

# ELKS NATIONAL FOUNDATION GRANTS/ COMMUNITY ACTIVITIES



**Rome ELKS Lodge #96** used a \$2000 Beacon Grant to support the LOAVES and FISHES Soup Kitchen. The LOAVES AND FISHES Soup Kitchen serves the Homeless, elderly, disabled and most of all children who suffer from the lack of basic human needs: material needs, such as food, clothing, and household necessities; psychological needs, such as motivation, self-esteem, and rehabilitation; and social needs, such as support systems and meaningful relationships. In addition to the donation, Lodge members assisted with prepping, preparing, serving and delivering the food to the homeless, elderly and disabled in their community one weekend a month over a three month period. Pictured, left to right are Rick White, Barb Chilluffo, John Bielby, Mary Bielby, Whitney Cook PER, Diane Sims and Youth Pastor and Executive Director for LOAVES and FISHES Anthony DeJean Sr.



**Cortland Lodge # 748** hosted a Lawman of the Year Recognition Dinner that honors officers throughout the county. A tradition started nearly forty-two years ago has grown into a highly appreciative and anticipated event in Cortland, New York by law enforcement agencies. Some of the criteria used to judge nominees are heroism, above and beyond the call of duty, outstanding performance in the guidance of youth, playing a key role in the prevention of a serious crime, receiving serious injury in attempting to prevent a crime, or apprehending the offender, and dedication and commitment to law enforcement principles. In addition to law enforcement personnel and their families, celebrants included Elk Members, the Cortland Mayor, and business leaders. Mark Helms, the newly elected Sheriff was the evening's guest speaker. He complimented the Cortland Elks Lodge on its efforts to honor the men and women who keep our community safe. The Master of Ceremony, District Attorney Mark Suben also congratulated Elks in continuing this yearly event. This year's recipient was Officer Steven White of the City of Cortland Police Department. Pictured is the Lawman of the Year, Stephen White(Center) along with other nominees. From left to right: NYS Investigator Thomas Roberts, Trooper Ryan Boline, Cortland Police Officer Stephen White, Sheriff Investigator Karl Altman and Sheriff Investigator Chad Burham.



**Potsdam Lodge #2074** recently provided a \$400 donation to support the 12th Annual Ride to Breathe. Members Shona Arduine and PDDGER James Hassett, Lodge Secretary are pictured presenting the donation to event organizer Jennifer Dean. The Ride to Breathe is a motorcycle ride that helps to raise money for children and young adults affected with Cystic Fibrosis.



Marcia Benoit of **Watervliet Lodge #1500**, Elk member and member of Ladies Auxilliary headed a fundraiser for Cancer with a roast pork dinner and raffles that raised a total of \$3,000.00. She is pictured presenting the check on behalf of the Lodge to Georgia Vieira from American Cancer Society, Community Manager of Relay for Life and Kelly Gilchrist, Event Leader Relay for Life of the Hudson River Communities. Pictured, left to right are Watervliet Lodge #1500 Exalted Ruler Cisco Alecia, Marcia Benoit, Bob Beston, Georgia Vieira, and Kelly Gilchri.



**Riverhead Lodge #2044** recently donated \$400.00 from a Gratitude Grant to the Phillips Avenue School Food Pantry. Elk member Ruth Ann Budd informed the Elks of the Phillips Ave. School food Pantry being in need of donations and Diane Allen, Secretary, along with Patricia Judd, Treasurer, worked on the grant. In the photo (l. to r.) is Ruth Ann Budd; Theresa Hubbard, ER; Diane Allen, Secretary; Deb Rodgers, Principal and Alison Conroy, Assistant Principal.



**Potsdam Elks Lodge #2074** recently supported the Potsdam Girls Lacrosse Team with a \$300 donation. The donation was presented following a Student Recognition Day ceremony at the Lodge. Lacrosse team member Kaylee Grant is pictured receiving the donation from Exalted Ruler Bruce Wells. Also pictured are PCS Superintendent Joann Chambers and PCS Athletic Director Mark Wilson and Potsdam Lodge member Tim Welpe, PDDGER. In addition to the donation to the Girls team, the Lodge also sponsored the Boys Lacrosse Team end of season party.

**“ELKS CARE - ELKS SHARE”**