



Central Texas Achievements

Three join ranks of Eagle Scouts; local karate students win at regionals

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MOST POPULAR STORIES

These young men have been named Eagle Scouts, the highest level of recognition in the Boy Scouts of America:

•**Travis Genz** painted three bridges to cover graffiti in the Quail Creek neighborhood. He is a junior at Stony Point High School.

•**Clay Knippa** designed and coordinated the construction of herb gardens at Redeemer Lutheran School. The gardens are maintained by the elementary school students, and

the harvested herbs are donated to Meals on Wheels. He is a junior at Leander High School.

•**Christopher Snyder** coordinated the installation of two light poles in the parking lots at Redeemer Lutheran Church. He is a freshman at McNeil High School.

Locals excel at karate tourney

Twin Lakes Tang Soo Do and Austin Karate Academy brought home numerous accolades from the annual Region IV tournament.

Jimmy Bailey, a Sam Dan third degree and chief instructor at Twin Lakes Tang Soo Do, was recognized as instructor of the year.

Micky Kowlessar, a fifth Gup green belt at Twin Lakes Tang Soo Do, was named student of the year.

Michelle Bailey, an eighth Gup orange belt, achieved a gold in forms and sparring and was the overall grand champion for the female colored belt division.

David Mukherjee, E Dan second degree and chief instructor at **Austin Karate Academy**, achieved a gold in weapons (knife form), forms and sparring and was crowned grand champion for the male black belt division. **Austin Karate Academy** placed second out of four in the creativity division.

Student wins civil rights honors

The Texas Civil Rights Project named **Luis Orozco** of Lanier High School the Pat Dobbs Student Civil Rights Leader Award.

The group gives the award each year to outstanding student human rights advocates. This spring, Orozco organized and led fellow students in an eight-mile march to the

Texas Capitol on immigration issues and delivered a speech on the Capitol steps. In addition to taking classes and holding a part-time job, Luis also participated in Austin

Voices Social Justice Summer School.

Runners-up were **Tiana Won**, **Aysha Bagchi** and **Nell Glazener-Cooney**, from McCallum High School.

— From staff reports