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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Girl Scout Troop to plant garden to feed their community

Mechanicsville, Virginia- This Saturday, April 25th Girl Scout Troop 740 of Hillside

Court will usher in a new beginning for their community. Members of the troop from kindergarten through high school will assist Richmond Mayor Dwight Jones cut the ribbon at the 17th Street Farmers Market Grand Opening.

Troop 740, led by Leona Baylor has only been around since October of 2008 but already they are beginning to make the world a better place. This summer the girls in the multi-level troop will begin a service project that will benefit their community of Hillside Court. Partnering with the Shalom Farms United Methodist Church, Urban Ministries the girls will help construct a “victory” style garden at Shalom Baptist Church.

The garden will help provide fresh produce for those in the Hillside Court community. Baylor says “the stores are just too far away and the produce overpriced, this will benefit everyone in the community.” With the assistance of Reverend David Cooper, Executive Director of UMC Urban Ministries, Reverend Rufus Adkins the pastor at Shalom Baptist Church and a master gardener the girls will plant produce that will be donated to the Central Virginia Food Bank for redistribution to the community.

This Saturday the girls will help Richmond Mayor Dwight Jones cut the ceremonial ribbon in the Grand Opening of the 17th Street Farmers market for the season. Not only are the girls cutting the ribbon but

throughout the year they will be selling the produce from their garden at a donated booth in the market. Baylor says, “through the selling of the produce the girls will learn money management, team work, entrepreneurship and how their hard work will pay off.” All proceeds from the booth will go to supporting troop activities and other charitable donations in the community.

Founded in 1913, Girl Scout Commonwealth Council services over 16,000 girls in 30 counties and the six cities of Richmond, Petersburg, Colonial Heights, Hopewell, Emporia and Fredericksburg. For more information about this and other Girl Scout programs visit www.comgirlscouts.org.

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