

VETERAN/COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



The **Beacon Elks #1493** hosted 32 veterans including 11 veterans who live at Castle Point Veterans Hospital and their families to a day of fun at a Hudson Valley Renegade baseball game with the use of the Elks Freedom Grant.



Johnson City Lodge #2821 used \$700 of ENF grant money to purchase raffle items for the students for the Johnson City High School After Prom Party. Members volunteer throughout the night to run games and raffles. Pictured with prizes is Kathy Neiss, PER.



Ticonderoga Elks Lodge #1494 recently presented two President's Volunteer Service awards. Exalted Ruler Marjorie Hurlburt presented the awards. The first award presented to Nancy Quesnel for her outstanding dedication and devoting over 4,000 hours over eight years to the Tiny Tim program. The second award was presented to Vicki L. Smith for her Faith, Hope, Love Cookie Ministry "To ease the burdens of those who are suffering, and give hope to the hopeless". Through this fund-raising program, those in need can get help with medical, travel and other expenses. Ms. Quesnel and Ms. Smith are pictured with Exalted Ruler Marjorie Hurlburt proudly showing their awards.



Whitehall Elks Lodge #1491 sponsored the 2nd Annual Marshall C. Gordon Blood Drive. Because of the generous support of Lodge members and the Whitehall community, the American Red Cross collected 50 units of blood during the drive. The blood drive was started by Marshall's children, in grateful recognition of the blood Marshall received during his treatments for Leukemia. The Lodge purchased 60 T-shirts that were handed out to the family of Marshall C. Gordon, to all the American Red Cross members and to first-time blood donors. Marshall C. Gordon was a Life Member of the Whitehall Elks Lodge, serving for two years as Lodge Chaplain. Marshall's son, Kyle Gordon, was Exalted Ruler in 2010-11.



Potsdam Lodge #2074 was once again a proud supporter of the St. Lawrence NYSARC Autism Awareness Walk, held Canton, NY. The Lodge has sponsored the walk since it's beginning. The Lodge provided a \$300 donation. Additionally the Lodge donated ice and provided coolers for the event. The Lodge also arranged for Elroy the Elk and the District Drug Awareness Trailer to be available at the event. Elroy had his photo taken with numerous children, family members, students and members of the community that participated. He also greeted the walkers at the beginning of the walk and welcomed them back with "high fives" at the finish. Over 400 people participated in the walk. The walk raised about \$20,000. Elroy the Elk is pictured with Jeff Cole, WWNY TV 7 and Autism Awareness Walk mascot Fitz. Exalted Ruler Mary-Evans Welpé and members Jackie Evans-Welpé and Tim Welpé were on hand to represent the Lodge.

Riverhead Elks Lodge was proud to present in July to the Salvation Army Food Pantry a donation of \$300.00. Loreita Vaughan, Corps Commanding Officer of the Salvation Army, came to the Lodge to accept this donation. The Riverhead Elks Lodge received this money through a Gratitude Grant. Other Elks members were in attendance for this presentation also. Pictured left to right: Tom Kurpetski, John Hubbard, Exalted Ruler Theresa Hubbard, Lodge Secretary Diane Allen, Lt. Lorieta Vaughan representing the Salvation Army, John Apicello, Rich Zbikowski, and Jim Kane. (Picture to the right)



The Port Jefferson Lodge #2138 in Centereach held an Open House for their new home. The Open House was held to introduce the Lodge and its activities to the surrounding communities. A free breakfast buffet was provide to those who attended the event. Tables were set up displaying both National and State brochures out lining the programs that are carried out by the Lodge. The tables were manned by Lodge members to answer any questions. One of the visitors to the open house was Brookhaven Town Supervisor Ed Romaine who presented a Certificate of Congratulations to the lodge for its move and new home. Also attending was Town Councilman Kevin LaValle. Shown in the photo (l. to r.) are Councilman LaValle, Supervisor Ed Romaine, Exalted Ruler Ted Farkas, East District DDGER Henry Ross and Lodge Sponsor PDDGER Edward M. Lee.



"ELKS CARE, ELKS SHARE"