



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on August 6, 2024

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## **The Goodness of America**

### **Peaceful Sleep**

In a heartwarming effort this summer, two Eagle Scouts from Texas dedicated their time to providing beds for children in need, ensuring they can stay with their biological families.

Emilio Edwards from Eagle Scout Troop 163 in New Braunfels rallied 27 volunteers to construct 22 beds and 95 headboards for the San Antonio chapter of Sleep in Heavenly Peace. Emilio expressed his passion for the project, stating, "I thought this project was a great way to work with the community to help raise funds to purchase materials and raise awareness about children without beds to sleep in," First Coast News reported.

Meanwhile, Travis Ghormley from Troop 226 in Stone Oak focused his efforts on building beds specifically for children in the Child Protective Services system. His initiative not only provides comfort, but also helps keep siblings together and enables them to stay with their biological families, reducing the need for foster care.

Despite having already achieved their Eagle Scout rank, both Scouts continued their mission to construct more beds, demonstrating their unwavering commitment to the community.

### **Beyond the Call of Duty**

In a touching display of compassion, Corporal Hunter Willoughby of the Miami Township Police in Ohio came to the rescue of a mother in need on June 15. Willoughby's quick action earned him praise from the local community and beyond.

The department received a 3:00 a.m. call from a mother struggling to breastfeed her one-week-old baby. She told officers that her milk had dried up, and, given the time of day, she could not purchase formula. Corporal Willoughby did not hesitate, immediately rushing to a nearby Meijer store, which was closed at the time, and asking the staff to open the doors so he could purchase formula and bottles. After successfully making the purchase, he personally delivered the items to the grateful mother.

Chief Mike Mills highlighted Willoughby's selflessness in a Facebook post, stating, "He refused to accept any payment for the formula or bottles. You don't often hear about everything a police officer does in the course of their shift, but this is an example of the Miami Township Way."

Bodycam footage captured the heartfelt moment as Willoughby knocked on the store's door, explaining the urgent situation: "There is a mom ... she said her milk dried up and she can't find anywhere to buy formula." His genuine concern resonated as he navigated the store, even questioning which formula to choose, ultimately selecting Similac.

Corporal Willoughby has been recognized multiple times for his dedication to the community since being sworn in on April 18, 2017, *USA Today* reported. He was named the Miami Township Police Officer of the Year in 2019, and was promoted to corporal in April 2023. He has also received gratitude from individuals he previously helped during their struggles with addiction.



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## Honor Flight

Two inspiring sisters from Harrison, Ohio — Tessa and Raya Ziegler, ages 12 and seven — raised more than \$20,000 to support veterans participating in the Honor Flight program. This heartfelt initiative stemmed from their own experience attending an Honor Flight when Raya was just a year old.

“We just wanted to get involved with it,” Tessa shared after recalling how much she and her sister enjoyed the flight they took. According to WCJB, the Honor Flight Network facilitates the travel of approximately 22,500 veterans each year to Washington, D.C., allowing them to visit memorials that honor their sacrifices.

The sisters actively engaged with local businesses, explaining their mission and seeking donations, which often came in the form of gift cards or items for raffles. Skyline Chili restaurant was among the many generous contributors to their cause.

“We’ve been doing garage sales and yard sales,” Raya noted, showcasing their commitment to fundraising. But their efforts extended beyond sales, as they also volunteered at their mom’s workplace on Veterans Day last year and participated in community events to raise additional funds.

With their next Honor Flight scheduled for September 17 at Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky International Airport, the Ziegler sisters continue to demonstrate the power of community spirit and gratitude, inspiring others with their remarkable efforts to honor those who have served.

## Watery Rescue

A remarkable act of bravery unfolded on Lake Winnepesaukee, New Hampshire, when 17-year-old Brady Procon jumped into action to save a runaway boat after its captain fell overboard on July 4, WCVB reported.

The incident began when a sailing instructor attempted to retrieve a tennis ball used for training, accidentally causing a nearby student’s boat to tip over. This led to the instructor falling into the water, leaving the boat unmanned and spinning out of control.

Brady, who was sailing nearby, sprang into action.

After ensuring the safety of the students nearby, he quickly hopped onto a neighbor’s jet ski to confront the out-of-control vessel. “I didn’t really think; I just did it,” Brady recounted during an interview with WMUR, showcasing his instinctive courage.

Video footage captured the dramatic moment as Brady maneuvered alongside the spinning boat, leapt aboard, and brought it to a stop within seconds.

His heroic actions did not go unnoticed on social media, with users praising his bravery. Comments ranged from “You can’t teach this kind of courage” to “It’s like watching an action movie hero,” highlighting the community’s admiration for Brady’s quick thinking.

Fortunately, no one was injured during the incident, and the entire community expressed relief that Brady was present to handle the situation. The teen plans to begin his service in the U.S. Navy this fall. Reflecting on his actions with humility, he said, “It scared me a little, but it was fun; I’d do it again.”



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