

# The Community Page

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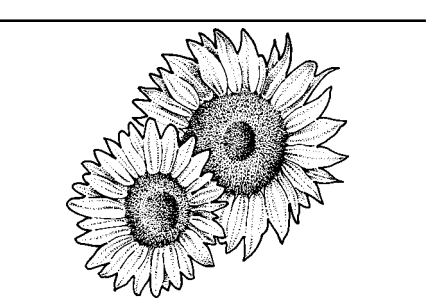


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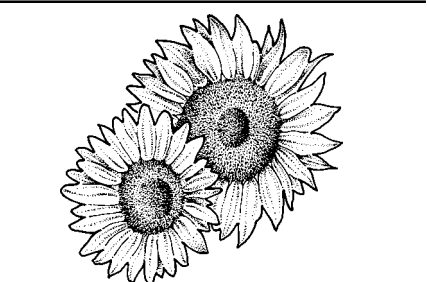
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## Congratulations to Goodland's newest Eagle Scout

### Hard work and dedication earn Scout top rank

Timothy Gittinger received his Eagle Scout badge on Sept. 11 at his court of honor held at the United Methodist Church in Goodland.

Assistant scoutmaster Dennis Saint presented the badge to Timothy's mother Marilyn who pinned the badge on her son's uniform. His father Kendall then placed the Eagle Scout neckerchief around his son's neck.

Timothy, a senior at Goodland High, joined Troop 142 in May 1997. He made first class scout in December 1999, star rank in June 2000 and life rank in December 2002.

The requirements for Eagle Scout includes active service as a life scout in the troop for at least six months, serve in a troop leadership position as a life scout for at least six months and earn a minimum of 21 merit badges of which 12 are required.

The required badges include first aid, camping, citizenship in the community, environmental science, communications, citizenship in the nation, personal fitness, family life and citizenship in the world. The scout must earn either the lifesaving or emergency preparedness badge, and either the swimming, hiking or cycling badge.

The scout must earned six badges, including four of the Eagle requirements, to make star rank and five more, including three more of the required, for life.

Another requirement is, as a life scout, he must plan and develop a service project that will be helpful to his church, school or community. The scout must also take part in a scoutmaster conference and pass a board of review. All of these requirements must be completed before his 18th birthday.

Timothy's service project was to put in two park benches in Gulick Park near the children's play area. He also placed a plaque between the benches dedicating his project to the memory Don Harding who was involved in scouting for 47 years and was awarded the Silver Beaver for distinguished service to the Boy Scouts.

About 35 family, friends and guests attended the dedication ceremony held the morning of the court of honor in Gulick Park. The Harding family released balloons in the memory of Don as part of the ceremony.

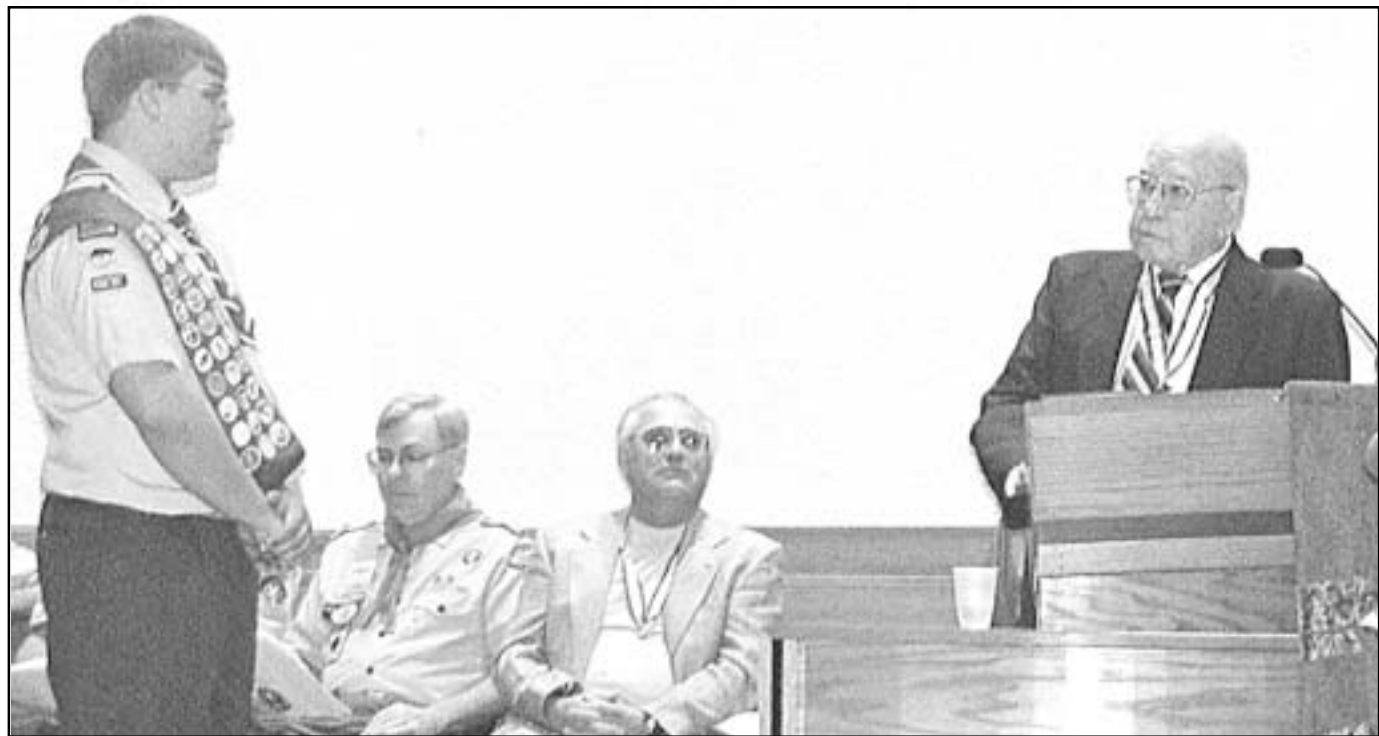
Timothy was presented to the court of honor by Jacob Erickson, who earned his Eagle Scout badge last year.



Marilyn Gittinger pinned the Eagle Scout badge on her son during his Court of Honor ceremony Sept. 11 at the United Methodist Church, which sponsors Troop 142.  
Photos by Greg Stover/The Goodland Star-News



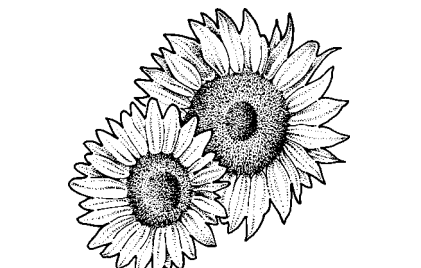
Ladona Frerichs (left) and Ron Harding (center) release balloons as part of the park bench dedication ceremony in honor of their father, Don Harding.



Bill Hartzler (right) gave the Eagle Charge to Gittinger, which challenged him to let the Scout Oath and Law guide him throughout his life.

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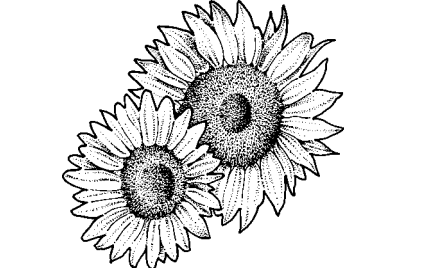
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