

Family health scare ignites the leader in Girl Scout

“Girl Scouts was a positive outlet during this time and everyone was so kind and supportive,” says Lucianna R. When Lucianna’s mom was diagnosed with breast cancer two years ago, Lucianna showed a tremendous amount of valor and leadership by stepping up in her family and her Girl Scout troop. Her mom had to spend a lot of time away from home while being treated at the Mayo Clinic, so Lucianna picked up household duties and learned how to balance a variety of things. Her troop leader, Shannon Splittorff, says, “She showed up and worked and never let her mom’s health be a crutch.” Lucianna believes this experience made her grow up fast and she is thrilled that her mom is now cancer-free and doing great.

Lucianna is currently a Cadette in Troop 5848 and loves everything about Girl Scouts, from the girls she has met to the community service her troop participates in. She claims to have made “lifetime” friends within her troop and has bonded with several girls outside of her troop as well. Camping with friends and taking a trip to Savannah, Georgia to explore Juliette Low’s birthplace are two of Lucianna’s favorite memories as a Girl Scout. In Savannah, the troop visited historical sites, earned several badges, and even saw dolphins on an ocean boat ride. The hardest, but most rewarding service project Lucianna helped with was building a patio for the Christ of King church in Northwest Arkansas. Her troop spent several hours in below freezing temperatures assembling the patio and had to take turns warming up inside the church. Although the conditions were tough, Lucianna said, “our parents making warm food for us and church members coming to visit brightened the mood and made the hard work worth it.”

The passion that Lucianna has for Girl Scouts is contagious and she encourages every adult and girl to join. “Girl Scouts can give girls opportunities they wouldn’t have anywhere else and if there are any girls who want to join, they shouldn’t hesitate to,” she says. “There is a long list of girls who need a troop, and I would encourage adults involved with a troop to start their own.” Girl Scouts has helped Lucianna in several ways, and she believes it will do the same for others as well.



Lucianna (in red) and her troop celebrate World Thinking Day