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Eagle Scout Candidate Collects Children's Book Donations



By Greg Richards Jan. 20 at 8:23 p.m.



Boy Scout Nathan Richards of Deerfield's Troop 50 is aiming to collect 3,000 books for a local charity.

An Eagle Scout candidate in Deerfield is working to put more books into the hands of deserving children, to boost literacy and foster a love of reading. Nathan Richards, 17, of Boy Scout Troop 50 is leading a drive to collect as many as 3,000 books by the end of January. Richards is asking the community to drop off their gently-used children's books, up to 6th grade reading level, by January 28 at collection boxes at both Deerfield train stations; the Deerfield Community Center (second floor); and Sunset Foods Highland Park.

Richards and his fellow Scouts will also be dropping collection bags at 1,000 homes in Deerfield, and then collecting, sorting and delivering the books to Bernie's Book Bank, a Chicagoland charity based in Lake Forest (www.berniesbookbank.org).

Troop 50 is chartered to St. Gregory's Episcopal Church in Deerfield. In the past twelve months, the Troop has honored 10 Eagle Scouts, who hold Scouting's highest rank. Each performed an extensive community service project as part of his overall requirements. More information about the Troop is available at www.bsa50.com.