

S'more News

SPRING 2014

GREETINGS *from the corner office*

As the Girl Scout Cookie season - the first I've experienced - draws to a close, please know how much I admire and appreciate the incredible dedication and hard work I've witnessed. You all make it look easy, but I know it's not.

Now it's time to focus on the good weather ahead - registration is now open for Girl Scout camp. Day camp or overnight camp, there are so many fun and exciting programs to choose from. Still not sure?

Join us - and bring a friend - at *Camp Sneak-a-Peek* on June 1 or *Camp Open House* on June 15. Visit www.gsri.org for everything you need to know about having a fun summer. Get outdoors. Challenge yourself. Make new friends. Enjoy the good weather -- finally!

Neil Stamps
Neil Stamps, CEO

FREE BEING ME



Through a partnership with Dove and the World Association of Girl Guides and Girl Scouts (WAGGGS), Girl Scouts of the USA has launched *Free Being Me*, a global leadership initiative focused on helping girls better understand global definitions of beauty.

We are grateful to Dove for providing us with an \$18,000 grant to implement this exciting program here at our council.

Free Being Me will help girls define beauty for themselves and boost their self-confidence in the process. Importantly, *Free Being Me* can be used to introduce or enhance girls' experiences along the *It's Your Story—Tell It!* Leadership Journey series. For more information and background to *Free Being Me*, go to: www.free-being-me.com.

Did you know?

*Six out of ten girls stop doing something they love because they feel bad about the way they look.**

**Dove Global Study, 2010*



Ibi Akomolafe is a Girl Scout in the 6th Grade at Varieur School, Pawtucket

TRUE

Poem by IBI AKOMOLAFE

TRUE! What is true? True beauty? We women think beauty is the outside. We think

TRUE! is the latest Jimmy something heels. We think true is sitting in a salon chair for several hours having some stranger rip hair off your face! **TRUE!** We think true is rubbing foundations all over your face! We think true is wearing sweet perfume and wearing tight clothes. And for what? To make people "happy"? To "fit in"? Did it ever occur to you that you're hurting yourself?

TRUE! You heard the phrase Pain is Beauty? IT'S NOT **TRUE!!!!**

WAKE UP! Before you get hurt. Pain is beauty if you don't know what beauty is. But if you know what beauty is Pain isn't beauty. Let me make a statement clear: Beauty isn't makeup!

TRUE! Teen Vogue isn't true. We women are so desperate that we read magazines to tell us if we are pretty! That isn't true!

TRUE! IS INSIDE! PERSONALITY!

TRUE!!

BE TRUE TO YOURSELF

VOLUNTEER ADVISORY BOARD

The Volunteer Advisory Board (VAB) recently convened for the first time to focus on acting as an extension of the Volunteer Management department. Staff members include Jill Olson-Crowley, director of volunteer management, and Crystal Hayman, administrative assistant.

"The VAB is comprised of a dynamic group of individuals including Service Unit Managers, Leaders, and Membership Coordinators, who represent all regions of the Council and have their fingers on the pulse of what is going on," says Olson-Crowley.

When volunteers from Swansea and Somerset, MA recently made the transition from being a combined Service Unit to two separate teams, VAB members provided mentorship and guidance to new volunteers who came together for the first time to form a Service Unit Team. Besides supporting service unit teams,

the Board will also be working with students from Bryant University to enhance support resources for volunteers.

Besides Olson-Crowley, the other VAB members are:

- ◆ **Tricia Borgia**, SUM and Troop Leader Bristol/Warren
- ◆ **Karen King**, SUM NK/Jamestown
- ◆ **Laura Masterson**, MC Bristol/Warren
- ◆ **Jennifer McCabe**, SUM Newport/Middletown
- ◆ **Bethany Tracy Messina**, Troop Leader Warwick
- ◆ **Kim Michalik**, SUM Yankee B
- ◆ **Laurie Pansa**, Director of Programming and Training, GSRI
- ◆ **Melissa Paquin**, SUM Attleboro



Our Mission

The volunteer advisory board will work in collaboration with council staff to ensure outstanding support and resources are provided to all levels of volunteers in order to enrich the Girl Scout experience.

Juniors At D'Abate School In Providence

The girls at D'Abate delved into the *aMAZE! Journey* with GSUSA's BFF... Be a Friend First focused on anti-bullying. They held lively discussions about the struggles to be a girl today and spoke openly about their fears about entering middle school next year. After completing the program, they had much more confidence in themselves knowing that their 'struggles' as young girls are felt by everyone, including their peers and fellow Scouts.



Brownies At Pell School In Newport



The girls at the brand new Pell School are on the *Brownie Quest Journey* to discover more about themselves, their families, and their community. The troop is working to earn their three keys by completing a variety of challenges, including community service projects around the school. Their most recent project was to help the librarian clean the picture books. They worked in pairs to wipe and dry over 100 books, while at the same time discovering for themselves new stories to check out on their next library visit.

Girl Scouts At Ella Risk School In Central Falls

There are 99 Daisies, Brownies and Juniors at Ella Risk School! Mary Ann Perez and her assistants are running 5 after school groups each week and they are all busy as bees selling cookies. Like all Girl Scouts, these girls are always looking for ways to serve their community. The Juniors recently put together adorable holiday gift bags for the elders at the Autumn Villa Assisted Living Center in Cumberland.



FOLLOW THE YELLOW DAFFODIL ROAD

During the Fall of 2013, 7 girls and 4 of their moms dug holes and planted 500 daffodil bulbs lining the road to Camp Rocky Farm. Part of a city-wide beautification project for Newport's 375th Anniversary in 2014. The daffodils should create a beautiful display this spring and multiply to make the camp more beautiful in the coming years. The Juniors from Troops #607 and #688 can't wait for the snow to melt and are eagerly looking for the green tips to emerge.

From left to right are Juniors from Troops #607 and #688 who were not afraid to get their hands dirty: Caroline F., Amaya G., Caitlin M., Margaret M., Sarah K., and Elora F.





Emma & Megan
Yankee B Cadette Troop #392

I can't wait to

This fall, Girl Scouts across our council were asked to invite a friend

show my friend

to a troop meeting or other Girl Scout event so they could see

what we do.

first-hand what Girl Scouts is all about. The purpose was to help grow membership – and we did! Thanks to the *Bring-a-Friend* campaign over 20 new girls became members. The girls got a special patch for their uniform and had their photo's displayed on the jumbotron at the Dunkin' Donuts Center during the Great Girl Scout Cookie Party.



Congratulations to the North Smithfield Service Unit winner of a community camping weekend for the greatest increase in membership during the promotion with a special shout out to **Daisy Troop #1169** that doubled in size!

UPCOMING EVENTS

Girl Scout Leader's Day / Volunteer Appreciation
Tuesday, April 22, 2014

Adult Bring-A-Friend Wine & Cheese Social (21+)
Thursday, April 24, 2014
6-8pm

Annual Meeting
Thursday, May 1, 2014
5pm – 9pm

Gold & Silver Awards Brunch and Ceremony
Saturday May 31, 2014
9:30am – 11:30am

Camp Open House
Sunday, June 15, 2014
2pm-4pm

1st Annual Volunteer Appreciation Celebration
Saturday, June 21, 2014
10am-6pm

THE 2014 COOKIE SALE



This year's Cookie Sale was a great success, thanks to the support of leaders and parents, customers who stocked up on the seasonal treat, and of course our Girl Scouts – the CEO's of the world's largest girl-led business!

Highlights included:

National Girl Scout Cookie Weekend, February 7-8. GSUSA and Mom It Forward (a leading women's social media community) hosted the largest virtual Girl Scout Cookie Party on Twitter! During the hour-long party, Girl Scouts from around the country tweeted answers to questions about cookies. By the end of the party, the cookie sale was a trending topic on Twitter! To join the conversation and stay informed, follow @GirlScoutsRI.

Brown University's Women's Basketball Game. Girl Scouts created festive banners to show support for the team and competed to win the first Banner Competition. Each troop who participated did such a great job, that they all won rights to sell cookies at future Brown sporting events!

Danielle North, co-anchor for WPRI Eyewitness News This Morning and this year's Honorary Cookie Chair stopped by to help transport cases of cookies at Arpin warehouse. Our friends on **The Rhode Show** hosted us several times during cookie season including on Cookie Weekend. Girl Scouts discussed the charitable component of the cookie sale and this year's beneficiary, The Matty Fund.



Anna M. Chavez @AnnaMariaChavez · Feb 5
#igno and #cookieboss is trending!!!! Who is celebrating with us right now?
Expand Reply Retweet Favorite





WHICH CAMP SHOULD I GO TO?

OVERNIGHT DAY BOTH



Sleep Over at Night

Go for the Day

Can't Decide or Want to Do Both!



Come for three days or a full week of fun at beautiful **Camp Hoffman** on the shores of Larkin Pond! There's a program for every taste: whether you're into acting, arts and crafts, archery, sailing or cooking. You pick the focus. And all campers can enjoy traditional camp activities like swimming, canoeing, hiking, singing and cooking over an outdoor fire. Camp Hoffman even has a deluxe high/low ropes course, a zip line and a rock climbing wall!



NEW THIS YEAR – Day and Away Camp at **Green Forest and Camp Hoffman**, July 7-18

Enjoy the best of both camp worlds with this 2 week session designed to provide a comfortable transition from day to overnight camp.



Do You Like to Swim in a Pond, in a Pool or in the Ocean?




Near Beaches & Southern RI

Closest to You

In a Pond


In a Pool

In the Ocean


At **Camp Green Forest**, in West Kingston, you'll swim in beautiful Larkin Pond and have access to a deluxe ropes challenge course!

Near Northern RI


At **Camp Cookie**, situated on 95 acres of oak and pine woodlands, you'll swim and enjoy the mobile rock wall, visiting during Sessions 3 & 6!


A beautiful, full-size in-ground swimming pool and 140 acres of hills, ponds and streams are what makes **Camp Promising Acres** in Swansea, MA unique!


Camp Rocky Farm, just steps away from Newport's Ocean Drive is the perfect choice for you! Campers visit the nearby beach for recreational swimming and other activities, like sand-castle building contests!



REGISTER TODAY!
www.gsri.org



girl scouts
of rhode island

500 Greenwich Avenue
Warwick, RI 02886
www.gsri.org



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Girl Scout Leaders' Day is April 22!

<< Show your appreciation to everyone who gives unselfishly of their time on behalf of Girl Scouting.

LIMITED EDITION \$9.99



Camp Hoffman Charm Bracelet

Goldtone **\$12**



Silvertone

Contemporary Logo Earrings

MY MOM USA GIRL SCOUT LEADER **\$1.25**



"My Mom is a Girl Scout Leader" Patch

Volunteers Shine **\$2**



"Volunteers Shine" Patch

\$16



Zipper Tote Bag

\$4.50



Official Volunteer Pin

Major credit cards accepted. Free parking at both locations.
(401) 331-4500 ext.1201 or (800) 331-0149

GIRL SCOUT SHOP
500 Greenwich Ave. Warwick, RI
Hours:
Monday-Friday, 9am-5:30pm
Saturday, 10am-3pm

FRIENDSHIP SHOP
Camp Hoffman W. Kingston, RI
Hours:
Wednesday & Saturday
10am-2pm

We would like to thank our sponsors:



EW Burman