

# Girl Scouts prepare to light 'Flames of Freedom'

by Mrs. Michael R. Young

the Canal Zone, and in our Girl Scout Troops on foreign soil around the world.

At 5:00 p.m. on March 12, 1976, "Flames of Freedom" will be lighted by U.S. Girl Scouts around the world. The time is shortly before sunset. As night falls on this, the 64th Girl Scout Birthday, during the nation's Bicentennial year, the light of commitment will be burning brightly wherever there's a Girl Scout troop. It will shine not only across the North American continent, but also in the islands and

Locally, girls in the Witness Tree District, Penn Laurel Girl Scout Council, will be lighting "Flames of Freedom" at the historic Donegal Presbyterian Church, site of the famous old Witness Tree for which the district is named.

Those attending the ceremony will be greeted by Senior Troop #45, Elizabeth-town Neighborhood, at 4:15 p.m. Cadette Troop #936, Hempfield Neighborhood,

will carry out the flag ceremony, a color retreat to the hymn, "O Beautiful Banner."

Scouts will then gather at the nearby springs to hear Troop #45 perform a special choral reading written by Mary Karnes, a member of the Donegal congregation. Following the singing of "America" and several Girl Scout songs, the girls will disperse over the grounds. At precisely 5:00 p.m., "Taps" will be sounded as the candles are lighted.

As the candles glow, the hymn "Rise Up O Flame"

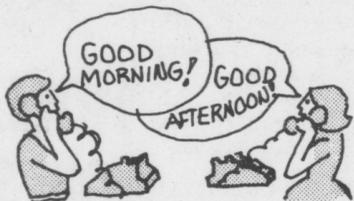
will be sung by Mrs. Walter Forry and Mrs. W. Scott Heisey, organizers of the special birthday event. The hour-long ceremony will end as the scouts sing "Taps" and the "Flames of Freedom" are extinguished.

All Girl Scouts at every level throughout the Witness Tree District are invited to participate in this symbolic event. Entire troops, representative groups, scouting families, and any interested individuals are encouraged to

attend. Senior and Cadette Girl Scouts are asked to bring their own "luminarias" (a brown lunch bag in which a votive candle is embedded in sand with the bag top turned down approximately 3") and matches.

In case of rain, an alternate program is planned to take place inside the church.

Those having questions about the event call Mrs. Forry, 898-7375, or Mrs. Heisey, 367-1310.



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