

Panther Valley Ecumenical Church  
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### **James Blake's Eagle Scout Project Praised by Congregation**

The Panther Valley Ecumenical Church presented Great Meadows' resident James Blake a Certificate of Appreciation upon the completion of his Eagle Scout project, the establishment of the Jeanne Bateman Remembrance Garden.

A small perennial garden had been established several years ago by Mrs. Bateman. James doubled the size of the garden by adding colorful perennials: astillbe, blue and red veronica, coreopsis, dwarf fountain grass, mountain pink, inkberries and dragon blood sedum. In addition to the flowers planted, a rustic sign honoring recently deceased beloved church member Jeanne Bateman was erected. Two wooden benches were installed and a path of stones established through the mulch so that members may sit on the benches and enjoy the garden.

In addition, the soil has been prepared for a small garden around the sign in front of the church for the youth of the church to plant pansies and other flowers to brighten the fall and early winter.

James served as the "youth" representative on the Church Council during 2007 and has been an active member in the youth group during High School, delivering the sermon on Youth Sunday in 2006 and 2007. He will be a freshman at Bard College in New York State.