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For Immediate Release

**WAYLAND GIRL SCOUTS AND BOY SCOUTS DONATE READING LIBRARY
TO SALEM NON-PROFIT**

Salem Cyberspace Receives \$2500 Worth Of Books, Furniture And Supplies

SALEM, Mass., (June 7, 2009) Wayland Girl Scouts collected 1,000 books, cameras, school and technology supplies, a sofa and many bean bag chairs so that the youth who attend Salem CyberSpace's CyberYouth Academic Center, have books and supplies they can use for school assignments and projects, summer reading, as well as many reference and study books including several college preparation books and college guides. In addition, the Cub Scouts Pack 1 Cochituate built three floor-to-ceiling bookcases to house this new reading collection.

Salem CyberSpace, a program of North Shore Community Action Programs, Inc. has been running its CyberYouth program since 2003. CyberYouth expands the educational and career opportunities for low-income, largely immigrant, youth thereby providing the foundation for achievement. Utilizing state-of-the-art technology and innovative curricula, CyberYouth successfully meets its goals for English Literacy, Computer Literacy, workplace readiness, and job internships.

The population that Salem CyberSpace targets – low income students coming from non-English speaking homes – have the highest high school drop out rates and the lowest college enrollment rates in the Commonwealth.

“I am passionate about reading and am always trying to get our youth to read more. My staff often buys books with their own money to encourage youth to read and to provide books needed at school. When I got this call from Patty Marston, the troop leader, I was thrilled”, said Linda Saris, Director of Salem CyberSpace. “Books assigned at school are not often available through the schools and students are expected to purchase them. These youth do not have the money to buy the books and they are not always available in the libraries. By having books on hand, we can lend out the books and have them readily at hand to help with homework and writing assignments. We had thirteen youth graduate from high school this year and the college guides and prep books were particularly helpful.”

“We had heard about the work that Salem CyberSpace is doing for low-income youth and our Scouts wanted to help to expand their programs. Because of the driving distance, we had to think of a project we could engage in without having to travel to Salem. The Book Drive was a perfect project. The residents of Wayland have been extremely generous in their donation of books, technology, supplies and furniture. Wayland High School senior Marta LeFevre-Levy was instrumental in collecting the college guides and prep books. Pack 1 Cochituate built the Custom Bookcases and several Girl Scout Troops collected, organized and boxed all the donations which we then drove up to Salem,” said Patty Marston, Troop Leader.

About Salem CyberSpace and North Shore Community Action Programs

Salem CyberSpace (www.salemcyberspace.org), located at 98 Lafayette Street in downtown Salem, is a program of North Shore Community Action Programs (www.nscap.org), a 501 c (3) nonprofit organization. NSCAP is the designated anti-poverty agency serving Salem, Peabody, Danvers, Beverly and 25 cities and towns north of Boston. Its mission is to help low-income people become economically self-sufficient while encouraging the larger community to recognize and eradicate the social and economic barriers that stand between poor families and their economic independence..