

Family Connections

events • girl-powered stories • council news



*Girl Scout
Updates for
Parents &
Caregivers*

girl scouts 
of the colonial coast

Appreciation for Our Military Families

November is National Veterans and Military Families Month, and we at GSCCC want to extend our sincere appreciation for your service. Whether you served your country on active duty or by keeping the home fires burning, we recognize the difference you make to our country and its citizens. We're highlighting a recent story from one of our military family members here; you can find this and other stories, as well as helpful resources and information, on our "Supporting Military Families" page at gscoc.org/military.



Girl Scouts Explore Military Pride Across Hampton Roads

By Community Relations Volunteer Southern Van Auken

Girl Scouts in Troop 94 of Virginia Beach traveled across Hampton Roads this past year, earning Military Pride patches. From touring Air Power Park in Hampton to enjoying a scavenger hunt at Virginia Beach Surf and Rescue Museum, girls had fun while learning about each branch of our military. Highlights of the year included a fall camping trip to Fort Eustis near Newport News and volunteering with Marine Toys for Tots over the holiday season. *(This is an excerpt; read the full article and see photos at gscoc.org/blog)*

Kindness Update!

Thanks to everyone who participated in our “[Spread Kindness](#)” campaign and patch program. We’re overwhelmed by your generosity and graciousness. Read on for some updates on how it went — and how you can still participate!

Sweet Rewards for Kind Deeds!

Troop 310 made a peanut butter donation at their local Mid Atlantic Dairy Queen. ([View post on Facebook](#))

600+ Pounds of Spreadable Kindness

We picked up donated peanut butter from Mid-Atlantic DQ Marketing Director Matt Bean, and more came in at A Place for Girls! ([View post on Facebook](#))



Last call to share some kindness through chalk art!

Draw a kind, inspiring message on your driveway, sidewalk, or other space (get permission!) and send a photo of it to us at marcomm@gsccl.org. The winning entry will be the featured art on GSCCC's Thanksgiving communications to 10,000+ members and their families, as well as shared across social media. (Plus, the winning artist will receive a \$50 Gift Certificate to the GSCCC Shop!) See the full rules at gsccl.org/spread-kindness. **Hurry, entries are due by 5:00 p.m. on Monday, November 13, 2023** — which just so happens to be World Kindness Day!



Silver Award: Make Math Easy



Gold Award: Maple Dog Park Agility



Silver Award: Chill 'Axing' Benches

In The Spotlight: Stories from the GSCCC Blog

Silver Award Spotlight: Make Math Easy—Girl Scout Cadette Anastasia used fun games to help kids keep their math skills sharp over summer break. [Read the full article](#)

Gold Award Spotlight: Maple Dog Park Agility Equipment—Girl Scout Trinity built a space for dogs to learn new skills and release energy, as well as create stronger bonds with their owners. [Read the full article](#)

Silver Award Spotlight: Chill ‘Axing’ Benches—Girl Scouts Autumn and Elizabeth made eight convertible benches to benefit Camp Apasus and Azalea Baptist Church. [Read the full article](#)

Want to see your news featured on our blog? [Share your story with GSCCC!](#)

Fundraising Ban Lifted to Support Israel-Gaza Conflict Victims

GSUSA National CEO Bonnie Barczykowski and National President Noorain Khan have approved a three-month lift of our organization’s fundraising ban. Girl Scouts may raise funds to support those affected by the Israel-Gaza crisis, now through January 10, 2024. We recommend that contributions be made to charities that have been identified by [Charity Navigator](#) or [CharityWatch](#).

Upcoming Events

Download a printable version of the entire calendar of events for the 2023-24 membership year: [Program Events Calendar](#) (PDF)



November is [Native American Heritage Month](#), a time to recognize the histories, cultures, and contributions of the first inhabitants in the United States. Make new discoveries and have tons of fun while earning this special patch!

It’s Your World, Change It! – Saturday, December 2

Girl Scout Journeys are multi-session experiences in which girls dig deeper into their interests and use the skills they gain along the way to make a difference in their community. While badges show the world you’ve learned a new skill, Journey awards say, “I found a way to make a difference.” Whether it’s planting a garden, painting a mural, or launching a letter-writing campaign, this Journey helps girls understand what it means to be a leader who makes a

difference in the world through unique leadership and advocacy challenges.

Location: Virginia Wesleyan University

Levels: All

Registration Deadline: November 17

Year in the Life of a Girl Scout: Cookie Business – Sunday, December 3

Let's get ready for a great cookie season together! We'll learn the 5 Cookie Skills: Goal Setting, Decision Making, Money Management, People Skills, and Business Ethics. We'll also cover information about branding and how to build your own successful cookie business.

Location: Camp Skimino, Williamsburg

D/B/J: 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

C/S/A: 12:00 – 1:30 p.m.

Registration Deadline: November 17

Cookie Kickoff – Saturday, December 16

Discover how to Own Your Magic at this year's Cookie Kickoff celebration. Join us for a great day of fun and complete all of the steps needed to become a CEO — that's a Cookie Entrepreneur Officer! Participants will earn their cookie pin and complete some Cookie Business badge activities including Meet My Customers, Cookie CEO, Business Plan, My Portfolio and Research & Development. Meet some of our top sellers and hear how they became CEOs.

Location: Children's Museum of Virginia

Levels: All

Registration deadline: November 17

Calling all early birds: Registration is open for the 10th Annual Cookie Classic Run! We're heading back to the Dismal Swamp Trail on Saturday, January 13, 2024. *Don't wait, prices will increase after November 14...*

Join the 2024 Cookie Captain Team!

Girl Scout Seniors and Ambassadors, do you remember how hard it was to ask that first person to buy Girl Scout Cookies? Become a superhero to younger Girl Scouts selling cookies for the first time. Share what you know, and earn service leadership hours, too!

We are accepting new members through November 5, 2023. Girls must be in high school (grades 9-12). For more information, contact Janelle Campbell at janellec@gscgcc.org or sign up by completing the [online application](#).



GSCCC Shop Specials

November 1, 8, 15, and 29: Discount Wednesdays!

Pick a lucky turkey at checkout and receive a 10% or 15% discount off the entire purchase. *May not be combined with any other offer.*

Special Hours:

- The shop will be open 10:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 11.
- The GSCCC office and shop will be closed November 22-24 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

Sherpa Fleece Blankets: Ultra-soft meets warmth in this new blanket that is ideal for cooler days when you want to bundle up and get comfy. Available in Oatmeal (shown above), Navy Heather, Black, or Grey Heather, it measures 50" x 60". \$40 each.

New Charms: Get your branded bling on! Come see all the different Girl Scout designs including golden daisies, glittery trefoils, and even a cookie booth! \$6.00 each.

Varsity Rainbow Sweatshirt: In classic varsity style, this long sleeve charcoal gray pullover features multicolor “GIRL SCOUTS EST 1912” and a solid blue trefoil. Comes sizes XS to 5X, \$34 each.

More new items are arriving every day—[let's go shopping!](#)

Donate Your Car!

GSCCC is now accepting donations of vehicles — even if they aren't running! Your vehicle will be towed free of charge, and your donation is eligible for a tax deduction. Each vehicle donation helps GSCCC reach out and serve more girls with the Girl Scout Leadership Experience. For details visit www.careasy.org.