

The Mid-Westchester Lodge #535

located in White Plains, NY with the help of an ENF Promise grant has provided \$1,000 start-up funding to form a Boy Scout Pack for children with disabilities. Pack 535 consists of 10 boys from the CP Westchester School program who would have not had the opportunity to participate in scouting without the generosity of the Elks. The funding is going towards the purchase of uniforms and is paying for activities that will enable the scouts to earn badges. The CP Center of Westchester, the Boy Scout Council and the Mid Westchester Elks Lodge have joined forces in making this program a reality for these special needs boys. The program takes place on the CP Center Campus. One of the CP Center teachers who has special training is the Pack Leader.

The Westchester/Putnam Scout Council has been supportive in the development of this innovative Scouting program for children with physical and other developmental disabilities. The Scouting curriculum is being modified so that the boys can participate in meaningful activities that will enable them to earn badges.

The Scouts are planning activities that will include visiting community helpers and responders, going to local parks to explore and participate in outdoor activities.

Port Jefferson Lodge #2138

made a presentation of a \$1,300.00 check to the local Boy Scout Troop # 354. This donation to the Scout Troop was to help them replace equipment that they recently lost through a burglary.

Massapequa Lodge #2162 – Exalted Ruler Charles Munsey attended a Court of Honor for new Eagle Scout Thomas B. Garcia of Troop 656 of Wantagh. Thomas was presented with a Uniate State Flag and an Elk Eagle Scout certificate to commemorate his accomplishments.



Success by 6 is a community initiative that works to ensure that kids are ready for success in school and life. The initiative is led by United Way of Central New York, and works in partnership with many local business, non-profits, and community members. Whether you're a childcare provider, a preschool teacher, a parent or a grandparent, Success by 6 is your link to resources about childcare, early childhood education and child development;

- By educating and involving parents to help them play a more active role in their children's success
- By focusing community efforts to build the best early childhood development programs possible
- By helping parents and caregivers understand the effect they have on the lives of the children they care for
- By advocating for the best, physical, intellectual and emotional care for all young children

Auburn Lodge #474 held a Pancake Breakfast. All of the food served for the breakfast was donated. Guests and Elk members had a hearty breakfast.

Exalted Ruler Frank Saya presented a check for \$540 representing the proceeds of the breakfast to cover the Success by Six

programs for 20 children. In addition, good member and Past Exalted Ruler Fred Mochler donated another \$50 towards the benefit.

The check was presented to the Success by Six Coordinator, Nancy Tehan and Rick Hansinger, CEO of the Gavras Center in Auburn, NY. Also in attendance for the presentation was Michael Strube, Leading Knight and CP Chairman and of course Bill Welch. Pictured above L to R: Rick Hansinger CEO, ER Frank, Hon. Bill Welch, Michael Strube Leading Knight, Nancy Tehan, Coordinator Success by 6.



Cobleskill Lodge #2040 – A big Thank You goes out to Scoville-Meno Honda of Oneonta for donating to the lodge Youth Activities program a check for \$ 150.00. Leading Knight and Youth Activities chairman Victor Taylor presented the check to Exalted Ruler Charlene Wilder.



Ticonderoga Lodge # 1494 - Distributed dictionaries to the third grade students at the Putnam Central School, St. Mary's School, Ticonderoga Elementary School, Schroon Lake Central School, Mountainside Christian Academy and Moriah Central School. The lodge distributes dictionaries every year to seven schools in their area.



Fantastic News from Area 1 Competition in Rhode Island

All of New York's Girl Champions placed:
 U-8 **Jenna Shaffner** from Boonville Lodge 2158 - 3rd Place
 U-10 **Megan Guay** from Lockport Lodge 41 - 1st Place and recipient of the Francis Joyce award for High Score in the 5 Goal contest (Megan won both honors last year as well!)
 U-12 **Mari Detota** from Camillus Lodge 2367 - 1st Place
 U-14 **Jenna Healy** from Islip Lodge 2533 - 1st Place and recipient of the Francis Joyce

award for High Score in the Grid Goal contest

The Boys;

U-12 **Jamison Stoness** from Lockport Lodge 41 - 1st Place and recipient of the Francis Joyce award for High Score in the Grid Goal contest
 U-8 **Harry Rubinstein** from Mechanicville-Stillwater Lodge 1403 received special merit but did not place
 U-10 **Nicholas Amodeo** from Mechanicville-Stillwater 1403 received special merit but did not place
 U-14 **Michael A Brussel** from Camillus Lodge 2367 received special merit but did not place

We were incredibly proud of our representative's accomplishments and were glad to be on hand to witness the joy and camaraderie experienced throughout the weekend!

We hope to have pictures to share shortly!

Michael Neaton

Boonville Lodge #2158 - On October 27th hundreds of children attended the annual Haunted Trail and Drug Awareness Program. The Boonville Lodges traditions would not have been possible without all the members who gave up their time to help in this program.

Herkimer Lodge #1439 -Through a grant from the Elks National Foundation the Herkimer Elks were able to host a day a Sylvan Beach for children that might not get the chance. A bus picked the children and their parents at the Herkimer Elks Lodge Parking Lot. On upon arrival at the park a noon lunch was provided for everyone consisting of hot dogs, hamburgers', and all the trimmings. After the lunch each child was given a wrist band which provided unlimited rides and rounds of miniature golf. Tired and well feed they returned to Herkimer at 5:30. These kids were accompanied by seven Elks members along with Chair Member Patty Sullivan PER

Canajoharie-Fort Plain Lodge

#2621 - For the first time Exalted Ruler Rosanne Hoffman took up the delivering of dictionaries to the 3rd and 4th grades from six different schools Also while they where delivering these books they talked about drug awareness' and how it effects them and what to do to prevent the start of drug abuse.

Lyons Lodge #869 recently donated dictionaries to every third grade student and this year donated thesauruses to every fifth grade student at the Williamson Elementary School. Elks Lodge Officer Julie Wunder, a retired Elementary School teacher, made the presentation at an assembly for the students.

As part of the presentation the Elks explained the donation to the students and how the dictionaries could be used by them. The dictionaries will be used by third grade teachers to help the students throughout the school year with their many educational programs.

Also during the presentation the Elks members spoke to the students about the dangers of alcohol and drug use and distributed to the children activity books, book marks and other information to remind the students of what they were taught.

The Dictionary Project

Thanks to our donors, over
18,255,644
 children have received a dictionary to date
2,397,306
 dictionaries were given to students in 2011