

Around GSNI News from the council

June 2024

Upcoming Closures: All GSNI Resource Centers and the Build-A-Bear Workshop located inside our South Elgin location will be closed, and GSNI staff members will be unavailable on Wednesday, June 19, in observance of Juneteenth, and on Thursday, July 4, in observance of Independence Day. Be sure to visit our website for Resource Center Summer Hours.



Hello, GSNI! It is with excitement for Chief Operating Officer Holly Bartlett that I announce her upcoming retirement, effective October 1, 2024. Holly is looking forward to this next chapter where she and her husband will be moving to spend more time with their grandchildren. I hope our members can find a moment in the upcoming months to share best wishes with Holly as she has done so much for Girl Scouts in her nearly 20 years of service.

With Holly's departure, I am delighted to announce Kris Trusk as our new Chief of Belonging and Member Engagement! To be fiscally responsible in this difficult economy, Kris will be absorbing Holly's responsibilities along with keeping her own current initiatives. As most of you know (or will soon learn), Kris has almost two decades of experience in all things Girl Scouts and will provide guidance and support in growing and retaining our membership in a welcoming and "You Belong Here" environment.

While many of our members take a short break over the summer to enjoy family time and other exciting events, I'm grateful for the opportunity to visit our camps and witness our young members challenging themselves in new and fun ways. GSNI is incredibly fortunate to have members, staff, and supporters who put in many hours and days to ensure our camps are a welcoming place for all!

Yours in Girl Scouting,
Kari L. Rockwell

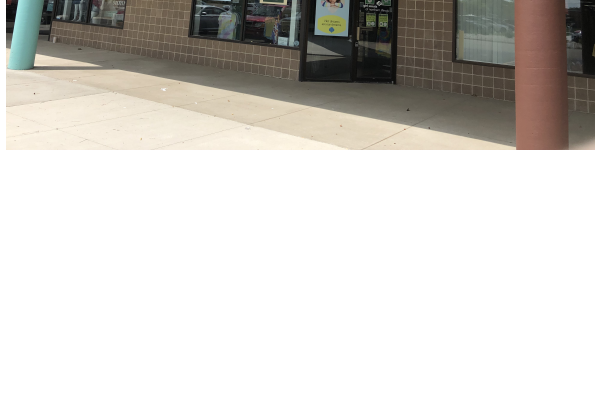
Volunteer Spotlight

"Girl Scouts is a 'sisterhood' unlike any other, and so many of these girls develop lifelong friendships and bonds which is incredibly rewarding to see. Watching the joy on their faces as they partake in activities, whether it be camping, horseback riding, robotics, floral arranging, or other activities, it is yet another reason that Girl Scouting keeps me motivated." Hear more from Michelle Shakespeare-Funfsinn, our most recent Volunteer Spotlight Award recipient.



[HEAR MORE](#)

Freeport Resource Center News

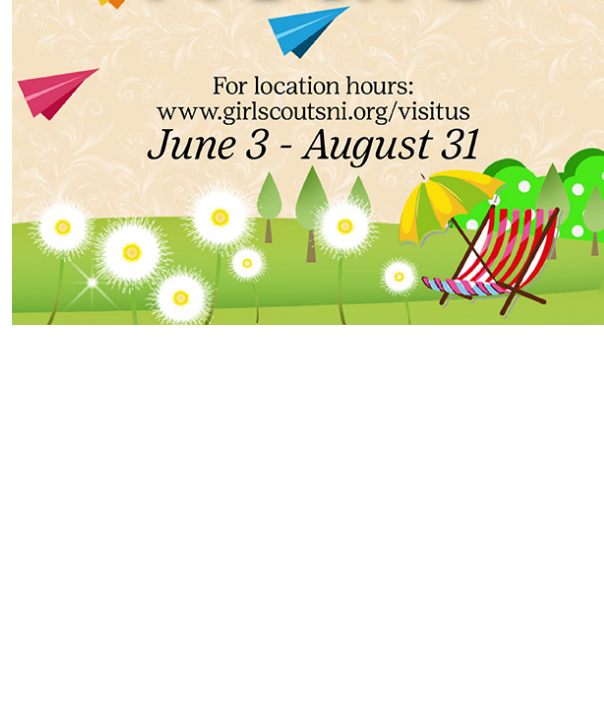


It is with great sadness that we announce the upcoming closure of our Freeport Resource Center on Friday, June 14, 2024. This was a very difficult decision made over the past few months and has been influenced by low sales, increased rent and utilities, and other revenue challenges. While we are closing the Freeport Resource Center, we are staying a part of our local community. It is our intention to provide a great level of support to our existing membership in Freeport and the surrounding towns. We are so grateful for our members who shopped and gathered at the Freeport Resource Center and their years of Girl Scout support.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Resource Center News

Reservations & Summer Hours!
It is our honor to share our newly refreshed Resource Centers with our members for Girl Scout purposes, such as troop meetings, gatherings, and activities. As of June 1, all current and new troops reserving space at any Resource Center will be required to sign an updated agreement. Troops or members currently using space at a Resource Center have until July 30, 2024, to stop by and sign the new agreement.



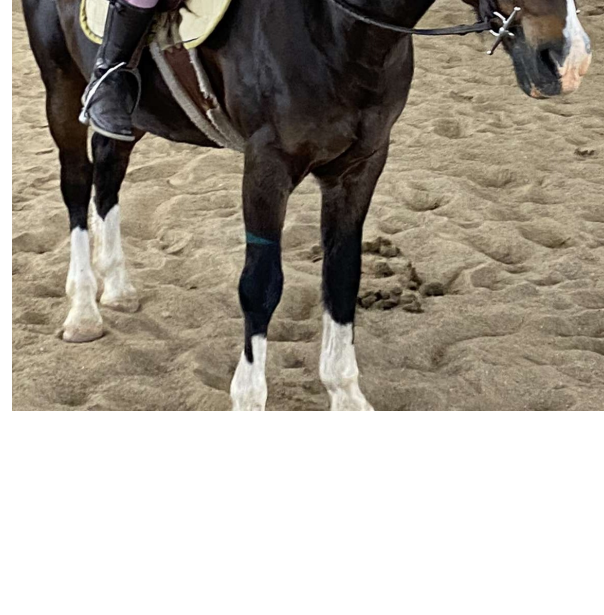
Resource Center reservation agreements will now include specific requirements and expectations on how the space should be kept clean and left in good condition. Those who do not abide by the new agreement will not be allowed to reserve Resource Center space in the future. If you have questions or would like to reserve space at a Resource Center, let us know at customercare@girlscoutsni.org.

For details on summer hours and upcoming holiday and inventory closures, visit our website!

[SUMMER HOURS](#)

Summer Camp Openings

There is still time to sign up your camper for a fun, unforgettable summer camp session! Registration has been extended for all camp sessions to two weeks prior to the session registration close date. All horse camp sessions also include a free Build-A-Bear experience! Space is available in these sessions and more:



- McCormick Mini Overnight (June 19–21) Register: June 5
- Horsin' Around (July 7–9) Register: June 23
- Horsin' Around (July 10–12) Register: June 23
- Horse Trekkers (July 14–19) Register: June 30
- Dean Mini Overnight (July 21–23) Register: July 7
- Horsin' Around (July 21–23) Register: July 7
- Dean Mini Overnight (July 24–26) Register: July 7
- McCormick Adventure Camp (June 23–28) Register: June 9
- Dean Troop Camp (July 26–28) Register: July 12

[REGISTER TODAY!](#)

Troop & Family Camp

Is your troop looking for an exciting camp experience? There is still room to join the summer camp team at Camp Dean or Camp McCormick, for troop and family camp. All activities, food, and entertainment are included, so bring your Girl Scout friends and join in the summer fun!

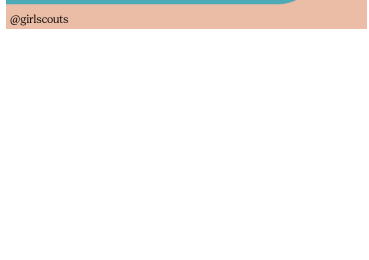
McCormick Girl Scout Power (June 21–23) Register: June 7

Dean Island Adventure (July 26–28) Register: July 12

[TROOP CAMP](#)

[FAMILY CAMP](#)

2025 Cookie Rewards Survey



This is the last chance for Girl Scouts to give input for the 2025 Scout Cookie Program Rewards! The 2025 cookie program theme is Embrace Possibility with Mei Lan the Panda as the mascot. Please complete the survey by Sunday, June 9, 2024.

[TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

2024–25 Renewal



Early Girl Scout Membership Renewal officially opened April 1, 2024, and runs through June 30, 2024. You can find all resources regarding renewal on GSNI's website, Rallyhood, or through your Member Support Specialist. This year, for every youth and adult renewed by May 31, 2024, there is a FREE individual patch incentive! Patches will be mailed directly to troop leaders with a list of recipient names. Juliette patches will be mailed directly to the Girl Scout.

GSNI is also offering a troop incentive of an \$8 e-code per renewed troop member (youth and adult) for those renewed by June 30. To receive the incentive, troops must renew 50% of youth members, renew at least two adults, and complete and turn in the 2024 Troop Financial Report. Additional incentives are also available for service units!

[RENEW TODAY](#)

20th Annual Thin Mint Sprint



GSNI's Thin Mint Sprint is a fantastic event to keep troops engaged during the summer and as a fun back-to-troop fall event! Participants can fundraise for their troops (and a refund for their registration fee) making the event beneficial for everyone. Supporters can join us on Saturday, September 14, at Lions Park in Fox River Grove or plan a virtual event. The 20th Annual Thin Mint Sprint is open to all to walk or run either 5K or 1 mile and celebrate with an after-party.

Take advantage of early bird registration and save! It's just \$35 per person through July 31, which includes a t-shirt, patch, medal, swag, and (of course) a delicious box of Girl Scout Thin Mints®. Don't miss out on this exciting opportunity to have fun while supporting your troop!

[REGISTER NOW!](#)

2024 Cookie Business Challenge

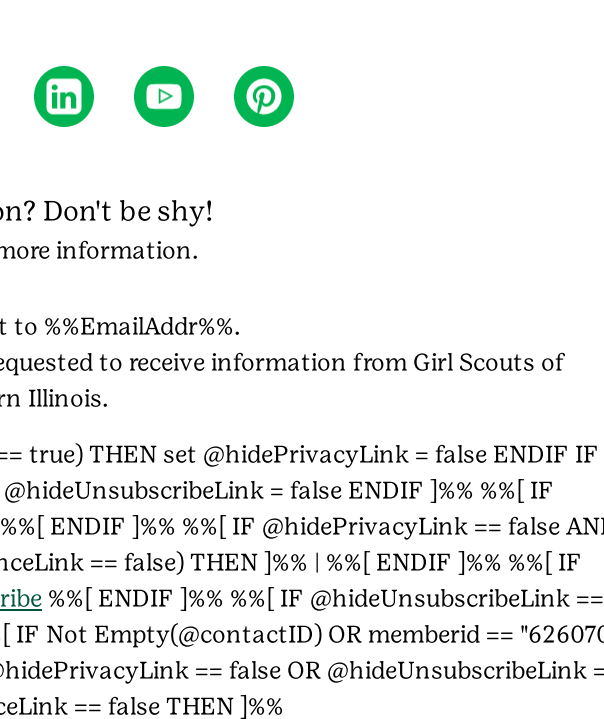


During the 2024 cookie program, Girl Scouts participated in the Cookie Business Challenge and sold cookies to over 400 businesses! Girl Scouts who sold a case (12 packages) or more to three or more businesses received the Cookie Captain patch. All businesses received a GSNI window cling to thank them for their support of GSNI and the Girl Scout Cookie Program. Thank you especially to businesses that supported our Girl Scouts with the purchase of five or more cases of cookies!

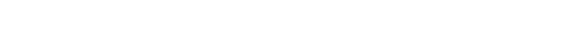
[LEARN MORE](#)

New Rally Alert!

Our latest Rally is GSNI's Social Media Center. Here, we will post video examples and inspiration. Your Girl Scout, troop, or group can upload your unique photos and videos for GSNI to share on our social media channels. It's also the place where we'll upload our own Girl Scout images and videos for you to share on your channels. Join today!



[GET STARTED](#)



Have a question? Don't be shy!
[Contact us](#) for more information.

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