

FROSTBURG EXPRESS

Thursday, December 30, 2010

Frostburg, Maryland

Volume 19 - Issue 33

Frostburg Lions SureSight detects eye problems

FROSTBURG — Members of the Frostburg Lions Clubs were recently trained and certified in the use of the Welsh-Allyn SureSight Vision Screener. The Vision Screener, a hand held device, is the latest technological advance for youth vision screenings in Western Maryland.

The Frostburg Lions partnered with Lonaconing Lions to purchase the unit, costing more than \$3,000, to ensure that elementary school age children receive free vision screening each year. The new lightweight device uses the latest in computer and infrared technology to screen eyes for a variety of conditions. Until now, Lions used a cumbersome Polaroid style camera.

Lion Bill Muneck of the Frostburg Lions said, "This technology will allow us to screen more children, faster and much more accurately." In the past, results could take up to 10 weeks to be properly evaluated."

The new screener allows for the results of each child screened to be available instantly. The device is aimed at a child's eye, and a button is pushed. The screener is then pointed at a small printer and results are printed out instantly. Trained Lions can then read the results, and using comparison charts, can determine if a child should be referred to an eye care professional for a more thorough examination and correction if necessary.

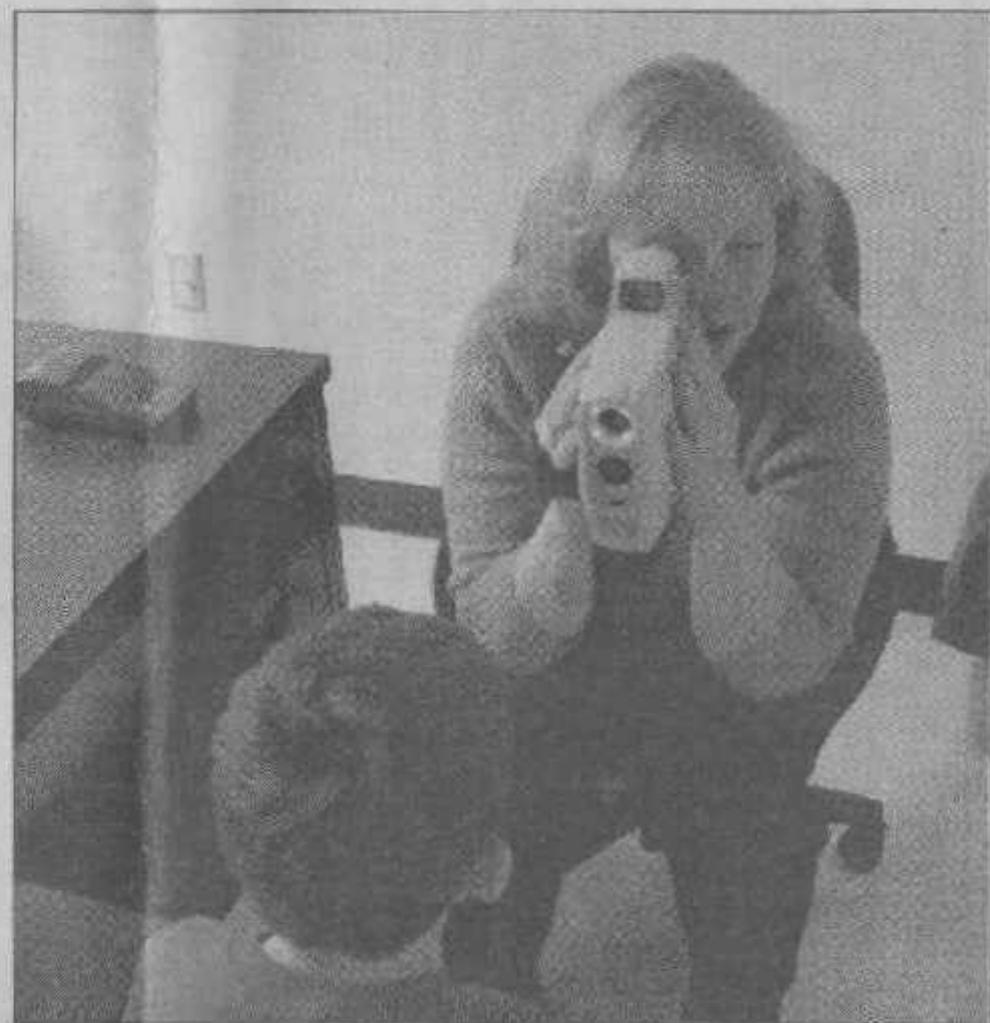
"I am so glad we were able to

purchase this screener," Edge Deuel of Frostburg Lions said. "We want to help ensure good vision for all the children of Allegany County."

Lions from the two clubs have been performing vision screening for six years in the county. "We start with pre-school," said Deuel. "We screen children up to the first grade. Sadly, some parents just will not take advantage of this program.

"This is a totally free program, and it is noninvasive," Deuel said, "yet nearly 20 percent of parents will not have their children screened."

Lions vision screenings have detected visual problems in



Mary Lyn Longley, branch manager for First United Bank in Frostburg, helps Frostburg Lions screen children recently at Beall Elementary.