

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**DATE: Monday, January 23, 2012**

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**Girl Scout cookie program continues through March 25**

It's Girl Scout cookie time and Girl Scouts everywhere are asking, "What can a cookie do?"

Troops in Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council are discovering the answer, as they continue selling eight varieties of delicious Girl Scout cookies, including the newest addition to the cookie line up – "Savannah Smiles."

The program runs through March 25. Troops will deliver cookies, and take additional orders February 27 – March 25. Cookie booths will open beginning Friday, March 2 and end March 25.

This year's new cookie, "Savannah Smiles," was whipped up to commemorate the Girl Scouts 100th anniversary, which is officially March 12, 2012. It's a crisp lemon wedge cookie, dusted with powdered sugar and bursting with zesty flavor. Its name is a nod to Savannah, Georgia, the birthplace of Girl Scouts Founder Juliette Gordon Low, and a reminder to smile as you enjoy these lemony treats. Cookie favorites Thin Mints, Samoas, Trefoils, DoSiDos, Tagalongs, Thank U Berry Munch, and Dulce de Leche round out the eight varieties. Cookies are \$3.50 a box, and \$42 for a case.

The theme of this year's cookie program is: "What can a cookie do? – More than you can see!" It reminds girls that they have the power to do anything they set their minds to.

Customers will have the power to find nearby cookie booths with help from the Official Girl Scouts of USA Cookie Locator app again this year. Introduced last cookie season, the free app helps iPhone and Android users locate cookie booths throughout the council's 30-counties. The app uses the smartphone's GPS to read a customer's location and show nearby cookie sales. The app also offers cookie sale data from around the country, including the start and end of local cookie seasons to specific locations of sales. Users can cast their vote for their favorite cookies, too, and post their picks on Facebook and Twitter, among other interactive features.

With every cookie purchase, more than half of the proceeds stay in the local Girl Scout council to help provide resources needed to support Girl Scouting within Ohio's Heartland Council. Another portion goes directly to the Girl Scout troop. An additional portion also goes directly to the baker to pay for the cookies. The council does not donate money to any other organization.

Cookie lovers can also buy the council's special centennial cookie cookbook -- **Cookie Creations: Celebrating 100 Years of Girl Scouting**. Full-color and spiral-bound, it includes more than 100 recipes featuring Girl Scout cookies. The cookbooks will be available exclusively at the council's five resources, which are located in Columbus, Chillicothe, Marion, Mansfield and Zanesville. Visit [www.gsooh.org](http://www.gsooh.org) for more details.

Ohio's Heartland Council will keep the Girl Scouts' 100th anniversary celebration going, as it hosts Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Forever Green Centennial Celebration beginning at 6 p.m. March 2, 2012 at The Ohio State University's Archie Griffin Ballroom. For more information about the evening cocktail reception and dinner event, email Andrea Biada at [abiada@qsoh.org](mailto:abiada@qsoh.org) or call 614-487-8101 or 800-621-7042.

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts of the USA is the premier leadership development program for all girls from kindergarten through grade 12. The mission is to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Through activities in science and technology, business and economic literacy, and outdoor and environmental awareness, Girl Scouting provides girls with opportunities for fun and friendship, while fostering the development of leadership skills and self-esteem.

In 2012, the Girl Scouts will observe their 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Many community events and celebrations are planned in which every Girl Scout may participate. Any girl may join Girl Scouts at any time during the year and at any time from kindergarten through grade 12. National events also are planned.

Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council, headquartered in Columbus, serves more than 30,000 girls and more than 9,000 adult members and volunteers in 30 counties: Adams, Ashland, Coshocton, Crawford, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Guernsey, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Richland, Ross, Scioto, Union, Vinton, Wayne and Wyandot.

For more information on how to join, volunteer, or donate to Girl Scouts, call (800) 621-7042 or visit [www.gsooh.org](http://www.gsooh.org).

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