

point scorers.

Pizzi learned field hockey from scratch, after his daughter

dence in his players. He also made sure they were having

## Cub Scouts to Plant Liberty Tree

As a boy, Bellingham Cubmaster Charles Boddy was impressed by the mature elm trees lining the paths of Phillips Academy in Andover, MA. "The 60-foot elms provided a canopy of shade along the walks and paths. Old postcards depicted the school's 'Elm Arch,' and the shade from the trees provided a cool spot to congregate, study, and play Frisbee® on hot afternoons." The Academy's elm trees were rarities, even then, most elms having been killed by Dutch Elm Disease. Boddy never forgot those elms. As he continued his 38 years of involvement in Boy Scouting, Boddy would often visit websites devoted to elms, and monitor efforts to produce disease-resistant varieties.

Recently, through another Scout leader, Boddy learned of a grant program sponsored by the Elm Research Institute in Keene, NH, which has propagated disease-resistant elms since 1967. The grant, limited to scout groups, designated 100 elms to the program. The institute makes one 14- to 19-ft. tree available to each designated Scout group to plant in its community, if certain conditions are met. "Fewer than 100 elms nationwide have been presented through this program," explained Assistant Cubmaster Michael DeChellis; "Pack 120 and Bellingham are fortunate to have been approved."

"Elm Research Institute required not only a commitment from our Pack, but also a commitment from the town that a prominent public space would be available for the planting," said Boddy. Selectman and Pack Treasurer Dawn Davies and Town Administrator Denis Fraire enthusiastically supported the project, which will bring the \$3,000 memorial to Bellingham, and expedited the Town's response so the project could proceed in time for the 4th of July. "We're excited about

the greatly increased potential for elm restoration in public places thanks to the generous donation of our sponsor," said ERI founder John P. Hansel.

The young elm is accompanied by a plaque memorializing Boston's Liberty Tree, where the Sons of Liberty gathered to discuss resistance to British tyranny. The original Liberty Tree was felled by the British in retaliation. "Scouting teaches the boys to serve others and give back to their community. This is a meaningful way to exemplify that lesson," said Pack Committee Chair Tricia Gonthier. "Not only did our Scouts learn about the American Revolution, but they also have a tangible way to demonstrate that they gave something of themselves to benefit their neighbors," added Asst. Cubmaster Sean Baxter. Ackerman Monument Company of Holliston donated the memorial's granite.

"This is a living gift that symbolizes the reintroduction of rare elms to our town. Over the years this tree will provide shade from the sun, shelter from the rain, fresh air to breathe, and, perhaps most important, inspiration that youngsters are also instruments for positive change. We hope our Scouts come back here with their spouses, children, and grandchildren, point to the elm, and say 'This tree grows here because of me and my fellow Scouts,'" Boddy concluded.

The ceremonial planting of Bellingham's Liberty Tree Memorial will take place on Thursday, July 3, at 7 p.m. The poem "Liberty Tree" by Thomas Paine will be read. The public is invited to attend.

For information about the American Liberty Elm or the Liberty Tree Memorial program, visit [www.libertyelm.com](http://www.libertyelm.com).

THE 2008 EDITION OF THE BELLINGHAM SOFTBALL TEAM ENJOYED

The 2008 edition of the Bellingham softball team enjoyed lots of success and can proudly take its place as one of the school's best squads after posting the most victories in a season.

written by Ken Hamwey, Bulletin Sports Editor

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