



District 25A News

The Force Is Strong In 25A Lions

May 2020

Volume 55 Number 11

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Dear Lions of 25A

May is a great month and I **hope** everyone will celebrate our national holiday, Star Wars Day. May the Fourth be with you!!! Back in 1977 the first Star Wars movie came out and was titled a "New Hope". As I was planting my garden this morning, I thought it was a fitting title for our current times.

Spring is such a wonderful season! The weather lifts us with a warm breeze and we enjoy **hopes** of picnics and farmers' markets and county fairs. Farmers are out in the field planting crops in **hopes** of a good year for their crops. I am **hoping** my garden will survive the grandkids and the dogs. And now with everything we have gone through the past six weeks, we have **new hopes** of getting back together with our Lions friends, getting back to having meetings and planning new ways to help our communities.

I **hope** everyone has stayed in contact with one another in your clubs and are making decisions on who will lead your clubs in the next Lions year. I also **hope** everyone will have patience and understanding as we make adjustments on how we can help and support our communities. I know many of you had fundraisers that were cancelled and may be a little tight on funds. If you are planning to support your local food pantry, the District has money from our Diabetes Fund. So, if you need assistance, please contact me. Providing food pantries with Diabetes Awareness brochures and funds/paper supplies could be a huge help. If you have other ideas, please share them.

Hope is what drives us as we volunteer. **Hope** is essential for those in need. **Hope** is comforting in tough times. **Hope** is something everyone has in common.

We all strive knowing that we make a difference! The more volunteers we have, then the more we as Lions can do. So, my **hope**, as I finish up these last two months, is for everyone to ask someone "Do you have **hope** that your community can overcome these challenges?". "Do you have **hope** of making a difference?" Then **hope** is why they will join the largest service organization in the world and support our mission: **WE SERVE**.

May the Lions be with you and God Bless.

DG Mitchell Semans



Lions

Hope this finds you all safe and healthy. We are going through strange times with the Covid19 Virus. As Lions we like to be out helping others but with the social distancing it makes thing difficult to have our monthly meetings and continue with our projects and activities. I am sure that Clubs are keeping touch with their members and putting their Officer Slates together for the next Lions year. In putting your slates together, it is always good to involve your newer member to get them active within your club.

I will be contacting a few of Lions as I put my team together for 2020 / 2021. I have been fortunate that a great number of you have been willing to continue or step up in these leadership positions to work for our District.

During this time of lock down I encourage clubs to reach out to your communities to give help where you can—like food pantries to help with meals and donations to help different projects. I have seen some clubs have already involved. I thank you and well done to Lion Pat Greer for the great work that she put in on this year's Convention Booklet. As I browsed through the booklet it was great to see the activities that clubs do within their communities. I would also like to put out a big shout of thanks to Lion Joy Robinson for the hard work that she and her team did, putting the Convention bags together. There was a good mixture of items and information in them. Thank You, Lion Joy.

As we head into another month of restriction, I hope that clubs continue to keep connecting with their members and their community. And if you can, do an act of Kindness. Everyday it is a blessing.

Serving Through Kindness

DGE Will Farrellbegg



Pictures that missed the April edition:

Left: CS Stehen Helmken with CT Tiffany Nagai

Right: At the 25A Convention ID Mark Lyon presented Certificate to CS Stephen Helmken , pictured with DG Mitch.



“Hope is a renewable option: If you run out of it at the end of the day, you get to start over in the morning.” - Barbara Kingsolver, Novelist

Wear a mask!

Keep your distance!

Wash your hands!

And Don't Touch your FACE!

Lions Giving Back to Local Health Care Hero's - Lion Whitney Martin

In the beginning of April several clubs from LaPorte County collaborated on a service project to give back to an amazing group of individuals that are helping the community in a selfless way. Together the clubs made donations to do an appreciation meal for the Franciscan COVID-19 testing facility in Michigan City, and for the doctors, nurses, and staff at the LaPorte Hospital. The medical workers are the frontline of the COVID-19 disease. The Lions wanted them to know that they not only appreciate them but support them as well.

The appreciation lunches were catered from Sweet Lou's in Westville. Sweet Lou's also donated food to the Friday Luncheon at LaPorte Hospital. It is estimated Friday April 17th's meal served between 100-125 based on the number of staff that were working that day. The luncheon on April 14th and 22nd was for 20 of the medical staff that are actively testing patients for COVID-19.

The meals were provided for all staff because they all are making a difference. Everyone knows someone who is working at the Hospital right now and they are constantly in our thoughts and prayers. They are working in the heart of this disease and many have families at home. The Lions wanted to thank them for their service to the community. The nurses, doctors, registrars, custodians, and all staff are selfless when it comes to taking care of us. In times of uncertainty, it is important for us to come together and support each other. Together is how we will get through this.

The local Lions Clubs that collaborated on this service project are Door Village, LaPorte Maple City, Mill Creek Community, Wanatah, and Westville.

By working together these five clubs were able to make a greater impact with their service project! They are planning another meal with the leftover funds. The staff was very appreciative of the meal and support from the Lions. It was wonderful to give back to the local hero's that are helping us in the fight against Covid-19.



Hold the Date!!**June 20th, 2020**

4th Cabinet Meeting—Come help DG Mitch and his Leadership team celebrate their year

New Officer Training to Follow—
Meet DGE Will's new Team and training for club officers.

###

Donuts and coffee in the morning

Lunch provided

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Safety Village**1350 Eagle Ridge Dr, Schererville****Schererville, IN 46375**

###

Mark you calendars and please check you emails for more information.



Saturday June 6th

Car Show Downtown
Westville on Main
Street

Trophies at 2:00PM

Registration 9AM car
show till 3PM

Please join us at the Westville Lions Club Car and Bike Show

All vehicles welcome

\$15 pre registered vehicle- \$20 day of registration

Proceeds from the car show will be donated to local veterans programs

Trophies will be awarded for best in show and peoples choice

There will be a donation box on site for gently used clothing for Veterans

We will have donation box for unused keys, glasses, or hearing aids for Lions Club

This is a family friendly event with no admission fee

You can pre-register or register the day of

CAR SHOW PRE REGISTRATION FORM

Please print this form, fill it out completely, and mail checks, money orders, cashiers checks payable to Westville Lions Club PO Box 916 Westville, IN 46391. Questions please call Lions President Whitney Martin 219.393.8913.

Full Name _____

Address _____

City State zip Phone _____

E-Mail Address _____

Make model year _____

Market on Main will take place the same day. There will be food vendors, craft vendors, and more!

Follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/westvillelions



The Indiana State Police Superintendent made the decision to cancel ISP summer camps which of course includes ISP/Lions Law Camps. We are sorry to not have Law Camp this year but for the safety of all involved it is for the best. The 2021 camp season is only a year away and we can plan on how the Indiana Lions can be of help by saving items for the "Welcome bags", be ready to donate water and snacks, be ready to sponsor such things as a Taco Party, a cook-out, an ice cream social, transportation, eye screening, Leaderdog presentations, etc. And of course, to get the information out to 6th, 7th, and 8th grade students and parents about Law Camp.



Lion Jim Worst of the **Crown Point Lions** is putting his sewing skills to use by helping the Crafty Grannies at the Methodist Church make masks for our community. They have made and distributed over 3,000 masks and the requests keep coming.



Here is another **Crown Point Lion** doing her part. Thought you might like this one too. Lion Vicky has been busy making masks too! She is distributing them to all her neighbors, Lion Friends and friends who need of them. And, she is also making aprons out of old table clothes. She is our domestic Lion.

We also have a new member. Kathy Kersey. She joined a while back and paid her dues but hasn't been officially installed at a meeting due to the safe distancing. So as a club we decided to add her to our roster anyway.

We have also been doing drive by parades for our Lion Birthdays and other friends



Fishing for Life

After reviewing Governor Holcomb's Step by Step Action plan to get Indiana back on track, in addition to the fact that the CDC has not released their Day and Overnight Camping requirements for the COVID-19, we have postponed making a decision to cancel the Fishing for Life event for this year at this time. It is our understanding that the CDC should have their recommended guidelines for camps out by mid-May 2020.

We feel that June is too early to hold the camp, however, we have set a tentative alternate date of August 28th -30th, 2020.

At our next meeting on June 6th we believe we will feel more comfortable in making a definite decision to cancel or confirm the alternate dates in August. This final decision will be based on the updated Virus trends, and we should also have the recommendations from the CDC on overnight camps. Our biggest concern at this point, is what the social distancing requirements are going to look like for August, and whether we can adhere to the requirements to make it a safe environment.

Thank you all for your attendance today and stay safe!
PDG Kevin Roe, Chair



The Lakes of the Four Seasons celebrated Easter with an Easter Lions!



Dear Lions Club Leader:

The USA/Canada Leo Leadership Foundation is happy to invite you to our Virtual Leo Leadership Conference that will be conducted via Zoom on May 30-31, 2020 at 2:00 PM (EST). This online **FREE** event is open to Leos, Lions, Leo Advisors, and Faculty Advisors. We have scheduled awesome facilitators from throughout the United States and Caribbean. Among our facilitators is Lions International First Vice President Douglas Alexander. See below the list of webinars that will be offered during our Virtual Leo Leadership Conference.

Registration for the Virtual Leo Leadership Conference is **NOW OPEN**

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REGISTER TODAY

leoconference.leosforum.org

Club Elections

From LCI:

If our club cannot meet, how can we conduct our annual election of club officers?

Unless prohibited under a club's constitution and by-laws, the Standard Club By-Laws permits all Lions clubs to conduct meetings via alternative meeting formats. This allows each Lions club to choose a method of conduction elections that is suitable for those members. This can be via phone email, a combination of the tow, or any other method that is acceptable to the Lions club members.

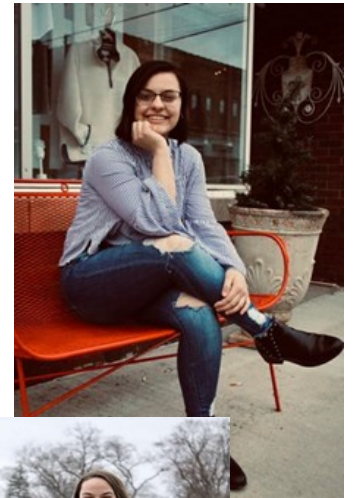


April is Leo Club Awareness Month. The Westville Lions sponsor a Leo Club at Westville Middle/High School. There is a wonderful group of students in the Leo Club. Leo stands for leadership, experience, and opportunity. The Leos work with Lions Members during service projects and fundraisers. Some of the service projects and fundraisers they help our club with include candy days, pancake breakfasts, clean up at Reins of Life, operating SAG stop for Tour De LaPorte, and Shop with a Lion. They are using their free time in high school to give back and it is appreciated very much by our club and community. The Westville Lions have included some pictures of the Leos helping this past year. Our club has also started a weekly Senior Spotlight in the Westville Indicator. The 2020 school year was cut short because of the need to practice safe social distancing. Our President wanted to make sure the community was aware of the amazing senior Leos that we have. Each week a different senior Leo has a featured article discussing their plans for the future, a little about them, a senior photo, and their favorite part of being a Leo!

Pictures starting toat top left, Senior Sarah Weston, Kyra Dabbert, Isabel Correa

Middle row Kelsie Choy, Leo President Sydney Patla, Kaitlyn Bishop

Bottom row Leo's being inducted and then Leo's that helped with shop with a lion, Leo's helping with candy day





COVID-19 Frontline Relief Grant Update: Thanks to your generosity, LCIF has been able to award 166 grants totaling US\$3,208,655. Donations to COVID-19 response are being accepted through LCIF's General Disaster Fund ➔

Lions Who Have Completed their Service

William Spicer

South Haven

Welcome New Lions!

Crown Point — Kathy Kersey

Sponsor: Jack Zenere

Lowell — James P. Cullen Jr.

Sponsor: Manuel Frausto

Whiting — Mark A. Dominiak

Sponsor: Andrew Dybel

Whiting — Andrew Max Dybel

Sponsor: Andrew Dybel

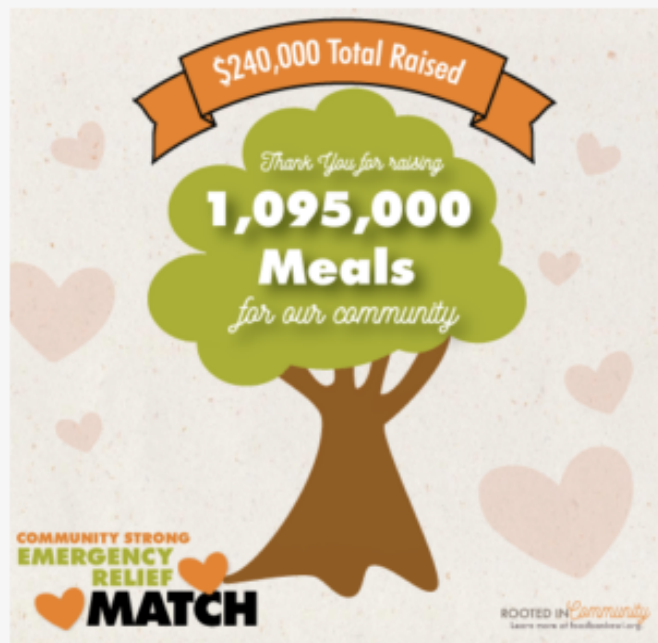
Whiting — David Gulvas

Sponsor:

Whiting — Delia M. Malone

Sponsor: Timothy Gard

The Schererville Lions, with some help from the DG Mitch, have sent a check for \$700 to the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana. As the article below describes, this will be matched and will therefore provide \$1400 in assistance. Many of the other Clubs in the district are also donating or providing other help to their local food banks. I know that I have enough food in my pantry for a while, but there are some many others who wake up in the morning and wonder how they will feed their family that day. And the Food Banks truly are there!



One month ago, the Food Bank of Northwest Indiana was issued a challenge, inspired by the generosity of Civic Leaders, Tom Sourlis and Sue Eleuterio. Charged to raise matching funds of \$125,000, the Food Bank reached out to **YOU**, our NW Indiana community for help. Knowing the impact that these funds would have on our struggling neighbors during this critical time, **YOU** responded to help us far exceed the goal. **TOGETHER**, we raised more than **\$240,000** towards the “Community Strong Emergency Relief Match”, nearly double Tom and Sue’s challenge amount. Combined, the total amount provides **1,095,000 MEALS**. And the timing could not be better, as the demand for food assistance continues to climb.