



#### **SEPT / OCT 2023**

As we head into "harvest season" note the abundance of opportunities on the Lions calendar!

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS:**

- SEPTEMBER 26: EYEGLASS RECYCLING 9:30-12NOON
  - HELP NEEDED TO SORT READERS AND WASH THEM FOR FUTURE MISSION TRIPS. HOPE TO SEE YOU! RSVP TO LION GAIL JUNOD: JAMIEGAILJUNOD@YAHOO.COM
- SEPTEMBER 26: LIONS EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING 8PM
- OCTOBER 3 LUNCH MEETING!
  - LUNCH MEETING AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB DOWNTOWN
  - 5/3 BLDG (TOP FLOOR) | 111 LYON ST NW | GRAND RAPIDS
  - RSVP TO CHERYL BY 12 NOON, FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
- OCTOBER 17 LUNCH MEETING!
  - LUNCH MEETING AT THE UNIVERSITY CLUB DOWNTOWN
  - 5/3 BLDG (TOP FLOOR) | 111 LYON ST NW | GRAND RAPIDS
  - RSVP TO CHERYL BY 12 NOON, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 13
- OCTOBER 19 HANDS ON SERVICE PROJECT AT VILLAGE WATER FILTERS
  - 1-3PM AND/OR 6-8PM
- OCTOBER 19 PROJECTS NIGHT
  - ROCKFORD SPORTSMAN'S CLUB, 1115 NORTHLAND DRIVE NE, ROCKFORD MI 49341 6:00 SOCIAL TIME, 6:15 DINNER, 6:45 "SPEED DATING" - AKA PROJECTS, 7:45 RAFFLE AND PARADE OF CHECKS. \$20/PERSON.
- NOVEMBER 2-5: LIONS OF MICHIGAN LEADERSHIP INSTITUTE
  - LEARN MORE AT THE LINK BELOW:
  - HTTPS://WWW.LIONSOFMI.COM/INDEX.PHP/LEADERSHIP-INSTITUTE
- DECEMBER 2: HOLIDAY SHOPPING
  - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR IN-PERSON SHOPPING ON SATURDAY,
     DECEMBER 2, 2023 | SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS

## **UPDATE TO OUR SEPTEMBER SERVICE PROJECT:**

TO HELP SUPPORT THE MARTIN LUTHER KING LEADERSHIP ACADEMY TUTORING PROGRAM

The September community service project was a huge success. Tim Tuthill helped to lead the event and offered this great wrap up message:

"We kicked off our Monthly Community Service Projects on Tuesday, September 12 by putting together pencil boxes. We had eleven volunteers. We received a nice thank you note from Maryann." - Tim Tuthill

Dear Tim and members of the Lion's Club Grand Rapids Chapter-

Thank you so much for your help with assembling close to 200 pencil boxes for the Kindergarten through 2nd-grade students at Martin Luther King Jr. Leadership Academy. As I mentioned during my visit, nearly 100% of MLK's students live at or below the poverty level. Some recent studies have shown that families are spending up to 10% more on overall living expenses (<a href="https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/families-feel-pinch-of-back-to-school-spending">https://www.wfyi.org/news/articles/families-feel-pinch-of-back-to-school-spending</a>). When parents and guardians of MLK students have to choose between putting food on the table or purchasing school supplies, food will always be the priority. Our teachers, students, and their families truly appreciate this type of donation!

Best Regards-

Waryann Venskus

The October event will be Thursday, Oct 19 1-3 pm and 6-8PM at

Village Water Filter 4064 S. Division Wyoming 49548

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Photos provided by Tim Tuthill and Mark Oberlin.

#### **NUDA VERITAS**

**LIONS ROAR!: MEMBER UPDATE SECTION** 

Fellow Lions: Have something new in your life you would like to share? Time to shout it out! We are looking to be sure that if you have something you would like the Grand Rapids Lions Club family to know about - please let us know. Examples might be:

- New additions (kids, grandkids, marriages,)
- Business Happenings: Did you buy or sell a business? Retire? Start a new company?
- Awards, Career Updates, Illness or reason you need some extra support - we are here for you!!!
- Reach out and we can place in an upcoming newsletter





Call or Text: 616-951-4663



Email: JohnRiceOnline@gmail.com

### **DECEMBER 2: HOLIDAY SHOPPING**

\*Volunteers needed for in-person shopping on Saturday, December 2, 2023\*

Meijer generously donates a \$30 gift card per child within a total limit of \$1500 for the event. The Grand Rapids Lions Club donates \$95 per child (up up \$4750 for 50 children) to set a budget of \$125 per gift card for children to spend on their family members. "Pass the Hat" donations through through collections at Lions luncheons assist in supplementing the cost of having additional children participate. For each \$125 collected, an additional child is able to attend

WHAT: The first shift is designated for the children with visual impairments and begins PROMPTLY at 7:15 a.m. The second group of children begin at 8:30 a.m. when the Base Camp Sabboath children arrive with their staff. \*\*\*\*Due to the large number of children who are being referred, we are looking for at least 35 volunteers or more, if possible, so the ratio would be no more than 2 children to every 1 volunteer.

WHEN: Saturday, Dec. 2, 2023 at 7:15 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.

WHERE: Meijer on 28th & 1-96 in Cascade



Members are welcome to make this a "family event" and include spouses, children or acquaintances who are interested in volunteering.

Contact: Anne Baird | baird@surfree.com | 616-446-9496

### **MEMBER SPOTLIGHT**

HIGHLIGHTING A MEMBER OF THE GRAND RAPIDS LIONS CLUB



Name: Jason Brown

**Profession:** Independent Insurance Agency Owner - Winter

Insurance

Years as a Lion: 4 years

Spouse/family: Ashley Brown, Justin (Son) Aubrey (daugther)

Do you hold positions within the club? If so please tell us

about those. How about past positions?:

Director

What is your favorite thing about being a Lion? OR a favorite memory you would like to share.

**JB:** Being able to help help and give back to people/groups in need.

What are the top 3 words that come to mind when you think of Lionism?

**JB:** Servant leader, compassionate, giving

Name your favorite movie, book, board game or all three:

**JB:** Good to Great, Top Gun, and Ticket to Ride.

When not at Lions, what do you like to do for fun?

**JB:** Following my son on the hockey rink or stage and following my daughter on the volleyball court.

What is a "secret" skill you have no one knows about?

**JB:** Ability to never be too full for a trip to the ice cream store!

Where is your favorite place to travel? What is the top place on your travel bucket list?

**JB:** Travel - Aruba, Food - a great steak, bucket list - European river cruise.

# LIONS: BE IN THE KNOW

#### **DISTRICT 11-C1 NEWS**

To find out more about news in our Lions Club District 11-C1 covering Lions in Allegan, Barry, Ionia, Kent, Muskegon, and Ottawa visit on Facebook: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/groups/115990828419557">https://www.facebook.com/groups/115990828419557</a>

#### **STATE LION NEWS**

To find out more about news in our Michigan Lions visit: http://lionsofmi.com/



# LIONS INTERNATIONAL @

To find out more about news in Lions International visit: <a href="https://lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/lions-events-calendar">https://lionsclubs.org/en/resources-for-members/lions-events-calendar</a>



Curious about eyeglass recycling locations around town?
We have the perfect "site" to restore your sight .... For an interactive map visit: <a href="https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/glasses-drop-off/">https://www.grandrapidslionsclub.org/glasses-drop-off/</a>

"The weather just went from 90 to 55 like it saw a state trooper."

— Unknown

