



Contact Cristen Maddux
Telephone 772-564-5527
Email Cristen.maddux@indianriverschools.org
Website www.indianriverschools.org

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
October 29, 2018

THE ELKS LODGES OF VERO BEACH AND SEBASTIAN SUPPORT SDIRC SCHOOLS AND STUDENTS

Vero Beach, FL, October 29, 2018– The Elks Lodge of Vero Beach #1774 and The Elks Lodge of Sebastian #2714 have started out the 2018-2019 school year actively serving our schools and stepping up to the plate to aid in different initiatives that support our students.

“Superintendent, Dr. Mark Rendell, stated, ““We are extremely grateful for the wonderful partnership we have with our local Elks Clubs. As well as supporting individual schools, they provide support across the school district in the form of dictionaries to every 3rd Grade student, and “Stop the Bleed” first aid kits for every school. These acts of generosity and kindness not only provide assistance to our mission, but serve as a model for our students in how they should live their lives and care about everyone in their community.”

The Elks Lodge of Vero Beach and The Elks Lodge of Sebastian collaborated to successfully donate “Stop the Bleed Kits” to every school in our school district. “Stop the Bleed Kits” allow bystanders to become equipped, and empowered to help in a bleeding emergency before professional help arrives.

Richard Miller, Vero Beach Elks Community Activities Chairman, said, “Traumatic injuries at schools have become a new reality. The Vero Beach Elks and Sebastian Elks are working together to address the need to protect our children. As a result, we donated “Stop the Bleed Kits” to every school in the Indian River School District. We hope that the kits are never needed; however, it is better to be prepared to administer aid as quickly as possible. Elks care, Elks share.”

Uncontrolled bleeding is a major cause of preventable deaths. Approximately 40% of trauma-related deaths worldwide are due to bleeding or its consequences, establishing hemorrhage as the most common cause of preventable death in trauma. With the proper training and materials, death from bleeding can be prevented. Simple measures can save many lives.



Vero Beach Elks Lodge #1774 and Sebastian Elks Lodge #2714 pictured along with our Board members after presenting "Stop the Bleed" Kits to our school district.

Elks Lodge of Vero Beach #1774 Donates Dictionaries to our 3rd Grade Students

The Elks Lodge of Vero Beach #1774, along with their mascot, "Elroy," recently toured around our district to present 3rd grade students with their very own dictionaries. These special dictionaries include an encyclopedia, multiplication tables, The Declaration of Independence, The Constitution, U.S. Presidents, the planets, sign language, Braille, and so much more! Inside the dictionary the Elks included a ribbon to remind our students to stay "Drug Free!"

"From kindergarten thru second grade, children are learning to read. By third grade, children are expected to read to learn," said Paul Diaz, Dictionary Project Leader with the Vero Beach Elks. "The dictionaries we give the children not only have a 35,000-word dictionary; they also contain an encyclopedia containing subjects on History, Geography, Science, Sign Language and Braille, and Math--all of which will aid them throughout the school year. As we tell the children, 'Words have power' and their dictionary will help them achieve that power."

Jim Rannazzisi, Exalted Ruler of the Vero Beach Elks, stated, "A secondary purpose of our work with the Dictionary Project is to make the children aware of the dangers of drug abuse. Each dictionary we present comes with a bookmark, which reinforces this message. We bring our mascot, Elroy the Elk, on our school visits to make a lasting impression on the children."



Elroy the Elk visited our 3rd grade students at various elementary schools to present them with dictionaries.

If you would like more information about this topic, please contact Cristen Maddux at 772-564-5527 or email at Cristen.maddux@indianriverschools.org.

###