



**Girl Scouts of Southern Illinois**

Corporate Service Center

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## News Release

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### **Lauren Dorris 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 Lauren Dorris from Glen Carbon earned the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest award a Girl Scout can receive.

For her Girl Scout Gold Award project, Lauren organized seasonal programs for senior and disabled citizens living in her community. In these programs, Lauren coordinated a group of volunteers that provided unique and interactive games, crafts and other activities for members of St. John's Home and Community Care Center. For instance, at the "Christmas in July" program, participants exchanged presents and ate cookies. "The visits provided a fun afternoon that was enjoyed by all," Lauren said. She also provided additional theme and activity ideas for the care center to use as examples to continue the program. "I have learned that it is very important to finish what you started," she shared. "I decided to take Girl Scouts as far as I could and that has taught me a very important life lesson." Lauren is the daughter of Brette and Cindy Dorris. She is currently a senior at Edwardsville 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 [jstrobel@gssofsi.org](mailto:jstrobel@gssofsi.org)

**The Girl Scout Mission:**

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

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