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CONTACT: Khalila Perrin, PR Coordinator

PHONE: (614) 487-8101 or 800-621-7042

E-MAIL: kperrin@gsohiosheartland.org

CHEFS AWARDED WINNING WHISKS AT GIRL SCOUT DESSERT EVENT

Mansfield: Three area dessert experts received bronze, silver and gold whisk awards at the Girl Scouts Dazzling Desserts -- Recipes for Success event at the Mansfield Holiday Inn & Suites Saturday, March 19. The event featured desserts made by seven area chefs using Girl Scout cookies as a key ingredient. Guests got to sample the desserts provided by the dessert artists and vote for their favorites. They also enjoyed dinner, plus live and silent auctions.

Matt Arter, chef at Galion Community Hospital, took the top prize gold whisk award for his scrumptious Trefoils Turtle Cheesecake. His dessert featured a crust made of crushed Girl Scout Trefoil cookies and toppings of fudge, caramel and pecans. Arter's winning cheesecake was later sold for \$60 during the live auction at the event. Arter lives in Galion.

The silver whisk award for second place went to Gail Myers of Shelby for her Lemon Cloud Burst dessert. Her dessert featured alternating layers of homemade raspberry and strawberry sauce and a rum flavored custard plus a crust made of Girl Scout Lemon Chalet Cremes. Her second-place dessert brought \$60 at auction.

Linda Feeman of Ed Pickens' Café on Main in Mansfield, took the third-place bronze whisk award for her elegant Dosi Mint Cake dessert. Feeman's well-dressed dessert featured mint fudge filling made with crushed Girl Scout Thin Mint cookies and cake batter blended with crumbled Girl Scout Do-Si-Do cookies. The Bellville native's dessert was auctioned for \$60.

All seven desserts were auctioned, with some bringing as much as \$175. All proceeds from the fundraising event go to the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council, which operates a regional office on North Park Street in Mansfield.

The event was sponsored by Richland Bank and Premier Graphics and was hosted by Alyssa Stevens, former radio personality. Auctioneer Dean Myers led an exciting live auction of donated artwork, athletic memorabilia, and more.

"More than 110 guests enjoyed delicious desserts created by local chefs featuring at least one taste-tempting type of Girl Scout cookie as its key ingredient," said Paula Confalone, chief program officer and regional director of the Girl Scouts' Mansfield Service Center. "We are so appreciative of the many Girl Scout troops, service units and community partners who donated our fabulous silent and live auction items to help support Girl Scout programs in our local communities."

Other dessert artists included: Joe Lucas of the Mansfield Fire Dept., Station #2; Olivia Hatten a culinary student at Pioneer Career and Technology Center; Carrie Ventresca a cake artist at Iced Cake Designs; and Chuck Carey of Knox Community Hospital.

Dessert Recipes can be found at www.gsooh.org.

About the Girl Scouts

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts of the USA is the premier leadership development program for all girls from kindergarten through high school. 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.

Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council, headquartered in Columbus, serves more than 34,000 girls and more than 9,000 adult 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.

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Photo Outline:

Photo #1: Dessert artists who participated in the Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council's Dazzling Desserts event in Mansfield include (front row from left): Chuck Carey, Gail Myers, Matt Arter, Joe Lucas, Olivia Hatten, Linda Feeman and Carrie Ventresca. Back row: Jackie Timmons.

Photo #2: Matt Arter poses with his gold whisk award.

Photo #3: Gail Myers poses next to her silver whisk award-winning Lemon Cloud Burst dessert.

Photo #4: Bronze whisk winner Linda Feeman poses with her award and Dosi Mint Cake dessert.