



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

May 19, 2022

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Girl Scouts Nation's Capital Announce 2022 *Women of Distinction* Honorees

Honoring community leaders dedicated to the advancement of Girl Scouts for a better tomorrow!

Martinsburg - Girl Scouts Nation's Capital (GSCNC) will recognize four local community leaders during the annual **Women of Distinction Luncheon**. This inspirational and jubilant event will be held on Wednesday, October 12, 2022, at 11:30 am at the Holiday Inn. Honorees include **Carol Asam, Lyn Goodwin, Helen Harris, and Bonnie Stubblefield**.

The Women of Distinction Luncheon honors extraordinary women who have made significant contributions to their communities and the region. The Council has awarded the Women of Distinction award since 2005. Proceeds raised from the luncheon provide crucial leadership, science, technology, engineering, math (STEM), entrepreneurship, life skills, and outdoor programs to Girl Scouts locally.

Together let us make the Women of Distinction luncheon a momentous occasion by celebrating the role models who recognize the importance and value of helping those who need it the most. Sponsorships and tickets are available by contacting Betsy Thurston, Director of Development, at bthurston@gscnc.org. We are incredibly thankful for your support, as Girl Scouting would not be possible without you.

Honorees: Carol Asam, Lyn Goodwin, Helen Harris, and Bonnie Stubblefield

2022 Woman of Distinction recipient **Carol Asam** is a woman of strong convictions and much faith. Her son, David, calls her a tough but responsible and loving mother who "is a beacon in the community". Since 1977, the Asam family have been the owners/proprietors of The Bavarian Inn.

Volunteering has played a huge role in Carol's life in Shepherdstown and Jefferson County. She has sat on the Board of the Millbrook Symphony Orchestra, the Shepherdstown Visitors Center, CASA of the Eastern Panhandle (where she is a strong children's advocate), Cotillion, and Hospice of the Panhandle. At Hospice, Carol visits veterans - especially women veterans - at the end of their lives and presents them with certificates of appreciation. She makes it a point to learn about their military history as she shares her own, often wearing her uniform. She has

done this for 2 ½ years. Interestingly, her first patient at Hospice spoke both English and German, and Carol was able to communicate with her easily in German. The patient so appreciated this, as she was a native German speaker, and the connection between the two was immediate. Carol is a wonderful asset to the volunteer program at Hospice. She is always eager to help.

Anyone who knows Carol knows she has a 'tough-as-nails' exterior but is giving and compassionate to so many. As a two-time breast cancer survivor, she has been known to visit women in the community who are recently diagnosed, to share her experience and empathy. She often tells them to cry a bit, feel sad, and get angry and then to "put on their face and get on with it". She has been awarded the Paul Harris Fellowship for exemplary community service from the Shepherdstown Rotary Club. She is an active member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Shepherdstown and has an outstanding career dedicated to serving her community. It is an honor to present Carol Asam with the 2022 Woman of Distinction award.

2022 Woman of Distinction recipient **Lyn Goodwin** has led the Morgan County Development Authority since 2021. Lyn started her career in Morgan County as a reporter for The Journal after graduating from WVU. She continued to serve Morgan County as the Community Relations Manager for War Memorial Hospital for almost 22 years. Lyn continued her education and received a Master of Arts Degree in Communication Studies from WVU. Her career path took her from Morgan County to Jefferson County where she served as Program Manager for the Jefferson County Development Authority and Interim Director while they sought new leadership. Lyn's valuable experience ultimately brought her back to Morgan County.

Lyn is an active participant in the community where she works and lives. Lyn served the Jaycees in Berkeley Springs for many years and demonstrated her love of children through numerous volunteer and fundraising projects and activities.

The annual Apple Butter Festival parade is one of the many projects that Lyn has chaired in the Morgan County community. She has volunteered with the Apple Butter Festival planning committee and is in the Festival Hall of Fame. She has also served on the Starting Points board of directors and volunteered with the Empty Bowls fundraiser.

Lyn's leadership is not dedicated to one county. She served as the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle's campaign chairperson and board chair. Her thoughtful service was recognized by the United Way as she received the 2019 General Van Ryzin award for exemplary leadership, one of the highest awards given by the organization. She has been a longtime member of the Berkeley Springs Lions Club serving as treasurer for many years. Lyn recently joined the Berkeley Springs Rotary where she is one of the first to volunteer for community service projects within the small club.

Lyn has made an impact across the Eastern Panhandle, but most of her professional and volunteer service has impacted the Morgan County community. While Lyn was not a Girl Scout, she embodies the core values of Girl Scouts and is a wonderful role model for girls and women in our community. Furthermore, we are honored to present Lyn Goodwin with the 2022 Woman of Distinction award.

2022 Woman of Distinction recipient **Helen Harris** is a lifelong resident of Berkeley County. Throughout her career, Helen has demonstrated great leadership and commitment to others. She was the former president/director/owner of an in-home health care business, Harris Community Care, along with her husband, Leonard. The mission of her business was to provide custodial health care to help individuals remain in their homes. She felt that her business was not merely a job, but a ministry.

Helen was honored by the Martinsburg-Berkeley County Chamber of Commerce as the Berkeley County Citizen of the Year in 2012, a testament to her leadership and service to her community. Helen was appointed to serve on the Berkeley County Development Authority by the Berkeley County Commission in 2009. She has continually served and is the current President of the Board of Directors, as well as serving in multiple other capacities. In 2005, Governor Joe Manchin appointed Helen to the Promise Scholarship Board. She is a member of the Sumner Ramer Heritage, Inc., the NAACP, and a past member of the Art Center in Martinsburg, Martinsburg High School Band Boosters, and the Berkeley County Schools Diversity Committee. Helen is a charter member and past president of the Sunrise Rotary Club in Martinsburg. Helen and her husband Leonard initiated the idea of an "All Are Welcome Community Thanksgiving Dinner", supported by Father John V. DiBacco, bringing the entire community together on Thanksgiving Day to share in a bountiful meal and love.

Helen has been a role model for women and girls in our community for many years. Her steadfast dedication to families in need of home health services has provided stability to many in our community. Regarding authenticity, Helen is the first to step in, showing kindness to friends and community members. Her ability to make everyone in a room feel important and heard is a gift. She truly is one who listens to understand, rather than to respond. What better way to say "thank you" than by honoring Helen Harris with the 2022 Women of Distinction award.

2022 Woman of Distinction recipient **Bonnie Stubblefield** resides in Berkeley County with her husband, William (Bill) Stubblefield. Dr. Bonnie McGregor Stubblefield was the **first woman** Director of Marine Programs for US Geological Survey (USGS). In addition, she was the **first woman** to serve as the Associate Director of USGS, an agency of some 12,000 employees, and the **first woman** to serve as the Acting Director of USGS. In this position, Dr. Bonnie Stubblefield was the most senior career appointee in USGS, male or female. She is widely recognized as a pioneer woman oceanographer, having conducted extensive pioneering research of the

magnetic signature of the Mid-Atlantic Ridge, confirming plate tectonics, and has published numerous peer-reviewed professional papers. Extensive research missions took her all over the world's seas.

Upon retirement, Bonnie made Berkeley County her home, and immediately used her energy, knowledge, and experience to support Berkeley County and the entire Eastern Panhandle. Bonnie was appointed by the Berkeley County Council to a term on the Planning Commission, has served on the Board of Directors for Berkeley County Senior Services, and been a faithful 10+ year volunteer with the CCAP/Loaves and Fishes.

As a member of the Eastern Panhandle Land Trust, Bonnie continues to spend numerous hours in all kinds of weather, tramping the fields, hills, and wetland areas of the Panhandle to help preserve our beautiful area. She serves on the Community Investment Committee of the United Way of the Eastern Panhandle, on the Board of Directors and Community Investment Committee of the Eastern West Virginia Community Foundation (EWVCF) and serves on the Shepherd University Innovative Farm Project, which helps to ensure organic produce is grown and provided to families in need in the Shepherdstown area.

As a dedicated scientist and community leader, Bonnie Stubblefield has shown herself to be a true pioneer, an inspiration to all. She is an exemplary Go-Getter, Innovator, Risk-Taker, and Leader. She has been, and continues to be, a woman of Character, Courage and Confidence. Girl Scouts Nation's Capital is honored to present Bonnie Stubblefield with the 2022 Woman of Distinction award.

To schedule an interview, contact Christina Johnson christinajohnson799@gmail.com or 304.283-3536.

We will make our CEO, Lidia Soto-Harmon, honorees, and local Girl Scouts available in-person or by virtual means.

About Girl Scouts Nation's Capital

Girl Scouts Nation's Capital provides girls in grades Kindergarten through 12th grade with opportunities to learn new skills, explore STEM, discover the outdoors, become entrepreneurs, while making new friends and having fun! We believe in the power of every G.I.R.L. (Go-getter, Innovator, Risk-taker, Leader)[™] to change the world. Girl Scouts offers every girl a chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure, and success. To volunteer, reconnect, donate, or join, visit www.gscnc.org.

Sponsorships and tickets are available by contacting Berniece Collis at (304)263-9988 or Betsy Thurston at (202) 274-3330