Stephen Ward EAGLE SCOUT BANQUET

March 24, 2011

Stephen Ward joined Cub Scouts as a Bobcat cub in Pack 4 in Milford. He was a member of Den 3, later known as the Hawk Patrol, along with several other scouts who eventually joined Troop 4. His den was led by Karen Nietz and Tim Holtsnider. Stephen earned his Arrow of Light and became a Boy Scout in 2004, at the age of 11. He decided to join Troop 4 after attending the annual Pig Roast in the fall of that year.

In Troop 4, Stephen was a member of the Dragon Patrol. Stephen loved to attend the Troop's frequent camping trips. Among his favorites were the backpacking trips along the Appalachian Trail, and the High Adventure trips – canoeing fifty miles in the Adirondacks and backpacking for five days along the Continental Divide in Colorado.

For Stephen's Eagle Scout Service Project, he rehabilitated the Clark's Island area off of the Charles River Trail in Milford. He supervised a general clean-up of the area, and designed, constructed, and installed a footbridge, two benches, and a sign at the entrance to the park. This project was a valuable learning experience, and gave Stephen much more confidence in his leadership and communication abilities. The project was sponsored by the Friends of the Upper Charles River Bike Trail.

Outside of Scouting, Stephen is a senior at Milford High School. He is a member of the National Honor Society, Spanish National Honor Society, and involved in the Spanish Exchange Program. He spent two weeks in Spain living with Spanish families and attending classes. Stephen is also captain of the Indoor and Outdoor Track and Field teams, and recently competed in the State Divisional Championships in the hurdles. In the future, Stephen plans to pursue a degree in Biomedical Engineering. The lessons, skills and, most importantly, values he has learned through Scouting will be a great help to him in the coming years!

Stephen's advice to younger scouts: "As you rise up the ranks in Scouting, start to reflect more deeply on what your experiences have taught you about yourself. The path to Eagle Scout will be clearer if you have a greater understanding of what scouting means to you."

