



Beacon Lodge #1493 donated \$1000 of clothes to 100 children of the Astor Head Start Program in Beacon. The donation received from the Elks National Foundation Gratitude Grant purchased shirts, pants, and undergarments. Pictured above from left to right are SVP Carl Oken, Elk member Shana Oken, Sara Rounds and Athena Galarza (both teachers at the school).



Massena Lodge #1702 and **Potsdam Lodge #2074** were again proud supporters of the 2014 St. Lawrence County Law Enforcement Torch Run. Both Lodges have sponsored the event since it began in St. Lawrence County in 2000. The Massena Lodge graciously sponsored a luncheon for the runners and Special Olympic athletes while Potsdam Lodge provided a \$250 sponsorship donation. Potsdam Lodge members Mike Pinckney and PDDGER Tim Welpé and Massena Lodge member Mike Girard assisted with the coordination of the run. NYS Police Captain Mike Girard, a member of the Massena Elks Lodge and Major Smith of the NYS Police are pictured with a young athlete that participated in the run at the finish.



Oswego Elk's Lodge Ladies Auxiliary is celebrating its' 50th Anniversary. The Auxiliary was chartered in 1964 and still has one living charter member. Thirty-five of the approximately 150 Auxiliary members have been members for 30 or more years.



State Vice President Richard Ryan and Sandra Lotz, PER from **Staten Island lodge #841** attended the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Ocean Breeze Horse Riding Arena. The arena will provide through HOOPH (Helping Others Overcome Physical Handicaps), a therapeutic horseback riding program for children with disabilities. Member Megan Delmar, Founder began the program 8 years ago and presently services 60 children and their families. Children up to the age of 14 ride in sessions 20 minutes long to increase balance, core strength and communication through their horse. It is said that the gentle sway of a horse wakens sleeping muscles. The interaction between horse and rider is one that impresses all who witnessed the positive response. The 5.8 million arenas, first of its kind on Staten Island, will provide the community with uninterrupted services much needed in the borough. NY Borough President James Otto, Past Borough President James Molinaro, and Staten Island Borough Parks Commissioner, Adena Long all who believed in Megan and were dedicated to the program and those who will benefit from it attended the ceremony.



Potsdam Elks Lodge #2074 utilized \$500 from an ENF Grant to support the TADSAW program (train a dog, save a warrior). The program assists Veterans and Wounded Warriors who face their daily lives with post-traumatic stress disorder by pairing them with a specially trained dog. Through the donation and in coordination with the Clarkson Air Force ROTC, the Lodge was able assist in providing an area veteran experiencing post-traumatic stress disorder with a dog. PER William LaPoint and PER Sheila Guerin presented the donation on behalf of the Lodge. They are pictured with Silvia. Following her training, Silvia will be going to her new home with the Veteran in need.

For the fourth consecutive year, **Potsdam Elks Lodge #2074** was a proud sponsor of the 2014 Very Special Arts Festival that was held at Potsdam College. Over 200 students representing St. Lawrence County Special Education classes participated in the event. Potsdam Lodge supported the event with a \$400 donation. The Lodge was recognized during the opening ceremonies with an appreciation award. .

Massena Lodge #1702 hosted a successful Character Breakfast to benefit the Massena Nursery School . The Lodge served 400 people in 3 hours thanks to fabulous Elks volunteers and the great nursery school volunteers. The children attending enjoyed the opportunity to meet a Princesses, Spiderman and Batman.



Wolcott Lodge #1763 donated \$2500 to the Cougar Cupboard Inc. These funds were obtained through our Beacon Grant and a donation from our lodge. The donation will be used to reinstitute their Backpack Program which furnishes 4 meals to hungry elementary and middle school children in the North Rose--Wolcott School District. These meals consist of 2 breakfasts and 2 lunches for consumption over the weekend when the student can't get balanced meals in school. The meals consist of "kid friendly/easy to prepare" non-perishable food items which would likely include: single-serve cereal, shelf-stable milk, non-perishable fruit, peanut butter, crackers, canned pasta such as spaghetti, ravioli or beefaroni. The contribution will fund a once a month distribution to an estimated 150 students. Exalted Ruler Peter Morsdorf is pictured presenting the donation to Nancy Younglove, the Executive Director of Cougar Cupboard Inc. Also pictured are Esteemed Leading Knight Evan Tyler, State Vice President Scott Bates, Nancy Younglove, and Treasurer Dave Porter.