

## PRESS RELEASE

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### **WOODBINE RESIDENT COLBY AARON SCHALEK ATTAINS RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT**

**Woodbine**—Mayor William Pikolycky is pleased to announce that Woodbine resident Colby Schalek received his Eagle Scout rank (an honor that only 4% of Boy Scouts attain) at his Eagle Court of Honor held Saturday, January 7, 2017, at the Parish of Saint Maximilian Parish Pavilion, located at the Church of the Resurrection, Marmora, in the midst of a snowstorm on Orthodox Christmas.

Colby was honored by presentations from Senator Van Drew and Assemblymen Andrzejczak & Land, Cape May County Freeholders, Cumberland County Freeholders, Senator Robert Menendez, Congressman LoBiondo, Roosevelt Scout Camp, Masons Lodge, Woodbine State Police Barracks, Woodbine Volunteer Fire Company, and the Borough of Woodbine.

Colby earned thirty-five merit badges (twenty-one were required to obtain the rank) and has served his Scout Troop in a number of leadership roles, including serving as a counselor at Camp Roosevelt Camp.

Colby, who is himself a Junior Firefighter, developed, planned, and gave leadership to an Eagle Scout project to benefit the Borough of Woodbine, the Fallen Firefighters Memorial stone located by Woodbine's historic Fire House and original Borough Hall and gave a presentation concerning his project at Borough Council meeting held August 18, 2016, at the historic original Borough Hall as part of the Borough's Quasquicentennial Celebration and then dedicated his memorial to the community in a ceremony on August 27, 2016.

Colby has been a long-time Cape May County 4-H member, winning a Class A "Best in Show" award at the 2016 Cape May County Fair for his Community Service Exhibit concerning his Eagle Scout project, serves as Vice President in the 4-H Teen Ambassador Club, and is a member of the Future Farmers of America.

He traveled to Haiti to help a fellow Scout complete his Eagle Scout project, and while there helped teach community children to play soccer, helped in immunizing those children, and additionally helped with treating the livestock

Colby is a junior at St. Augustine's Preparatory School, Richland, where he is in various clubs, ran cross country in the fall and is currently doing Swim. He also serves as a lector at his parish church, St. Casimir's, Woodbine.

He plans to attend college after graduation.

Colby's father Fred is also an Eagle Scout as is his older brother Nicholas.

"I congratulate Colby on this major achievement and again thank him for being a part of Woodbine's 2016 Quasquicentennial celebration with the Fallen Firefighters memorial as his Eagle project, thus showing his ongoing commitment to the community in which he has always lived."

**(attach Proclamation)**