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

November 2026 ISSUE

Join us Fridays November 6 and November 20 at Noon for our regular meeting at Golden Corral

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Corner.....1,2
Save the Dates/Foster Kids Needs.....2
November Programs.....3
LCIF planned giving.....4,5
Eyeglass Sorting.....6
International Dinner.....6,7
Kitchen Confidential.....8
St. Joe's eye screening.....9
Shred Event.....10,11
Drive & Drop, Wreath Sale, Step Challenge.....12
Meeting minutes.....13
Calendars.....14-16

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FORT VANCOUVER LION'S UPROAR



Volume 73 Issue 4

2026-2027 King Lion Sandy

Thanksgiving, the Lions, and the Season Ahead

Gratitude, shared purpose, and the courage to keep moving forward

Thanksgiving can mean many things. For some, it is a day of family, familiar food, and cherished traditions. For others, it is a quiet invitation to reflect on what has been received, what has been overcome, and who has helped along the way. At its heart, Thanksgiving is more than a single holiday—it is a practice of gratitude that can deepen our relationships and renew our sense of purpose.

Gratitude does not require us to ignore hardship. Instead, it helps us recognize strength, support, and possibility even when the path has been difficult. Giving thanks can honor the past while also preparing us to meet the future with humility and hope.

The Lions' Part in the Story

The Lions fit naturally into this season because their journey reflects qualities worth carrying forward: teamwork, discipline, courage, and belief in a shared goal. No team succeeds through talent alone. Progress comes from preparation, trust, and the willingness to keep working when the outcome is uncertain. Each player has an individual responsibility, but every effort contributes to something larger.

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The Lions' goals can remind us that gratitude and ambition belong together. We can appreciate how far we have come while still reaching for what is next. A setback can become a lesson, a victory can become motivation, and a common purpose can turn separate efforts into real momentum.

Moving Forward

As we move into the season ahead, Thanksgiving offers a useful rhythm: pause, appreciate, then proceed with intention. As Lions, we can define our goals, support one another, and stay steady through both celebration and challenge.
The season is an opportunity not only to give thanks, but to live thankfully—by showing up, sharing credit, encouraging others, and continuing toward meaningful goals. With gratitude behind us and purpose before us, we can move forward together.

Queen Lion Sandy

Save the Dates

- **November 11, 11-3** - Veteran's Day CMAC Open House, Pearson Hanger, 1115 E 5th St. Vancouver. Clark County Lions will have a table. Contact Diane to help!
- **November 14** - World Diabetes Day
- **November 26, 2026** (Thanksgiving Morning) *Turkey Trot*! All races begin at 9:00 am, followed by the Polar Plunge into Klineline Pond at 10:00 am. 100% of the proceeds go to Clark County Food Bank. go to https://turkey-trot.org/ to register ($45)
- **Saturday December 5, 9-2** - Drive and Drop
- **Thursday, December 17** - WA Elemtary Santa Store
- **April 16 & 17, 2027** - MD19N convention, Heathman Lodge, Vancouver

Foster Care Assistance

Hello Lions,
There are about 600 children in Foster Care in Southwest Washington currently. These children will not get to be with their families for Christmas this year. While we can't change that fact we can help to make Christmas a little cheerier for some of them.

Community and Family Services Foundation, a local nonprofit case managing 60 children in care, is grateful to be partnering with local Lions to make Christmas wishes come true for this very vulnerable population.

We want to provide each child with their Christmas wishes. If you want to make a real difference and participate call **EVA HALTER 360-607-3310.**

NOVEMBER

PROGRAMS

November 6, 2026

Tracy and Doug Wilson will regale us about their bike trip adventure in Europe!

November 20, 2026

Tara Kleinschmidt, Co-Founder of Heritage NW Consulting, LLC. Tara launched Heritage NW Consulting in April 2018 alongside lifelong friend Cristina. She is a Licensed Social Worker Associate Independent Clinical (LSWAIC). The company provides holistic support, behavioral health services, DSHS/Medicaid-eligible person-centered consulting for aging and disabled populations, counseling, and specialized senior/disability moving and home revival solutions in Southwest Washington.

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 -
Diane Cavanaugh, Fort Vancouver Lions



Save the Date
District 19N Spring Convention
April 16-18, 2027
The Heathman, Vancouver
Service = Fun Night! Seven New & Interesting Seminars!
International Guest Melissa Washburn
from Carlsbad, New Mexico!

Blue Star Mothers Service Project

I am pleased to report that 35 Appreciation Note Cards were written to Service Members from Fort Vancouver Lions club and delivered to Geri Stuart. One club member ordered items for care packages from Amazon which were mailed directly to Blue Star Mothers and a member wrote a check for $100 to help with postages costs.

Thank you, Lions, for letting our soldiers know we care and thank them for their service.

Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF)



Planned giving to the Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) allows you to support global humanitarian projects through the Lions Legacy Society.

Key Planned Giving Options

Bezirks/Wills & Living Trusts: Leave a specific dollar amount, a percentage of your estate, or a residuary share using LCIF's sample bequest language.

Charitable Gift Annuities: Provide a future gift to LCIF while receiving fixed payments for life.

Beneficiary Designations: Name LCIF as a beneficiary of your retirement account, IRA, or life insurance policy.

Appreciated Securities & Trusts: Donate stock, bonds, or set up charitable remainder/lead trusts.

The Lions Legacy Society

Recognition: Donors who include LCIF in their estate or financial plans are welcomed into the Lions Legacy Society.

Impact: Your future gift sustains global efforts such as disaster relief, vision care, and childhood cancer initiatives.

https://lcif.myplannedgift.org/

Planned Giving Declaration Form

Lions Clubs International FOUNDATION

Thank you for your intention to include Lions Clubs International Foundation (LCIF) in your estate plan. Please complete this form with as much detail as you are comfortable sharing. *Please print clearly.*

○ **New Intention** ○ **Updated Intention**

Name _____ Spouse name (joint gift) _____

Lions club name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Phone _____ Email _____

I hereby acknowledge my intention to create a gift through:

- ○ Bequest (will)
- ○ 401(k), IRA, or other retirement plan
- ○ Life insurance or commercial annuity
- ○ Beneficiary of savings, checking, money market, stock, or other account
- ○ Trust
- ○ Other: _____

I would like my gift to benefit:

- ○ Empowering Service Fund
- ○ Disaster Relief Fund
- ○ Area(s) of greatest need
- ○ Please contact me to discuss my options.

Note: A specific designation is not guaranteed.

The gift is expected to be _____.

Amount used for recognition purposes

Select one:

- ○ I permit LCIF to list my/our name(s) as _____ in Foundation donor and marketing materials. I/we understand the gift amount is strictly confidential.
- ○ I wish to remain anonymous.

_____ _____

Donor signature Date LCIF signature Date

Please return this form to:

LCIF Strategic Giving Department, 300 W. 22nd St., Oak Brook, IL 60523

+1.630.468.7067 | legacy@lionsclubs.org | **lcif.org**

LCIF677_EN 1/





To wrap up Vision Week 2026, 14,330 eyeglasses were sorted by Lions from Camas, Fort Vancouver, La Center, Longview-Kelso Earlybirds, Ridgefield and Battleground. Lots of friendship and fun. Thanks to the Staudinger's for storing and hosting, and for the Oktoberfest potluck!

International Dinner

On October 9th, eleven Lions and family members gathered at the Enyeart's' home for our annual international dinner. Smiles of excitement and anticipation were everywhere as we waited for the feast to begin.

Before dinner, Steve shared a slideshow about their travels in Scotland, England and France. Some of their adventures looked pretty amazing!

Wine, wine, and more wine was on display, with selections chosen to complement each course. It was fun watching everyone go through their "wine ritual" as we began the evening.

1. Course 1: Cheese-stuffed dates wrapped in bacon, plus skewers of melon, prosciutto, mozzarella, and basil, topped with balsamic glaze.
2. Course 2: Green salad with tomatoes, egg, and asparagus spears.
3. Course 3: Hungarian goulash.
4. Course 4: Beef Wellington or Irish bangers with mashed potatoes.
5. Course 5: Gelato.

Of course, we finished the evening with even more wine!

Stories were shared, and laughter filled the room all evening. Toward the end of the night, we discussed where the $1,350 raised from the dinner should be donated. Everyone agreed to support Eva Halter's foster kids program.

--pictures next page--

International Dinner

















Please plan to join us next year,
it truly is an awesome evening!

Kitchen Confidence for Youth with Vision Loss Builds Skills and Confidence

Five enthusiastic young adults joined the October 13 session of Kitchen Confidence for Youth with Vision Loss, including four participants from the Washington State School for the Blind's LIFTT (Learning Independence For Today and Tomorrow) program. Chef Debra Erickson, founder of The Blind Kitchen, introduced accessible kitchen tools, including tactile markers and assistive labeling systems. Participants practiced measuring ingredients, slicing strawberries and bananas, and creating a delicious fruit salad topped with whipped cream, toasted sunflower seeds, and fresh mint.

Six youth, five from WSSB's LIFTT program, returned October 20 to explore heat management, stovetop and oven safety, and proper knife techniques. They learned to use specialized heat-related tools before putting their skills to work preparing homemade Italian dressing and a colorful pasta salad with mozzarella, basil, spinach, and pepperoni.

The next Kitchen Confidence workshops will be in Spring of 2027.











St. Joseph Catholic Elementary School Students Eye Screening



PDG Terry Robertson received a phone call with a simple question: “Did I know anyone who could do an eye test for about 450 children?” I of course said YES!

That simple answer set off many hours of planning. I called David Page from the Salmon Creek Lions Club, told him my story and he said “we can do it WITH help.” OK!!

Salmon Creek Lions have 6 Digital Portable Eye Examination Instruments that are fabulous, fast and very accurate. David Page got another Lion, Jeff Reddicks and I asked for help during one of our meetings. One of our newer members, Lion David Hutson, said he would help. We scheduled the dates with the school. Had to do background checks and were ready to do the testing in September.

THE EXCITING PART!!!
The school was extremely organized with both teachers and volunteers keeping us going at a steady pace. We screened approximately 450 children in 1 ½ days. 47 children were referred for additional help.

The screenings went so well that they want the Lions to come back next year!

Eagle Scout Project to Bring 600 Hygiene Kits to Neighbors in Need

Gagan Girish, a local Scout, is working toward Eagle Scout rank with a project that blends education and service. He will assemble and distribute about 600 hygiene kits to people experiencing housing insecurity in our community, donating them to Share Vancouver. Its volunteers deliver kits by truck and hand them out in person, which helps build trust with those they serve.

Each reusable bag will hold travel-sized shampoo, soap, toothpaste, a toothbrush, a comb, deodorant, body wipes, lip balm, and a handwritten notecard. Share Vancouver uses about 50 kits a week, so this effort will supply roughly three months of need.

Gagan will also speak at TEDx, Teens For Tomorrow, and local Lions and Rotary Clubs on why hygiene matters for health and dignity, the barriers faced by those without stable housing, and the stigma that surrounds homelessness.

How the Fort Vancouver Lions can help

Gagan is asking our club to support this project through a financial donation toward supplies. His email is ggmission365@gmail.com if you want more information. He has set up an Amazon Wishlist [...] and a GoFundMe / paypal [,,,]

Fort Vancouver Shred Event & FISH Food Donation Drive

Saturday October 24th held at Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

Wow! What a day!

When Rick Giles offered to hold our shred event at his church we had no idea it was such an ideal location. Thank you Rick, as this was by far the most successful Shred day ever!

There were 18 volunteers this year, two who were friends of our Lions Club. (Terry Meiser & John Phillips)

Steve & Gail Seymore enthusiastically counted 145 cars come through. (Last year 53)

Nancy Brown greeted each car & asked how they heard about this event.

Pedro Johnson (our newest Lion) worked diligently unloading cars with the rest of us.

Diane Cavanaugh greeted each car handing out brochures about the club and collecting donations.

Everyone had a good time especially as the weather cooperated!

- How did customers hear about us?
  70 some form of electronic (Next Door, Face Book, Email); 7 from FISH; 5 from Columbia Credit Union; 5 friends of Lions; 5 Drive by or Kaiser

- Revenue generated
  Corporate Donations $1400
  *Columbia credit union $900
  Donations $1639
  Total $3,938
- Expenses (cost of truck) $900
  *paid for by Columbia Credit Union donation

  Net revenue to club $3039

There were approximately 100 man hours worked on this project.

- Who worked the event?

Mike & Diane Cavanaugh, Steve & Gail Seymore, Terry Phyliss Robertson, John Lyons, Rick Giles, Allen Rhyasen, Doug Wilson, Bill Shalaby, Pedro Johnson, Sandy Conroy, Jan Koenig, Nancy Brown, Michelle Drushell, Terry Meiser, & John Phillips.

FISH received 384 pounds of food and $175 in cash.

Our next Shred event with be is April of 2027!
We will coordinate with the church & hold it two weeks after theirs.

Thank you one & all for working so hard & enjoying the success of another Lions Club Project.
Yours in Lionism
Allen Rhyasen

– pictures next page --




DATASAFE
Secure Document Shredding
PDX


LIONS
INTERNATIONAL
Ft. Vancouver Lions Club
Free Shred Event
HERE TODAY!
10AM - 1PM
Special Thank You to our Event Sponsors!
State Plate
Premium Websites
Total Merchant Concepts Inc. TMC
Rick & Ann Giles
Kings Cross Automotive
Gay & Steve Enyeart
Odoms Home Remediation
Philips Woodworks
Shalaby Holdings LLV
Pretty Petal Healing
Consolidated Insurance Dan Schott
Mind Body Natural Healing Center


FISH
LET'S END HUNGER TOGETHER




COLUMBIA
CREDIT UNION




Food Pantry
on the Move...
FISH
Friends in Service
to Humanity
Westside Food Pantry
of Vancouver



42 YEARS SERVING THE CLARK COUNTY COMMUNITY

DRIVE & DROP FOOD DRIVE

100% OF DONATIONS BENEFIT
CLARK COUNTY FOOD BANK

Bring your bag of non-perishable food or toiletries to one of 16 drop sites on December 5th from 9-2pm.

Donations can also be brought to barrel sites at local McDonalds, Riverview Bank branches, Les Schwab Tire Centers, Cost Less Auto Parts, and other participating locations through December 15th. Visit our website for a full list of drop sites.

DONATION DROP-OFF SITES ON DEC. 5TH 9-2PM:

- Hudson's Bay High School
- Fire Station 1 (Hazel Dell)
- Salmon Creek Methodist Church
- Chinook Elementary School
- View Ridge Middle School
- Downtown Battle Ground Fire Station
- Hayes Freedom HS (Camas)
- Washougal High School
- Seton Catholic High School
- Vancouver Fire Station 4 (Sifton)
- Clark Public Utilities (Orchards)
- Clark Public Utilities (Downtown)
- Clark County Food Bank
- Share (NE Andresen Rd)
- Mannahouse Church / Ice Rink
- La Center Bridge

Visit driveanddrop.org for a full list of drop sites and ways to donate.

THANK YOU TO OUR TITLE SPONSORS:

Cowlitz Indian Tribe · ilani · Legacy Health · Cost Less Auto Parts · Kiewit · Pacific Lifestyle Homes · Riverview Bank · McDonald's

100% OF YOUR DONATION BENEFITS THE CLARK COUNTY FOOD BANK
ALL ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS ARE COVERED BY OUR SPONSORS. PLEASE PATRONIZE THEM!

SALMON CREEK LIONS CLUB 2026 CHRISTMAS WREATH SALE

Fresh Pacific Northwest greens for a good cause

100% of net proceeds support Lions service for sight, hearing, diabetes and other community needs.



Mixed Evergreen Wreath — $35
22" mixed greens, cones & red bow



Winter White Wreath — $40
24" wreath with white cones & berries



Merry Berry Wreath — $40
24" wreath with festive red berries



Cinnamon Wreath — $50
24" wreath with cinnamon sticks & berries



Evergreen Swag — $30
Classic evergreen swag with cones & berries



Bark Basket Centerpiece — $30
Fresh greens in a rustic bark basket

SALE & PICKUP: FRIDAY & SATURDAY - NOVEMBER 27 & 28, 2026 | 9 AM - 3 PM
Dutch Bros Coffee - 9913 NE Hazel Dell Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685
Order/pay by November 21 to guarantee your selection

2026 WREATH SALE - ORDER FORM

Salmon Creek Lions Club

Ways to Order
Online: salmon-creek-lions-club.square.site
Phone/Text: 360-903-3993 (Lion Doug Ballou)
E-mail: dougballou@comcast.net

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____

Phone: _____ E-mail: _____

Product	Price	Quantity	Total
Mixed Evergreen Wreath	$35		
Winter White Wreath	$40		
Merry Berry Wreath	$40		
Cinnamon Wreath	$50		
Evergreen Swag	$30		
Bark Basket Centerpiece	$30		

TOTAL ENCLOSED: _____

Sale & Pickup
Friday & Saturday, November 27 & 28, 2026 - 9 AM to 3 PM
Dutch Bros Coffee, 9913 NE Hazel Dell Ave., Vancouver, WA 98685
Order/pay by November 21 to guarantee wreath selection.
Fresh greens are made from trimmings that support healthy new growth in Northwest forests.

To order your wreath online, go to
https://salmon-creek-lions-club.square.site

Order Deadline: November 21
Pickup: November 27–28, 9 AM–3 PM.
Location: Dutch Bros Coffee, 9913 NE Hazel Dell Avenue, Vancouver, WA.



Fort Vancouver Lions Club meeting - August 21, 2026 - Golden Corral

Our guest speaker was Brett Oppegaard, a former Columbian reporter who 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. He shared a bit about the "Unigrid System," upon which all National Park Service brochures have since been based. He also explained how visual elements of any printed material might be described, using our Kitchen Confidence for Seniors flyer as an example, and offered to transcribe a flyer for us.

Brett also explained that unfortunately Fort Vancouver Lions do not qualify to be the financial sponsor for the Impact Grant for the Pearson Air Museum Accessibility Project, as the requirements specify that the main purpose and majority of activities of the sponsoring organization must be to advance or preserve arts, culture, heritage, or science. Fortunately, Friends of Fort Vancouver has agreed and is qualified to be the financial sponsor. We can be a supporting sponsor, meaning that members would be trained as audio describers, learning to make audio descriptions for exhibits at Pearson Air Museum.

Announcements:

- Blue Star Mothers project – Cards for service people to be returned 9/18 or 10/2
- Kitchen Confidence – 2nd half of workshop for Youth held 8/18. Riley's mom said this was a life-changing event for their family.
- Audit for eyeglass/hearing aid locations still in progress
- All slots for the blood drive on 8/17 filled almost before we advertised.
- Shred event – October 24, new location: Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, 12513 SE Mill Plain Blvd, Vancouver, WA 98684. About 16 volunteers will be needed.
- Saturday, September 19 – volunteer with Rotary and Kiwanis at Heritage Farm
- Dozer Days – October 3 & 4. Ian agreed to coordinate.

Fort Vancouver Lions Foundation Board meeting - August 21, 2026 - Golden Corral

Call to order by VP Doug: 1:06
Board members present: Phyllis Robertson, Terry Robertson, Bill Shalaby, Doug Wilson, Diane Cavanaugh, Allen Rhyasen, Wanda Slevin
Board members absent: Sandy Conroy, Jan Koenig, Suzanne Day, Gay Enyeart, Dave Hutson
Guests present: Michael Cavanaugh

Allen moved and Phyllis seconded a motion to provide a letter of support for the Impact Grant for the Pearson Air Museum Accessibility Project. Discussion concluded that 6 to 10 Fort Vancouver Lions would likely be available to be trained as audio describers. Motion passed.

Terry moved and Bill seconded a motion to partner with Salmon Creek Lions to provide vision screening at St. Joseph Catholic School Vancouver. Details: Salmon Creek has screening equipment. 2-3 Fort Vancouver Lions would screen 500+ kids on October 1 and 5 or October 5 and 6. Motion passed.

Adjournment 1:15
Diane Cavanaugh, Secretary

November 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
1	2	3 Clark Co. Hearing 6 PM Clark Co. Sight 6:30 PM WSSB	4 (3) Kitchen Confidence for Young Adults	5	6 Lions Meeting 12 PM	7
8	9	10 Kitchen Confidence for Young Adults	11	12	13 Share House	14
15	16	17	18	19 Happy Birthday Michele Jensen	20 Lions Meeting 12 PM Board Meeting 1 PM	21
22	23	24	25	26 	27 	28
29	30					

First & Third Fridays
Noon Meeting

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

December 2026

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT
		1 Clark Co. Hearing 6 PM Clark Co. Sight 6:30 PM WSSB	2 Happy Birthday Ralph Harding	3	4 Lions Meeting 12 PM	5 Drive & Drop Happy Birthday Eva Halter
6	7	8	9	10	11 Share House	12
13	14	15	16	17 Santa Store Happy Birthday Lori Pulliam	18 Lions Meeting 12 PM Board Meeting 1 PM	19
20	21	22	23	24 Christmas Eve	25 Merry Christmas	26
27 Happy Birthday Doug Wilson Steve Enyeart	28	29	30	31 New Year's Eve		

First & Third Fridays
Noon Meeting

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

January 2027

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

First & Third Fridays
Noon Meeting

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