



**Dawson DeMaria, of Macomb Township, is pictured with members of the Macomb Township Board of Trustees. Jan. 5 was Dawson DeMaria Day in Macomb Township.
Photo provided by Jennifer DeMaria**

Dakota student recognized with his own day

By: [Alex Szwarc](#) | [Macomb Township Chronicle](#) | Published January 7, 2020

MACOMB TOWNSHIP — A Macomb Township teenager had Jan. 5 all to himself, so to speak.

In December, the Macomb Township Board of Trustees approved a resolution recognizing Dawson DeMaria.

An Eagle Scout resolution was read at the meeting. DeMaria's Eagle Court of Honor celebration took place Jan. 5, a day that was proclaimed Dawson Robert DeMaria Day in Macomb Township. The celebration was held at the Clinton-Macomb Public Library North Branch in Macomb Township.

"It took a lot of work getting to this point, and it's all paying off in the long run," he said.

DeMaria, 14, began his Scouting career in first grade with Pack 183 at Cheyenne Elementary School in Macomb Township and continued with Troop 149, where he earned 38 merit badges, the Polar Bear Award and the World Conservation Award.

He earned the rank of Eagle Scout in October.

DeMaria's mother, Jennifer, said Scouting has been a way of life for her son.

"Sometimes kids join Scouting halfway through, but he's been in it a long time," Jennifer said. "Scouts kept them disciplined and wanting more for themselves."

As a member of the troop, Dawson served as chaplain aide, participating in the Detroit faith-based spiritual Scouting program, which led to him earning the Ad Altare Dei Religious Emblem Award.

His brother Alec, now 18, was his motivation to be involved in Scouting.

"As he kept earning new awards, I wanted to do it too," Dawson said. "After I got into it, it was really fun and I made new friends. It was another family to go to."

"His own actions, achievements and high moral standards have made him a role model and example for other Scouts in his troop and the local council to follow," the resolution states.

Dawson completed his Eagle Scout community service project by securing financing from Stony Creek Metropark in Macomb County for materials, and coordinated workers to install a split rail fence border at the Stony Creek Metropark Golf Course.

He worked on the project for several months.

Other awards that Dawson has received are the George Thomas Award for embodiment of Scouting ideals, the Order of the Arrow Brotherhood, and the Order of the Arrow — which he is most proud of.

As a freshman at Dakota High School, Dawson plays football and lacrosse. He is a member of St. Isidore Church in Macomb Township.