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Saint Albert Scouts Hold Wreath-laying Ceremony at Veterans' Memorial

Members of Saint Albert Boy Scout Troop 520 conducted a wreath-laying today at the school's Thomas E. Houser Veterans' Memorial.

The ceremony was part of a national effort called *Wreaths Across America* to place wreaths on the headstones of fallen heroes during the holidays. Worcester Wreath Company started this tradition 15 years ago at Arlington Cemetery and the effort has grown to more than 350 locations across the country. It is expected that more than 100,000 wreaths will be placed in 2008.

The message on the wreaths is "Remember, Honor and Teach": Remember the fallen, honor those who serve and teach our children the value of freedom.

The Veterans' Memorial at Saint Albert was built by four members of Boy Scout Troop 520 as their Eagle Scout project. The memorial honors all veterans, but especially its namesake, Sgt. Thomas E. Houser, who was killed in 2005 while serving in Iraq, and Cpl. Michael Munch, who was killed in Vietnam. Both soldiers were graduates of Saint Albert.

The wreath placed on the Houser Veterans' Memorial at Saint Albert was donated by Earl May.

Photo caption: Members of Saint Albert Boy Scout Troop 520 who participated in the wreath-laying ceremony were front row (left to right): Jackson Scott-Brown, Cody Goeser, Manny Onate and Jared Mahoney. Back row (left to right): Xavier Ferrer, Matthew Veit, Matt Feldman and Sean Mahoney.