

Written by **Raven Clabough** on May 9, 2023





## The Goodness of America

### Mow It Wells

Alex Wells has been mowing lawns for people in need at no charge, according to this sweet story out of Chattanooga, Tennessee.

Local 3 News reported Wells has been mowing lawns for cancer patients, the elderly, single parents, and disabled residents who cannot do it themselves. He looks for overgrown lawns and reaches out.

"If their lawn is overgrown, there's a reason. So I try to find out that story," said Wells, who owns a lawn-care service called "Mow It Wells."

The first time he spotted an overgrown lawn, the homeowner was a cancer patient who lived by herself. When he told her his service was free to her, she cried, and he said it gave him "a really, really good feeling" to be able to help someone.

"The real excitement comes when I do something extra. Sometimes I'll give them a hundred dollars or I'll do mulch or plant some flowers and stuff and that's when it really gets special," Wells told Local 3.

Wells records his acts of kindness and posts the videos on social media and YouTube. He said one video that gave him a bit of notoriety featured him cleaning up the yard of a husband and wife in their 70s after a tornado hit Chattanooga suburb East Brainerd and downed several trees in the yard, rendering them unable to cut the grass.

"I knocked on the door and the guy was like, 'why would you want to do that?' When I told him I was going to do it for free he was skeptical but I did it. It took me four days and that's the video that kind of started it all," said Wells.

Wells has already cut 15 lawns this year, with a goal of mowing 52 lawns "so I can have a video for every week even going through the winter."

# Happy to Help

Pat Blake of Davis County, Utah, owns two mobile-home parks, and when she realized that some of her residents were struggling to feed their children, she took action.

The Washington Post reported that Blake has been using her own money to purchase extra groceries and start a food pantry in her office. A friend helped her build shelves in an unused room to stock the items. She told residents they were welcome to simply take what they needed.

"Needing groceries is nothing to be ashamed of," Blake told the *Post*. "We could all use a boost sometimes. These families need someone, and I'm happy that I can be that person to help."

In addition to setting up her own food pantry, Blake contacted the Bountiful Food Pantry, which serves residents in Davis County, and the group now visits her mobile-home parks twice a month to help feed neighbors.

At Christmastime, she used her own money to purchase presents for the children at her parks, and reportedly also uses her own money to help buy school supplies for the children.

Blake was recently honored with a Fox 13 "Dream Team" surprise after her daughter nominated her.



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The surprise included a gift card to her local grocery story so she could purchase more food to fill her pantry, as well as gift cards to her favorite clothing stores and for a spa treatment, so she could treat herself.

### **Easter to Remember**

Six-year-old Luke Flerlage helped ensure Easter was very special for the children of O'Fallon, Missouri, this year by collecting 12,221 items for baskets through the Alleluia Baskets program.

Luke has been working with Alleluia Baskets — a nonprofit that "builds community and provides joy" by offering Easter baskets to community members who are at or below the poverty level — alongside his parents since he was three years old, Fox News reported.

Initially, Luke helped his parents assemble baskets, but by the end of his first year volunteering, he was able to start building baskets of his own, Alleluia Baskets founder Karen Mesler said.

In 2022, after Luke launched his own efforts to increase the number of supplies donated to the program, the Flerlage family showed up at the facility with multiple cars worth of toys and gifts for the baskets. But even with such an impressive haul, Luke wanted to do more for this year's Easter.

According to Mesler, Luke told everyone he met that he was collecting items for the baskets. He also teamed up with a friend of the family who owned a pumpkin patch, and proceeds from the patch were used to purchase supplies for this year's baskets.

On March 27, Luke and his family were able to fill an entire box truck with more than 12,000 items, Fox News reported.

Luke continues to raise the bar for himself. He is planning to do even more for the 2024 Easter baskets, with plans to host a kids' trivia night in September, with all of the proceeds being put toward the baskets.

## **Watch Your Step**

Sometimes even just the smallest acts can have big effects. When Tyler Morrell was delivering pizza for Cocco's Pizza Aston, the simple act of sticking out his foot proved to be a big help to a Brookhaven police officer, in this story out of Aston, Pennsylvania.

While Morrell was delivering pizza at approximately 3:00 p.m. on April 16, he noticed police vehicles chasing a car, and then the driver of the car jumped out and ran across the street toward Morrell. Morrell ran toward the suspect and stuck out his foot, tripping the man and making it possible for police to capture and arrest him. He did all of this while still holding his pizza, which he later joked was "completely unharmed and enjoyed" by the homeowner.

"Honestly, I didn't really think about doing anything but stepping in. I was raised to step in if you see something that's not right. So, I just wanted to do my part," Morrell said.

The police department was grateful for Morrell's intervention, posting a video of the encounter on social media with a note that said, "Thank you, sir, for the assist!!! If you're interested in a job we are always looking for good people."



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