



For Immediate Release
Source: WHEATON LIONS CLUB.
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Wheaton LIONS Club Den
Established October 23, 1923
Our 84th Year Helping the Wheaton Visual and Hearing Impaired Community
Candy Days 2007: October 12 & 13

Wheaton LIONS Club Hosts Mobile Hearing Screening at Autumnfest September 15, 2007

Our 84th Year Helping the Wheaton Visually and Hearing Impaired Community

WHEATON, IL Wheaton Lions Charities, Ltd., and the Wheaton Lions Club are hosting the LIONS International Hearing Screening bus on Saturday September 15, during the Wheaton Autumnfest. The screening is free to all will be available from 9:00am to 4:00pm. The LIONS bus will be located on Wheaton Avenue behind Memorial Park, near the food concessions.

Deafness has no respect of age, wealth or rank - it strikes people of all economic, social and age categories with equal frequency. To help protect the hearing of the public through an early alert system, to increase public awareness not only of the problems of the deaf, but also the capabilities of the hearing impaired. The Lions Clubs of Illinois every year sponsor free hearing screenings for person 18 and older and 10-17 years with written parental consent, in communities all over the state. Hearing loss is probably the single most common chronic disability in the United States, occurring nearly four times as often as blindness. There are nearly 720,000 hearing impaired person in Illinois alone. Of these, 106,000 are deaf, 26,000 of these were deaf before the age of 19. Unfortunately, the problem is made worse since the deaf are least understood of all handicapped populations.

"For many years," said Dr. Terri Lightbody, Wheaton Lions Club President, "many



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associated deafness and stupidity together, even though deaf and hearing impaired people have IQ's equal to those of the hearing population. The deaf have shown to be just as qualified as the hearing for job opportunities. "They should be shown, and deserve every consideration," said Lion Ern Kovacs, Hearing Chairman. He noted that hearing loss takes many forms. In some, the problem is simply that they feel like the sound has been turned down. But others may have trouble in understanding various pitches or sounds. The causes, too, vary a lot, and there are many medical and mechanical treatments to help people with hearing loss. "Since protection of our hearing is so important, we hope that the people of our community will take full advantage of the hearing screenings," said the hearing chairman. "The screening takes but a few minutes and persons who fail the screening are referred to hearing professionals for further evaluation and treatment."

As a major source of funding for our hearing and visually impaired programs, the 2007 Candy Day fundraiser will be on October 12th and 13th. Our members will be seen at major road intersections and other select locations around Wheaton, Please drive carefully when you see our Lions members, and please be generous with your donations.

The Wheaton LIONS Club is a local den of LIONS International, a worldwide association that was founded in 1917 to help the visual and hearing impaired and related charitable causes. Wheaton Lions Club chapter began its charter on October 23, 1923 and this year is celebrating its 84th year of serving the visual and hearing impaired of Wheaton. The Wheaton LIONS Club meets nearly every Tuesday at noon at the Masonic Temple on Wesley Street in Wheaton .

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The Wheaton LIONS also have long maintained their LIONS Eye Care Program within the community, working with local schools and local eye physicians, for the purpose of screening needy individuals, especially children, who have visual impairments. This program includes eye exams, glasses and other apparatus like magnification devices. The Wheaton LIONS also strongly support the Deicke Center for Visual Rehabilitation. Funding for these and other causes come primarily from the annual Nite Walk in June, Candy Day collections in October, a golf and steak fry each summer and a Christmas auction .

Our members will be seen at the major road intersections and at select stores and service centers around Wheaton. Please drive carefully when you see the LIONS members.

Individuals interested in joining may obtain further information from the club's website www.WheatonLions.org or by calling Membership Chairman, Jim Ellingson at 665 -9471. Prospective members are invited to attend our weekly luncheon meetings held on Tuesdays at Noon to 1:00PM in the Masonic Building, 120 W. Wesley, Wheaton, IL 60187.

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The following is a description of the Wheaton Lions Club background information:

Name: LIONS CLUB OF WHEATON, Ltd.

Motto: "We Serve"

Our Mission: Serving the visual and hearing impaired while enjoying good fellowship.

Typical Member: Business and professionals sharing their success by helping those less fortunate.

President: Dr. Terri Lightbody, Audiologist, 630-580-5777

Membership: Jim Ellingson, 630-665-9471

Meeting Time & Place: Masonic Temple Building, 120 Wesley Avenue, Wheaton.
 Tuesdays at 12:00 Noon to 1:00PM.

Lunch followed by speaker program covering a variety of subjects.

Fundraising Activities: Candy Days, Golf Outing and other fundraising/social activities.

Association: The Lions Club of Wheaton, established on October 23, 1923, is a local den of Lions Club International, the world's largest such organization, with 1.4 million members serving in more than 180 countries and areas. The association is both non-political and non-sectarian.

Founded in Chicago, Illinois, USA in 1917 by insurance agent Melvin Jones and others, LIONS CLUBS INTERNATIONAL has ever since offered business and professional people a way of sharing their success by helping those less fortunate than themselves. The association became international when a club was formed in Canada in 1920. A highlight of its early history was a speech at the 1925 convention, when the legendary Helen Keller challenged the Lions to become "knights of the blind in the crusade against darkness." They responded, and Lions are now best known for their sight-related programs, including SightFirst, the world's largest blindness prevention program.

Wheaton Lions Club Officers

- PresidentDr. Terri Lightbody630-580-5777
- Vice PresidentJim Atten630-260-1500
- SecretaryBob Clavel630-668-1515
- TreasurerChristopher Barton..630-933-0900
- Tail TwisterJim Mathieson630-653-1616
- Lion TamerEd Lambke630-668-8688

Board of Directors

- One year Directors: Gary Dewel, Tom Yule
- Two Year Directors: Pat McEvoy, Martin Findling
- Three Year Directors: Bob Haeger, Ern Kovacs

Committees

- Sight & Hearing Director Neil Pollock 630-665-8400
- Fund-raising John Sheahin 630-653-0078
- Scholarship Bill Davis 630-668-1167
- Membership..... Jim Ellingson 630-665-9471
- Program Director Dorothy Troyer 630-690-7115
- Publicity Director Bud Roeser 630-668-3885

Mailing Address: Wheaton Lions Club, PO Box 296, Wheaton, IL 60189