

Local Eagle Scout Project honors Local Veterans

Nathan Miller, Life Scout with Boy Scout Troop 242, is planning a memorial to honor the veterans buried at the Burgaw Cemetery for his Eagle Scout project. The memorial will be engraved with all the names of veterans that have served our country and now rest at the Burgaw Cemetery. Nathan chose this project based on his interest in United States history. Through his studies, Nathan has realized the effect our veteran's service has on the lives of our community, our nation, and the world. While identifying the veterans, Nathan realized that he knew first hand many of the veterans or their families. With this project he hopes other people will come to that realization also.

While there are memorials to veterans who have died serving our country, such as the one on the courthouse square, there are few memorials that honor the veterans that served their country in war time or peace and came back to their communities to live normal lives. So many times we honor people who do extraordinary things, but everyone who serves our country is a hero and deserves our honor and respect. This memorial honors these real people by providing a permanent recognition of the respect and gratitude we have for those who put their lives on the line for the safety and welfare of this country.

The Veteran's Park will be located in the Burgaw Cemetery and include a granite memorial, 3 benches, a flag pole and landscaping. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$5,000. Nathan would like to include the community in this project by offering several ways for the community to get involved. With the help of his fellow scouts, they have taken photos of all the headstones in the cemetery that indicate military service and he created a data base to be used to create the memorial. A list of the veterans to be included on the memorial is located at the Burgaw Town Hall for inspection. If you have family members or friends that should be included on the memorial, please go by the Burgaw Town Hall and review the veteran's list be sure your loved one is properly included on the memorial. Nathan hopes to complete the project in time for a dedication service on Memorial Day.

You can financially support this worthwhile project by making a contribution in honor or in memory of a special veteran. Contributions to support this project can be made to made payable to Boy Scout Troop 242, Special Projects, P.O. Box 1231, Burgaw, NC 28425. All contributions are deductible for income tax purposes. If you have any questions or would like to assist with this project, you may contact Nathan Miller at 259-6437.