

Girl Scouts Turn 95

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The 95th anniversary year of Girl Scouting kicks off on March 12 when Girl Scouts of the USA CEO Kathy Cloninger hosts a ceremony in New York City and launches a series of nationwide events. Girl Scouts -Seven Lakes Council, Inc. will join in the celebration as Girl Scouts throughout the Finger Lakes, Southern Tier and northern Pennsylvania engage in projects to help the community, highlighting the Girl Scout Movement's tradition of building leadership through action that makes the world a better place.

Anniversary events include:

- "Girl Scouts Make the World a Better Place Week," March 12-19, featuring good deeds by 3.6 million Girl Scout members around the country;
- The spring release of a new Girl Scout Research Institute research review on girls and leadership;
- A national tree-planting initiative this spring in which each of the 309 local Girl Scout councils plants 95 trees as a part of the launch of "Trees for the 21st Century" program, a collaboration with The Future of Life, Inc. (www.futureoflife.org)
- A sing-along for more than 100,000 Girl Scouts on the National Mall in Washington, D.C. on June 9; and

A GSUSA National Advocacy Day on June 13 featuring meetings between 700 Girl Scout executive leaders, girls and members of Congress to discuss issues important to girls today.

In most local areas of the Girl Scouts-Seven Lakes Council, Girl Scouts are distributing door hangers to let their neighbors know just what they are collecting and when they will be back to pick up the donations.

In the Ithaca/Lansing area, Girl Scouts are collecting kid-friendly foods for the local food banks. Items being collected are non-perishable food items and personal toiletries. Look for drop off locations between March 16 and 18, 2007.

In Groton, Freeville, McLean and Dryden area, gently used children's clothing and toys for ages pre-school through elementary are being collected for the Franziska Racker Center.

In Newfield, Girl Scouts are collecting non-perishable food items for the Community Good Neighbor Fund Food Pantry.

For a complete list of projects in other areas, visit www.girlscoutssevenlakes.org.

Today, Girl Scouts of the USA has 3.6 million girl and adult members and is the preeminent organization for, and leading authority on, girls. Girl Scouts travel the world, learn 21st century business skills and prepare for a high-tech future. The Girl Scout Leadership Development Program now reaches girls in every zip code, including locations in public housing, homeless shelters, juvenile detention centers, women's prisons, immigrant communities and isolated rural areas.

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