



Press Release

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For Immediate Release
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January 10, 2021

Pennsbury Students Receive Top Girl Scout Honors

(Fallsington, PA) – Several Pennsbury High School students are being recognized for earning the Girl Scouts' Gold Award and Silver Award in 2021. All of the students are members of the Sandy Run Girl Scouts.

The Gold Award, which is only open to Girl Scouts in high school, is the most prestigious and most difficult to earn. It requires a minimum of 80 hours to complete. In 2021, only 3500 girls in the nation earned the Girl Scout Gold Award.

Tara S. is a 2021 graduate of Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 2147. She earned the Gold Award by completing a project focused on providing STEM opportunities for disadvantaged youth. Tara created a website (<https://thesteamteamnj.simplesite.com>) designed to strengthen STEM skills and offer children in grades K-8 a chance to promote their advancement in STEM studies. Additionally, Tara partnered with the Trenton, NJ CYO to deliver several presentations to children on the negative impacts and corresponding effects of human activities on the environment, including pollution and global warming. Tara currently attends the University of Arizona. By earning the Gold Award, Tara completed the Trifecta, earning all three of Girl Scout's highest awards – Bronze, Silver, and Gold.

The Silver Award is the highest honor a Girl Scout Cadette (grades 6-8) can earn and requires a minimum of 50 hours to complete.

Norah D. is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 21588. Norah earned the Silver Award by completing a project supporting a local stray cat organization. Norah built individual cat feeding stations for the organization to help lure cats so they could be caught, neutered, and released to control the stray cat population. Norah created directions on how to construct the feeding stations for future use. She also ran a donation drive and collected dry and wet cat food for the organization.

Nina E. is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 21327. She earned the Silver Award by completing a project benefiting the Dexheimer Memorial Garden at Upper Tinicum Lutheran Church in Bucks County. Nina created garden kits for community members to create a memorial garden at their homes to honor a lost loved one or overcome any mental health issues resulting from the loss of a loved one or pet. Nina also cleaned, weeded, and replanted the Memorial Garden as part of her project called Planting Seeds of Hope.

Olivia H. is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 21327. She earned the Silver Award by completing a project to support Stray Cat Project. Stray Cat Project is dedicated to improving and protecting the lives of feral and stray cats by trapping, spaying/neutering, and returning the cats to their territory. Olivia made 200 rice socks, which volunteers use to provide comfort and warmth when rounding up the animals to take them to foster families for the care and support they need. Olivia also produced an instructional video and downloadable handout posted to the Stray Cat Project Facebook page so anyone in the community can make rice socks.

Isabel M. is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 21327. She earned the Silver Award by completing a project supporting Main Street Theater Company. Isabel created and built an organization system for the theater company's wardrobe and props storage area located in the Yardley Community Centre. She especially enjoyed this project since she grew up with the theater company and wanted to give back to them and the community they serve.

Rachel W. is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 21327. She earned the Silver Award by completing a project benefitting the Friends of Lake Afton. Working with the organization, Rachel conducted weekly water testing of the lake to ensure its health during warm months. Rachel also volunteered with Friends of Lake Afton on Yardley's Harvest Day, helping with boat rides and participating in a lake cleanup. Lastly, she created a patch program to teach other Girl Scouts about Lake Afton.

Yardenah W. is a ninth-grader at Pennsbury High School and a member of Troop 266. She earned the Silver Award by completing a project benefiting the Bucks County Housing Group (BCHG). Yardenah built a little free library at the BCHG Robert Morris Apartment Complex from start to finish. She also organized and held a book drive to collect books for the library and donated a bookshelf to the Robert Morris complex to hold additional books for the residents. She even took the time to read with children at the complex. Yardenah hopes that her project will allow the residents of the Robert Morris Complex to feed their passion for reading and increase their literacy for years to come.

"Earning one of the Girl Scouts' highest awards challenges girls to be their best and develop, plan, and implement a Take Action project. Gold Award and Silver Award Girl Scouts are making the world a better place," said Rebecca Smirk, Service Unit Manager, Sandy Run #624.

Congratulations to all of these young ladies on their outstanding accomplishments!

