

Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast

# Discover

a community publication



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## Girl Scout Go-getter Carly:

**Because of  
you, girls are  
creating positive  
change in their  
communities**



# National Lifesaving Medal of Honor

## Recipient: Marlowe Findley

*“I want to recognize Marlowe for the courage displayed during an emergency situation.”*

~Gordon Temple, Police Chief

### GSWISE Girl Scout Receives Prestigious National Lifesaving Medal of Honor

Even though thousands of people learn CPR each year, only a fraction of them ever need to use the training, and some forget key instructions or freeze when a medical emergency arises. But Marlowe Findley, a 12-year-old Girl Scout Cadette from Oconomowoc, not only put the CPR skills learned as a Girl Scout to use when their grandmother experienced a sudden cardiac event this summer, they acted with the professionalism and maturity of an adult. For these efforts, Marlowe has been awarded the Girl Scouts of the USA National Lifesaving Medal of Honor Award, a prestigious honor that only a very few Girl Scouts ever receive.

In June of 2020, Marlowe and their grandmother were enjoying a meal together on the porch at a summer home in Michigan when Marlowe’s grandmother suddenly slumped over in her chair. With no one else at home at the time, Marlowe immediately began following the steps they learned in emergency training. After confirming that their grandmother wasn’t choking, Marlowe called 911, rather than trying to reach a parent or a neighbor. Following the 911 dispatcher’s instructions, Marlowe checked their grandmother’s pulse, then laid her on the floor and began administering CPR until first responders arrived on the scene. Unfortunately, Marlowe’s grandmother later passed away, but everyone agreed that she had received the best care possible.

Gordon Temple, the Chief of Police in Tuscarora Township, where the incident occurred said, “I want to recognize Marlowe for the courage displayed during an emergency situation. Marlowe was 12 years old at the time of the incident. Marlowe did not panic. Marlowe did not falter and did everything possible to try to save a loved one.”

Lifesaving Awards have been a part of Girl Scouts since Girl Scouting began in the United States in 1912. These awards recognize Girl Scouts from 5-17 years of age who have heroically saved or attempted to save a life, demonstrating skills and judgment beyond the degree of maturity and training to be expected at their age.



## Why I Give: The Power of a Legacy Gift

Juliette Gordon Low, our founder, became the first person to leave a legacy gift to Girl Scouts when she gave her historic home to Girl Scouts in her will. The Juliette Gordon Low (JGL) Society was established to thank and honor friends of

Girl Scouting who follow this example and make Girl Scouts a beneficiary of their estate plans.

Catherine Fleming, a lifelong Girl Scout and current GSWISE volunteer, made the decision to join the Society after hearing a presentation by Dianne Belk, the JGL Society’s Founding Chair, at the 55th National Council Session of Girl Scouts of the USA.

“I already knew how deeply passionate I was about the Girl Scout Movement and what it offers every girl, everywhere,” she said. “Gifting to the Girl Scout movement would be a contribution to the future and, in a way, a lasting statement of my core convictions.”

Although many might think that only the very wealthy can engage in this type of philanthropy, Catherine explains why that isn’t true.

“Diane Belk helped remind me that every gift counts regardless of size. Girl Scouts has had impact and continuity for over 100 years because of the strength that comes from working together to make change. My gift, joined with others just like mine, would matter,” Catherine said.

In addition to the peace of mind that comes with leaving a lasting legacy, members of the JGL society receive special communications and invitations to national presentations.

“Supporting even one girl’s membership or supporting one program that reaches multiple girls can be the difference a young woman needs to become the person she was meant to be,” Catherine said. “For me, I cannot think of a greater, more impactful gift to make.”



## Carly Nieman of Pleasant Prairie Named National Gold Award Girl Scout

**T**his fall, Girl Scouts of Wisconsin Southeast learned that one of our very own was recognized as a National Gold Award Girl Scout—the highest honor in Girl Scouting. Thousands of Girl Scouts earn the Gold Award each year, and GSUSA recognizes just ten of these girls as National Gold Award Girl Scouts for completing projects that exemplify strong leadership and sustainable impact.

Carly Nieman, a 2020 graduate of LakeView Technology Academy in Pleasant Prairie, earned her Gold Award after creating a bilingual book room for the Edward Bain School of Language and Art (EBSOLA) in Kenosha. She was inspired to tackle the project after discovering a closet full of unused books while volunteering to clean up storage rooms at the school.

“I wondered why the books weren’t being used,” Carly says. “I had learned from some of the teachers that kids couldn’t bring books home from their school library, and they aren’t within walking distance from a public library. A lot of the families don’t have means to be able to buy books of their own, so my project lets kids take home and enjoy books.”

Carly spent hundreds of hours coordinating with staff, teachers, and parents to create a bilingual book room where kids can borrow books to enjoy at home without worrying about late fees. She also organized literacy nights, inviting families to enjoy the new book room together and sip hot chocolate while cultivating each student’s love of literacy.

The impact of Carly’s Gold Award project is already spreading far beyond the walls of EBSOLA.

**“It’s really awesome using the experiences that I had to inspire girls to earn their Girl Scout Bronze, Silver, and Gold Awards and change the world.”**

“I shared my project with literacy leaders throughout the state and nation, hoping that would inspire them to do something in their own communities,” Carly says. She soon heard back from schools around the country that are making plans for their own book rooms, modeled after Carly’s project.

Since earning the prestigious designation, she has connected virtually with girls around the country to share her passion for volunteering with the next generation of Girl Scouts.

“It’s really awesome using the experiences that I had to inspire girls to earn their Girl Scout Bronze, Silver and Gold Awards and change the world,” Carly says.



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Dear Girl Scout Friends,

It's impossible to talk about this year without acknowledging the ways people are suffering. The pandemic, economic crisis, and racial injustice have coalesced to make this a challenging year for people in Wisconsin and around the country.

So where does Girl Scouts fit in at this moment?

To me, Girl Scouts is synonymous with hope. All of us in Girl Scouting—from Daisies to Ambassadors, volunteers to staff—share the same principles. We are guided by the Girl Scout Law and Promise. We are committed to serving our country and making the world a better place, and that's exactly what Girl Scouts are doing right now.

Girls in our council are making a difference on the front lines of the pandemic. They're sewing masks, donating cookies, and organizing food drives. Girls are also standing up for equality. As protests emerged against racial injustice, our council reinforced our stance that Girl Scouts is for all girls, regardless of race. We continue to connect girls and troops with resources to help them take action against racism.

I'm heartened when I think of our Gold Award Girl Scouts who tackled inequity in their own communities this year, like National Gold Award Girl Scout Carly Nieman and her project to create a bilingual book room for students at an urban school in Kenosha (page 3).

Now more than ever, we are called to live up to our promise to help all people and help our country. Girl Scouts have the power to leave the world a better place, and that's what we'll continue to do—one girl at a time.

I'm grateful for your ongoing support of Girl Scouts, and I wish you and your loved ones a healthy, joyful holiday season.

Yours in Girl Scouting,

Christy L. Brown, JD  
GSWISE Chief Executive Officer



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