



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Girls Preparing to Join Scouts BSA on February 1, 2019

Columbus, January 18, 2019 – The Boy Scouts of America, Simon Kenton Council is preparing for girls to join the program for older youth, Scouts BSA, formerly known as Boy Scouts. Though girls cannot formally join the Scouts BSA program until February 1, 2019, many groups are getting volunteers in place and applications prepared and celebrations are in place.

The Simon Kenton Council is excepting 20 new girl Troops in February 2019 welcoming more than 100 girls into the Scouts BSA program.

To celebrate this momentous occasion, **the Simon Kenton Council is hosting a Scouts BSA Launch Party on Friday, February 1, 2019, at the Vertical Adventures Training Center.** At this event, more than 100 Scouts (both girls and boys), volunteers, and parents will enjoy climbing, Scout activities, and refreshments to celebrate this historic moment. **A special moment to recognize the first all-female Troops into Scouts BSA will take place at 7:00 pm.**

A couple of groups of female Scouts have been preparing for this moment for months. Including Troop 148 in Hilliard, Troop 74 in Clintonville, and a Crew in Pickerington preparing to cross over to Scouts BSA on February 1. The Scouts and leaders have been focusing on character building and leadership skills in preparation for joining Scouts BSA.

We invite members of the media to join us on Friday, February 1, 2019, from 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., with a special recognition at 7:00 p.m., to help celebrate the launch of Scouts BSA at Vertical Adventures Training Center located at 6295 Busch Blvd, Columbus, OH 43229. If you have any questions, please contact Cassie Ferguson, Community Relations & Marketing Director at 440-590-5637 or cassie.ferguson@scouting.org.

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The Simon Kenton Council is one of the largest Boy Scout Councils in the nation serving 18 counties in central and southern Ohio, and Greenup county in Kentucky. With more than 40 employees and nearly 6,500 volunteers we deliver the Scouting program to 18,000 youth at 533 chartered organizations.

For more information, please visit the website at www.skscouts.org.