## \*\*\*NEWS RELEASE\*\*\*

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## American Heritage Girls founder's powerful autobiography launches on Amazon's Audible

'Why Curse the Darkness When You Can Light a Candle?' details the powerful story of faith over fear as a group of parents took on national scouting giant

CINCINNATI, Ohio — The Girl Scouts of the United States of America have been shifting away from traditional scouting and embracing a progressive agenda for decades now. In the early 1990s, *Patti Garibay*, *then a young mother*, led a group of like-minded and passionate parents in reimaging American scouting. Together, they established *American Heritage Girls (AHG*, <u>www.americanheritagegirls.org</u>), a Christ-focused, girl-centric scouting organization. Today, *AHG* has over 60,000 members in all 50 states and multiple countries, and its membership is rapidly growing. *Garibay's* story of courage, determination and dedication to God, is recounted in her powerful book, "<u>Why Curse the Darkness When You Can Light a Candle?</u>" The new audiobook version is now available on Amazon through Audible.

"I knew something was not right with the Girl Scouts of the United States of America, and after seeing a shocking agenda, I knew it was time to take a stand," said Garibay, the founder and executive director of AHG. "Seeing lives changed and making sure each girl knows they are loved was enough for me to suit up and get in the battle. Though the battle was intense at times, we were not prepared for all that God had planned to do with a small ember of passion."

Armed with trust and obedience, *Garibay's* message resonates with others who have a passion for making a difference yet struggle with the fear of inadequacy. "*Why Curse the Darkness When You Can Light a Candle?*" is a detailed look into *Garibay's* personal journey of faith over fear as she followed God's command to create *AHG* and provide Christian families with a positive scouting outlet for their girls.

"It can be intimidating to stand up to a behemoth like the Girl Scouts, but like David when he fought Goliath, I knew I had God on my side," said Garibay. "I am continually amazed at what God has done through AHG, and I pray that our mission to build women of integrity through service to God, family, community and country never wavers."

"Why Curse the Darkness When You Can Light a Candle?" has received praise from some of the top Christian voices of the day, including Focus on the Family President Jim Daly, who said, "With great transparency and insight, Patti Garibay walks us through both the joys and trials she has experienced over the years — and the series of events that led her to launch American Heritage Girls. Her determination to 'light a candle' amidst the cultural darkness around us is sure to inspire many people to consider God's unique call on their own lives."

Dannah Gresh, founder of True Girl and best-selling author, commented, "Patti has changed the lives of so many girls and women through American Heritage Girls. I always wondered how she got there so fast. Her riveting story reveals how the power to culminate change was forged in the hard things of life. But God has proven faithful. She's brought so much light to our broken world. This is an enjoyable read."

For more information about "Why Curse the Darkness When You Can Light a Candle?", see it's listing on Amazon as well as Audible.

American Heritage Girls was founded in 1995 by a group of parents who wanted this faith-based, scout-type character development program for their daughters. At AHG, girls ages five to 18 meet together as a single Troop at the same time and then break out into Units by Levels. This gives AHG girls the important social experience of interacting with friends and godly mentors of various ages; members also learn leadership skills within a group setting. AHG Troops are located in local communities across the nation. If none exists in a given area, families can bring the AHG Program to their own area. An American Heritage Girls Troop Development Coach is available to provide resources to potential Charter Organizations and other families to form a new Troop. To hear more about the purpose, mission, and vision of AHG from Founder and Executive Director Patti Garibay, click here.

Today, there are <u>Troops</u> in all 50 states and girls being served in 15 countries around the globe. Girls can join a Troop at any time; if a Troop is not available nearby, they can become a <u>Trailblazer</u> and enjoy the *AHG* program alongside their parent. A variety of Christian denominations are also represented as <u>Charter Organizations</u> for Troops. Thousands of volunteer members across the country are helping girls grow in their faith, cultivate a heart for service, enjoy the great outdoors, and have more fun than they can imagine.

The "*Raising Godly Girls*" radio feature, Raising Godly Girls Guides, and <u>Raising Godly Girls blog</u> share guidance and biblically based advice on many key topics affecting girls today — from bullying and identity to anxiety and body image issues. These platforms give parents, educators, and faith community leaders a set of tools, resources, and Scripture-based advice to assist in raising girls after God's own heart. The "*Raising Godly Girls Minute*" with *Patti Garibay* airs on 1000+ Christian radio stations across the country.

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To schedule interviews with *Patti Garibay, founder and executive director of American Heritage Girls,* contact <a href="Media@HamiltonStrategies.com">Media@HamiltonStrategies.com</a>, Beth Bogucki, 610.584.1096 ext. 105, or Robin Sprague, ext. 103.

To inquire about airing the <u>"Raising Godly Girls Minute" with Patti Garibay</u>, contact Michael Hamilton, 610.584.1096, ext. 101.