

NEWS RELEASE

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Pennsylvania State Legislators Welcomed to Honorary Girl Scout Troop

October 18, 2011 (HARRISBURG, PA) – More than 35 women members of the Pennsylvania state legislature came together at the capitol in Harrisburg on Tuesday, October 18, to help Pennsylvania’s three Girl Scout councils generate excitement about the upcoming 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting by becoming honorary members of Troop Pennsylvania.

Senator Pat Vance and Representative Jennifer Mann served as the honorary troop leaders and welcomed attendees during a breakfast at the State Capitol, which was followed by an Investiture Ceremony on the Capitol Rotunda steps.

“Yesterday, today and tomorrow, Girl Scouts inspires girls to reach their full potential by transforming today’s girls into tomorrow’s leaders. I know from my own direct experience—and especially from Girl Scout camp!—that Girl Scouts challenges girls to step outside their comfort zone, explore the world, and expand their horizons,” Senator Vance said during her opening remarks.

The purpose of creating this honorary Girl Scout troop is to begin a partnership in honor of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouts that links women members of the state legislature with Girl Scouts’ mission of building girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place.

“With the Girl Scouts centennial year coming up, this is a great time to build our ties with the Girl Scouts, whose century-long experience and research in the business of leadership development for girls represents a wonderful resource as we go about the work of policy-making here in the state capitol,” added Representative Mann.

First Lady Susan Corbett, who will serve as the Honorary Chair of the 100th Anniversary of Girl Scouting in Pennsylvania, also attended the event. “I know first-hand how Girl Scouting builds the confidence and leadership skills of girls, the First Lady added. “You see, as a former Girl Scout and troop leader, I’ve seen the magic of Girl Scouting in action.”

Representatives from each of Pennsylvania’s three Girl Scout councils, Girl Scouts of Eastern Pennsylvania, Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania and Girl Scouts Western Pennsylvania also spoke during the ceremony.

“Girl Scouts have descended on the Capitol, on and off for decades, to express their concerns and ideas about issues that impact girls,” said Jane Ransom, President and CEO of Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania, based in Harrisburg. “As we turn the corner to the second century of Girl Scouting we

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hope to continue this tradition, as well as to serve as a resource for information and research as you, the members of Troop PA, partner with us to work on issues with significant impact on girls.”

The partnership between Girl Scouts and the members of Troop Pennsylvania will focus on for issues of particular interest:

1. Promoting Girls’ physical, social and emotional Health;
2. Increasing girls involvement in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM);
3. Girls and leadership; and
4. Financial literacy.

“We are very excited about this partnership,” Ransom added. “As we embark on our 100th year, the members of Troop Pennsylvania will serve as exemplary role models for Girl Scouts across this great state.”

Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania serves more than 27,000 girls in 30 counties in Pennsylvania and welcomes adults interested in volunteering and all girls in grades K-12, embracing every aspect of diversity. For more information visit our website at www.gshpa.org.

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