



Girl Scouts®

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc.
www.girlscoutshh.org

NEWS

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OPERATION COOKIE DROP TO PROVIDE GIRL SCOUT COOKIES TO MILITARY TROOPS OVERSEAS, STATESIDE HOSPITALS

Pleasantville, NY — There's nothing as sweet as a taste of home for American military personnel deployed overseas and, as far as the members of Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc. are concerned, the concepts of both sweetness and home can best be summarized in three magic words: **Girl Scout cookies!**

Last year, the local Girl Scout council's **Operation Cookie Drop** program resulted in over 34,500 boxes of cookies being sent to military units in places such as Iraq and Afghanistan, as well as military hospitals here in the States. For 2008, the program's volunteer coordinator, **Alison Bergman** of Ardsley, hopes to exceed that total with donations from customers throughout Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson's seven-county jurisdiction.

Working with officials from the U.S. Army and Navy, as well as the Westchester County Executive's office, Bergman has arranged for at least two large military vehicles and 10 strong sailors to collect the cases of cookies on Saturday, **June 14**, at the New York State National Guard Armory, 2 Dana Road, Valhalla. Girl Scout troops will be there to form truck-loading assembly lines, county police officers will provide on-site traffic control, and, once the sea spray settles from Fleet Week 2008 (May 21-28), a video crew from the Navy Office of Information may also be on hand to record messages from the Girl Scouts to the soldiers overseas.

In previous years, personal notes have been included in the cases of cookies and, as a result, hundreds of thanks have been received in return.

Customers who would like to purchase cookies to be included in Operation Cookie Drop can write to **operationcookiedrop@girlscoutshh.org** or look for the form on the council's website www.girlscoutshh.org.

Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson serves 34,000 girls and 15,000 adult volunteers throughout seven counties in southeastern New York State: Dutchess, Orange, Putnam, Rockland, Sullivan, Ulster, and Westchester. Its central administrative office is in Pleasantville, with regional offices in Kingston, Middletown, New City, and Poughkeepsie.

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Founded in Savannah, Georgia, on March 12, 1912, Girl Scouts of the USA (GSUSA) strives to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Accordingly, GSUSA continues to be the world's pre-eminent organization for, and leading authority on, girls, with a membership of more than 3.7 million girls and adults.

For information about joining, volunteering, or making a donation to Girl Scouts Heart of the Hudson, Inc., contact 914.747.3080 or visit www.girlscoutshh.org.