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## **New Troop 224 Eagle Scouts announced**

Submitted by Elizabeth Dietch



Photo provided

activities.

Troop 224 BSA of Lafayette honors four Scouts - Nigel Dietsch, Hunter Goyert, Benjamin Hird, and Zach Robb - for achieving Scouting's highest rank of Eagle Scout. To become an Eagle Scout, a candidate must earn a minimum of 21 merit badges, including 13 Eagle-required badges, demonstrate leadership and Scout spirit, and successfully complete a community service project.

Dietsch, a senior at Acalanes High School restored a failing 12,500 brick courtyard for his church, Mt. Diablo Unitarian Universalist Church in Walnut Creek. He led a large group of volunteers to dismantle the old courtyard, clean and stack all of the bricks; 90% of the bricks were reusable. A contractor re-laid the bricks and Dietsch monitored the progress over two weeks. Everyone learned a lot about bricks! The courtyard is now used several times a week for outdoor services and other

Goyert, a junior at Acalanes, designed and constructed two benches and came up with a plan to solve the rodent issue at Jelly's Place. Jelly's Place is a no-kill animal shelter in San Pablo, California. Jelly's Place has a special place in Goyert's heart since his family rescued their dog, Elvis, from the shelter. He knew that for his Eagle project he wanted to help the shelter that has given so much to the community.?

Aclanes junior Hird designed and led the construction of a Western-themed chicken coop for Animal Assisted Happiness, a nonprofit organization.? This small therapeutic animal farm near San Jose focuses on enriching the lives of youth with needs and has a wide range of animals from guinea pigs to goats and Ilamas.? Hird's chicken coop was the very first one constructed for the farm's Wild West Chicken Village and is now home to a flock of happy chickens!

Robb, a junior at Acalanes High School, chose to support the Acalanes football program which he has been part of since his freshman year. He led over 20 scouts in building a  $10^{1}$ H x  $12^{1}$ W x  $3^{1}$ D, four-tiered storage system and added five additional shelves underneath a pre-existing workspace. These improvements have provided the coaches and players with a more accessible, organized, and clean equipment shed.?

The Eagle Scouts were recognized for their achievement at an Eagle Court of Honor ceremony on Feb. 27 at the Contra Costa Country Club. Troop 224 is currently accepting boys and girls as new members. For more information visit www.troop224lafayette.com.

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