

Burton, Green, Ligenza are area's new Eagles

David J. Burton, Brian J. Green and Thomas J. Ligenza, all members of Boy Scout Troop 389, received their Eagle Award this month at a Court of Honor in Nardin Park United Methodist Church, sponsor of the troop.

Burton is a junior at Harrison High School. Green and Ligenza are both freshmen at Harrison High.

All are members of the Order of the Arrow. All have hiked the ranch trail in Philmont Scout Reservation and enough wilderness trails to win the "50-Miler" award.

David Burton, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Dewey Burton of Farmington Hills, entered scouting as a cub and through his growing-up years has been involved in quarter midget racing. His home club is in Waterford, an affiliate of the national organization, where his expertise led him to competition throughout the U.S.

Music is another interest of Burton's. He plays the organ, piano, saxophone,

synthesizer drums and the flute. He plays in the high school symphony, jazz band and marching band and works as a member of the music department's equipment staff and for its newsletter. Burton earned money to complete his community service project, a requisite for the Eagle Award, by selling oven mitts. The money was used to buy equipment to start a vegetable garden now being tended by residents of a local nursing home.

Brian Green is the second son of Mr. and Mrs. John Green of Farmington Hills to earn an Eagle Award. He entered scouting as a cub in Newburgh, Ind., and joined Troop 389 in the fall of 1978.

At Harrison he is a percussionist with the marching and concert bands and is interested in computers.

Green was one of several area scouts who worked to get the governor's man-

al in downtown Farmington ready for its transition to Farmington Historical Museum this spring.

He worked in maintenance, repairing screening, painting poles for the birdhouses on the lawn, painting window casings and working to restore some of the home's original iron trellises.

Tom Ligenza is the third son of Mr. and Mrs. Vic Ligenza to earn an Eagle Award and estimates he's attended about 90 percent of the camp-outs offered since joining the troop in 1978.

Along the way to his own Eagle Award he assisted nine other scouts in the troop achieve theirs.

For his community service project Ligenza tackled a debris-filled creek on the grounds of Marian Oakland West.

He hauled out a kitchen sink he found among the cans, bottles, tires, bricks, cinder blocks and branches that were removed to allow the water to flow freely.



Brian J. Green



David Burton



Tom Ligenza

"Miss Charm" honored by state legislators

The first young woman voted the most charming in America was honored by the Michigan House of Representatives in special ceremonies recently.

Melanie Churella, a Farmington Hills resident and America's Miss Charm for 1982, received a resolution of congratulations from the 110 member body for winning her title at the scholarship pageant held in June in Charlotte, N.C.

The 20-year old Michigan State University junior majoring in business was crowned after three days of competition during which she sang "Somewhere Over the Rainbow" and danced a jazz routine to "The Man That Got Away."

"The judges were a designer from Illinois and the 1981 Miss Illinois and Miss New Hampshire — women who had been in the Miss America Pageant nine or 10 months before and knew what to look for and also had sympathy for the girls," Churella said, recalling the week she spent in North Carolina.

She has studied dance the last two summers in New York City and is continuing her dance study three days a week. She learned about the pageant from her dance teacher.

Since there was no qualifying pageant in Michigan, she sent an application and resume to the national pageant and found once she got to North Carolina that she was competing with two other girls from Michigan to represent the state.

After two days of competition, Churella was one of five selected to compete for the crown. It was a special

thrill, she said, to be crowned by Cheryl Pruitt, Miss America for 1980.

CHURELLA is no stranger to pageantry. She reigned as Miss Farmington in 1980 and was Farmington High School's homecoming queen in 1979. An active young woman, she has participated in cheerleading, gymnastics, track, basketball, among other activities, and is a member of the National Honor Society.

As the first America's Miss Charm, Churella was invited to attend the 1982 Miss America Pageant in Atlantic City. "It was really fantastic," she said, "nothing like watching it on T.V. I went to parties, met a lot of people and had

my picture taken with celebrities. I was a delegate from North Carolina even though I come from Michigan, so I had to explain all that to people."

The second America's Miss Charm pageant will be held in Washington, D.C. the first week in July. She will crown the new Miss Charm and hopes she will be able to arrange a meeting with President Reagan.

A member of her church choir and the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, Churella has during the months since she became America's Miss Charm visited nursing homes, children's hospi-

tals, and helped countless special projects designed to raise funds for charitable endeavors.

"I haven't done as much as I would like to do because I'm so busy with school," said Churella, who is also doing an internship with Northwestern Life Insurance Company, in addition to her dance, voice and theater classes at MSU.

Charm is quality that is hard to define, but Churella quotes the English writer Sir James Barrie. "If you have it, you don't need to have anything else; and if you don't have it, it doesn't matter what else you have."



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