

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**Contact: Amy Phillips**
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South Jersey Scout Shines as a Top-Seller in the Nation with Record-Breaking Popcorn Sales

Westampton, NJ [April 19, 2025] – Preston English, a Scout from Cub Scout Pack 7721 in the Crossroads District of Scouting America's Garden State Council in South Jersey, has achieved remarkable success in the annual Trail's End Popcorn Fundraiser, ranking 39th out of 185,287 Scouts nationwide in 2024. Preston sold an impressive \$18,520 worth of popcorn, funding his Scouting adventures and helping to support future trips and activities.

"Preston's success is an inspiration to Scouts across the nation," said Patrick Linfors, Scout Executive of the Scouting America Garden State Council. "His dedication, goal setting, and perseverance are exactly what Scouting is all about. We are proud to have him represent the Garden State Council."

Preston's journey into Scouting began in September 2022 after being introduced by a family friend. He attended his first Scout meeting and quickly became excited about the opportunities available through Scouting. His first popcorn fundraising season came in 2023, and he immediately set goals for himself to raise money for trips and activities. His determination to succeed was driven by his desire to participate in the same adventures other Scouts were enjoying.

"I wanted to go on all the fun trips the other Scouts talked about, so I thought, if I sell popcorn, I can help pay for it," Preston said. "It felt really good when I saw how much I could sell, and I just kept setting new goals to see how much I could do!"

Preston's success is a testament to his hard work and dedication. He credits much of his motivation to the positive encouragement from his parents and setting both short- and long-term goals. Throughout the sales season, Preston gained valuable life skills such as public speaking, customer interaction, and handling rejection.

"Selling popcorn is really fun, and I like talking to people and asking them if they want some," said Preston. "When they say no, I just say 'Okay, maybe next time!'"

Among his many memorable moments during the sales season, Preston has received positive recognition from customers and local businesses, including a CEO who offered him an internship and a business owner who offered him a job when he is of legal working age. One of his most inspiring encounters was with an Eagle Scout visiting from another state, who gave Preston valuable advice on improving his sales technique.

"Meeting other Scouts and talking to them was cool," Preston said. "They told me lots of stuff about how to sell more. One Eagle Scout even watched me and gave me tips. It made me want to sell even more!"

Nicole English, Preston's mom, shared her pride in his achievements: "I am incredibly proud of Preston. He worked so hard and learned many important skills. Watching him take ownership of his Scouting journey has been incredible. His dedication to reaching his goals is something we encourage in all aspects of life."

The 2025 popcorn sales season will begin in June, and Preston's proven methods could be helpful for Scouts looking to make their own impact. By setting goals, staying motivated, and engaging with customers, Scouts can replicate Preston's success and make the most of their fundraising efforts. Be sure to keep an eye out for local popcorn sales in June and follow Preston's approach for a successful season.

Preston's future in Scouting is promising. He aspires to earn the rank of Eagle Scout and continue growing through new adventures and leadership opportunities. His success in the Trail's End Popcorn Fundraiser reflects his dedication, determination, and passion for the Scouting experience.

As Scouting America celebrates its 115th anniversary in 2025, stories like Preston's highlight the organization's enduring mission. Since 1910, more than 130 million youth have benefited from the life-changing experiences Scouting provides. This milestone reaffirms Scouting America's commitment to empowering young people through growth, leadership, and adventure—values Preston embodies every step of the way.

For more information about the Trail's End Popcorn Fundraiser and how it supports Scouting, visit <https://www.gardenstatescouting.org/support/popcorn/>.

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About Scouting America Garden State Council:

The Scouting America Garden State Council is chartered to provide comprehensive support and programs for Scouts across South Jersey. Serving communities in Burlington, Camden, Cape May, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem, and parts of Atlantic counties, the council offers a range of Scouting programs, including Cub Scouts (grades K–5), Scouts (ages 11–17), Venturing, Sea Scouts, and Exploring (all co-ed, ages 14–20). Through engaging activities that emphasize outdoor adventures, leadership development, and community service, the Garden State Council prepares youth to make ethical and moral choices over their lifetimes by instilling the values of the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

For more information, visit www.gardenstatescouting.org.



TOP SELLING SCOUTS

TOTAL SALES

SCOUT	COUNCIL	UNIT	\$ SOLD
26. Christian P	Greater Tampa Bay Area	Troop 901	\$20,856
27. Jacob B	Dan Beard	Troop 258	\$20,687
28. Tobias P	Sam Houston Area	Troop 1180	\$20,642
29. Aaron P	Mount Baker	Troop 92	\$20,618
30. James C	Golden Empire	Pack 37	\$20,490
31. Alexander B	Las Vegas Area	Pack 314	\$20,423
32. Benjamin S	Occoneechee	Troop 391	\$20,340
33. Henry R	Twin Rivers	Troop 1075	\$20,246
34. Zoey K	Northeast Georgia	Pack 62	\$20,232
35. Jayden C	Northeast Illinois	Troop 194	\$20,000
36. Samuel A	Southwest Florida	Troop 2001	\$19,308
37. Oliver S	Three Fires	Pack 107	\$19,080
38. Riley B	Natural State	Troop 170	\$18,726
• 39. Preston E •	Garden State •	Pack 7721 •	\$18,520 •
40. Jacob M	Rainbow	Pack 99	\$18,520
41. Sarah S	Grand Canyon	Troop 3054	\$18,332
42. Angel S	Ventura County	Troop 225	\$18,285
43. Ethan A	Greater Yosemite	Pack 199	\$17,845
44. Dillon D	Lincoln Heritage	Troop 4167	\$17,771
45. Andrew F	Circle Ten	Troop 852	\$17,742
46. Sean O	Circle Ten	Troop 838	\$17,717
47. Brody G	California Inland Empire	Troop 0384	\$17,694
48. Alexandria P	Buffalo Trace	Troop 374	\$17,672
49. Samuel V	Chief Seattle	Troop 284	\$17,637
50. James K	Chief Seattle	Troop 282	\$17,489



Through 12/31/2024

Preston English, a Scout from Pack 7721, makes the top 40 from the Trail's End Popcorn Sales in 2024.



Preston English, a Scout from Pack 7721, sells a bag of popcorn to a local police officer.