



Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois

Corporate Service Center

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News Release

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Katie Bowen receives Girl Scout Gold Award...the highest individual achievement in Girl Scouting

Glen Carbon, Illinois -- The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois is pleased to announce that Katie Bowen from Staunton earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can receive.

For her Girl Scout Gold Award project, Katie enhanced Staunton's new bike trail and playground by building a pavilion where bike riders could rest and parents could sit to watch their children. The pavilion also added restrooms and a shaded picnic area to the bike trail. Katie collaborated with the city to meet building requirements, arranged and supervised construction and added extensive landscaping to the project. Local Girl Scout troops made stepping stones to contribute to the site. "It was a lot of hard work," Katie shared about her project, "but I'm happy I decided to do it." Katie is the daughter of Curtis and Reva Bowen. She is currently a sophomore at Staunton High School.

The Girl Scout Gold Award recognizes Girl Scouts who have committed themselves to applying the skills and values they have developed into a plan to make the world a better place. To earn the Girl Scout Gold Award, a Girl Scout Senior or Girl Scout Ambassador devotes significant time and effort to a project she feels passionate about, cultivates her leadership skills and inspires others to improve and enrich their lives and their communities. Only about 5 percent of eligible girls earn the prestigious Gold Award.

The Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois serves approximately 15,000 girls and 4,800 adult volunteers in 40 ½ counties in southern Illinois. Girl Scouting has inspired more than 50 million girls and women since its founding in 1912. As the 100th anniversary of Girl Scouting approaches, councils nationwide are joining in a historic organizational transformation centered around the best leadership development experience for girls in the 21st century, while ensuring the traditions and values that have been core to Girl Scouting since its

beginning remain strong and relevant.

For more information, please call Jay Strobel at 618.692-0692 or by email at jstrobel@gsfsi.org

The Girl Scout Mission:

Girl Scouting builds girls of courage, confidence, and character who make the world a better place.

Check us out at: www.gsfsi.org

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