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Giving Back to what Raised me : My Eagle Scout Project

Once I moved to the United States, my father wanted to make me as American as I could be. One of the most important factors of this was signing me up for Boy Scouts, where, over the course of more than a decade, I found a group of like minded people dedicated towards community service, giving back to their community, and caring for the world around them. To crown off my time in Boy Scouts, I was given the opportunity to complete the rank of Eagle Scout by completing and organizing a community service project in the town that raised me. I chose to build a play area in the local Rye Nature Center fit for multiple types of play for the children of Rye and surrounding areas. I began service on this project in April of 2024, where I planned out and organized the project with Jax Mack, the director of the Rye Nature Center, and Michael Athanason, my Boy Scout Troop's Eagle Project Coordinator. I was there most weekends of May and April, organizing the entire project and laying out sketches, drafts, and guidelines. I had to then present my project to the Boy Scout Leaders, who would then verify my project while I received all the proper approval from leadership in the National Boy Scout ranks. Once we started work, I organized and planned the fundraising and eventual purchase of over 2,000\$ worth of materials for the project through a GoFundMe I set up. I personally had over 150 hours of work dedicated to this project, as I spent countless hours working with many of my volunteers that worked every weekend in September as well as many hours working with people from the Boy Scouts and Nature center in order to coordinate the project with all parties involved. We ended my Eagle Scout Project in October of 2024 with a play area built for the children of Rye Nature Center featuring a kitchen, tables, whiteboards, a wooden border to the play area, and a puppet theatre for children to play in.