

Muskegon County Right to Life
Focus on Life Dinner



Our FOCUS ON LIFE dinner held on October 8 was a great success! We are grateful for the important information that our Key-Note speaker, Ed Rivet, shared with us about the disturbing movement in our State government to bring back Physician Assisted Suicide to our state after voters soundly rejected this practice in 1998.

Right now, SB (Senate Bills) 678-681 are written and once our Representatives get back to work, they may soon schedule hearings on them. It is important to keep up on the movement of these bills throughout the legislative process and make sure we let our lawmakers know how we feel.

A highlight of our program was awarding the annual Voice for Life award to Kristine and Pawel Babiarz, (shown above with their

beautiful family). Kristine and Pawel have organized our RTL float in the Fruitport Old Fashioned Days parade for 14 years, growing their involvement by adding the distribution of New/Expectant Mothers care packages along the parade route and hosting a lovely picnic for RTL participants after the parade.

We cannot thank Kristine and Pawel enough for their dedication! We hope they continue the tradition for years to come!

Car Seat Safety Law Changes

originally published in the Coopersville Observer, Feb. 24, 2025

Beginning April 2, 2025, the State of Michigan’s new car seat laws will take effect.

The new law will require children to be in a rear-facing car seat until they are two years old or have outgrown the height and/or weight restrictions of their seat. The former law only required rear-facing until age one.

Once forward-facing, children up to age 5 will soon be required to ride in a restraint seat, located in the back seat of a vehicle whenever possible. Children who outgrow the height and/or weight restrictions of their car seat may begin using a booster seat before age 5. The previous law held this requirement until age 4.

Children younger than 8 years old, who are shorter than 4’9”, must continue to use a booster seat while riding in a vehicle. This law has not changed.

Goodbye, Fellow Lions

By Lion Heidi Tice

Fruitport Lions said goodbye to two long standing Club members this year.



Lion Daniel Guzek (1945-2025) (affectionately called Goose), passed away on February 4, 2025. Goose was a service minded citizen. He began his lifelong journey in Lionism in 1972 with the Fruitport Lions Club.

He volunteered at many events. He was on the Grand Haven Coast Guard Festival Carnival Committee; he dressed as a clown to entertain at the Coast Guard Festival parade and hosted an event called Goose’s International Kraut Party, at the Midwest Clinic. Goose loved to cook. His most prominent interest was music. With his degree in music education, Goose directed Middle School band for many years. Goose was given a Life Membership after decades of dedicated service in the Fruitport Lions Club. He was a forward thinker and started the Fruitport Old Fashioned Days Jazz Festival, which is celebrating its 43rd year in 2025. Goose would invite schools from up and down the West side of Michigan to bring their Middle school and High School jazz bands out for a one-of-a-kind outdoor performance. In honor of Lion “Goose” Guzek, the Fruitport Lions, are changing the events name to “Dan Guzik ‘Goose’ Annual Jazz Festival.” Through his time being a Fruitport Lion, Goose also helped start the Kiddie parade and a big wheel race for kids. The club will miss seeing Goose at Old Fashioned Days events, from the carnival, to the parade and even overseeing the fireworks, Goose was always ready to help.

Lion Patricia Stressman (1945-2025) passed away on March 20, 2025. Lion Pat was the only person to hold a membership in both the Fruitport Lions Club and The Fruitport Lioness Club. She started as a Lioness in 2000 and in 2008, when the Lions Club opened to women, she joined the Fruitport Lions Club. Not wanting to leave her valued friends, in the

Lionesses, she decided to stay in both clubs and became the Lion liaison for the Lioness Club. The Lionesses labeled Pat the energizer bunny, because she never stopped and gave 100% to every event she helped with. That outgoing personality followed Pat all through her life. As a young girl, she helped look after her 6 younger siblings who admired her to her last days. She volunteered in her church, sang in community choirs, chaperoned Youth for Christ programs, housed numerous exchange students, organized the football concession stand as an active band parent, held several positions on the school board for 30 years, and chaired multiple events for the Fruitport Lions club. All of this occurred while Pat raised 4 children, worked full time, and enjoyed 60 years married to her high school sweetheart Lion Russ Stressman. Pat attended nearly every event the Lions and Lionesses held. Representing the Lionesses Pat went to conventions outside the USA that took her to New Zealand and Australia. Pat had a servant’s heart. Her strength was “public relations,” walking around and talking to people, she was always in the thick of things working the event. The Fruitport Lions club could always rely on Lion Pat to feed the masses whether it was hotdogs or ox roast sandwiches, organizing Thanksgiving food boxes and Easter diner vouchers for Fruitport families in need or bringing her homemade Chow Chow to the Fruitport Fire Departments community slip-n-slide. It comes as no surprise Pat was honored in 2012 by the Greater Muskegon Woman’s Club as a “Women of Accomplishment”. An award given each year to a handful of local Muskegon County women for the work they do in their communities to make it a better place to live.



The Fruitport Lions Club is thankful for the years they have had working alongside both Goose and Pat and saddened by the holes they will need to fill in events to come. Matthew 25:21 sums it up “Well done, thou good and faithful servant.”



2025 Bus Trips

July 26, 2025: \$119.00/person
Detroit Tigers vs Toronto Blue Jays
August 12-15, 2025: Niagara Falls
\$799 per person double
Sept. 19-26, 2025:\$1934/person double
Branson, Missouri -12 meals, 7 live performances, 2 nature tours, 2 casinos, bus fare and hotel included
October 10-12, 2025: Wine Tour in Traverse City area - Includes tasting fees, breakfast hotel and bus fare
October 25: \$55.00/person
Douglas Halloween Parade
November 8: \$72.00/person
FourWinds Casino
November 15: \$89.00/person
Birch Run and Frankenmuth
September thru December: watch for Detroit Lions schedule and games!
I will be doing 2 games this year!

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