

Brownies spend a day in thought

Over 100 girl scouts from the Back Mountain came together recently to celebrate the annual Thinking Day.

"It is a day when girl scouts and girl guides are supposed to think about each other worldwide and celebrate international friendship and world peace," said Margie Banks. She and Maria Carr, co-service unit leaders for Penn's Woods Girl Scout Council, planned and organized the event, which featured activities about many different countries.

Each of the 12 participating troops gave a presentation about a country they had been studying. Brownie Troop 2667 from Carverton United Methodist Church showed the audience how to play a Brazilian game while Junior Troop 2654 from Shavertown United Methodist Church presented an Icelandic poem. Third graders from troop 2357 wore Mexican sombreros and handmade serapes as they showed the audience how to do the Mexican Hat Dance. There were stories from Poland; words from France and second graders from troop 2631 of Gate of Heaven Church wowed the audience when they recited the Girl Scout promise in Japanese.

The Junior and Brownie scouts worked their way through stations manned by Cadette and Senior scouts. There they made flags from construction paper, played a trivia game and studied post cards from worldwide girl scout and girl guide troops. The girls were treated to ethnic foods like salsa and chips, Italian pizzelle cookies, croissants and Japanese Hopi doll cookies. Each participant received a Thinking Day 2002 badge.

Text and photos by M.B. Gilligan



Kirby Smith, Danielle Griglock and Julia Fries of Brownie Troop 2631 from Gate of Heaven locate their country on the globe.



Brownie Troop 2357 made serapes to wear for their Mexican Hat Dance. Pictured from left, first row, are: Whitney Chrzanowski, Brittany Takacs, Mikayla Rosencrans, and Alexe Rice. Second row, Cameron Ferdinand, Mary Catherine Hood, and Peyton Roberts. Jessica Szczechowicz is in the rear.

POST PHOTOS/M.B. GILLIGAN

Ambulance

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lot of modern features that it didn't have."

The new ambulance, a 2001 PL Ambulance that cost approximately \$115,000, was paid for through a loan from the borough, which the fire and ambulance association must now repay.

"We want to be able to give the best possible treatment and care, and this should help a lot," said Perugino.



The new Harveys Lake ambulance is equipped with more up-to-date emergency equipment, and a larger and better lighted treatment area.

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Joe Perugino
Harveys Lake Fire Chief

The ambulance is also equipped with a defibrillator, which gives Harveys Lake something no other ambulance association in the Back Mountain presently has. The defibrillator was purchased for \$5,000, with money raised by lake residents Karen and Buzzy Boback.

Karen Boback saw how a defibrillator saved the life of a man on a television show, and thought it would be an asset for the Harveys Lake Fire and Ambulance Association to have one. The Bobacks raised the money needed to purchase the defibrillator, and donated it to the association.

Association members realize the importance of the defibrillator, and have seen learned value firsthand in saving the life of one of their own.

Harveys Lake ambulance and paramedics responded to a call at the residence of association member Jim Martin, who was complaining of chest pains, recently. Minutes later, Martin went into cardiac arrest, and the paramedics on the scene used a defibrillator to revive him.

"I always tell people when they complain of chest pains, 'Would you rather be embarrassed the ambulance is at your house or die if a heart attack,'" said Perugino. "Luckily for Jim (Martin), he called for an ambulance when he did."

Currently, 12 members of the fire and ambulance association are taking mandatory training classes so they will be licensed to operate the device. The training is made up of six classes, which must be taken every six months.

"We can definitely get some advanced life saving procedures that we did not have before," said association president Edward Kelly.

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