

AREA NEWS

THE LATEST FROM WHERE WE LIVE

Blue Ash newsroom

Our newsroom in Blue Ash welcomes your news tips and story suggestions. The newsroom's reporters cover communities in suburban Hamilton County and Clermont County. Call editor Mark Ivancic at 513-936-3360 or e-mail him at mivancic@enquirer.com. The fax number is 513-936-8224.

Good Things Happening

With hammers and shovels, Scouts become Eagles

Five Scout members of Troop 209, chartered by Madeira-Silverwood Presbyterian Church, Madeira, received the rank of Eagle Scout at a court of honor Feb. 18.

They are: Kyle Goetz, Alex Shaw, Ian Soper and Zach Winters, all seniors at Madeira High School, and Josh Westermeyer, a junior at Madeira High.

For his project, Kyle installed a 20-foot flag pole with a flag that had flown over the U.S. Capitol.

He also built a small patio and landscaped an area in front of Madeira-Silverwood Presbyterian Church. He plans to attend Ohio University this fall and major in engineering. Kyle is the son of Elaine and Greg Goetz, Madeira.

Alex constructed a patio and retaining wall for a nature education area in McDonald Commons Park in Madeira.

Aside from his participation in scouting, Alex is active in football, wrestling, track, French Club, the JETS team and president of the senior class. His plans include college with a major in physics. He is the son of Peter and Vivien Shaw, Madeira.

Ian designed and constructed shelving and storage units in the music room at



Goetz



Shaw



Soper



Westermeyer



Winters



Echternacht



Vanover

Madeira High School.

He is active in the band and on the swim team. He plans to major in engineering in college. He is the son of Steve and Dana Soper, Madeira.

Zach designed and built a bird blind and performed trail maintenance at the nature education area in McDonald Commons Park. He is active in soccer, basketball, track, the Latin Club and band. He plans to major in religious studies in college. He is the son of Bill and Kathy Winters, Madeira.

Josh renovated an outdoor play area at Sellman Park in Madeira, which included swing and hardware replacement. He painted and mulched the area. He is involved with the band and soccer. He is the son of Bob and Laurie Westermeyer, Madeira.

Ryan Justus Echternacht, a member of Troop 947, received his Eagle Scout rank last year.

For his project, Ryan built an outdoor worship area for Tylersville Road Christian Church, where he is a member. The project required more than 200 hours.

He has participated in two high adventure camps, Philmont and Double H, and is a member of the Order of the Arrow.

Ryan is a senior at Lakota East High School and a National Merit Commended Scholar. He is a member of the varsity men's volleyball team, Mu Alpha Theta, JETS, National Honor Society, Symphonic Winds, academic quiz team and junior classical league.

He is the son of Jerry and Diane Echternacht, West Chester.

Keith Vanover, a senior at Deer Park High School, is collecting books, videos, tapes and DVDs for Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center as his Eagle Scout project.

Keith volunteers at the Solomon Center and Trinity Church in Dillonvale.

He said he could use help in reaching his goal. To help, bring new and used books, videos, tapes and DVDs to the drop-off center at the Sycamore Township Fire department, 8540 Kenwood Road.

Keith plans to attend Northern Kentucky University and major in education.

If you have a story about a student, resident or volunteer group that's making a difference, contact Allen Howard at 513-768-8362, ahoward@enquirer.com or 513-768-8340 (fax). Or go online to Cincinnati.com and click on GetPublished!



He is the son of Mark and Jeri Vanover, Sycamore Township.

Outreach to Africa

Fourth-graders in Susan Drummond's class at Lakeside Elementary School in the Winton Woods district have joined the All As One Children Caring About Children Project.

The project supports the All As One Children Center in Freetown, Sierra Leone, in West Africa which provides food, shelter, education, medical care and love for 50-70 orphans.

Drummond's class has been joined by Lois Minton's fourth-grade class and together the students have raised \$500 for the children of All As One.

Drummond's class is featured on the cover of the February issue of the All As One newsletter.

"The students went above and beyond my expectations," Drummond said. "They have shown such compassion and love for their new friends from Sierra Leone."

"I am so proud of their selflessness and humanitarianism. They are demonstrating what they learn at school that character counts."