

Written by **Raven Clabough** on July 20, 2020





The Goodness of America

All Lives Matter

The current political climate has been harshly anti-police, so a white police officer in Sumner County, Tennessee, was pleasantly surprised by an anonymous good deed by two black women who wanted to show him that he was supported.

Deputy Jody McDowell was eating breakfast at the Cracker Barrel near the Nashville airport on June 18 when he discovered that his bill had already been paid. The women left before Deputy McDowell had a chance to thank them, but they left him a note that McDowell posted on social media.



The message read, "BLM, But so does yours! Thank you for your service. Breakfast paid."

McDowell is hoping to reach the women who paid his bill. In his Facebook post, he wrote, "I want to thank the two sweet black ladies who paid for my breakfast this morning."

McDowell knows little about the women who made his day, except that they were not from the area. According to the *Atlanta Journal Constitution*, he had been seated near them at breakfast and had overhead them say they were taking a flight back to Baltimore.

Thank You Party

Residents in Miami Beach decided to throw a "Thank You" party on June 16 for their garbagemen to show their appreciation for their "extraordinary" service and, in particular, their dedication to their work during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Saul Scruggs and Keon Richardson have been the garbagemen for the North Bay Road Community of Miami Beach for a while, and area residents wanted to show their support for the workers in their area who kept the community going during the coronavirus lockdown.

Jennifer Elegant, a resident and one of the party's organizers, told WSVN that the community benefited from Scruggs and Richardson's service, not only because they are dedicated workers, but also because they have infectious personalities and have gone above and beyond for the area residents. "They brighten our world, they brighten our moods because they're happy and kind," she said. "This was an easy turnout because everyone said the same thing: 'Saul and Keon? We love them, of course we'll be there.'"

According to Life.Shared.com, Scruggs had once spent more than 45 minutes helping a woman go through her trash to find her lost wedding ring.

The party organizers enlisted the help of Scruggs and Richardson's supervisor, Rashard Williams, who asked the men to report to the neighborhood immediately because they had missed a pickup.



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"I told him that I needed him to meet me at a stop because a customer said that he missed her garbage," Williams explained. "He's already hyped up and mad thinking that he left the lady's garbage, not knowing he has a big surprise coming."

But when Scruggs and Richardson arrived at North Bay Road, they were shocked to find residents standing outside waiting for them, holding up "Thank you" signs and offering gifts, according to the Miami Herald.

Prayers for Police

Seven-year-old Trey Elliott has been leaving his mark on police officers throughout Tulsa, Oklahoma. The online site The Stream reported that Elliott has been stopping officers to pray with them.

According to Trey's mother, Brittany, Trey was never comfortable praying aloud until he began doing it with local police, inspired by recent anti-police protests and riots.

When Trey learned of the protests, he told his mother, "I think I want to pray for the police officers, 'cause it seems like they need some prayers. They're in some really hard times."

Brittany posted a photo of Trey praying with a police officer, Donnie Ray Johnson, on Facebook on June 1. "The current state of our city breaks my heart into so many pieces," she wrote, "but this little boy restores it every time."

"This boy laid his little hands on officers to show them that we love and support them," Brittany continued. "If this picture shows you anything, let it be to pray for those around you."

"It's really amazing to watch," Brittany told The Stream.

Trey has since made the rounds, praying with nearly 150 of the city's 800 officers as of June 16, his mother posted on Facebook.

His prayer, KJRH observes, is a simple one: "Please protect this police officer, and his family, and his entire city, amen."

Brittany says the response from the police officers has been wonderful. "They're just so sweet," she said. "We met some really awesome officers that are just so thankful to have ... this little boy that wants to pray for them."

"Trey prayed for our community, police department, and me today," Tulsa Police Department Chief Wendell Franklin posted on Twitter. "It was an honor to meet this young man involved in his own mission to bring our community together," wrote Franklin. "He is that mustard seed planted which yields a tree used by all."



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