

Congressman Stewart's Patriotism and Service Awards

These 11 individuals and organizations exemplify leadership, exceptional citizenship, dedication, patriotism and have participated in and/or lead service projects. They exemplify a service-oriented attitude in their home, community and country.

ORGANIZATION RECIPIENTS



Utah Honor Flight

Utah Honor Flight has been selected as a recipient of the Patriotism & Service award for their outstanding service in honoring Utah's WWII, Korean and Vietnam veterans. UHF is a non-profit organization dedicated to transporting Utah veterans to Washington, DC to visit the memorials that have been dedicated in honor of their service. Since its creation in 2013,

Utah Honor Flight has taken 983 veterans to date to Washington, DC to be honored and see their memorials, raising over a million dollars in funds to cover the costs of taking veterans on their Honor Flight journey. Board members, flight leaders, medics, and the flight preparation team are all volunteers, donating thousands of hours to Honor Flight's mission of serving Utah's veterans.



Tooele City Fire Department

Tooele City Fire Department has been selected as an organization recipient of the Patriotism & Service award for their exceptional service and dedication to their community. Tooele City Fire Department is an all-volunteer department and contains 50 active firefighters and over 100 senior status firefighters who are on call 24/7/365 to handle emergencies that occur in Tooele City. Annually the department responds to between 400-500 fire, rescue and hazmat calls in Tooele City. In addition to their fire ground

duties they maintain a robust fire prevention and community service program where the volunteers donate thousands of hours to the citizens of Tooele City. During 2016, Tooele City experienced a very active fire season. On the evening of July 19th the department responded to a catastrophic fire in a local neighborhood. Some are calling it the communities 100 year fire. During the wind driven fire, 27 homes experienced damage. Members of the department courageously fought the fire preventing it from spreading to another 40 homes in the neighborhood. The department's involvement in suppressing the fire and the subsequent overhaul and clean-up was pivotal to Tooele City's success in handling the situation.

HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT RECIPIENTS



William Patrick Ryan III

William Ryan was selected as a high school student recipient of the Patriotism & Service award for his outstanding engagement in his community and dedication to serving those in need. Will is a senior at Judge Memorial Catholic High School. He has served on Student Council from 9th-12th grade as Class President and Student Body President and is a member of the National Honors Society. Will volunteered at Camp Kostopulos and with the St. Ambrose Parish for four years and serves on his school's peer ministry. During his high school career he played football and baseball, ran track and did men's dance. Will was awarded scholar athlete in football, baseball and track and earned the Excellence in Men's Dance award. Will was been nominated by Congressman Chris Stewart to attend the U.S. Naval Academy and has recently been offered an appointment and will be attending the Academy in the fall.



Madeline Pettit

Madeline Pettit was selected as a high school student recipient of the Patriotism & Service award for her exceptional service as Miss Utah's Outstanding Teen focusing her efforts on serving veterans and encouraging patriotism and civic mindedness in her community.

Madeline Pettit, a senior at Bountiful High School and is an accomplished pianist, active in choir and is HOSA President. In 2015, Madeline was crowned Miss Davis County Outstanding Teen. Shortly thereafter, she won the state competition and served as Miss Utah's Outstanding Teen for the past year. During that time, Madeline's promoted her platform, *Be a Patriot – Honor American Freedom*. This was inspired by her love for our country, her family's service in the military and desire to help other veterans. Her goal was to spread awareness, encourage deeper patriotism, and honor our American veterans. She enjoys supporting the charities *Labs for Liberty*, *Operation Teddy Bear*, and *Lone Survivor Foundation*.

COMMUNITY LEADERS



Commissioner Alan D. Gardner

Alan Gardner was selected as a recipient of the Community Leader Patriotism & Service Award for his life time of public service to his community and the great state of Utah. Alan Gardner has served as a Washington County Commissioner for the past twenty years, before recently retiring. He was first elected in 1996. He has served as past president of the Western Interstate Region of National Association of Counties, Washington County's Cattleman Association and the Dixie Junior Livestock Show. Some of the many boards and committees he has served on have been the Washington County Economic Development Committee, Washington County Library Board, the Public Lands Steering Committee for the Utah Association of Counties, and the Public Lands Steering Committee for National Association of Counties, Washington County Cattlemen's Association, and the State of Utah Critical Lands Committee. He served as the Rural Public Lands County Council Chairman and represented Utah at the BLM Advisory Council. He has been awarded Commissioner and Elected Official of the Year by the Utah Association of Counties and the Dale Sowards Award.



Commissioner Newell E. Harward

Commissioner Harward has been selected as a recipient of the Community Leader Patriotism & Service Award for his exceptional leadership and public service in his community and rural Utah. Newell Harward has served as a Commissioner in Wayne County since 2013. He currently serves on and has served on the following boards: the Six County Association of Governments Board, the Central Utah Health Department Board, the Utah Association of Counties Board, Capitol Reef Natural History Association Board, and the Loa Town Board. Engaged in preserving history, Harward serves as Chair of the Capitol Reef Natural History Association. Dedicated to building relationships and facilitating resources for counties, he serves on the advisory council for Utah Association of Counties to SITLA. In addition, he has served as Vice Chair of the Wayne County Republican Party and Loa Precinct Chair.

MILITARY RECIPIENTS



Colonel Sean Kirschner

COL Sean G. Kirschner has been selected as a recipient of the Military Patriotism & Service Award for his outstanding service as Commander of U.S. Army Dugway Proving Ground. COL Sean G. Kirschner was commissioned as a Distinguished Military Graduate from Tulane University, New Orleans, LA with a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology.

His military education includes honor graduate of the Chemical Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, Combined Arms Service Staff School, U.S. Army Command and General Staff College, and the National War College. He holds Masters Degrees in Management and National Security Strategy.

Most recently, COL Kirschner was assigned as the Deputy Director, Chemical and Biological Technologies Department, Defense Threat Reduction Agency, Ft. Belvoir, VA, where he served as the lead for the Agency's Regional Contingency Team – Ebola.

COL Kirschner has served in a variety of command, leadership, and staff positions. His awards and decorations include two awards of the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Bronze Star Medal, seven awards of the Army Meritorious Service Medal, Joint Service Commendation Medal, two awards of the Army Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal, four awards of the Army Achievement Medal, Ranger Tab, Parachutist Badge, the Joint Staff Identification Badge, and the Army Staff Identification Badge.



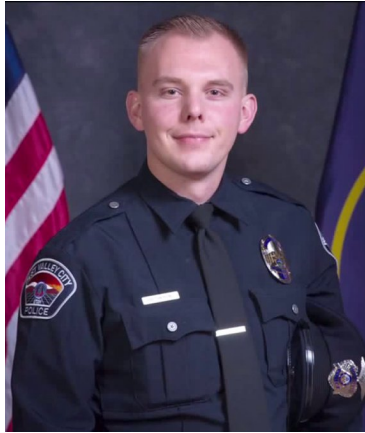
Alfred Albert Arruda

Alfred Albert Arruda has been selected as the recipient of the Military Patriotism & Service award for his dedicated military service during WWII, the Korean Conflict and Vietnam. Al enlisted in the United States Navy in 1943 at the young age of 17. He served during WWII in the Atlantic and Pacific as a member of the Naval Amphibious Forces. Al served aboard numerous naval vessels including the Attack Cargo ships USS Pickaway, USS Cavalier, and USS Chilton in support of invasion forces. Al also served aboard the landing ship dock USS Lindenwald.

Following service in the US Navy, Al enlisted in the US Army and served in Korea during the Korean Conflict as a Military Provost Investigator. Al later served as Military Advisor (MAAG) in both Vietnam and Iran. Al was honorably discharged in 1968.

After retiring from the military Al worked as a security officer at various locations and later worked as a supervisor in the manufacturing industry. Al is the proud father of three children and nine grandkids. He now lives in St. George, Utah.

INDIVIDUAL RECIPIENTS



Officer Cody James Brotherson

Officer Cody James Brotherson has been selected to posthumously receive the Patriotism & Service award for his unwavering devotion in serving his city, exhibiting integrity and bravery while upholding the Constitution and making the ultimate sacrifice in protecting the lives of the many individuals in the community he served. Cody Brotherson was a three-year veteran of law enforcement and served the people of West Valley as a West Valley Police Officer. Cody was determined to make a difference in the world, which is why he decided to become a police officer. He attended Salt Lake

Community College and graduated from the Police Academy in 2012. As an officer, he often carried soup and drinks in his car to give to those who were struggling when he came across them in the line of duty. An example of his selfless service was when he purchased a pair of new shoes for a homeless teenager he came across on a call. He told that teen he was going to come back in a year to hear how those shoes had changed his life and helped him get back on track. Cody loved traveling and exploring new places; he loved cooking and hoped to one day own a food truck and share his talent with the world.

Tragically, Cody was killed in the line of duty on November 6, 2016 leaving behind his fiancé, parents, and two brothers. Officer Brotherson was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor for his bravery and sacrifice. Although Cody's life was cut short, he certainly made a difference in the world and positively influenced those he came in contact with.



Lorna Koci

Lorna Koci has been selected as a recipient of the Individual Patriotism & Service award for her outstanding service to the impoverished and homeless community of Davis County in her innovative leadership as Director of the Bountiful Food Pantry. Lorna has over 40 years of professional and leadership experience, initially working in the private sector technology field and then making a switch to state government and non-profit organizations. She worked for IBM for 20 years followed by running software companies for several years. She left the private sector to work for Governor Huntsman on the Utah

Commission on Aging, followed by serving as Programs Director at the Utah Food Bank for 3 years. She is now the Executive Director of the Bountiful Community Food Pantry where she is applying her leadership abilities and desire to help those in need. She lives in North Salt Lake with her husband Doug. She has six children and ten grandchildren and enjoys sailing, biking, quilting, smocking, gardening and music.

Lorna has served on the Open Legal Services Board of Directors and currently serves on the Davis County Aging Services Advisory Board and the Davis Community Learning

Center/Promise Bountiful Steering Committee and is active in other church and community organizations. She was the recipient of the 2015 Soroptimist Women of the Year Award for Davis County, the 2016 Most Distinguished Woman Award for Davis County and the 2016 Utah Enlightened Fifty Award.



Carol Hollowell

Carol Hollowell has been selected as a recipient of the Individual Patriotism & Service award for her dedication and unwavering service to improving the lives of individuals living in poverty and homelessness in Southern Utah as Executive Director of Switchpoint. Carol Hollowell, native of Oregon, moved to St. George, Utah seven years ago. She graduated from Oregon State, has 4 adult boys, and is married to college sweetheart. Her desire to make a difference and change the model of homeless shelters in Utah led her on a course to open Switchpoint Community Resource Center. Over the last two years, Switchpoint has added on a food pantry, a community garden, a thrift store and a rapid rehousing program.

With Carol at the helm of Switchpoint, families living in poverty and homelessness have received 464,160 pounds of food with 845 individuals benefiting from service, 103 having found employment and 266 people having secured housing. Plans for a 55 unit permanent supportive housing project are in the pipeline now. Throughout the last two years, she has received the Social Justice Award and Woman of Achievement in Public Service. In the fall of 2015, Carol and her husband, Bob, rode their tandem bicycle across the U.S., visiting homeless shelters and meeting individuals who are chronically homeless.