



# Youth Activities

by Jackie Norris, Youth Activities Chair

Hastings Elks Lodge hosted the 2012-13 Youth Recognition Banquet on Sunday, May 5th. Special Guests were the dozens of students being recognized by the Lodge, along with their families.

Americanism Essay Contest winners received certificates and \$25, presented by Jackie Norris, Youth Activities Chair. The theme for the Essays was, "What Does the National Anthem Mean to Me?" Winners were Brock Sutton, 6th Grader from Harvard, Gracie Walker, 6th Grader from Hastings Middle School, and Kelsie Kohl, 5th Grader from Longfellow Elementary. Gracie also received 1st Place in the State Contest, winning \$150 from the Nebraska Elks.

Special Eagle Scout Awards, and a Legislative Resolution, were presented by State Senator Les Seiler to local Scouts who had earned Scouting's highest award. Dick Freeling, Eagle Scout Chair for the Lodge, also presented special awards to Matthew Schwab and Kyl Rouse of Blue Hill; Tyler Lantis of Upland; Aaron Hemberger of Juniata; Aaron Bono and Caleb Schlick of Fairfield; Michael Cox II and Kenneth Wochner of Sutton; Shaun Eborn and Douglas Johnson of Clay Center; and Joseph Matticks, David Wacker, Collin Spilinek and Gage Haack of Hastings.

Students of the Month received a certificate and \$50 award, presented by Lodge Trustee and Scholarship Chair, Randy Rippen. Those honored were St. Cecilia seniors Xander Schmidt, Clare Clark, Nicholas Brouillette and Brittany Trausch; and Hastings High seniors Manuel Garcia, Krynn Pettit, Sean Selko, Maddison McConaughay, Daniel Rosseau, Caitlin Kalvelage, Elizabeth Montemayor, Tyler Ripperger, Emma Keele, Trevor Rosno, Tuesday Frasier, Matthew Karloff, Grace Kelly and William Reimer.

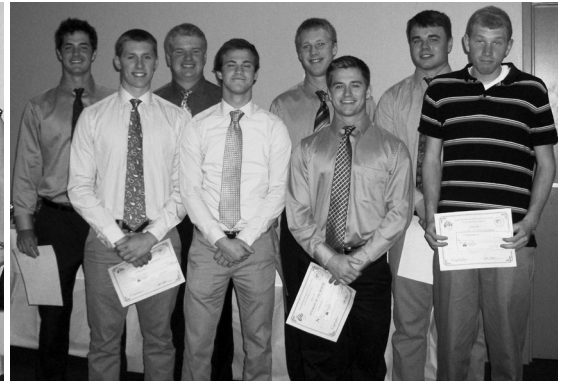
Sean Selko and Maddison McConaughay were selected as Students of the Year, and received an additional certificate and \$250. Elks Scholarships were awarded to Tyler Ripperger and Clare Clark (\$600); Austin Lamolee and Madison Hucke (\$400) and Brittany Trausch (\$200).

Congratulations to all of the Students who achieved so much during the 2012-2013 Elks Year. We're proud of your accomplishments, and pleased to present you with these awards from the Hastings Elks Lodge!



Gracie Walker, a 6th Grader from Hastings Middle School, was a dual winner with her Americanism Essay: "What Does the National Anthem Mean to Me?"

Gracie won not only the Hastings Lodge Contest, but was also the first-place winner in the State Competition.




Our Hastings Elks Lodge Student of the Month Winners (girls, left; boys, right) for 2012-13. Congratulations to all!

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