

# Fountain Spouts



Cadette troop #2302 member Stella Grieco, left, sold 576 boxes of cookies this year while Tylor Stacy managed to move 736.

## Girl Scouts celebrate standout cookie sales

Fountain Hills Girl Scouts have wrapped up their 2018 cookie sale with a reported 12,329 boxes sold. The coveted Thin Mints continued to be the most requested cookie and cookie sales were up 19.02 percent from last year due to the tremendous support from the community, according to organizers.

Local ladies participate in the largest girl-led business in the world.

"Selling Girl Scout cookies provides girls opportunities to experience goal setting, decision making, money management, people skills and business ethics," said Nita Blose, neighborhood Cookie Manager. "Girls develop teamwork and listening skills in a fun, protected envi-

ronment while working alongside their peers."

Blose offered congratulations to the four top-selling Fountain Hills Girl Scout troops: Junior Troop #2011 sold 1,245; Brownie Troop #218 sold 1,555; Daisy Troop #4334 sold 1,590; and Cadette Troop #2302 was the top selling troop with 2,783 boxes of cookies.

Top-selling individual girls in Fountain Hills were: Taylor Stacy from Cadette Troop #2302 selling 736 boxes; Stella Grieco, also from Cadette troop #2302, who sold 573; and Annika Jackson from Troop #1177 with 525 boxes sold. Honorable mention goes to Madeline Britton from troop #345, selling 436 boxes, and Ryan Miller

from Troop #1864 with 402 boxes sold.

Fountain Hills Girl Scout troops collected donations for Girl Scout Arizona Cactus Pine Council "Gift of Caring" program, with cookies going to St. Mary's Food Bank, Arizona National Guard and USO Arizona. Individual troops Gift of Caring donations supported each troop's chosen charity organizations such as Extended Hands Food Bank, the Home Delivered Meal program and cookies for military personnel overseas.

Blose said special thanks go to Bashas', Fry's, Safeway, Goodwill and Ace Hardware for allowing Girl Scouts a safe place to set up cookie booths in front of their stores.

"Sales from cookie booths are an extremely important part to the success of our cookie sales," Blose said. "Fountain Hills Girl Scouts would also like to thank everyone from family, friends, teachers, clubs, former Girl Scouts and businesses who kept buying cookies, even when their freezers were full. We are fortunate to live in a wonderful community that supports our youth programs and their fundraisers."

"Thank you, Fountain Hills, for opening up your hearts and wallets to help support the traditions and values of Girl Scouts."

## Trip to Holy Land, Jordan planned

Church of the Ascension Father John McDonough, Deacon Phil Lo Cascio and members of the Parish Council are planning a 13-day trip to the Holy Land and Jordan this fall.

The trip is scheduled for Oct. 8-20. Highlights include four days in Jerusalem where the Holy sites will be toured, a day in Bethlehem, three days in

Galilee, a day at Masada and Qumran and three days in Jordan to visit the UNESCO World Heritage site of Petra.

Cost for the trip is \$3,999 per person. It includes airfare, lodging in four- and five-star hotels, two meals daily, ground transportation and the services of licensed Christian guides.

The trip is limited to 24 participants; 18 slots are already filled.

If interested in joining the group, additional information and brochures can be obtained by calling Deacon Phil at 480-837-1066 or Patricia Harris at 480-836-7755.

The deadline for trip deposit is May 1.

## Residents, 'Times' in New Zealand

Fountain Hills residents Nancy Plencner and Leo Damkroger visited New Zealand, which included a half-day train ride on the Taieri Gorge Railway, described as "one of the world's greatest train trips."

They also visited the most photographed building in New Zealand, the Dunedin Railway Station in the South Island.

The building featuring gingerbread, grandiose style with rich, eccentric embellishments was opened in 1906.

Taieri is the indigenous people of New Zealand, the Maori's, word for water dish. Beginning in Dunedin, the beautifully restored train cars pulled by two engines snaked its way up the massive gorge over roaring streams, peaceful grazing lands, through hand-hewn tunnels and tumbling waterfalls clicking along on tracks laid down by early gold miners. The train



Leo Damkroger and Nancy Plencner took their *Fountain Hills Times* with them on a 97-day world cruise, which included a visit to New Zealand where they enjoyed seeing the Dunedin Railway Station and a half-day train trip on the Taieri Gorge.

stopped at the end of the line and the couple stepped off the train, taking in the snowcapped mountains and greenery of New Zealand. On the return ride down the gorge lunch was served, accompanied by

wonderful glasses of New Zealand wine.

The couple's journey "down under" began in January when they boarded the Crystal Cruise Line in Los Angeles for a 97-day world cruise.



## Above That meets pups

Members of Fountain Hills Middle School's Above That Club and the high school's Above That 2 Club met last week to learn about the benefits of therapy dogs from McDowell Mountain Elementary School counselor, Juanita Smart. Students had the opportunity to ask questions on becoming a trainer while Mrs. Smart's therapy dogs, Bobby and Dakota, received lots of attention from students. Above That is an after-school club sponsored by the Fountain Hills Coalition and focuses on positivity while staying substance free.

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