

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Lifelong Scout Receives Governor's Points of Light Award

Lincoln, Neb. – Michael J. Gallagher, Assistant Troop Director of Omaha Troop 395, received the Governor's Points of Light Adult Award from Governor Dave Heineman and First Lady Sally Ganem at a special ceremony on August 17, 2011 at the State Capitol. The awards are sponsored by ServeNebraska and presented quarterly in recognition of volunteers who give their time, talent and energy to help Nebraskans build stronger communities.

Mr. Michael J. Gallagher has devoted over 50 years of his life helping kids learn. As of this spring, Mike Gallagher celebrated 53 years in Boy Scouting. After earning the rank of Eagle Scout, he became a leader when he was just 20 years old. Continuing to serve his country, he went to Vietnam at 23. He is always enthusiastic about campouts and troop activities and is prepared for anything that might happen. Mr. Gallagher is a role model for all scouts and boys who seek adventure and was nominated by a current Scout, David Bredthauer. Many of the community service projects that Mike volunteers for include; Scouting for Food, which is a donation project to feed the hungry, serving hot dogs at the Little League baseball stadium, and volunteer yard work. He spends most of his time teaching scouts survival skills, such as tying knots, the basics of pitching a tent, first aid, swimming, hiking, good conduct, search and rescue, and the importance of the Buddy System. Mr. Gallagher's lifelong dedication to the Boy Scouts of America, but specifically to Mid-America Council Troop 395 is immeasurable. His volunteer hours are incalculable. He is an instrumental reason why the Troop has thrived as successfully as it has for many years.

Also recognized at the ceremony and receiving the Youth Award was Asmini KC, junior at Millard West High School for her volunteer efforts in her community, school and kids in other countries. The Group Award was presented to the Nebraska United Methodist Church-United Methodist Committee on Relief for their work in providing various kits; cleaning, health, sewing, school and birthing to aid in disaster relief in Nebraska and overseas.

Each quarter, a panel of judges from across Nebraska reviews award nominations and makes final recommendations to the Governor. To nominate individuals and groups for the Governor's Points of Light Awards who have made a difference through volunteerism and service, visit the ServeNebraska website at www.serve.nebraska.gov or call Kimberle Hall 800-291-8911 or 402-471-6228. The next nomination deadline is September 15, 2011.

ServeNebraska pursues its mission of mobilizing Nebraskans to strengthen their communities through volunteering, collaboration and national service programs.

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