

*City of Taunton
Office of the Mayor*



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Contact Person: Ligia Madeira, 508-821-1000

**O'CONNELL AND GIL LOPES OF G. LOPES CONSTRUCTION RECEIVE
2023 GOOD SCOUT AWARD**

Taunton, MA... Mayor Shaunna O'Connell and Gil Lopes of G. Lopes Construction were both presented with the 2023 Good Scout Award by the Narragansett Council of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) at a ceremony held on April 27, 2023 at the Norton Country Club in Norton, MA. The Good Scout Award is given annually to members of the community who demonstrate the ideals of the Scouts and commit themselves to community service.

“Thank you to the BSA Narragansett Council for this prestigious award. It is a true honor to be recognized in such a distinguished manner by an organization that has carried out generations of community service and youth development in the region,” said Mayor O'Connell. “Scouting helps our youth become great citizens, setting them on a path to succeed as community leaders, and I am proud to be considered a community leader who embodies the ideals of the Scouts.”

The annual Good Scout Awards event serves as a fundraiser with proceeds benefiting BSA programming in Southeastern Massachusetts which focuses on expanding access to outdoor recreation, leadership training, values-based programs and citizenship training.

Both Gil Lopes and O'Connell were on hand at the event to accept their awards. Lopes is the Owner of G. Lopes Construction Inc., working since 1977 for the family company started by his father in 1964. G. Lopes has continued to grow under Lopes' leadership with the support of his family, and is still run as a family business to this day. Lopes has donated his time and resources to several causes in the community including the Boys and Girls Club, youth sports teams, Eagle Scouts, and St. Jude Children's Hospital. Gil Lopes is an outstanding leader in the City of Taunton, and is a well-respected, dedicated and generous community member.

Mayor Shaunna O'Connell has served as a proud public servant for 13 years. She served as a Representative of the 3rd Bristol district for 9 years, followed by a successful bid for Mayor in 2019. O'Connell is a strong advocate for children and is closely involved with Girls, Inc., Old Colony YMCA, Boys and Girls Club and many school groups in Taunton. She is committed to supporting community projects which benefit local youth, including T.R.U.E. Diversity T.O.G.E.T.H.E.R. Summer Program, YMCA Teen Basketball League and Taunton Youth Mental Health Collaborative. During O'Connell's career in public service, she has supported local Scouts by visiting local troops, providing opportunities for Scouts to earn badges, and attending Eagle Court of Honors ceremonies where she presents awards to hardworking Scouts. ###