



# MIAMI TOWNSHIP

MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO

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## NEWS RELEASE

### **Eagle Scout project benefits Miami Twp. Veterans' Memorial**

*Scout says family motivated his decision to repair memorial*

Tony Foster is not only entering his junior year at Miamisburg High School, but he is working to become an Eagle Scout, the Boy Scouts of America's highest rank. The 16-year-old spent years collecting merit badges, attending scout meetings and completing service projects. His efforts all led up to one very important day, the day he demonstrated all he learned while overseeing a final community project. Foster chose an Eagle Scout Service Project that is close to his family's heart. He decided to tackle repair work at the Miami Township Veterans' Memorial.

"My father is a veteran and I thought it was a nice thing to do for all the veterans of our community, to show respect to them," Foster said.

His father is an active member of the Army National Guard having served previously in the U.S. Marines. His grandfather also served our country, and Foster is considering the same, as is his older brother, Jacob, who also happens to be an Eagle Scout.

It took about six months to devise a plan of action that would see the repair project through to completion. He recruited volunteers, held organizational meetings, and secured supplies. Miami Township provided the bricks and sand, while Home Depot donated a gift card used to buy gloves and safety equipment. Hands-on labor began on a sunny Saturday afternoon.

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While Foster served as project manager, the volunteers did most of the work. Troop 167, family and friends spent the day removing loose bricks from the memorial. They then laid down new sand to create a stronger base and re-installed the pavers along the granite marker honoring Miami Township veterans.

“Tony has to demonstrate his leadership skills here. He has to manage the volunteers to get the job done,” Eric Flasher, township trustee said. “He has to be able to talk with adults and work out any issues that arise, all while demonstrating the best of voluntary public service.”

The process of earning the Eagle Scout rank is intense. Candidates must successfully maneuver a winding trail of applications, reviews and approvals. After their Eagle Scout project is complete, they must submit a workbook detailing their efforts. Foster’s project will be evaluated based on its impact to the community and his leadership skills. But, there is a little more to this project than meets the eye, at least from Foster’s point of view.

“I want to get my driver’s license. I want to complete my project in November, so I can get a car.”

And, the only way to do that in the Foster family is to earn it. Once he has become an Eagle Scout, his parents will allow him to drive.

“His brother had to do the same thing to get his license,” Micki Foster, Tony’s mother, said. “We’ll have to see about the car!”

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