

PRESS RELEASE



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For Immediate Release

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Girl Scouts & Local Businesses Support Military through Cookie Sales Jerry's Belvedere Tavern Serving Girl Scout Cookie Dishes Nov. 7-11

Baltimore—The annual Girl Scout Cookie sale is a multi-million dollar business run by girls ages 5-17 who participate through Girl Scout Councils all across the United States. It is touted as a major entrepreneurial opportunity for girls teaching them five essential skills: goal setting, decision making, money management, business ethics and people skills. Locally, Girl Scouts are proving that these are indeed the benefits of participating in the sale because their entrepreneurial skills have landed them success with local businesses.

In Baltimore City a Girl Scout Daisy and Brownie troop have proven that when it comes to business, don't count younger Girl Scouts out. This troop negotiated a deal with Jerry's Belvedere Tavern & restaurant. Jerry's has agreed to purchase cookies from Troop 259 which they will then use in a featured dish of the day during November 7-11—a week the Council has designated as Stars & Stripes week, to raise awareness of **Operation U.S. Mint**. In addition, Jerry's will donate 10% of all proceeds from the featured dish, back to Girl Scouts. On November 7, from 4 pm – 6 pm, Girl Scouts of Central Maryland staff and friends will be at Jerry's to support the entrepreneurial efforts of these young Girl Scouts—and Jerry's restaurant.

Senior Girl Scout Selena Snyder approached Pangia Technologies in Fulton, MD, for a sizeable cookie purchase. In her solicitation letter, Selena offered to provide a presentation that would show the importance of contributing to Girl Scouts, her goals for the year and a description of how the proceeds from the cookie sale are used to support Girl Scouts. Her results were "sweet." The company purchased 250 boxes for the Council's Gift of Caring recipient-- Operation U.S. Mint--the Council's cookies for military soldiers campaign.

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Last year central Maryland Girl Scouts collected nearly 13,000 boxes of donated Girl Scout Cookies for Operation U.S. Mint. The cookies collected were either shipped overseas to soldiers stationed abroad or they were hand delivered to soldiers arriving at BWI/Marshall airport. One troop became Pen Pals with one of the soldiers they met and talked with at the airport.

The annual Girl Scout Cookie sale began in central Maryland on September 12 and runs through December 3, 2011. Thousands of girls ages 5-17 are using old and new methods to sell and make their cookie goals. For cookie customers looking for cookie booth sales in their areas, a new app for mobile phone users is available: mobile phone users can dial: **GSCOOKIES (**472665437) to download the free cookie booth locator app. Local cookie lovers can also visit the booth sale locator at gscm.org. To find out how individuals and businesses can support Operation U.S. Mint, contact Terry Mercer, Product Sales Manager, tmercerc@gscm.org.

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Girl Scouts of Central Maryland provides leadership programming for nearly 30,000 girls in central Maryland residing in Baltimore City, Anne Arundel, Carroll, Harford and Howard counties. For more information about the programs GSCM offers visit gscm.org; follow us on Twitter, like us on Facebook.