

RESOLUTION NO. 14-133

WHEREAS, the City Council and Mayor are apprised of the 25th Birthday of Boy Scout Troop 400 led by Scoutmaster Albert F. Farrar, Sr., and sponsored by Hall B. Bryant, Jr., and Jim Batson of H. C. Blake Company. Several adult Scout leaders and very caring citizens of Huntsville have helped develop a Youth Development Program for the youth of Huntsville Public Housing and the surrounding low income area through Boy Scouts of America Troop 400; and,

WHEREAS, in 1988, the Troop was registered by the Boys and Girls Club at the request of Hall Bryant, Jr., a board member who had paid for the charter. Mr. Farrar volunteered to be the Scoutmaster, but found the troop inactive and in need of a new sponsoring organization. Mr. Bryant wanted Troop 400 for Searcy Homes, and made the decision his company, H. C. Blake, would sponsor the troop and pack. The program was watched closely and tailored to meet the special needs of the children it served; and,

WHEREAS, the Troop 400 record of developing leaders is noteworthy. Tory Green served as President of Student Government at Lee High School and went on to be Vice President of Student Government at his university. Eagle Scout Tory Green was selected to present the National State of Boy Scouts of America to the President of the United States and Joint Session of Congress. Tory's eye-catching Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project that consisted of bringing together agencies that provide youth development services and at-risk students that needed those services played a role in his selection. He is now the Scoutmaster of Troop 400 and doing an outstanding job. Travion Ragland was Class President and went on to become Student Government President at Lee High School. Both credit their success to the leadership training they received from Boy Scout Troop 400. The troop holds elections every six months to give more boys an opportunity to develop their leadership skills; and,

WHEREAS, the program caught the attention of the Mayor and City Council and was recognized in two City resolutions. On three separate occasions, Mr. Farrar was designated a "National Distinguished Scoutmaster," and on each occasion was called to the national meeting of Boy Scouts of America in Chicago, Dallas/Fort Worth and Orlando to explain the successes of the program in a hard to serve area. On each occasion, Mr. Farrar explained the success of the Troop 400 program was due to the efforts of dedicated volunteers with the support of the kind citizens of our city.

WHEREAS, some of the many services provided by the Troop 400 enrichment program for all youths in the community, not just those who participate in Scouting, include: Computer lab with limited internet access; tutorials for all grade levels; access to the Homework Alabama website; financial incentives to improve their grades; financial assistance for school field trips and other activities; free school

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supplies; free haircuts and grooming tips; local, state and national tours, such as the capitol in Montgomery or Washington, D.C.; leadership training; work introduction training; community service projects; improvement in writing skills.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council and Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama, that we wish the members and leaders of Boy Scouts of America Troop 400 a Happy 25th Birthday. We wish to recognize Cub Pack 400 and Venture Crew 400 as extensions of the Boy Scout Troop 400 tried and proven character development program, and express appreciation for the enthusiastic and continual support of Mr. Michael Lundy, Director of the Huntsville Housing Authority. As new Scoutmaster Tory Green assumes leadership and Mr. Albert Farrar assumes his role as Scoutmaster Emeritus, we wish them both every success in all future endeavors.

ADOPTED this the 27th day of February, 2014.

President of the City Council of the
City of Huntsville, Alabama

APPROVED this the 27th day of February, 2014.

Mayor of the City of Huntsville, Alabama