



The Cauldron

District 14-B's Monthly Newsletter

March 2021



Happy St. Patrick's Day



From the desk of District Governor Chris Raynak

:
Hello fellow Lions, Lioness, & Leos,

We have made it to March and a season of change. Change from the bitter cold, snow, short gloomy days. A change in the time. Daylight Savings Time returns on the 14th. A time of looking toward a change in leadership as our Lions nominating committees will be starting their work. We all play a role as leaders. We play a leadership role as a parent. We play a role as leaders in our relationships with friends. We play a role of leadership at work. Even if we don't have a formal leadership role, we have influence by our words, actions and attitude. When you are approached to take on a leadership role remember that good followers make good leaders. It's time to step up and be the leader. We can renew our club. We can renew our mission. Oh, we can't do it on our own. But we can do it together. I invite you to do your little bit to accomplish that. We may not be able to do everything, but we can do our little bit. We need to decide; I will not leave my little bit undone.



Along with being asked to be an officer, there are plans made to offer training for each position. There is news here in the Cauldron, and more will be forth coming from VDG MaryAnn Belles and GLT Kamal Gella to participate in learning about the positions and doing your little bit. Be open to these trainings even though you have held the position in the past. Our world, along with Lions, is changing so fast.

Let's all remember that the dues for International, State, and District are to be paid when the invoice is issued. There are still clubs that have not paid one or more of these. Payment is vital so that we as a District can continue to operate. Please be sure your payments were made.

Our District face mask sale has concluded. We sold 222 masks. With additional donations, our district raised the total to \$250.00 that will be used to benefit LCIF. Ten tickets will be purchased for the "Shave the Staches" fundraiser being sponsored by the State Lions. The clubs that participated will receive their share of the project toward their administration fund in the near future. Thank you to all that participated.

Much was discussed at the Cabinet meeting on February 20. There is so much news in the Cauldron, so much good going on in the District. So much more to come. Be sure that you are sharing the Cauldron with all of your members. Respond to the requests that are asked for in the newsletter.

I want to thank the clubs that I visited with this past month both in person and via Zoom. It is so pleasing to see that you are all still serving your communities during these times. Besides the great projects being accomplished it was my pleasure to induct new members this past month at Pleasant Hills and Mon River Fleet. Congratulations to both clubs as well as to the District. More members, to serve more. Clubs that are scheduled for my visit in March please confirm with me by phone or email.

WE SERVE!!

It's great to be a LION
Chris Raynak

District Governor 14-B
Email: cpr14b2021@outlook.com
phone: 412.951.6328





Vice District Governor Lion Mary Ann Belles

Greetings Lions, Leos & Lionesses of District 14B!

We are hoping that Punxsutawney Phil was wrong and anxiously awaiting an early Spring. The sun is peeking out from behind the clouds and warming the earth. We can see the green (or not so green now) stuff! Time & life is moving on. We are able to serve our communities!

This month Club Presidents is the time to assign your Nominating Committee for the Club Officers for our next Lions year. Is a new member of your Club interested in starting the learning process to become a Vice President, Club Secretary or Club Treasurer? There is a wealth of information on the Lions Club International (LCI) website for any Club Officer to learn the duties of Club President, Club Vice Presidents, Club Secretary, Club Treasurer, Lion Tamer, or Tail Twister, etc. LCI has duties for your Club Membership Chairperson, your Club LCIF Coordinator, and your Club Service Chairperson. There are E-Books available for each of these positions that are great ways to polish off your skills for the next step of leadership.

District 14B will be hosting trainings starting in May. I will be Zoom hosting three sessions for MyLion training. If any of the dates don't work for you, please contact me. I will do one-on-one training with you via Zoom. **You ask, why should I learn how to use MyLion?** Well, any Lion can post in MyLion. It would be a big help for your Club Secretary, Club President and Club Administrator. You can report your service on MyLion and then the Secretary, President and Administrator can complete the report. If you have ever been a Club Secretary, you know they would appreciate the help.

Another reason to register on the Lions Club International (LCI) website is you will be able to watch a wealth of training opportunities by LCI. When you watch the training on LCI, our District 14B Global Leadership Team Coordinator can see that you have watched the training.

Education point: Every year the current District Governor has District Goals. One of those District Goals is for our Club Officers to get the appropriate training for each of the positions. When you participate in the District training and watch the training on LCI, it helps the District Governor achieve one of the District Goals.

I will also be hosting the Club Secretary Zoom Training. We will review MyLion, the duties and responsibilities of the Club Secretaries.

District 14B Global Leadership Team Coordinator Lion Dr. Kamal Gella will be hosting the Club President Zoom Training and the Zone Chairperson training.

District 14B Cabinet Treasurer Lion George Belles will be hosting the Club Treasurers Zoom Training.

Any of these opportunities can be done on by one-on-one training. Please contact me if you would like to schedule for any of the training. Even if you are considering any of these positions, you are welcome to join us.

Keep Soaring into Service!!

Lion Mary Ann Belles

email: lionmaryannb14b@gmail.com
phone 412-833-3450 or 412-983-8956



Editor's Corner



By PDG Harold Fletcher

"This 'n' That!"



2021 Lions Clubs International Convention moving to virtual event

Due to the continuing concerns about the coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, the board of directors voted to transition the 2021 Lions Clubs International Convention in Montreal to a virtual event that will be delivered totally online. This decision was made with the health and safety of our Lions, staff and vendors in mind as limiting international travel and large gatherings is key to global containment strategies.

Here are some important details about the 2021 convention we would like to share with you now:

- Our 2021 convention will be a virtual event that's open to all Lions and Leos around the world.
- Registration is now open. The registration fee will be US\$50 until March 31, then US\$75 beginning April 1. The registration fee for Leos will be US\$30 regardless of date. Convention is currently scheduled for June 25-29.
- Executive officer and international director elections will be conducted electronically and voting procedures will be forthcoming.
- Convention updates and details will be posted here at lcon.lionsclubs.org as they become available. This global health pandemic has forced us all to make decisions and changes that place health and safety first. However, we are optimistic that with each new day there is hope, and as Lions, we continue to find new ways to stay connected, safely serve our communities and continue our global mission of service.

See page 15 for Registration form and additional information.



Happy St. Patrick's Day



DISTRICT GOVERNOR'S VISITATION SCHEDULE 2021

March 2021

2nd – Sto-Ken-Rox
9th – Pittsburgh Deaf Blind
11th – Cheswick-Springdale
15th – Central Elizabeth
16th – Oakmont
23rd – South Park

April 2021

6th – Tarentum
9th – Pittsburgh Host
20th - McKeesport
27th - Pittsburgh North Side

May 2021

11th – Pittsburgh Hilltop
18th – Bethel Park

To Be Rescheduled

Pittsburgh Shadyside-Squirrel Hill
Forest Hill

MARCH'S CLUB ANNIVERSARIES

**Central Elizabeth Twp. Lions Club – 59 years
March 1, 1962**

**Forest Hills Lions Club – 65 years
March 26, 1956**

**Mt. Lebanon Lions Club – 92 years
March 6, 1929**

**Northern Allegheny Lions C-71 years
March 21, 1950**

**Tarentum Area Lions Club – 82 years
March 23, 1939**

**White Oak Lions Club –71 years
March 20, 1950**

**Whitehall Community Lions Club – 72 years
March 11, 1949**





We have no new members to welcome to the Wonderful World of Lionism!

(July 1, 2020 through January 31, 2021 as reported on the MyLCI website)

Member

Club

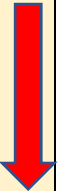
Sponsor

Sorry, No New Members to report for this month!

Since July 31, 2020, here's what our District membership looks like ...

July 1st **761** Members added **21** dropped **48** February 28 **734** Members.

We are ranked 16th out of the 17 Districts, with District 14W beneath us.



**MULTIPLE DISTRICT
MEMBERSHIP ***

14G	1643
14A	1482
14D	1300
14T	1251
14C	1137
14F	1090
14M	1031
14P	1018
13L	974
14N	933
14U	926
14E	790
14H	776
14K	765
14J	728
14B	723
14W	633
TOTAL 17200	

(*as of 1/31/2021)

**WHERE DISTRICT 14-B STANDS WITH
MEMBERSHIP...**

Looking at the numbers above, LCI is showing that we have 734 members as reported on the MyLci website as of February 28, 2021. And, when you look at the state membership report as of January 31, 2021, they have reported 723 members, making us 16 out of 17 with the lowest membership.

As stated in the January Cauldron, the Glassport Lions Club will be dropped from the LCI roles in the very near future. They currently have 16 members who will be added to the dropped list on the MyLci website making our District membership drop to an all time low of 718 members , excluding any new members that might be added for the next report.

The pandemic has really played havoc with service organizations. There are many clubs who are not even meeting; some are using Zoom and others are meeting in person. Whatever way you are holding your club together, please try to look outside your club for new faces which will be difficult at this time. But, whatever it takes, please stay together, please stay safe, and please continue to serve your communities.

Remember, we are in this together!

In Memory of...



Lion Alice Manfredi

West Mifflin Lions Club

February 26, 2021



Lion Ralph N. Buck

Robinson Lions Club

February 26, 2021



May they rest in peace...



**DON'T FORGET TO
SPRING FORWARD**

REMEMBER TO SET YOUR
CLOCKS **AHEAD** 1 HOUR

MARCH 14th

★ WANTED ★

Energetic Lions to step forward to serve the
Lions in District 14B as
1st and 2nd Vice District Governors.



- FREE TRIP to New Delhi, India July 1-5, 2022
- Make new friends locally, state-wide, and internationally
- Make an impact on the future of how the State (MD14) operates
- Visit Leader Dog School in Rochester, Michigan
- Visit PALions Beacon Lodge Camp

*For more information, please contact
Past District Governor Geoff Temple at 412-956-5723*

***FREE TRIP TO NEW DELHI, INDIA OR HOW ABOUT TO ANY
ONE OF THESE OTHER UPCOMING INTERANTIONAL
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
July 2 - 6, 2027 Washington, D.C. *NEW
June 23 - 27, 2028 Singapore *NEW*

1st Annual Membership Connections



\$5 per 10 tickets
7 Baskets

Sponsored by PA State Lions
Council of Governors for the
Global Membership Team

Seminars



We can only accept 70 Lions at this time; 23 per session with 3 sessions running at one time frame, separate rooms!!!!
CALL EARLY TO GET A SEAT!!

Saturday, May 22, 2021

Wyndham Garden State College Mountain View Country Club, 310 Elks Club Road, Boalsburg, PA

Cost: Lunch Only \$15.00

Seminar Reservations: cawilbur65@gmail.com or 607-738-6909

Topics of Interest

Members: A, B, C Acronyms New members arrive with heads turning and twirling in all directions: what to do, what does that mean, what did she/he just say? *PID Cindy Gregg* will put a spin on those initials for better understanding!

Members: Boosting Satisfaction Additional ways to encourage Lions to step-up; keeping seasoned members active; and handling conflicts with resolutions. *A Leading Lion* will guide us to the future in Lionism.

Members: Fun(ds) Raising-FUN & Games Bored with same 'ole, same 'ole? Creating ways to add enjoyment and excitement to the traditional meetings. Co-Instructors *Lions Dorothy Daugherty and Debra Bieber* will entertain new ideas.

Members: Grants-Funding Awards An alternative to gaining access to funds to keep serving those in need. *IPDG Jim Wilbur* will provide Guidance with access and applications to assist with providing members and clubs more financial opportunities.

Members: Membership: Panel of Young Lions What do they want to do; how can they add energy to your club; and they will answer your questions, with steps to recruiting and enticing the next generation. *Lions representing the Mansfield Lions Club*

Members: Service: More Opportunities Lions are always looking for new ways to provide service to those in need. With the leadership of our Multiple District *PDG GST Tom Gregg*, you will need to bring a book to make a list!

Members: Technology: Taking It Forward The pandemic has us adapting ways to meet, conducting services, and fund-raising. *PDG John Mallonee*, LCI Certified Instructor, will show new tools assisting our members with new applications in technology.

ASSEMBLE PERSONAL CARE KITS FROM HOME

neighbors helping neighbors...

Step 1. REGISTER to join us in providing hygiene items to our community.

You must register at www.globallinks.org/volunteer

Step 2. HOST a Personal Care Collection or **PURCHASE** the items on our list.

Each kit can be packed in a 1 gallon Ziploc style bag and should include 1 of each of the following items:

- shampoo
- bar of soap
- toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss (keep toothbrush in original packaging - if you have a multipack, please do not open it, just put the whole thing in)
- moisturizer/lotion
- deodorant

****All items should be NEW and FULL SIZED - No travel or XL please**

****Each kit must include each item - Please do not include extra items not on this list.**

****Where possible, please choose gender-neutral, fragrance-free items with less chemicals**

Step 3. PACK your Personal Care Kits

A video link explaining the project and showing clear instructions will be emailed upon registration.

Step 4. TAKE and SHARE photos while packing the kits!

Tag Global Links and [#healthforall](#) [#neighborshelpingneighbors](#)

Step 5. DROP OFF your kits **contact-free** at Global Links and **share the love.**

700 Trumbull Drive - M-F between 9am -4pm.

700 Trumbull Drive Pittsburgh, PA 15205 www.globallinks.org 412-361-3424

I think this is a very interesting project for us. Each of us can make as many as we can. Then try to figure out where to meet and put in a box to take to Global Link. I signed up for this and if you want to help let me know. Bloomfield-Lawrenceville Lions Club will be separate from Pittsburgh DeafBlind Lions Club. Check out the video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMipJlStNXw&feature=emb_logo

This information provided by Lion Barb Rebovich, Zone 4 Chairperson

lionbarb08@gmail.com or call 412-551-0485.

Robinson Lions Set its Sights on “Paying it Forward “

Robinson Lions Set its Sights on “Paying it Forward “About twelve years ago, the Robinson Lions partnered with Lions International to procure and provide sight magnification units to two local residents. This equipment helped two different individuals with ability to read the newspaper and magazines to improve their enjoyment and awareness of events happenings in the world. In 2017, both units were returned as the recipients could no longer use them and we donated them to Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh. In late December 2020, one of the recipient’s family members reached out and wanted to give a donation as a thank you for our assistance. Much to our surprise, the family “paid it forward” by donating \$2,000 to our club and we cannot thank them enough.

During our past few meetings, the Robinson Lions Club decided the most appropriate investment we could make in helping the lives of others, was to donate the gift to causes that will help others like it did for this family. The donor choose to be anonymous but they should know that their kindness help Robinson Lions to “pay it forward” through our club sending \$1,000 to Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh and \$1,000 to Leader Dogs for the Blind. Please see how both organizations will use the donation.

Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh - The dollars donated would help individuals acquire devices that will help them achieve a greater level of independence. We anticipate serving 5 individuals with this \$1000 donation.

Leader Dogs for the Blind – The donation will assist in training of its dogs for a person in need of one. The organization is the answer for thousands of people who are blind or visually impaired to have the tools to travel safely and independently with the aid of a dog. Their services include Guide Dog training, Orientation & Mobility Training, and a Summer experience.

One good action can lead to many good actions. How have you paid it forward today?

*Submitted by
Lion Greg Leininiger, President
Robinson Lions Club*

**Don't wait
for other
people to
be loving,
giving,
compassionate,
grateful,
forgiving,
generous, or
friendly...

lead the way!**



Deaf and Blind Chef lands his Dream Job at Marine Base



Kevin Tong, 39, stirs a giant vat of food in the mess hall kitchen at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego

Kevin Tong fits right in at busy mess hall serving 9,000 or more meals a day. Every day in the mess hall kitchen at San Diego's Marine Corps Recruit Depot, a culinary team of nearly 30 cooks turns out more than 9,000 meals, making it the Corps' highest-volume mess hall in the nation.

Working in that high-pressure kitchen requires training, discipline, flexibility and an exceptional work ethic — which are skills that have made newcomer Kevin Tong a standout since he joined the galley crew last week. But there's something else that makes the 39-year-old San Diegan unique among his fellow cooks at MCRD. He is deaf and blind.

Tong was born deaf and he started losing his vision in his early 30s due to Usher's syndrome. Today he is legally blind with blurry central vision and no peripheral vision. But with the help of the [Helen Keller National Center for Deaf-Blind Youths and Adults](#) and a diversity-hiring program by his employer, Sodexo, Tong said he has found a "dream job" he hopes to keep for the rest of his working days.

Kevin Hollingsworth, general manager for Sodexo's food service operation at the MCRD mess hall, said the kitchen crew warmed up to Tong quickly this month when they saw what he could do.

"I'm very impressed," Hollingsworth said. "When we gave him a tour, he knew how to use all the equipment. He fit right in and is doing a fantastic job. People were skeptical that he wouldn't be able to do the job, but he's been wonderful. The greatest thing about him is he's very flexible."

In order to communicate with his colleagues, Tong carries around a notepad and several felt-tip markers so they can write instructions for him in large block letters. He also has a sign language interpreter to help him speak to others. The long-term goal of the Helen Keller National Center (HKNC) is to help Tong develop more ways to communicate so he won't need an interpreter long-term.

And when it comes to working with sharp knives and hot cooking surfaces, Tong said he learned in his teens how to avoid cuts and burns in a fast-paced kitchen and those skills — even now that he's vision-impaired — are so instinctual he rarely has an accident.



Tong was born and raised in Vietnam, where he was the only deaf member of his family. He was 14 years old when he moved with his parents to the U.S. in 1995. The transition to American life was very difficult, he said, because he struggled to learn English and American Sign Language at the same time. He hoped to go to college, but the struggle to communicate led him instead to look for a career that didn't require a degree.

At age 17, Tong started learning to cook, and he later landed an internship at a local Marriott hotel, where he was taught the basics of cutting vegetables, using knives and following recipes. Later he went on to work in the kitchens at the Hotel del Coronado, the Loews Coronado Bay Resort and San Diego International Airport. He loved the work and people he worked with. But then, around 2011, he started losing his sight.

"The first thing I noticed was my vision was blurry. Then I started to lose my peripheral vision. It was very difficult to read print and see things in front of me. So, I went to the doctor and he gave me the diagnosis of Usher's syndrome," Tong said. "It was hard. I try to keep a positive attitude, and that helped me to control my emotions."

Continued...

When he could no longer read the recipes or recognize certain colors in the kitchen, Tong lost his job and went through an extended period when he couldn't find work.

According to the HKNC in New York, there are an estimated 2.4 million people in the U.S. with combined vision and hearing loss, and they face significant obstacles to employment. Adults with dual sensory impairment have nearly double the unemployment rate of the general population, and they're also half as likely to be in the workforce, according to a study by the National Research & Training Center on Blindness & Low Vision.

Helen Keller was blind and deaf, so the HKNC has a special program to serve the needs of this unique population. Over the past decade, it has provided life skills training and career services to 8,000 people and nearly 2,500 families. Tong was invited to train at HKNC New York in 2016, where he said he learned tactile sign language, how to read braille, use a white cane, navigate public transportation, improve personal grooming habits, live independently and follow his creative muse.



But even after he returned to San Diego, where he lives with his elderly parents, Tong said he couldn't find a job, though he applied for openings frequently. Then in March, all of the culinary job openings evaporated as hotels and restaurants shut down. That's when Tong reached out again to HKNC for help. He was teamed with Laila-Wendy Chouinard, who is an HKNC job placement specialist for the region of California from San Ysidro to Fresno. Chouinard said Tong was a great candidate for placement because he had a long work history before he lost his vision.

"Kevin was an excellent candidate because he had the right attitude from the beginning," she said. "He wanted to work, which is what you want first, and he wants to be independent."

Tong is one of seven deaf-blind clients she has placed in regional jobs over the past three months. HKNC has a national partnership with Sodexo, which hires many blind and deaf-blind workers for its food service operations because, Hollingsworth said, the company believes diversity makes for a more well-rounded team in any kitchen.

Tong was initially placed a couple of months ago as an entry-level cook at a mess hall at Camp Pendleton, where he worked in the salad prep area and did basic cooking tasks. But because it took him so long to get to and from work by public transportation, he applied a few weeks ago for an opening at MCRD, which is only 8 miles from his home.

That move last week was also a promotion for Tong, who is now a Level 2 cook, which means he can dice vegetables, measure ingredients and make more complex dishes. Tong's ultimate goal is to move up to a level 3 cook for Sodexo, where he can do all the tasks in the kitchen, train new employees and even introduce some of his own recipes.

"This is my first time ever working for Sodexo and this will be my lifetime career," Tong said. "I love the fact that they're really open to their employees working in different venues, like hospitals and military bases, and they have contacts throughout the world. I'm done. This is my place."

When he's not working full time at the base, Tong said he enjoys tending to his collection of finches in an aviary at his home. He dreams of one day owning his own house, traveling the world and competing on a TV cooking contest like "MasterChef."

"I would also maybe like to start a blog channel called 'The Deaf Blind Cook,' where I can inspire other people like me to cook for themselves," Tong said.

Lion Barb Rebovich asked to pass this story on to our Lions.
This article appeared in the **San Diego Union-Tribune**



By Pam Kragen



- 1 **Registration** > 2 Personal Information > 3 Additional Information > 4 Payment > 5 Confirmation

Registration

Tell us about yourself

	Registration	Fee
<input type="radio"/>	Lion Virtual	\$50.00
<input type="radio"/>	Leo-Lion Virtual <u>Lions membership type</u> available exclusively to Leos who served in the Leo Program for over a year	\$50.00
<input type="radio"/>	Lioness Virtual	\$50.00
<input type="radio"/>	Adult Guest Virtual	\$50.00
<input type="radio"/>	Omega Leo Virtual	\$30.00

LCIF CAMPAIGN 100 DONATION

Please consider empowering the service of Lions by making a gift to Lions Clubs International Foundation and Campaign:

<input type="radio"/>	\$10 Donation
<input type="radio"/>	\$20 Donation
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	No Donation.

All Convention Registration fees are NON-REFUNDABLE

Convention registration fees are non-refundable and cannot be transferred to another Lion, Leo, guest, child, or future convention.

For complete information to register, please go to <https://www.mcisemi.com/lci2021/>



There is no stopping the Mon River Fleet (MRF) Lions Club! On Thursday, February 24, the Club welcomed District Governor Chris Raynak who not only provided important district updates



but offered several suggestions to the Club for supporting diabetes awareness. The District Governor was introduced by the Club's President Jim Phillips, along with Secretary Laura Bosnak Thompson and 1st Vice President Yvonne Parhetta.

A major highlight that followed was when the District Governor inducted and welcomed four new members into the Club. They are left to right: Pamela Farmer with her sponsor PDG Alice Jones, Brianna Dechant sponsored by the President Jim Phillips, and Eleni Skezas and Lauren Palmquist sponsored by Board Member Helen Stratigos. What a day for growing and MRF Lions moving forward! Congratulations new Mon River Fleet Lions!



If I cannot do
great things,
I can do
small things
in a great way.



MRF Lions Announce Special Speaker

On Thursday, April 15, 2021, the Mon River Fleet Lions Club
will host a special presentation on:

*“Everything you wanted to know about
diabetes, but didn’t have anyone to ask”*

Carla DeJesus, MS, RD, LDN, CDCES
Diabetes Care & Education Specialist
UPMC McKeesport

Location: UPMC McKeesport Dr. Ahmad Conference Center
(First Floor Shaw Building – Parking Available in Garage)
Time: 3:30 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.

Lions interested in attending, please contact the Club’s
President Jim Phillips
jphillips@tvc.net
(412) 862-5565 Cell

(Limited Seating)



Project Linus

Providing Security Through Blankets

- **Greater Pittsburgh Area Chapter:**

Serving Allegheny, Butler, Washington and Westmoreland Counties
Over 195,200 blankets distributed since 1998!

- Please see our [Schedule](#) for times our Chapter Headquarters (fondly known as the P.L.A.C.E) is open.
Additional information at <https://www.projectlinuspgh.org/>

Our Mission: Providing Security Through Blankets...

Our mission is simple: to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need. We do this by giving them gifts of new, handmade blankets, quilts and afghans, lovingly created for Project Linus by volunteer "blanketeers." The Blanketeers are part of our mission, as well: we seek to provide a rewarding and fun service opportunity for interested individuals and groups in local communities, for the benefit of children.

- **"The best kind of sleep under heaven above, is under a blanket handmade with love."**

Project Linus had its beginnings in December 1995 after Karen Loucks was inspired to make blankets for her local children's cancer center. Since then, Project Linus has expanded to include children who are seriously ill or traumatized in many ways. To date, over 300 chapters of Project Linus exist nationally, with more than *six million* blankets donated to children!

Project Linus was named after the adorable security blanket-toting character from the Peanuts© comic strip. Creator Charles Shultz was aware of the efforts of Project Linus and was delighted to have Linus inspire blanket makers to help comfort children in need.



Project Linus is a volunteer non-profit organization.

Where our blankets go...



AGH Pediatric Unit • Auberle Home • Bradley Center • Caring Place • Center for Victims • Children's Home • Children's Hospital • Children's Institute • Easter Seals • EMS • Family Care Connections • Family Hospice Grief Camp • Funeral Homes • Genesis • Intersection • Jefferson Hospital • Magee Hospital • Mended Little Hearts • Mercy Hospital • Military & Family Comfort Center • Mon Valley Hospital • Ohio Valley Hospital • Passavant Hospital • Police Departments • Ronald McDonald House • Sewickley Valley Hospital • SW Surgery Center • St. Clair Hospital • St. Margaret's Hospital • Washington Hospital • West Penn Hospital • Women's Shelter

Please feel free to recommend a family or facility in need...



Attention District 14 B Lions Clubs:

Dear Fellow Lions,

At the District Cabinet Meeting on Saturday, [February 20th](#), Lion Ben Kihumbu requested permission to reach out to the District 14B Lions Club for financial aid involving a project he is working on in the Congo. Foundation Bon Samaritan (FBS), a non-profit, is seeking to request a matching grant from the Lions Clubs International Foundation to assist with purchasing equipment of a drilling machine to build water wells in the Congo. Included in the price of the purchase for the drill is shipment of the drill to the Congo, education to operate the drill and materials for the well. Lion Ben is originally from the Congo and is CEO of FBS. He has been very involved and supportive of the Pittsburgh DeafBlind Lions Club. Bloomfield-Lawrenceville Lions are also partnering with the DeafBlind Club to help raise funds for this project.

The request for contacting District 14B Lions Clubs was granted with a vote of the Cabinet.

I will be sending out letters to all the clubs requesting financial assistance to help Lion Ben in this project. More information about the project will be provided in the letter of request. Please contact me if you have any questions or want more information. Thank you for your time. lionbarb08@gmail.com 412-431-1116 (h) or 412-551-0485 (c)

Lion Barbara Rebovich, Secretary
Pittsburgh DeafBlind Lions Club

**we can
help** because...
We Serve.





All Lions Clubs in District 14-B, please take a minute to read this carefully... **FREE Vision Services** provided by the Blind and Vision Rehabilitation Services in Pittsburgh!



Vision Care for All

We are committed to ensuring **ALL** patients have access to the highest quality vision care. Through a collaboration with Pennsylvania Vision Foundation, we are introducing the Vision Benefits Program at Blind & Vision Rehabilitation Services of Pittsburgh.

This **free** vision service is dedicated to preserving your eyesight through annual eye exams at our location. With the addition of the Vision Benefits Program, we can offer a **free** eye exam and a **free** pair of eyeglasses to anyone who is eligible.

To qualify, your annual income must meet the following criteria. Proof of household size and earnings will be required at the time of the eligibility evaluation.

HOUSEHOLD SIZE	INCOME
1	\$31,225
2	\$42,275
3	\$53,325
4	\$64,375
5	\$75,425

**Additional fees may apply and will be determined prior to the conclusion of services.*

CONTACT US

412.368.4080

To verify eligibility and schedule your eye exam.



DISTRICT 14-B TRAINING VIA ZOOM

Available to anyone who may be interested!



Five different topics – Pick any one or sign-up for all 5!
ALL sessions will be held on Saturdays, May 1st through June 19th.

- **MyLion Training:** May 1, 2021 10:00 AM VDG Maryann Belles
May 29, 2021 10:00 AM “
June 19, 2021 10:00 AM “
- **Club Presidents:** May 8, 2021 9:00AM ZC Lion Dr. Kamal Gella
- **Club Secretaries:** June 12, 2021 10:00 AM VDG Maryann Belles
- **Club Treasurer:** June 12, 2021 10:00 AM Lion George Belles
- **Zone Chairperson:** May 8, 2021 9:00 AM ZC Lion Dr. Kamal Gella

All training will be offered one on one. Please contact FVDG MaryAnn Belles to sign up.

PLEASE NOTE: All the training will also be offered on a one-on-one if they are not available on the dates for the training.



Please contact VDG MaryAnn Belles to register

email: lionmaryannb14b@gmail.com

Hone 412-833-3450 or 412-983-8956

This is what we, who are aged 70 or 80 years plus, can look forward to.

This is something that happened at an assisted living center. The people who lived there had small apartments but they all ate at a central cafeteria. One morning one of the residents didn't show up for breakfast so my wife went upstairs and knocked on his door to see if everything was OK. She could hear him through the door and he said that he was running late and would be down shortly, so she went back to the dining area.



An hour later he still hadn't arrived, so she went back up towards his room but found him on the stairs. He was coming down the stairs but was having a hard time. He had a death grip on the hand rail and seemed to have trouble getting his legs to work right. She told him she was going to call an ambulance but he told her no, he wasn't in any pain and just wanted to have his breakfast. So, she helped him the rest of the way down the stairs and he had his breakfast. When he tried to return to his room, he was completely unable to get up even the first stair step, so they called an ambulance for him.

A couple of hours later she called the hospital to see how he was doing. The receptionist there said he was fine, he just had both of his legs in one side of his boxer shorts.

I'm sending this to my children so that they don't sell the house before they know all the facts.

