

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Girl Scout proves her cookie marketing skills in President's office

Girl Scout Daisy Rebeca Forsyth recently proved she has what it takes to win over The Ohio State University's highest ranking official with her Girl Scout business skills!

Rebeca, who is a member of Pickerington Girl Scout of Daisy Troop #2568, sold university President E. Gordon Gee six boxes of Girl Scout Cookies during a visit to his office January 25.

Rebeca's older sister, Christina Forsyth, who co-leads the troop and is also a junior at the university, e-mailed Gee to see if he was interested in buying Girl Scout Cookies from her sister. He returned the e-mail saying, he would be "delighted" to purchase some of the eight varieties of Girl Scouts cookies being offered this year. Rebeca's cookie selling skills didn't end there, however. She also sold two boxes to Gee's Director of Scheduling and Special Projects, Michelle Compston.

The Girl Scout cookie program, the largest girl-led business in the country, runs through March 25. Troops will be selling and delivering cookies through March 25, and will operate cookie booths during March.

Each year, girls set cookie goals to support their chosen activities, to fund community service and leadership projects, to attend summer camp, to travel to destinations near and far and to provide events for girls in their community. More than half of the proceeds stay in the local Girl Scout council to help provide resources needed to support Girl Scouting within Ohio's Heartland Council. Another portion goes directly to the Girl Scout troop and the cookie bakers.

This year's lineup features a new cookie, "Savannah Smiles." It was created to commemorate the Girl Scouts 100th anniversary, which is officially March 12, 2012. The crisp lemon wedge, sugar-dusted cookie is a nod to Savannah, Georgia, the birthplace of Girl Scouts Founder Juliette Gordon Low, and a reminder to smile as you enjoy these lemony treats. Cookie favorites Thin Mints, Samoas, Trefoils, DoSiDos, Tagalongs, Thank U Berry Munch, and Dulce de Leche round out the eight varieties being offered. Cookies are \$3.50 a box, and \$42 for a case.

Customers can find nearby cookie booths two ways – by going to www.girlscoutcookies.org or with help from the Official Girl Scouts of USA Cookie Locator app again this year. Introduced last cookie season, the free app helps iPhone and Android users locate cookie booths throughout the council's 30-counties. The app uses the smartphone's GPS to read a customer's location and show nearby cookie sales. The app also offers cookie sale data from around the country, including the start and end of local cookie seasons to specific locations of sales. Users can cast their vote for their favorite cookies, too, and post their picks on Facebook and Twitter, among other interactive features.

Cookie lovers can also buy the council's special centennial cookie cookbook -- **Cookie Creations: Celebrating 100 Years of Girl Scouting**. Full-color and spiral-bound, it includes more than 100 recipes featuring Girl Scout cookies. The cookbooks will be available exclusively at the council's five resources, which are located in Columbus, Chillicothe, Marion, Mansfield and Zanesville. Visit www.gsoh.org for more details.

Ohio's Heartland Council will keep the Girl Scouts' 100th anniversary celebration going, as it hosts Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Forever Green Centennial Celebration beginning at 6 p.m. March 2, 2012 at The Ohio State University's Archie Griffin Ballroom. For more information about the evening cocktail reception and dinner event, email Andrea Biada at abiada@gsoh.org or call 614-487-8101 or 800-621-7042.

The council also will host "Party Like It's 1912!" a public open house to celebrate Girl Scouts' 100th birthday from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Monday, March 12 at council headquarters, 1700 WaterMark Drive, Columbus.

Founded in 1912, Girl Scouts of the USA is the premier leadership development program for all girls from kindergarten through grade 12. The mission is to build girls of courage, confidence and character, who make the world a better place. Through activities in science and technology, business and economic literacy, and outdoor and environmental awareness, Girl Scouting provides girls with opportunities for fun and friendship, while fostering the development of leadership skills and self-esteem.

Girl Scouts of Ohio's Heartland Council, headquartered in Columbus, serves more than 30,000 girls and more than 9,000 adult members and volunteers in 30 counties: Adams, Ashland, Coshocton, Crawford, Delaware, Fairfield, Fayette, Franklin, Gallia, Guernsey, Highland, Hocking, Holmes, Jackson, Knox, Licking, Madison, Marion, Morrow, Muskingum, Perry, Pickaway, Pike, Richland, Ross, Scioto, Union, Vinton, Wayne and Wyandot.

For more information on how to join, volunteer, or donate to Girl Scouts, call (800) 621-7042 or visit www.gsoh.org .

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