

SCOUT-ING AROUND



Local scouts participate in a fun teamwork exercise, each pulling a rope to move a triangular platform which carries another boy. The activity was one of many fun, learning adventures featured in a recent Scout Show at the KM walking track.



Scouts of Troop 93, Tyler Martin, left, and Daniel Wooten practice their knot-tying skills.



Scouts watch in silence as an American flag is ceremoniously retired. Left to right, Nick Matola and Chase Stirewalt, both in 1960s uniforms, Kirby Hullender in a late-1950s sea scout uniform, and Levi Wright.



John Bridges, left, tosses a ring onto a board in what is known as the "hole-yo" game as contender Paul Pillado looks on. They are with Troop 93 of Central UMC.

Photos
by
EMILY
WEAVER

CORRECTION

The following Eagle Scouts were inadvertently left out of last week's special edition of The Herald on Kings Mountain Boy Scouts: Stewart Livsie, who earned the rank in 2005, Andrew Livsie (2007), and Matthew Bumgardner (2006).

For a Boy Scout to achieve the highest rank of Eagle, the journey is often long and hard. Weeks and even months go into the projects these scouts undertake to earn their "wings". Whether it's renovating an old theatre, preserving a forgotten cemetery, cleaning up a favorite park or using special skills to brighten the lives of many, the result of these endeavors are just as much for others as they are for the noble scouts.

Only one out of 100 scouts will make Eagle.



Doug Sharp, a member of the potato project's steering committee, pulls up some of the weeds around the potato plants with a hoe.

POTATOES

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nearly two acres of Ernst Borchert's land at 134 Ross Rd., on the way to Waco from Kings Mountain.

Borchert said that he had used the land to raise alfalfa last year. "This is a more worthwhile crop," he added with a grin.

Borchert is in the Knights of Columbus, a Catholic order founded on the principles of charity, unity and fraternity. It is the main calling of all Knights to help those in need. By donating his land and time to the project, he has stayed true to that

calling.

"I just feel it's my way of giving back to the Lord for what he's given me," he said, standing out in his field Monday morning. "It gives us an opportunity to pass on our blessings to others."

Reaching across denominations

The potato project started through members of the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association. But the cause has spread throughout the denominations.

A Presbyterian church is growing potatoes in its community garden and members of two local Catholic churches have also donated time, labor and land.

Pat Bonino, a member of St. Mary's Catholic Church in Shelby and a neighbor of Sharp, said that she filed for the Catholic campaign grant after Sharp heard about it. She was pleased to hear that among the 16 groups that had applied they had won it.

Sharp said that Borchert's involvement with the Knights of Columbus order probably helped. Borchert attends Christ the King Catholic Church in Kings Mountain.

Bonino said that the Catholic campaign seemed to like the grassroots idea and home-grown effort that is going into the potato project. "They said that they would have liked to have given us more," she added.

Bonino said that the campaign is a "domestic anti-poverty, social justice program of the Catholic Bishops of the United States" and is "rooted in the Gospel call to bring good news to the poor, liberty to captives, new sight to the blind and set the downtrodden free (Luke 4:18-19)."

"The Catholic Campaign's mission is to address the root causes of poverty in the United States through promotion and support of low-income

controlled community organizing and economic development initiatives and through transformative education in low-income communities," Bonino said.

"A lot of times these grants are out there but people don't know about them or don't take advantage of them," she said, adding that they may be applying for other grants in the coming months.

Sharp, Bonino, Borchert and Bill Horn, all members of the project's steering committee, will travel to Hickory on Thursday, May 20, to receive the \$2,000 award from the Catholic Campaign for Human Development.

Rooted in compassion

Bill Horn, who serves on the board of directors of the Salvation Army, said that he first heard about the idea for planting a crop to help feed the community in his Sunday School class, which Sharp teaches. The two men and others decided to start the county-wide initiative, reaching out to see if local charities could help them get the potatoes to those in need.

Becky Lineberger, director of the Kings Mountain Crisis Ministry, was quick to join the crusade. She told The Herald in January that they give out buggies of food to families in need on a regular basis. "The more help, the better," she added.

Potatoes will also be delivered to charities such as the Salvation Army and the Greater Cleveland County Baptist Association for distribution to those in need.

Until then, volunteers are needed to help with weed control around the potato plants.

"We're finding weeds grow a whole lot faster than potatoes," Sharp joked.

Any group or individual that would like to help can call Bill Horn at 704-482-5531 or Doug Sharp at 704-480-1608 for directions.

After all of the planting has been completed, Sharp said that they plan to put together a cookbook to share some of the many recipes that call for potatoes.

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