



Peconic Landing  
1500 Brecknock Road  
Greenport, NY 11944  
[www.PeconicLanding.org](http://www.PeconicLanding.org)

## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 25, 2021

**CONTACT:** Julianne Wenczel, PR Coordinator  
631-593-8247 • [jwenczel@peconiclanding.org](mailto:jwenczel@peconiclanding.org)

### **Local Girl Scout Troop Spreads Joy to Peconic Landing**

GREENPORT, N.Y. – Girl Scouts from Suffolk County Troop #731 earned their prestigious Silver Awards when they presented a set of handcrafted mahogany benches and cedar planter boxes to the members of Peconic Landing on October 25.

Julia Cardi, Ashleigh Doering, Jordyn Kollen, and Reagan Treharne, all freshmen at Southold High School, each contributed 50 hours of time to the project as part of their effort to earn the Girl Scout Silver Award, the second-highest achievement a Girl Scout can earn. According to the Girl Scouts' website, the Silver Award involves exploring the local community's needs and choosing a project to create positive change and apply new skills.

The artfully crafted benches and planter boxes were built in loving memory of Eleanor "Ellie" Skwara, great-grandmother to Jordyn. The completion of the project came exactly one year after Skwara passed away in October of 2020 after living at Peconic Landing for over 12 years.

"This Silver Award project is in memory of my GG," said Jordyn. "Peconic Landing was GG's home, and she loved where she lived. She lives on in my heart, and these benches and planters will make members like GG happy and proud of where they live."

All four girls, Girl Scouts together since kindergarten, have fond memories of visiting Skwara at Peconic Landing over the years.

"GG was a huge supporter of my Girl Scout Troop," said Jordyn. "From trick or treating at Peconic Landing to Christmas caroling at the Shores, to selling Girl Scout cookies to her Peconic Landing friends, GG was always there for me and my troop."

With some help from North Fork Woodworks who donated time and materials to assist in the project, the girls put many new skills to the test, including woodworking skills, math skills, and of course, teamwork. They learned to use miter saws, nail guns, and other tools in the process of making the benches. Additional assistance and resources were provided by troop leader Amy Doering, project advisor Lauren Kollen, DJK Heating and Cooling, Southold Agway, and Andy's Restaurant.

When the two benches were complete, the girls expanded the scope of the project by building planter boxes from cedar wood to adorn the walkways outside of Peconic Landing's Health Center. The girls plan on visiting seasonally to maintain the plantings.

"We are so touched by the incredible job well done by these four driven and selfless young women," said Robert J. Syron, President and CEO of Peconic Landing. "I know our community will cherish these beautiful gifts for many years to come."

One mahogany bench was installed at the site of *Embrace*, the newest addition to Peconic Landing's award-winning sculpture garden, *Art Without Barriers*. The sculpture garden is open to the public from June through October, sunrise to sunset. To learn more or schedule a private tour, visit [www.peconiclanding.org](http://www.peconiclanding.org).

###

*Peconic Landing is a nationally recognized, equity-based Continuing Care Retirement Community overlooking the breathtaking Long Island Sound. Located on the North Fork of a half-mile of private Sound Beach, the organization works on a mission of being the retirement community of choice for individuals age 62 and better by encouraging our members to enjoy a vibrant lifestyle and presenting ample opportunity for members to pursue their interests and passions to the fullest. For more information on Peconic Landing, please visit [www.peconiclanding.org](http://www.peconiclanding.org).*