

than purchasing them. Reasons listed for not using the library included home use of the internet, lack of comfortable space and that the hours did not meet the needs of the respondent.

plan," said Trimm. "Right now the focus is not on a new library. It's on great service. And if we offer our community great service, then maybe they will want to have a new library."

as well.

You can learn more about her Kickstarter at <http://edquillen.com/kickstarter>.

Badges of honor

Gunnison's Cranor among elite merit earners

It's been a long journey, but Gunnison's Tim Cranor made it all the way.

Cranor achieved his goal of earning all 135 merit badges offered by the Boy Scouts of America on July 1. He had been challenged by Scout Executive Keith Alder to beat Alder's record of 76 badges. But at 76, Cranor was just getting going.

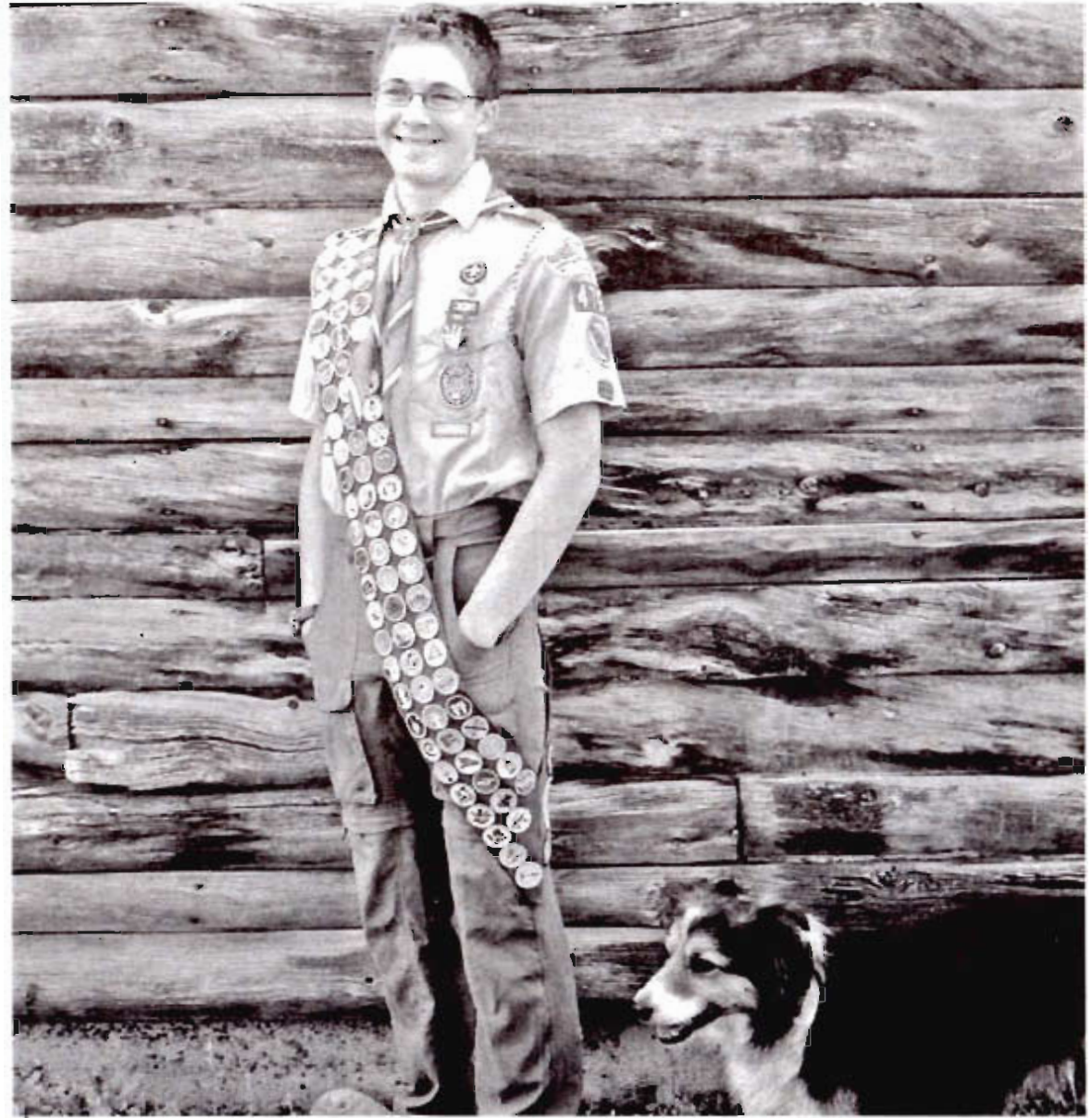
After earning the prestigious Eagle award — the highest rank in Boy Scouts — at the age of 13, Cranor set the goal of earning all the badges. Along the way, he biked from Gothic to Gunnison, learned to scuba dive off the coast of California, raised some lambs, threw some pots, learned how nuclear subs run, backpacked at Philmont Scout Ranch, practiced his Morse Code, flipped his canoe, built a few robots, programmed some computer games, rolled his kayak, played "Taps," rappelled down cliffs and climbed some 14ers.

As a homeschooler, Cranor was able to incorporate a great deal of his badge work into his everyday school work. "Scuba was definitely the best badge. The Garibaldi fish off Catalina Island are amazing," he said. "The hardest badge was probably Bugling. I'm not very musical. My scoutmaster, Tom Eager, would quietly cheer me on."

"My mom and I had a deal," Cranor continued. "After the first 60 or so, if I earned the badges, she'd sew them on."

There are currently 202 boys who have earned all of the merit badges offered in the Scouting program, according to meritbadgeknot.com.

Cranor's Eagle project was refurbishing equipment and lift lines at the city's ski hill with the help of local Troop 476. Cranor is currently serving as Chapter Chief for the Order of the Arrow for the south chapter of Mic-o-Say Lodge 541. A high school senior this coming year, he is hoping to continue his interest in computers in college, focusing on cyber security.



Gunnison's Tim Cranor displays all 135 merit badges offered by the Boy Scouts, covering both the front and back of his sash.

Photos by Margaret Cranor