

## Burning ceremony retires tattered flags

Written by Holyoke Enterprise

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Members of Holyoke Boy Scout Troop 32 are pictured as they start flags on fire in one of three barrels in a Tuesday, March 17 flag-burning ceremony. Tattered flags were destroyed in a respectable way. Scouts are pictured from left, Duncan Brandt, Caleb Kafka and Cody Fricke, with fireman Brian Adams on hand at far left.



The ceremony was part of Brandt's Eagle Scout project and also contributed to the Hometown Heroes FCCLA Chapter Service project by Nicole Brandt, Geoffrey Mattson and Duncan Brandt.

Pictured below, from left, are Mattson, Duncan Brandt, Nicole Brandt, Fricke and Kafka. Prior to the flag-retiring ceremony, the FCCLA project members showed a Hometown Heroes video of interviews they conducted locally, as well as with people on the 16th Street Mall in Denver. That program opened with second grade students singing In the Heart of America. Teachers and students also shared thoughts on the topic of heroes as part of the afternoon program. It was conducted for local students after CSAP testing that morning, and community members were invited, as well.

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Their Hometown Heroes theme, Brandt, Brandt and Mattson, along with the FCCLA chapter, hosted a potato bar Thursday evening, showing the video of the flag-burning ceremony while guests were enjoying their meal. The video prepared by the trio was then shown, and guest speakers included American Legion Commander Shirley Kadlec and Chief of Police Phil Biersdorfer.