

# SPCC Happenings



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## Wall Display Honors Military Personnel and Their Service



The emblems of the military services on display on the south wall of the vestibule of St. Patrick Church are, from left to right and top to bottom, Navy, National Guard, Army, Marine Corps, Air Force and Coast Guard. See page 2 for an article on the framed flag and certificate (seen to the right of the emblems).

In a letter to George Opdyke, mayor of New York City during the Civil War, Abraham Lincoln wrote, "Honor to the soldier and sailor everywhere who bravely bears his country's cause. Honor also to the citizen who cares for his brother in the field and serves, as best he can, the same cause."

The parishioners of St. Patrick's honor the military personnel of the United States of America with an updated and extraordinary display located on the south wall of the church's vestibule. Each branch of the military service—Air Force, Army, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, National Guard, and Navy—is represented by its emblem beautifully handcrafted out of 14 gauge steel. Beside the ornamental art is a framed American flag that has special significance (see page 2 for a separate article). Below the display and on a podium rests a photo album of past and current military men and women who were or are related to parishioners.

The emblems are the work of Mark Solinski who was asked by Paul Loop, on behalf of the parish council, to create the artwork. Mark's process involved drawing the design with a marker, hand-cutting the metal with a plasma cutter, and grinding it down. The final step is applying color by using a torch. "Not one of them turns out exactly the same as the others," Mark said about the resulting hue.



**MARK SOLINSKI**

Mark, who is a hydroelectric manager for the Truckee Carson Irrigation District, has been welding since his dad, Walter Solinski, first taught him the skill when he was 14 years old. Walter had been employed as a civilian welder at Naval Air Station Fallon for many years and still lives in Fallon.

Married to his wife Lisa and the father of two boys, Cameron, 14, and Kaden, 10, Mark was proud to have been a part of this project honoring the nation's military.

"If it wasn't for them, we wouldn't be able to enjoy the lives we do as U.S. citizens," he stated.

Volunteers Tom Lukas and David Shell took two days to install the completed emblems on the vestibule wall in early June. "The order and placement of each emblem is based solely on visual appeal," Tom commented.



**Tom Lukas**

"Tom and David did a wonderful job with the mounting of the metal art," Paul Loop observed. "It really does 'pop' out on the wall."



**David Shell**

As for the significance of the military

## Ministry Fair Aug. 27 & 28

If you are new to the parish or may be interested in volunteering to serve in a parish ministry or in joining a parish organization, you are invited to attend St. Patrick's Ministry Fair on Sat., Aug. 27, and also Sun., Aug. 28, after the weekend Masses. Representatives from the various ministries and groups will be available in the parish hall to talk with potential participants about their service and activities. Learn about the many opportunities to volunteer at St. Patrick Church by coming to the Ministry Fair! Please contact Judy Northrup at 427-3916 or Mary Thomas at 428-2322 if you wish more information or would like to make a presentation on behalf of your ministry or organization.

**RCIA registration: 7/30 & 31, 8/6 & 7 after Masses**



at St. Pat's on the 1st & 3rd Sat. of each month has been cancelled for the summer and will resume on Sat., Sept. 17, with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. and games starting at 6:15 p.m. Enjoy your summer!

*(Continued on p. 2)*

**YOUR PARISH COUNCIL**

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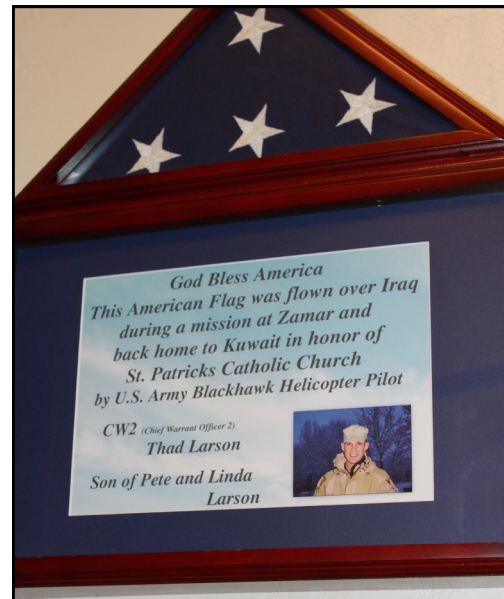
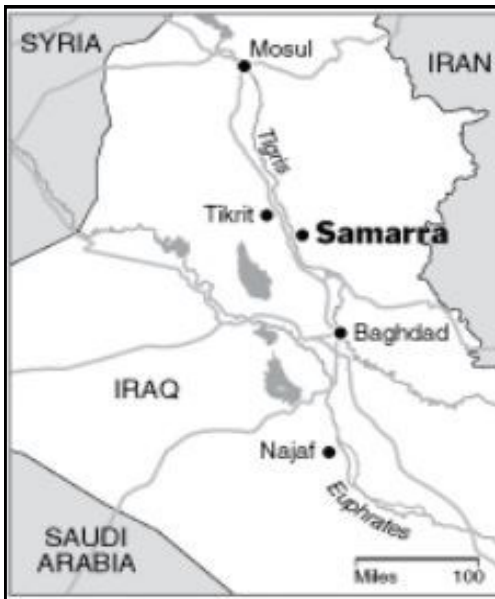
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Judy Northrup

Religious Education Coordinator

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**Thad  
Larson**

## Flag Flown Over Iraq Gift To St. Pat's

The folded and framed American flag that accompanies the display of military emblems located in the vestibule of St. Patrick Church was flown by CW2 and Black Hawk helicopter pilot Thad Larson, son of parishioners Pete and Linda

Larson, during a night mission to Samarra in Iraq and was given to the parish as a gift.

Samarra is a city on the east bank of the Tigris River and 78 miles north of Baghdad. The assault on Samarra included three Black Hawks with each transporting 11 infantrymen and three crew members.

Married to his wife, Sandy, with two

children, Thad retired from the military in 2014 with the rank of CW4 and after 21 years of service including a stint in Afghanistan. His final duty station was Fort Huachuca in Sierra Vista, AZ, where he was a fixed wing instructor. He is currently training C12 pilots in intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance.

*Also near the military display in the church's vestibule are an American flag and a Nevada flag with each hung on a pole and supported with a base. These were donated by the Loop family to St. Patrick Church.*

Thank you to Thad and the Larson family and to the Loop family for their generosity!

## Display *(Cont. from p. 1)*

display to the parish family, Paul added, "St. Patrick Church is truly blessed by the men and women who have served and are currently serving our great country. These individuals who come to Fallon and are part of St. Pat's volunteer in many areas and become an integral part of our parish family. They epitomize the true meaning of service, not only to their country, but to their parish family as well. So, as a parish family, our way of saying 'thank you' for their service to our country and to our parish family is recognizing them through this small token of honor and remembrance." Well said, Mr. Loop! And our thanks to you, Mark, Tom and David too!

## Local Knights To Participate In Silver Rose Program

In March of this year six silver roses began their journey across North America, from Canada to the U.S. to Mexico, to honor the Blessed Virgin, to express the unity of the Knights of Columbus organization, and to reaffirm the group's dedication to the sanctity of human life. The 2016 Our Lady of Guadalupe Silver Rose—One Life One Rose—Program will conclude on Dec. 12, 2016, on the Feast of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Patroness of the Americas, at the Basilica of Our Lady of Guadalupe in Monterey, Mexico. On July 24 a silver rose will enter Nevada from Idaho (originating in Alberta, Canada) and will be received in Jackpot by state representatives of the Knights and, later that day, be passed on to the Grand Knights of Council 1151 in Wells and Council 2511 in Elko. On July 25 the Grand Knight of Council 2666 in Winnemucca will receive the silver rose which will be passed on the following day, July 26, to Fallon Council 4828 represented by Grand Knight Jim Shurtliff and District Deputy Gary Butori. **The local Knights are planning a special Rosary service at 6 p.m. in the church on July 26 while the silver rose is here in Fallon.** They then will carry the silver rose on July 27 to the Grand Knight of Council 4929 in Sparks from whence the journey will continue through Nevada, CA and NM to Mexico. Info: [www.runningoftherose.org/rr/en/index.html](http://www.runningoftherose.org/rr/en/index.html).

