Story by Mike Latona

Photographs by **Matthew Scott**

The older you get, the harder it might seem to balance your schedule. So for many teenagers, Scouting may be a longtime activity that suddenly faces elimination.

However, many other teens also consider Scouting to be one of the most rewarding parts of their high-school

Tom Tammaro, 17, said you don't have to necessarily abandon Scouting because of other high-school commitments. Tom is still actively involved with Troop 63 in Corning, yet he also keeps involved with his parish youth group and high-school marching band. In addition, he works 15 to 20 hours per week.

"You may come late to a (Scout) meeting, but at least you're there," remarked Tom, from the Corning-Painted Post Roman Catholic Communi-

Monica Ryszytiwskyj and Anna Norsky are two Corning girls who also have continued Scouting into their teen years. Monica 15, and Anna, 14, are working toward their Gold Award, the highest attainable honor in Girl Scouting: They're members of Troop 1094 and are also parishioners in the Corning-Painted Post cluster.

For their Gold Award, Monica and Anna will attend an Internet convention in New York City this December. They plan to apply their findings to developing an Internet presentation for younger Girl

In addition to this project, Monica said that her troop once held a drive to collect donations that were then presented to abused women and their children.

"They wrote thank-you letters. It was

really nice," Monica said.

Monica pointed out that Scouting can create benefits for both the Scouts and the community they serve.

"It sounds corny, but people should stick with it because when you do good things for people it makes you feel good," Monica said.

Community service is also a goal of



Kelly Tiberio, 14. Kelly is a Cadette - the second-highest level of Girl Scouting behind Seniors — and is working toward her Silver Award. She has planned a drive to collect food and supplies for animals at Lollypop Farm, a shelter in Perinton. In addition, Kelly has traveled to Canada as part of a Scout-sponsored exchange program.

Kelly pointed out that people outside of Scouting may have a mistaken perception of the opportunities available.

"People think it's a little girls' thing. We do a lot more than that," said Kelly, from St. Jerome's Church in East Rochester.

Kelly Hinds, 15, a Girl Scout from Troop 214 in Fairport, has also broadened her horizons through Scouting.

"It's helped me to see the world what people will do to help people," said Kelly, from Church of the Resurrection in Perinton.

For her Gold Award project, Kelly is planning to organize an arts-andcrafts program for children with disabilities. She also works closely with Special Scouts, a division of Scouting for disabled youths.

Boy Scouts, also, find fulfillment in their Scouting activities. That's the viewpoint of Chip Poulton, who said that his list of opportunities has expanded during his teen years.

"When you get older, the big things start happening," remarked Chip, 14, from Troop 332 in Henrietta. He attends Church of the Good Shepherd.

Chip is preparing to build an owl shelter as his major project toward his Eagle Award, the highest honor for Boy Scouts. He added that such abilities as first-aid knowledge, rope working and good speaking skills are among the other requirements he must fulfill for his Eagle Award. In addition, he said he takes on an ever-increasing number of leadership

For Stephen Forbes, 16, teamwork is one of the positive qualities filtering through Troop 106 in Irondequoit.



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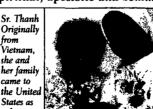
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