

# COMMUNITY/YOUTH ACTIVITIES



**Ogdensburg Lodge #772** held a Backpack Thursday fundraiser to benefit the backpack program. Representatives from five area School backpack programs were each presented with a check donation of \$440 from the proceeds of the event. Pictured are Lodge members Carrie Demers, Kathy N Kyle, Past State President Joe Spriggs, Past Exalted Ruler Jerry Reed, Karen Madill, Exalted Ruler Valerie Testani, Past Exalted Ruler Kevin Madill, Peggy Testani Payne, Angela Dezell and Kim Bell.



**Cortland Lodge #748** produces a membership promotion video. Working with Time Warner Access Coordinator and teacher Melanie Arnold's "Digital Cinema Capstore Class" a short video was produced to entice younger membership into joining the Elks. The second-year Tompkins Cortland Community College Global Studies students wrote and directed video using a Humphrey Bogart theme. Along with a number of stand-ins the main actors included Cortland Mayor, John Tobin and his lovely wife Kelley. Pictured from left to right: ER John Pinto, Kelley Tobin, Jorge Pastrano, Dominican Republic, Alberto Henriquez, Dominican Republic, Sophia Echeverria, Honduras, Joan Hidalgo, Honduras, Gabriella Pappaterra, Dominican Republic, Teacher-Melanie Arnold, Ivett Molina, Dominican Republic, and Mayor-Brian Tobin.



**Rome ELKS lodge #96** donation \$250 to the Fire and Police Memorial park, from the. Pictured during the donation presentation, Left to right, is Retired Firefighter and ELKS Member BJ Townsend, Mayor Joe Fusco, Firefighter Gary Millington, Police Officer Fragapane, PER Patrick Kessler and member Judy Zawisza,



Brothers William, Seth, Ian and Connor Lawrie recently held their Eagle Scout Court of Honor at the site of the first encampment for training of Scout Leaders in America held at Silver Bay NY in August 1910. Exalted Ruler Marjorie Hurlburt and SDGER Stella Kolysko of **Ticonderoga Lodge #1494** presented them with certificates and flags.



**Beacon Elks Lodge #1493** presented eleven members of the Benevolent and Protected Order of Elks of the United States of America with a Lifetime Achievement Award issued by President Barack Obama. To be eligible for this award, the honoree must have volunteered over 4000 hours of their life to their community. The issuance of these eleven awards now brings the total number of Beacon Elks that have received this award to twenty eight total. The Beacon Elks continue to step up and serve their community with Brotherly Love, Justice, Charity and Fidelity. Pictured from Left to Right are John Sidote, District Deputy and Americanism Chairperson of the Lodge Carl Oken, Catherine Oken, Anthony Navarro, Michael Howard, Lawrence Natoli, PER, Elks State President John Jacques, Clara Lou Gould, Exalted Ruler George Dionysius, Barbara Farber, PER, Alan Schrock, PDDGER, Theresa DeMattei, and Paul Cooper PDDGER.

More than a dozen eighth graders from J.W. Leary Junior High School took part in the **Massena Lodge #1702** annual Student Government Day. After a day filled with tours and visits to the town hall, fire station, police station and more, the crew finished their day with a luncheon at the Massena Elk's Lodge. Each of the Massena teens are pre-assigned a role to play for the day. Students participated as town councilwoman; town councilman; town justice; town supervisor; town/village clerk; town court clerk; assessor and major. Student Government Day, an event that has linked the junior high school with local government leaders for at least four decades, gives a selected group of students an opportunity to visit the Massena Town Hall, meet local officials and tour the Massena Fire Station and Massena Police Station among other venues. "They also do a tour of the rescue squad and the town museum, and we have all Elks volunteers pick the children up at the fire station and drop them off at all the locations," Massena Elks Club Exalted Ruler Jim Root said. "It gives them exposure to what the government's all about and what goes on in the community as far as what the trustees do, what the mayor does, what the town supervisor does and what the town clerk does. They get to see all of the behind-the-scenes and how the village and town are run."



**Clifton Park Elks #2466** was recognized for its community contributions. Assemblyman Jim Tedisco (r) is pictured presenting a NYS Assembly Citation to Exalted Ruler Jim Farnan (L).



**Ogdensburg Lodge #772** River Valley Elk Riders are pictured presenting OFA Blue Devil Athletics with a donation of \$2,200. Proceeds were raised from the River Valley Elk's first motorcycle ride—"Elk's Ride with Blue Devil Pride"! Members PDDGER Stu Rishe, Valarie Sovie, Karen Madill, PER Kevin Madill, Mike Irvine, and Connie Neuroth are pictured with Coach Bjork, Coach Williams and members of the OFA high school football team.