

## Troop 219 honors 11 new Eagle Scouts

Submitted by Janis Workman



Front row, from left: Liam Morley, Michael Terentieff, Henry Huchingson, Parker Henderson and Nicholas Krozek; back row: Drake Fettig, Henry Rogers, Nicholas Stevenson, Foster Jones, Nicholas Price and Kenny Workman. Photo provided

Lafayette Boy Scout Troop 219 will honor 11 young men who have achieved the Eagle Scout award, the highest rank in the Boy Scouts of America, at 2 p.m. March 17 at Lafayette Orinda Presbyterian Church.

Led by Scoutmaster Tyler Higgins since 2010, Troop 219 has held its meetings at Lafayette United Methodist Church for 66 years and produced 206 Eagle Scouts.

"Troop 219 is blessed to have so many terrific families involved in our program, and together, we have built something special for the boys in Lafayette," said Higgins, who earned his Eagle in Troop 219 in 1982. "I am so proud of these young men, and know each is headed for great things."

As part of earning their Eagle badge, the 11 newly minted Eagle Scouts of Troop 219 completed the following Eagle service projects:

**Drake Fettig** constructed and installed a Friendship Bench at Happy Valley Elementary, providing a place for children to resolve conflicts and make new friends; **Parker Henderson** renovated the science garden at Stanley Middle School and created and mounted signs to inform and direct visitors to activities at the school; **Henry Huchingson** built a large cabinet for the Lafayette Historical Society to house its antique fire truck equipment, and organized and cleaned a historical display area; **Foster Jones** removed and rebuilt an 80-foot redwood fence at Lafayette United Methodist Church, correcting a fire hazard and ameliorating a public safety concern; **Nicholas Krozek** and other scouts he directed spent over 200 hours at the Lafayette Community Garden, designing and building a shed for hay, and remodeling the chicken coop; **Liam Morley** built over 150 feet of fence in a Bay Area wetland

to protect both a nesting zone for endangered species and a historical ferry house; **Nicholas Price** partnered with the Environmental Science teacher at Acalanes High School to relocate, rebuild and enlarge the program's chicken coop, adding a new nesting box and enclosed run for the chickens; **Henry Rogers** designed and organized the construction of two benches in the courtyard of Moraga Valley Presbyterian Church, using specialized Ipe hard wood which required special tools and is difficult to cut but will provide beautiful and long lasting seating; **Nicholas Stevenson** overhauled the irrigation system at Lafayette United Methodist Church, by replacing outdated and broken pipes and equipment, and digging holes and running new lines for a planter box; **Michael Terentieff** built a large redwood picnic table and completely refurbished an old table to match for Shelter, Inc., providing much needed outdoor seating for families who live at a transitional facility in Pittsburg; and **Kenneth Workman** designed and constructed a large wooden and enclosed Communication Center at the Lafayette Community Center, where community members now post notices of events and inquiries, to help others learn of opportunities and stay informed.

To attain the rank of Eagle Scout, a Scout must earn his way up the scouting ranks from Tenderfoot to Life Scout. As a Life Scout, he must be active in the troop for at least six months, earn at least 21 required merit badges, serve in a Leadership position, show Scout Spirit, and plan, develop and offer leadership to others in an approved Eagle service project helpful to any religious institution, school, nonprofit organization or the community.

## Acalanes High School team ranked third at CCC High School Mock Trials

Submitted by Jonathan Lance



Acalanes High School Mock Trial Team

Photo provided

During seven Tuesday and Thursday evenings last month, 15 Contra Costa County high school Mock Trial teams, including those from Acalanes, Campolindo and Miramonte high schools, battled it out with each other inside the superior courthouse courtrooms of Martinez. As like their fellow Mock Trial Teams throughout the nation, the teams presented *People v. Davidson*, a criminal case involving first-degree murder and a pretrial argument on the Fourth Amendment.

This year's top four teams were ranked: 1) California, 2) Alhambra, 3) Acalanes, and 4) Monte Vista. The California High School team beat Alhambra High School Feb. 20 in the final round of Mock Trials, inside the Bray Courthouse, in Martinez. The final match was judged and scored by First District Court of Appeal, Division Five, Justice Terence Bruiniers, along with seven Bay Area attorneys, serving as Mock Trial scorers. Acalanes High School defeated Monte Vista High School during the same evening's consolation match.

Honored guest Judge Mary Ann O'Malley was on hand to address the large crowd with accounts of this year's Mock Trials. "You proved that nothing substitutes for hard work. During the past month, many of my fellow judges who participated with your Mock Trials, said over, and over, and over again, how you guys were so much better than the professional attorneys they saw earlier in the day." O'Malley continued, "I've always been impressed with the participants of Mock Trials ... but this year, it was really something extra special with your outstanding preparation and delivery."

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For numerous Mock Trial seasons, O'Malley has always been known for providing a very positive learning environment in her courtroom, taking and passing along useful notes, and giving motivational comments to every participant, after the trial concludes.

Most of the teams begin their Mock Trial training when they began the new school year – which makes Mock Trials one of the longest seasons of all the participating schools' sports and academic activities.

The purpose of the Mock Trial program is to teach students about the law and the workings of the legal system. To prepare, the students conducted legal research and received guidance on courtroom procedures from their schoolteachers and volunteer attorneys and judges, to acquire a working knowledge of the judicial system.

This year, an impressive 91 Bay Area practicing and retired attorneys, senior law students, and sworn judges volunteered their time to serve as Mock Trial Attorney Scorers and Judges. These volunteers represented judges from Bay Area Superior Courts, the California Bankruptcy Court, the California Supreme Court, and the California Appellate Court. Attorney Scorers included Bay Area attorneys from county District Attorney and Public Defender offices, the State Attorney General's Office, and the California Department of Justice. Also assisting, were nonprofit, public, private, and corporate attorneys. In addition, senior students from five Bay Area law schools lent a hand in scoring.

## Saklan announces new Head of School

Submitted by Christine Kuckuk



Photo provided

After an extensive nationwide search, The Saklan School Board of Directors recently announced the appointment of David O'Connell, a dedicated and inspiring educational leader with over 20 years of experience in independent schools all over the world, as the next Head of School to begin in July.

Most recently, O'Connell served as Head of School at the Jerusalem American International School and as the Middle School Division Director at the Duke School in North Carolina, both preschool through eighth grade independent schools. He is originally from Michigan and holds a master's in educational administration as well as a master's in international education. He is currently completing a certificate in nonprofit management and philanthropy at Harvard.

## Local nonprofit chosen as A's 'Game Charity'

By Chelsea Pelchat

The Oakland A's baseball team is celebrating its 50th anniversary in 2018 and for the first time in its history, they have selected a few Bay Area charities to be "The Game Charity" for a home game. Moraga's Be the Star You Are – an all volunteer charity with no paid staff that empowers women, families, and youth through increased literacy and positive media messages – will be the featured nonprofit for the Friday, June 15 baseball game against the Los Angeles Angels, one of the chief rivals of the Oakland Athletics.

"We are so thrilled and grateful to be selected as The Game Charity," said BTSYA Executive Director Cynthia Brian. "This is an unique opportunity to celebrate an evening of family fun on the field including a phenomenal fireworks display with our local volunteers, supporters, and community."

The entertaining family night will begin at 6:30 p.m. with field-level seating in sections 128-132. Be the Star You Are ticket holders will get to go on the field to watch the Dinosaur Fireworks with a Jurassic Park theme following the game. Attendees will receive some swag plus several other special surprises to be announced. Raffle tickets will be sold for an experience for two individuals to go on the field on a different day to watch batting practice and meet the players.

Discount tickets are \$34, which includes the service fee; a portion of the proceeds will benefit Be the Star You Are. For information and purchasing links, visit [www.BetheStarYouAre.org](http://www.BetheStarYouAre.org) or email [info@BetheStarYouAre.org](mailto:info@BetheStarYouAre.org). Tickets will also be available between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. March 17 at the Be the Star You Are booth at LaGaelrinda Day at Saint Mary's College.

## In Memory

### Suzanne Fleury Warrick

1952-2018



On January 3, 2018, three days after her 66th birthday, Suzanne Warrick passed away peacefully at her home in Lafayette surrounded by family – husband Doug Warrick, daughter Dr. Ali Warrick, and Ali's boyfriend Mark Stefanik. She had been battling cancer for a mere eight weeks when a stroke suddenly took her from us.

Suzanne liked to say she "woke up happy." She was quick-witted, fun, rambunctious, and genuine. "It is free to give a smile," she said. "Unconditional love conquers all." She loved to cheer people on, celebrate the joy in every day, and make angel food cakes for friends' birthdays.

As owner of the Contra Costa design firm Interiors, Suzanne spun at the center of a large circle of clients, suppliers, and colleagues, many of whom became

lifelong friends. Although she focused on others' accomplishments, her own designs were regarded as works of art by her clients.

Her passion was in supporting others, including her daughter Ali through college, medical school, and now residency at UC Davis, specializing in Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

In lieu of flowers, the family would appreciate gifts to the **Suzanne Warrick Memorial Scholarship Fund** to support future health care providers at the UC Davis School of Medicine. Mail donations to the Office of University Development, One Shields Ave., Davis, CA 95616, payable to the UC Regents. Or visit [give.ucdavis.edu/medi/324165](http://give.ucdavis.edu/medi/324165). A celebration of Suzanne's life will be scheduled later.

Community Service: 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](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com) with the subject header In Service to the Community.

### Share Your Celebrations and Remembrances

If you would like to share an announcement about a special event or achievement, such as a wedding, engagement, scholarship or graduation of a local resident, or about a special person from Lamorinda who has passed, send a photo along with your text (up to 250 words) to [storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com](mailto:storydesk@lamorindaweekly.com), and include "Celebrations and Remembrances" in the subject line.