

GIRL SCOUT COOKIE SEASON CAN'T BE DERAILED BY PANDEMIC



Brian Markert, a volunteer with CenterPoint Energy, passes boxes of Girl Scout cookies to volunteer John Little, not pictured, at Belmont Moving Monday morning. PHOTO BY JENNY SHAW/COURIER & PRESS

COOKIE TRADITION REFUSES TO CRUMBLE

Brook Endale Evansville Courier & Press
USA TODAY NETWORK

EVANSVILLE — Girl Scout Cookie season is here, and local troops are committed to keeping the tradition alive despite the challenges brought on by the pandemic.

While cookie sales in past years were typically done in person, this year the emphasis is on digital entrepreneurship. Gretchen Furling, director of product sales for Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana, said digital sales have doubled this year while the number of troops doing in-person booths has decreased.

On Monday, there were about 17,000 cases of cookies at Belmont Moving & Storage on Evansville's East Side ready to be distributed to Girl Scout troops in Vanderburgh and Warrick counties.

Furling said sales are still going strong and credits the creativity the troops have shown in adjusting their sales tactics.

"They will find a way. Nothing can stop these girls," Furling said.

Almee Stachura, CEO of Girl Scouts of Southwest Indiana, as well as a Brower troop leader, said she's impressed with how the girls are navigating this crazy time.

"The cookie program is always an amazing financial literacy program. These are business skills — goal setting, people skills for the rest of their lives. Now the girls get to problem solve, try out new social media pieces," Stachura said.

This year, girls scouts have been making commercials and

sharing them on social media with family members and friends. Each girl has a link to her cookie sales page they can attach to the commercials.

Stachura said it's been fun helping the girls in her troop make these commercials.

Heather Barnett keeps tally of Troop 484's Girl Scout cookies at Belmont Moving on Monday. The Holy Rosary troop had 328 cases of cookies with 12 boxes in each case for a total of 3,936 boxes.

See COOKIE, Page 3A

2021-02-10 Employees aid with Girl Scout cookie distribution PART 1

