



Eagle Scout Celebration Week | February 21-27, 2021  
Eagle Scout Service Project Description  
**Daniel Shapiro**

My Eagle project was a telescoping 25-foot flagpole at the Sahuarita Aquatic Center where I swim for both Walden Grove High School and the Sahuarita Stingrays. I decided to do this project because there was not a proper place to display the American flag during swim meets. It was always clipped to the bottom of the scoreboard and was often blocked by people and their tents.

After getting my project approved in February, I began fundraising for my project. To my surprise, the project was fully funded from friends, family, and co-workers of my Dad in just a few short hours. Now the fun could truly begin! I got set to work on ordering my flagpole, solar light, and two additional flags. I made a duty roster for the actual workday and even practiced using the tools needed for the project. I wanted to be able to know how to use them before leading my peers. I also wanted to create a duty roster because some tools that were needed for my project could only be used by scouts fourteen or older. This way, everything was planned out and everyone knew what job they had.

Everything started arriving for my project and I could not wait to begin. Once I achieved my Life rank, I began thinking of what project I would do so this has become a thought and plan of mine for quite some time. I was set to begin work on my project in April and then the world shut down due to COVID-19. I was so eager to begin work but it was not safe to do so. At home, I decided to make a stand for the flagpole for when it was removed. I knew the flag and flagpole would be stored in a separate room at the pool and I wanted it to be protected. I added a basket to the stand to hold the American flag and the extra one that I donated.





Once Governor Ducey began opening things up again and some restrictions were lifted, I felt it was safe to do my project with a small group of scouts from my Troop. I arrived the morning of my project and got all the tools, supplies, and materials ready for everyone to begin. With my duty roster plan, the project went smoothly, and we finished digging the twenty-eight inch by twelve-inch round hole quicker than I thought! Next, came the concrete and I could see the finish line in site. Since the concrete had not cured yet, we took a group picture next to the concrete base and flagpole in the stand. It felt good to be doing work next to my scout family again!

I went back to the Aquatic Center the next day after the concrete had cured to raise the flag for the first time. It was such a thrilling site to finally see a waving American flag on a pole at our pool! Every time the flag and pole has been put out for swim meets, I get a sense of pride knowing that my dream of having a flagpole there became a reality! I learned so much from doing my Eagle project. Not only did I learn that I could lead a group of my peers but that I could plan a project from start to finish including fundraising. Even with a few hiccups along the way, I still got it done. I also became more comfortable speaking to other adults that I do not regularly interact with. I was able to share my vision with them and I received support in return.

