

James Milam

EAGLE SCOUT

James Milam was a wide-eyed third-grader when terrorists attacked his country on Sept. 11, 2001. Before then, he'd never thought much about those who fight to protect it.

"September 11 had a huge impact on me," said the 18-year-old White House Heritage High School senior. "It struck a spark in me. It gave me a passion for remembering them."

In 2010 Milam turned that passion into an Eagle Scout project that would benefit the whole city of White House. In less than a year, he raised a total of \$5,600 for a memorial that was eventually dedicated to the city's veterans just before Veteran's Day, 2010.

White House Mayor John Decker, whose term expired in November, praised Milam's efforts. Because he lives in one county and attends school in the other, the teen was nominated by officials in both Robertson and Sumner counties as the 2010 youth recipient of the Governor's Volunteer Star



Award.

This fall, Milam plans to attend William Jewell College in Liberty, Mo., after obtaining a presidential scholarship. Although he's undecided about a major, he'll more than likely continue to serve as an inspiration to others.

Confined to a wheelchair

with sacral agenesis, a rare birth defect of the spine, Milam remains active swimming and working out regularly in the gym.

"I was always told that I can do whatever I want to do," Milam said. "I know nothing is impossible."

--TENA LEE

**DCO congratulates
our Spokesperson,**



2011 MOST INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE OF SUMNER COUNTY

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