

PRESS RELEASE

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DESIGN CONTEST WINNER

Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan's New 'Council's Own' (Interest Project) Badge Contest Winner Announced

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

JACKSON (June 28, 2010) – Seventh grader, Zoey Bommarito, from Grass Lake Middle School, won a contest to design and name a new 'Council's Own' (Interest Project) Badge. Zoey won \$50 in gift cards provided by the Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition.



Kelsey Haynes, Prevention Coordinator and
Zoey Bommarito, Grass Lake Troop 60131, Contest Winner

The Interest Project Badge was designed by the Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition as a way to make young girls aware of the dangers and consequences of drinking alcohol, taking drugs and smoking tobacco. The curriculum was recently approved by Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan and will teach girls how to say no to peer pressure, learn the facts about drugs and alcohol and learn how to stay safe. The Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition collaborates with agencies in Jackson County, such as health professionals, law enforcement, government agencies, schools and local businesses to prevent and reduce substance abuse in Jackson County.

When asked how the design came about, Zoey said after reading the badge requirements with her mom and step-dad, Kimberly and Frank Seaburg, her mom mentioned using the word "pressure" – that is when Zoey came up with the "No Pressure Zone." Zoey said, "My brother, Jimi, helped me on the computer and I told him the word 'pressure' had to be squished by the word 'NO'."

"Zoey is a Cadette Girl Scout who was awarded the Bronze Award last year (the highest award for her age level), and most recently earned the Cadette Leadership Award, and is a fine example of what it means to be a Girl Scout," said Leader, Wendy Murdock.

The new badge requirements are available on the Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan website: The link to Council Badge Programs webpage is http://gshom.org/page.php?menu_id=303&page_id=402 or to the direct document is http://gshom.org/docs/forms/no_pressure_zone_ip.pdf.

More information about:

Jackson County Substance Abuse Prevention Coalition and its activities, please contact Kelsey Haynes at (517) 796-5133 or via email at khaynes@uwjackson.org
Girl Scouts Heart of Michigan, visit our website at www.gshom.org or call 1-800-49-SCOUT (800-497-2688).

Our efforts are funded through Mid-South Substance Abuse Commission and the Michigan Department of Community Health.