

**P
R
E
S
S

R
E
L
E
A
S
E**

For Immediate Release

Date: May 16, 2007

Headline: Girl Scouts' Board of Directors Vote to Sell Camp Glengarra Property

Contact:
Kristi Brennan, Fund Development and Communications Manager at (315) 733-2391, ext. 26
Molly Bonnell, Communications Specialist at (315) 733-2391, ext. 23

Utica, NY-- Since 1965, the Girl Scouts – Foothills Council, Inc. has been pleased to deliver Girl Scout camping experiences to generations of local girls at Camp Glengarra in Camden, NY. The Board of Directors, volunteers, and staff believe that camping is integral to the Girl Scout experience and in learning independence, teamwork, and outdoor skills.

For nearly 20 years, the council has examined the increasing financial challenge of delivering camp programs on the Glengarra property. In 1990, 1996, and 2005, members of volunteer task forces made suggestions to boost camp attendance in an effort to reduce the impact of increasing subsidization.

Today, a small percentage of local girls see camp as a top priority of their Girl Scout experience and camp attendance hit an all-time low of 263 campers in 2005. Because of these continuing trends, the Board of Directors voted in May to sell the Camp Glengarra property. The decision will allow the council to offer cost-effective camp programs at alternative locations throughout the council jurisdiction beginning in 2008.

The council's Board of Directors and staff remain committed to delivering a fully-functioning, quality camp season at Camp Glengarra in 2007. The American Camp Association accredited programs that have already been scheduled for the summer 2007 season will go on as planned and will not be affected by the decision to sell the camp property.

"We take extreme pride in our high-quality programs delivered by trained and compassionate volunteers and staff members," said Natalie L. Brown, executive director/CEO. "We look forward to continuing serving generations of campers at other locations long after Glengarra closes at the end of this summer."

The council will now work to begin the process to market the camp property. Plans are also being made to celebrate Camp Glengarra's treasured history at a "Farewell Camp Glengarra" tribute at the end of summer.

"Camp holds a special place in the hearts of generations of local girls and women, including many of our board and staff members," Brown said. "The decision to sell camp was difficult, but necessary for the long-term fiscal strength of the Foothills Council."

For 45 years, Girl Scouts – Foothills Council, Inc. has helped build girls of courage, confidence, and character, who make the world a better place. The council has helped girls develop to their fullest potential by providing Girl Scouting opportunities for almost 4,600 girls and 1,400 adults from all of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, most of Madison County and parts of Otsego, Lewis, and Hamilton counties, encompassing 3,125 square miles.

###

Where Girls Grow Strong.