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Boy Scouts Visit Lamorinda Weekly

By Sophie Braccini



Troop 200 examines the recycled paper on which the Lamorinda Weekly is printed Photo Sophie Braccini

Eleven energetic and curious Lafayette 1st grade boys swarmed publishers Wendy and Andy Scheck's office on February 20th as part of a Boy Scout project. Troop 200, Den 4 (Tiger Cub Scouts), was on a mission to understand how communication happens in our community.

Troop leader Matt Owens and co-leader Beth Hutson were accompanied by a few parents herding the Springhill Elementary students as they moved from station to station in the Schecks' office. First, they learned how newspapers are made out of only four colors (red, yellow, blue and black) on huge printing machines that are as tall as a three-story house.

In the studio, they saw the computer systems that allow the team of reporters and editors to communicate their stories to the publisher and saw how stories and pictures are placed by Andy Scheck in the electronic file that is sent to the printer in Santa Rosa.

Wendy Scheck explained to the boys how community members send news and messages to the newspaper so they can be printed to inform the public. Her daughter Amanda, who is in middle school, showed the boys how she uses Photoshop to enhance pictures. "We open eyes a lot," said Scheck, referring to group pictures where there is always someone with their eyes closed.

At the end of the presentation the boys were excited that they were going to

be featured in the next issue of the paper, a real life example of community communication. "I learned a lot and I think they did, too," concluded Hutson.

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