



The Grand Island Lion

September 2020

www.gilions.com



Upcoming Events:

White Cane Drive

Members, please share our gofundme page on facebook on your page. Thank you Lion Anne F. Chairperson for the White Cane Drive



https://charity.gofundme.com/o/en/campaign/white-cane-drive?utm_campaign=oc&utm_medium=facebook&utm_source=crowdrise&fbclid=IwAR3x7m8G9z8T3Y2aX1IT0HSGPS-3H3CYeh_8HAPLxHe7lI8g2S0C6Ahr400

Hello Grand Island Lions

I would like to start off the year with a huge thank you to our immediate past president Lion Anne Fahning for a very successful year. What started out as a very normal year turned into an extreme challenge to regroup and keep everyone engaged with our community while keeping everyone safe. So much was accomplished by the strong, strong minded and strong-willed members of this organization.



With the Covid 19 pandemic still in control, it looks like we are going to start the new 2020/21 Lion year much like we left off this past spring starting with Zoom meetings. I am looking forward to an interesting and exciting year we as try new formats to meet and engage our community to do what we do best and that is support our fellow Grand Islanders and the Western NY Community.

In a test of trying new formats and using the latest technology our immediate past president Lion Anne Fahning and Chair of the White Cane Event came up with a great idea to keep everyone safe and extend our fundraising reach for the White Cane fundraiser by creating a Grand Island Lions GoFundMe White Cane Event. We can all make this effort even more successful by sharing this go fund me event with our Social media friends. If you are active on Facebook, Twitter, Whats App or other types of social media please share this event with your friends and associates.

I am hoping that we can at some point during this year return to in-person meetings, but even if we can't, knowing the strengths of the members of this great organization, we will be able to accomplish everything that we do as Grand Island Lions.

Respectfully,

Lion Paul Krupa



WE SERVE

Don't forget to wear your magnetic Lion emblem. Show the public you are a Lion. Words of wisdom: Perseverance breeds "success"

Lion Bob Goulding



GRAND ISLAND LIONS RECEIVE GRANT FOR FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER

Our club has been approved as the first room sponsor at the newest Family Justice Center satellite located in the former parsonage of Trinity United Methodist Church on Whitehaven Road. We had selected to sponsor the Children's Room for the next five years at a cost of \$3,000.00. We secured a \$1,500 matching grant from the Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation that provides grants for Lions-sponsored projects across New York State that demonstrate focus for helping children in need. With contributions from the community through our fundraisers and other foundations, the funds will provide the means for children to have a welcome respite from the trauma that accompanies domestic violence cases.

Marcey Bryant, FJC's ^{SEP}Marketing, Events & Fundraising Specialist stated: "Similar to other FJC locations, the Grand Island satellite will host a room for children, stocked with toys, games, books, and more; that allows children to do what they do best – play! Rather than join their parent and re-live the trauma of the verbal, emotional and physical abuse going on at home, children can play under the supervision of trained staff and volunteers, while their parent or guardian receives services with our domestic violence advocates... We are so happy and thankful that the Grand Island Lions Club, and Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation, has committed to sponsoring the Children's Room at our new Grand Island site!"

The Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation has also provided past matching grants to us for the Miracle League playground, our annual Special Kids Picnic, and the new playground at Sidway Elementary. All told, \$13,000 obtained from the generous donations of local citizens and matching grants from the Foundation have made life better for all kids who live and visit here. Individual contributions and donations can be made directly to the FJC via their website at www.fjcsafe.org where you will find the donate link and access to their wish list.

Pictured in the photo is Immediate Past President, Anne Fahning (top left) and Treasurer Tom Witkowski (bottom left), FJC CEO Mary Murphy (center), Lead Contractor George Panepinto (top right), Grand Island Group Leader Laura Mason (middle right), and FJC Board Member Karen Panzarella-Brodie (bottom right). Photo courtesy of Family Justice Center.



BRANDEL-MURPHY YOUTH FOUNDATION

The Brandel-Murphy Youth Foundation has completed a year that began ordinarily but closed extraordinarily. Challenged by COVID-19, eight emergency non-matching grants of \$2,500 apiece were given to districts in need of help while six emergency matching grants totaling over \$11,000 were given to clubs. These were above and beyond the sixteen standard grants that were given to clubs across New York State including three within our own district; one of them for our sponsorship at the Family Justice Center mentioned elsewhere in this newsletter.

What started out as a \$40,000 fund to help clubs across our state, it has grown to over \$200,000 through generous donations locally, from around the country and overseas. The Super Bowl Raffle, which funds the standard grants, will take place next year but in a different form due to the probable cancellation of the Super Bowl. It looks like it will be all cash prizes and who doesn't like cash? Our club is a proud supporter of Brandel-Murphy and when the Super Bowl tickets become available next month, the Foundation hopes that you will become a supporter of it also.

For more information, go to www.brandelmurphyfoundation.org

From Lion Tom Witkowski



Thank you Lion Anne Fahning and Husband Bob for hosting our annual Lions Members Picnic on July 18th. Lion Anne took every precaution to make sure we had a safe and enjoyable time in spite of covid and a brief spurt of inclement weather.

Thank you Lion Anne Fahning and husband Bob for hosting another successful members picnic in the face of social distancing and inclement weather. Marylou and I think Anne should be recognized for her hard work to bring our club together in these trying times.

Lion Bob Goulding

Grand Island Lions Club Meals on Wheels Schedule May-Dec, 2020

May 01	Henry, Annette and Dave
May 15	Anne Fahning and Paul Bassette
June 05	Shelia Ferrentino and Tom Witkowski
June 19	Henry, Annette and Dave Chervinsky
July 03	Henry, Annette and Dave
July 17	Anne Fahning and Paul Bassette
August 07	Shelia Ferrentino and Tom Witkowski
August 21	Henry, Annette and Dave
September 04	Henry, Annette and Dave
September 18	Anne Fahning and Paul Bassette
October 03	Shelia ferrentino and Tom Witkowski
November 06	Henry, Annette and Dave
November 20	Anne Fahning and Paul Bassette
December 04	Henry, Annette and Dave
December 18	Henry, Annette and Tom Witkowski



"Who gets meals on wheels?"

Lions,

Non-perishable food items will be collected to benefit the Grand Island Neighbors Foundation when we resume meetings. Also used cell phones are needed by the Sheriff's Department Domestic Violence unit. Phones are reprogrammed for emergency use by victims under their watch.

Please return your empties to Bottle and Can Retrieval Center 2447 Grand Island Blvd, Grand Island, NY. Just mention that you would like the deposit money to be credited to the Grand Island Lions Club.

Stuart Sports has many styles and colors of polo shirts along with other apparel available. Stop in and peruse their catalogs and request that the Grand Island Lions logo be applied to your selection.

It's just a short drive to Lewiston:

Stuart Sports 486 Center St. Lewiston, NY (716-754-4895)

<http://www.stuartsportsinc.com/>

Lion Tom Rusert



HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Thomas Digati

Thanks to Lions Tom Rusert, Bob Goulding, Tom Witkowski, Paul Krupa, and Anne Fahning for contributions to this newsletter. The deadline for the October Newsletter is Friday September 25th. If you have material for the newsletter, you can e-mail it to Lion Dave Chervinsky, the editor/publisher:

grandislandiondave@gmail.com.

Visit us at:

www.gilions.com.