The Trefoil Times

A publication of Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan



Let New Adventures Begin!

We can't wait to see what exciting adventures lie ahead as we cozy up for winter! In this edition of *The Trefoil Times*, you'll find updates, helpful resources, and exciting opportunities to make the most of the colder months and keep your Girl Scout year thriving. Get ready for a season filled with friendship, kindness, exciting adventures, and a little Girl Scout magic!

Your feedback drives change!

Make your voice heard! The Member Advisory Committee (M.A.C.) is a group of volunteers that connects our members with the Board of Trustees. By sharing your ideas and experiences, you can help the M.A.C. advocate for meaningful change. Scan the QR code today and tell us what matters to you.

November 2026 • Issue 10

READY TO EXPLORE

The adventure starts December 15th!

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is cooking up something EXTRA exciting! This Cookie Season, your Girl Scout will be among the first in the nation to introduce **TWO brand-new Girl Scout Cookies!** Get ready for new flavors, big excitement, and a whole lot of cookie magic.

Scan for more



Two New Cookies Are Coming!

Available exclusively through Digital Cookie®

Meet Girl Scout Sparkables™!



Available Online Only

Meet Patch Pals™!



A little sparkle, a whole lot of delicious!

Crunchy oatmeal chocolate chip cookies meet colorful sprinkles in this fun, feel-good treat! Even sweeter, Sparkables™ are allergy-friendly, so even more friends and family enjoy the Girl Scout Cookie fun.

A Girl Scout Cookie for your furry bestie!

Soft, chewy, blueberry muffin-inspired treats made especially for dogs. Now pups can get in on the Girl Scout Cookie fun with a delicious treat made just for them.

Your Next Cookie Season Adventure Starts Here!

Now that you've heard the buzz about the two new Girl Scout Cookies, it's time to get a taste of the excitement! Join us for our Cookie Kick-Off and help your Girl Scout get ready to make this cookie season her best one yet!

The Girl Scout Cookie Program is much more than selling cookies. It's where girls build confidence, discover their potential, and develop skills they'll use for a lifetime. Girls will dive into hands-on activities that bring the Five Skills to life. They'll practice setting goals, making smart money decisions, talking with customers, solving problems, and making choices guided by her values, and try the new cookie!

But that's not all! She'll also get help setting up her Digital Cookie® storefront, create fun commercials to share on social media, and design her very own custom Patch Pals marketing sticker perfect for any future **Cookie Mogul**!

Scan the QR code to register.



Gear up for Cookie Season!

Get ready to rock those cookie booths with our new Cookie Booth Gear! Stock up, show off your Girl Scout spirit, and get ready to make this cookie season your sweetest one yet!

Visit our Retail Shops to get everything you'll need!



First time selling cookies?

COOKIE ROOKIE

is the perfect event for first time cookie sellers, their caregivers, and troop volunteers!

Join us for a hands-on introduction to the Girl Scout Cookie Program! We'll explore the Five Skills, practice cookie booth conversations, help set up Digital Cookie® storefront sample the new Sparkables™ cookies, and create a Patch Pals marketing button. **Perfect for first-time cookie sellers,** this exciting experience builds confidence and gets Girl Scouts ready to launch their cookie business alongside an adult or their troop. No experience needed, just bring the excitement!

January 23th
10:00 AM - 1:00 PM
$8.00 girls • $5.00 adults
Kalamazoo • Saginaw • Ann Arbor • Lansing

Scan to learn more!

313 PRESENTS

GIRL SCOUT DAYS

From Girl Scout Cookies to Curtain Calls

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan is excited to partner with 313 Presents to bring our Girl Scouts, troops, and families exclusive opportunities for unforgettable experiences!

Make memories, share the excitement, and experience the magic of live entertainment together, with patch-earning shows like:

Ringling Bros and Barnum & Bailey Presents The Greatest Show On Earth

How the Grinch Stole Christmas

Nutcracker! Magical Christmas Ballet

'Twas The Night Before... By Cirque Du Soleil

Harlem Globetrotters

Disney on Ice: Spotlight Magic

Cirque Alice - An Acrobatic Adventure in Wonderland

Ready for a night of live entertainment? Scan the QR code to learn more about available shows and opportunities to enjoy concerts, performances, and live events with your Girl Scout and family.



Upcoming Programs

d-daisies • b-brownies • j-juniors • c-cadettes • s-seniors • a-ambassadors

Dec 6 Plymouth *10:00 AM - 12:00 PM*
Badgefest: Coding for Good
bjcsa
Discover how algorithms work and how machines know what to do! They'll use what they learn to design and code their own computer game, explore the contributions of women in STEM, and discover steps they can take to pursue a future in the field.
$45 | Includes 3 badges | Reg. deadline 11/22

Dec 6 Plymouth *1:00 PM - 3:00 PM*
Badgefest: Cybersecurity
bjcsa
Can girls protect their data? Computers are used in all areas of life, from learning to entertainment and beyond. Cybersecurity helps keep personal information safe! Girls will explore networks, hacking, and cybercrime while discovering how to stay safe online.
$55 | Includes 3 badges | Reg. deadline 11/22

Dec 12 Kalamazoo *9:00 AM - 12:00 PM*
First Aid Fanatics
c
Do girls know how to use everything in a first aid kit or how to respond to a medical emergency? At the state-of-the-art simulation center at WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine, Girl Scouts will gain hands-on experience while learning alongside medical students and professionals!
$20 | Includes a badge | Reg. deadline 11/28

Dec 12 Northville *12:00 PM - 3:30 PM*
Robostangs Workshop
db
Girl Scouts will build miniature moving structures, get creative with STEM crafts and games, and see robotics in action during a tour of the Robostangs workshop. Girls will also create a presentation to share what they've learned with their Girl Scout sisters.
$20 | Reg. deadline 11/30

Dec 12 Virtual *Times vary*
Highest Awards Trainings
jcsa
Bronze Award Training (j), Silver Award Training(c), Gold Award Training (sa), Gold Award Workshopping Session (sa).
Free | Reg. deadline 12/4

Jan 16 Kalamazoo *9:00 AM - 12:00 PM*
First Aid Fanatics
sa
Do girls know how to use everything in a first aid kit or how to respond to a medical emergency? At the state-of-the-art simulation center at WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine, Girl Scouts will gain hands-on experience while learning alongside medical students and professionals!
$20 | Earn a badge | Reg. deadline 1/9

Jan 23 Kalamazoo *9:00 AM - 12:00 PM*
First Aid Fanatics
db
Do girls know how to use everything in a first aid kit or how to respond to a medical emergency? At the state-of-the-art simulation center at WMU Homer Stryker M.D. School of Medicine, Girl Scouts will gain hands-on experience while learning alongside medical students and professionals!
$20 | Includes a badge | Reg. deadline 1/9

Feb 6 Virtual *Times vary*
Highest Awards Trainings
jcsa
Bronze Award Training (j), Silver Award Training(c), Gold Award Training (sa), Gold Award Workshopping Session (sa).
Free | Reg. deadline 12/4

Feb 7 Plymouth *10:00 AM - 12:00 PM*
Badgefest: Coding for Good
bjcsa
Discover how algorithms work and how machines know what to do! They'll use what they learn to design and code their own computer game, explore the contributions of women in STEM, and discover steps they can take to pursue a future in the field.
$45 | Includes 3 badges | Reg. deadline 1/24

Feb 7 Plymouth *1:00 PM - 3:00 PM*
Badgefest: Cybersecurity
bjcsa
Can girls protect their data? Computers are used in all areas of life, from learning to entertainment and beyond. Cybersecurity helps keep personal information safe! Girls will explore networks, hacking, and cybercrime while discovering how to stay safe online.
$55 | Includes 3 badges | Reg. deadline 11/24

Mar 12 All Regions
Birthday Bash!
fdbjcsa
It's time to party! Girl Scouts will celebrate over a century of Girl Scouting with games, treats, crafts, and more! Participants can lead the group in their favorite Girl Scout songs, join in beloved traditions, and make new friends while celebrating what makes Girl Scouts so special!
$8 | Includes a fun patch | Reg. deadline 3/5

Scan for all the details about each program, like which badges or fun patches the girls will earn, explore program activities, and find everything needed to plan their next Girl Scout adventure!

Celebrate World Thinking Day

Feb 20

Ann Arbor | fdbjcsa
10:00 AM - 1:30 PM

This year's theme, *Our People*, celebrates the global Girl Scout and Girl Guide community, inspiring changemakers, and the power of leadership to shape a brighter future for all girls!

$5 | Includes a fun patch | Reg. deadline 2/13

Badge in a Box

GSHOM makes earning badges easy and convenient. Each kit includes supplies for four girls, simple instructions, girl-led activity ideas, **and badges ready for Girl Scouts to take home!**

Skip the planning and shopping, scan the QR code to order today, and make your next badge adventure a breeze.





Easy-to-plan adventures that fit your troop's schedule

Programs a la Carte!

lets volunteers choose from a variety of staff-led programs that fit their troop's interests and schedule! Our team brings the expertise and support, so you can focus on making memories, building skills, and having fun with your Girl Scouts. Explore the options below and find your troop's next great adventure!

Who Says Camp Is Just for Summer?
Adventure Awaits All Year Long!

Michigan's great outdoors is full of adventure in every season! We're lucky to have beautiful camp properties where Girl Scouts, troops, and families can make magical memories all year long. Bundle up for a winter getaway, cozy up in a lodge, explore snowy trails, or plan a fun-filled day trip. However you choose to camp, unforgettable adventures are waiting!



Dec 5 — Last Gingerbread Standing
Camp Linden | fdbjcsa | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
At this one-of-a-kind gingerbread challenge, girls design sturdy houses built to survive sinkholes, earthquakes, tsunamis, alien invasions, and more! Will their creation be the last one standing?
$25 | Fun patch included | Reg. deadline 11/21



Dec 12-13 — Marvels of Meteors
Camp O'the Hills | fdbjcsa | Overnight
Stars, Milky Way, and meteors oh my!
Let's learn about meteors and watch the Geminids meteor shower.
$70 | Fun patch included | Reg. deadline 11/20

Jan 15-17 — Winter Retreat: Sleds & Skis
Camp Linden | dbjcsa, adult | Overnight
Bundle up and embrace the magic of winter camp! Girl Scouts and their families can race down the sledding hill, explore snow-covered trails by snowshoe or cross-country ski, and soak in the breathtaking views overlooking Lake Louise.
$100 | Fun patch included | Reg. deadline 1/1

Jan 16 — Sleds & Skis
Camp Linden | dbjcsa, adult | 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Bundle up and embrace the magic of winter camp! Girl Scouts and their families can race down the sledding hill, explore snow-covered trails by snowshoe or cross-country ski, and soak in the breathtaking views overlooking Lake Louise.
$25 | Fun patch included | Reg. deadline 1/1

Jan 18 — Dream Big
Camp O'the Hills | dbjc | 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Girl Scouts will explore who they are, who they want to become, and all the amazing possibilities waiting in their future. From creating dream boards and designing their own identity shields to writing heartfelt letters to their future selves, it's a day full of creativity, self-discovery, and big dreams!
$45 | Fun patch and lunch included | Reg. deadline 1/10

Jan 30 — Cardboard Sled Race Day
Camp O'the Hills | fdbjcsa | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Girls will build custom sleds from scratch and put them to the test on the hill and a full day of winter camp programming!
$45 | Fun patch included | Reg. deadline 1/20

Feb 6 — Frost and Fun
Camp O'the Hills | fdbjcsa | 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Whether she's gliding along trails on cross-country skis, trekking through camp on snowshoes, or racing down the hills on a sled, she'll enjoy a day full of outdoor adventure, confidence-building, and winter wonderland fun!
$45 | Fun patch and lunch included | Reg. deadline 11/20

Feb 15 — Troop Sleuths
Camp O'the Hills | dbjcsa
10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
Girls will put their detective skills to the test at Detective & Investigation Day! Girls of all ages will crack cases, solve mysteries, and explore the science of sleuthing while earning their level-appropriate Investigation badge.
$45 | Fun patch and lunch included | Reg. deadline 2/8



Feb 20-21 — Sweethearts & Sisterhood Lock-In
Camp O'the Hills | dbjc | Overnight
Girls will celebrate Galentine's Day with a night of friendship, fun, and laughter! This action-packed lock-in features high-energy games, dance parties, and plenty of opportunities to celebrate sisterhood, kindness, and community while making unforgettable memories.
$75 | Fun patch, meals, and snacks included | Reg. deadline 2/13

Feb 27-28 — Linden Lock-In
Camp Linden | jcsa | Overnight
For one night only, Camp Linden transforms into the ultimate lock-in! Girls are invited to bring their friends for a night of face painting, karaoke, archery, midnight snacks, and more. They'll make new friends, create unforgettable memories, and enjoy an adventure they'll be talking about long after the sun comes up!
$75 | Fun patch, meals, and snacks included | Reg. deadline 2/13

Save the date! Summer Camp registration opens February 2nd!

The groundhog predicts...

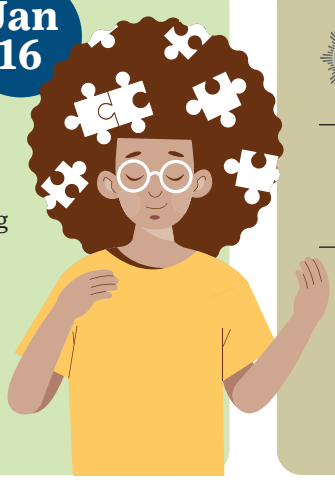


Youth Mental Health First Aid

Jan 16

Virtual | Adults | $40 | Reg. deadline 1/2
10:00 AM - 3:30 PM

In this Mental Health First Aid course, you will learn risk factors and warning signs for mental health and addiction concerns, strategies for how to help someone in both crisis and non-crisis situations, and where to turn for help. Participants will receive a YMHFA certification at the end of this course.



Highest Awards Deadlines

Feb 1
Submit Gold Final Report

Mar 1
Submit Silver and Bronze Final Report

Silver Award Final Report

Silver Award Project Proposal

Bronze Award Final Report



Volunteer Shout-out: Melisa Scott

Since becoming a Girl Scout leader in 2021, Melisa Scott has been dedicated to helping girls in the Ypsilanti region build confidence, form meaningful connections, and engage with their community. This past year, alongside her co-leader, Acadia, and the girls of Troop 40825, Melisa helped bring the troop's *EmpowerHer* event to life. The event offered valuable resources and activities focused on puberty education, mindfulness, yoga, and self-care, giving girls the knowledge, confidence, and support they need to navigate important milestones and thrive. **Volunteers, we love you!**

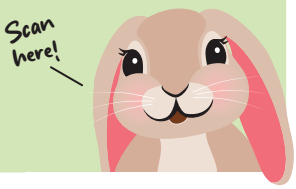
Adult Award Nominations

Behind every unforgettable Girl Scout adventure is someone who makes the magic happen! **Celebrate the troop leaders, volunteers, and community partners** who inspire girls and make a lasting difference by nominating them for a Girl Scouts Adult Award!

Did you know? Girl Scouts and their families can team up with other troop families to nominate those who made the 2025-2026 Girl Scout year unforgettable!

Ready to celebrate someone special? Scan the QR code for award requirements, FAQs, and the nomination application.

Nominations due January 15!



Celebrate Cultural Richness

November

Celebrate Native American Heritage Month by exploring the histories, cultures, and contributions of Michigan's Tribal Nations and Indigenous communities around the world. Discover traditions, learn something new, and earn your patch along the way!



December - January

December and January are full of opportunities to explore cultures, traditions, and celebrations! **From Hanukkah, Christmas, and Kwanzaa in December to Muslim American Heritage Month and Korean American Day in January,** there's so much to discover. Encourage Girl Scouts to share their own traditions, learn something new, and celebrate the many things that make our world unique!

February

Celebrate Black History Month by honoring the trailblazers, leaders, and changemakers who have shaped history and continue to inspire future generations. Explore Black history and culture, discover inspiring stories, and earn a patch!



Scan the QR code to explore activities for each segment of this fun patch and start your adventure!

We're OPEN

Kalamazoo, Saginaw, Ann Arbor, and Lansing Retail Shops will be open **Saturday December 5 and January 30,** from 10:00 AM - 1:00PM



Is your Girl Scout uniform ready for cookie booth season?

Don't forget to wear it proudly while selling cookies and showing off your Girl Scout spirit!

BUILD-A-BEAR WORKSHOP

at Whitmore Lake is celebrating one beary special year!

From December 5–18, bring a furry friend you've made at Build-A-Bear over the past year **and receive a FREE gift!**

It's the perfect time to share the love and celebrate a year of cuddly memories!



Our mission in motion!

See what our Girl Scouts are up to!



The girls had winning time on their first Lotería Night!



Troop 80515 had a fun meeting with the Portage Fire Marshal!



Troop 50543 earned their Democracy Badge by voting for a troop mascot!



Troop 80448 made a splash, kayaking seven miles from Marshall to Ceresco! What an adventure!



Troop 50453 went to Mackinac Island for the Young Girl Program with Troop 609!

girl scouts
heart of michigan

601 W Maple St
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

POSTMASTER:
Send address changes to
The Trefoil Times
601 W Maple St
Kalamazoo, MI 49008

Follow us on

The Trefoil Times is a publication by Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan.



The Trefoil Times

November 2026 • Issue 10

Dates to Remember

November 26-27
Thanksgiving
Regional Centers closed

December 2
Troop Product Manager Cookie Training Starts

December 5
Cookie Kick-Off

December 6
Retail Shops Open
Kalamazoo, Saginaw, Lansing, and Ann Arbor

December 8
Girls can start setting up their Digital Cookie stores

Dec 21 - Jan 5
Regional Centers & Retail Shops closed for the holidays

January 18
Martin L. King Jr. Day
Regional Centers closed

Travel the World with Girl Scouts!
Join Girl Scout Travel Troop 83001

Is your Girl Scout ready to embark on a global adventure?



This new auxiliary Troop will plan an international travel experience in June or July 2028.

Girls will make a two-year commitment, meeting monthly on Sunday afternoons at the Kalamazoo Regional Center and/or virtually. Meetings will focus on building friendships, planning the trip, and participating in group money-earning activities. Together, troop members will work to fund eligible travel expenses*, including transportation, lodging, meals, activities, and travel insurance.

*Families are responsible for personal expenses not covered by troop funds, such as passports, travel vaccinations, and luggage.

Welcoming new girls now through December 31st

For more information about joining, contact Carrie at gstroop83001@gmail.com.

Girls may join Troop 83001 as their only troop or in addition to another troop.