Seeds  
Ramen Noodles  
Individual packets of condiments  
Packs of Crackers

### Toiletries/Hygiene

Baby Wipes – wash clothes  
Deodorant (travel size, liquid roll- on)  
Hand Lotion (travel size)  
Hand Sanitizer (travel size)  
Q-Tips (travel size)  
Disposable Razors  
Soap, Body Wash, Face Wash (travel size)  
Shampoo (travel size)  
Toothbrush/Toothpaste/Floss (travel size)  
Tissues (travel size)  
Tylenol/Advil (travel size)  
Lip Balm  
Foot Powder (travel size)  
Sunscreen (travel size)  
Fingernail Clippers

### Miscellaneous Items

Any type of Puzzle Books  
Pencils/Pens  
DVD's (new and gently used)  
Handheld Video Games  
Board Games/Deck of Cards  
Baseball Gloves/Baseballs/Frisbees  
Magazines (new and gently used – fairly recent)  
Socks (cushioned, white, calf-high)  
Batteries (AA or AAA)

Address to send your boxes:

SGM Guy Miller  
HHC. 28th ECAB  
APO AE 09330

### **NO AEROSOL CANS OR SOLID STICK DEODORANTS**

For more information on how to help with this project or Lions, please contact



Here are some tips put together by PDG Nancy Gauthier to help any Club who feels the call to organize their own drive. Contact [ngauthier@comcast.net](mailto:ngauthier@comcast.net) if you have any questionings after reading the following tips:

**PUBLICIZING:** If I had only sent this project information out to my club members, we might have gotten 20-25 boxes donated. So I decided to appeal to our local community by writing up what we were doing, attaching a picture of our flyer which lists suggested items to be included in the boxes, and putting it on a "locals" Facebook page. I also put it on my church Facebook page, some local yard sale site pages and asked all my friends and fellow club members to share it to their friends as well. The response was incredible - the first year we sent out over 60 boxes and last year it was 95 boxes. I used social media to my advantage. I also listed my phone number on the flyer so I could answer any questions, as well as used my address as the drop off location. Providing them with multiple contacts and drop-off locations could add confusion.

**BOXES:** When anyone expressed interest in participating, I had them get a medium size flat rate box from the post office (I also picked up 50 boxes from the post office and left them on my front porch so anyone could pick up a box from me if they needed it. Also some people dropped off their donations in bags so I would box them). Having a uniform size box helped not only fitting everything into them but in transporting them to the post office. I asked everyone to bring the boxes unsealed so I could inspect them to make sure there was no unapproved items included since I was signing the custom forms and so I knew what was in the box to include on the customs form. I then sealed them with good clear packaging tape, attached the mailing address (the post office will give you priority mail address labels for free) and the completed custom form.

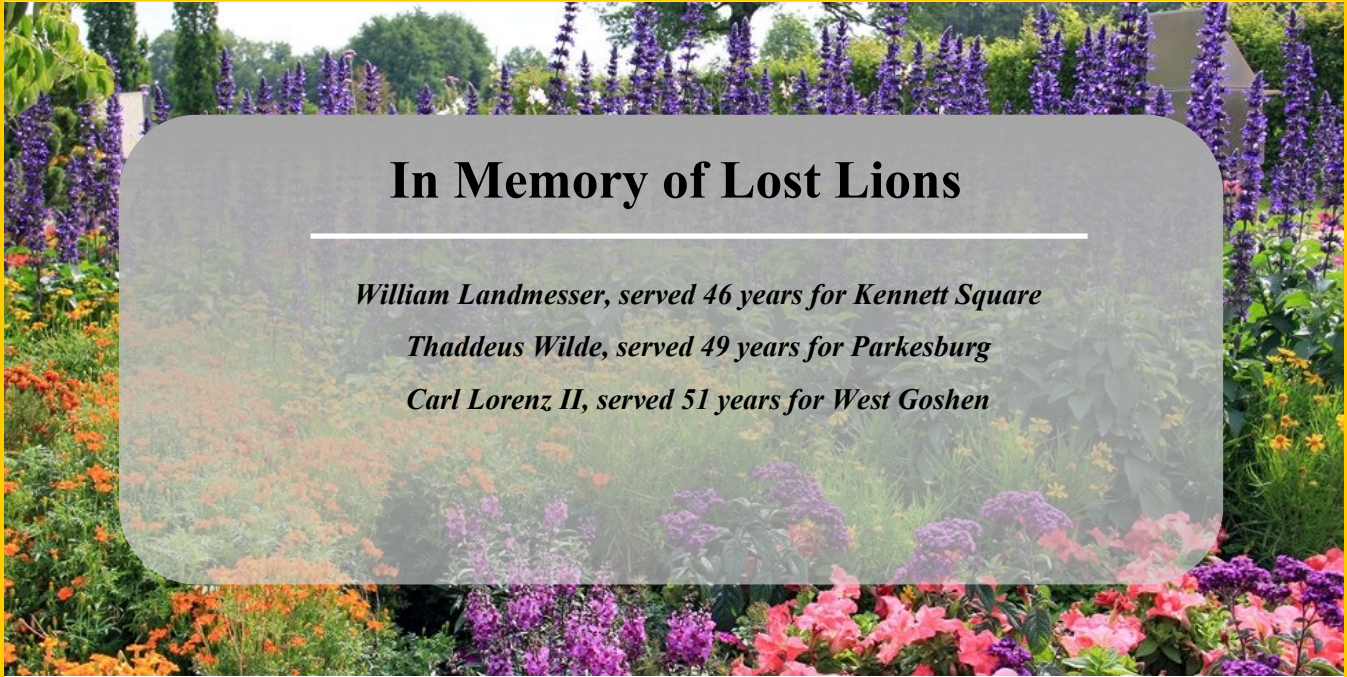
**SHIPPING COSTS:** The charge for shipping the medium flat rate box is \$15.05 this year (military rate to an APO address - make sure to specify that it's military rate at the post office). When someone stated they wanted to Adopt A Soldier I gave them all the information and also asked them to include the cost of shipping. I told them they could give me cash or a check made out to my Lions club. My club then gave me one check in the end when we took all the boxes to the post office to be shipped. Some people even gave extra money to pay for someone else's shipping costs. In the end this highly successful and worthwhile project cost our club nothing financially but has given us so much in terms of goodwill, positive publicity and new member interest. A Win-Win!

**CUSTOM FORMS:** Make sure to talk to your local post office and get the most up to date custom forms. Ask them how they want them filled out and they may even give you examples. Our post office was happy to work with us and help us. One post office after hearing what we were doing, even had an employee volunteer to help fill out the custom forms and they processed the boxes as well. Also see under BOXES some information on custom forms.

**FOLLOWUP THANK YOU POSTS:** I always made sure to post on each Facebook page that I had publicized this project on, how helpful the post office had been as well as thanking the community for their donations. I also took pictures at the post office of us bringing all the boxes in, posted those pictures and told everyone how many we were actually able to send out. It has brought us repeat donors as well as interest in our club.

**CUT OFF DATE:** You will each need to decide what your last date to accept donations will be but keep in mind that the post office usually wants all military mailings out by the end of the first week in December to make sure they will be delivered before Christmas. I would never turn down a box if someone needed more time. The way I looked at it was even if it was late getting there, it was better late than never.

**ITEMS:** The previous flyer was made to give suggestions of acceptable items. Remember it could be a male or female soldier. Each year I've been amazed at the ingenuity of some people in including things I would never think of. Snacks, personal care items, crossword, find-a-word and Sudoku puzzles, playing cards, hard candy, gum, licorice, jerky, socks, bandanas, pens, writing paper, mints, nuts, crackers, trail mix, dried fruit and magazines are just some ideas. Someone even added a small football and frisbee. They will not allow any aerosol cans, solid stick deodorants, fireworks, lighters, matches or alcohol. I encouraged each contributor to add a personalized, signed note with their address in the hopes they would get a note back from "their soldier". I received lovely thank you notes 2 out of the 3 years we have done it. It also helps to include a little note from your local Lions club noting this is a Lions project and since these boxes are all going to PA Soldiers who are currently overseas, they may feel inclined to search out the Lions club in their local community when they return stateside. We can always use more members, right!



## In Memory of Lost Lions

*William Landmesser, served 46 years for Kennett Square*

*Thaddeus Wilde, served 49 years for Parkesburg*

*Carl Lorenz II, served 51 years for West Goshen*


WE  SERVE  
BETTER **TOGETHER**

“

What the new year  
brings to you will  
depend a great  
deal on what you  
bring to the new year.

VERN MCLELLAN

GH



“ There is always an  
opportunity to start again  
and again, if the old ways  
are not working last year,  
look for better ways of  
doing it in the new year and  
start again afresh.”

BAMIGBOYE OLUROTIMI

womans day