

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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GIRL SCOUT COOKIES FEATURED AT EVENING DESSERT EVENT

Zanesville: Just when you thought Girl Scout cookies couldn't get any better, you soon will be able to enjoy them in a new way – as ingredients in desserts made by area chefs.

Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council and Park National Bank are hosting Dazzling Desserts – Recipes for Success, Saturday, March 12. The evening event, starting at 6:00 p.m., is being held at Longaberger Golf Club in Nashport. The event will feature dessert creations from area dessert artists, a delicious dinner, an exciting live and silent auction, musical entertainment, and more. Before eating dinner, guests will get to sample all desserts and vote for their favorites.

Dessert creations feature at least one taste-tempting type of Girl Scout cookie as its key ingredient. The winning chef will receive the Golden Whisk award and runners-up will receive the Silver Whisk and Bronze Whisk awards. After winners are chosen, their desserts are auctioned in a live auction.

Participating area chefs are: Baker Cheryl Lohrman, of Creative Catering; Chef Bill Bird, of Zandex Health Care Corp.; Artist Jodi Gwin, of John Clem Elementary School; Baker Brooke Hickman, of Sweet Treats by Brooks; Tiffani Arnold, of C-Tec, Culinary Arts; Chef Brian Merritt, of Licking Memorial Health Systems.

“This is the eighth year we've hosted this event in Zanesville and we are very encouraged by the community's support for it. We hope it grows larger every year,” explains Kendra O'Reilly, regional director of the Girl Scouts' Zanesville service center. “The purpose of Dazzling Desserts is to raise the visibility and awareness of Girl Scouting, and of course, we want our supporters to have fun, and enjoy a great dinner and desserts, as well.”

Proceeds from the event will be used to help support Girl Scout programs for 34,000 girls throughout 30 counties in central and southern Ohio. The event is sponsored by Park National Bank.

One highlight of the event is the silent auction, where dozens of cookie jars are featured as themes for each auction package with items related to that theme making up the auction item. Past auction items include these themes: Ohio State football, Girl Scout items, Ohio Lottery, chocolate delights, resort vacations and theme parks, home improvement, golf, baking, and more. Local Girl Scout troops collect donations of items for the silent auction from vendors throughout Ohio, including attractions at Lake Erie and Hocking Hills.

Last year, the first-place Golden Whisk award went to Lisa Hornback of Columbus for her recipe entitled “Mini Chalet Cheesecakes” using Lemon Chalet Cremes Girl Scout Cookies.

Tickets to the event are \$35, which includes dinner and all desserts. The Girl Scouts also still are accepting entries from area chefs for dessert creations. Those interested in tickets or more information may call (740) 454-8563 or 800-292-6759. Longaberger Golf Club is located at One Long Drive in Nashport.

Those who can't attend the event but would like to donate to the Girl Scouts may visit www.gsooh.org or send a donation to: Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland, 3230 Bowers Lane, Zanesville, OH, 43701.

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 Cutlines:

Photo #1: Guests sample Chef Michael Lohrman's Munchable Sundaes at last year's Dazzling Desserts event.

Photo #2: Desserts such as this "Baya Nata Crunch" will be available for sampling and buying at the Girl Scouts' Dazzling Desserts – Recipes for Success event.