

### **Springfield Elks Lodge 1560 Donates Dictionaries to 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Students at Union Street School**

The Springfield Elks Lodge presented Elks dictionaries to third grade students at Union Street School this month. This has been a tradition for the lodge for over 20 years. These are not your “average” dictionaries either, there are many subjects within the Dictionaries such as, the Constitution, U.S. Presidents, about the fifty states, maps of the World, sign Language, and so on. Not just a dictionary of words but a book of knowledge that can be used at any age.

The Dictionary Project was founded in 1995 by Mary French of Charleston, SC. Its primary focus is to promote literacy to children in third grade as they transition from learning how to read to find and use information. Nationwide, the Elks have donated more than 1.2 million dictionaries to third-grade students and their teachers as sponsors of The Dictionary Project. There are 600 lodges that actively take part in the program.



*Back Row from Left to Right: Mike Gunn (Former Lodge Secretary), Carolee Murchie (Past Exalted Ruler), and Victor Baskevich (Lodge Trustee) present dictionaries to students at Union Street School in Springfield VT*