



The Great Girl Scout COOKIE PARTY

- The Providence Bruins are excited to host the Great Girl Scout Cookie Party on January 5, 2014 from noon-2pm. The PBruins will face off against the Worcester Sharks at 3:05pm.
- Pre-game festivities will feature games, activities, arts and crafts and more! All Girl Scouts who attend will receive a special PBruins gift and a 2013-14 PBruins Patch.
- Discounted game tickets are available to all Girl Scouts, friends and families. Contact Brent Arnold at (401) 680-4700 or at barnold@provsportsent.com.
- New this year: the troop with the most ticket sales will be invited to the ice prior the game to present a check from the PBruins organization to GSRI.



S'more News

WINTER 2013

From Trefoils to Tiaras

Colleen McBride, Service Unit Manager for Rehoboth and Seekonk Girl Scouts, organized an appreciation event for leaders and their daughters, held in GSRI's Girl Leadership Experience Center in Warwick. Girls and their moms were joined for a potluck dinner by a very special guest...Miss RI 2013 Jessica Marfeo!

Jessica, a former Brownie Girl Scout, spoke about overcoming stigmas throughout her life – from people thinking that as a Girl Scout all she did was sell cookies, to thinking that as Miss RI all she does is wear a tiara and pretty dresses. In reality, she is a Junior at URI, where she is studying biology, elementary education, and pre-med, and her platform focuses on promoting healthy relationship education and mentoring. In addition to her entire education being paid for

through scholarships, Jessica was also a finalist for a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) scholarship when she competed for Miss America in September. Coincidentally, one of the 6 Centers of Excellence for the Girl Leadership Experience Center is STEAM (including art)!

Jessica spoke to girls about finding their passion and gave them tips on how to achieve their goals, including doing homework and research, finding out what schools are the best, calling adults who can serve as mentors, and working on interview and public speaking skills. "Each time you have an opportunity to help someone or speak in front of a group, go ahead, take that avenue," she told the girls. Jessica also took the time to sign autographs, take pictures, and answer questions, including how her crown stays on!



WOONSOCKET NEWS

Woonsocket Girls Scouts have been busy this fall!

◆ Juniors from Troop 360, pictured from right to left, Emily, Allyson, Casandra, and Holly earned the Bronze Award by working on projects including restoring a nature trail, making blankets for nursing home residents, and creating toys and other items to make cages more comfortable at an animal shelter.

◆ Over 50 girls from the city entered cars to compete in the 3rd Annual Pinewood Derby, and winners included Emily D. and Emily T. from Troop 451 and in 1st place, Catherine D. from Troop 029.

◆ During the annual Autumnfest Parade, girls rode on a stunning float – decorated with grass, flowers, trees and bees to display the Fall Product Sale "Be A Reader" theme. Recognized for their creativity, the float won the "Most Beautiful in Parade" Award. Congratulations to everyone involved!



Pictured from on the float, from L-R, are Woonsocket's top fall product sales seller, Jocelynn, and top cookie seller, Caitlyn.



The oldest one-room schoolhouse in Riverside, built at the end of the Civil War, still features both the original double-entry doorways (from when girls and boys entered separately even though they sat in the same room for school), and a fireplace, which was the only source of heat when Girl Scouts started using the building in 1929.

Today, the East Providence Scout House is used every day by troops for meetings and events. To cover the daily operating expenses, maintenance, and upgrades, including a handicapped accessible ramp, the EP Scout House Association, a 501 (C) (3) incorporated in 1999, holds an annual craft sale.

Recently, troops from the city gathered during Make A Difference Day weekend for a rededication ceremony to kick off the new troop year.

east providence
scout house

IMPORTANT DATES

December 20, 2013
Girls can begin taking orders

January 5, 2014
The Great Girl Scout Cookie Party before the Providence Bruins Game

January 17, 2014
Cookie deliveries and booth sales begin

February 7-8, 2014
Girl Scout Cookie Weekend

March 31, 2014
Final paperwork & payments are due

April 30, 2014
Cookie Credit Transfer deadline



COOKIES 2014

WHAT CAN A GIRL DO?

She can change the world and Girl Scout Cookies can help her do it. She can do anything when she puts her mind to it – and the Girl Scout Cookie Sale can teach her how. The cookie sale puts them in control of their success and shows them that they can be a leader.

By selling cookies, girls develop valuable life skills - goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics - and they have fun! The cookie program has helped millions of girls develop the financial literacy skills they need to grow into financially responsible adults. In fact, many successful business women today say they got their start selling Girl Scout Cookies!

The \$700 million Girl Scout Cookie Program is the largest girl-led business in the country and generates immeasurable benefits for girls, their councils and communities nationwide. Our customers get a great product and get to support girls in their community.

2014 COUNCIL-WIDE SERVICE PROJECT

THE MATTY FUND®

Each year, GSRI selects a local organization to be the recipient of our annual Cookie Sale Community Service project. Girls can choose to donate a portion of their troop cookie sale proceeds to the organization. This is a way for girls to give back to their community. The Matty Fund® was selected as the beneficiary of the 2014 Cookie Sale Service Project. Their mission is to provide family resources, raise epilepsy awareness, promote patient safety and improve the quality of life for children and families living with epilepsy.

The Matthew Siravo Memorial Foundation is a non-profit organization in memory of Matthew Siravo who passed away from epilepsy May 11, 2003. For more information about the The Matty Fund visit www.mattyfund.org.



HONORARY COOKIE CHAIR

GSRI is proud to announce that the 2014 Honorary Cookie Chair is Danielle North. Danielle is the co-anchor for WPRI Eyewitness News This Morning. Danielle was a Girl Scout and her mom was her troop leader. She served as the Cookie Mom for her daughters' Warwick Girl Scout Troop.

As cookie chair she will be a spokesperson for the 2014 Girl Scout Cookie Sale and champion for the 5 key life skills girl develop while participating in the sale.

Cookie Sale INCENTIVES

75+ Panda Pen

135+ Small Panda

160+ Duffle Bag

200+ T-shirt & Sunglasses

250+ Tapeffiti™ Tape Caddy Kit

350+ Hoodie

500+ Large Panda

750+ Towel and Cinch Sack

1000+ Chair

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Top Seller in Service Unit:
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New this year are Cranberry Citrus Crisps. A crispy cookie made with whole grain, tangy cranberry bits and zesty citrus flavor. 9g of whole grain per serving.

- By eliminating the carton on three varieties of cookies and by purchasing Green Palm Oil Certificates, GSUSA and ABC Bakers are enhancing our commitment to sustainability and preservation of critical natural resources.

- Four of our cookie varieties have been certified VEGAN friendly. Your vegan customers can now enjoy Thin Mints, Lemonades, Thanks-A-Lot and Peanut Butter Patties.



Aleida DePina



A memorial service for Girl Scout Aleida DePina was held at the Baldwin School in Pawtucket on October 24, 2013. Aleida's Girl Scout troop, friends and teachers honored her life in a very moving ceremony that included the dedication of "Aleida's Garden."

Troop #3194, dressed in pink, Aleida's favorite color, led a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance. Her former teacher, Mrs. Taylor, shared her fond memories of how Aleida, who was shy and quiet with beautiful braids, was also a whiz at multiplication and the leader of the "Pink Brigade."

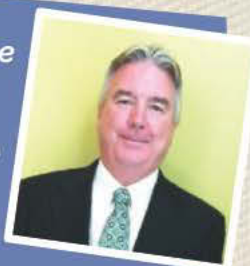
Her classmates and teacher Mrs. Mower shared their collage of happy memories that included the way Aleida told funny stories about her family in Cape Verde, and loved to make elaborate recess plans. Mr. Lentendre, Baldwin's music teacher, sang "Tears in Heaven" and the Girl Scouts closed the ceremony with a friendship circle. The new garden, located in a grassy corner of the playground, has been planted with bulbs and perennials surrounding a small stone bench inscribed "In Memory of Aleida DePina 2013."



GREETINGS from the corner office

Hello to all!

In my short time as Interim CEO of GSRI, I have been impressed with the staff and their dedication to the organization. Being surrounded by so many good-hearted people makes accomplishing the impossible, possible.



I have learned that Girl Scouts has a huge challenge ahead, with dwindling numbers of girl members and adult volunteers, combined with girls having so many options on how to spend their free time. It is my opinion that GSRI has taken a proactive approach to the membership decline by creating the Six Centers of Excellence which will be the focal point of our \$3.5 million capital campaign on which we are about to embark.

At the same time, we are developing a comprehensive system to help volunteers and there is a heightened awareness of the real need to improve our customer service. You will be seeing a dramatic improvement in our systems, behavior, engagement, and attitude to support our volunteers and leaders.

I am so excited to kick off the Girl Scout Cookie season and I look forward to meeting each and every one of you.

Neil Stamps

Neil Stamps
Interim CEO

THE STATE OF THE GIRL

Unfinished Business is a recently-released, groundbreaking report from the Girl Scout Research Institute (GSRI) that stakes out key issues and major trends affecting girls' healthy development in the United States today. The report shows there is promising news for girls regarding their educational attainment, connection to the digital world, and reduction of risky behaviors. However, the report also demonstrates that many girls are being left behind: they struggle in their everyday lives at school, at home, and in other social environments with issues such as relational aggression, bullying, depression, and even thoughts of suicide.

That's why the realization of the Girl Leadership Experience Center in the lower level of our new headquarters in Warwick is so critical to the future of girls in Rhode Island, southeastern MA and beyond. We're embarking on a strategic major gifts campaign which will enable us to deliver cutting-edge programming in six Centers of Excellence: STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Math), Making a Difference, Life Skills, Travel & Adventure, Camping & Outdoor Skills, and Global Citizenship. The Center will utilize the latest technology to deliver that programming to girls from all zip codes, all communities.

While we know that no single organization can tackle all of the challenges girls are facing, Girl Scouting is and always has been dedicated to the belief that every girl has the ability to become a healthy and productive woman who can be a leader in her own life and in the world at large.

**IF YOU OR YOUR EMPLOYER IS INTERESTED
in finding out more about this campaign,
please contact Nicole Kelly, Assistant
Executive Director, at nkelly@gsri.org.**

GSRI GOES TO EUROPE



You could tour London, Paris, Rome and Florence during the summer of 2015! GSRI is organizing a trip for girls, ages 12-17, through EF Tours. If you are interested in traveling, learning about other cultures and having fun, consider joining us. You must be a registered Girl Scout to participate, but you do not need to be in a troop. Contact Donna Lewis at dlewis@gsri.org for details.



In a mysterious library where literary characters come alive at night, someone stole cookies that were donated for a fundraiser! Whodunnit? That is what a group of Junior Girl Scouts came to Camp Hoffman to figure out. A team of Cadettes, Seniors and Ambassadors worked hard to plan the weekend and became suspects and witnesses to the crime while the Juniors put their detective skills to work to investigate the disappearance. All girls were asked to bring a book to swap and one to donate to **Books Are Wings**. Adult volunteers helped to cook meals. There was a little bit of time for relaxation once the threat of the thief was gone! The event was such a big hit that it will run again Feb 28-March 2.

WHODUNNIT?

Seven girls.

Three leaders.

One Big Trip.



The summer of 2013 was a long awaited one for Senior Troop 852. A cruise to Bermuda was our destination and we couldn't wait. We spent two years fundraising. We had numerous car washes, fundraisers at a local restaurant, raffles, yard sales, and sold as many boxes of cookies as possible.

Meetings were spent learning about Bermuda, its culture and environment, getting passports, and finalizing trip details. As the school year came to an end, textbooks closed and suitcases were packed. On June 28th our ship, the Norwegian Dawn, left the port of Boston. We experienced 18 foot seas our second night, but the next morning, seas were

calm and we arrived! While in Bermuda, we had new experiences - swimming with the dolphins and snorkeling, seeing natural caves, pink sand beaches and white-roofed homes, riding segways and traveling on the left side of the road. Troop favorites were the ship's comedians, room service at 11 o'clock at night(!), blue water and sunsets. This trip was a new experience to become closer with our Girl Scout sisters. Living with each other for seven days was hectic, but we grew closer and learned more about each other than ever before.

We have unforgettable memories of spending a week together in Bermuda that we will carry the rest of our lives. We want to thank our leaders for everything; you are blessings in our lives and we are so grateful for everything you did to make this dream trip of Bermuda a reality.



Written by: Crystal Burbank // NK-J Troop 852



girl scouts
of rhode island

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