

Good deed will last many years

By **BRYN WEESE**

The Nugget

The Scouts don't like to take anything for free, especially not a donation as large as The Barnes Group's, without giving something in return.

Earlier this year, The Barnes Group, which recently finished construction of its new 46-unit condominium, Watersun, on Lakeshore Drive at Marshall Avenue, donated \$1,000 to the West Ferris Scout Group.

Thursday, three Scouts and one Beaver planted nine Northern Ontario red maples around the development as a symbolic thank you for the developer's donation.

"We don't like taking donations without doing something in return. It's kind of our policy at Scouts," said Scout leader Ian Buckham, who supervised the kids with another leader and a volunteer. "We didn't plant many trees, but it's just a token of our appreciation."

The Barnes Group's donation will help send West Ferris Scouts to the Canadian Scout Jamboree at the end of this month near

Mont Tremblant, Que., which will mark the centennial anniversary of the Scouts organization.

Jim Barnes, with his father Reg, runs The Barnes Group and said donating to the local Scouts chapter was a no-brainer.

"We've always participated in Boy Scouts, and (my father and I) were both Boy Scouts ourselves," he said. "They were the last trees planted on this property, so the Scouts will be able to watch them grow up."

The new building, with balconies that overlook Lake Nipissing, was completed a few weeks ago and 23 families are already moving in next week. Barnes said during the two years it took to build, they dealt with 175 local companies.

"We always try to use the best companies, and it just so happened that we had confidence in the local companies and we used them all," Barnes said.

The Scouts, too, are pretty efficient local tree planters, having planted all nine maples in less than half an hour. No wonder they were used as landscapers at the condominium site.