

# Troop 204 Lafayette celebrates Eagle Scout service projects

Submitted by Lynda Rotundo



Photo Provided

Seated from left: Nicholas Owens, Griffin Rotundo, Luke Springer, Matthew Hoffman and Jace Carter, standing from left: Naoto Watanabe, James Bymaster, Ronan Collins, Lars Erickson, Lawrence Zhang and Ethan Lee

Lafayette Troop 204 proudly announces the successful completion of Eagle Scout service projects by its newest Eagle Scouts. These projects represent a significant milestone for both the scouts and the troop, which has

been cultivating outdoor adventures, leadership skills, and community engagement for over 90 years.

Eagle Scout James Bymaster spearheaded a repair and restoration project at the Tilden Park

steam train area for Golden Gate Live Steamers, preserving a beloved local attraction.

Eagle Scout Jace Carter oversaw the creation of a Lego activity table and conducted a Lego drive for Springhill

Elementary School in Lafayette, fostering creativity and learning among students.

Eagle Scout Ronan Collins organized a toiletry drive for Project Open Hand in San Francisco, providing essential supplies to support the sick and vulnerable in the community.

Eagle Scout Lars Erickson led a project to restore a historic walnut huller and installed a sign sharing historical significance at Lar Rieu Park in Walnut Creek, preserving local heritage.

Eagle Scout Matthew Hoffman collaborated with Core Academy to build picnic tables, stump seats and shade coverage, enhancing outdoor recreational spaces for the students.

Eagle Scout Ethan Lee worked with the special education classroom at Springhill Elementary School by designing a sensory cart and alphabet bowling blocks, promoting inclusive learning

experiences.

Eagle Scout Nicholas Owens managed the collection and shipped tennis equipment to Club de Tennis Las Cabras in rural Chile, expanding access to sports for underprivileged youth.

Eagle Scout Griffin Rotundo partnered with Lafayette Nursery School to establish a vertical edible school garden, enriching preschoolers' learning with a "Garden to Snack Table" experience.

Eagle Scout Luke Springer collaborated with Lindsay Wildlife Experience to build perches for large birds at their animal hospital, contributing to the well-being of wildlife.

Eagle Scout Naoto Watanabe conducted a music workshop for students at Maya Lin Elementary School in collaboration with the Bay Area Music Project, enriching their educational experience.

Eagle Scout Lawrence Zhang organized a

fundraising initiative with Calvary Church to create Christmas Gift Boxes shipped worldwide to support less fortunate individuals.

Troop 204 Lafayette extends its heartfelt congratulations to these exemplary scouts for their outstanding achievements and contributions to their communities. These projects embody the spirit of scouting and uphold Troop 204 Lafayette's tradition of service and leadership.

Troop 204, Lafayette's oldest BSA troop, is celebrating 92 years of scouting and community service. Since the Troop's first Eagle Scout in 1945, the program has advanced 449 young men through Eagle Rank. Troop 204 meets at the historic cabin on the corner of School Street and 1st Street in Lafayette and is currently accepting new members. For more information, please visit [www.troop204.com](http://www.troop204.com) or contact [scoutmaster@troop204.com](mailto:scoutmaster@troop204.com)

# Three Orinda scouts achieve scouting's top rank

Submitted by David Beckman



Photo Angelica Steinmeier

From left: Eagle Scouts Myles Miller, Ryan Loughran and Eliot Kim

On Dec. 2, 2023, Scouts Boy Scouts of America Troop 303 of Orinda held an Eagle Court of Honor at St Stephen's Episcopal Church to commemorate the achievement of three Scouts, Myles Miller, Ryan Loughran, and Eliot Kim, each of whom obtained scouting's highest rank, Eagle Scout. The Eagle ceremony drew scouts, parents, and a host of local officials.

Since its inception in 1912, only 2% of eligible scouts have obtained the Eagle Scout rank. Eliot, Ryan, and Myles join a stalwart group of only 136 Orinda scouts who have

earned the rank in over half a century, since the first Orinda Eagle commendations in 1968.

A key requirement of Eagle Scout attainment is the "Eagle Project," which benefits the local community. Scoutmaster Angelica Steinmeier, who along with Scoutmaster Michael Finegan, leads Troop 303, notes that "when meeting with life scouts on project selection, I encourage them to choose a cause that they are passionate about." In recent years, Eagle projects have benefited the Lamorinda area and as far away as Castro Valley. Projects underway now will

extend Troop 303's service to Oakland, through an effort to provide backpacks and school supplies to unhouse and housing insecure youth.

Students in the fifth grade and up and their parents/guardians are welcome to attend an Open House at St Stephen's Episcopal Church on Monday, March 25, 66 St. Stephen's Drive in Orinda, at 7:30 pm. Or for more information, please reach out to Troop Communications Chair, David Beckman, at [troop303communications@gmail.com](mailto:troop303communications@gmail.com) or visit Troop 303's website.

# SHOP ORINDA

**Orinda's Lowest Gas Prices**  
 22 Bryant Way - Next to Casa Orinda  
 Mon - Sat 5 am - 12 am;  
 Sun 6 am - 11 pm

**Zamboni's**  
 PIZZA COMPANY  
 1 CAMINO SOBRANTE (925) 254-2800  
 Across the street from Orinda Safeway

PROUDLY SERVING

**Thin Crust Pizza**  
**Deep Dish Pizza**  
**Calzones**  
**Fresh Salads**

Pizza by the slice available at LUNCH 11AM - 4PM

OPEN DAILY 11AM -9PM

LOCAL DELIVERY ALWAYS AVAILABLE (\$2.50)

**MARK BELLINGHAM PAINTING**

HIRE A LOCAL NAME YOU CAN TRUST

**925-247-0092**

[MarkBellinghamPainting.com](http://MarkBellinghamPainting.com)

Interior & Exterior Painting Deck & Fence Restoration  
 Kitchen & Bathroom Cabinet Painting Dry Rot Repair  
 Light Carpentry Drywall Repair Stucco Repair

For a Quick Preliminary Estimate  
 Email Photos of Project to:  
[Office@MarkBellinghamPainting.com](mailto:Office@MarkBellinghamPainting.com)

See our Reviews on NextDoor, GOOGLE & YELP

Local Business Owner - Since 1985 - Licensed & Insured

**EAST BAY TREE SERVICE INC.**

- Tree removal,
- Stump removal,
- Juniper removal to meet fire regulations.

We take:

Licensed #805794, insured & bonded

Call 925-377-8733 for FREE Estimate  
 Serving Lamorinda for over 30 years.

**Check Out Our New Home and Garden Books for Spring**

Serving Lamorinda since 1976

Books for All Ages

276 Village Square, Orinda

925 - 254 - 7606  
 Open Mon. - Sat., 10:00 - 5:00

**Hilton House**  
 Consign & Design.

Shop Orinda!  
 At the NEW and LIKE NEW Consignment Store Boutique

- Fine jewelry, sterling silver, costume, and vintage
- Quality name brand furniture, decor, art, and rugs
- Men and women's fashion accessories and handbags
- Collectibles and antiques

[www.hiltonhousedesigns.com](http://www.hiltonhousedesigns.com) (925) 254-1113  
 21 & 19 Orinda Way, Orinda Mon.-Sat. 10:30 to 5:00

**Park Place WEALTH ADVISORS, INC.**  
 A Registered Investment Advisor

- Retirement & Income Planning
- Estate Planning
- Charitable Planning
- Educational Funding

401K Rollover Specialists  
 18 Orinda Way, Orinda • 925-254-7766

Registered Principals with and Securities offered through Securities America, Inc. Member FINRA, SIPC. Park Place Wealth Advisors Inc. and Securities America are separate entities

Watch for Shop Moraga March 27  
 Call for Advertising 925.377.0977