

Student collects eye glasses for Lions

Last summer, when Hickson Central Public School Grade 1 student Mac Alexander was given the challenge for his 'Who is Nobody' project at school, collecting used eye glasses for underprivileged people was his goal. Mac wears eye glasses himself and thought he would help someone who needs glasses and could not afford them.

Mac, son of Scott and Heather Alexander of Hickson, then a student of Mrs. Ross, sent out letters to his schoolmates, family and friends, asking for used glasses to be donated to the Hickson and District Lions Club. While working on this, Mac also came across a round, vintage Lions' metal storage container that he purchased and used to hold his donations. His parents said it is one of his most prized possessions.

Mac then visited with Brad Smith, Past President of the Hickson & District Lions Club, and presented him with 40 pairs of eye glasses. In return, Mr. Smith gave Mac a "We Serve" armband

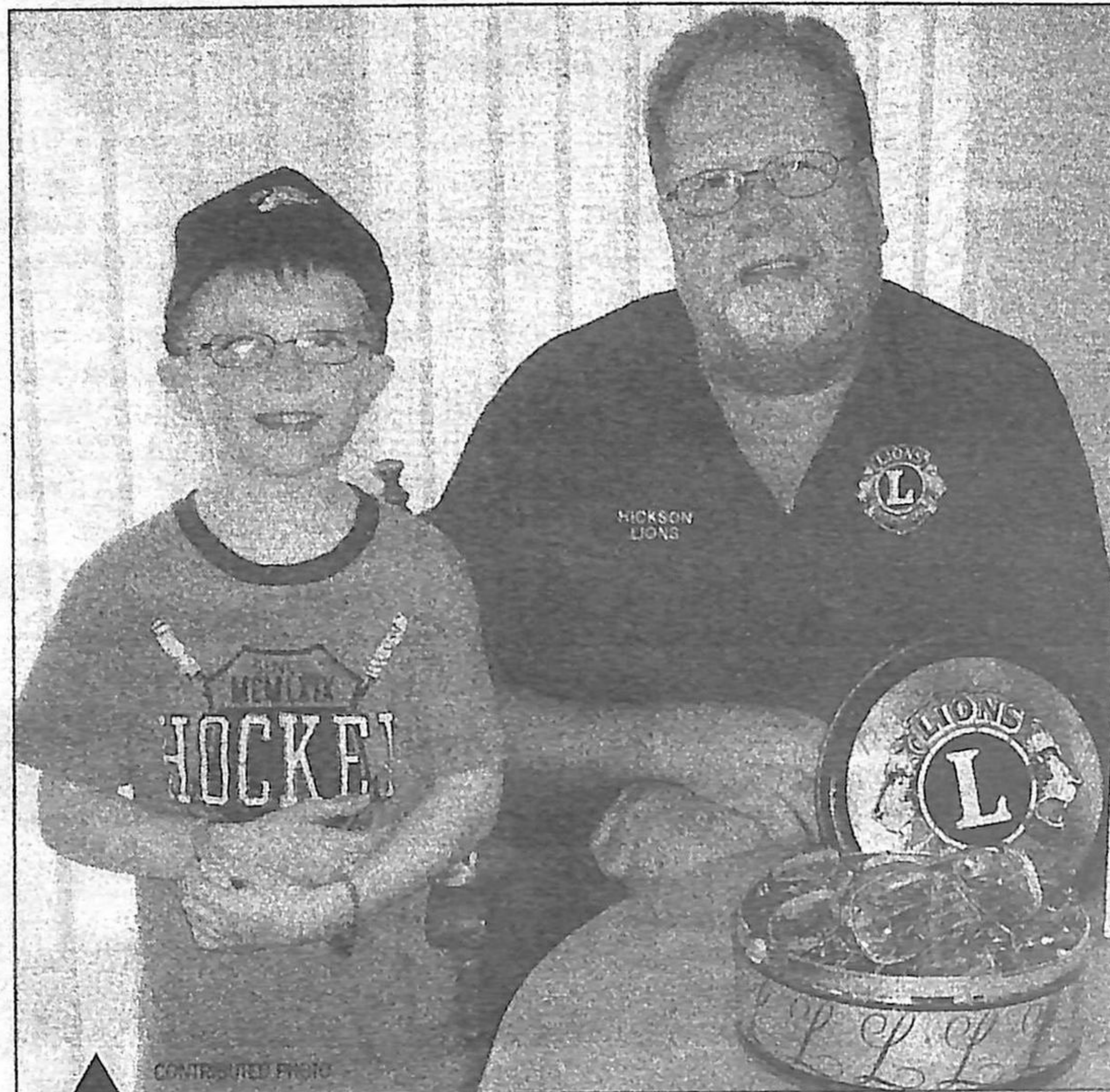
and a Lions' hat in appreciation of his contribution.

Mac was introduced and thanked in the summer of 2011 at the Lions' annual charity auction held in conjunction with the Lions Daze weekend. In attendance were his family, including his grandparents, who "have always been great supporters of our club," Mr. Smith said.

Mac, now 7 years old, is a Grade 2 student with Mrs. Strickler, who was also involved in last year's projects.

"As Lion members of a small club you sometimes wonder if you are getting the message out to your community that 'We Serve,' Mr. Smith stated. "Our hopes sometimes are buoyed by small events. During the spring of 2011 we realized that, yes, the community is indeed listening."

Here's hoping that Mac's enthusiasm for community service continues in later years. "We are certainly going to keep an eye on him to be a future Lions' member," Mr. Smith said.



• Hickson Lions past president Brad Smith with Mac Alexander.

Four students compete in Hickson Lions Annual Effective Speaking Contest

On Tuesday evening, February 29, 2012, the Hickson Lion's Club held their annual Effective Speaking Contest at Hickson United Church.

They started the night with pizza and ice cream for all of the speakers and their families.

There were four speakers, all from Hickson School. Placing first was Ryan Louie who spoke on "Global Warming." Second place was awarded to Jacob Van Boekel who spoke on "Coca Cola." Honourable mention was given to Kira Pretty who spoke on "Mt. Everest" and Emily Van Boekel who spoke on the "Calgary Stampede." The first and second place winners are invited to attend the A-15 District competition held in Guelph on March 31st.

The Lions Effective Speaking program organized by MDA has been serving school-aged children for over 60 years, and has generated confidence and civic pride in many youth.



• Hickson Lions President Kyle Smith and Effective Speaking chairperson Diane Clark with contestants Ryan Louie, Jacob Van Boekel, Kira Pretty and Emily Van Boekel.

Tom-Gar p. 3 Mar. 7, 2012