

Leadership project leads to Eagle Scout

A hefty resume of scouting activities and honors, as well as a major leadership project — painting the exterior of a home for a disabled resident — led to David Ehrlich of Farmington Hills being honored with the Eagle Scout award recently.

Ehrlich was honored at a Court of Honor, Boy Scout Troop 110. The troop is sponsored by Our Lady of Sorrows in Farmington.

His decision to coordinate the

improvement of a disabled woman's house was made when he read of a similar project in the Farmington Observer.

"The city of Farmington Hills sponsored Ehrlich in his project, particularly putting Ehrlich in touch with the woman whose house needed painting.

"The city told me that they had done previous work for her such as recently roofing her house and turning a utility room into a bedroom," Ehrlich wrote in a report

about his project.

"The house was in such bad shape, I thought it would be an excellent project. The paint was peeling on many sides," Ehrlich continued.

To prepare for the project, Ehrlich contacted paint and hardware stores. Target, ACO and Sears donated the needed paint and other supplies for the project.

Ehrlich got the project approved and then contacted

other troop scouts for help in completing the project, which included scraping, priming and painting. Some minor yard work was also required.

He encountered only one obstacle in successfully completing his Eagle Scout project in two days: Ehrlich found out that he had to prime the whole exterior of the house. "...I realized that you could not cover oil base paint with latex paint."

Ehrlich said the project taught him planning, organization and leadership. "I learned that it takes a lot of work to organize a project of this size. I needed to get commitments from the workers. I had to organize the project in order to get it done."

"My project was beneficial to the city because it saved them money that they would normally have to pay for the workers and supplies," Ehrlich said in his report. "In addition, it helped improve the neighborhood. Last, I helped improve the home in which a disabled woman lives."

Ehrlich began scouting with Den 4, Pack 48 1988-1993, as well as three troops in the Boys Scouts. His leadership roles include senior patrol leaders 1997-98.

Ehrlich has received a number of awards including the Order of the Arrow, Troop Junior Leader Training (instructor), Top Knot



Honored: David Ehrlich of Farmington Hills was recognized with scouting's highest award, the Eagle Scout.

JLTC as a participant in 1996, as well as staff in 1997 and 1998. He was also attended National Junior Leader Instructor Camp at Philmont Scout Ranch, New

Mexico, in 1998.

He is the son of Susan Ehrlich of Farmington Hills and Richard Ehrlich of West Bloomfield.

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Noise from page A1

talked to state elected officials and attended a recent public meeting in Livonia.

Some Meadowbrook residents asked Farmington Hills city officials about the feasibility of a lawsuit to temporarily stop the project. City officials declined.

"It's not like we've had our heads buried in the sand," DeLoach said. "Our president last year wrote a letter to state highway department and they laughed him off."

MDOT is not required to do a sound study because it's a renovation — not a new road or lane addition.

One homeowner has measured decibel levels of 82-84. OSHA regulations considers anything 80 and over loud and dangerous, according to the Noise Pollution

Clearinghouse.

"It makes more sense to do the study once the road is in and traffic is back to its previous levels," said Robin Pannecouk, an MDOT spokeswoman. "It's like trying to fix something before you know it's for certain."

Jean Barber who lives off Nine Mile Road next to I-275 has lobbied unsuccessfully for a sound wall. Meadowbrook residents have looked into similar remedies, but prefer asphalt.

Asphalt, as well being used for repairs, is also designed for road foundations. The New Jersey Turnpike is constructed with asphalt.

When I-275 was repaved three years ago with asphalt, noise levels decreased, DeLoach said. The rumble has returned

I-275

recently with an increasing number of potholes.

Whether asphalt is quieter is open for debate, MDOT's Pannecouk said.

"If a soundwall costs \$2.5 million a mile to build, it would be cheaper to put in asphalt," DeLoach said.

"The money (\$31 million) they'd save with concrete could be used to build other roads.

We're realistic about that. If it creates more of a problem here, it doesn't benefit anyone."

Sentence from page A1

Dillard and four other teens were in a car near Farmington-Nine Mile when one of them yelled obscenities at Ford.

More obscenities were exchanged, although one of the teens in the car realized that her verbal tirade against Ford was a

case of mistaken identity.

Despite an apology from the girl, the fracas escalated and moved over to the Clark gas station, where Dillard was stabbed. Ford was quickly apprehended on the nearby M-6 embankment.

At the time Ford was found guilty, Farmington Public Safety Detective Christine Schutz said Ford was convicted because "the placement of the knife into (Dillard's) heart showed intent. He didn't go for any other part of the body. He went for the heart."

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