



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on July 23, 2018

Published in the July 23, 2018 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 34, No. 14

The Goodness of America

Thank a Cop With a Donut

Ten-year-old Tyler Carach of Florida has made it his goal to deliver thousands upon thousands of donuts to police officers across the country to show his gratitude for their hard work and sacrifice.

Carach conceived of the idea two years ago, when he saw four police officers at a local grocery store and asked if he could use his allowance to buy them donuts. His mother, Sheena, explained to Tyler that police officers are, unfortunately, judged by the bad behaviors of “a few,” and that as a result, “some people were not very kind to officers.” Tyler wanted to set a better example.

The four police officers were touched by Carach’s gesture, inspiring the young boy to expand his idea into an all-out campaign to thank every police officer in America.

Today.com reported that Carach now uses all of his school lunch breaks and his entire summer vacation to fulfill his goal.

In just two years, Tyler and his mother have delivered 65,000 donuts to police officers in 31 states while his father stays at home with his teenaged brother and sister.

Tyler reportedly wears a colorful cape when he makes his deliveries. Sheena always calls ahead to ensure that their visit to the area precincts is not disruptive, but she states that she has never been denied.

Tyler has a simple system. He looks at a map, picks an area that he has yet to visit, and makes that the next location on his agenda. He is fortunate enough to attend a charter school near the Florida-Alabama border that supports his mission. Whenever he is going to be on the road to make his deliveries, the school provides his work to take on the road, Sheena told Today.com. Still, Tyler tries to rarely miss school.

Tyler’s efforts have been covered by local media outlets throughout the country. He has also documented his visits on his Facebook page, I DONUT need a reason to THANK a cop.

As for the donuts, most are donated, though the family has purchased them as well, often at a discount. His trips have also been funded by donations from friends, relatives, and other supporters.

For Tyler, the experience has not only been deeply altruistic, but also educational. Today.com reported that he has learned about law enforcement and has decided he wants to be a K-9 officer when he grows up.

Mowing Across America

While Tyler Carach is traveling the country to thank police officers, Rodney Smith, Jr. of Huntsville, Alabama, has embarked on his own cause that takes him across the country: He mows lawns for those in need in all 50 states.

In 2016, Smith founded the Raising Men Lawn Care Service, a nonprofit that helps young people give back to their communities by visiting people in need and helping them with their yardwork. Tasks include mowing lawns, raking leaves, and shoveling snow. He describes his organization on his website:

Raising Men Lawn Care Service is the union of an ordinary yard maintenance service and the



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on July 23, 2018

Published in the July 23, 2018 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 34, No. 14

commitment to establish an inspiring program to keep our youth (girls & boys) on a positive path while learning and understanding their value in society. RMLS provides free lawn care to our elders, those who are disabled, single mothers and our veterans, who do not have the time, resources and/or money to manicure their yards.

Smith told CBS News that he conceived of the idea on a whim.

“In 2016, I saw a man mowing his lawn, struggling. So I got out of my car and helped him,” he said. That moment inspired him to do more. At the time, he was still working on his bachelor’s degree in computer science, but would often mow lawns between classes.

He then decided to recruit kids to help him fulfill his mission, to teach them the value of charity. Approximately 60 kids in Huntsville initially joined his organization, but that number has steadily grown. Today, more than 130 kids across the country have joined his program.

To further spread the word of his mission, Smith has come up with “The 50 Yard Challenge,” which challenges youth across the country to mow 50 lawns. Interested volunteers simply post a photo of themselves on social media with a sign that states they’ve accepted the challenge before beginning their tasks.

Smith wanted to set the right example, so he set himself up for an even harder challenge: “50 Yards in 50 States.” He’s already broken his own rules, however, mowing more than one lawn per state.

Last summer, Smith visited all 50 states in just 39 days, CBS News reports. He drove to all the states except, of course, for Hawaii and Alaska.

This year, he set out on his travels on May 17. In his first three weeks, he visited more than 20 states, mowing several laws in each.

Before stopping in each state, Smith puts out requests for people to make recommendations as to which lawns he should mow. He told CBS that he showed people which cities he was going to and then “asked if they could submit lawns of disabled people, single moms, vets, whoever needed their lawn mowed for free.” People make recommendations for Smith on his website, [Weareraisingmen.com](#).

“If I don’t have enough [requests in an area], I go on Facebook or Twitter and say, ‘I’m here, does anyone know a disabled person, single mom, vet, whose lawn needs to be cut?’”

Smith has been assisted by generous donations from the engine company Briggs & Stratton, which has sponsored his trips and provided him with the mower he uses on his journey. Others have helped sponsor his overnight stays and donated gas cards.

In the past two years, Smith reports, he has met some wonderful people, including volunteers who have wanted to come out and help. When he’s done with the work on a yard, he posts a photo of himself with the family or individual he assisted to social media and hopes it inspires others to give of themselves to those in need.

This year, he wants to use his visits as an opportunity for greater outreach. “This time I’m stopping in schools and organizations ... talking to kids about community service,” Smith said.

— Raven Clabough



Written by [Raven Clabough](#) on July 23, 2018

Published in the July 23, 2018 issue of [the New American](#) magazine. Vol. 34, No. 14

Subscribe to the New American

Get exclusive digital access to the most informative, non-partisan truthful news source for patriotic Americans!

Discover a refreshing blend of time-honored values, principles and insightful perspectives within the pages of "The New American" magazine. Delve into a world where tradition is the foundation, and exploration knows no bounds.

From politics and finance to foreign affairs, environment, culture, and technology, we bring you an unparalleled array of topics that matter most.



[Subscribe](#)

What's Included?

- 24 Issues Per Year
- Optional Print Edition
- Digital Edition Access
- Exclusive Subscriber Content
- Audio provided for all articles
- Unlimited access to past issues
- Coming Soon! Ad FREE
- 60-Day money back guarantee!
- Cancel anytime.