

# THE KENTUCKY ELKS NEWS

Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the USA



A publication of the Kentucky Elks Association

I want to thank the PR chairs for each lodge for your efforts in sharing the important work your lodge does. As we all know we could not do any of the work we do without all of our members who volunteer their time, energy, and resources to their Lodge. Sharing what your Lodge accomplishes through the year not only promotes your good works, but provides an opportunity for other Lodges to learn and gain inspiration for what they can do within their own walls and communities. You all have much to be proud of as you will see in the following pages and I look forward to seeing what you will accomplish in the next six months!

Cheryl Caskey, KEA State Newsletter Editor

## KENTUCKY ELKS AT NATIONAL CONVENTION

The Kentucky Elks Association and KY Lodges were well represented at the National Convention. KEA State President, Greg Swiney represented Kentucky during the opening ceremony. Three of our Lodges finished in the top three Community Investments Project Contest: Madisonville Lodge #738, Cynthiana Lodge # 438 and Ashland Lodge # 350. We also congratulate two third place winners in Ritual Contests: Jim Staubach of Newport Lodge #273 and Stephen Giddens, II of Hopkinsville Lodge #545. Lastly, Louisville Lodge #8 took first place in their Division for ENF contributions per member!



ENF Per Member Contest Winners			
April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024			
STATE WINNERS			
	Mem.	Donations	Per Mem.
1. Texas	13,876	\$305,823.92	\$22.040
2. Mississippi	2,651	\$54,621.04	\$20.604
3. Utah	3,568	\$71,839.81	\$20.154
4. Minnesota	6,887	\$134,116.60	\$19.474
5. Wisconsin	6,917	\$127,071.76	\$18.371
LODGE WINNERS			
	Mem.	Donations	Per Mem.
Division I — 150 Members or fewer			
1. Pendleton, SC, No. 2861	47	\$22,387.00	\$476.319
2. Wells, ME, No. 2738	68	\$11,920.00	\$175.294
3. Kankakee, WI, No. 962	38	\$6,528.00	\$171.737
Division II — 151 to 225 Members			
1. Lindsay, OK, No. 2351	158	\$21,864.80	\$138.385
2. San Angelo, TX, No. 1880	158	\$17,880.74	\$113.169
3. Crestview, FL, No. 2624	180	\$19,836.00	\$110.200
Division III — 226 to 300 Members			
1. Cuyahoga Falls-Akron-Barberton, OH, No. 1923	271	\$23,266.69	\$85.855
2. Fairview Heights, IL, No. 664	252	\$13,767.00	\$54.631
3. Arcadia, CA, No. 2025	250	\$11,910.00	\$47.640
Division IV — 301 to 450 Members			
1. Fort Wayne, IN, No. 155	387	\$32,625.00	\$84.302
2. Fort Collins, CO, No. 804	328	\$20,739.59	\$63.230
3. Sierra Vista, AZ, No. 2095	416	\$23,539.00	\$56.584
Division V — 451 to 700 Members			
1. Louisville, KY, No. 8	453	\$29,615.75	\$65.377
2. Springfield, OR, No. 2145	453	\$19,279.00	\$42.559
3. Amarillo, TX, No. 923	539	\$21,821.00	\$40.484
Division VI — More than 700 Members			
1. Mission Viejo-Saddleback Valley, CA, No. 2444	1,273	\$83,130.59	\$65.303
2. Gallipolis, OH, No. 107	848	\$42,238.00	\$49.809
3. Nashua, NH, No. 720	939	\$35,502.14	\$37.809



**Ron Hicks**  
**PGER/STATE SPONSOR**

It is my pleasure to welcome the Elks of Kentucky to the KEA State Mid-Year Convention in Louisville, Kentucky and Lyndon Elks Lodge #2052.

Nancy and I are very-much looking forward to being with you as we welcome our Grand Exalted Ruler and First Lady, Doug and Julia Schiefer, from Sandusky, Ohio. I'm sure they will enjoy their time with us and our Kentucky hospitality!!

As a proud State Sponsor, I continue to be impressed by your support of the State Major Project, the Elks National Foundation, your use of the ENF Community Investment Grants and the many programs for first responders, our Youth and Veterans. This support and service helps prove that the Kentucky Elks are a reliable partner for the Communities we serve and demonstrates our Grand Exalted Ruler's theme of "Elkdom's HEART for America."

I am always pleased to learn about the many social activities the Lodges provide for their Members throughout the year. These activities help bring Members together and create a sense of unity and pride within your Lodge. Once you have developed Lodge pride, it is easy to take that pride into the streets in service to your Community. This, in turn, helps strengthen your Lodge, helps it grow and leads to the long-term success of the Lodge.

We have lots of good news to share during the Convention as we recognize and thank many outstanding Elks and Lodges for their efforts throughout the year. It will be a special time of reflection, learning, and fellowship, so I hope you come prepared to share a great experience and have a good time together.

Sincerely and fraternally,  
Ronald L. Hicks, PGER/State Sponsor  
"Elks Pride – Community Focus"



## **Darlena Jones SECRETARY**

**From the Secretary:**

Hello everyone! It has been a busy time since we last met in February. I

wanted to remind you about a couple of things. First, if you receive money from the State Association, remember to send me an email request for you funds and I will get them out to you. This helps with my recordkeeping. Second, just like the Lodges, I am required to submit a charity report to the Grand Lodge. You can help me tremendously by sending me information on any event you have for the State Major Project, Kids with Cancer. You are reporting these on your local charity report and I can report as well. The same information you use (number of elks, money donated/raised, etc.) is fine. I really appreciate your help.

**Darlena Jones**

**KEA Secretary/Treasurer**

## **Darlena Jones EDUCATION CHAIR**

**WE'VE ALWAYS DONE IT THIS WAY!**

How many of you have heard this in your Lodge? While we must maintain the traditions that have been part of the Elks for so long, we also must realize that sometimes what we have always done may not be the best or even the right way to do things. Ask questions. Talk to people who have been in leadership positions or members for many years. They have a wealth of knowledge. You can also reach out to me and I will be happy to schedule training for you Lodge or a group of Lodges. There are many different training topics and I can be flexible in the way we hold training-in person, zoom, multiple Lodges meeting together. Just reach out and we can work on ways to make change a little easier for all the members.

**Darlena Jones**

**KEA Education Chair**



**ASHLAND #350**

On May 7 Ashland Elks held their Scholarship Awards Banquet. We awarded over \$20,000 in scholarships to 35 graduating seniors. This is the first banquet we have been able to hold since the Covid pandemic.

The evening highlights began with a welcome from Exalted Ruler Jack Brown where he shared how Elks help within their communities with their charity work. The soon to be graduating seniors were then challenged by keynote speaker William Ferguson from the Ashland Independent School System. Mr. Ferguson's advice to the students was to remember their friends, learn to deal with their newly acquired freedom, to remain focused, and to look forward to future.



On May 25 Ashland Elks Lodge #350 held their first Jeep Jam fundraiser with the proceeds going to the general charity account. Following the Jeep Jam they held a live auction with Brother Larry Hall, ER from Winchester Lodge #2816 being the auctioneer. With Larry's help they raised \$3,400 for the general charity account.

**CYNTHIANA #438**

Cynthiana Elks provided ice cream to the Community Living Center (Building 27, cottages 201 and 202) at the Lexington VA Healthcare System. Recreational Therapist Shirley Wise Willis remarked, "The veterans adored these sweet treats on a hot July day to celebrate the 4th. As we pushed the cart around during our ice cream social at the CLC Cottages, we played Ice Cream Truck music. It evoked cherished memories for the veterans and sparked conversations about their love of ice cream. Thank you, we are grateful for all that you do." Additionally, we delivered a pallet of water and beverages to Voluntary Services for distribution to VA patients.





## CYNTHIANA ELKS GRAND RE-OPENING

We marked the Building Dedication Ritual of the Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438 on May 11. The ceremony featured building blocks as symbolic elements and was followed by speeches from Greg Willis, Special Deputy to the Grand Exalted Ruler, and Greg Swinney, President of the Kentucky State Elks. We also took a commemorative photo with members from various Elks lodges and a picture of past Kentucky State Elks Presidents. Our sincere gratitude goes out to everyone who attended and showed their love and support.

On June 1, 2024, we celebrated the ribbon-cutting ceremony to officially inaugurate our lodge. In the first picture, Chaplain Robin Back is seen bestowing a blessing upon the lodge. Our eldest member, aged 96, who has been with the Elks for 66 years, cut the ribbon, flanked by the former Exalted Ruler, Steve Anderson, who served during the construction, and the new Exalted Ruler, Michael Crump. We extend our heartfelt thanks to everyone who attended and to all those who contributed to making this possible.



## CYNTHIANA #438

Cynthiana Elks Beacon Grant of \$4000 was utilized to provide the Lexington VA Healthcare System with 312 sweatsuits for veterans requiring clothing and 10 Baby Gift sets for veteran parents expecting a child. The photo features Brian Kinney, VA VOL/438# Lodge Veteran Chair, handing over the supplies to Patrick Sinclair, VA Chief of Voluntary Service.





## CYNTHIANA #438

The Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438 extends heartfelt thanks to two of its members for their generous donation and the installation of a squirrel feeder pole. This kind gesture offers veterans at the Community Living Center of the Lexington VA Health Care System (Leestown Campus) the delightful opportunity to watch squirrels and birds' feed. Featured in the photo are members Jason Back and Wesley Hampton, who is also referred to as Edgar.



The Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438 put our Freedom Grant of \$1,000 to good use by supplying sweatshirts and sweatpants to inpatients at the Community Living Center, participants in the Mental Health Residential Rehabilitation Treatment Program, and homeless veterans or others in need within the Lexington VA Health Care System. A photo shows Brian Kinney, a member of Lodge #438 and VAVS Representative, handing over the items to Patrick Sinclair, the CDCE-Chief of Voluntary Service.



## Spotlight Grant

The Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438 generously donated their Spotlight grant of \$2,000 to the Cynthiana-Harrison County Food Pantry. This contribution will support the pantry in purchasing essential items for the community, such as meats and milk. In the photo, Michael Crump (E.R.) is seen presenting the check to Deeann Ruppert, the Food Pantry Manager.



The Cynthiana Elks Lodge #438 awarded JR McFarland with a Certificate of Merit from the Elks Grand Lodge for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout in Harrison Boy Scouts Troop 76. He also received a congratulatory letter from the Grand Exalted Ruler. His Eagle Scout project involved constructing two 10-foot wheelchair-accessible picnic tables, which were donated to Unity Christian Church. The photograph captures JR McFarland being presented with his certificate by E.R. Michael Crump.



## FLORENCE #314

ER Kimberly Hicks and Veterans Chair Michelle Anderson paid a surprise visit to the local VA Center on Easter Sunday. While there, bags of candy were handed out to the Veterans. Also, a lucky 6 year-old received a USA Bear. The Friday Fish Dinners were done again and we had our best year yet. Our annual Billy Ray Wilkinson Steak Dinner had another great turnout. We held a Youth Presentation at the lodge during Youth Week, where we honored all of our youth participants from Hoop Shoot, Soccer Shoot, Scholarships etc. Everyone was presented with certificates and the scholarship winners were presented with their checks. The Kentucky Derby Party was always a good time as always with food, a hat contest and stuffed animal races. The PER's once again hosted the Mother's Day Brunch. All moms were given a Red Rose as they enjoyed their choice of eggs cooked to order, bacon, sausage, goetta, biscuits and gravy, fried chicken, mashed potatoes, corn, green beans and more.



We were proud to present a \$1000 check to a Kentucky Elks Association Scholarship winner, as well as a National Finalist a check for \$30,000. \$5000 was donated to Amanda Dawson, President of The Barracks Project. The Barracks Project is a non-profit 501 ( C )3 organization with a volunteer mission to provide transitional/temporary housing, housing related assistance, case packages for those deployed and Veteran camaraderie to current service members and honorable discharged Veterans. Auxiliary recently made a \$1000 donation to 6 local elementary schools and a \$2000 donation to the Rose Garden Mission, a volunteer non-profit who operate a free health & dental clinic, food pantry and full pregnancy care center.



## FLORENCE #314

Members of the Florence Elks recently attended the Annual Yellow Ribbon Support Center fundraiser. The Elks donated \$1500 and the Auxiliary also donated \$1500. \$2500 was used for their Veterans Children Scholarships and \$500 to send Care Packages overseas to our military personnel. The event was attended by over 2000 people. Our lodge hosted a Gold Star Mother, Elizabeth Johnson from Vancouver, Washington, whose son Jeremiah Johnson gave the ultimate sacrifice while serving in Iraq. ENVSC East Chair Tracy Webster and Deputy Mandy Cummins PER have been working to help The Fisher House of Cincinnati complete their Serenity Garden. With provided monthly funds from ENVSC and a \$1000 Boost Grant, all materials have been provided to build raised garden beds, along with area seating of seven outdoor rocking chairs and 4 storage side tables.



Some of the lodge members volunteered for the Special Olympics Golf Outing. The volunteers operated the food booth. Four members won chances to compete in the outing. Another foursome of members also competed. The lodge donated \$500 to the organization. ER Kimberly Hicks was also asked to dress as an inflatable Cow and entertain those in attendance. We started doing a Dart Nites on Tuesdays, Bowling Nites on Wednesdays and Game Nites on Thursdays for our members. We entered a float in the Memorial Parade again this year. We had 31 Elks and their family members join us on the float as we handed out candy and also had the DAP Trailer on display. At the time of this article, a group of our members are planning a trip to Cynthiana for their Grand Opening on Saturday, June 1. We are also preparing for our annual Boy's Home Fishing Derby and our Veterans Fishing Derby which will be held on Sunday, June 2.





## FRANKFORT #530

The Frankfort Elks Lodge #530 Tuesday donated a \$6,000 check to The Kings Center in South Frankfort to help fund the updating of the non-profit's computer lab, as well as STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) projects and other educational needs. The Beacon Grant and The Spotlight Grant from the Elks National Foundation's Community Investment Program were combined to make this investment possible. Local Elks leaders say they hope the donation is only a small step in what will be a continuing effort to support The Kings Center and represents the perfect opportunity to allow its members to become more involved in the community through volunteerism. If you would like more information about the Frankfort Elks Lodge and are interested in volunteering to create a stronger community, please reach out to us on Facebook or through our website

The Kings Center offers mentoring, education and development opportunities to children and families in Frankfort and Franklin County. For more information on the organization's mission and the programs offered, please visit <https://www.kingscenter.org/>

On February 9, the Frankfort Elks Lodge also presented a \$6000 check to the Capital City Activity Center/Meals on Wheels of Greater Frankfort for their senior food pantry. This grant was made possible through the Gratitude Grant from the ENF's Community Investment Program. Treasurer, Linda LaFontaine presented this check to the Center.



PICTURED, LEFT TO RIGHT, ARE PRENTICE HARVEY, ELKS #530 EXALTED RULER TERRY LAFONTAINE, DENEEN PETTY, PAT BACON AND ZENOBIA SKINNER. IN THE BACKGROUND, ARE SOME OF THE BEAUTIFUL CHILDREN OF THE KINGS CENTER.





## 2024 KENTUCKY ELKS SCHOLARSHIP REPORT MVS AND STATE WINNERS

### John Snyder, Chair

In the MVS contest, Kentucky had one national finalist who made the top 20 nationwide,

Rukhshona Tursunova, from Cooper High School and sponsored by Florence Lodge #314, who will attend the Elks Scholar Leadership Weekend in Chicago and will receive a \$30,000 scholarship. Ashley is the seventh Kentucky student in the last seven years to be a national finalist. Kentucky also has three other national semi-finalists, who each received a \$4,000 award.

The State Association generously allotted \$20,000 to provide state association scholarships for eight boys and eight girls in the class of 2023.

Again, I would once again encourage your lodges to send representatives to the Senior nights for our MVS, State, and Legacy winners. Let your communities know how proud we are as Elks to help this kids.

2024 Kentucky MVS Scholarship National Award Winners

Student Name	Lodge	High School	Award
Rukhshona Tursunova	Florence #314	Cooper	National Finalist \$30,000
John Adams	Louisville #8	Bardstown Bethlehem	National Semi-Finalist \$4,000
Brooklyn Barnett	Madisonville #739	Madisonville NH	National Semi-Finalist \$4,000
Joshua Zyzak	Florence #314	Beechwood	National Semi-Finalist \$4,000

2024 ENF Legacy Award Scholarship Winners

Student	Lodge / Elks Relative	High School	Award
Jake Dicken	Frankfort #530 / Barry Dicken	Western Hills	\$4,000
Isabelle Fischer	Newport #273 / William Fischer	Highlands	\$4,000
Jacey Holmes	Ashland #350 / John Holmes	Trigg County	\$4,000
Elizabeth Ponting	Newport #273 / Anthony Ponting	Campbell County	\$4,000
Kristen Ramey	Ashland #350 / William Ramey	Boyd County	\$4,000
Hailey Webb	Newport #273 / Daniel Webb	Bishop Brossart	\$4,000
Nathaniel Woolery	Ashland #350 / Robert Woolery	Paul G. Blazer	\$4,000

### 2024 Kentucky Elks Association Scholarship Winners

Student Name	Lodge	High School	Award
Katelyn Rough	Louisville #8	Allen County Scottsville	\$2,000
Jaylin Payne	Frankfort #530	Owen Cunt	\$2,000
Amelia Boone	Marshall Co. #2707	Marshall County	\$1,000
Leann Mounce	Frankfort #530	Lincoln County	\$1,000
Dylan Clarke	Winchester #2816	Sayre School	\$1,000
Bailey Wilson	Winchester #2816	Henry Clay	\$1,000
Ariel Newton	Frankfort #530	Frederick Douglass	\$1,000
Ella Gough	Henderson #206	Union County	\$1,000
Shraman Kar	Louisville #8	duPont Manual	\$2,000
Joshua Blunt	Frankfort #530	Trinity Christian Academy	\$2,000
Jacob Hammill	Louisville #8	South Oldham	\$1,000
Jesse Dominguez	Florence #314	Ryle	\$1,000
Mitchell Mayes	Hopkinsville #545	Madisonville North Hopkins	\$1,000
Jackson Cabell	Frankfort #530	Woodford County	\$1,000
Hayden Powell	Marshall Co. #2707	Marshall County	\$1,000
David Daniel	Henderson #206	Owensboro	\$1,000



## FRANKFORT #530

Frankfort Lodge #530 was proud to rehome two more Veterans using the Elks National Veterans Service Commission welcome home program. This brought our total number of Veterans we have helped get a fresh start in their new home during the 2023-2024 Elk Year to 27. We are thankful for the Elks National Veterans Service Commission for giving us the support necessary to help veterans in our community.



Pictured left to right ER Terry LaFontaine, Bo Sutherland, Joe Elam, Treasurer Linda LaFontaine, Eddie Hortenberry, Kim Bickers, Brad Boyd, Becky Long, Donnie Hammond, Leah Settle, Ellery Etherington, Gwyn Hoskins and Glenn McCann.

Frankfort Lodge #530 opened a Free Food Pantry in the spring just outside our Lodge entrance. We believe that it is a great way to help our IMMEDIATE neighbors, who sometimes may have jobs and homes, but still experience food insecurity. Member Joel Latto built a wood and plexiglass pantry that is beautiful, welcoming and perfectly functional!

The great news we can report is that the pantry has been visited LOTS of times by people of all ages and all visitors have been as respectful as we knew they would be. The items are always left well-organized and folks aren't leaving trash behind—in short, they value and appreciate the pantry! Several non-members have donated items and it's so interesting watching teenage young men walk up and choose fruit! We will be using this pantry as our monthly charity for many months of the year (of course, we will always support veterans and Franklin Co Backpack Snacks!). This means that any member (or non-member!) who'd like to contribute, can drop non-perishable items off in the gray plastic bin just outside the bowling alley or put monetary donations in the green lock box on the wall just above it.





## FRANKFORT #530

Frankfort Lodge #530 sponsored a Flag Day coloring contest for children attending the King Center. Winners were awarded cash prizes and a certificate.

1st Place | Paisley Weber, \$30

2nd Place | Justin Preston

3rd Place | Mya Smither

Fellow Elks member, Bo Sutherland, donated Hoggy's ice cream for all to enjoy and celebrate Flag Day.



## LYNDON #2052

Lyndon Elks Lodge 2052 held their Flag Day Ceremony on June 15. It was a wonderful event. We had 30 veterans from the Healing Place along with other veterans and lodge members who attended. Boy Scout Troop 40 was our honor guard and assisted with the burning of the flags. The Bugler from Churchill Downs came and played taps for us. Our lodge officers were present and did a great job. It was a beautiful ceremony!





## LYNDON #2052

Lyndon Elks Lodge #2052 donated its largest amount ever to help fight multiple sclerosis (MS) this year. The Lodge has been an avid supporter of the mission for many years. It's a mission that 2022-2023 Lyndon Elks Member of the Year Britt Weatherby is very passionate about, and his motivation to spearhead a variety of events throughout the year to raise money for the National MS Society. Proceeds benefit research and programs for those living with MS.

On May 11, 2024, Weatherby and his daughter presented a check from Lodge #2052 for \$15,000 to the Society's Indiana-Kentucky-Tennessee chapter at Walk MS Louisville, one of the non-profit's main fundraising events. This topped last year's donation of \$10,000.

Weatherby's fundraising started out with a 50/50 raffle during Lent Friday fish fries at Lodge #2052. He has since expanded his efforts to cooking for Lodge dances, selling his popular ribs and hams for holidays, and providing all the food for the Annual Concert & Car Show at the Lodge. He's championed the cause that's not only important to him but other Lodge members whose lives have been touched by MS.

When Weatherby's daughter was diagnosed in 2008, there were only six medications available. There are now more than two dozen treatment options thanks to research made possible through funding and donations. Lyndon Elks Lodge #2052 is proud to be a part of moving us one step closer to finding a cure for MS!





## MIDDLESBORO #119

Middlesboro received their city charter on March 14, 1890. Less than 8 months later, on Nov. 6, 1890, Middlesboro Elks Lodge received their charter from the Elks Grand Lodge, thus making the Middlesboro Elks almost as old as the city itself.

A large delegation of Elks from both Louisville and Knoxville lodges traveled by rail to Middlesboro for the occasion. Chosen to be the first Exalted Ruler (President) of the lodge was none other than Middlesboro's founding father, Alexander A. Arthur, who had been instrumental in the Elks organizing in Middlesboro. Middlesboro's local newspaper of the time published the following account in their Nov. 7, 1890, edition: "Middlesborough Lodge No. 119 B.P.O.E. was instituted last night in one of the large rooms at the Middlesborough Hotel. Quite a number of visitors from Louisville Lodge and Knoxville Lodge assisted in the ceremonies. After the institution a banquet and social session was held, and the exercises did not come to a close until 2:15 a.m. It was a thoroughly delightful occasion and was highly enjoyed by both visitors and citizens."

However, by 1893 Middlesboro entered a period of decline, or "bust", caused by several factors including the general financial Panic of 1893 which affected the whole country. Middlesboro's population declined, the American Association went into receivership and many Middlesboro organizations and businesses failed. The Elks Lodge was not immune to this "bust" and sometime in 1894 the lodge was disbanded.

But by 1906 Middlesboro had rebounded and the city entered another period of prosperity, thanks largely to the coal and timber industries. On July 6, 1906, again with much fanfare, the Elks was reorganized in Middlesboro and received their new charter, but with a new number, Lodge #1041. In 1912 the Elks Grand Lodge restored the original charter number to the Middlesboro Lodge, that being #119.

A catalyst in reorganizing the Elks in Middlesboro and the first Exalted Ruler of the newly formed lodge was a prominent businessman and politician of the time, Kentucky State Representative Joseph F. Bosworth, who would later serve two terms as State Senator, then back to the House of Representatives. Well-known and respected state-wide and known in Kentucky political circles as the "father of good roads", in 1920, he was elected by his Republican peers as Speaker of the House, serving in that capacity for two years until Republicans lost their majority. He was the last Republican to serve as Speaker of the House for almost 100 years, until 2017. He was serving as a Trustee of the Middlesboro Lodge at the time of his death in 1941. Although he is now mostly forgotten, the Elks were pleased they could "bask in his reflected glory" during his years in the state legislature.



## MIDDLESBORO #119

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The first place the new lodge could call their own was a four-story building on the north side of Cumberland Ave. between 20th and 21st street. This building was erected for the Elks in 1911. It contained a gymnasium, restaurant, bowling alley, and rooms for use by the public. During the influenza epidemic of 1918, the Elks turned the building over to local doctors to be used as a charity hospital. Although the Elks intended this to be their permanent home, due to financial difficulties after World War 1, in

1921 the mortgage on the building was foreclosed. Doctors Brosheer and Brummett then purchased the building, and it was used as The Middlesboro Hospital for many years until the late 1950's. This building still stands today in downtown Middlesboro but is in very poor condition and is slated for demolition. Although the Elks owned it for only 10 years until 1921. it is still referred to by some locals and the media as "The Elks Home".



Lodge pin with #1041 from 1906-1912

Still active in Middlesboro, Lodge #119 is the second oldest lodge in Kentucky, behind only Louisville Lodge #8, and is ranked 119th in age among the nearly 2,900 lodges chartered in the country since the Elks founding in 1867.



Made possible by a grant from the Elks Grand Lodge National Foundation, Middlesboro Elks Lodge recently helped the local Salvation Army with a donation of \$500. An international movement, the Salvation Army is an evangelical part of the universal Christian Church and has been present in Middlesboro for many decades. Its mission is to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ and meet human needs without discrimination. They are known worldwide for helping with disaster relief, fighting hunger and poverty, serving veterans, assisting the unemployed, combating addiction and human trafficking and sharing God's love. For any other organization or individual wishing to help them with their mission of helping those in need, they may be reached at 606-248-4925, at P.O. Box 148, Middlesboro, or at their building at 118 18th Street. Pictured is Past Elk President Michael Taylor with Salvation Army Captain Carrie McCall.

## MIDDLESBORO #119

Middlesboro Lodge #119 used part of their 2023-24 ENF Gratitude Grant to make \$500 donations of each of these three local charitable/educational organizations. Pictured from left is PER Mike Taylor with Bell County Museum/Historical Director Jes'Anne Givens, and PER Dennis Smith with Bell County 4H Director Brian Good and Bell County Senior Citizens office assistance Joyce Stanley. Middlesboro used the balance of their Gratitude Grant to donate to several other charitable organizations.



## WINCHESTER #2816

Larry Hall, ER, recently presented a \$1500 check to Cindy Banks of Winchester Kiwanis organization. As a major sponsor of the Kiwanis annual auction, these monies will be used for the Walk With A Child program that helps provide clothing for school aged children in Clark County.



Monte McBride recently presented a \$4000 check to Friends of Parks and Recreation in Winchester. "Our partnership with our Elks Lodge is strong and growing, with events like this charity breakfast as well as their enthusiastic help with our Bicycle Rodeo. We couldn't be happier to share the joy of turning healthy, happy children into healthy, happy communities" said a representative from the organization. Pictured with Monte is Barb Amyx and Tiffany Fletcher, board members of Friends of Parks and Recreation.



## MARSHALL COUNTY #2707



The Marshall County Elks Lodge started a trust fund to benefit the Marshall County Exceptional Center in 1994. Full access to those funds was given to the Exceptional Center on Monday, May 6.

The Marshall County Elks Lodge made a hefty donation to the Marshall County Exceptional Center on May 6.

The lodge began a trust fund for the center in 1994, and has made a multitude of investments prior to giving full access to the fund to the center.

The Marshall County Association for Exceptional Children and Adults was established in 1963 by a group of concerned parents looking to provide opportunities for their children with mental and developmental disabilities.

The program began as a way to offer education to disabled children, but shifted to providing adult care after disabled children began to be offered accommodations in public schools.

In presenting the donation, Elks Lodge Exalted Ruler Robert Styers said the funds had been set aside in Certificates of Deposit, and after reaching maturity those funds had then been put into an investment account with the assistance of financial advisor Rich Hendrickson.

Styers explained that when the trust was established, the trustees wanted to have the fund sustain a total of \$100,000 before turning it over to the Exceptional Center. At the time of signing over, the fund held just over \$125,000.

Styers made sure to state that the Elks Lodge will continue to hold their annual golf tournament a for the center. The 2024 tournament is scheduled for September 14.

Exceptional Center Board Chairman LoAnne Peck accepted the donation on the center's behalf.

## Your Kentucky Elks Association Veteran Volunteers continue their positive impact!

*Martin Harbolt, State Chair, Veterans Committee*

In 2015 the KY Elks Association Veterans Administration Voluntary Services (VAVS) representatives served two (2) facilities in Kentucky, The Lexington VA Medical Center and the Robley Rex VA Medical Center in Louisville. Today, your VAVS reps are serving nine (9) facilities in the Commonwealth. While the name has changes from VAVS to CDCE the volunteer commitment has remained strong and continues to grow.

Your Community Development and Civic Engagement (CDCE) representatives dedicate time and energy to fulfill the needs of the veterans and continue to ensure the veterans are “Never Forgotten”. They provide cookies, cake, clothing, toiletries, host baby showers, support Music and Memory programs or spend time chatting with the veterans. They are great ambassadors for the Elks and Kentucky. Please take a moment to say thank you to your CDCE representatives:

Michelle Anderson, Florence Lodge # 314  
Cheryl Blake, Hopkinsville Lodge # 545  
Janet Cartwright, Madisonville Lodge # 738  
Paul Dickerson, Newport Lodge # 273  
Jodi Duce, Lyndon Lodge # 2052  
Marty Harbolt, Louisville Lodge # 8  
Brian Kinney, Cynthiana Lodge # 438  
Rene True, Frankfort Lodge # 530

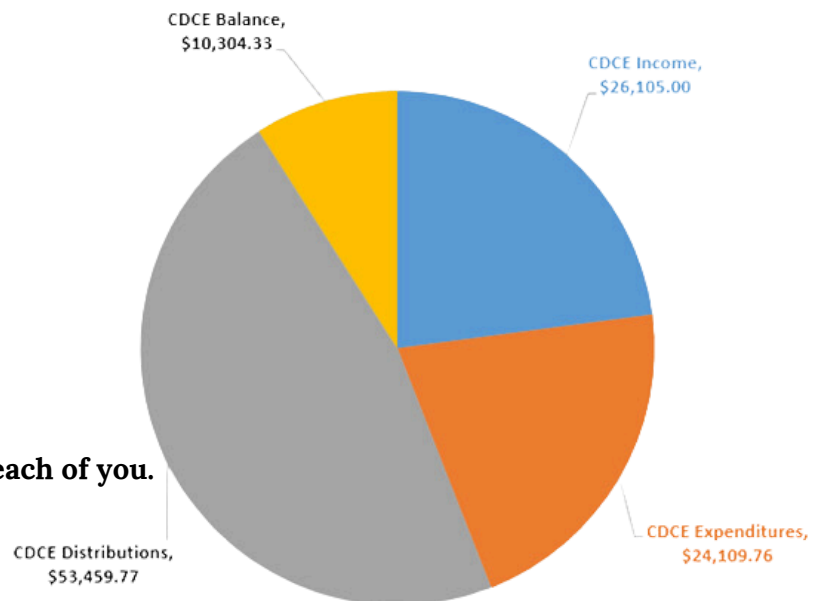
The Kentucky Elks Association is so very proud of each of you.

Fraternally,

Martin L. Harbolt, ENVSC Chairman,

[Martin.L.Harbolt@gmail.com](mailto:Martin.L.Harbolt@gmail.com);

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2023-24 KENTUCKY ELKS CDCE FINANCIAL IMPACT





**Gary Hayden**  
**AMERICANISM CHAIR**

At the Joint DD Clinic held at Louisville 8 on 4/21/2024, the Americanism Awards were given out.

This year's essay was: What the Bill of Rights mean to me.

Congratulations to all of the winners. We are all very proud of these wonderful kids. Here is a list of our winners:

**3rd Place:**

5th grade, Elijah Sheilds, Newport 273

6th grade, Anelise Wagner, Hopkinsville 545

7th grade, Jaelynn Staton, Newport 273

8th grade, Kaitlyn Burke, Ashland 350

**2nd Place:**

5th grade, Tristan McLeod, Ashland 350

6th grade, Miyla Bohannon, Hopkinsville 545

7th grade, Jayci White, Winchester 2816

8th Grade, Fernando Ginez, Hopkinsville 545

**1st Place:**

5th grade, Henley Clifford, Cynthiana 438

6th grade, Kannon Hurt, Hopkinsville 545

7th grade, Anna Folz, Hopkinsville 545

8th grade, Liniya Belford, Newport 273

The First Place essays have been sent to Grand Lodge for Judging & are invited to the Mid-year Convention in August to read their essays for the visiting GER & members.

## KENTUCKY ELKS ASSOCIATION OFFICERS

**President: Greg Swinney, Louisville Lodge #8**

**President Elect: Jeff Clifford, Cynthiana Lodge #438**

**First Vice President: Ken Hooper, Louisville Lodge #8**

**Second Vice President: Jack Brown, Ashland Lodge #350**

**Third Vice President: Ron Caffee, Louisville Lodge #8**

**Secretary/Treasurer: Darlena Jones, Marshall County Lodge #2707**

**Chaplain: Debbie Wood, Lyndon Lodge #2052**

**Tiler: Jay Mitchell, Henderson Lodge #206**

**Sergeant-at-Arms: Mike Kovats, Louisville Lodge #8**

**Trustee Chairman: Charlie Martin, Hopkinsville Lodge #545**

**2 year Trustee: Ray Pauly, Newport Lodge #273**

**3 Year Trustee: Jesse Shipp, Florence Lodge #314**

**DEADLINE FOR NEXT EDITION OF KENTUCKY ELKS NEWS**

**JANUARY 3, 2025**

**Submit articles to Cheryl Caskey at [cherylcaskey@gmail.com](mailto:cherylcaskey@gmail.com)**