

**For Immediate Release**

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**Local Boy Scout Named #1 Popcorn Seller in the Nation**

Tanner Hatcher of Portsmouth, Ohio sells \$61,248 in 2009 Popcorn Fundraiser

Columbus, Ohio (March 26, 2010) – When 16 year old Tanner Hatcher started selling popcorn four years ago, he never imagined he would sell the most popcorn of any Scout in the country. But after his first year in 2006 selling more than \$7,000 in popcorn, Tanner realized he had a real knack for selling.

“People always ask how I do it,” said Tanner. “My first year, I thought \$2,500 would be a good number. When I reached that there were still quite a few weeks left in the sale, so I just kept selling and before I knew it, I sold \$7,050.”

From there, Tanner went on to sell more than \$12,000 of popcorn in 2007 and then came in second place in the country in 2008 selling \$22,016. “I wasn’t sure if I could top my sales of \$22,016 in 2008,” said Tanner. “But when I missed placing in first in the nation that year by \$6.00, I decided to try to top the all times sales record of \$39,501 set in 2007 and set my goal for \$40,000.”

Tanner quickly reached his \$40,000 goal for the 2009 sale and then hit \$50,000. When he was less than one thousand dollars away from \$60,000, Tanner said he made some last minute phone calls to 2008 customers to hit more than \$61,000 in sales.

Tanner said he appreciates the support of the Portsmouth community and the area businesses. Whether it was a \$1.00 donation from an elderly lady down the street or a \$1,500 order from an area business owner, Tanner said he knows it all adds up.

Tanner’s success in the 2008 popcorn sale sparked Simon Kenton Council to create a “Help Make Tanner #1” campaign in 2009 with an official day held at Easton Town Center in Columbus. Tanner also created a Facebook page for people to support his sale.

Tanner is a sophomore at Portsmouth High School. In the past four years he has earned more than \$5,000 towards his Trails End Popcorn College Scholarship. He has also raised more than \$33,000 for his local Troop and more than \$41,000 for the Simon Kenton Council.

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### *About Simon Kenton Council:*

The Simon Kenton Council is one of the largest Boy Scout councils in the nation serving 17 counties in central and southern Ohio, and Greenup County in northern Kentucky. The Council is staffed by 22 professional Scouters with over 8,000 adult volunteers delivering the Scouting program to more than 35,000 youth. We are joined by more than 550 charter partner organizations sponsoring more than 800 Cub Scout, Boy Scout, Venturing, and Exploring units in our Council. The Council's goal is to be the premiere leader in youth development by delivering on the promise to provide character development, citizenship training, personal fitness and fun. The values we strive to instill are based on those found in the Scout Oath and Law and Outdoor Code.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.skcbbsa.org](http://www.skcbbsa.org).

*Scouting: Strength of Character... Timeless Values.*