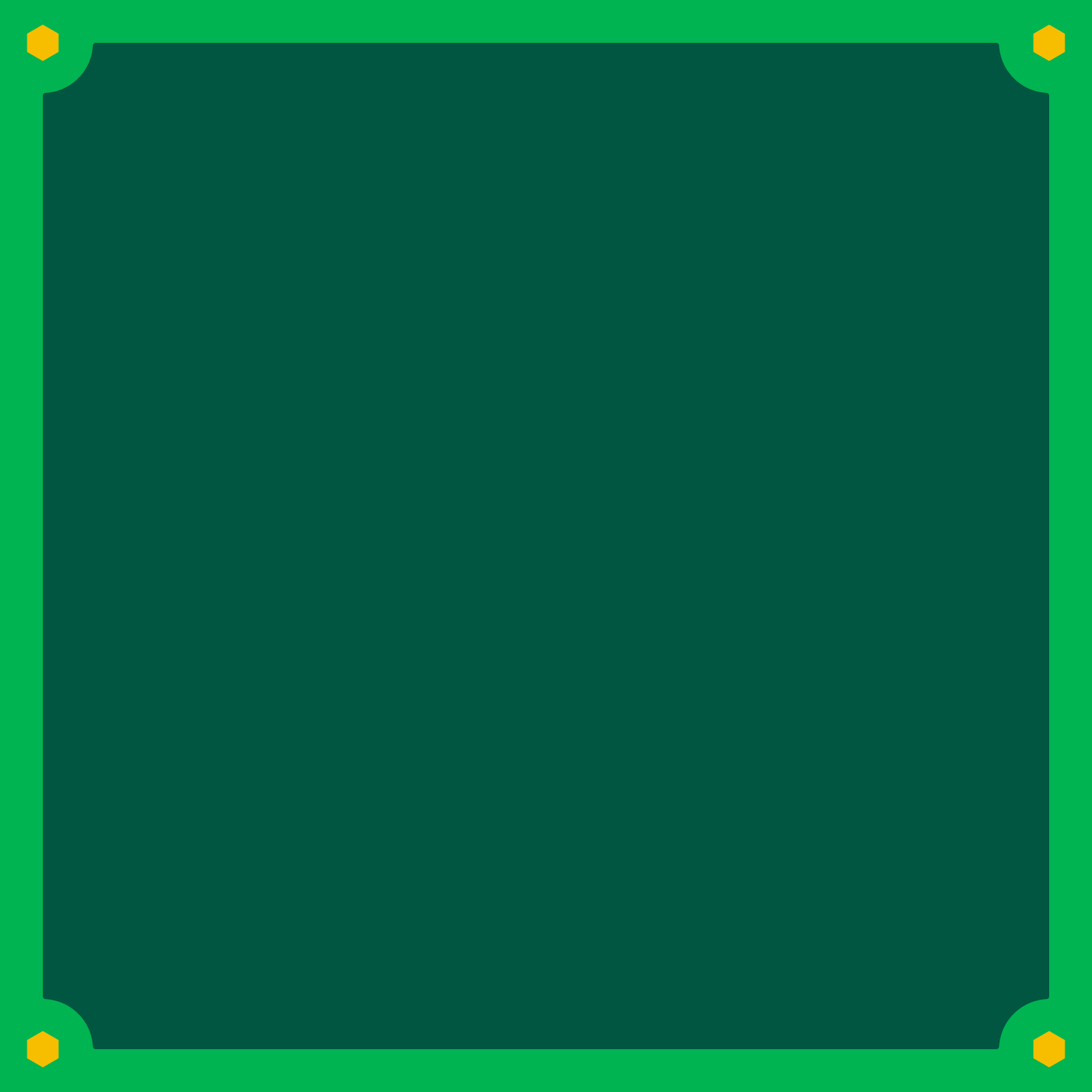




girl scouts   
of suffolk county

# Gold Award Girl Scouts

*2021-2022 Yearbook*



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# About The Girl Scout Gold Award

*Problem solver. Go-Getter. World Changer. That's what it means to be a Gold Award Girl Scout.*

The Gold Award is the highest achievement in Girl Scouting and the preeminent leadership award for high school girls. A Gold Award Girl Scout, no matter her background or ability, learns to tap into the world-changing power within her. She identifies an issue that's important to her and develops and implements a sustainable solution with measurable impact for her community and beyond.

Gold Award Girl Scouts are recognized leaders that set themselves apart through their perseverance and courage. As they take action to transform their world, they gain tangible, real world skills and prove they are the leaders that campuses and communities need.

Making the world a better place starts in a Girl Scout's heart. Gold Award Girl Scouts use their interests and passions to embrace challenges and make a difference. In reaching out to others, these young women learn about the talents and strengths within themselves.

We are exceedingly proud of these young women and offer our sincerest congratulations for all they have achieved. They are the leaders of tomorrow, and we confidently leave the future of Girl Scouting in their very capable hands.

# Honoring Young Women of Excellence

Dear Friends,

For over 50 years, Girl Scouts of Suffolk County has helped shape future leaders and innovators through learning the importance of courage, compassion, and community service. Gold Award Girl Scouts are doers and dreamers—determined to make the world a better place.

The Gold Award Girl Scouts of this year have made extraordinary strides to meet the needs of their communities through their Gold Award projects. These young women have shown that no matter the circumstances or hardships they may face, anything is possible when they put their mind to something.

Our Gold Award Girl Scouts continue to perfectly encapsulate the kind of character reflected within the Girl Scout mission. With their commitment and determination, our Gold Award Girl Scouts have worked tirelessly to address issues and invoke change within our communities. They have not only created positive, immediate impacts, but long-lasting changes that will continue to better our communities.

On behalf of everyone at the Girl Scouts of Suffolk County, we thank our Gold Award Mentors, Girl Scout volunteers, and Girl Scout families for their continued support in assisting our girls through this highest achievement. Together, we have been able to support and shape the next generation of strong, tenacious, and courageous community leaders.

We are so proud of our exceptional Gold Award Girl Scouts, and look forward to celebrating their future positive influences and triumphs.

Yours in Girl Scouting,



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tammy Severino".

Tammy Severino  
*President & CEO*



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Donna Smeland".

Donna Smeland  
*Chair of the Board*



**Alena Berenblatt** has been active in Girl Scouts since 2005, serving as a Girl Scout Leader for her daughters' troop as well as Organizer, Fall Product Manager, Permit Manager and Coordinator for the Service Unit in Babylon Village. She attended the 2014 National Convention in Salt Lake City as a Council Delegate and the 2017 National Convention in Columbus, Ohio, as a girl chaperone. Alena feels honored to be a Gold Award mentor and enjoys helping girls from around Suffolk County achieve the highest award in Girl Scouting



**Kathy Ciano** is a longtime Girl Scout, having attended a Wider Opportunity and achieved First Class as a young woman. She later volunteered as a Leader and has held Service Unit team positions such as Coordinator, Consultant, Organizer, Fall Product Manager and currently serves as a Council Trainer. She was awarded the 2021 Nancy Entenmann Award for her outstanding volunteerism and contributions to the council. She loves watching the girls' ideas come to life on the path to Gold and seeing them make a difference.



**Cheryl D'Agostino** was a Brownie Girl Scout, served as a Girl Scout Leader and is the proud mother of a Gold Award Girl Scout. She has volunteered in her Service Unit as Coordinator, Treasurer and Campaign Manager. She loves that being a Gold Award Support Team member allows her to watch girls take the journey toward becoming the best they can be.



**Colette Galvez** was a Girl Scout, is currently the Coordinator for Service Unit 46, and has been a leader for 10 years. She has served on her Service Unit Team in a variety of ways including Treasurer, Organizer, and Community Service Coordinator among others. Colette's passion for Girl Scouting is a wonderful asset to the Gold Award Support Team and to the girls who are "going for Gold."



**Victoria Genovese** was a Girl Scout from second through sixth grades, and a Troop Leader from first grade Brownies through Ambassador Girl Scouts with her daughter's troop. Her troop of 13 Ambassadors had 10 Girl Scouts earn their Gold Award, which proved to be an amazing experience. Because of this, Victoria was excited to become a Gold Award mentor so that she could continue to encourage girls on their Gold Award journey.



**Joan Godbold** has been a member of Girl Scouts since 1985, reaching Cadette level, leading her daughter's troop and volunteering as the Older Girl Consultant in the Port Jefferson area. Joan attended the National Convention as a Council delegate in 2005 and 2008, and as a girl chaperone in 2011. Joan became a Gold Award Support Team member to stay involved with older girls and to encourage them to continue in Girl Scouts.



**Mary Grizzle** has been active in Girl Scouts since 2008. She has been a troop leader for her daughter, Team Member and Service Unit Coordinator, among other roles. When her tenure as Service Unit Coordinator ended, Mary joined the Gold Award Support Team, and became a member of the Membership Advisory Committee. She enjoys mentoring girls as they work toward earning their Gold Award.



**Karin Kouril** was a troop leader for both of her daughters' troops in Northport-East Northport, and currently serves as a Service Unit Team Member. She was excited to be able to guide her daughters and many others through the completion of their Gold Award. Karin is proud to be a part of the Gold Award Support Team and to encourage girls to grow and make a positive difference in their community.



**Laverne Perez** was a Cookie Manager and a Troop Leader/Advisor in West Babylon for several years. Once the 11 girls in her troop graduated, she chose to become a Gold Award mentor to inspire girls by guiding them to develop leadership skills and a lifetime of confidence. Girl Scouting is important to Laverne because she feels it is essential that girls know themselves by exploring the world.



**Doryce Polanish** was a Brownie Girl Scout and leader for her daughter's troop for 13 years in the Commack area until her daughter earned her Gold Award. Her favorite thing about being a Gold Award Support Team member is seeing the pride and excitement each girl feels upon completing her project.



**Liz Sosulski** was a dedicated Girl Scout Leader and has held volunteer positions in the Smithtown, St. James and Nesconset areas that include Service Unit Coordinator, Treasurer and Organizer. A Gold Award Support Team member since 2006, Liz enjoys helping girls achieve their goals and the friendships she has formed on the team.

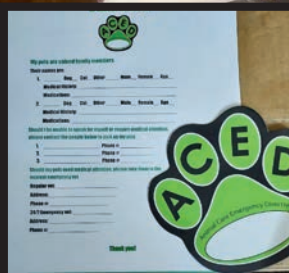
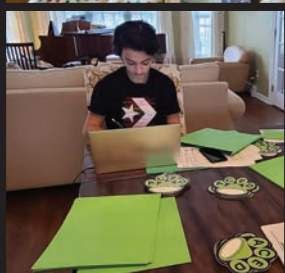
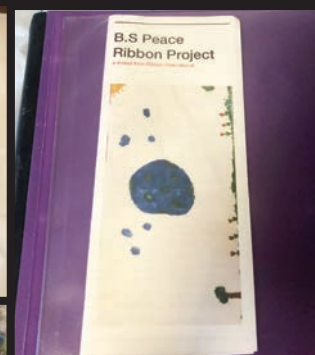


**Rose Vermillion** has been in Girl Scouts from first grade to twelfth grade. She has been a leader since 2006 with her oldest daughter, and continues to be a troop leader for her younger daughters. She was Service Unit Coordinator for 3 years, and now holds the Events Coordinator position on the team. Rose loved having the opportunity to guide Gold Award Girl Scouts towards their goal, and help motivate them to do the best they can to improve their community.













## **Eleanora Alloway**

### **9/11 Memorial Documentary**

Made a 9/11 Memorial Documentary to show my generation how the previous generation came together after such a horrible event.



## **Kristen Arena**

### **iPads for the Elderly**

Made Apple iPads available to the seniors at Our Lady of Consolation in West Islip.



## **Piper Altman**

### **Solar Energy Charging Station**

Built a solar charging station for the students at Mattituck High School.



## **Rianna Balz**

### **Little Flower ICF Memorial**

Made a memorial garden for the deceased clients that died from COVID that were part of Little Flower Children and Family Services.



## **Adriana Ancilleri**

### **Healthy Hearts for Happy Kids**

Made an exercise trail for children with 8 stations asking the children to think, talk, and do at the Holtsville Ecology Center.



## **Zoë Bussewitz**

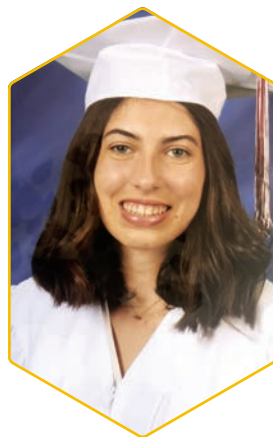
### **Where the (Career!) Path May Lead You**

Created a website for the students at Miller Place High School that showcases different career opportunities after graduation.



**Kristen Cada**  
**Sensory Toy Wall Box**

Built a sensory wall box for the students at The Childrens Center of UCPTo help improve their muscle tone in their bodies and maintain focus.



**Mia DeSimone**  
**Bay Shore Peace Ribbon Project**

Held an informative session on Facebook live & my local park to have people make ribbons to display an image of hope as they answer the question *“What will you miss if the world were to come to a nuclear war?”*



**Madeleine Casamento**  
**Dix Hills Park Project**

Built new benches and made signage for the walking trails at the Dix Hills Park.



**Olivia Fasano**  
**There's No Place Like Home**

Made care packages of cleaning supplies, kitchen items, toiletries, bed linens and food to assist 11 veterans with their new housing needs.



**Elizabeth Combs**  
**Homes for Chimney Swifts**

Built a “chimney swift tower” designed for birds to live in at Sweetbriar Nature Center in Smithtown.



**Zoe Feigel**  
**Adoption Support on Long Island**

Created a website & pamphlet for adoptees who face anxiety & mental health struggles to use as a resource with their new families.



**Lexi Frieder**  
**Madonna Heights Project**

Beatification of the outdoor space at Madonna Heights in Dix Hills.



**Carleen Gordon**  
**Home for Turtles**

Built an encasement and hollowed out logs for the turtle habitat at the Holtsville Ecology Site.



**Victoria Glass**  
**ACED for Animals**

Made the ACED (Animal Care Emergency Directive) kits & a video online for First Responders, Fire Departments, & Police to use and contact the animal's emergency contact while the owner undergoes medical care.



**Megan Guarascio**  
**Save the Sisters**

Gave masks to the Sisters and Staff at Saint Joseph during the COVID-19 Pandemic.



**Ashleigh Golden**  
**Anti-Bullying Mural**

Made a mural to inspire children to accept one another and gave it to the Long Island Anti Bullying Coalition to be shown at youth events.



**Julie Hago**  
**Keeping Shelter Dogs Healthy & Happy**

Refurbished the outdoor & indoor play area for the dogs and puppies at North Shore Animal League.





### **Emily Hedges**

#### **Sensory Health**

Created sensory paths, patience crates, & sensory boards at the Park View Elementary School for the students to use to relieve stress and anxiety as needed.



### **Elisa Hustedt**

#### **Operation: RAYS** *(Recycling Around Your School)*

Made a website & video about the importance of recycling & marine wildlife. Put the recycling bins in my local elementary school's classrooms for the students to use.



### **Alyssa Hubbs**

#### **Church Workforce**

Renovated the building and the grounds of the historical First Presbyterian Church of Smithtown.



### **Kelly Kuhner**

#### **Renovation of Youth Group Meeting Room**

Renovated the youth group meeting room at the Church of St. Mary.



### **Alexis Huntington**

#### **Benches of Greenlawn**

Refinished, repainted, & cleaned up eight benches on Broadway Street in Greenlawn for the residents to use.



### **Brianna LoFrese**

#### **Bins for the Food Pantry**

Constructed bins for the local parish outreach center to store and organize incoming food donations.



**Marissa Lollo**  
**Brain Aneurysm**  
**Awareness Month**

Worked with Legislator Anker to pass a resolution that now designates September as Brain Awareness month.



**Nina Matusiak**  
**Educating with**  
**Type One Diabetes**

Made a website for people with type one diabetes to teach them how to count carbohydrates and create awareness within my community.



**Okiah Makely**  
**BBP Exercise Path**  
**Beautification**

Built a birdhouse hotel, mini outdoor library, and planted a tree on the exercise trail at the Bayport-Blue Point Library



**Sara Ann Mauro**  
**How to Stay Healthy**  
**While Dealing with Stress**

Created a 7-part video series on how to handle stress, relating to nutrition, exercise, sleep & time management for the students in the Sachem Middle School and High School.



**Nicole Martiny**  
**Helping Cats in Need**

Donated supplies, built a scratching post, built a styrofoam shelter for feral cats and made a pamphlet for new cat owners at the Almost Home Animal Rescue & Adoption Center.



**Madison Mazovec**  
**Little Free Libraries**  
**within Community**

Built Little Free Libraries at Henke Park & Olga Wilke Park.



**Heather Mendes**  
**Teaching Totes**

Made activity backpacks for people to engage with one another by playing games and having conversations.



**Isabella Musacchia**  
**Beauty is in the Eye of the Beholder**

Used the residents at the Atria for inspiration to take and hang up pictures of their choosing in the common room for them to enjoy.



**Dana Menier**  
**Natural Beehive**

Made a natural beehive for the bees to use at Sweetbriar Nature Center.



**Melina Nicou**  
**Smiles for a While**

Made activity bags, cards, & a video with musical performances and gave to 5 nursing homes in my area for the residents to enjoy.



**Ava Moore**  
**Renovation at Open Door Exchange**

Painted a mural and renovated the welcome area in the warehouse for Open Door Exchange.



**Caleigh Nixon**  
**Peace Pole Garden**

Made a peace pole and flower garden at local park in town.





## STRESS IN TEENS

### A Video Education Series

This seven-part video presentation addresses stress in teenagers. The series is intended as an aid to middle and high school health teachers. Enjoy.







**More Room for Your Generosity**

Brianna LoFrese, from Girl Scout Troop #1183, is concerned about food instability in our community and realizes that food donations are vital to struggling families. She used her Girl Scout Gold Award project as an opportunity to upgrade and enlarge our aging food collection bins. Her efforts are so appreciated! Congratulations Brianna!







### **Julia Pappania**

#### **Outdoor Classroom**

Built 10 flip top bench tables and wooden benches in an outdoor space for the students and teachers at Half Hollow Hills High School West to use as an outdoor classroom.



### **Hannah Proce**

#### **Stop Ovarian Cancer: Know Your Body**

Created a public service announcement/educational video to help spread awareness about ovarian cancer.



### **Torre Parrinello**

#### **Inspirational Faith and Friendship Garden**

Created an outdoor garden space with benches and inspirational quotes for the parishioners at St. Mark's.



### **Olivia Raineri**

#### **Sensory Seekers**

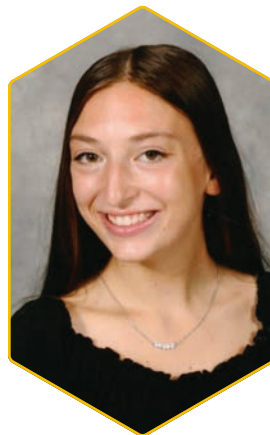
Created a Sensory Lending Collection and sensory bins for patrons of the Mastic Moriches Shirley Community Library.



### **Carli Pavlik**

#### **Babylon Beach House Gardens**

Made an outdoor garden to attract hummingbirds for the residents at the Babylon Beach House to enjoy.



### **Abby Rock**

#### **Helping the Guide Dogs**

Donated supplies and toys for new trainers at the Guide Dog Foundation. Also made toys for the puppies to use during their training.



### **Abigail Rothleder**

#### **Stores-N-Stories**

Organized a community-wide literacy scavenger hunt that encourages children to find a new book in the local stores within town.



### **Charlotte Sakal**

#### **Newton L'hommedieu Cemetery**

Made a sign for the cemetery in my community so that the residents would know the significance of this historic place.



### **Alexeus Ruland**

#### **Every Mind Matters**

Created a website with hotline numbers for people dealing with mental illness to use as a resource.



### **Monica Saluk**

#### **Kits for the Homeless**

Filled 200 drawstring bags with toiletries, and canned goods to be given out to homeless people.



### **Christina Russell**

#### **Looking Out for Your Furry Friend**

Made simple four-ingredient healthy treats for dog owners to use to administer medications and positive rewards to their dogs.



### **Faith Schwartz**

#### **Operation Upcycle: Additional Ways to Save the Environment**

Made a YouTube video about recycling/upcycling to instill a love for the environment.



### **Jazmyne Simpson**

#### **Bluebird & Tree Swallow Nests**

Built new bluebird nesting boxes  
at Sunken Meadow State Park.



### **Briana Uebel**

#### **Tile Art**

Created a mural of the  
American Flag out of tile art at  
Our Lady of Consolation.



### **Madison Slesinski**

#### **Park & Trail Restoration**

Cleaned up, marked the trails,  
made a digital map of the park at  
Berkeley Jackson County Park  
Public Trail to make it more  
dog friendly.



### **Jeanine Uebel**

#### **Pergola Over Memorial Bench**

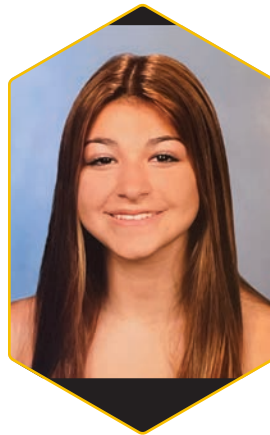
Built a pergola over the memorial  
bench for Joan Witte at Louis  
Oliver Farm Preserve.



### **Sofia Stacchiola**

#### **Stimulating Early Readers During COVID-19**

Created 4 videos for the Mastics-  
Moriches-Shirley Library's  
YouTube & Facebook channel  
of me reading a picture book  
followed by an activity to help  
develop children's imaginations &  
fine motor skills.



### **Isabella Vitola**

#### **Youth Group**

Created a parish youth group  
to help students look for  
opportunities to improve  
our community.





**Abigail Wing**  
**Wading River Elementary**  
**Courtyard Project**

Made benches and tables in the courtyard of Wading River Elementary School so classes could meet outside.



**Blythe Wing**  
**Community**  
**Recreation Room**

Renovated the community recreation room at Wading River Congregational Church.



**Claire Wing**  
**Outdoor Lawn Game Area**

Made outdoor games for the Wading River Congregational Church to use at the Wading River community events.





### A GIRL SCOUT GOLD AWARD PROJECT

A service with a purpose to help support and assist others in their physical, mental, and spiritual needs.

With 100%

This project was inspired by the need for more mental health resources in our world. By making these resources available, we can reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness while helping each individual journey to recovery.

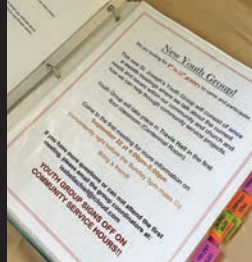
Blissophis

Person sitting on a couch

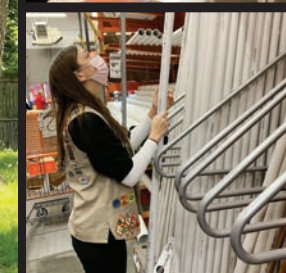
Person standing in a field

With 100%

This project was inspired by the need for more mental health resources in our world. By making these resources available, we can reduce the stigma surrounding mental illness while helping each individual journey to recovery.









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## Girl Scouts of Suffolk County

442 Moreland Rd., Commack, NY 11725 • (631) 543-6622 • [www.gssc.us](http://www.gssc.us)



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