



**Wellsville Lodge #1495** held a *Family and Friends Fun Skate* at Funland Roller Rink. In order to be "admitted" to the free event, families were encouraged to donate kitchen, bath, non-perishable food items or cleaning supplies to the Hart Comfort House. The Hart Comfort House relies solely on donations to operate and provides end-of-life care in a home setting to those that are unable to be cared for in their own homes. Pictured w/ Hart Comfort Home director Scott Swift, and a sampling of items donated, is lodge member Mary Ann Newark, who coordinated the event and is a Comfort House volunteer. Newark recently received a G.E.R. award at the lodge's annual E.R. dinner for her work involving Elks families, fitness and community service.

In the holiday spirit the **Utica Lodge #33** donated over 715 pounds of food to the Utica Food Bank with also included 10 turkeys. Utica also donated 200 pounds of food to the Veterans Outreach program which includes 5 turkeys.



**Beacon Lodge #1493** was honored to hold its 3<sup>rd</sup> First Responders dinner Corporation along with Dutchess Junction Fire Department, Glenham Fire Department and Rombout Fire Department. Eleven awards were given to the First Responders. In total there were 104 people at the lodge to help with honoring these dedicated public servants.

Beacon Fire Department was proud to present four members with 50 years of active duty. They were Louis Amoroso Jr, Louis Amoroso Sr, Fred Antalek and Dennis Lakey Sr. Beacon Police Department picked Sgt. Kevin Junjulas and officer Joesph Conti as their Top First Responders for 2011. Beacon Volunteer Ambulance Corporation choose Larry Roberts as their Top First Responder for 2011. Dutchess Junction Fire Company choose George Sialmas as their Top First Responder for 2011. Glenham Fire Company choose Joesph Antonio as their Top First Responder for 2011. Rombout Fire Company choose Nick Festa as their Top First Responder for 2011. Our Lodge choose Steve Gold as Citizen of the Year for all that He did as Mayor of Beacon for the Town and the Elks. We also honored John Sidote as Officer of the Year and Patricia Lamoree as Elk of the Year Pictured, from left: G1Enham Firefighter Joe Antonio, Beacon Police Officer Joe Conti, Beacon Fireman Fred Antalek, Beacon Fireman Lou Amoroso, Sr., Fireman Lou Amoroso, Jr., co-host Bob Meeker, Elks Citizen of the Year former mayor Steve Gold, Elks Elk of the Year Patty Lamoree, Rombout Fireman Nick Festa, Dutchess Junction Fireman George Sia/mas and co-host Carl Oken. Not ~Belzcon Volunteer Ambulance Corps (BVAC) EMT Larry Roberts, Elks

Officer of the Year John Sidote and Beacon FireFighter Dennis Lahey, Sr.



In recognition of the continuing efforts of assistance to the community, **Esperance Lodge # 2507** was presented with a plaque expressing the gratitude of the community to lodge members. In late August of 2011, the Village of Esperance was ravaged by Hurricane Irene and tropical storm Lee. Esperance Lodge became the rallying point for the village, providing food and hot meals , clothing and cleaning supplies as a disaster relief center. Pictured above l-r; PER Charles Johnson, Village Trustee ER Ed Rockwell PER Steve Miller, Esperance mayor.



**Colonie Lodge #2192** honored members of the areas law enforcement community in a ceremony held at the lodge. Exalter Ruler Carol Sponable presented plaques honoring outstanding members of each department that has jurisdiction within the Town of Colonie. Over one hundred invited guests and their families attended and all also enjoyed a breakfast buffett. Presenters and reciepients Pictured above l-r; Deputy Chief Jon Teale and Investigator Kevin Terry-Colonie Police Dept. Chief Michael O'Brien and Officer Andrew Cohen-Menands Police Dept. Under Sheriff William Cox and Sheriff James Campbell (Ret)-Albany County Sheriffs Dept. Exalter Ruler Carol Sponable Capitan William Keeler and Trooper Jeffery Devine

**Olean Lodge #491-** Members of Olean Lodge assembled 24 food baskets for area people and families for Christmas distribution. With the recommendation of recipients provided by area pastors, the Lodge purchased food from local grocery store Ried's Food Barn and received food donations from Olean Wholesale Grocery Co-op, Inc. The Lodge also provided the families with Greater Olean Area Chamber of Commerce gift certificates. The members plan to do this again next Christmas due to the overwhelming thanks received from the recipients. The members all expressed great satisfaction in this first endeavor because they were able to meet and talk with the recipients when the food baskets were delivered to their homes.



**Newark Lodge #1249** member Robert Schinsing, recently made his monthly run to Wayne County Humane Society with boxes of items collected by Lodge members. Mark Plyter, director, commented on the importance of donations by the community since they receive no funding from the County or State. Items donated by Newark Elks included such things as dog and cat food, litter, paper products, cleaning supplies, laundry detergent, notebooks, scrubbers, pet toys, blankets, dog sweaters and monetary donations. Plyter said that the HS was especially grateful to Schinsing as he not only makes the monthly delivery from the Elks, but he has given hours of service helping to make the place a better home for the animals. wark Elks Lodge #1249 collects items each month that are donated to the Humane Society of Wayne County. Pictured above Robert Schinsing (left) with some of the items delivered to Mark Plyter, Director.