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## Girls catch spirit of their group on anniversary

By Rachel Katz

March 12, 2007



*Photo By Ginger Lopez*  
Girl Scouts from left Grayson Strasburger, Gracie Staude and Meredith Winter read what part they would mime during an activity in their Girl Scouts meeting.



Girl Scouts from troops 7 and 742 pictured from left Olivia Crowdus, Shana Weber, Angela Negron, Grayson Strasburger, Gracie Staude, Meredith Winter, Amelia Cutter, Grace DeRadd and Nancy Collette. The girls formed a Friendship Circle, where they sang Taps.

Today's the 95th anniversary of Girl Scouts and it will be celebrated nationwide.

Locally, Troop 742, a Brownie Girl Scout troop of eight girls ranging in age from 6 to 8, is celebrating with a community service project. The troop is led by Angela Gullette.

At their meeting tonight, the girls will watch a video presentation about the Linus Project, an organization that collects homemade blankets and donates them to sick children.

To help, the troop will make blankets at the meeting. "The girls love art projects and craft projects," Gullette said.

Juliette Gordon Low founded girl Scouts on March 12, 1912. The Girl Scouts organization strives to instill "courage, confidence and character" into members.

There are four divisions of Girl Scouts that fit girls from different age ranges: Daisies, ages 5 to 6; the Brownies, 6 to 8; the Junior Girl Scouts, 8 to 11; and Studio 2B, 11 to 17.

According to the Girl Scouts Web site, there are currently more than 3.6 million Girl Scouts across the country.

At the 95th anniversary meeting, the girls of Troop 742 will also decide what to do with the money they collected selling Girl Scout cookies, including the popular Thin Mints.

One of the troop members, Savannah Deaton, 7, said she is excited to deliver the cookies to buyers.

"I'm looking forward to it," she said.

When Gullette first discussed how to spend the money the troop earned with the Brownies, she discovered that the girls were more eager to help others than to use the money for their own fun.

"I would get some food and other stuff, and give it to other people who need it," said Gracie Staude, 6.

Gullette, who began Troop 742 in January, was almost shocked at the girls' kindness.

"It seems that they think more of others than expected," she said.

Although the Girl Scouts of this troop saved their biggest community service project for the anniversary celebration, Girl Scouts are dedicated to helping others year round.

The Girl Scout slogan is "Do a good turn daily," and Gullette said that is exactly what her troop members do.

"It can be as simple as holding a door open or visiting someone who's ill," she said.

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