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Submitted by Louis Phillips



From left, back row: Parker Watson, Evan Wentzel and Jack Winther: front row: Charles Bush, Evan Price and Tate Phillips Photo provided

Lafayette's Boy Scout Troop 219 conducted an Eagle Court of Honor Jan. 11 at St. Stephens Episcopal Church in Orinda. Tyler Higgins led the ceremony and William F. "Rick" Cronk, the past president of the Boy Scouts, was the guest speaker for the ceremony. As part of earning their Eagle ranks, six Scouts led the following service projects:

Charles Bush of Acalanes High School landscaped and constructed a new walking path along the garden memorial at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church. This involved major demolition of an existing shed and concrete walkway. The project created an attractive walking path and a significantly nicer environment for the memorial garden.

Parker Watson of Las Lomas High School chose to improve the grounds and setting at his former school, Parkmead Elementary. He led a team of Scouts to plant a pistachio tree and then construct an octagonal park bench around the tree, creating a park-like setting for students and guests

to enjoy.

Will Price of Acalanes selected a project to aid Lafayette United Methodist Church by renovating an outdoor area, power washing and painting the area, designing and building a planter box, designing and installing an irrigation system, and replacing the aging plants.

Acalanes student Evan Wentzel constructed 10 outdoor benches for the Lafayette Community Garden and Outdoor Learning Center, a place for community members to grow a variety plants, and harvest plants, and hold outdoor classes to teach the importance of the environment and wildlife.

Tate Phillips of Acalanes constructed eight solar ovens and then delivered them to the Trust in Education organization for shipment to families in Afghanistan. A typical Afghan family spends about 30 percent of their income on wood for cooking and sterilizing water. The ovens offer a safe and cost-effective solution for both.

Acalanes student Jack Winther organized an effort to prepare and assemble first aid emergency kits for less privileged families in Contra Costa County. Once completed, he coordinated with the American Red Cross to teach first aid for the recipient families. He assisted the Red Cross in the classroom and he took responsibility to teach the children.

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