## **Gabriel Lanciano**

## EAGLE SCOUT BANQUET June 11. 2009

Tonight, Gabe Lanciano will officially become Troop 4's 17<sup>th</sup> Eagle Scout. Gabe began his scouting career with Milford's Pack 4, sponsored by St. Mary's church, led by Den leaders Mike and Donna Lee Shain. His favorite Cub Scout memories were the Pinewood Derbies and the Cub Scout "Night at the Museum" sleepover.

Gabe's favorite part of Boy Scouts was earning merit badges. Gabe is among the troop all time leaders in merit badges earned, having earned a total of 32 badges, most of which he earned before reaching the rank of Life in 2006. In his early years, Gabe focused on only the non-Eagle required merit badges, causing his parents and Scoutmaster much anxiety as they tried to guide Gabe down the path to Eagle. However, once he decided to focus on his sights on Eagle, Gabe quickly mastered the remaining Eagle-required badges. Gabe was a veteran of 3 Troop high adventure trips. His favorite was the 50 mile Adirondack canoe trip, with the Colorado Camp Tahosa Alpine Adventure running a close second.

Gabe's Eagle Scout Leadership Project involved improvements at the Milford Humane Society's cat shelter. He led a team that constructed cat climbing structures, improved the shelter's storage area, and restored an old walking trail on the property. Gabe successfully recruited scouts and friends to assist on all phases of the project. Not only did the project improve the cat shelter facility, but it raised awareness of the Society's mission among all the scouts, friends and adults who assisted on his project. Gabe felt that this project helped him to develop project management skills that will be useful throughout his career.

While maintaining his studies at Milford High School, Gabe was employed at Target, and the Milford Tea Cake Company. He learned that "you can do boring things for 8 hours and still find a way to enjoy it". While at Milford High, he was also a member of the wrestling team for two years. Gabe has a passion for music, and routinely treats his neighbors to his band's backyard performances. His other passion is nature, the ocean and biology, which he will soon be pursuing further in his upcoming studies at the University of Massachusetts Marine Biology Program in Dartmouth, MA.

Gabe's advice to younger scouts: "Try to do all that Scouts has to offer. Don't worry if you'll enjoy it or not. Chances are that you will. Go on all the trips, help out on all the projects, and be active. It'll pay off."

