



**Fort Vancouver
Lions Club
Vancouver, WA.,
U.S.A.
Established 1955**

**August
2026 ISSUE**

**Join us Fridays
August 7 and
August 21 at Noon
for our regular
meetings at Golden
Corral**

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Volume 73 Issue 2

**2026-2027
King Lion
Sandy**



Having That One Perfect Moment

Every life has moments that stay with us—not because they are loud or grand, but because they feel exactly right. That one perfect moment may be a smile shared at the right time, a hand extended when someone needed help, or the quiet realization that we made a difference. It is the moment when purpose, kindness, and action come together.

As a person, that perfect moment reminds us who we are at our best. It happens when we choose patience over frustration, compassion over indifference, and service over self-interest. In those moments, we see that perfection is not about everything going according to plan. It is about being fully present, fully human, and willing to give what we can.

As a Lion, that perfect moment lives in service. Lions carry the simple and powerful motto “We Serve,” and through it, ordinary people create extraordinary results. Whether supporting vision, youth, hunger relief, disaster response, or local needs, a Lion’s perfect moment is found in seeing hope return to someone’s face and knowing that service has changed the day for the better.

As a club, that one perfect moment is built together. It begins in meetings, planning, fundraising, laughter, and teamwork. It becomes real when members unite around a shared purpose and turn ideas into action. A club’s strength is not measured only by what it accomplishes, but by the fellowship, trust, and commitment that make those accomplishments possible.

As a community, the perfect moment happens when people feel seen, supported, and connected. It is when neighbors become partners, challenges become opportunities, and service becomes a shared language. One act of kindness may seem small, but when many hands join together, that moment grows into something lasting.

Continued on page 2.

Having that one perfect moment is not about waiting for perfection. It is about creating it—through courage, service, friendship, and love for our community. As individuals, as Lions, as clubs, and as neighbors, we each have the power to make a moment that matters. And sometimes, that one perfect moment is enough to inspire many more.

Queen Lion Sandy

Save the Dates

- **Friday, August 7** Green Bag Pick Up Day
- **Tuesday August 4th and August 18th** - Kitchen Confidence for Youth with Vision Loss at Clark County Food Bank
- **Monday, August 17, 2026** - Blood Drive, Pearson Air Museum
- **Saturday, August 29** Multi-Zone Lions Leadership Training
- **Saturday, October 24** Shred Event
- **April 16 & 17, 2027** - MD19N convention, Heathman Lodge, Vancouver

Fort Vancouver Service Action Plan 2026-2027

Service Project	Chair	Date(s)	Notes
A Ball for All: CC Lions project	Diane C.		
Blue Star Mothers - Care Package Project	Phyllis R.	October	
Clark County Food Bank 78th St. Heritage Farm	Diane C.	Fall	
Clark County Hearing	Rick Giles	First Tuesday Every Month	
Clark County Sight	Terry R.	First Tuesday Every Month	
Clark County Lions Emergency Committee	Dave Hutson		
Columbia Play Project: Grandparents' Play Day --			
Fort Vancouver Lions Booth	Phyllis R.	September?	
Columbia Play Project: Pancake Play Day	Phyllis R.	April	
Community and Family Services Foundation:			
Gifts for Foster Children	Eva H.	December	
Diabetes Walk Challenge	Mike C.?	October through April	
Drive and Drop (Walk and Knock)	Sandy C.	December 5?	
Eyeglass Collection/LERC	Allen R. , Michele J.	Ongoing, sorting day?	
FISH: Green Bags Food Collection	Nancy B., Sandy C.	Ongoing	
Fort Vancouver Conservation Project	Doug W.	Spring	
Fort Vancouver NHS Pearson Exhibit Project	Doug W.		
Foster Children: Christmas gifts for foster children.	Eva H.	December	
Foster Dinner at Elks	Eva H.	December	
Fund raising for foster child(Ash) to go to Soccer summer camp.	Eva H.	July	
Grandfathers White Cane	Diane C. and Mike	February - March?	
Kitchen Confidence: Blind Kitchen	Phyllis R.		
Lions Sewing Project? (The Lions Pad Project Kenya)	Diane C.	December - February?	
Red Cross Blood Drive	Doug W., Tracy F.		
Salvation Army Bell Ringing	Sandy C.	December	
Share House	Nancy B.	Second Friday Every Month	
Shred Day, E-recycle and FISH donations	Allen R., Doug W.	October and May	
Veterans's Day Open House Booth	Tracy F., Doug W.	11-Nov-26	
W.S.S.B. Exercise for Healthy Heart Day	Lori P.	February	
W.S.S.B. Track Meet	Lori P.	May	
Washington Elem. Back to School Event	Michele D.	August/September?	
Washington Elem. Santa Store	Michele D.	December 16th and 17th?	
Washington Elem. Thanksgiving Dinner Service	Michele D.	November	



PROGRAMS

August 7, 2026

Jessica:

Jessica is a Case Manager and Respite Coordinator at the Vancouver CFSF office. She earned her degree in Social Work from the University of Toledo in Ohio and began her career working with youth and families in a variety of settings.

Prior to joining CFSF, Jessica worked for 10 years at a juvenile detention center and spent 6 years at the Jim Tangeman Center, where she gained extensive experience supporting youth and families facing complex challenges.

Jessica joined CFSF in 2024 as a Case Aide. Through her dedication and strong work ethic, she quickly advanced into a hybrid Case Aide and Case Manager role before becoming a full-time Case Manager and later taking on additional responsibilities as Respite Coordinator.

Jessica is passionate about foster care and is committed to providing meaningful support to the children, families, and foster homes she serves. Known for being kind, approachable, and dependable, she has built strong relationships with her families, who appreciate her dedication and unwavering commitment. Jessica consistently goes above and beyond to ensure her homes feel supported and valued, and she looks forward to continuing to grow within the agency while making a positive impact in the lives of others.

Esmeralda:

Esmeralda is the Office Supervisor and a Case Manager at the Vancouver CFSF office. She earned her bachelor's degree in social science with a concentration in Social Work from Washington State University and began her career working with at-risk youth.

Esmeralda joined CFSF in 2018 as one of two Case Managers serving the Vancouver area. Since then, she has grown into a leadership role as Office Supervisor and has become certified to teach CPR and First Aid.

While working full-time, Esmeralda has continued to advance her education by pursuing a master's degree in social work and completing an internship at a local counseling center. Her commitment to lifelong learning reflects her dedication to providing the highest level of support to the children and families she serves.

Following graduation, Esmeralda plans to continue her work with CFSF, utilizing her education, experience, and passion for helping others to further strengthen and support families in her community.

2026 - 2027 FVLC Officers

- **Sandy Conroy - President**
- **Aziz (Bill) Shalaby - 1st VP**
- **Doug Wilson - 2nd VP**
- **Diane Cavanaugh - Secretary**
- **Jan Koenig - Treasurer**
- **Gay Enyeart - LCIF**
- **Wanda Slevin - 1 yr Director**
- **Phyllis Robertson - 1 yr Director**
- **Suzanne Day - 2 yr Director**
- **Dave Hutson - 2 yr Director**
- **Terry Robertson - Past President**
- **Tail Twister - Allen Rhyasen**
- **Dotty Scott - Webmaster**
- **Shelly Brown - Newsletter**

Facebook: FortVancouverLions

FVLC website: <https://fortvancouverlions.org/>

Lions International <https://www.lionsclubs.org/>

Multiple District 19: <https://lionsmd19.org/>

**District N Zone 10 representative -
Shelley Staudinger, Battle Ground Lions Club**

August 21, 2026

Brett Oppegaard is a former Columbian reporter and now teaches digital technology at the University of Hawai'i Maui College and Oregon Tech. He also owns Access Hound, a Vancouver-based accessibility consulting firm. Last year, he received a Special Achievement Award from the American Council for the Blind for his work advancing accessibility. Brett will be applying for an Impact Grant application through Inspire Vancouver to make the exhibits at Pearson Air Museum fully accessible to people who are blind or have low vision and is asking the Fort Vancouver Lions Foundation to serve as the fiscal sponsor and a key community partner.



KITCHEN CONFIDENCE FOR YOUTH WITH VISION LOSS

A 2-part workshop designed to help families create safe, inclusive kitchens where blind and low vision youth can build independence and confidence.



Led by Chef Debra Erickson, Founder of The Blind Kitchen

What You'll Learn

- Make your kitchen accessible for all family members
- Safe cooking techniques for vision loss
- Labeling and organization strategies
- Measuring, cutting, and heat safety
- Building independence and confidence

Workshop Features

- Demonstration of adaptive culinary tools
- Hands-on instruction and discussion
- Strategies adaptable to all ability levels
- Access to follow-up video tutorials

Who Should Attend

- Youth ages 8–22 with vision loss
- A Parent, guardian or caregiver
- An adult must attend

Take-Home Tools

Participants will receive adaptive tools to practice skills at home!

Workshop Format

- 2 session workshop
- 2 hours each

EVENT DETAILS

Date: August 4 and August 18, 2026

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Location: Clark County Food Bank

6502 NE 47th Ave

Vancouver, WA 98661

Cost: FREE

Capacity: Limited to 8 families

REGISTER TODAY!



Registration link:

<https://forms.gle/tCb569ggP6LNAmda7>

 Tool kits to be provided to each student!

Snacks
provided



**CLARK COUNTY
FOOD BANK**

YOU'RE INVITED!!



MULTI-ZONE N9/N10/N11 LIONS TRAINING

Sharpen your skills, connect with fellow Lions, and leave inspired to serve—register by Monday, August 24 to receive training materials and lunch.

Choose from a variety of training sessions & network with fellow Lions!

Session topics include:

- Club Structure & GAT Team
- President & Vice President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Service
- Membership
- Marketing
- LCIF
- Public Speaking
- Project Management

Register today!



Date: Saturday, August 29, 2026

Time: 8:15 AM - 2:15 PM

Location: Cascadia Tech Academy

Address: 12200 NE 28th St.

Vancouver, WA 98682

Training & Lunch Cost: \$0

Please take a moment to register so we can prepare materials & plan lunch.

Register by Monday, August 24: <https://forms.gle/i1Sv2PzKf59xp6cx5>

Space is limited - please register early.



KITCHEN CONFIDENCE FOR SENIORS WITH VISION LOSS



A hands-on workshop for adults age 55 and older who already know how to cook and want to regain confidence, independence, and enjoyment in the kitchen.

Led by Chef Debra Erickson, Founder of The Blind Kitchen

Learn How To:

- ✓ Prevent cuts, burns, and kitchen accidents
- ✓ Organize your kitchen for safety and efficiency
- ✓ Measure, label, and identify foods with confidence
- ✓ Use adaptive tools and technology designed for vision loss
- ✓ Access recipes and shop independently
- ✓ Prepare meals using safe, practical cooking techniques

Gain Confidence. Increase Safety. Enjoy Cooking Again.

REGISTER TODAY!



 Tool kits to be provided to each student!

Registration link:

<https://tinyurl.com/KitchenConfidenceSeniors>



Take-Home Tools

Participants will receive adaptive tools to practice skills at home!



Workshop Format

- 2 session workshop
- 2 hours each

EVENT DETAILS

Date: September 15 and 22, 2026

Time: 5:30-7:30 pm

Location: Clark County Food Bank
6502 NE 47th Ave

Vancouver, WA 98661

Cost: FREE

Capacity: Limited to 8 participants

A guest/driver may also attend

Register by August 31, 2026

Questions? Call 360.693.0939

This interactive workshop includes demonstrations, hands-on learning, and opportunities to explore adaptive kitchen tools. Participants will leave with practical tips they can immediately use at home!

Presented by



**CLARK COUNTY
FOOD BANK**

Be Someone's Hero

Give Blood



Fort Vancouver Blood Drive

Pearson Air Museum - Tex Rankin Theatre

Monday, August 17th, 2026

10:00am – 4:00pm

This summer, we're experiencing another national shortage in the blood supply due to low donor presentation and hospital/patient need is exceeding estimates. Be the change patients in need count on. Signup Today ❤️



To schedule your life-saving appointment, **scan the QR Code above** or visit www.redcrossblood.org and enter sponsor code: **ARCSW**

1-800-RED CROSS | RedCrossBlood.org | Download the Blood Donor App

© 2023 The American National Red Cross | 418001-2 CW

You must sign up in advance! Direct link below

<https://www.redcrossblood.org/give.html/drive-results?zipSponsor=ARCSW>

[Vol-un-teers] are the hands & hearts of Clark County Food Bank 🧡❤️

Here's a chance to wear your new bright yellow green shirt!!

Join us for **Celebrate Community Week**, an annual tradition where members of **Lions, Rotary, and Kiwanis** come together to serve our community as one team!



On **Saturday, September 19, 2026**, we'll gather for a **group work party at Heritage Farm** to help **harvest fresh produce** that will be distributed through the **Clark County Food Bank**. This is a wonderful opportunity to work alongside fellow service club members, build new friendships, and make a meaningful impact for local families.

- Event Details
- Date: Saturday, September 19, 2026
- Location: Heritage Farm, 1919 NE 78th St., Vancouver, WA
- Activity: Garden work party (tasks will be assigned based on volunteer abilities)
- Sign Up:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050844A5A92AA3FA7-64898057-heritage>

Everyone needs a Volunteer Registration Form.
Email stephanieodellcamas@gmail.com or diacav.pnw@gmail.com to receive yours!



Wanda Slevin was presented with a Melvin Jones award at our July 17th meeting.

Wanda has done needed service for our club in a quiet and humble way, which is needed in our culture today. Wanda has served as record keeper on the berry sales for a number of years and is always at our meetings greeting us with her warm smile and helping Bill with the 50/50 drawing.
She is our Vanna White!



Fort Vancouver Lions Club and Foundation
Special Board meeting
August 3, 2023 3pm on zoom

Board members present: Sandy Conroy, Jan Koenig, Phyllis Robertson, Terry Robertson, Bill Shalaby, Doug Wilson, Diane Cavanaugh

Board members absent: Suzanne Day, Gay Enyeart, Dave Hutson, Allen Rhyasen, Wanda Slevin

Guests present: Brett Oppengaard, Bob Cavanaugh

Quick recap

The meeting focused on the Fort Vancouver Lions Club serving as the fiscal sponsor for a grant proposal to make Pearson Air Museum more accessible to people who are blind, low vision, deafblind, or dyslexic. Brett Oppengaard presented the project, explaining his experience with the National Park Service and previous work at Pearson, including initial site evaluations, staff training, and draft audio descriptions. Bob Cavanaugh shared his impressions of the museum's current accessibility.

The group discussed the grant requirements, such as needing a physical address within Vancouver. They reviewed the Lions Club's role as 501(c)3 fiscal sponsor, which would involve receiving funds, paying stipends to reviewers, and keeping grant money separate from other accounts.

Terry moved and Diane seconded a motion for the Fort Vancouver Lions to act as the fiscal sponsor for the Pearson Air Museum audio description project. Motion passed unanimously.

Next steps:

Bob

- Reach out to the National Federation of the Blind of Washington and make an email introduction to Brett.
- Provide Brett with contact information for another individual interested in participating.

Brett

- Draft the grant proposal for the Pearson Air Museum audio description project by mid-next week and distribute it to Doug for review.
- Attend the Fort Vancouver Lions meeting on August 21st at Golden Corral to present and answer questions about the project.
- Check with the grant program officer about the requirement for a physical address within the City of Vancouver.
- Finalize and submit the grant proposal by August 28th to allow for the feedback period.

Diane

- Ensure the grant proposal draft is distributed to the appropriate members for review.

Doug

- Review the draft grant proposal and provide feedback.

Continued on page 10.

Jan

- Serve on the review committee for the grant proposal, along with Doug and another member to be appointed.
- Set up a separate sub-account or method to keep grant funds separate from general funds.

Phyllis

- Attempt to reschedule the previously planned speaker for the August 21st meeting to make room for Brett to present.

Sandy

- Appoint a third member to the grant proposal review committee.

Opportunity to Partner on Pearson Air Museum Accessibility Grant

The meeting focused on discussing a project to make exhibits at Pearson Air Museum accessible to blind, deaf, and dyslexic individuals. Doug explained that Brett Oppengaard, a renowned accessibility expert who previously worked on making Fort Vancouver's village accessible, would lead the project. Brett is a former Columbian reporter and now teaches digital technology at the University of Hawai'i Maui College and Oregon Tech. He also owns Access Hound, a Vancouver-based accessibility consulting firm. Last year, he received a Special Achievement Award from the American Council for the Blind for his work advancing accessibility. (<https://www.oit.edu/news/american-council-blind-presents-special-achievement-award-oregon-tech-faculty-member-national>)

The Fort Vancouver Lions Foundation would serve as the 501c3 entity to coordinate with the Park Service, manage funds, organize volunteers, and report to the City of Vancouver, which is providing the grant funding.

Grant Application Address Discussion

Phyllis raised a question about whether a physical address was required for their grant application. The group discussed using either Sandy's or Diane's address as the required physical address for the application, though this was left unresolved pending further discussion.

Pearson Air Museum Accessibility Project

Brett explained that the project would involve creating audio descriptions of exhibits, outdoor features, and architectural elements, using a team of subject matter experts from Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, the Washington Council of the Blind, and the Lions. Brett noted that the museum is already largely accessible to people who are deaf, so there would be limited additional work needed in that area.

He explained that while there are currently draft audio descriptions available, they would need to complete descriptions for all exhibits and tactile elements, including the memorial outside. The grant would allow for comprehensive site descriptions and potentially hire 15 reviewers from the Washington Council of the Blind for site reviews and focus groups. Brett confirmed that the organization would handle all writing requirements, with a 10% F&A fee for administrative costs, and Doug indicated there would likely be significant volunteer interest in supporting the project.

Continued on page 11

Brett explained the three methods for gathering data about site descriptions: physical site visits, focus groups, and online surveys. The group discussed the fiscal sponsorship arrangement where Inspire Vancouver would provide funds to the Lions Club for project management.

Grant Proposal Timeline Discussion

Brett outlined the timeline for the grant proposal, stating that first drafts would be ready by mid-next week and the proposal must be finalized by the end of the month to allow for the 10-day feedback period, with grants to be awarded in October and the project to be completed within a nine-month production period by next summer.

Grant Application Requirements Discussion

The group discussed requirements for the grant application, including the need for a physical address in Vancouver and setting up a separate bank account to manage the funds. Brett explained that financial reports would likely be required at the end of the one-year grant period.

Pearson Air Museum Grant Planning

The board approved Fort Vancouver Lions as the fiscal sponsor for the Pearson Air Museum audio description project grant proposal. Brett committed to delivering a first draft of the proposal by mid to late next week, with final submission due by August 28th and feedback expected by August 30th-31st. The group scheduled a follow-up discussion for their meeting on August 21st at Golden Corral, where Brett will serve as a speaker, and Bob offered to connect Brett with the National Federation of the Blind of Washington for potential collaboration.





August 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3 → Kitchen Confidence (4)	4 Clark Co. Hearing 6 PM Clark Co. Sight 6:30 PM WSSB	5	6	7 Lions Meeting 12 PM Bring Green Bags	8
9	10	11	12	13	14 Share House	15
16	17 Blood Drive	18 Kitchen Confidence	19	20	21 Lions Meeting 12 PM Board Meeting 1 PM	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27 Happy Birthday Ian Tyler	28	29 Multi- Zone Training



**First & Third Fridays
Noon Meeting**



**Golden Corral Buffet
11801 NE Fourth Plain Blvd
Vancouver, WA 98682**



September 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Clark Co. Hearing 6 PM Clark Co. Sight 6:30 PM WSSB	2 Happy Birthday Bill Shalaby	3	4 Lions Meeting 12 PM	5
6 Happy Birthday Nancy Brown	7	8	9	10	11 Share House	12 Happy Birthday Larry Brown
13	14 Happy Birthday John Lyons	15 Kitchen Confidence for Seniors	16	17	18 Lions Meeting 12 PM Board Meeting 1 PM	19
20	21	22 Kitchen Confidence for Seniors	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30 Happy Birthday Dave Hutson			



**First & Third Fridays
Noon Meeting**



**Golden Corral Buffet
11801 NE Fourth Plain Blvd
Vancouver, WA 98682**



October 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
				1	2 Lions Meeting 12 PM	3
4	5	6 Clark Co. Hearing 6 PM Clark Co. Sight 6:30 PM WSSB	7	8	9 Share House	10
11	12	13 Happy Birthday Wanda Slevin	14	15	16 Lions Meeting 12 PM Board Meeting 1 PM	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 Shred Event
25	26	27	28	29	30	31



**First & Third Fridays
Noon Meeting**



**Golden Corral Buffet
11801 NE Fourth Plain Blvd
Vancouver, WA 98682**