

Cookie time!

Girl Scout booths at shopping centers

Breanna Gee likes painting, tie-dyeing and black history. Latrease Rogers enjoys camping, even in the winter.

Sheetal Kerkar wants to learn about food — how to cook, how to determine fat content and other aspects of nutrition.

That's why these 8-year-olds from Bloomfield Hills will be helping the Michigan Metro Girl Scout Council kick off its annual cookie sale this weekend.

Breanna, Latrease and Sheetal are members of Troop 3770 at Hickory Grove Elementary School.

Like their counterparts around the country, they have already gone door-to-door to sell cookies.

But from Friday through March 25, people can still get cookies, either directly from individual girl scouts or at cookie booths to be set up at local shopping centers.

This is the 64th year girl scouts have sold cookies baked by a commercial baker, said Joan Lockhart, spokeswoman for the metro council. Prior to that, individual troops or groups of Scouts baked cookies in their homes for sale throughout their neighborhoods.

NOW, AS THEN, the quality of the cookies is very high and proceeds are used to finance about 50 percent of all Girl Scout activities, Lockhart said.

About 33 cents of every \$2 package of cookies goes to the scouts' home troop to finance local activities.

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Troop 3770, for example, will use some of its money to sponsor an International Day, when Scouts will learn about a specific country, its people and history.

Troop 3770 will focus its attention on Kenya, according to Sheetal, Latrease and Breanna who say they are looking forward to learning some of the customs and folklore.

Other troops have used money from the cookie sale for traditional summer camps as well as helping to send girls to the weekend space camp in Huntsville, Ala.

Money from the cookie sale also finances council-level activities including adult training for Scout leaders and equipping and maintaining Girl Scout camps, explained Lockhart.

THE FOLLOWING is a list of some of the locations in this area where girl scouts will be staffing cookie booths, generally on weekends.

• Birmingham — the A&P store in Adams Square; the Great Scott stores at 725 E. Maple and 6592

Telegraph and the County Seat store at 166 W. Maple.

• Bloomfield Hills — the Great Scott store at 4099 Telegraph.

• Troy — the K mart at Maple and Livernols; the A&P store at 5047 Rochester; the Farmer Jack stores at 2967 E. Big Beaver, 1300 Livernols, 2880 W. Maple and 1075 W. 14 Mile; the Kroger store at 31 E. Long Lake; Thunderbird Lanes, 400 Maple; the Oakland Catholic Credit Union, 255 E. Maple and the Emerald Lanes at 18 Mile and John R.

• Farmington area — The Farmer Jack stores at Nine Mile and Farmington and Eight Mile and Grand River; the Great Scott stores at Middlebelt and 11 Mile, 14 Mile and Farmington, Orchard Lake and 13 Mile and Eight Mile and Farmington; the IGA store at Orchard Lake and 10 Mile; and the K mart at Grand River and Halstead and Orchard Lake and 14 Mile and the Kroger store at Grand River and Halstead.



Sheetal Kerkar, left to right, Latrease Rogers and Breanna Gee from Hickory Grove School in Bloomfield Hills happily sample what they'll be out there selling.

Blood pressure classes set

Worried about high blood pressure?

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The classes include a defining the disease, medication used in treatment, dietary recommendations and living with high blood pressure.

Classes, taught by a public health nurse and nutritionists, are open to the public.

They will be 2-4 p.m. on consecutive Tuesdays beginning March 6 at the Neighborhood House, 1234 Ingwood, Rochester.

The cost is \$10. For additional information, or to preregister, call 424-7042.

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