

Community Service

New Troop 234 Eagle Scouts

Submitted by William Vaughn



From left, top row: Sean Garvey, Brendan Gordon, and Michael Clifford; middle row left to right: Andrew Vaughn, Anthony Zhang, and Michael DaRodda; front row: Samuel O'Donnell, Evan Amsden, and Nathan Fenske
Photo provided

Nine members from Boy Scout Troop 234 of Moraga recently achieved the rank of Eagle, the highest award in Scouting. Recognized at a National Eagle Court of Honor on May 30 were: Evan Donald Amsden, Michael C. Clifford, Michael DaRodda, Nathan B. Fenske, Sean Garvey, Brendan Gordon, Samuel Fraser O'Donnell, Andrew H. Vaughn, and Anthony Zhang.

Campolindo High School junior Evan Amsden, for his Eagle Project, built 15 specialized shelving units for the fourth- and fifth-grade classrooms at Los Perales Elementary School.

Campo junior Michael Clifford rehabilitated a fruit and vegetable garden at George Mark's Children's House, a palliative care facility for children. The onsite chef will use the fresh ingredients from the garden in the meals that are made for the children and their families while they live there.

Campolindo freshman Michael DaRodda repaired the worn-down amphitheater on the Cindy Walkman Trail near the Hacienda de las Flores in Moraga. He cleared weeds and trimmed bushes. He also replaced the missing steps, added a third rail to the fence and refurbished the seating by raising the seating area and adding flat benches.

Nathan Fenske, a sophomore at Campolindo, organized and led a donation drive for new children's books and pajamas throughout

the Lamorinda community. The donations were collected on behalf of The Pajama Program, a nonprofit organization dedicated to "bringing a better night" to children in the foster care system nationwide.

Campo junior Sean Garvey refurbished a group of benches at his high school. The new benches have created a friendly social environment for Campolindo students.

Brendan Gordon, a junior at Campolindo, installed 13 steps along a nearby narrow trailhead on the Lafayette Reservoir Rim Trail. These steps make it easier and safer for hikers and walkers to navigate the trail.

Campolindo junior Samuel O'Donnell installed two barn owl boxes on EBMUD land to restore the barn owl habitat. The boxes were constructed according to EBMUD's specifications, mounted on steel poles and placed on concrete foundations.

Andrew Vaughn, a senior at The College Preparatory School in Oakland, designed and constructed a playhouse for the Shelter Inc. facility in Martinez. Shelter Inc. provides homeless families with a safe place to live, meeting their most basic needs, while offering education, employment development and counseling.

Campo junior Anthony Zhang prepared and delivered 75 emergency backpacks for Campolindo High School classrooms.

Camino Pablo Wins 24th Annual Moraga Rotary Field Day

Ends Rheem's winning streak

Submitted by Gary Irwin



From left, Camino Pablo third-grader Brooklyn McAlpin, Moraga Rotary Field Day's High Point Girl, with High Point Teacher Lee Ann Nixdorf.
Photos provided



High Point Boy Robbie Mascheroni, a fourth-grader at Rheem Elementary, smiles as his teacher Serena Culleton as he accepts his plaque and trophy.

Camino Pablo Elementary School's third-, fourth-, and fifth-graders won a total of 104 points to win the 24th annual Moraga Rotary Field Day, and end the many-year winning streak of Rheem Elementary School. Camino Pablo also had the highest participation, with 55 percent of the 309 contestants from all Moraga schools including Saklan and Canyon.

For the second year, the most exciting event of the day was the basketball throw conducted by men and women of the Saint Mary's basketball teams. Other events were sprints, relays, sack races, long jumps, and football/softball throws. Medals were awarded to the top three contestants in each event, and all contestants received a participant ribbon.

Rheem fourth-grader Robbie Mascheroni from Serena Culleton's class at Rheem was the High Point Boy. The High Point Girl was Brooklyn McAlpin, a third-grader in Lee Ann Nixdorf's class at Camino Pablo, and Nixdorf's students won the most total points, making her the High Point Teacher. These winners were given their awards at a recent lunch meeting of

Rotary Club of Moraga, and the Winning School plaque was awarded to Lee Ann Nixdorf to be displayed at Camino Pablo.

Rotarian Tony Schoemehl, the Field Day chairman, said, "A big Thank You to all the teachers who encouraged their students to attend Field Day, and to the coaches and athletes from the Saint Mary's basketball program who helped in the judging for the various events. ... The students behaved beautifully and were enthusiastic in their support for each other and their schools. All who participated were winners in our eyes."

Rotary Club of Moraga also supports elementary education in Moraga by providing grade-appropriate newsletters such as Time and National Geographic selected by teachers for curriculum enrichment, and by donations to Moraga Education Foundation. Regular meetings are held on most Tuesdays at the Soda Center at Saint Mary's College. For further information, call Frank May at (925) 376-8195 or visit moragarotary.org.

We are pleased to make space available whenever possible for some of Lamorinda's dedicated community service organizations to submit news and information about their activities. Submissions may be sent to storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com with the subject header In Service to the Community.

Lafayette Troop 243 Scouts Receive John A. Coleman Leadership Award

Submitted by Seth Moldoff



From left: John Coleman, Eagle Advisor, former Scoutmaster, Cameron Atwood, Life Scout, Jack Carey, Life Scout, and Alan Wandesforde, Scoutmaster, Troop 243
Photo provided

Lafayette Boy Scout Troop 243 presented the John A. Coleman Leadership Award to Life Scouts Jack Carey and Cameron Atwood at the Troop's Spring Court of Honor, which was held May 26 at the Lafayette Christian Church. The award, which includes a \$1,000 scholarship, recognizes Senior Scouts who "demonstrate excellence in leadership within the Troop and community." The John A. Coleman Leadership Award was established in 2012 to provide scholarships for Troop 243 Scouts who exhibit the leadership and character shown by John Coleman as Scoutmaster for Troop 243.

Award recipient Jack Carey has been a leader in the Troop for several years. He is a calm, confident role model who interacts easily with Scouts and Adult Leaders. Whether work-

ing on rank advancement with new Scouts, taking on special assignments, or presenting Troop information to prospective members and their parents, Jack utilizes natural leadership skills.

Award recipient Cameron Atwood's enthusiasm and sense of humor bring a fresh approach to Troop leadership. Cameron is an excellent public speaker, storyteller, and representative of Troop 243. He has a great sense of what is needed to make Troop meetings, outings, events successful. Cameron helps keep other Scouts and adults on task and engaged.

Both Carey and Atwood, who are juniors at Campolindo High School, have excelled as leaders during the past several years, and are exceptional role models within Troop 243.

Peace Corps Director Visits Stanley Students

Submitted by Carla Koop

Peace Corps Director Carrie Hessler-Radelet met with students June 5 at Stanley Middle School to thank them for their support of Let Girls Learn and girls' education around the world. Students in the school's Global Relief Outreach club recently donated \$1,500 to the Let Girls Learn initiative that they raised by selling popsicles and hot chocolate during their lunchtime. The middle school students submitted a letter to the Peace Corps along with their donation, which will support Peace

Corps volunteer projects that help to expand access to girls' education worldwide. In the letter, the GRO club writes, "We fundraise throughout the year in order to donate to charities like yours."

Launched in March, the Let Girls Learn collaboration between the Peace Corps and First Lady Michelle Obama brings increased focus, resources, and impact to the critical issue of girls' education, as more than 62 million girls around the world are not in school.

National Charity League Welcomes Class of 2015

Submitted by Kristina Buck



Front Row seated from left: Emily Byrne, Torrey Hill, Hannah Buck, Katie McCarty, Caroline Newman, and Katharine Torchio; middle row: Lindsey Ringlee, Paige Winter, Jessica Alvarado, Kaitlin Fenn, Emily Caprio, Emily Holbrook, Gabriella Kreutzelman, Kelsey Raftis, Amanda Giles and Grace Southwick; back row, standing: Bridget Coleman, Shannon Moran, Katherine Shepherd, Avery Martin, Annie Doyle, Ashley Dubrasich, Kelly Williams, and Martiza Grillo
Photo Juleen Lapporte

The Lamorinda Chapter of National Charity League proudly presented its 24 graduating seniors at its annual Senior Presents Celebration at the Claremont Hotel and Spa in Berkeley. The event marks the culmination of six years of community service on the part of the honorees and their mothers. National Charity League, Inc. is a mother-daughter nonprofit organization dedicated to serving the needs of their local communities. During the past six years these member have contributed more than 3,200 hours of philanthropic work to over 30 local organizations including: Monument Crisis Center, Loaves & Fishes, Special Olympics, Blue Star Moms, J.F. Kapnek Pediatric Aids

Foundation, and the Contra Costa Food Bank. With over 195 chapters nationwide, NCL has given countless hours to those in need. As their final act of philanthropy, the Senior Class selected Special Olympics and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society as the recipients of their class gift. The National Charity League was founded in 1953 and focuses on three pillars: Community Service, Leadership Development and Cultural Enrichment. The Lamorinda Chapter was organized in 1989, and includes members from Orinda, Moraga and Lafayette. For membership information, visit www.nationalcharityleague.org.