

Bedford Lodge 2844 donates American flags to local schools



L to R: Elks Veterans Affairs Chair Jim Hueber and Esteemed Lecturing Knight Gail St. Clair are shown presenting twelve flags for classrooms along with copies of eight historical documents to Kathy Abbott of Boonsboro Elementary School. Flags and documents were also presented to Stewartsville Elementary School and the Precept School of Bedford. *Photo by Carl A. Breitingner*

Bedford Elks Lodge 2844 recently completed a project first undertaken six years ago to provide an American flag for each classroom in every Bedford County elementary school. The project was started by the Lodge's former Veterans Affairs Chair, Roy McGuire. Each year two to three schools received flags along with packets of exact copies of eight historical documents for their libraries, including: The Declaration of Independence, Constitution of the United States, Bill of Rights, The Monroe Doctrine, The Gettysburg Address, and lyrics of The Star Spangled Banner. The project was completed this year by the Lodge's Veterans Affairs Chair Jim Heuber and Esteemed Lecturing Knight Gail St. Clair when they delivered flags and document packets to Boonsboro Elementary School, Stewartsville Elementary School, and the Precept School of Bedford. Now, every elementary classroom in Bedford County that needed a new American flag has one.

"When we delivered flags to Thaxton Elementary School last year," recalled Gail St. Clair, "we were invited to visit each classroom with the principal. The joy and light shining in the eyes and on the faces of the students were priceless," she said. "We know that the flags are appreciated by the students."