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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Holy Cross DeWitt Girl Scouts Partner with Rosamond Gifford Zoo on Silver Award Project

Cicero, N.Y. (October 21, 2021) — Girl Scout Troop 60500 of Holy Cross DeWitt (part of the [Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways Council](#)) has a stop along the Zoo Boo route at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo in Syracuse this Saturday, October 23, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. The troop of Cadette-level Girl Scouts (grades 6-8) will offer zoo-exclusive animal bingo sheets and a limited supply of animal-themed educational activity packets for children who stop by their table.

The materials were created by the troop as part of their Girl Scout Silver Award project to help educate children about animals residing at the zoo. The Silver Award is the highest award a Girl Scout Cadette can earn. Girls who pursue their Silver Award look around their neighborhoods and/or schools and develop a project to make their community better in the process.



Troop members are Quincy B., a 6th grader from Liverpool; Ava G., a 6th grader from Syracuse; Skylar L., a 7th grader from Syracuse; and Rayna R., a 6th grader from Jamesville.

For their Silver Award project, the girls combined their love of animals and the zoo to create activity packets with four parts: animal fact sheets, animal-themed fitness activities, animal-themed healthy snacks and family-oriented challenges to help children learn small things they can do to protect animals and the environment.

“I have always loved animals, especially my pet cats and the big cats at the Rosamond Gifford Zoo like the Amur leopard and the Amur tiger. Designing the animal fact pages and activity sheets really made me think about how kids learn,” says Ava G.

The girls used their creativity, conducted research, honed their photography skills capturing pictures of the animals and incorporated feedback from experts at the zoo. They first shared their packets with children in all grade levels at Holy Cross School in DeWitt to gauge interest.

Children participating in Zoo Boo activities have the opportunity to try animal bingo. The activity encourages children to explore the entire zoo and be intentional about what they learn and experience during their day there. A limited number of

packets will be available for children to take home and try with their families. The girls will offer other educational displays at Zoo Boo table, as well as information on how to join Girl Scouts.

Troop 60500 would like to thank Holy Cross School Principal Robert McCrone and all of the teachers for their support of the project.

To learn if this Zoo Boo event is open to media coverage, please contact the Rosamond Gifford Zoo directly at 315.435.8511. For more information about Troop 60500 or to set up media interviews with the girls, please contact Girl Scout volunteer and troop co-leader Kira Kristal Reed at 315.383.3148 or kkstrategy7@gmail.com.

Girl Scouts serves girls in K-12. Annual membership is \$25; financial assistance is available. To start her adventure, visit gsnypenn.org/join. To become a volunteer, learn more at gsnypenn.org/volunteer. To help make Girl Scouting possible for girls in your community, visit gsnypenn.org/donate.

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About Girl Scouts of NYPENN Pathways, Inc.

Girl Scouts is the preeminent leadership development organization for girls in grades K-12. Our extraordinary journey began in 1912 when our Movement was founded by Juliette Gordon “Daisy” Low. Today, we continue the Girl Scout mission of building girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. We offer every girl the chance to practice a lifetime of leadership, adventure and success. GSNYPENN is chartered by Girl Scouts of the USA to administer the Girl Scout program in 24 counties of New York and two in Pennsylvania.