

Around Town

For Release 12 noon Wednesday, June 20, 2007

**By Billy Ray McKelvy**

**De Queen Mayor**

Members of local scouting organizations have once again installed flags at Redmen Cemetery as part of their Memorial Day service project.

Mark Vick is the adult leader for Boy Scout Troop 54 and Julie Lowery leads Cub Scout Pack 54. Together, the two scout groups put out over 300 flags to mark the graves of veterans buried at Redmen Cemetery.

A few Civil War veterans are among the soldiers buried in the cemetery.

Memorial Day, originally called Decoration Day, is the holiday designated to remember those who have died in their nation's service. It was first designated in 1868.

Scouts try to get the flags in place each year as close as possible to Memorial Day. They will remain on display all summer until Labor Day.

In addition to the flag project, the local scouts also conduct a flag retirement ceremony once a year, usually in November. Scouts learn flag etiquette which specifies that burning is one of the proper ways to dispose of a flag.

Scouts have been taking on the flag project at Redmen Cemetery for the last four years.