

Iredell Citizen

Belly Dancing
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Volume 10, Number 48 • 28 Pages

MARCH 13, 2008

704-872-1200 • editor@iredellcitizen.com

Statesville, NC 28677 • 50¢

Published Weekly in the Crossroads of the Carolinas

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IREDELL CITIZEN

WHAT DOES EDWARD HAILEY OF TROUTMAN HAVE IN COMMON WITH FORMER PRESIDENT GERALD FORD, FILM DIRECTOR STEVEN SPIELBERG, ACTOR JAMES STEWART, TV JOURNALIST WALTER CRONKITE, BASEBALL GREAT HANK AARON, THE FIRST MAN ON THE MOON, NEIL ARMSTRONG AND NEW YORK MAYOR MICHAEL BLOOMBERG?

IF YOU GUESSED THEY HAVE ALL EARNED SCOUTING'S HIGHEST HONOR, THE EAGLE SCOUT AWARD, YOU ARE RIGHT AND EDWARD HAILEY IS ABOUT TO BE ONE OF THE LATEST TO JOIN THIS PRESTIGIOUS GROUP AND HUNDREDS OF OTHERS THROUGHOUT THE UNITED STATES.

HIS SCOUTING CAREER STARTED AS A CUB SCOUT. LATER, AS A MEMBER OF THE FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH'S TROOP 174, HE HAS SERVED THE UNIT IN SEVERAL LEADERSHIP POSITIONS WHILE WORKING ON HIS EAGLE REQUIREMENTS. IT TAKES 21 MERIT BADGES TO QUALIFY FOR THE AWARD; HE HAS EARNED 47.

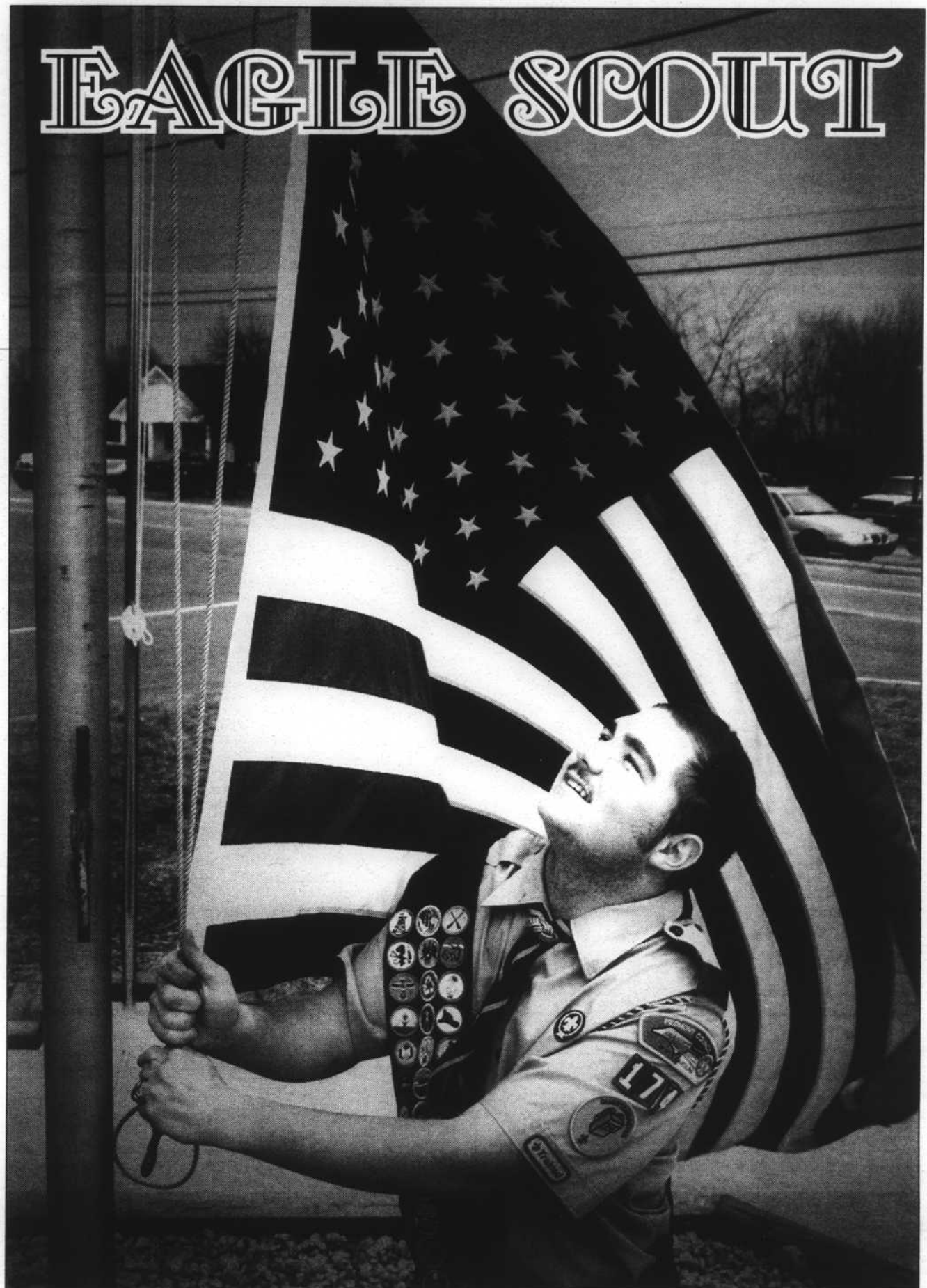
IN ADDITION, A CANDIDATE MUST SELECT, AND GET APPROVAL BY A SPECIAL ADULT BOARD, OF AN EAGLE PROJECT FOR HIS CHURCH OR COMMUNITY.

AT AN EARLY AGE HE BECAME INTERESTED IN ALL BRANCHES OF THE U.S. ARMED SERVICES. HE LIKES TO SAY HE WAS A "REAL WORLD WAR II BUFF." HIS PROJECT, A TRIBUTE TO THE COUNTRY'S ARMED FORCES, WAS APPROVED BY THE SCOUT BOARD AND THE TOWN'S AMERICAN LEGION POST 401.

HAILEY, NOW 18, BECAME A "CONTRACTOR," SELLING HIS IDEA TO THE BUSINESS COMMUNITY AND ENLISTING THEIR SUPPORT. HIS ROUGH LAYOUT DRAWING BECAME HIS PLAN OF ACTION AND HE COULD BE SEEN TAKING PART IN THE ACTUAL CONSTRUCTION.

STARTING IN MARCH 2007 THE PROJECT WAS COMPLETED IN JANUARY 2008 WITH MATERIAL AND LABOR COMING IN AT AROUND \$8,500. THE WAR

EAGLE SCOUT



Bob Plyler/CITIZEN

See Eagle Scout on page 8

EAGLE SCOUT EDWARD HAILEY HOISTS the American Flag, centerpiece in the Troutman War Memorial display honoring members of the country's armed forces.