Cabiness awarded Eagle Scout Award

BY DEBBIE HIGHTOWER

ARCHDALE - Parker Cabiness of Archdale is a recent recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, which is the highest recognition that can be earned in Boy Scouting. For his Eagle project, Cabiness put up a new flagpole for Guilford Fire Department Station 40 on Surratt Drive. The flagpole had been hit and destroyed by a drunk driver and Guilford firefighters were thrilled when he decided to replace it.

Cabiness, 16, is the son of Bruce and Donna Cabiness and has been a part of Boy Scouting since he joined Tiger Cubs in first-grade. He earned the Arrow of Light at the end of his Cub Scout career. Currently he is a member of Troop 25 that meets at Archdale Friends Meeting where he served.

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Parker Cabiness is a recipient of the Eagle Scout Award, which is the highest award in Boy Scouts. For his Eagle project, Cabiness put up a new flagpole for Guilford Fire Station 40 on Surratt Drive. Cabiness, 16, a member of Troop 25 that meets at Archdale Friends Meeting, has earned 34 merit badges.

AWARD

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as troop librarian and patrol leader for the Phoenix Patrol.

"I have earned 34 merit badges, my favorite of which is probably canoeing because I've always loved the water and boats," said Cabiness.

Larry Warlick, an assistant troop leader who mentors Eagle candidates, said most start working on their Eagle without realizing it when they join Boy Scouts at age 10 or 11.

"For those who really want to achieve and accomplish it, it's a matter of just putting forth the effort and taking advantage of the opportunity," Warlick said. "The young man working on his Eagle goes to the organization benefiting from the project, explains what he wants to do and seeks approval for the project. The public relations experience is part of leadership but it's more about character. You have to go in there and tell them this is what I want to do and this is why I think it will benefit you. If you're 14 or 15 years old, that's not quite as easy as it sounds."

Eagle candidates plan, develop and manage the team who will carry out the project. "The Eagle Scout candidate is there directing but he also gets his hands dirty to accomplish the project," Warlick explained. "It's not given that anybody can go do this. That's why we're very fortunate to have anywhere from 3 to 4 percent of the boys who come into the program will become Eagle Scouts. There's something magical about having the term Eagle Scout on your application whether it's for college, a job later or just about anywhere."

Cabiness also excels in academics at Trinity High School, where he takes three AP classes and is on the school's honor roll.

As a member of the school's Phoenix Troop, he participates in the band and also plays in the marching band.

An Eagle Award ceremony will be held Sunday, June 12 at Archdale Friends Meeting.

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